

# McHenry County News

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VOL. 11 • NO. 38

PUBLISHED BY ROCK VALLEY PUBLISHING, LLC

THURSDAY, SEPT. 9, 2021

## Food Shed reaches ownership goal

The Food Shed Co-op set a goal in December 2020 to grow its owner-membership from 724 to 1,200 households in McHenry County by July 2021. The startup community-owned grocery store reached this lofty goal on Wednesday, Aug. 25, growing by a record-setting 476 new owner-member registrations.

This remarkable growth was fueled both by the announcement of the store location on US HWY 14 near Northwestern Hospital in Woodstock and the shortcomings of the supply chain made apparent during a global pandemic. While the milestone of achieving 1,200 owners was a few weeks later than projected, the co-op board is thrilled to have reached this critical mass of owner-members so the project can move forward.

Industry standards indicate a store of this size will require 1,200 member owners to be successful. Hitting this milestone with record-setting owner growth means the co-op can confidently move the project further. The store will rely on local farmers practicing sustainable agriculture, as well as other local businesses, to fill its shelves when open.

On Aug. 15, 2021, the Food Shed Co-op launched a capital campaign it calls its Community Investment Campaign (CIC) with the goal of raising \$1,750,000 by Oct. 15. In the first two weeks of the CIC the co-op has attained over 25 percent of the \$1.75 million goal.

Funds are being raised by selling preferred shares

of stock and through owner-member loans. Preferred shares are available to all adult residents in Illinois while owner loans are only available to co-op owner-members residing in Illinois.

The co-op has a tax-deductible donation option available as well. Proceeds from the CIC will be combined with commercial loans to build the 8,000-square-foot Community-Owned Grocery Store.

Scott Brix, vice-president of the Food Shed, explained, "The profile of a typical food co-op member is someone who is a strong advocate for local farms using sustainable agricultural techniques. Owner-members also value

supporting the local economy, providing access to healthy local food and protecting the environment by reducing the distance food travels, thereby reducing carbon emissions."

For members of the public

who share these priorities, the co-op invites them to invest in the CIC before Oct. 15, 2021.

Learn more about the Food Shed Co-op and the Community Investment Campaign at [www.foodshed.coop/cic](http://www.foodshed.coop/cic).



COURTESY PHOTO McHenry County News

### An afternoon with the 'Rough Rider'

Theodore Roosevelt was a complicated man of many talents: a rancher, an avid hunter, a war hero as a "Rough Rider", a progressive statesman, a naturalist, a conservationist, a masterful politician and the 26th president of the United States. Join the McHenry County Conservation District at the Powers-Walker house for an afternoon with Lt. Col. Theodore Roosevelt and his trusty mount Sunday, Sept. 12, noon to 4 p.m. at Glacial Park Conservation Area, Ringwood. This is a free special event and registration is not required. Children ages 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Note: It may be necessary to cancel events due to weather or other unforeseen reasons. Last minute cancellations will be posted on the home page of the district's website, [www.mccd.org](http://www.mccd.org), and the program description online will be designated as cancelled.

## Huntley Premise Alert Program

The Premise Alert Program was implemented as a means of ensuring that quality public safety services are made available to all citizens and sought to improve upon the efficiency with which services were provided to those individuals requiring special consideration in their attempts to access such services.

The purpose of the program is ensure that emergency personnel have been equipped with additional information pertaining to the condition or needs of a citizen before the need arises.

(430 ILCS 132/) Illinois Premise Alert Program (PAP) Act has established the following definition:

- The ability to identify special needs individuals, their places of employment, educational facilities, and residences are valuable resources in instances when or if an emergency response by law enforcement or fire protection personnel or both are needed.

- "Disability" means an individual's physical or mental impairment substantially limits one more of the major life activities; a record of such

impairment; or when the individual is regarded as having such an impairment.

- "Special Needs Individuals" means those individuals who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by individuals generally.

The information is stored in a secure database and will be retained, by mandate, for a period of two years. At the end of the time frame, the file may be updated. Participants are responsible for submitting a revised form with any changes that occur during the two-year period. The village respects your privacy and ensures that all information will remain confidential and accessed by emergency personnel when responding to a request for service.

Visit [huntleyfpd.org/premise-alert](http://huntleyfpd.org/premise-alert) and follow the links to download the Premise Alert Program registration form.

Complete the form and return it to the Huntley Fire Protection District, 11118 Main St., Huntley, IL 60142.

## Looking toward a great year for 4-H

By Lisa Diaz  
ILLINOIS 4-H DIRECTOR

The 4-H New Year is almost here and we are so excited to introduce new tools, new projects, and launch into the next great 4-H year!

- 4-H Project Spark Sheets: [go.illinois.edu/4hsparksheets](http://go.illinois.edu/4hsparksheets)
- 4-H Project Selection Guide: [go.illinois.edu/4Hprojectguide](http://go.illinois.edu/4Hprojectguide)

- Illinois Shop 4-H (Web-store): [go.illinois.edu/ILShop4H](http://go.illinois.edu/ILShop4H)

From all of us at Illinois 4-H we want to say a huge thank you to all of our volunteers! You make the program what it is and you have truly made us stronger together. Thank you!

This year, we'll have a continued focus on keeping our youth, families, and volunteers safe during 4-H experiences. As such, anyone attending a 4-H



indoor meeting or event must wear face coverings (that cover the nose and mouth) regardless of vaccination status, except for when eating and drinking. At outdoor meetings and events, face coverings will be encouraged, and attendees must wear face coverings when social distancing is not possible.

In addition, social distancing of at least 6 feet between attend-

ees from different households must be followed. Additional cleaning and sanitizing procedures will also be in place. If anyone attending has a medical exception to face coverings, we encourage them to reach out to the local Extension staff for help in providing an accommodation.

As always, we will continue to monitor and follow IDPH, CDC and university guidelines and will keep you updated of any changes. We hope you will find this Volunteer Tip Sheet helpful in navigating this guidance.

We continue to be humbled by the care you have taken to keep each other and our youth safe. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do and we are looking forward to a great year!

# Third additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine available for certain immune-compromised individuals

On Thursday, Aug. 12, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended the Emergency Use Authorizations (EAUs) for both Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines to allow for a third dose for certain immune-compromised individuals. Following the guidance and recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup, the Health and Human Services Department and COVID-19 vaccine providers will begin offering third doses to those who have certain immune-compromised conditions. This is different than the booster shot for all individuals previously vaccinated which will become available to the general population in the coming months.

"It's important for folks who are severely immune-compromised to consider a third vaccine dose," said Amanda Mehl, Boone County Public Health Administrator. "The third vaccine is offered to people with very specific underlying health conditions to add another layer of protection to these immune-compromised individuals."

Studies indicate some immune-compromised people don't always build the same level of immunity after vaccination the way non-immune-compromised people do, and may benefit from an additional dose to ensure adequate protection against COVID-19. In small studies, fully vaccinated immune-compromised people have accounted for a large proportion of hospitalized "breakthrough cases," and that suggests immune-compromised people are more likely to transmit the virus to household contacts.

Those eligible for a third dose include people who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last two years or are taking medicine

to suppress the immune system

- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response

Third doses can be administered at least 28 days after receiving the second dose of the two-dose series of Pfizer (for those 12 and older) or Moderna (for those 18 and older). To receive the third dose, the person must self-attest to currently having one of the above listed conditions. The third dose should be the same vaccine brand that was received for the first two doses.

The FDA's recent EUA amendment only applies to mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer), as does CDC's recommendation. There is not enough data at this time to determine whether immune-compromised people who received Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine also have an improved antibody response following an additional dose of the same vaccine. As such, at this time healthcare providers and the Health Dept. will not administer an additional vaccine dose for people who first received Johnson & Johnson's vaccine.

People who think they may require a third dose due to one of the above listed conditions have several options:

- The Boone County Health Department, 1204 Logan Ave., every Thursday at our walk-in clinic from 9 to 4 at 1204 Logan Ave., Belvidere.
- O'Brien and Dobbins Pharmacy, 216 S. State St., Belvidere, by appointment or walk-in. Call 815-544-3433 or visit their website at <https://www.obrienspharmacy.net/>
- Snyder Pharmacy, 13521 IL Route 76, Poplar Grove, by appointment. Call 815-765-1300.
- Walmart, 2101 Gateway Center Dr., Belvidere, by appointment or walk-in. Schedule an appointment by visiting their website at <https://www.walmart.com/store/3597-belvidere-il/pharmacy>
- Walgreens, 230 Chrysler Dr., Belvidere, walk-ins only.

# Belvidere paramedic, police, firefighters recognized for saving a life

By Bob Balgemann  
REPORTER

Once again, city police officers and firefighters have been recognized for saving a life. This time they were joined by an off-duty paramedic.

It was the evening of July 16, 2021, that off-duty paramedic Jeremy Radloff was at the Doty Park skating rink when he saw a man collapse while playing hockey. Fire Chief Al Hyser, acquainted with Radloff for many years, told aldermen and Mayor Clint Morris during the Aug. 23 Committee of the Whole, Public Works, meeting what happened next.

Directing his remarks to Radloff from the meeting room podium, he said, "Without hesitation, you immediately approached him (victim) and checked his vital signs. You observed him to be in respiratory distress and you began cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), while 9-1-1 was being called.

"You continued CPR until being relieved by Belvidere Police and Belvidere Fire. Because of you and the other first-responders the patient regained consciousness and began to breathe on his own.

