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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20, 2021



FILE PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Corn yield in Illinois is forecast to be a record 210 bushels per acre this year, up 19 bushels per acre from 2020, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Yields look great for Illinois corn, soybeans

A new report shows that Illinois corn and soybean producers expect record yields this year.

The USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service October crop production report is based on conditions as of Oct. 1. Some highlights include:

Corn

The Illinois corn yield is forecast at a record 210 bushels per acre, up 19 bushels from 2020. Production is forecast at 2.27 billion bushels, up 7 percent from last year's production.

Planted area is estimated at 11.0 million acres, down 3 percent from last year. Harvested

area, forecast at 10.8 million acres, is down 3 percent from 2020.

Soybeans

Based on Oct. 1 conditions, the Illinois soybean yield is forecast at a record 64 bushels per acre, up 4 bushels from 2020. Production is forecast at a record 675 million bushels, up 10 percent from 2020.

Planted area is estimated at 10.60 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. Harvested area, forecast at 10.55 million acres, is up 3 percent from 2020.

Alfalfa hay

The Illinois alfalfa hay yield

is forecast at 3.50 tons per acre, down 0.40 tons from the previous year. Production is forecast at 630,000 tons, down 27 percent from 2020.

Harvested area, forecast at 180,000 acres, is down 18 percent from 2020.

Other hay

The other hay yield is forecast at 2.40 tons per acre, up 0.10 tons from the previous year. Production is estimated at 576,000 tons, down 7 percent from 2020.

Harvested area, forecast at 240,000 acres, is down 11 percent from 2020.

For more information, go online to www.nass.usda.gov.

Nursing homes short on staff

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

A new report released Oct. 13 says staffing shortages at nursing homes in Illinois have

reached crisis proportions and that people of color are most at risk of suffering the consequences.

That's because those individ-

uals are more likely to live in understaffed facilities or in "ward" rooms with three or four beds

See **SHORTAGES**, Page 6

Sports Hall of Fame celebrates area athletes

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Northwest Illinois Sports Hall of Fame held its first induction ceremony in two years recently.

Although the ceremony was a smaller affair than usual because of lingering pandemic restrictions, it was important for the hall of fame committee to get back on track with another year of inductions, committee president and WCCI radio announcer Brian Reusch said.

"It feels great to be able to hold a banquet again," Reusch said. "I was worried about the future of the organization if we would have to cancel again."

There were a number of communities that chose not to nominate a candidate for this year, which Reusch believes is due to COVID concerns. Among the communities to not have a candidate were Galena, Milledgeville, Morrison, Pearl City and Scales Mound.

The committee, which was started in 1987, covers 19 communities. Despite the lack of

candidates from a handful of communities, there were still plenty of honors to go around in the 34th edition of inductees.

Twelve individuals and two honor teams made up this year's class. Among those were four local leaders in the sports community and an honor team — Bobbi (Arand) Decker (Stockton), Sue (Lotz) Amendt (Le-Win), Kyle McGivney (Warren), Charles "Gus" Gray (Hanover) and the 1951-'52 Elizabeth Terrapins boys basketball team. The NISHOF shared some information on each one of this year's members.

Bobbi (Arand) Decker

Decker, a 2005 Stockton High School graduate, was a standout athlete for the Lady Blackhawks. Decker was a multi-sport athlete during all four years at Stockton, where she played volleyball and excelled in basketball and track.

As a two-year All-Conference basketball player and a three-time state track medalist, Decker went on to the Univer-

sity of Wisconsin-Platteville, where she continued to find success on the track.

Her distance medley relay team broke the national record by seven seconds during her sophomore year. That team won the Division III National Championship, and their time is still the UWP team record.

After completing her collegiate track career, Decker returned to Stockton, where she gives back to the local sports community as a coach and as secretary of the Stockton Athletic Boosters. Decker is also a mother of three, an active member of the Stockton Chamber of Commerce Board, and co-owner of the Udderly Delicious Ice Cream Truck.

Sue (Lotz) Amendt

Amendt has become a household name in the Lena-Winslow community. Before graduating from Le-Win in 1993, Amendt was a three-sport athlete in volleyball,

See **ATHLETES**, Page 3



PHOTO SUBMITTED Shopper's Guide

Pearl City girls receive sportsmanship honor

Pearl City recently received the 2020-2021 Sportsmanship Award from the Northwest Illinois Volleyball Officials Association. The presentation was made between the JV and varsity games on Oct. 13.

