

the Scoop Today

Longtime 4-H volunteer Brudi notches state hall of fame honor

Valerie Brudi, a club leader in Jo Daviess County, was recently named to the Illinois 4-H Hall of Fame for her leadership and mentoring role as a volunteer.

The hall of fame honors volunteers and former staff members for their dedication to the University of Illinois Extension 4-H youth development program. Brudi was nominated by Jo Daviess County Extension staff and is one of 71 people who were recognized during a virtual ceremony last month.

Brudi has been a volunteer with the Jo Daviess County 4-H program for 11 years, serving in roles including club leader, horse superintendent, swine superintendent and awards committee member.

In her role as a club leader, she offers support and counsel to the club organizational leader and 4-H families. Some of her duties as a club leader include assisting with club meetings and activities, helping to recruit

new youth, helping to organize club officers and helping 4-H youth stay updated on deadlines and 4-H opportunities.

“Valerie is a dedicated 4-H leader, valued volunteer and a proud parent to four children. Three of her children are still active 4-H,” Angela Miller, University of Illinois Extension 4-H youth development program coordinator, said in a news release. “Valerie does so much behind the scenes for our program and is one of those volunteers that I have on speed-dial because she is always willing to lend a hand no matter the circumstance.”

A Stockton resident, Brudi and her husband, Brad, have four children and two grandchildren. She works as a patient account representative at FHN in Freeport.

For more information about 4-H in Jo Daviess County or volunteering, contact Miller at 815-858-2273 or amillr11@illinois.edu.



PHOTO SUBMITTED *The Scoop Today*

Leading the way

Stockton Elementary School students were honored for showing an example of the “Blackhawk Way” during the week of Aug. 30. The expectation encourages students to be respectful, responsible and safe.

Historical exhibit highlights influential women

The Lena Historical Society museum will be open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, for visitors to enjoy a new exhibit, “Impacting History: Lena Women Who Made Their Mark.”

The 10 women featured, all born in the 19th century, probably aren’t known by most Lena citizens, said Sharon

Welton, executive director of the Stephenson County Historical Museum.

“The women were chosen because they did things that, for the time, took courage; they helped pave the way toward women’s equality,” Welton said. “They did work that was mostly thought to be ‘men’s work.’ Many went on to do these things outside of Lena, but they all considered Lena their home and all are buried here.”

The women are Mary Ann Curtis, Martha Burbridge, Mary Buss, Rachel Schermerhorn, Elvira Montague, Lucinda McEathron, Nellie Snider, Beulah Shoemith, Rosalie Taylor and Helen Cooper.

The exhibit will be on display until the summer of 2023.

In addition to Sept. 18, the museum, located at 470 Grove St., is open by appointment all year. To schedule a group tour, call Richard at 815-238-6896.



PHOTO SUBMITTED *The Scoop Today*

“Impacting History: Lena Women Who Made Their Mark” is a new exhibit at the Lena Historical Society museum, 470 Grove St. To schedule a group tour, call Richard at 815-238-6896.



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Museum readies for public art installation

Officials at the Freeport Art Museum have announced the planned Sept. 29 installation of Atlanta-based artist Corrina Sephora's site-specific sculpture, "Bridge Beyond Time: Past, Present and Future" at the Freeport Arts Plaza located at the corner of Douglas Street and Chicago Avenue in downtown Freeport.

In Sephora's words, "The installation represents the meaningful journey of inclusion that the museum, plaza and community have traveled over time. The sculptural components of the installation will represent the plaza's past, which is "anchored in

the generosity" of Jack Myers, who donated the land, its present role as a civic space for the community to gather and enjoy arts and culture, and its future as a space to facilitate artistic growth and community engagement," she said in a news release.

The sculpture is comprised of three rowboats, which are elevated 14 feet to 16 feet in the air and supported by elongated oars that run from the boats to the ground. It will be installed near the northwest corner of the plaza's greenspace.

Sephora described the artwork as a bridge connecting the larger Freeport commu-

nity to the museum in that it links the interior to the exterior by bringing the art experience outside of the institution.

Sephora specializes in metal sculpture, painting and installation. She draws inspiration from the natural and spiritual worlds and often includes imagery from the surrounding environment and community, the release said. Sephora works with themes of loss, life and transformation within the context of contemporary society and personal reflection.

For Sephora, public art "allows for art to be accessible and attainable for the entire community," she said.

"Through nautical and natural symbolism such as boats, oars, and trees, my sculptures engage the imagination of each viewer to create their own story," Sephora said.

The mixed-metal sculpture will be a permanent fixture at the plaza.

The museum worked with a public art committee that included several members of the community who helped select Sephora's proposal from more than 30 artists who submitted their qualifications. The artist fees for the creation of the sculpture were partially funded through an Our Town grant through the National Endowment for the Arts and proceeds from this year's Paint the Port event will help finance installation costs.

"It has been a pleasure working with Corrina on this exciting element for the arts plaza," museum Director Jessica Modica said in the release. "This is just one of the many pieces of art planned for the space, which will include interactive sculptures



SUBMITTED PHOTO *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*
Artist Corrina Sephora was chosen from more than 30 artists to create the new public art to be installed at the Freeport Arts Plaza. Sephora specializes in metal sculpture, painting and installation.



SUBMITTED PHOTO *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*
This is a visualization of the new sculpture "Bridge Beyond Time: Past, Present and Future," which will be installed later this month at the Freeport Art Plaza adjacent to the Freeport Art Museum.

and large mural installations. Together, these will create a place where Freeport can display its art and history in a highly visible, public setting."

Established in 1975, the Freeport Art Museum has a collection of more than 4,000 artifacts from all continents and all time periods.

The museum is located at

121 N. Harlem Ave. and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday. Tours may be scheduled by calling 815-235-9755.

Admission to the Museum is free, however, donations are gratefully appreciated.

For more information, call the museum at 815-235-9755.

Bird count shows diminishing numbers

Eagle Nature Foundation President and Executive Director Terrence Ingram conducted his sixth Fall Big Bird Day on Saturday, Sept. 4.

Ingram started the annual bird count in 2016 "to document the loss of birds to the agricultural sprays and the devastation that they have been causing to our bird life in the area," he said in a news release.

Each year Ingram is seeing fewer and fewer birds, he said

in the release.

This year he was able to see 111 birds of 31 different species. This is in comparison to last year's count of 33 different species, the second year's count of 42 species, and the first year's count of 230 birds of 54 different species.

"Before that there had always been many more birds and bird species in the fall," Ingram said.

Only one bird of each of 12 species were seen: Ameri-

can kestrel, great-horned owl, flicker, red-bellied woodpecker, hairy woodpecker, downy woodpecker, eastern wood pewee, catbird, robin, house wren, orchard oriole and goldfinch.

Two birds of seven different species were seen: ruby-throated hummingbirds, red-headed woodpeckers, bank swallows, purple martins, crows, white-breasted nuthatch and cardinals. Three birds of two species were seen — mourning doves and black-capped chickadees.

There were four starlings, four rock doves and four blue jays seen. Six birds each of barn swallows and house finches were seen, along with eight house sparrows.

The most birds of any species seen were a flock of 15 Eurasian collared doves, a flock of 12 tree swallows, a flock of 10 chimney swifts and a flock of 10 cedar waxwings.

Bird families not seen during this Big Bird Day include hawks, ducks, geese, cuckoos, titmice, warblers, vireos and kinglets.

"The agricultural sprays have got to be stopped ... Not only are these sprays killing the birds, they are killing the insects as well," Ingram said.

He said he has not been able to keep any honeybee

Celebration of Life

for
Daniel K. Reed

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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
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403472

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New fair association manager has events, entrepreneurial experience

Kate Boyer is the new executive manager of the Stephenson County Fair Association.

Boyer obtained an associate degree from Parkland College in Champaign, Illinois, with a concentration in history and German. She has been an entrepreneur for more than 20 years, having established two retail stores and a gourmet glass-bottled soda distribution business.

She created and directed the Homer Soda Festival for five years.

"With almost 80 outdoor vendors, over 100 volunteers and 250 different sodas to taste, the event quickly became a national attraction," according to a fair association news release. "The one-day festival brought in 15,000 attendees from all over America."

In addition to her own businesses, Boyer spent 25 years



Kate Boyer

as bookkeeper for her family's factory. Over the years, she has served as a volunteer on numerous boards. She was president of the Recreation Board of Homer, Illinois, president of Homer Community Improvement Association and treasurer of the Homer Opera House theater restoration. She was recognized by the village of Homer as Volunteer of the Year.

Boyer also was a member on the Main Street Board of Monticello, Illinois, and her business was awarded Monticello's Main Street Preservation Award for the complete restoration of the downtown retail location.

She also has served as com-

mittee chair of the Cub Scouts in east Champaign County, as committee chair for the Board of Evangelism for Immanuel Lutheran Church in Broadlands, as secretary of Northern Illinois Christian Home Educators in Freeport and as public relations chair of Noon Rotary in Freeport. She has also volunteered in assisting with other events, including One Winter's Night in Champaign, Red Wines of November in Monticello and Paint the Port in Freeport.