"You, as a paramedic, know that the sooner CPR efforts are initiated, the better the chances of saving a person's life. Mr. Radloff, your immediate and selfless response to a life-threatening situation is recognized

and appreciated. On behalf of the city Belvidere, the Belvidere Fire Department and the Belvidere Police Department, you are presented with this Certificate of Appreciation" for saving a life.

Police Chief Shane Woody was up next and he related how his presentation was from the same incident.

He said police Sgt. Dave Bird and Officer Michelle Bogdonas were dispatched to the Doty Park skating rink and upon arrival saw an off-duty paramedic, Jeremy Radloff, already performing cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

"They continued CPR until fire-paramedics were able to use their automated external defibrillator, also known as an AED, to resuscitate his heart," Woody continued. Bird and firefighter Adam Ellwanger continued CPR until Belvidere firefighters began administering medications to the male. The patient regained consciousness and began to breathe on his own.

"Lifeline ambulance arrived on scene and by that time, the patient was able to follow simple commands. Once in the ambulance, the patient was able to carry on a conversation with paramedics."

Woody presented Bird and Bogdonas with life-saving Certificates of Appreciation.

Hyser returned to the podium with Part 3 of the good-news story. He said downtown Station No. 1, Engine 102, comprised of firefighters Ellwanger and Todd Winne and probationary firefighter Zach Bullard, was dispatched to Doty Park for the same incident.

"They assisted others with life-saving efforts and as a result of those efforts, a man's life was saved," Hyser said. "Because of these kinds of actions, Belvidere residents can rest assured that in time of need, they can count on their first-responders." Then he presented the life-saving certificates to the three firefighters.

The beneficiary of those heroics, who was not identified, was at the recognition event with his family. He had agreed to speak and as he walked to the podium in the front of the meeting room, he shook the hands of the paramedic and the police officers and firefighters who had a hand in saving his life.

"I don't have the words to describe the appreciation I have for what these people did," he began. "If they hadn't acted as they did, my wife would not have a husband, my children would not have a father. I would like to thank all of them and the first-responders and bystanders who step in and help out. Without you guys, there would be a lot of sad families. Thank you very much."

# Belvidere committee unanimous in backing downtown depot site

By Bob Balgemann  
REPORTER

The regional planning director for the R1 Regional Planning Council came to the Aug. 23 Committee of the Whole meeting, looking for a recommendation on where the new passenger rail depot would be located.

Sydney Turner got what she hoped for, in a 9-0 voice vote of support, with one absent, for the downtown site, northwest of city hall that as opposed to a park-and-ride location on Irene Road, along the Union and Pacific tracks.

After providing some his-

tory on the renewed effort to provide rail service from Rockford to Chicago, with a stop and a depot in Belvidere, Mayor Clint Morris urged a decision on where the depot would be located.

Looking back, he revisited the time when Mayor Fred Brereton was in office and had a plan in place for the depot to be a shovel-ready project near city hall.

"Subsequently, it seemed the funding dried up when there was a change in governorship," he said. But now the possibility is back on track and a study of where the two depots in Rockford

and Belvidere is under way.

"When I found out we could have another discussion about this, I was surprised to learn council wasn't aware a decision had been made," he said. "My public works director wasn't aware of it; the city's legal counsel wasn't aware of it. My inclination was to get this back in front of the decision-makers. So, here we are. I think the sooner we make a decision the better off we will be."

Rockford officials have decided their depot should be downtown, on a revamped South Main Street, he added.

"I thought that based on the history of it, we should have it (depot) downtown," Morris said. "I was hoping to get a show of support for one of these two sites, as we move forward."

With that initial step being taken, Public Works Director Brent Anderson said the current study of depot locations would focus in Belvidere more on economic development around the downtown depot location. Morris said such a decision had been hoped for by merchants throughout the downtown area, in an attempt to grow their businesses.

# More than 1,200 Illinois K-12 schools have signed up for SHIELD testing

*Back-to-school push makes tests available to more than 650,000 students statewide*

More than 1,200 K-12 schools across the state have signed up to use the SHIELD Illinois COVID-19 saliva test for the start of the 2021-22 academic year. More than 650,000 students in Illinois will now have access to the test, pioneered by researchers at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) recently expanded access to free SHIELD testing to all K-12 public schools statewide outside of Chicago, which had earlier received its own federal funding.

IDPH is utilizing funding from the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan to fund testing in public schools. Funding for testing in non-public schools statewide comes from the U.S. Health and Human Services' Midwest Expanded Testing Coordination Hub, which is run by Batelle, a non-profit technology development company.

"I am proud that as K-12 students across the state begin a new school year, our SHIELD test-and-trace system can provide so many a safe path back to the in-person instruction that is so important to a good, well-rounded education," University of Illinois System

President Tim Killeen said. "The covidSHIELD test has now been in use — and been effective — for a year at our universities. We are pleased to be able to extend that protection to many thousands of students through free testing provided by our partnership with IDPH and the state of Illinois."

Through state funding, public and private schools can choose to use the saliva-based test developed at UIUC, which detects SARS-CoV-2 and its variants in symptomatic, pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals.

Frequent testing of unvaccinated staff and students as well as symptomatic individuals who have been vaccinated helps to ensure a safe return to in-person learning.

"From the beginning, SHIELD Illinois' goal has been to help our state's schools, businesses and government reopen safely," said SHIELD Illinois Managing Director Ron Watkins. "We are incredibly grateful for all of our partners, and we look forward to providing reliable, fast testing to our school partners this fall to enable their return to safe, in-person learning."

SHIELD Illinois recently surpassed the 500,000 mark

in the number of covid-SHIELD tests performed at schools, universities, colleges, community colleges and businesses, and processed in labs statewide. This widespread testing has made it possible to identify infected individuals so they can be isolated to prevent spread of the disease.

Under new state guidance, students and teachers identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case now have the option of a Test-to-Stay protocol as an alternative to quarantine. Close contacts must be tested on days 1, 3, 5, and 7 after exposure. As long as close contacts remain negative, they are not required to quarantine.

Close contacts are only eligible for Test-to-Stay if both the close contact and infected individual were correctly and consistently wearing masks during the entire exposure period.

IDPH encourages all schools to implement weekly testing of their unvaccinated students and staff. Schools that implement weekly testing will be prioritized for Test-to-Stay and outbreak testing when required.

The covidSHIELD test requires only a deposit of saliva instead of an intrusive nasal swab. School districts and

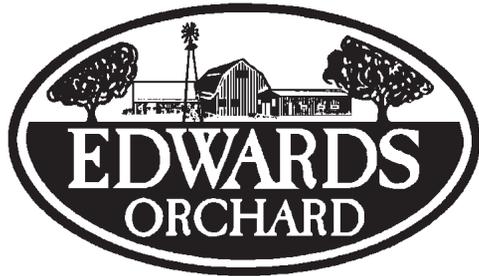
IDPH will receive test results within 24 hours of samples reaching a SHIELD Illinois lab. The labs are CLIA certified, meaning they meet federal standards for quality and reliability established by the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) of 1988. The labs are not profiting from covid-SHIELD tests.

## About the University of Illinois System

The University of Illinois System is a world leader in research and discovery, and the largest educational institution in the state with more than 90,000 students, about 26,000 full-time equivalent faculty and staff, and universities in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield. The U of I System awards more than 23,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees annually.

## About covidSHIELD

Pioneered by researchers at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, covid-SHIELD is a comprehensive solution to curb and control the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19. The covid-SHIELD testing process is currently in use across the University of Illinois System



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Hannah Schlanger received her nursing scholarship award.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

# Poplar Grove native receives Presidential Scholarship from George Williams College of Aurora University

Hannah Schlanger, of Poplar Grove, has been named a Presidential Scholar at George Williams College of Aurora University (GWC). Schlanger is one of this year's two recipients of the prestigious four-year, full-tuition scholarship, which was established for first-time freshmen who earned a minimum high school grade point average of 3.00.

A recent graduate of North Boone High School, Schlanger will major in nursing at GWC beginning in the fall

2021 semester. GWC's innovative nursing program features state-of-the-art nursing skills and simulation labs to provide students and faculty with cutting-edge learning and teaching environments. Operating in conjunction with Aurora University's longtime nursing program in Aurora the program seeks to fill a rising demand for highly qualified nurses in the region.

"Not only does this scholarship provide me with financial support, but it shows

me I can do anything through hard work and dedication," said Schlanger. "The nursing simulation labs at GWC are beyond anything I had seen at other universities, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn in them."

Schlanger was chosen to receive the competitive scholarship based on the strength of her academic accomplishments, a detailed application, an interview, and an essay.

"We are excited that Hannah chose George Williams

College and believe she will find our nursing program will prepare her for a challenging and rewarding career in nursing," said Kate Herrick, GWC's vice president for academics and student life. "GWC prepares nurses in a dynamic and beautiful setting, and our graduates have high success rates on the NCLEX and in job placement. We are thrilled to help Hannah and other interested nurses prepare for the future of healthcare at an unprecedented time in history."

# Zonta raises funds for scholarships

Zonta Club of Belvidere will hold their annual luncheon fundraiser on Tuesday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Belvidere Moose Lodge, 375 Beloit Road. Cost is \$12 and takeout options are available.