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Slices of life

When life makes other plans, seek harmony

A few weeks ago I started writing about a series of seven words that I thought would help each of us on our paths forward, whatever direction that might be. Seven words that when embraced could help us all in times of joy as well as times of trouble. Seven words to set us up for the future.



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

It was perfection. And then, as quickly as I had the great seven word idea, my laptop crashed. I lost two of those perfect columns about the seven perfect words. At first it felt like a punch in the gut, but then as time marched on, I realized I was OK with not publishing the lost columns. OK? Heck, I was more than OK.

That's because I realized the first seven words weren't the right ones.

As the days unfolded my perspective on the seven

words changed and I realized that is how life goes. We are always unfolding. Always changing. Forever evolving into the new me that we want to be. And that's exactly how it should be. Just as soon as we believe we have it figured out, our seven words change.

Isn't that cool? I'd hate to ever be done figuring things out. Although it is tempting sometimes, especially on those days when your laptop crashes. (Thank goodness that isn't often.)

I still love words, and realizing there isn't a magic seven only opens the door

for more exploration. I'll start now.

Originally, I planned to write about balance. It's a great word. Balance is a duality that runs throughout nature, throughout life. It provides peace and stability. Yin and yang. Balance is equality between the two. What could be better?

I wasn't sure, but then the cosmos put the idea of harmony in my path. If balance between two things is good, harmony be might be even better.

Balance tethers us to two. Harmony opens up the equation. It gives us alternatives. A cord of three strands is stronger than one of two, just like three-part harmony, when well done, often outdoes the two-part

version. A set of two points can easily topple. Three points is steady and stable.

Three is a strength seen throughout nature and the world. Good things come in threes. Past, present and future sums up time better than now and then. We say the ABC's, not the AB's. There are three primary colors: red, yellow and blue, from which all other hues are created.

The Earth is the third planet from the sun. There are three Olympic medals: bronze, silver and gold. First, middle and last. Small, medium and large. Solid, liquid and gas. Land, sea and air. Breakfast, lunch and dinner (snacks would only add to the harmony.)

Me, myself and I. Rock, paper, scissors. Mind, body and spirit. The three amigos, musketeers, stooges, Charlie's Angels, blind mice, little pigs, French hens, Goldilocks' bears.

Balance is two factors, working in tandem. The best balance can do is balance. Harmony is more. It takes us beyond balance to stability. Harmony is quite literally music to our ears.

Balance is working things out between two people. Harmony is a deeper cooperation among the group. Balance exists between you and me. Harmony makes us all part of the whole.

Balance in life is good; it is sought after. Harmony makes balance complete.

And, like a braided cord, harmony makes us all stronger.

When you focus on just the melody, that is all you hear. When you expand your focus to include multiple notes and chords, you achieve a greater perspective — one that goes beyond the note you are playing and reaches beyond you to the innate harmony that exists in our world, in nature. The harmony that exists among us all.

And that is music to the ears.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. She invites readers to follow the Slices of Life on Facebook.

In my opinion

Government reform proposals are olive branch toward bipartisanship

It seems that politicians often forget that the money they are spending comes from you, the hardworking families of Illinois.

The process by which legislators negotiate how to spend finite taxpayer resources should be based on public policy outcomes and not political considerations. Illinois residents can see evidence their state government is operating unethically by simply reading their newspaper.

With that in mind, I proposed legislation to tackle unethical behavior and ensure our elected leaders are leading by example. Below are some of these proposals:

- House Bill 1919: Campaign funds cannot be used to defend a crime



By **ANDREW CHESNEY**
Contributor

- House Bill 4103: No legislating between midnight and 6 a.m.

- House Bill 2874: No legislative pay while no balanced state budget

- House Bill 3342: \$100,000 fine for legislators convicted of a felony from their service

To say these proposals are the "low-hanging fruit" of reforms is putting it mildly.

I considered all of these proposals to be olive branches toward bipartisanship in

proposing these reforms.

In the wake of findings in late 2020 that the state's largest public utility engaged in a decade-long scheme to bribe the Illinois speaker of the House, Michael Madigan, through operation of an "old-school patronage operation," reformers certainly should have a strong case to make when it comes to improving state government operations and reforming ethics. With the endemic corruption swamping Springfield for decades, no one in the state would blame conservatives for trying to swing the pendulum hard against the one-party corrupt rule we've seen in Illinois for too long.