The Boyer family became recent transplants to Freeport when Rob Boyer accepted a position with the city of Freeport. The Boyers have six children ranging in ages from 2 to 20.

Before moving to Freeport, she and her family had a hobby farm outside of Champaign with two Jersey cows, hogs, chickens and a large garden.

College news

Local students among select University of Iowa students

Several area students are among the academic standout class of incoming freshmen at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

Class of 2025 members have an average high school GPA of 3.81, a new record for

an incoming undergraduate class, according to a university news release. The average high school GPA for the classes of 2024 and 2023 were 3.78 and 3.76, respectively.

The local students are:

- Carter Burke of Lena, a computer science and engineering major
- Darren Dameier of Lena, an English and creative writing major

- Gennings Dunker of Lena, a pre-physical therapy major
- Daisy Timp of Scales Mound, an English major

The Class of 2025 is composed of 4,521 students, up slightly from last year, the release said. About 19% of the class members are first-generation students.

The university has an undergraduate enrollment of about 21,600.

Sports roundup

A roundup of high school sports scores and notes received by The Scoop Today/ Shopper's Guide. All scores are for varsity matches and games unless noted.

Golf

• Sept. 7, East Dubuque and Warren at Stockton Stockton 185, East Dubuque 197, no team score for Warren

East Dubuque's Jacob Lange finished as medalist with a round of 43. Stockton golfers Jared Dvorak, Trace Williamson and Bennett Graves all tied for runner-up with scores of 46.

Stockton's Joseph Brudi shot a 47. Warren's Teagan Sabinson shot a 49.

• Sept. 8, Stockton at Le-Win/Pearl City

Stockton 187, Le-Win/Pearl City 219

Mikhail Hussain of Le-Win/Pearl City shot a 43 to earn medalist honors. Jared Dvorak of Stockton was the runner-up; he carded a 45.

Other Stockton scores were Joseph Brudi and Trace Williamson with 47 and Bennett Graves with 48.

For Le-Win/Pearl City,

Cody Pitts shot a 58, while both Jackson Barrett and Nick Swedland both shot a 59.

Volleyball

• Sept. 7, Le-Win defeated Pecatonica, 25-22 and 25-10.

Molly Amendt had seven kills for Le-Win and Izzy Flaminio and Alyssa Daughenbaugh each had seven digs on the night.

• Sept. 7, Durand defeated Pearl City, 25-15 and 25-22.

• Sept. 9, Pearl City defeated Orangeville, 25-21 and 25-15.

• Sept. 9, Aquin defeated Le-Win, 28-26 and 25-21.

Kalli Humphrey had eight kills and Izzy Flaminio had 12 digs for Le-Win.

• Sept. 9, Scales Mound defeated Warren, 25-14 and 25-18.

Lauren Williams had three kills and Katie Schneider had three digs for Warren.

Football

• Sept. 10, Dakota defeated Stockton, 14-6

Jace Phillips ran for a three-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter for Stockton's only score of the night.

Paper shredding is also being offered with a \$5 fee per participating household or business. No magazines, newspapers, inserts, paper clips or binder clips are allowed among the papers to be shredded.

Compact and large fluorescent bulbs will be accepted,

with CFL and bulbs under 5 feet costing \$1 each and larger fluorescent bulbs costing \$2 each.

Free recycling categories include most small electronic items such as computer towers, VCRs, DVD players, printers, keyboards, mice, cables, phones, radios, copiers, cell phones and more. Small household appliances also will be accepted at no charge, including vacuums, coffee makers, toasters, small saws, drills, holiday lights, hair dryers and more.

Unwanted prescription medications also will be collected for free. No sharps will be accepted.

Small and large metal items may be dropped off for free, including bicycles, swing sets, metal shelving, metal cabinets, lawn and garden tractors, lawn mowers, metal furniture and outdoor grills.

For more information, contact Mark Maidak at 815-718-0238 or mwmaidak@gmail.com.

Paint, tires and household hazardous waste items will not

be accepted.

A recycling fee of 70 cents per pound will be charged for all small household, rechargeable and power unit batteries. These batteries will be weighed at the event to determine the recycling fee amount due. Large lead-acid batteries will be accepted for free.

Electronics with a screen of any kind will be collected for a \$25 fee per item. This includes computer monitors/screens, laptops and all types of TVs. Large household appliances will be accepted for \$10 each, including refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves, air conditioners, dehumidifiers and microwaves.

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STOCK PHOTO The Scoop Today/ Shopper's Guide

Electronic items are among those being collected for recycling at the Oct. 2 event in Mount Carroll. The event for northern Illinois residents also includes paper shredding.

Gather up unwanted items for Oct. 2 recycling event

Northern Illinois residents and businesses are invited to participate in a recycling and paper shred event set for 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 2, at the Carroll County Highway Department just off Route 64 at 10735 Mill Road, Mount Carroll.

The Jo-Carroll Solid Waste Agency is organizing the event.

Several categories of items collected at the event include fees to cover a portion of recycling expenses, while some categories are free.

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Slices of life

Heart emojis are missing an important hue

If you're like me and (and the rest of us) you have embraced the world of emojis. You may even be an enamored habitual user. You probably have your favorites. I know I have mine.

Emojis enhance and streamline life. They communicate so much with just one click of the keyboard. You know what they say about a picture being worth a thousand words. That goes triple for the brown pile of poop emoji.

Am I right? But just like most of the magnificent and wondrous things on the Internet today, emojis aren't perfect.

They promise so much, but fail to deliver on various levels, not the least being the colored heart emojis.

Red is agreeably the best-used and best-known color for hearts. It's the nature of things. Hearts are inherently red.

But what color would you choose next as the premiere shade for expressing your



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

heartfelt emoji-ness? I'm guessing it wouldn't be blue, green, orange, yellow, purple, black, white or brown.

The colors I just listed are available as heart emojis.

Notice the gaping hole in this illogical great eight. Do you note something obvious missing?

I know I do.

Pink, people. Then answer is pink.

There is no pink heart emoji available for those of us who long to connote pink-love versus red-love, which obviously varies greatly in scope, strength and fortitude — especially and most obviously on Valentine's Day. Pink is friendship love. Red is "I love you love."

The other colors have their own connotations, but none

communicates pink love as well as pink.

I can't tell you how many times I've searched through the entire library of heart emojis, looking for that elusive pink one, only to be thwarted into choosing red, yellow, blue or purple as an alternative.

Each color has certain associations and connotations specific to its particular hue. Pink and hearts, aren't they as closely linked as blue and sky? Green and grass? Yellow and sunshine? White and snow? Black and pepper? Purple and Prince? Orange and oranges? Brown and poop?

Speaking of poop, you don't see the brown poop emoji going all rogue with purple and yellow counterparts. No one's utilizing creative license with the poop emoji; why go there with hearts?

We have a veritable rainbow of heart emojis available for the taking, but no pink. No matter that pink isn't an official color of the rainbow per se; we are talking in generalities here. Pink is an actual Crayola-recognized color, just not a color of the rainbow. It should be granted equal time and opportunity in the

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In my opinion

Trumpers have a point: We deserve better than what we're getting in Washington

By Jim Nowlan and Allen Andersen
CONTRIBUTORS

We live in Trump country. Seven of 10 voters in our respective central Illinois counties voted for Donald Trump in the 2020 presidential election. We are not Trump fans, yet many of our friends are. Trump will go away; his base won't, so what gives with our friends?

Based on chats and overheard conversations over



Jim Nowlan



Allen Anderson

the past year at our Legion post, country club, pubs, coffee shops and outdoor cookouts, we sum up here the continuing Trump loyalties, as we have heard them, but in our words. Our Trump friends range from working stiffs to successful entrepreneurs living in once-proud, now hollowed-out cities like Peoria and Decatur. As both of us are retired, our sample is skewed toward the mature set, yet not wholly so.

Our overall "finding" is that of a profound disenchantment with America's political, business, academic and social policy leadership, across both political parties — our elites, you might say. The roots of disenchantment go back as far as the Vietnam War,

which coincides roughly with the beginnings of American Decline, certainly as perceived by older Trump fans.

For example, our political leaders have taken us into long, drawn-out wars, of immeasurable cost in men and treasure — only to keep losing them and pulling out, our tails between our legs. Not the stuff of The Greatest Generation.

About the same time as Vietnam, business leaders began sending our jobs to China, enfeebling the American manufacturing base, and without so much as a "Thank you very much" to American workers.

More recently, we have been educating China's future tech wizards on our best engineering and science campuses, shoveling invaluable technological know-how into the laps of our primary competitor.

In addition to saving our allies' bacon in the Big War, we continue to spend jillions protecting Europeans from

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THE SCOOP TODAY SHOPPER'S GUIDE

"Committed to the communities we serve"

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Obituaries

CHARLES J. BLAIR JR.

Charles James Blair Jr., age 66, of Freeport, Illinois, passed away Sept. 4, 2021, at his home after a short battle with cancer.