The Zonta luncheon funds the local scholarship program. Zonta awards \$1000 scholarships to all the three high schools in Boone County. Since last year's luncheon was cancelled due to

COVID, it is really important that this one is successful to keep the scholarship program going. There will also be numerous gift baskets being raffled off.

For tickets, you can talk to any Zonta member. If you do not know any, here are a few members you can find fairly easily: Gina DelRose at City Hall, Anna Pivoras at the Boone County Museum of History, Jen Jackie - YMCA, Shelly - Sun-

shine Stitches, Amy Grafton - Chamber of Commerce, Faith - Union Bank, and Julie - Community Building, will have tickets. You can also buy them at the door for the same price.

DelRose will also be making a Facebook event for it, so people can message the club on Facebook to set up a time to meet and purchase tickets if they don't know a member to get them from.

# White working to address heavy customer volume

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is launching a comprehensive plan to address the heavy customer volume at Driver Services facilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. White's plan includes two key elements:

- Expanding the appointment pilot program in September to include most Driver Services facilities in the Chicagoland area.
- Expanding remote renewal over the next six months to allow approximately 1 million more people to renew their driver's licenses and ID cards online, by phone or by mail.

Letters will be mailed out to those who qualify beginning in September until the end of February 2022.

"During the pandemic, my office has continued to serve the public, including face-to-face transactions, in a safe and responsible manner," said White. "Throughout this time, we also greatly expanded online services. This next step will allow many more people to renew their driver's licenses or ID cards remotely instead of visiting a Driver Services facility.

"To further address the heavy customer volume at facilities, my office is expanding the appointment program in September to include most Chicagoland facilities, so customers who must visit a facility can schedule an appointment. Certain designated facilities will still accommodate walk-in customers."

## Expanding the appointment program

The week of Sept. 7, many metro Driver Services facilities will also require appointments. These facilities include Schaumburg, Bridgeview, Lombard, Des Plaines, Waukegan, Naperville, Aurora, Plano and Joliet.

Appointments will be required for customers applying for or renewing REAL IDs, standard driver's licenses and ID cards, and for behind-the-wheel road tests at these facilities. Customers can visit [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) to schedule an appointment up to 10 days in advance during this phase of the program. New appointment slots will be available each day at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com).

All 16 facilities will have the same standardized days and hours of operation: Tuesday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

White emphasized that seniors, persons with disabilities and expectant mothers will be served as walk-ins at all 16 of the designated appointment facilities.

Beginning in September, customers can schedule an appointment online or by calling the appointment helpline at 844-817-4649. The Secretary of State is partnering with the Chicago Lighthouse to provide these call center services. The Chicago Lighthouse's call centers offer career opportunities for people who are blind, visually impaired, disabled, veterans and economically disadvantaged.

Larger central and downstate Illinois facilities will implement a customer scheduling system in the near future.

## Walk-in facilities

White noted that not all facilities will go to the appointment-based system. Many small, rural facilities will not

require the appointment system because they do not encounter the heavy customer volume that large facilities encounter.

Additionally, some Chicagoland facilities will remain accessible to walk-in customers. These facilities include Deerfield, Elgin, Chicago Central (James R. Thompson Center) and the temporary facility at Prairie State College in Chicago Heights.

## Expanding remote renewal to address heavy customer volume

Beginning in September and running through February 2022, White's office will be expanding remote renewal for driver's license and ID card holders. During this six-month period, the office will mail letters to eligible customers with expired driver's licenses and ID cards, requiring them to renew online, by phone or by mail. The office estimates that this will eliminate the need for approximately 1 million people to visit a facility.

See VOLUME, Page 8

# Free outdoor movie in Poplar Grove

The public is invited to a free outdoor movie at Jefferson Prairie Lutheran Church on Sept. 18 at 7:30 p.m. "Dream Horse" is a family friendly movie. The Beloit International Film Festival (BIFF) will provide a state-of-the-art sound system, projector, and large screen. Jefferson Prairie is located at 23184 Bergen Road, Poplar Grove, on the Wisconsin/Illinois state line. Moviegoers should bring chairs.

# College news

## Palmer College of Chiropractic accepts student for enrollment

Joshua Dowling of Belvidere has been accepted for enrollment for the summer 2021 trimester at Palmer College of Chiropractic's Main campus in Davenport, Iowa.

## Sam Houston State University Summer 2021 Graduates

The following area student received a degree during the 2021 Summer semester at Sam Houston State University.

### Poplar Grove:

Ryan Markham, Master of Science, Criminal Justice Leadership & Management

## Local student selected to University of Minnesota Twin Cities Dean's List

The following student has been named to the 2021 spring semester Dean's List at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, the university announced:

### Belvidere:

Haley McCoy, Senior, College of Liberal Arts  
To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must complete 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average.

## UW-La Crosse announces May 2021 graduates

The following area students completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in May.

Students earning degrees in May included:

### Belvidere:

Kendyl Ainsworth, Bachelor of Science, Middle Childhood through Early Adolescence Education Major, Highest Honors

# Retired teachers cheer on the new school year

Welcome back to the 2021-22 school year and good luck to all. One group that will be observing from the sidelines and cheering the others on is Belvidere Retired Teachers.

The first meeting of BRTA will be held on Sept. 21 at the United Methodist Church, 610 Bonus Ave., Belvidere, at 5:30 p.m. The cost of the meal is \$12 and will be

served by members of the Methodist church. All retired District 100 personnel are invited to attend. BRTA will furnish this meal for all newly retired this year.

Please plan to come and enjoy an evening with friends, old and new. All reservations should be directed to Diane Wilke, 6453 Broadview Ave., Belvidere, by Tuesday, Sept. 14.

# Illinois State Police District 16 announces August activity

Illinois State Police District 16 Commander, Lieutenant Joseph Blanchette, has announced District 16 enforcement figures and activity for the month of August.

Illinois State Police District 16 Troopers issued 657 total citations and 736 written warnings during the month of August. Speed violations accounted for 250 citations.

Ninety-three citations were issued for occupant restraint violations and 33 enforcement documents were issued for distracted driving violations. Troopers investigated 34

traffic crashes and assisted 121 motorists. Two hundred forty-five commercial motor vehicle inspections were completed with 21 drivers and/or vehicles being placed out of service.

Troopers made 15 arrests for driving under the influence and 32 criminal arrests. Eight enforcement documents were issued for Scott's Law violations.

District 16, which encompasses Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, and Boone Counties, had three traffic fatalities in August.

# Pritzker continues his unilateral rule

State Sen. Dave Syverson (R-Rockford) says Gov. JB Pritzker continued his go-it-alone pandemic decision-making Aug. 26—announcing for the second time this month more mask and vaccine mandates.

Syverson says it's coming up on 17 months that Gov.

Pritzker has been running the state with little to no input by state lawmakers or local officials. The governor encourages the public to be "all in Illinois," but he refuses to be "all in" with state and local elected officials who better

See PRITZKER, Page 9

## Slices of life

# Courage or bravery or maybe even strength

When my husband first left this earth, people told me I was strong. I recoiled from this label because at the time I felt anything but strong.

I think maybe I've since changed my mind.

Please allow me this grace. If grief has taught me one thing it's that the person you believe yourself to be changes on a daily basis (sometimes more often than that.) You might think the sky is blue one day and purple the other. One moment you might catch a glimpse of happiness and the next your world is crumbling from within. On that note, maybe I am strong. Or maybe courageous, or brave, or maybe all three. They



By **JILL PERTLER**  
Columnist

have similar, but varying definitions:

Strong: "Able to withstand great force or pressure."

Brave: "Ready to face or endure danger or pain."

Courage: "Strength in the face of pain or grief."

If the pressure of selling a house and a couple cars—on your own, when those things would have been your husband's realm—makes you strong, then maybe I'm strong.

If quiet contemplation

has become a mandatory morning staple because it helps you ready and prepare yourself for the day ahead, then I might be brave.

If finding new joy, from within yourself, because that's where it was all along, constitutes courage, then I'm currently at the top of my class.

Strong isn't muscles. It isn't forgetting or ignoring or denying.

Bravery isn't acting the part. It isn't swords or shields or armor.

Courage isn't a misinformed cowardly lion. It isn't something you set out to do or be when your alarm clock rings at 6 a.m.

Strong is the will to believe in the future—to believe you can create a new

future, despite it all.

Bravery is letting down your armor and attending your first business meeting and breaking down in tears because you aren't afraid to let people see the real you and your real emotions.

Courage is answering the door, or the phone. It is getting out of bed every morning, even when you've been up most of the night and early morning hours, unable to turn your mind off from "just thinking."

When you are grieving, people want to say something to take the pain away. They want to help. Sometimes they tell you that you are strong, or brave or courageous. I used to take offense at this because it seemed so far from the truth.

How could I be strong when I didn't know if I had the will to exist? How could I be brave when my tears seemed overwhelming? How could I be courageous when I didn't know about tomorrow, much less today?

Good questions. I don't have the answers. It's been less than a year for me, nine months (or 41 weeks or 288 days, give or take)—if we are counting. And I still don't quite know what I'm doing.

Well, that's not all true. I know I am living and breathing each day. I know I have joy in my heart. I've come to believe what I am doing is nothing short of heroic: to withstand, to endure, to face the future, to find purpose, to continue moving forward, to

continuing loving and living.

I am trying. It's all I can do. It's all any of us can do.

And, if you will allow me, I want to amend my earlier statement (in an earlier column) about not being strong.