However, that's not what happened. Republicans instead offered Democrats

numerous opportunities to show Illinois they were serious about real reforms by offering numerous milquetoast suggestions that allowed Democrats an opportunity to show Illinoisans they are capable of reforming the actions we've seen play out time and time again in Illinois.

Thus far, no Illinois Democrats have taken the opportunity to co-sponsor these common-sense good government reform measures. I invite my Democrat colleagues to do so. To that same end, I invite my Democrat colleagues to let me know about their own good government reform measures they have initiated. I am eager to review these opportunities for bipartisanship, as I hope all who serve the residents in Illinois through elected service would be inclined to consider.

All too often in Springfield, the perfect becomes the enemy of the good. If we're serious about reforming the way the state of Illinois does its business, perhaps less emphasis should be put on "omnibus bills" and rather consider opportunities for bipartisanship through piecemeal proposals if they provide a runway toward the true launch of bipartisan government reform in Illinois. *State Rep. Andrew Chesney, R-Freeport, represents the 89th District, which includes all of Jo Daviess and Stephenson counties.*

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THANK YOU

The family of Maylene Crain would like to thank everyone for their cards, kind words, emails, and donations after her passing.

Mom loved living in the Stockton and Warren area, establishing many long-term friendships through the years. We are thankful she was able to live a long and healthy life in her home.

We appreciate all the acts of kindness shown to us during this time.

*Kathleen and Ivan Guenzler and family
John and Charla Jo Crain and family
Jeannie and Jack Reel and family
The family of Edward Crain
Jim and MaryLynn Crain and family*

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St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us;

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Publication must be promised.

Thank you, St. Jude.

Scheduling open for COVID-19 booster shots

Only certain groups eligible for third vaccine dose

FHN has opened online self-scheduling for a limited number of Pfizer COVID-19 booster shot clinics.

At this time, health care workers, first responders, people over age 65 and people ages 16 to 64 with medical conditions that increase the risk of severe COVID-19 are eligible for boosters.

Only those who have been fully vaccinated with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine are eligible for this booster vaccination, according to an FHN news release. It is recommended that the booster be administered at least six months after receiving the second Pfizer vaccine.

Registration is required for the clinics, which include those from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21, and Friday, Oct. 22, at 1763 S. Dirck Drive in

Freeport.

Appointments for the clinics are available by going online to www.fhn.org/booster-registration.asp. Recipients must bring their COVID-19 immunization card with them to their appointment and plan to stay for 15 minutes after receiving the vaccination (30 minutes for people who have had immediate reactions to vaccinations such as flu shots, or regularly need to carry an EpiPen).

There is no cost for a COVID-19 booster shot.

Those unable to use the online scheduling page may call 815-599-7183 or 815-599-7184 for assistance. Phone assistance is available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 21 and Oct. 22. If no one answers, leave a message and someone will return your call.

Celebrating a legacy of giving



HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*

Jim Endress, Highland Community College board chair, and Chris Kuberski, college president, present the Lifetime Achievement Legacy Award to Marjorie Phillips at the recent Legacy Gala in Freeport. Phillips and her late husband, Spencer, gave the first scholarship to Highland students in 1966 through the Highland Foundation. Phillips serves on the foundation board and gives two scholarships each year to top male and female students. Additional donors and corporate partners were recognized at the Legacy Gala, which also raised more than \$32,000 through a silent auction. The money raised goes to support Highland students and to provide instructional equipment, as well as \$10,000 being directed to the H.O.P.E. (Helping Overcome Personal Emergencies) fund to help students stay in college.

•Athletes (Continued from front page)

basketball and track and field.

Amendt excelled at volleyball, where she earned a pair of First Team All-Conference awards in 1991 and 1992. She was also named 1991 Journal Standard All-Area First Team, and 1992 Journal Standard Player of the Year.

Amendt was no slouch in her other sports, however. In 1990, Amendt was named Second Team All-Conference in basketball and in 1991, she earned First Team All-Conference in track.

After high school, Amendt went on to the University of St. Francis, where she continued to excel at volleyball and earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education.

A year later, Amendt began her long coaching career at Milledgeville High School. She was named 1998 Journal Standard Coach of the Year as she led Milledgeville to an

Elite Eight appearance. In 2001, she returned home as she took over the volleyball head coach job for Lena-Winslow and has remained in that position ever since.

Her success from her playing days translated straight into her coaching career. As a coach, Amendt has earned three Journal Standard Coach of the Year awards, to go along with more than 550 career victories and nine regional championships.