Charles was born July 19, 1955, in Savanna, Illinois, to James and Clara (Yeager) Blair. He graduated from Stockton High School in 1974.

Charles is survived by his wife, Debra Schultz, of Freeport; sons, Thomas and Olga Ayala Schultz of Orangeville, Jason Tillery of Warren and Brian and Andraia Johnson of Rockford; stepdaughter, Misty and Shawn White of Newark, Ohio; grandsons, Jaxon Tillery, Thomas Engebretson, Eric Chudo, Luca White and

Brian Johnson; granddaughter, Brianna Johnson; brother, Ron (Deb) Blair of Warren; and sister, Linda (Loni) Klein of Savanna.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

A private graveside service will be held. Cremation rites have been accorded. Condolences may be shared at www.walkermortuary.com.

JAMES W. WERKHEISER

James Weldon Werkheiser of rural Lena passed away Saturday, Sept. 4, 2021. He was born in Freeport to Amos W. and LaVonne (Dossey) Werkheiser on Oct. 28, 1935. Jim married Mary Lois Sauer March 26, 1959, at Wesley United Methodist Church in Stockton.

He was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church and Plum River Masonic Lodge. Jim attended Tiger Whip School and graduated from Stockton High School in 1953, then served in the United States Army. He was the fifth generation to live, own and operate the family dairy farm in rural Lena, retiring from farming in 1994 and later driving a dump truck part time during their summers at home. Jim and Mary were snowbirds to Lakeview, Arkansas, later moving there in 2002 where they lived until returning to Illinois in 2014. While in Arkansas, he volunteered part time at the Ozark Regional Airport in Midway, working as an airplane mechanic. Jim also spent sev-



eral years helping with Christmas lights and decorations in their local park for the drive-through display.

Learning the love of flying from his dad and Uncle Burrill, on his 16th birthday, he soloed and passed his pilot's test from which he flew for over 50 years, later obtaining a glider's license in 1980. Through the decades he flew not only for his own pleasure but would take family and friends for rides to see the countryside and perhaps "buzz" over the house to see his own farm. He also participated in many annual Air Lifts at the Stockton airport. He once wrote in a letter to his brother stating, "It was fun to just blow the dust out of my whiskers!"

In addition to flying, he and Mary enjoyed spending time with family and friends, playing cards or board games, traveling, taking drives in the country, watching dirt track

and NASCAR races and cheering on the Packers. Jim liked to visit with people and rarely met a stranger.

Survivors include his children, Robert (Gail) Werkheiser of Lena and Jean (Jeffrey) Zieber of Seligman, Missouri; brother, Charles (Louise) Werkheiser of San Diego, California; grandchildren, Michael (Allison Palmer) Werkheiser, Morgan (Eric Jameson) Werkheiser, Casey (Tabitha) Coleman, Benjamin Coleman, Zachary (Kelsea) Zieber, Tyler Zieber, Sara Werkheiser, Sandra Werkheiser, and David Werkheiser; and great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; son, Gerald "Jerry"; daughter, Carol Ann; granddaughter, Mellissa Shumaker; and sister, Shirley.

The family wishes to thank hospice, Lena Living Center and Grandview Estates Assisted Living in Elizabeth.

A graveside service was held Friday, Sept. 10, 2021, at Kent Lutheran Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established.

MADGE M. DAWSON

Madge Marie Dawson, 93, of Stockton, passed peacefully on Sept. 6, 2021.

She was born in Rush Township on June 10, 1928, to Claude and Irene Townsend. She graduated from Stockton High School. She was swept off of her feet by the love of her life, Gordon Dawson. They married in August of 1946 on the family farm, where their son and his family still live today.

Gordon and Madge raised their family and enjoyed farming, riding horses and good times with their children and with many great neighborhood friends on the farm.

Madge also worked at Atwood's in Stockton and at Micro Switch in Warren, where she made many treasured friendships.

She was a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church and she was blessed with a wonderful church fami-



ly. She loved to sing, and had a beautiful voice. She shared her love of music with many.

She loved crafting, crocheting, quilting and flower gardening. She had beautiful beds of tulips each spring. She created a beautiful home. She loved finding treasures at garage sales or auctions and would proudly tell you of the great deal she had found. She and Gordon loved to camp and were members of the Stagecoach Campers for many years.

Her greatest achievement in life was her family. She was our rock, our pillar. She taught us to love unconditionally, and she never gave up on us! She took us to church and gave us a foundation of faith. She took such great care of her husband,

Gordon, when he needed her. She loved us so much and we loved her right back.

She is survived by her daughters, Cyndy (Duane) Hintz of Lena, Chris (Kevin) Christensen of Crystal Lake, Connie Sigafus (Dave Hartman) of Stockton and Peggy (Dean) Starr of Stockton; and her son, Doug (Kelly) Dawson of Stockton. She was blessed with 15 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, and 6 great-great-grandchildren. She was so proud of each and every one of them and had special relationships with many. Madge is also survived by three sisters, Wilma (Ted) Balbach, Reita Sheffey and Pat Molitor.

We were all so lucky to have been loved by her and she will be greatly missed.

A celebration of her life was held Sept. 14 at Hermann Funeral Home, with graveside service and fellowship following at the Townsend Cemetery in Stockton.

DIANNE M. LYNCH

Dianne Marie Lynch, age 78, of Lena, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Sept. 5, 2021. She was born May 8, 1943, in Vermilion, Alberta, Canada, to Robert and Nellie (Riley) Smith. She married Raymond Lynch on Dec. 31, 1960, in Vermilion, Alberta, Canada. Dianne worked for many years as a certified nursing assistant at Lena Living Center. She enjoyed crafting and making blankets for each of her grandchildren. She also loved spending time outdoors gardening in her flowerbeds. Her three dogs were her constant compan-



ions and she loved them dearly. She also enjoyed listening to and collecting memorabilia of her favorite artist, Elvis Presley.

She is survived by her four children, Cindy (Dale) Hensley of Boling Springs South Carolina, Patricia (Brook) Woodard of Flippin, Arkansas, Raymond (Maria) Lynch of Lanark, Illinois, and Debbie (John) Dyson of Minot, North Dakota; many grand-

children and great-grandchildren; special friend, Tom Lynch; and her three dogs, Taz, Bugs and Lily.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Raymond Lynch; and sister, Ruby Fadden.

A private family service will be held at Cadiz (Saucerman) Cemetery in Brownstown. Pastor Dawn Barr will be officiating the service.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

A memorial has been established in her memory.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leanonfh.com.

Obituaries continued on page 11

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Legacy award winner sees value in education, community

Phillips, 94, serves on Highland Community College foundation board

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Humble about receiving accolades, Marjorie Phillips lights up when she speaks about past students she and her late husband, Spencer, were able to help when they gave out the first scholarship to Highland Community College students in 1966.

Saying, "Giving is a part of living," Phillips, 94, remains a key player at Highland Community College by serving on the foundation board and giving two scholarships each year to top male and female students. Her focus is to make sure students at the top of their class are rewarded for their hard work. Phillips said she wants to encourage students to excel at the next level of academia beyond Highland.

Because of her commitment to Highland, Phillips is to re-



A longtime supporter of and donor to Highland Community College, Marjorie Phillips is to receive the Delbert Scheider Lifetime Achievement Award on Oct. 2.

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

ceive the Delbert Scheider Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual Legacy Gala, hosted by the Highland Community College Foundation on Oct. 2.

"I think Highland is the most important thing Freeport has going for it," Phillips said.

"Freeport has slid over the years. Highland hasn't. The college continues to thrive and offers our students so much. What a gem we have in this college."

Phillips' commitment to Highland has been transfor-

mational. While she and her husband were not actively involved with the formation of the college in 1962, she has known many of the principal players. She said what drew her and her husband to become involved was the progressive na-

ture the founding members had to take the college from classes at Freeport High School to the campus it is today.

"I grew up in Rochester, Minn., where there was a community college and I know the value education has to so many. So, when Spencer and I decided to see what we could do. We made the first contribution for a scholarship, and each year when I hand that scholarship to a deserving student, I smile knowing giving can make a difference," said Phillips.

Dr. Spencer and Marjorie Phillips moved to Freeport in 1948, where Spencer set up his medical practice as a surgeon. She worked at his side. Marjorie said she and her husband chose Freeport to live in because of the small community appeal close to larger cities. Freeport is where they raised their daughter, Julia, and son, Spencer Frederick.

Spencer and Marjorie were known for their philanthropy and love of music. Marjorie took over the Freeport Community Concert Association, which has the distinction of being the oldest continuous concert association in the United

States. Forgoing a television, classical music plays daily at her home.

When Spencer died in 2002, Marjorie did not stop living and remained active in her adopted community. She lives her passion for promoting the arts and giving back to the community that welcomed her and her husband.

Chris Urish serves with Phillips on the Foundation Board. Urish said what she loves most about Phillips is her big heart, always willing to help out in any way she can.

Urish adds, "Marjorie believes in our young people and the arts. She wants to make this community a better place for others. She has more energy than anyone else I know at her age."