I am strong. I am brave. I am courageous. I might even be heroic. I'm guessing these very same things could be said about you.

Thank you for pointing this out to me, even before I was ready to hear it.

With love and gratitude.

*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.*

## Rep. Sosnowski statement on new statewide indoor mask, vaccination mandates

State Rep. Joe Sosnowski, R-Rockford, issued the following statement in response to the announcement by Gov. JB Pritzker issuing a new indoor mask mandate and requiring all school employees to get vaccinated:

"The governor's actions today [Aug. 6] ignore the science and the facts. According to data from the Illinois Department of Public Health less than 9 percent of hospitalized patients in Illinois are from COVID-related illness. When it comes to our youth, according to the Centers for Disease Control, COVID accounts for 0.2 deaths per 100,000 among children ages 1-14 in the United States. That's statistically as close to zero as you can get. The same CDC data shows that COVID ranks behind drowning, vehicle accidents, homicide, cancer, cardiovascular disease, flu/pneumonia, and suffocation as the leading causes of death among children ages 1-4; and among children ages 5-14, COVID comes in slightly above zero and as equal a danger as suffocation. The point is, children are not at high or even moderate risk of hospitalization or death from COVID. Based on the science and the facts, mask mandates on students and vaccination mandates on educators are unnecessary.

"The governor is not a dictator, yet he continues to act like one, and his allies in the General Assembly are too timid to speak out as the people's elected representatives to demand that we restore checks and balances to the state's ongoing response to COVID.

"The virus is one of many public health issues we face. It is not the only part of public health. We need to look at life holistically and not single out COVID as the greatest threat to our health. Vaccination should be an individual's personal choice. Parents should get to decide whether they want their child to wear mask in school, not the Governor."

Rep. Sosnowski serves the 69th District, which includes portions of Winnebago and Boone counties.

## LETTER POLICY

We encourage readers to submit letters to the editor. To be considered for publication, all letters MUST be signed with the writer's full name. An address and telephone number (which will not be printed) must be provided for verification purposes. Letters exceeding 250 words may be edited for length. No potentially libelous letters or letters containing personal attacks will be printed. Writers are limited to one letter per month. Deadline is 5 p.m. Fridays. Send letters for the *Belvidere Republican* to: Letters to the Editor, 130 South State Street, Suite 101, Belvidere, IL 61008, fax to 815-547-3045, or email [bdnews@rvpublishing.com](mailto:bdnews@rvpublishing.com)

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## Back in the Saddle

By Ann Marie Cain, FBCM MANAGER, WINNEBAGO-BOONE FARM BUREAU

With the harvest season just around the corner, it is important for everyone to remember that we all need to share the roads. Farmers and motorists both have the right to use the roads. Although farm equipment will use the roads all year round, motorists encounter more farm equipment in the spring as farmers are preparing the soil and planting the crops and in the fall as farmers are harvesting their crops.

Here are a few safety tips and reminders for both motorists and farmers to help prevent accidents on the roads during harvest season. Please stay alert, be patient, and when you see farm equipment ahead, slow down.

### Motorists:

- Reduce speed when encountering farm equipment on public roads. Flashing amber lights mean "Caution."
- Slow down when you see the Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) Emblem—the orange and red reflective triangle warns you that the tractor or combine travels at a slow rate of speed.
- Keep a safe distance from the farm equipment so the farmer can see you. If you can't see his mirrors, he can't see you.
- Pass wide, large farm equipment only if you know conditions are safe and you are sure the farmer will not be making a left-hand turn. Be cautious when pulling back in.
- It is illegal to pass in a no passing zone or within 100 feet of an intersection, railroad crossing, or bridge.
- Be prepared to yield to wide equipment.

## Share the roads

• Always wear a safety belt and heed the road's speed limit.

• Watch for the farmer's indication of a turn. Newer equipment has one or more amber lights flashing rapidly to indicate a turn. Older equipment is typically not equipped with turn signals so watch for farmer's hand signals.

### Farmers:

- Plan travel to avoid rush hours, bad weather, the busiest roads, and the time before daylight and after dark.
- Be obvious to motorists by proper use of reflective SMV emblems on any implement of husbandry operated on public roadways. It's the law.
- Use reflective marking tape and reflectors on the extremities of equipment.
- Turn on hazard lights mounted on farm equipment and turn off field work lights for all roadway travel.
- Install mirrors that are wide enough for you to see what is following you.
- Always use turn signals to indicate plans to turn into fields or driveways
- Be aware of traffic-oncoming, in front of you, and behind you.
- If possible, pull over temporarily to allow traffic to pass, if road and shoulder conditions are safe.
- Slow down on turns and curves. Check the traffic behind you.
- Minimize the width of equipment as much as possible. You may not interfere with traffic in the adjoining lane.
- When practical, truck larger equipment to the next location.

## European Christmas Get-Away

What better way to start the Holiday celebration than experiencing a European Christmas Get-Away right in our own back yard! Join Northern Illinois Farm Bureaus and Tri-State Travel on Nov. 27-30 as we celebrate a European Christmas in Michigan. Enjoy an English style dinner and entertainment, a Dutch Christmas Market, quaint German Village shops and Bavarian Holiday delights, all of which have influenced our American Christmas traditions. Join us for all this and more on our European Christmas Get-Away.

The tour includes three nights at the Bavarian Inn Lodge, six meals, Cornwell's Dinner Theater, Holland's Christmas "Kerstmarkt", Bronner's German Christmas Store & Silent Night Chapel, Bavarian Frankenmuth Christmas Tour, River Place Village, Strudel Making, The Glockenspiel, Horse Drawn Carriage Ride, Bavarian Inn Christmas Festival. Only \$890 per person double occupancy. \$100 per person deposit is due with the reservation. Travel Protection Plan is available. Final date for sign-up (subject for availability) is Wednesday, Sept. 15.

For more information, copy of the brochure and additional pricing, visit: <https://www.winnebago Boone farm bureau.org/trips-and-tours.html>

### Teacher grants available

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom offers project grants up to \$300 and special topic book grants up to \$250 to teachers to promote agricultural literacy

in the classroom. To apply for funding, for more information and to complete the grant applications, visit <http://www.agintheclassroom.org/TeacherResources/Grants.html>.

• Projects may be, but are not limited to, agricultural teaching units, classroom presentations, and career fairs. Be creative and develop an interesting, valuable agricultural experience for your students.

• Projects should focus on integrating agriculture into a variety of curriculum areas.

• High School Ag teachers may apply with an elementary teacher if their classes or FFA Chapters are working on an agriculture literacy unit. Grants and materials must reflect an Agriculture Literacy theme or component.

• Incomplete grants, or project grants that request consumables, will not be considered. Project grants will not fund consumable items. Funding for field trips, landscaping, plants, incubators and one-time use consumables will not be granted.

• Special topic book grants should focus on integrating agriculture into a variety of curriculum areas.

• For accepted book grants, books will be shipped directly to the teacher at their school.

You may contact Diane Cleland, Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau Ag Literacy Coordinator for help with this application at [wbfbaic@live.com](mailto:wbfbaic@live.com). Application deadline is Oct. 15, 2021. Teachers selected for project or special topic funding will be notified via email on or before Nov. 12.

## Rep. Sosnowski statement on General Assembly passage of partisan redistricting bill

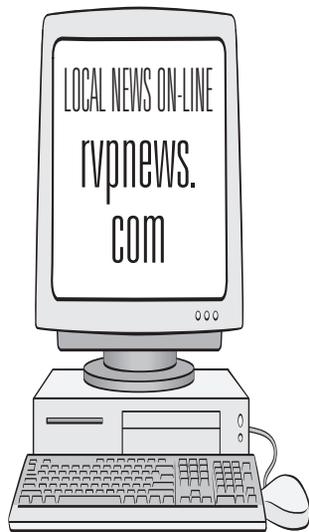
State Rep. Joe Sosnowski, R-Rockford, issued the following statement after the Illinois House of Representatives voted along party lines to approve Senate Bill 927 creating new legislative district maps for the next 10 years:

"There are no checks and balances in Springfield and the majority is not interested in working together. There is a better way to draw maps.

The fair maps process that the Governor endorsed during his campaign is the way to take politics out of the redistricting process. Unfortunately, the governor has demonstrated by his actions that he has become a part of the same broken political system that has dominated Springfield for decades, where decisions are made to benefit the party in power over what is best for the people of Illinois."

"In order to achieve property tax relief, protect educational choice for families, and attract jobs and opportunity back to Illinois, we need a governor who keeps his promises and breaks from politics as usual. JB Pritzker is not that governor."