As a mother of two, Amendt spends what little free time she has camping, painting, and watching her children, Max and Molly, in sporting activities.

Kyle McGivney

McGivney was another multi-sport athlete, as he excelled in football, basketball and baseball at Warren High School.

McGivney, of Apple River, was heavily recognized for his play on the football field. As an

All-Area, All-Conference, All-State, three-time team MVP and DeHaven Award winner, there weren't many football recognitions that McGivney didn't earn. He holds the IHSA record for solo tackles in a single game with 27.

In baseball, McGivney was equally awarded as a team MVP, First Team All-Conference, All Area, First Team All-State and many more. He was also a First Team All-Conference basketball player.

As a 2007 graduate of Warren, McGivney went on to graduate from Luther College in 2011. At Luther, he became a First Team All-American. Eventually, McGivney went on

to graduate from the Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy and has now been a Missouri state trooper for eight years.

McGivney is a father of two and said he enjoys his free time by "hanging out with my family, being outdoors, and coaching my girls' sports."

Charles 'Gus' Gray

Gray was a two-sport athlete before graduating from Hanover in 1974. Gray excelled in basketball and football and he was recognized for his play in both.

The football field was where Gray really shined, as he earned All-Conference defense and All-Conference offense in 1972 and 1973. Gray also was named

Honorable Mention All-State in 1973 for football.

Gray went on to graduate from Western Illinois University with high honors. As a father of two, Gray now lives in Broomfield, Colorado, where he has been a real estate broker for more than 20 years. In his free time, he still aims to be active, as he enjoys skiing, golf and going to the gym.

Elizabeth basketball team

The 1951-'52 Elizabeth Terrapins boys basketball squad went down in Elizabeth history as the best basketball team in the school's history. They posted an overall record of 29-2, which was the most wins in a season

by a Terrapin basketball squad.

Led by a trio of seniors in Richard Schone, Donald Allen and James Rodden, the Terrapins went 10-0 in U.S. Grant Conference play. Terrapins head coach Fred Pratt led the team on a massive winning streak as they earned 19 consecutive victories and became the first Terrapins team to play in a Regional Championship.

Other members of the team were Ron Allen, Dick Eustice, Howard Webster, Jerry Evans, Jim VandeDrink, Lee Steinberger, Ray Ertmer, Jack Graves, Jim Lloyd and Wayne Krug. Their three cheerleaders were Betty Allen, Kathleen Keleher and Delores Mitchell.

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Navarro Farm offers 'a place to grow' for those with special needs

By Tammie Sloup
FARMWEEK

Gathering supplies in the tool shed at Frankfort's Navarro Farm, the small group talked excitedly amongst themselves.

One man made the rounds, giving hugs and pointing to where a bee had previously landed on his forehead.

Group leader Amy Stanislawski announced their first activity: picking tomatoes.

Grabbing their tools and towing a wagon for their haul, the group set out on their adventure, passing the vineyard and small orchard of apple, pear, peach and plum trees, making their way down the stone pathway to the 84 planting beds, where they'd get to work harvesting vegetables and pulling weeds.

The farm was humming with activity. Nearby, five Nigerian dwarf goats darted around their pen while nearly 40 chickens clucked from their coop.

Sherri Navarro, who owns the farm with her husband, Damion, looked around the five-acre property, still amazed at the transformation.

Last September, the couple purchased the farm intending to tear down the barn and erect a pole barn for their company, NES Environmental. That plan was quickly scratched.



TAMMIE SLOUP/FARMWEEK *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*
Navarro Farm owner Sherri Navarro gets a hug from one of the farmers, Tommy, during a recent visit.

A friend suggested they plant a communal garden for special needs kids. The Navaros' 17-year-old son, Carter, was born with Down syndrome, and the Navaros recognized the potential benefits of such a project.

And then a light bulb went on for Sherri.

"I said, 'Damion! A place to grow!'"

The phrase, which ultimately became their slogan, meant not only a place to grow food, but to grow friendships and learning experiences for those with special needs.

"And we took that idea and started running — and hav-

en't stopped," Sherri said.

Today, the nonprofit provides a farming experience for children and young adults with special needs. Through the farming program, visitors, who are called "farmers," plant and harvest all the food grown, including peppers, onions, eggplant, pumpkins, fruit and much more. They care for the goats and chickens and harvest eggs. All the food is either sold at their farm stand, Carter's Corner, or donated to local restaurants. Bee boxes have also been installed for honey, and Avery's Flower Farm grows and cuts flowers in a garden on the property.