Phillips said serving on the foundation board is her way of giving back and staying current on what is going on at the college. She regularly attends Fine Arts events, saying, "I don't like it when people say nothing is going on in Freeport. We have so much in our backyard."

See WINNER, Page 16

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House passes energy bill with labor, environmental groups on board

Measure heads to Senate

By Jerry Nowicki
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
The Illinois House approved an energy regulation and decarbonization bill Sept. 9, a major step forward for a wide-ranging omnibus bill that had eluded lawmakers throughout the legislative session and the governor's three years in office.

The measure that aims to bring Illinois' energy generation sector to 100 percent carbon-free by 2050 and 50 percent renewable by 2040 will still need approval from the Senate, which planned to caucus Sept. 10 to discuss the measure, Senate Bill 2408, before a Monday return.

It passed the House 83-33 shortly before 9:30 p.m. Sept. 9. Gov. JB Pritzker quickly issued a news release saying he would sign it.

"This is what legislating is supposed to look like," House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, D-Hillside, said in closing floor debate. "It's about good faith negotiating. It's about advocating for the interests in our districts back home. And it's about compromise in order to arrive at a product that benefits people in your districts, and ours."

Environmental groups extolled the decarbonization language, which aims to take coal, gas and other carbon-emitting power plants off the grid between 2030 and 2045, depending on the energy source and ownership structure.

Union groups praised the bill's language requiring that all major renewable construction projects must have project labor agreements in place to hire union labor, while non-residential projects, with few exceptions, would be required to pay a prevailing wage.

Republicans, meanwhile, warned of losses of downstate jobs, substantial consumer bill increases and potential grid reliability issues as fossil fuel plants are forced offline, although it passed on a bipartisan roll call.

Decarbonization, renewables

Environmental and labor groups were in opposition on the issue of municipal coal-fired power plants coming into Sept. 9. Two plants that were at issue include Springfield's City, Water, Light and Power, and a plant funded by several municipalities in Illinois that is located in Marissa in the Metro East Area, called the Prairie State Energy Campus.

The final language requires the plants to be carbon-free by 2045, either by going offline or installing sequestration technology. By 2035, municipal plants must cut emissions by 45 percent. If a plant doesn't

meet that goal by the end of 2035, the power plant will have until June 30, 2038 to either retire a portion of carbon-emitting units or meet the decarbonization goal some other way.

The bill also provides more than \$600 million over five years to three nuclear plants owned by Exelon Corporation—in Byron, Dresden and Braidwood. The company has stated it will not refuel the Byron plant after Monday, and it would begin decommissioning at that time, unless the General Assembly passed legislation to ensure its financial viability.

All told, negotiators believe the new bill is expected to raise residential electric bills by about 3-4 percent, commercial bills by about 5-6 percent, and industrial bills by about 7-8 percent, although the roll-out for the various programs would be staggered over time and increases would vary by year.

The ratepayer money will fund equity programs for the clean energy workforce and new investment in renewable energy, among other initiatives.

It would also incentivize the transition of coal plants to solar facilities or battery storage sites, and it permits downstate utility Ameren to establish two utility-scale solar plants.

In a late addition to the bill, the city of Zion in Lake County, which is the site of a closed nuclear plant, would be eligible for grants "in proportional shares of \$15 per kilogram of spent nuclear fuel stored at such a facility," according to the bill.

The charge on a customer bill for renewables would increase over time from about 2 percent to 4 percent, a \$360 million annual increase to fund projects such as wind and solar.

That investment is an effort to increase the portion of the

state's energy contributed by renewables, which is currently between 7 and 8 percent. Nuclear made up about 58 percent of the state's electricity generation in 2020, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

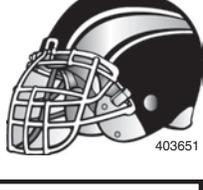
Downstate Republican lawmakers raised concerns that the portion of the state south of Interstate-80, on the MISO electric grid, is served by only one nuclear plant. The part of the state on the PJM grid, for the most part north of I-80, has the state's other five nuclear plants.

"You're not doing what you think you're doing with this bill," Rep. Tim Butler, R-Springfield, said in floor debate, warning that closing the Springfield and Marissa coal plants would make downstate reliant on out-of-state coal while putting central Illinoisians out of work.

See BILL, Page 13



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There's plenty to learn through farm bureau

I'm glad to be back! I am happy to announce that I am back at the manager position at the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau. While I spent a few months away I realized how much my passion is here promoting agriculture. I'm excited to jump back in and get programs set up.



Annette Eggers

Fall field day

Greg Thoren, Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau board member, will be hosting his annual fall field day from

11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17.

The location is south of Stockton; take the first field entrance south of 4629 Illinois Route 78 on the east side of Route 78.

On-site registration starts at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be provided.

Come see the updates on the multiyear cover crop project. Speakers will include Thoren; John Musser, Stephenson Service Co.; Art Scheele, AgNetic; and

University of Wisconsin-Platteville researchers. A new special topic will include information about carbon credit programs.

Get involved

One of the best benefits of membership in the Illinois Farm Bureau for our members in agriculture is our involvement in keeping updated in our ever-changing laws and regulations. You can have a direct impact, too, by signing up to be a part of the farm bureau ACT team. To sign up, just text "FARM" to 52886.

Kudos to volunteer

Congratulations to Val Brudi on being inducted into the Illinois 4-H Hall of Fame. Val has been a 4-H volunteer for 11 years. I know I have always enjoyed working with

Val.

Family farms receive honor

Recently we had two more Jo Daviess County farms achieve the designation of Centennial Farm and Sesquicentennial Farm with the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Congratulations to the Tranel and Wurster families!

Is your family farm nearing the 100-year mark of owner-

ship? Check out the Illinois Department of Agriculture website for the application. It's always great to honor those continuous years of family ownership.

Reap the benefits

Did you know that you don't need to be a farmer to be a farm bureau member? Give me a call at the office and I can tell you how you can become a member. You

will be able to take advantage of the many membership benefits that Illinois Farm Bureau and Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau have to offer. You also may go to <http://www.ilfb.org/membership/join/> to join online.

Fun farm fact: September is National Honey Month.

Annette Eggers is the manager of the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau.

Dinner benefits FFA project

Mark your calendars for Sept. 25. Support the Stockton FFA in their fundraising efforts for their greenhouse project. They are holding a spaghetti dinner from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. that night, with a live auction set for 7 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door.

I hope to see you all at Stockton High School that night.

Briefs

FFA group plans plowing demo, tractor show

The Stockton FFA Alumni & Supporters' Plowing Demonstration and Classic Tractor Display will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, at Bill Borsdorf's field on Illinois Route 78 just north of U.S. Route 20 east of Stockton. Registration will be open until the day of the event. Those who participate must provide your tractor and plow (or disk) for the event. Horse-drawn equipment is also

welcome.

You must have a valid driver's license to participate and participants under 18 must have the approval and supervision of a legal guardian. All participants will have to sign an operator safety pledge and a liability waiver before participating. Registration costs \$20 per participant.

Members of the public are invited to observe at no cost. A lunch stand will be available at the site.

For information or to regis-

ter, contact Greg Millerschone at 815-947-3345.

American Legion post hosts vaccine clinics

The state of Illinois and McConnell American Legion are working together to offer COVID-19 vaccine clinics from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, Sept. 18 and Oct. 9. The clinics will be held at the American Legion, 203 Main St., McConnell.

See BRIEFS, Page 9

Ethics bill clears House on second try, will head back to governor

Vote to accept Pritzker's changes passes on party lines

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

The Illinois House on Sept. 9 voted to accept changes to an ethics bill that Gov. JB Pritzker had requested, paving the way for it to become law once the governor signs it.

The vote came a little more than a week after an earlier attempt fell short in the House. That happened during a late-night session Tuesday, Aug. 31, after many Democrats had left the Capitol following a one-day special session that was called mainly to reconsider a legislative redistricting plan.

But Rep. Kelly Burke, D-Evergreen Park, renewed her motion Sept. 9 at the start of another one-day session that was called mainly to consider a comprehensive energy package. This time, with nearly all House members present, the measure passed, 74-41, largely along party lines. Reps. Amy Elik, R-Alton, and Jeff Keicher, R-Sycamore, were the only Republicans to vote yes.

Senate Bill 539 originally cleared both chambers during the spring session by overwhelming margins, 56-0 in the Senate and 113-5 in the House, even though Republicans at the time complained on the floor that it had been watered down. But it contained enough reforms, such as increased financial disclosure requirements and limits on the ability of elected officials to lobby other units of government, so that many lawmakers said they believed it was the best they could get at the time.

But a few weeks after it passed, on July 14, the General Assembly's top ethics watchdog, Legislative Inspector General Carol Pope, submitted her intent to resign by Dec. 15, saying the bill would actually weaken her office by

limiting the types of investigations she could conduct.

Among other things, the bill gives the LIG independent authority to launch investigations, but only upon the filing of a formal complaint. Currently, investigations must first be authorized by a bipartisan group of lawmakers known as the Legislative Ethics Commission.