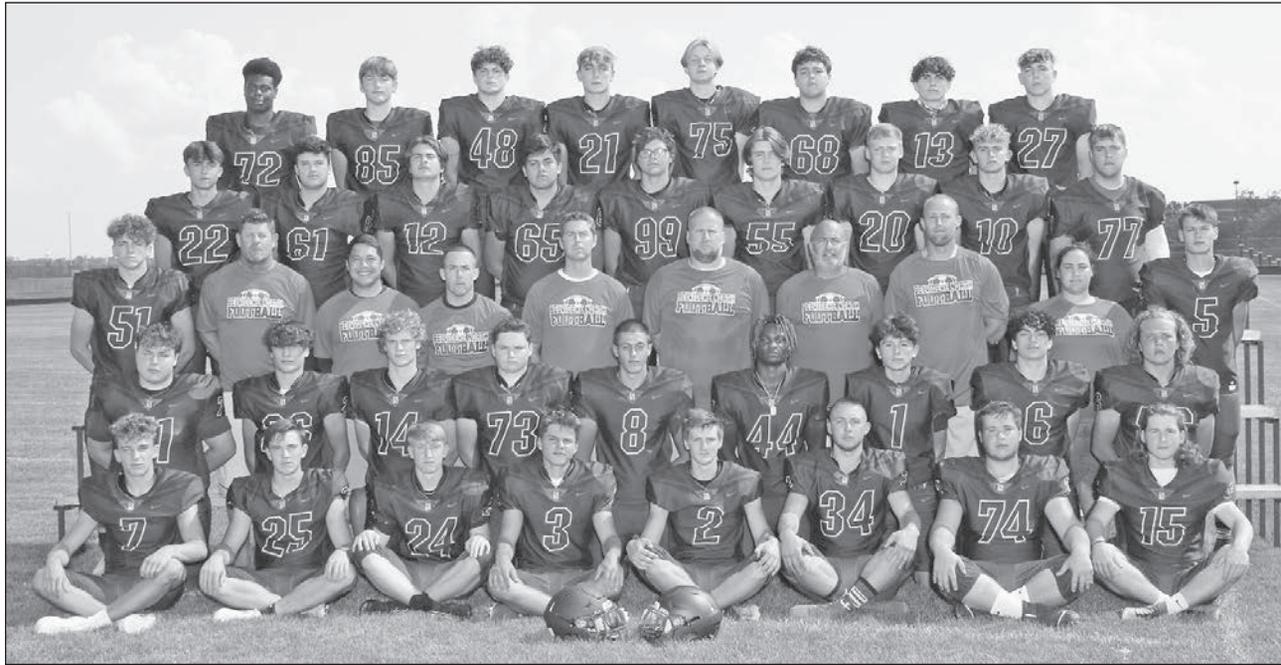
Rep. Sosnowski serves the 69th District, which includes portions of Winnebago and Boone counties.



# Belvidere North High School fall sports

## Varsity football ▶

Top row (left to right): TJ Mitchell, Ethan Tuckley, AJ Piloni, Aaron Winters, Beck Krenzelo, Reid Stille, Justin Benitez, Nick Winters. Second row down: Aiden Montes, Drake Fielding, Jacob Ramirez, Paulo Serrano, Tony Sciortino, Marshall Smith, Zach Rieches, Mason Weckler, Logan Lott. Third row down: Ty Pearson, Coach Smith, Coach Laud, Coach Byers, Coach Bell, Coach Beck, Coach Oldani, Coach Disler, Phoebe Calabrese - Manager, Nolan Soma. Fourth row down: Tommy Laudicina, AJ Sagona, Chandler Wehrle, Gage Hasty, Johnny Silva, Tavione Wilson, Edwin Kosla, Darius Fort, Nolan Brannan. Bottom row: Jacob Bucher, Trevor Addotta, Joseph Brown, Ethyn Bartelli, Nico Bertolino, Zack Michaels, Nathan Benney, Max Gyllenswan. Not pictured: Isaiah Brown, Tyler Rauch.



BNHS PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

## Varsity cheerleading ◀

Top row (left to right): Emily Pearson, Kevin Mulhall, Eden Soma, Laney Kuss, Kalyb Bennefield, Eden Kuss, Veronica Albertini, Elijah Holliday, Riley Powers, Elle Franta, Joey Bucci, Alexa Hayes. Second row down: Ella Jamison, Abby Giesecke, Giannah Mabie, Annika Peterson, Isabella Girardin, Margaret Taskey, Michaela Becastro. Bottom row: Megan Fonseca, Samantha Paris, Gianna Montanez, Erika Alms, Angel Lewis, Mary-Margaret Lundquist, Kara Yang.



## Varsity volleyball ▼

Top row (left to right): Ava Irvin, Amanda Carlson, David Jacobson, Jaclyn Krizka, Rachel Scott. Second row down: Jayden Flynn, Kaitlin Leider, Mya Potter, Olivia Perez, Bree Messenger, Grace Betke. Bottom row: Erin Morgan, Ireland Henry, Alana Smelter.



## Boys Cross Country ▲

Top row (left to right): Caden Lendman, Cameron O'Brien, Jacob Rudawski, Cade McNulty, Evan Horgan, Luke Smith, Nick Schroeder, Brian Ackerman. Second row down: Luke Beutel, Banks LaPlante, Coach Leonard, Coach Husser, Coach Paddock, Nick Lenzen, Carson Ritchie. Third row down: Will Ward, Antonio Ostalaza, Anthony Avila, Jovanni Alvarez, James Foster, Nick Anderson, Orlando Hernandez, Brock Bottcher. Bottom row: Zuriel Leanos, Graeme Schulz, Jesse Kramer, Jerry Reuss, Owen Jahn. Not pictured: Brandon Massman, Ariel Gonzalez.



## Varsity and JV girls cross country ▲

Top row (left to right): Ada Parker, Dellana Muck, Mackenzie Key, Gabby Herera, Brooke Bottcher, Grace Ulferts, Ella Dixon, Gloria Oteng-Bediako. Second row down: Coach Pivoras, Morgan Bailey, Samantha Slife, Emma Andrist, Alexia Pecora, Kenzie Kline, Anna Polasky, Kaileigh Sippy, Coach Foster. Third row down: Geisell Casis, Mera Moucharrarie, Ameila Kackley, Karina Pawlik, Evelyn Molina, Madison Lerner, Addison Reyes, Lauren Key, Adriana Pecora, Alayna Fredrick. Bottom row: Natalie Melendez, Jissela Arce, Leslie Rivas, Ashley Martinez, Alyssa Pryor.



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# Belvidere North High School fall sports

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## Varsity and JV Tennis

Top row (left to right): Joey Wilson, Ashton Dierks, Lizzie Abbott, Savannah Mirabel, Sarah Prokop, Bella Wright, Grace Redding, Emily Temple. Second row down: Coach Oldani, Meghan Tryon, Kaitlyn Albrecht, Audry Carpenter, Luiza Manfre, Emerson Laskonis, Carly Diehl, Anabelle Gawaran, Coach Rathbun. Third row down: Lucy Madera, Jenna Poole, Michelle Avila, Natalie Hix, Regan Shanks, Isabelle Schadle, Alicia Downey, Valeria Walters. Bottom row: Kayla Knoepfle, Abby Rathbun, Morgan Bleile, Sam Kohls, Elise Ward, Denise Aguilar.



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## Varsity poms

Top row (left to right): Mackenzie Goldie, Jenna Kay, Kiara Anders, Gabriella Herrera, Coach Conti. Second row down: Ella Larsen, Ella Livingston, Brooklyn DeWall, Emma Johnson, Cassandra Griffiths, Emma Karl. Bottom row: Delphine Calabrese, Alyssa LaBarge.

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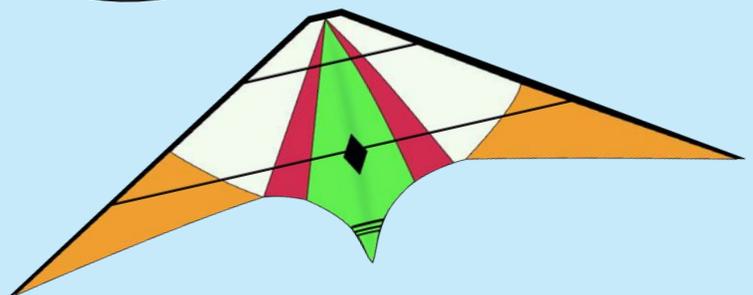
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## Varsity boys soccer

Top row (left to right): Landen Parson, Peyton DeBruyne, Rick Mateus, Ruben Figueroa, Asher Hefty. Second row down: Alexis Hernandez, Jason Rosas, Aiden Montes, Alan Perez, Edgar Ortuno, Yahir Alvares. Bottom row: Edon Saipi, Juan Hernandez, Cesar Roman, Angel Salinas, Spencer Kohls.

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See more pictures on page 10!

**GOOD LUCK, PLAYERS!**

# Powdery substance leads to woman's arrest

On Monday, Aug. 9, at approximately 10 a.m., a Woodstock Police Department records clerk opened a letter addressed to the Woodstock Police Department. Upon opening the letter, a white powdery substance was released into the air and onto the skin of the records clerk.



Terri A. Reed

Due to the potential threat to human life, the Woodstock Fire/Rescue District and a hazmat team were dispatched to the police department to evaluate the records clerk who opened the envelope and others who were in the room when the envelope was opened.

The envelope also contained paperwork and other items. Those items and additional evidence were used to identify a suspect in this

incident. The suspect was identified as Terri A. Reed.

Upon conferring with the McHenry County State's Attorney's Office, a felony charge of Disorderly Conduct was approved against the suspect. A warrant was obtained for her arrest, which was served on her while in custody at the McHenry County Jail for an unrelated case.

The United States Postal Inspection Service and the FBI assisted in this investigation. The powder was identified as a medication that would not cause harm to human life.