The project is a big endeavor for a couple with no farming experience.

But through word of mouth and the generosity of volunteers — many of whom are former special education teachers, occupational therapists, farmers and master gardeners — the program and offerings continue to grow.



TAMMIE SLOUP/FARMWEEK *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*
Navarro Farm group leader Amy Stanislawski directs a group of farmers harvesting tomatoes at the Frankfort farm.

Kim Warning's son, Steven, is part of the program, which she said has been "amazing" for her son's socialization skills.

"I've never seen him so invested in a place," she said from inside the renovated barn that also serves as a break room — complete with a full-size arcade game, craft supplies and tables.

Program coordinator June Hoops dubbed Warning one of the "core moms" who's always willing to lend a hand.

"When you have someone doing anything for your kid and making their life better, you'll do anything for them," Warning said. "It's like a family here."

The farming program is offered a couple times a week,

with two sessions a day. The program is open to those 14 and older with special needs. Participants must meet certain criteria, which can be found online at navarrofarm.org.

Because transition services and programs for students receiving special education typically end at age 22, Navarro Farm, located at 22155 S. 104th Ave., offers a unique experience for those who otherwise wouldn't have many opportunities to socialize.

Aside from the farming experience, participants also make crafts and play sports. Kickball is their favorite. And on Friday nights, the farm often offers social events such as barbecues and movie nights.

Monthly events, including a Fall Harvest Party, Friendsgiving and Visit with Santa, are planned through the year. The major fundraiser — the

Navarro Farm Gala — was Oct. 9. For more information on the events, visit the Navarro Farm Facebook page.

Seeing the impact the farm has had in just a short time, the Navaros hope to expand — not just their program offerings but also the farm itself. Plans are in the works for a greenhouse so the farmers can continue growing and harvesting through the winter. One day, the couple hopes to build housing at the farm for those with special needs, complete with bike paths and other amenities, creating a community for the residents.

"There's endless opportunity," Sherri said.

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Obituaries

CYNTHIA GERBER

Cynthia "Cindi" Gerber, age 69, of Winslow, Illinois, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021, peacefully at her home in Winslow. She was born Dec. 10, 1951, in Monroe, Wisconsin, the daughter of Frederick and Margaret (Stoller) Hartwig. Cindi married Gary Gerber on June 22, 1988, in Brodhead, Wisconsin. Cindi attended Monroe schools. She worked at the Monroe Pick and Save for over 10 years.

She enjoyed traveling across the United States and seeing historical monuments and going to different casinos; some of her favorites were Diamond Jo, Rhythm City, Wild Rose and Isle Capri. Cindi loved



She also loved playing games on her tablet, the colors of the fall scenery and her cats.

Cindi is survived by her husband, Gary Gerber, of Winslow; three children, Ryan (Lynda) Olson of Waunakee, Wisconsin, Brian Gerber of Beloit, Wisconsin, and Steve (Nikki) Gerber of Rock Grove, Illinois; eight grandchildren, Alan, Kayla, Amber, Jesse,

spending time with her grandchildren, playing Barbies, taking trips to the Cave of the Mounds and going to various zoos.

Chris, Misty, Darin and Lily; father, Frederick Hartwig of Monroe; sisters, Lonnie (Fred) Hefty of San Diego and Peggy (Gene) Boeck of Albany, Wisconsin; and brothers, Rick (Cheryl) Hartwig of Brownstown, Wisconsin, and Richard Hartwig of Monroe.

She was preceded in death by her mother and sister, LuAnn.

A private family service will be held with Roger Bronkema officiating.

Cremation rites will be accorded.

A memorial has been established in her memory.

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

JOSHUA YEAGER-WILLIAMS

Joshua "Josh" Yeager-Williams, age 36, passed away at his home surrounded by his family on Saturday Oct. 9, 2021. He was born July 20, 1985, in Freeport, Illinois, to Tracey Williams and Larry Yeager-Kling.

Josh always liked doing landscaping and working outdoors. He was an avid sports fan and especially liked Emmitt Smith with the Dallas Cowboys, Michael Jordan with the Chicago Bulls, the Yankees and the Florida Gators. He loved camping, fishing, and golfing. He adored his children, Alexis Ann and



Bentley Matthew. Josh was a kind, gentle and loving man who was probably a little misunderstood but loved much.