But it also limits the office's authority to only investigate matters related to a person's government service or employment, not outside activity. As a result, Pope said in her letter, the LIG would not be allowed to investigate "conduct unbecoming a legislator that results from such things as posting revenge porn on social media, failure to pay income taxes on non-legislative income, and other conduct that I and the public think the LIG should be able to investigate."

"This legislative session demonstrated true ethics reform is not a priority," Pope wrote. "The LIG has no real power to effect change or shine a light on ethics violations, the position is essentially a paper tiger."

In response, many Republicans called on Pritzker to issue an "amendatory veto" by asking lawmakers to strike the language that prompted Pope's resignation. Instead, though, Pritzker issued a different amendatory veto, asking lawmakers to delete language related to the executive inspector general.

When that veto came back to the General Assembly Aug. 31, the Senate accepted Pritzker's request unanimously, 58-0. But in the House, Republicans pulled their support while several Democrats had already left the building, leaving the amended bill with only 59 votes, far short of the 71 votes needed to pass.

"I just want to remind the members that we have an excellent bill that has many needed reforms and it was overwhelmingly supported by Republicans in the House and Senate, and in fact, on the

motion in the Senate (to accept the governor's amendatory veto) it was unanimously supported," Burke said during debate on the House floor.

The bill originally came about in response to several high-profile scandals in recent years, including the indictment of Rep. Luis Arroyo, D-Chicago, who has since resigned. He also had a lobbying business that lobbied the city of Chicago and he was charged with attempting to bribe a state senator to support legislation that would have benefitted his client.

One of the provisions of SB 539 prohibits elected officials, including lawmakers, from engaging in "compensated lobbying" of other units of government, with the exception of Chicago municipal government. That was a carve-out specifically requested by Chicago city officials who argued that the city's own lobbying regulations were already stronger than those in the bill.

But Rep. Blaine Wilhour, R-Beecher City, urged rejecting the governor's amendment and returning to negotiations over a stronger ethics bill.

"There's a lot of talk from your (Democratic) side of the aisle about how this is just a start and we need to do more and, you know, yada, yada, yada, everything else," he said to Burke on the House floor. "I don't think anybody has ever really answered, what's keeping us from doing more right now? ... Do we not know what needs to be done? I mean, what's keeping us from giving the legislative inspector general the power that the last three say that they need to be to be the proper watchdogs over this body?"

Burke, however, replied that SB539 was the bill that lawmakers had approved during the spring session. She also said the House has a standing committee that deals with ethics and that it will continue to work on other bills when lawmakers return for the 2022 session.

Thank You

The Pearl City Boulevard Bash Committee would like to thank our event sponsors, our volunteers, and all of those who attended this year's event. Because of your help and generosity a total of \$16,000 was presented to our 5 charitable causes (Pearl City Food Pantry, Pearl City Schools Needy Kids Fund, Conservation, Agricultural Partnership, Pearl City Education and Pearl City Schools Kids Book Program).

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Stockton football defeats Pearl City, falls to Dakota

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

After dropping the season opener to Forreston, the Stockton Blackhawks managed to bounce back in week two with a win over the Eastland-Pearl City Wildcatz.

The game got off to a bit of a slow start as both teams were still settling in through the first quarter. The excitement began in the second quarter, when Stockton jumped out to the first lead of the evening.

Quarterback Caleb Mammoser connected with his favorite target in Drew Mensendike for an 11-yard touchdown pass with just over seven minutes left in the second quarter. The passing duo tried to reconnect on the two-point conversion but failed, leaving the Blackhawks with a 6-0 lead.

The Wolves managed to take their first lead in the evening with a successful drive just before halftime. EPC matched Stockton with a passing touchdown of their own as their quarterback connected on a 17-yard score. A successful point-after attempt allowed the Wildcatz to take a 7-6 lead with just over a minute left until half. The slim lead would hold, as the Blackhawks went into the break trailing 7-6.

Stockton got the first points of the second half, as well, when Jace Phillips plunged into the end zone from five yards out. The Blackhawks failed the point after conversion, and held a five-point lead, up 12-7.

EPC would respond, however. Early in the fourth quarter, the Catz' quarterback scrambled for a five-yard touchdown,

allowing EPC to retake the lead.

Stockton would only surrender the lead for less than two minutes, though, as Karl Hubb ran in a 21-one-yard touchdown with nine minutes left in regulation. Up 18-13, the Blackhawks would hold onto their five-point advantage for the remainder of the game.

Parker Luke led the team in total yards with 70 yards rushing on 14 attempts. Phillips was close behind with 62 yards and a score on the ground. Hubb had just seven carries for 42 yards, but he had the biggest run of the night as his fourth

quarter score gave the Blackhawks their first win of the season. Mammoser was just one of six through the air, but that one completion was essential as the score was crucial in their victory.

A week later, Stockton found themselves facing another tough opponent as they traveled to face off with the Dakota Indians on Sept. 10. The Blackhawks were in for another draining game, as it was the second game in a row that would come down to a one-score difference.

The Stockton offense struggled to get the ball moving all

night as they averaged a little under four yards-per-play on the evening. A trio of turnovers cost the Blackhawks, as three fumbles lost made it nearly impossible for Stockton to gather any lasting momentum.

Dakota jumped out to an early lead with a long touchdown run with just under four minutes left in the first quarter. Their 8-0 lead would hold all the way through the halftime break.

The Indians would expand their lead in the third quarter as another long touchdown run and a failed two-point conversion allowed them to go up 14-

0. The Blackhawks would attempt to claw their way back, but time was ticking down on their comeback hopes. Phillips plunged into the end zone from three yards out for Stockton's first score of the night. That touchdown did not come until there was just 5:25 left in the fourth quarter, however, as the clock eventually struck zero and the Blackhawks' hopes ran out.

Stockton could not get the run game going last Friday. Phillips led the team with just 23 yards and one score on 11 attempts. The Blackhawks

managed to find some success through the air, as Mammoser completed eight of his 14 passes for 116 yards. Mensendike was the favorite target with three receptions for 41 yards. Colby Tucker had Stockton's biggest play of the evening with a 50-yard pass reception.

Despite the success through the air, head coach Matt Leitzen's offense was unable to capitalize for most of the night. The Blackhawks fell by a score of 14-6 as they dropped to 1-2 on the season. They will be back in action on Friday, Sept. 17, with another tough opponent in the Galena Pirates.

Stockton girls holding their own in competitive volleyball season

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Stockton Blackhawks are off to a solid start in their 2021 volleyball campaign. After posting a 6-9 overall record and going 5-7 in conference play in the alternate spring season, the Blackhawks appeared hopeful to improve on those numbers this fall. They have already eclipsed their spring win total and they are doing so with a younger roster. With just three seniors on the varsity roster in Vanessa Ernst, Kenze Haas and Brynn Haas, a number of underclassmen have earned significant playing time.

The Blackhawks opened their season with an impressive 2-0 defeat over the Or-

angeville Broncos. Stockton took control in the first set, winning 25-18. They proved they could handle some adversity in the second set, when the Broncos stretched the game out as much as they could. Stockton eventually went on to win by a score of 30-28 in what was an exciting season opener.

It was an impressive start to the season for senior Kenze Haas, who led the team with 13 kills, eight digs and two aces. Ernst led the team defensively with 13 digs.

Fast forward to Sept. 4, and the team was holding a record of 6-3 while preparing to face off with Genoa-Kingston, Lena-Winslow and Eastland in a tournament. The Blackhawks failed to get anything going

against the impressive Genoa-Kingston, as the Blackhawks fell by scores of 25-16 and 25-18. Kenze Haas led Stockton with six kills, while Brynn Haas was right behind her with five kills of her own.

Stockton managed to bounce back against their second opponent, the Lena-Winslow Panthers. After completing their own 2-0 sweep of the Panthers, the Blackhawks found themselves on the other end of the stick as they faced off with an impressive Eastland squad, carrying a 5-2 record. Stockton dropped both sets against Eastland and came out of the tournament with a record of 7-5.

After dropping two of three games in the tourna-

ment, the Blackhawks were set up with what was, arguably, their toughest opponent of the season, thus far. The Galena Pirates were a perfect 12-0 when the Blackhawks traveled to face off with the undefeated team on Sept. 7.

The Pirates proved to be the better team as Stockton fell by scores of 25-10 and 25-15. Kenze Haas and Brynn Haas led the Blackhawks in kills as they each finished with five. Junior Whitney Sullivan led the team in digs with four.

After suffering their third loss in four opponents, the Blackhawks were eager to get back into the win column. On Sept. 9, Stockton played host to the East Dubuque Warriors in what was just the second conference match of the sea-

son for the Blackhawks.

Stockton came out on the attack as they dominated the first set by a score of 25-14. Although the second set was much closer, Stockton still maintained control and went on to sweep the Warriors with a 25-20 score in set two. Kenze Haas was back to leading the way, as she notched seven kills and nine digs. Freshman Kacy Wright was efficient, racking up nine assists and six digs. Ernst led the team in digs with 10.

After picking up their first conference win of the season, the Blackhawks pushed their record up to 8-6. Stockton will face off with another conference opponent tonight, when they face off with the West Carroll Thunder.