# McHenry County Sheriff's report

The following arrests in McHenry County were reported by the McHenry County Sheriff's Department. Suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

**Aug. 24**  
Andrew Terry, 24, Racine, was cited for aggravated assault, use of a deadly weapon;

**Aug. 25**  
Shelly Meehan, 53, McHenry, was cited for domestic battery/bodily harm;

**Aug. 26**  
Dominique Austin, 24, Fox Lake, was cited for 2 counts of retail theft/disp merch >\$300;

David England, 42, Chicago, was cited for 2 counts of retail theft/disp merch >\$300;

Ramon Gonzalez, 21, Carpentersville, was cited for driving with no drivers license, uninsured motor vehicle,

cle, uninsured motor vehicle bodily harm, and improper passing on the left;

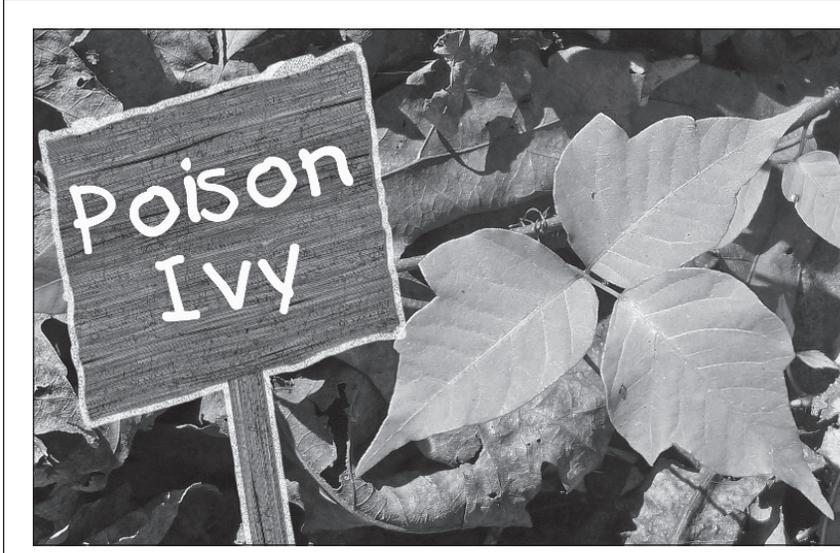
William Bolich, 45, Wonder Lake, was cited for criminal damage to property <\$300;

**Aug. 27**  
Malcolm Stone, 31, Woodstock, was cited for criminal sexual assault consent;

Jessica Lane, 31, McHenry, was cited for 2 counts of aggravated DUI accident bodily harm, aggravated DUI license suspended or revoked, and aggravated DUI school zone accident bodily harm;

**Aug. 30**  
Ryszard Stankeiwicz, 69, Fox River, was cited for violation of stalking/no contact order;

Sierra Schneider, 24, Antioch, was cited for possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of meth <5 grams.



# Staying safe on trails

Have you ever been on a trail and wondered if the plant you just touched was poison ivy? Have you ever been at an unfamiliar site and felt lost? Join the McHenry County Conservation District Saturday, Sept. 11, from 2-3:30 p.m. at Marengo Ridge Conservation Area, 2411 N. Route 23, Marengo, for tips on staying safe in the outdoors! (ages 7+) Free for residents, \$5 for non-residents. Visit [mccdistrict.org](http://mccdistrict.org) for information and registration.

COURTESY PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

# Huntley Police report

All individuals listed as arrested or charged with a crime in this press release are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

**Aug. 25**  
11200 block of Rte. 47: A theft from motor vehicle was reported.

**Aug. 27**  
Rte. 47/Algonquin Rd: Sarah Kenney, 39, of Woodstock, was arrested for DUI and DUI over .08.

10900 block of Rte. 47: Colson Larabee, 20, of Huntley, was issued a local ordinance citation for the sale of tobacco to a minor.

**Aug. 28**  
Rte. 47/Huntley Crossings: Omar Soto-Guzman, 32, of

Elgin, was arrested for no valid driver's license.

Rte. 47/Freeman Road: San Juana Lopez Guevara, 38, of Elgin, was arrested for driving while license suspended.

Rte. 47/Oak Creek Parkway: Kyle Hayes, 31, of Huntley, was arrested for aggravated driving while license revoked, illegal possession of

weapon by felon and resisting a peace officer.

**Aug. 30**  
11700 block of Main Street: A trespass was reported.

**Aug. 31**  
11200 block of Rte. 47: Gruia Porumbita, 29, of Coal Center, Pa., was arrested for driving on a suspended driver's license.

Collins, 25, of Satellite Beach, Fla., was arrested for no valid driver's license and electronic communication device.

South Eastwood Drive at McConnell Road: Briana J. Davis, 24, of Rockford, was arrested for driving while license suspended and electronic communication device.

# Woodstock Police report

The Woodstock Police department reported the following arrests and citations. Persons charged with domestic battery and juveniles 17 or younger are not named.

An arrest does not constitute a conviction, and suspects are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court

of law.

**Aug. 20**  
500 block of Leah Lane: Christeen A. Colon, 58, of Woodstock, was arrested for no valid driver's license and being uninsured.

100 block of Church Street: Terri A. Reed, 34, no address given, was arrested on WOW

(FTA-McHenry County) and criminal trespass to land.

200 block of Main Street: Oscar Arreola, 25, of Woodstock, was arrested for theft over \$500 and criminal damage to property.

**Aug. 25**  
South Eastwood Drive and Lake Avenue: Alexandra L.

Collins, 25, of Satellite Beach, Fla., was arrested for no valid driver's license and electronic communication device.

South Eastwood Drive at McConnell Road: Briana J. Davis, 24, of Rockford, was arrested for driving while license suspended and electronic communication device.

## McHenry County News

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# Unclaimed Property Program returns \$226 million in fiscal year 2021

“One of the state’s oldest consumer-protection initiatives returned \$226 million in lost and misplaced money to an estimated 174,000 people last year despite an economy struggling under the weight and fear of a global pandemic,” Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs said.

The program, often referred to as I-Cash, safeguards unclaimed property such as unpaid life insurance benefits, forgotten bank accounts, and unused rebate cards until it can be returned to its owner. The state treasurer is required to return the money no matter how long it takes.

“Too many people unknowingly are separated from their money and other valuables. It is our job to fix that,” Frerichs said. “We are proud that the commonsense improvements we have made to the unclaimed property program make this effort quicker, easier and more efficient.”

The average amount returned was \$1,000. The year represents fiscal year 2021, which is July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Since Frerichs took office, he has returned nearly \$1.2 billion through 790,000 claims. Leveraging technology to make it easier to file a

claim has contributed to the program’s success.

Paperless claims now are available. Frerichs also credits a change in state law that allows the treasury to send unclaimed property checks directly to qualifying individuals without the need to initiate a claim. Frerichs also fought for reforms that require insurance companies to be more vigilant in locating life insurance beneficiaries.

“We look forward to returning forgotten items to the owners and encourage everyone to check [www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICash](http://www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICash) to find out if we have something in our vault that belongs to them,” Frerichs said.

Despite the stunning success, the treasury continues to safeguard \$3.5 billion in unclaimed property. Typically, a bank account, investment product or contents of a safe deposit box is turned over to the Illinois treasurer’s office if there is no activity for three years. Unclaimed property is submitted twice each year; financial institutions in the fall, and non-financial institutions, such as business associations, utilities, and life insurance companies, in the spring.

Because the office receives unclaimed property twice

each year, it is recommended individuals search the public database twice each year. For example, searches might be conducted on an individual’s birthday and six months after their birthday.

Lawmakers enacted the unclaimed property law in 1961. Lawmakers assigned unclaimed property duties to the treasurer’s office beginning July 1, 1999.

## About the Illinois treasurer

Frerichs is the state’s chief investment and banking officer and actively manages approximately \$38 billion. The portfolio includes \$17 billion in state funds, \$15 billion in retirement and college savings plans, and \$6 billion on behalf of local and state governments.

Frerichs’ office protects consumers by safeguarding more than \$3.5 billion in unclaimed property, encouraging savings plans for college or trade school, increasing financial education among all ages, assisting people with disabilities save without losing government benefits, and removing barriers to a secure retirement. The treasurer’s office predates Illinois incorporation in 1818. Voters in 1848 chose to make it an elected office.



PIXABAY PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

This garden is providing essential resources to support bird populations. Sunflowers are a good source of seeds for birds such as this titmouse.

## Create a bird-friendly yard

By Nicole Flowers-Kimmerle  
Horticulture Educator  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
EXTENSION

North America has lost 3 billion birds since 1970, according to a study from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. This is a 30 percent decrease.

This statistic may feel devastating and overwhelming, but Nicole Flowers-Kimmerle, a University of Illinois Extension horticulture educator, says you don’t have to feel helpless. There are some simple things that you can do to make your yard bird-friendly.

“With habitat loss and degradation being the most significant contributors to population decline, the good news is that even small green spaces can provide the four things that birds need to thrive: food, cover, water, and space,” says Flowers-Kimmerle.

Landscape plants provide the food birds need to survive and raise their young and diversity is key. Seeds, nuts, berries, and the insects plants attract are all important sources of nourishment.

Young birds eat more than you might think. Even small adult birds, the chickadee, for example, need 6,000 caterpillars to raise a clutch of young birds.

Adding plants that provide food for caterpillars ensures an important food source for growing birds. Native trees, including oak, willow, cher-

ry, plum, and birch can support many different caterpillar species. Herbs and native perennials, such as butterfly weed, violets, and dill are also host plants for caterpillars.