• Briefs

(Continued from page 8)

Appointments are not required, however, they are available by going online to <https://idph-mychart.idph.state.il.us/signupandschedule/embeddedschedule?vt=24629&dept=900140010817>.

The vaccine is free and available to those 12 and older.

To find an alternate vaccine clinic location, call 833-621-1284 or go online to coronavirus.illinois.gov.

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monthly



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402678

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON
COUNTY-IN PROBATE
In Re the Matter of the
Estate of:
Doris V. Carr,
Deceased.

No. 21-P-98

**NOTICE FOR
PUBLICATION -
CLAIMS**

Notice is given of the death of Doris V. Carr, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on August 24, 2021, to:

**Melissa C. Bowen
2729 Kapiolani Blvd.,
Apt. 3**

Honolulu, HI 96826

as Independent Executor of the Estate of Doris V. Carr, 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 March 10, 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: August 27, 2021

Melissa C. Bowen
Executor

By: **Anthony V. Coon**
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
Sept. 8, 15 & 22, 2021)

402978

**ASSUMED NAME
PUBLICATION NOTICE**
Public notice is hereby given that on **August 31st, A.D. 2021**, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephenson County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the known as **Fields Fix All** located at **125 Pepin Drive, Lena, Illinois 61048**

Dated this 31st day of August A.D. 2021

HEATHER BECKER

County Clerk and
Recorder

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide
Sept. 8, 15 & 22, 2021)

403024

IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE 15TH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF
STEPHENSON
WILSON EDWARDS,
Plaintiff,

vs.
KATELYN
STURTEVANT a/k/a
KATELYN M.
STURTEVANT,
JOSHUA STURTEVANT,
CITY OF FREEPORT, a
Municipal Corporation,
and UNKNOWN
OWNERS and NON-
RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.

Case No. 2020 CH 31

NOTICE OF SALE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to a Judgment entered on the 30th day of December, 2020, as amended by Order entered April 23, 2021, David Sniders, Sheriff of Stephenson County or such other Deputy as may be sitting in his stead, will conduct a sale of the premises involved in this case as follows:

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

Kim M. Casey
HolmstromKennedyPC
800 North Church Street
Rockford, IL 61103
(815) 962-7073

B. The common address of said property is: See Exhibit A attached hereto.

C. The legal description of the property is: See Exhibit A attached hereto.

D. A description of the improvements on the real estate: Residences, single family and multi-family as designated on Exhibit A at-

tached hereto.

This information is considered reliable but not warranted.

E. The time and place of the sale: October 7, 2021, at 9:30 A.M. on the 1st floor of the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032.

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

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

H. The property is not open for inspection.

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

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

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

Common Address: 1236-1242 South Float Avenue
Freeport, IL 61032
P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-483-

020

COUNT II TRACT I

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

Common Address: 11 West Dexter Street
Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-406-009 Single family
TRACT II

The South 30 feet of Lot One (1) in Block Twenty-four (24) in Knowlton's Second Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 1110 South Cherry Avenue
Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-380-008 Single family
TRACT III

Part of Lots One (1) and Two (2) in Block Six (6) in Guiteau's Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport, described as follows, to wit Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Block 6 and running thence South 81 feet thence East 100 feet thence North to the Southerly line of South Galena Avenue, thence Northwesterly on and along the line of said Block 6 and the Southerly line of said South Galena Avenue to the place of beginning; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois, EXCEPT: A part of Lots 1 and 2 in Block 6 in Guiteau's Addition in the Original Town (now City) of Freeport, situated in the Southeast Quarter of Section 31,

Township 27 North, Range 8 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Stephenson County, Illinois, described as follows: Beginning at an iron pin in the Northwest corner of said Lot 1; thence South 52 degrees 51 minutes 12 seconds East, 19.27 feet (Bearings assumed for description purposes only) on the Northeast line of said Lot 1, thence South 67 degrees 23 minutes 08 seconds West 16.20 feet to the West line of said Lot 1; thence North 1 degree 17 minutes 24 seconds West, 17.87 feet on said West line to the Point of Beginning; situated in the County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 1111 South High Avenue
Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-483-001 2 units
TRACT IV-

INTENTIONALLY

OMITTED

TRACT V

Lot Number Eight (8) in Block Number Seventeen (17) of Wright and Purinton's Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport, EXCEPTING the South 7 feet of Lot Seven (7) in Block Seventeen (17) of Wright and Purinton's Addition to the Town (now City) of Freeport; situated in the City of Freeport, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 482 South Float Avenue
Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-293-016 Single family
TRACT VI

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

and State of Illinois.

Common Address: 914 South Chicago Avenue
Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-453-036 2 units

TRACT VII

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

Common Address: 307 West Spring Street
Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-188-008 2 units

Dated at Rockford, Illinois, this 1st day of September, 2021.

Wilson Edwards, Plaintiff,
BY: Holmstrom Kennedy

PC

His Attorneys,
/s/Kim M. Casey

Kim M. Casey ARDC
#6181726

HolmstromKennedyPC
800 North Church Street

Rockford, IL 61103

(815) 962-7071 kcasey@hkrockford.com

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Obituary

VERLYN H. FISCHER

Verlyn H. Fischer, 91, of Pearl City went to be with his Savior on Monday, Sept. 6, 2021, peacefully with his family at his side at St. Mary's Mayo Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota.



He was born July 30, 1930, in Freeport, son of Harold and Mabel (Kuhlemeier) Fischer. Verlyn married Carol Gahm on June 14, 1953.

Verlyn was a lifelong farmer with his wife, Carol, as well as a crane operator for V&E Construction in Galena for 10 years. He then operated crane for Civil Constructors for 29 years and retired there in 1994.

In 1955 he served in the U.S. Army, where he eventually was stationed in Germany.

His passion was collecting antique tractors, and he traveled the United States and Canada in search of the ones he enjoyed most. His favorites were oil pull Rumleys and his Townsend tractor.

While he enjoyed his tractors, they were not as important as family and his faith in Jesus Christ. He loved his family dearly and enjoyed spending time with his children, grand-children and great-grand-children. He was a member of Zion Community Church of Pearl City.

He enjoyed traveling with his wife and visited all 50 states and Germany, Luxembourg, Holland, France, England, Mexico, China, Vietnam, South Korea, Japan, the Panama Canal, Italy, Israel, Switzerland, Canada and Austria.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Carol; daughter, Kathleen Lochowitz, of Pearl City and her children, Shari (Dustin) Sickles and their daughter, Emery; Melissa Coulibaly and her children, Batan Jr. and Sanouhan and Laura Lochowitz; daughter, Marsha (Dan Diaz) Manthei of Machesney Park and her children, Anthony (Nicole) Manthei and their children, Spencer, Madisyn and Natalie; Tarah (Kevin Dumas) Manthei and their children, Keyton and Trinity; son, Wayne (Melissa) Fischer of Freeport and their children, Austin (Baylee Wolf) Fischer, Skyler (Alexa Sohner) Fischer, Christian Fischer, Jordan (Kayla) Potter and their children, Trace, Jensen and Deacon, Aaron (Mari) Potter and their children, Wesson, Rydlee and Barrett, Hayden (Taylor) Potter and their children, Grayden and Ledger; son, Joe (Jodi) Fischer of Freeport and their children, Shania (Eric) Schaney and their child, Piper; Moriah Fischer, Aliya Fischer, Jeremiah Fischer and Megan Fischer.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Mabel Fischer; sister, Leona Schneider; mother and father-in-law LaVerne and Ruby Gahm; brother-in-law, Theron Gahm; and grandson, Zachariah Fischer.

A visitation was held Saturday, Sept. 11, and the funeral was held Sunday, Sept. 12, both at Zion Community Church of Pearl City, and officiated by Pastor and friend Chip Sohl. Burial followed at Zion Community Church of Pearl City. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

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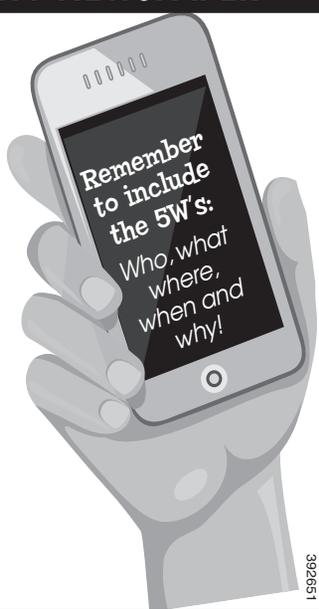
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•Bill (Continued from page 7)

Rep. Jay Hoffman, D-Swansea, noted in a news conference after the bill's passage that it requires the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Commerce Commission and Illinois Power Agency to conduct a study at five-year intervals "to determine if there is grid reliability."

If there are not enough renewables and nuclear power available to keep the grid running, that means coal or gas plants could be kept online to meet peak demand.

"I think it's very legitimate," Hoffman said of grid reliability concerns. "And so we built that into the bill, though, there are reliability checkpoints every five years. That was very important to all of us because we want the lights to go on, we want the heating and air conditioning to work."

Hoffman said representatives of Prairie State believe federal subsidies will be included in an infrastructure bill before Congress that will help fund carbon sequestration infrastructure at coal plants as well.

Republicans also expressed concerns about language allowing a private company, Invenenergy, to invoke eminent domain, in seven counties for the purpose of a single transmission line, the Grain Belt Express direct current transmission line.

Equity, ethics, EVs

Included in the rate hike is \$180 million in annual funding for the newly created Energy Transition Assistance Fund, which funds various workforce initiatives.

The bill directs the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to create the Clean Jobs Workforce Network program, which establishes 13 hubs in different communities across the state that rely on community-based organizations to provide job training and a career pipeline for equity-foc-

cused populations.

Other programs include a preapprenticeship program to prepare individuals for the renewable energy infrastructure workforce; and a contractor incubator to aid small clean energy businesses.

It also establishes a "Climate Bank" within the Illinois Finance Authority to help fund renewable projects, as well as a Jobs and Justice Fund, run by a non-profit entity, aimed at ensuring "the benefits of the clean energy economy are equitably distributed." Another program aims to train individuals recently released from incarceration for careers in the renewable energy field.

Lawmakers also noted the bill tightens utility ethics laws by ending formulaic rate increases, strengthening economic disclosure requirements to include spouses employed by utilities, and creating Public Utility Ethics and Compliance Monitor to ensure utilities comply with existing and new laws.

It will also require the Illinois Commerce Commission to investigate whether ComEd misused ratepayer funds in connection to an ongoing federal investigation of the company's Springfield influence, and if it is found that they did, the money must be returned to ratepayers.

The bill also sets a goal of putting 1 million electric vehicles on Illinois roads by 2030, aiming to do so through incentives, such as offering rebates on the installation of charging infrastructure in certain communities, provided prevailing wage is paid on the construction labor.

It also creates a Displaced Energy Worker Bill of Rights, requiring the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to give advance notice of power plant or coal mine closures and to notify workers of available assistance programs.

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

We have had a lot of beautiful weather this past week. If we could have a fall like these past few days for a couple of months, I would be a happy camper. We still are able to have some garden vegetables, and apple orchards are opening up. I love the smell of cinnamon in the air. This

week's recipes are full of fun cooking.

Red Pepper Jelly

A quick and delicious appetizer is red pepper jelly over softened cream cheese. Serve it on a pretty glass plate with a butter knife and assorted crackers, and everyone will dive into it.

Note: An example of a non-reactive pan is stainless steel; the next two recipes call for the use of one.

- 1 jar (18 oz.) apple jelly
- 1 fresh jalapeño, seeded and minced
- ½ C. chopped red pepper
- ½ C. honey

5 T. apple cider vinegar
¼ t. crushed red pepper
In a medium nonreactive saucepan, bring all ingredients to a boil over medium-high heat; cook, stirring occasionally for five minutes. Divide mixture among 1 C. canning jars, and let cool to room temperature. Refrigerate for at least 12 hours or up to two weeks.

Pickled Tomatoes

Someone asked if I had a recipe for pickled tomatoes. I found one in one of my cooking magazines. They really like pickled things and had a lot of tomatoes, so they won-

dered if they could pickle. Let me know if it is something we all should be trying.

- 1 C. apple cider vinegar
- ¼ C. water
- 4 t. kosher salt
- 2 t. sugar
- 12 ounces assorted cherry or grape tomatoes
- 3 lemon rind strips
- 8 sprigs of thyme
- 4 cloves garlic
- ¼ t. crushed red pepper

In a small nonreactive saucepan, bring vinegar, ¼ C. water, salt and sugar to a boil over medium high heat. Remove from heat. In a quart-size, wide-mouth canning jar, layer tomatoes, lemon rind strips, thyme, garlic and red

pepper. Pour vinegar mixture onto tomatoes. Cover and let stand at room temperature for one hour. Refrigerate for at least 24 hours or up to one week.

Roasted Tomatoes with Summer Vegetables

If you are at the end of garden vegetables, this recipe will help you serve them in a unique way. If you don't have fresh lima beans or corn, you can thaw frozen vegetables. It is great to use these beautiful garden-fresh tomatoes while we still can.

- 8 tomatoes (8 to 10 oz. each), cored
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 1 strip bacon, diced
- 1 C. diced red pepper
- 1 C. corn kernels
- 1 C. lima beans
- 1 C. diced red onion

Preheat oven to 425; brush tomatoes with oil and season with salt and pepper. Transfer to a shallow roasting pan. Roast tomatoes until soft to the touch, five minutes. Transfer tomatoes to a cutting board. When cool enough to handle, scoop out seeds and center flesh to fit in vegetables. Discard seeds and flesh.

Cook bacon in a skillet until crisp. Add peppers and corn and sauté over medium-high heat until starting to soften. Add lima beans and onion. Cook until tender, three to five minutes. Season with salt and pepper; fill each tomato with vegetables (about ½ C.) Serve with a sprinkling of Parmesan cheese.

Creamy Hot Chicken Salad

Normally you would say that chicken salad is served

in a lettuce cup or on toast or even croissants. This chicken salad is a yummy casserole. Change your chicken salad thoughts and enjoy this easy casserole.

- ¼ C. coarsely crushed potato chips
- ½ C. chopped pecans
- 6 C. chopped cooked chicken (rotisserie will work)
- 2 C. shredded cheddar cheese
- 2 C. chopped celery
- 1 C. chopped red pepper
- ¼ C. sliced green onions
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 C. mayonnaise
- 1 (8 oz.) carton sour cream
- 1 t. dried thyme, crushed
- ¼ t. pepper

Preheat oven to 400. In a bowl, combine the crushed potato chips and the pecans. Set aside.

In a bowl, stir together chicken, cheese, celery, pepper and green onions. In another bowl, combine soup, mayo, sour cream, thyme and pepper. Pour soup mixture over chicken mixture; fold gently to combine. Transfer to a 3-quart rectangular baking dish. Sprinkle with potato chip topping. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until heated through and bubbly around the edges. Serve with toasted cheese bread.

Lemon Cookie Bars

- 2½ C. flour
- ½ t. baking soda
- ½ t. salt
- 2 C. sugar
- 6 T. unsalted butter, melted
- 1/3 C. vegetable oil
- 2 oz. cream cheese, cut into 8 pieces and softened
- 1 egg plus 1 egg yolk
- 5 t. grated lemon zest plus 3 T. juice
- 2 t. vanilla

See KITCHEN, Page 15

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Fluoride helps defend against tooth decay



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

Tooth enamel, the visible outermost covering of your teeth, is the hardest substance in your body. However, once the enamel of your tooth has been lost through demineralization and decay, the body does not regenerate it. That is why a good offense strategy is so critical in maintaining the integrity of your enamel, and the MVP of your offensive team is fluoride.

While many of you are aware that fluoride helps to prevent decay, you may not understand how it serves this critical role. The process of demineralization and caries (cavity) formation begins when bacteria convert carbohydrates in your diet (especially sugars) to acids. These acids demineralize and weaken the enamel.

Your saliva will attempt to buffer or neutralize these acids and provide the calcium and phosphate ions to help prevent this demineralization. When your saliva has fluoride in it, from fluoride products like toothpaste, mouth rinses and varnish or by drinking fluoridated water, the fluoride can penetrate the

tooth enamel. Once absorbed, the fluoride bonds with the calcium and phosphate in your enamel to form fluorapatite, which makes the enamel even stronger and therefore more resistant to decay.

In addition, fluoride retards bacterial growth and tooth decay. It can even reverse tooth decay in the very earliest stages. Fluoride's demonstrated cavity prevention capabilities are recognized by numerous international health agencies, including the World Health Organization. Fluoridation of public water is considered to be one of the most successful preventative public health acts in cities throughout the world.

Numerous studies show that the earlier children are exposed to fluoride, the less likely they are to develop

cavities.

But children are not the only ones to benefit from fluoride. Adults often experience gum recession and xerostomia (lack/reduction of saliva and/or poor-quality saliva from systemic diseases and medications). Orthodontic patients at any age, patients with a history of cavities, and patients with periodontal disease (especially those who require periodontal surgery) and patients with developmental disabilities and/or physical disabilities that limit their ability to perform daily oral hygiene can all benefit from fluoride's ability to prevent the pain and destruction of decay and avoid restorative treatment.

One of the most common applications of fluoride is in the form of a varnish that is applied to the teeth following a dental cleaning. The varnish sticks to the teeth for a period of four to six hours, which allows it to be absorbed into the enamel. To make sure that the fluoride is not disturbed before it is fully incorporated into the enamel, it is imperative that

you do not eat or drink for 30 minutes following the procedure. After 30 minutes you can drink and eat soft food, but do not chew hard foods or brush your teeth for four hours. For this reason, parents of young children should make sure that they are fed and well hydrated before their dental appointment.

Your dentist may also order a prescription-strength fluoride toothpaste to be used in place of your regular toothpaste. It is beneficial to brush your teeth right before bed, so the fluoride is on your teeth longer. This is particularly important for patients with xerostomia. Floss and brush your teeth for two minutes, then spit but don't rinse.