Berries, nuts, and seeds are other essential food sources that provide calories to help birds prepare for overwintering or migration. Several native shrub varieties provide berries. Serviceberry, also known as Juneberry, produces berries in the early summer. Other native species, such as red twig dogwood, elderberry, viburnum, and spicebush yield berries throughout summer. Holly, chokecherry, hawthorn, and crabapple have fruit that stays on the branches, providing food all winter long.

Common sources for nuts and seeds include oak, hickory, beech, maple, and birch trees. Spruce, pine, and fir trees provide pine nuts as well as year-round shelter for birds. Herbaceous plants, such as coneflower, aster, sunflower, and goldenrod provide seeds if left in the garden until spring.

A bird-friendly yard must have cover for shelter and nesting sites. The dense structure of willow, hawthorn, holly, and conifer trees provides valuable protection. Milkweeds, native thistles, cinnamon ferns, and asters produce soft, fluffy material that many bird species use to build nests.

Adding water to your land-

scape will also attract birds. Small ponds with uneven edges and shallow spaces provide a place for birds to drink, splash, and bathe. A small pump will keep water moving and reduce mosquito concerns.

For a less permanent option, try a birdbath. Change the water every two to three days and clean the bath with a scrub brush once a week to keep the water clean, healthy, and mosquito-free.

A final element to consider is space. Wildlife feel more at home in layered, densely planted areas, so Flowers-Kimmerle recommends leaving part of a yard un-manned.

Careful consideration for food, cover, water, and space in your yard will provide much-needed habitat for a variety of bird species.

“Even small changes can make a significant difference in supporting bird populations,” says Flowers-Kimmerle.

## • Volume

(Continued from page 3)

In addition, White’s office will continue mailing remote renewal letters to drivers and ID card holders 90 days before their cards expire. Through this innovative approach, most customers will be able to renew remotely and avoid visiting facilities. Customers who must visit a facility include first time driver’s license or ID card applicants and drivers ages 75 and older who are required by state law to visit a facility when renewing their license.

White continues to encourage people to conduct other business online at [www.cyber-driveillinois.com](http://www.cyber-driveillinois.com). Aside from driver’s license and ID card renewals for those who qualify, online services include obtaining a duplicate driver’s license or ID card, ordering a driver record and purchasing license plate stickers.

As a reminder, White has extended all driver’s license and ID card expiration dates to Jan. 1, 2022. This extension does not apply to commercial driver’s licenses (CDL) and CDL learner’s permits.

In addition, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has extended the federal REAL ID deadline to May 3, 2023.

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at [enadolski@standardpress.com](mailto:enadolski@standardpress.com)

# Iowa farmers develop Farmmee, an app that helps farmers

Every farmer knows what it's like to see a storm on the horizon with acres of crop to harvest before it hits. They also know the time-robbing impacts of breakdowns. Finding help quickly can be hard.

Not anymore. Farmmee (www.farmmee.com) solves dilemmas like this and more by quickly connecting farmers with farmers to solve immediate challenges. The app provides a robust collaboration network that lets farmers seek services by other farmers and also lets farmers offer their services to other farmers.

Becky McCrea, Waukee, Iowa; Cindy Rockwell, Carlisle, Iowa; and Molly Woodruff, Indianola, Iowa; are tech industry veterans and farmers who developed Farmmee. "There are gaps in farming communities when it comes to connecting farmers to farmers," Woodruff, CEO and farmer, says. "Farmers consistently tell us their biggest need, or gap, is when their equipment breaks down or when they need extra equipment quickly. It is inefficient and hard to find help, especially because they're working with tight timelines."

"The need for quick connections to farmers, or providers with expertise, became our mission - connecting farmers to farmers," she adds. "We created Farmmee and began developing the app in March 2020. It helps farmers and providers work more efficiently with the time and resources they have by dynamically connecting them and

their expertise to each other."

## Easy to use

The app, available in Android and iOS versions, is easy to use. There are two user categories: farmer and provider. Users can be both, if desired. Using a menu, farmers can list jobs they want help with, such as planting corn, harvesting wheat, hauling cattle, baling hay, and others.

Service providers can list the services they offer, such as spreading manure, hauling hay, agronomy, and other types of services.

Once a farmer selects a service desired, Farmmee finds providers using ZIP codes and counties as GIS locators so providers will know where specific jobs are located. Farmers mark their fields so providers can validate the location for their ability to deliver services to them before offering a quote.

Farmers and providers set their own rates, own timelines and Farmmee does not take a cut, or percentage, of the fees providers charge farmers. They are free to negotiate their own terms, conditions and form of payment. This leaves farmers fully in charge of the job and schedule.

Farmers can rate providers and provide reviews when jobs are completed, so there is incentive for providers to perform well.

Farmers can also be providers. For example, they can offer their expertise and their equipment to plow fields, plant, harvest, haul grain,

and get paid and extend their equipment investments.

Farmers listing jobs can use the app at no charge. Service providers can list all the services they want for as low as \$19.99 a month.

## Iowa born. Iowa operated.

Farmmee was born in Iowa and maintains operations there. Woodruff and her husband operate a diversified farm. In addition to her work with Farmmee, she works with organizations to build individual and team strength and to develop cultures of communication and understanding.

Cindy Rockwell is Farmmee director of business development. She grew up on a corn and soybean farm in southern Iowa where she learned to drive a truck feeding cattle when she was five-years-old and was driving a tractor at age nine. She's worked with technology for more than 25 years, including John Deere, Pioneer Hi-Bred, and Farmers Mutual. She bought a corn and soybean farm five years ago and for the past two years, has been exploring ways to make farming better with technology.

Becky McCrea, Ohio native and now an Iowa resident, is Farmmee chief technology officer. She has developed innovative technology solutions for more than 15 years as an engineer, full-stack developer, and sales force lightning developer. Her career has focused on bridging the gap

between IT stakeholders by identifying ways to improve company operations. Becky has worked with various companies in agriculture includ-

## •Pritzker (Continued from page 3)

understand their geographic areas and their communities' needs.

"Gov. Pritzker has issued yet another mandate, continuing to rule on nearly every aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic without allowing any ideas or discussion from rank-and-file lawmakers

ing, Farmers Mutual Hail, Growers Edge, and others.

"Our Iowa and agricultural backgrounds ensure we'll continue to improve Farm-

whose job it is to represent Illinoisans," Syverson said. "With his endless executive orders, Gov. Pritzker has shut down our state, forced small businesses to close and put thousands of people out of work. He also failed to provide a functioning state system to help newly unem-

ployed Illinoisans receive the most basic of financial assistance when they needed it most."

Syverson says he will continue to advocate for local officials having more control over such decisions, as it affects their schools and communities.

## LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF THE 17TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF BOONE  
IN THE MATTER  
OF THE ESTATE OF  
ROXIE MARLENE  
KLAAS, deceased.

Case No. 2021-P-54  
**CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given of the death of ROXIE MARLENE KLAAS, of Belvidere, Illinois, who dies on January 27, 2021. Letters of Office were issued on August 9, 2021 to JACQUELINE L. JONES, 1005 East 5th Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, as independent administrator, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the independent administrator is John H, Maville, 600 South State Street, Suite #307, Belvidere, Illinois 61108.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under §28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4), an 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 Boone County Circuit Clerk - Probate Division, at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the legal representative, or both, on or before February 28, 2022, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication of this notice, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, 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 representative's attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: August 11, 2021  
JACQUELINE L. JONES,  
Independent  
Representative  
LAW OFFICES OF  
JOHN H. MAVILLE  
JOHN H. MAVILLE,  
Attorney for  
Representatives  
600 South State Street;  
Suite #307  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
(815) 544-3165

(Published in the  
Belvidere Republican  
Aug. 26, Sept. 2 & 9, 2021)  
402088

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF THE 17TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF  
WINNEBAGO

In the Matter of  
the Estate of  
WILLIE E. BAILEY,  
Deceased.

Case No. 21 P 380  
**NOTICE OF ISSUANCE  
OF LETTERS  
OF OFFICE AND  
CLAIM NOTICE**

NOTICE is given of the death of WILLIE E. BAILEY. Letters of Office were issued to TINA ELLIS, 5875 Garrett Lane, Rockford, Illinois, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is THERESA L. CAMPBELL, 728 N. Main Street, Rockford, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before February 26, 2022, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed with the office of the Winnebago County Circuit Clerk - Probate Division at the Winnebago County Courthouse, 400 West State Street, Rockford, Illinois, or with the estate legal executor or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office - Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate's legal representative and to her attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: 08/19/21  
/s/ TINA ELLIS,  
Administrator  
Theresa L. Campbell  
ARDC # 6209526  
Attorney at Law  
728 N. Main Street  
Rockford, IL 61103  
(815) 962-3787  
Fax (815) 962-3938  
theresa.campbell.  
lawoffice@gmail.com  
(Published in the  
Belvidere Republican  
Aug. 26, Sept. 2 & 9, 2021)  
402406

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF THE 17TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF BOONE  
PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of  
the Estate of  
PHYLLIS D. LARSON,  
Deceased.

NO. 2019-P-83  
**CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given of the death of PHYLLIS D. LARSON of Belvidere, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on July 27, 2021, to TODD LARSON, who is the legal representative of the Estate. The attorney for the Estate is JAMES C. THOMPSON of the Law Offices of SHRIVER, O'NEILL & THOMPSON, 515 North Court Street, Rockford, Illinois, 61103-6807.

Claims against the Estate may be filed on or before March 2, 2022, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk--Probate Division at the BOONE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 601 N. MAIN STREET, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS, 61008, or with the Estate legal representative, or both.

Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office--Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the Estate legal representative and to the attorney for the Estate within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: August 25, 2021  
Todd Larson,  
Independent Executor  
JAMES C. THOMPSON  
Law Offices of  
SHRIVER, O'NEILL &  
THOMPSON  
Attorneys for Estate  
515 North Court Street  
Rockford, Illinois  
61103-6807  
Tele: (815) 963-4895  
service@sotlaw.net  
(Published in the  
Belvidere Republican  
Sept. 2, 9 & 16, 2021)  
402757



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

From left, Molly Woodruff, CEO, Indianola, IA; Cindy Rockwell, director of business development, Carlisle, IA; and Becky McCrea, chief technology officer, Des Moines, are entrepreneurs who created Farmmee, a new app that connects farmers to farmers when they need it most. The app is available in Android and Apple platforms.

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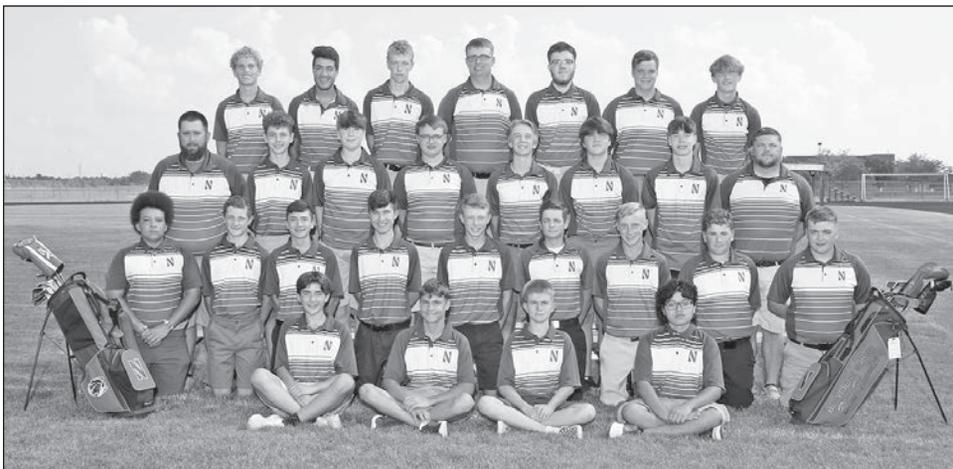
# Belvidere North High School fall sports



BNHS PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

## Girls swim and dive

Top row (left to right): Kylie Reynolds, Delaney Crawford, Coach Alvarez, Coach Torbert, Coach Jensen, Chloe Sanford, Reese Fitzgerald. Second row down: Frida Carrillo, Lillie Zenaty, Makayla Hoffman, Grace Grafton, Sonya McClain, Faith Johnson, Yaritza Carrillo, McKenna Gaines. Bottom row: Telmuun Myagmarsaikhan, Dannon Torbert, Rayne Kerchner, Sutton Gaines, Stefanie Bolonos, Diana Carrillo.



## Boys golf

Top row (left to right): Mason Westerberg, Billy Sanchez, Jacob Neiber, Nate Bartz, Hipo Sanchez, Logan Mull, Nate Binkley. Second row down: Head Coach Alan McCormick, Bradley Fabiano, Trevor Tosh, Isaac Mierow, Braeden Brown, Luke Koeller, TJ Tosh, Assistant Coach Andy Werhane. Third row down: Kayden Marshall Landon Dose, Eric Howe, Kyle Williamson, Carson Rowe, Noah Veruchi, Alex Sippy, Andrew McCormick, Jacob Fillmore. Bottom row: Daniel Carson, Ben Leake, Braden Gracia, Paulo Hernandez. Not pictured: Cameron Logan.



## JV volleyball

Top row (left to right): Mike Siciliano, Kylie Swenson, Olivia Tremud, Riley Johnson, Emma Bird. Second row: April Sumner, Abi Stone, Sierra Koller, Milania Galluzzo, Addison Gettings, Taylor Anderson. Bottom row: Logan Matzi, Sam Matzi.



## JV sideline cheer

Top row (left to right): Lynnae Brown, Gina Smith, Riya Amin. Second row down: Lauren Poole, Rafael Rosas, Brianna Teunissen, Conner Held, Malia Grygier, Kalen Yang, Rylee Doss. Third row down: Katie Aska, Yadira Morales, Jenna Thomas. Fourth row down: Sofia Abbinante, Brittany Ramirez, Tanna Brody, Madison Wirth, Nadia Escamilla, Bryanna Swegard. Bottom row: Hayden Goll, Mazzy Laplante, Kaegan Freeman-Russell.



## JV boys soccer

Top row (left to right): Brian Felgenhauer, Camden Klicker, Coach Naff, Coach Figueroa, Cameron Felgenhauer, Nicholas Martinez. Second row down: Peyton Debruynne, Salvador Villegas, Alan Nava, Jack Thompson, Erick Garcia, Liam Beary, Eduardo Lopez. Bottom row: Cristian Valdez, Israel Ramirez, Colton Bethuram, Sal Gonzalez.



## JV poms

Top row (left to right): Michelle Lopez, Faith Anderson, Chelsey Dixon, Brenna Watts (Coach. Second row down: Morgan Herman, McKenna McGuire, Kaylee Green. Bottom row: Abbie Murray.

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- \$3.00 disposal fee

Must present coupon at time of service. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 9/16/2021

**SHOCKS OR STRUTS**

**\$20 OFF**

ANY SET OF 4 SHOCKS OR STRUTS  
 Installed in store recommended. 50,000 Miles

May not be combined with any other offer or coupon. Some services not available at all locations. Must redeem at time of purchase. Offer expires 9/16/2021

**ALIGNMENT SPECIAL**

**\$10 OFF**

Most Vehicles

Must present coupon at time of service. Not valid with any other coupon or discount. See store for details. Expires 9/16/2021

**ROTATE & BALANCE**

**\$10 OFF**

INCLUDES: Inflate tires to proper pressure  
 • Computer spin balance all 4 wheels • Includes 4-tire rotation  
 • Mag wheels and some trucks extra • TPMS service extra

May not be combined with any other offer or coupon. Some services not available at all locations. Must redeem at time of purchase. Offer expires 9/16/2021

**\$25 OFF**

ANY SERVICE OF \$150 OR MORE

Must present coupon at time of service. Not valid with any other offer or tires. Expires 9/16/2021

**\$40 OFF**

ANY SERVICE OF \$250 OR MORE

Must present coupon at time of service. Not valid with any other offer or tires. Expires 9/16/2021

**NEED WORK ON YOUR VEHICLE BUT SHORT ON \$\$\$\$\$?**



Now Available **snap!** finance

**NO CREDIT NEEDED**

**0 INTEREST FOR 100 DAYS**

**APPROVAL UP TO \$3,000!**

**THE WORKS**

- 1) Lube, Oil Change & FILTER** (up to 5 quarts of 10w30 Motor Oil)
- 2) Check Fluid Levels & Top Off**  
 A: Coolant in Reserve Tank & Condition  
 B: Power Steering Fluid & Condition  
 C: Fill Wash Fluid (REAL Wash Fluid)  
 D: Transmission Fluid Level & Condition of Fluid  
 E: Brake Fluid & Condition of Fluid
- 3) Inspect Belts & Hoses**
- 4) Inspect Tires & Correct Air Pressure**
- 5) Rotate Tires**
- 6) Inspect Thickness of Brake Pads**
- 7) Check Vehicle Charging System**  
 A: Test Output of Alternator  
 B: Load Test The Battery  
 C: Check Condition of Battery Connections

**\$24<sup>95</sup>** Plus Disposal Fee & Sales Tax

- OFFER GOOD FOR MOST CARS •
- MINI VANS - LIGHT TRUCKS UP TO 1/2 TON •
- 3/4 - 1 TON TRUCKS - ADD \$10 •
- 5W20 - ADD \$2 • With Coupon •
- Not valid with any other offer •
- Expires 9/16/2021 •

**STORE SPECIAL**



**PASSENGER TIRES \$40 OFF**

Any New Set of Four CS5 GRAND TOURING OR CS5 ULTRA TOURING TIRES

May not be combined with any other offer or coupon. Some services not available at all locations. Must redeem at time of purchase. Offer expires 9/16/2021

**YOUR LOW PRICE TIRE STORE! WWW.FFTIREWORLD.COM**

**1983 PAWLISCH DRIVE CHERRYVALE MALL**  
**815-332-9445**  
 RIGHT NEXT TO WATER TOWER  
 M-F 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m.-3 p.m.



5257 SWANSON ROAD, ROSCOE  
 2 MILES S. OF HONONEGAH ELEVATOR ON RT. 251  
 M-F 8:00-5:30; SAT. 8:00-3:00  
**815-637-4055**

520 LOGAN AVENUE, BELVIDERE  
 3 BLOCKS EAST OF BELVIDERE PARK  
 M-F 8:00-5:30; SAT. 8:00-3:00  
**815-544-4452**

1610 ALPINE ROAD, ROCKFORD  
 1 BLOCK SOUTH OF COLONIAL VILLAGE  
 M-F 8:00-5:30; SAT. 8:00-3:00  
**815-398-7867**

5302 N. 2ND, LOVES PARK  
 ACROSS FROM POPEYE'S  
 M-F 8:00-5:30; SAT. 8:00-3:00  
**815-282-1177**