Fluoride is a key defense in your preventative routine. If you have any questions about the appropriate amount of fluoride for you or your child, do not hesitate to contact your dentist.

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

REAL ESTATE LEGAL NOTICES

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

Case No. 2020 CH 31 NOTICE OF SALE PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to a Judgment entered on the 30th day of December, 2020, as amended by Order entered April 23, 2021, David Snyders, Sheriff of Stephenson County or such other Deputy as may be sitting in his stead, will conduct a sale of the premises involved in this case as follows:

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

Kim M. Casey
HolmstromKennedyPC
800 North Church Street
Rockford, IL 61103
(815) 962-7073

B. The common address of said property is: See Exhibit A attached hereto.

C. The legal description of the property is: See Exhibit A attached hereto.

D. A description of the improvements on the real estate: Residences, single family and multi-family as designated on Exhibit A attached hereto.

This information is considered reliable but not warranted.

E. The time and place of the sale: October 7, 2021, at 9:30 A.M. on the 1st floor of the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032.

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

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

H. The property is not open for inspection.

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

J. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO RE-

MAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(c) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

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P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-380-008
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TRACT V
Common Address: 482 South Float Avenue
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TRACT VI
Common Address: 914 South Chicago Avenue
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P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-453-036 2 units

TRACT VII
Common Address: 307 West Spring Street
Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N. No. 18-14-31-188-008 2 units

Dated at Rockford, Illinois, this 1st day of September, 2021.

Wilson Edwards, Plaintiff,
BY: HolmstromKennedyPC

His Attorneys,
/s/Kim M. Casey

Kim M. Casey ARDC #6181726
HolmstromKennedyPC

800 North Church Street
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(815) 962-7071
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(Published in The Shopper's

Guide

Sept. 8, 15 & 22, 2021)

403126

•Kitchen

(Continued from page 14)

Glaze

1/2 T. lemon juice
1 T. cream cheese, softened

1 C. powdered sugar

Bars: Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 325. Make foil sling for 9-by-13 baking pan by folding two long sheets of aluminum foil; first sheet should be 12 inches wide and second sheet should be 9 inches wide. Lay sheets of foil in pan perpendicular to each other, with extra foil hanging over edges of pan. Push foil into corners and up sides of pan, smoothing foil flush to pan. Spray foil with cooking oil spray.

Whisk flour, baking soda, and salt together in bowl. Whisk sugar, melted butter, oil and cream cheese together in second bowl (some lumps of cream cheese will remain but will smooth out later). Add egg and yolk, lemon zest and juice and vanilla to sugar mixture and whisk until smooth. Add flour mixture and mix with rubber spatula until just combined. Transfer batter to prepared pan, smoothing top with spatula. Bake until light golden brown and tooth pick inserted in center comes out clean, 33 to 38 minutes. Let bars cool completely in pan on wire rack, about two hours.

Glaze: Once bars are cooled, whisk lemon juice and cream cheese in bowl until combined. Add sug-

ar and whisk until smooth. Spread glaze evenly over bars. Let glaze set fully, about one hour.

Using foil overhang, lift bars out of pan and transfer to cutting board. Cut into 24 pieces and serve. Bars can be stored in airtight container at room temperature up to three days.

Berry Pretzel Fluff Dessert

This is the perfect potluck dish. It can be made ahead, and you don't have to heat up the oven to make it.

2 C. crushed pretzels (not seasoned)

3/4 C. sugar
3/4 C. butter, melted

2 pkg. (8 oz. each) softened cream cheese

1 C. whole milk ricotta cheese

1 1/2 C. powdered sugar
1 t. vanilla

1/2 t. grated lemon zest
1 C. heavy whipping cream

3 C. quartered fresh strawberries

1 1/2 C. fresh blueberries
2 T. apricot preserves

In a large bowl, toss the pretzels with sugar and melted butter. Press mixture into an ungreased 9-by-13 pan. Refrigerate 30 minutes. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese, ricotta, powdered sugar, vanilla and lemon zest until smooth. In another bowl, beat the whipping cream until soft peaks form; fold into

cream cheese mixture. Spread the mixture over pretzel layer. Refrigerate covered at least four hours. Just before serving, toss the berries with apricot preserves; sprinkle berries over the top of the dessert. You can top with whipped cream if desired.

Final thoughts

Fall Festival has come and gone for another year. The weather cooperated (even though Saturday was hot), and we didn't have storms. We will move on to the next fall activity.

Campers have been enjoying the newly refurbished lake, people are putting their pool gear away and leaves are starting to fall. We probably will be making soup soon.

If you have any recipes for apples and pumpkins, and some side dishes and some soup recipes that use fall veggies, send them our way. 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.

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Opinion (Continued from page 4)

harm. In return, Europeans look down their noses at us with barely concealed contempt.

At home, Trump fans yearn for the good old days of two-parent families, with some respect and discipline in the home. Yet, our social policy experts push Congress to adopt scores of costly social programs that appear to diss traditional family life, instead encouraging dependence on government handouts, rather than building the resilience needed in the home.

All the while, the political and economic classes reap the benefits. Washington is seen as a widening

cesspool of big-paying jobs for politicians, lawyers, lobbyists and staffers. Some of the staffers go on to Wall Street, to assist in knowingly pushing such things as toxic mortgages onto unsuspecting investors and ill-suited homeowners — never to pay a price for their criminality or for almost leading the world into global economic collapse.

Worse, the nouveaux elites, from the Clintons to the Obamas, appear to feel good about the jobs they think they have done, seemingly oblivious to the national decline that angers the Trump base.

To add insult to injury,

a clueless Hillary Clinton describes the Trumpers as “deplorables,” which is like arousing caged lions with red meat.

So, “Make America Great Again” continues as the perfect rallying cry against the failures of the American power structure, say Trump fans.

The Trump base, at least those around us here in struggling central Illinois, can overlook the personality flaws of Trump because he talks a blunt, unvarnished, bar-room language, in stark contrast to the hyper-political correctness that smothers direct conversations about

America’s problems.

We think his fans cling to Trump because they fear when he goes, our elite will again go unchallenged, and American decline will continue.

We are not Trump fans, yet in reflecting on what we hear, we think the Trump base makes an arguable case that we deserve better than we’ve been getting.

Jim Nowlan is a retired professor of American politics who has taught in China on several occasions. Allen Andersen is a retired businessman and economic development consultant. They reside in central Illinois.

Slices (Continued from page 4)

imaginary world of emojis. Pink deserves our respect.

The void in my life caused by the non-existence of the pink heart emoji bothers me significantly. Has anyone else lost sleep regarding the lack of a pink heart emoji? I feel your pain. Sigh. Can my life be complete without a pink heart emoji? It’s possible, but I doubt it.

Emojis were invented for the betterment of humankind. They are here to serve us. And in that, we need a pink

heart emoji. Not a kissing pink heart emoji. Not three pink hearts in an emoji. Let’s not get all creative. Let’s just give us the real deal.

Please and pretty please, with a pink heart — and maybe a brown poop emoji — on top.

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.

Bird count (Continued from page 2)

hives alive for the past six years. If these poisons are killing the birds and the insects, they are definitely having an affect on humans as well. But maybe it will be too late when this is finally determined.

The Big Bird Day count also indicates that birds that are nesting further north also are struggling, the release said.

“Without our insect-eating

birds to help control insect populations, some of these insects will become a very real problem in the near future,” he said. “Mosquitoes, gnats, locusts and flies will be the first to get out of control. These local insect population outbreaks will expand and become widespread.

“We must work now to develop new nonchemical ways to grow our needed crops.”

Winner (Continued from page 6)

“I love serving on the foundation board,” Phillips said. “It’s the best way to stay informed about what is going on. I am humbled by this recognition. I still like having a say about what is important to me, and being able to help others in the process.”

At the Legacy Gala, the Highland Foundation will recognize individuals and corporate partners who demonstrate a shared responsibility in transforming students’ lives

through an accessible, affordable and rigorous learning experience.

The fundraising event continues with the traditional dinner, entertainment and silent auction. The silent auction is open and available to everyone, not just the attendees, at highland.edu/foundation/foundation-events.

Tickets are \$125 per person. For more information, call the foundation office at 815-599-3413.

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RVPNEWS.COM

State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

COVID-19 Protect Yourself

Vaccine Clinic Scheduled

The State of Illinois is partnering with **McConnell American Legion** to bring a free vaccine clinic to an area near you.
Saturday, Sept. 18
9 AM - 2 PM

WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is authorized and recommended for persons 12 years of age and older.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Schedule your appointment at:
idph-mychart.pchosted.com/IDPH/signupandschedule/embeddedschedule?vt=24629&dept=3001410010817

LOCATIONS:

McConnell American Legion
203 Main Street
McConnell, IL 61050



Can't make this event? Find a clinic near you by visiting coronavirus.illinois.gov
Hotline: 1-833-621-1284



Questions about COVID-19?
Call 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov
Illinois Department of Public Health - www.dph.illinois.gov
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