He is survived by his two children, Alexis and Bentley Williams of Fort Scott, Kansas; stepdaughter, Jasmine Lynch of Fort Scott; mother, Tracey Williams of Lena, Illinois; father, Larry Yeager-Kling of Fort Scott; brothers, Matthew Yeager of Lena and Jerime Kuhlmeier of Lanark; ex-wife, Tabitha

Yeager-Lynch of Fort Scott; grandmother, Elaine Williams of Lena; many aunts, uncles, favorite cousins and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Creighton Williams; grandparents, Donald and Jeanette Yeager; and best friend, Michael Althafer.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday Oct. 30, 2021, at the Cedarville United Methodist Church.

Officiating will be Pastor Gary Rich.

A memorial has been established in his memory.

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

ORPHA A. SCHUBERT

Orpha Annabelle (Pookie) Schubert, age 88, passed away Oct. 8, 2021, at her home in Weaverville, North Carolina. Pookie was born March 3, 1933, in Lena, Illinois, to Grover Cleveland and Orpha Wiley Shippee. She married Roger Stadel (Nip) Schubert on Aug. 9, 1952, at Lena Methodist Church in Lena.

After retirement, Pookie and Nip moved back to North Carolina where they had started their life together in 1952 when Nip was in the Marine Corps after his tour of duty in Korea. They

retired in Western North Carolina, where they enjoyed sightseeing and exploring the mountains and especially spending time with family.

Pookie is survived by one daughter, Jeri Ann (Tom) Beck of Weaverville; two grandchildren, Jonathan Roger (Lori) Monigold and Julie Ann (Jonathan) Foshay; six great-grandchildren, Isak, Hanna, Tate, Broder, Kaleb and Kenzie Annabelle; and one sister, Elsie Lobdell of Lena.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Nip; son, Jeffery Roger Schubert; daughter, Cynthia Sue (Cindy) Schubert; two

brothers, Robert Shippee and infant Leon Shippee; five sisters, Ruth Ingram, Sarah Phillips, Geraldine Prince, Virginia Haas and Lois Paulsen; six brothers-in-law, Alex Chiaravalle, Dale Phillips, Bill Prince, Louie Paulsen, Albert Ingram and Don Lobdell; and one sister-in-law, Pat Shippee.

A private family graveside service will be held at Salem Shippee Cemetery in McConnell, Illinois.

A memorial has been established. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leanonfh.com.

Brown-Edler engagement



PHOTO BY DNBFILMS The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Taylor Brown and Josef Edler are planning a June 25 wedding at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Elizabeth. The couple got engaged Oct. 4, 2020. Taylor is the daughter of David and Dena Brown of Elizabeth and Josef is the son of Brad Edler and Christine Bilgri of Lena. Taylor is a veterinary nurse at Veterinary Associates and also at the Safe Haven Humane Society. Josef is the middle school science teacher at East Dubuque Middle School as well as the head football coach and co-head high school girls softball coach for East Dubuque.

Help your child prepare to lose 'baby' teeth

Children generally shed their first primary or "baby" teeth at around 5 to 6 years old, but this may occur as early as age 4. The first baby teeth to fall out are the two bottom and then the two top front teeth (central incisors).

At the same these first primary teeth are being shed, your child's first permanent teeth are beginning to erupt in the back of their mouth. This is important news to share with your child, so they know to brush back there. Your child may require some assistance with this, as that first set of molars can be difficult to reach.

The process of shedding their primary teeth continues until between 10 and 12 years of age. However their last set of



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

molars, which are often referred to as their "wisdom teeth" will not erupt until around 18 years of age.

While we may not remember what it was like to be that young, your child will notice when their first tooth becomes loose, but they will not know why this is happening unless you have told them. Before your child experiences their first loose tooth, they should already know that this is going

to happen, and it is a perfectly normal part of growing up.

Children take their cues from their parents. A simple explanation that their baby teeth will fall out to make room for their permanent teeth can do a great deal in avoiding unnecessary fears. Present it as an exciting sign that they are growing up.

Make sure that your child understands that while their baby teeth will fall out, it is important to keep them clean and healthy so they can do all their important jobs. Primary teeth allow your child to eat healthy

See **TEETH**, Page 11

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St. John's Beef & Noodle Dinner lena, IL

Tuesday, November 2

CURBSIDE PICKUP ONLY!! Between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 volunteers will be delivering meals to your car to limit personal contact.

Menu: Beef & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Applesauce, Roll & Butter, Brownie, Milk - TICKET COST \$10.00

Tickets MUST be purchased by October 24. Limit of 600 tickets available. NO tickets sold day of dinner.

Tickets can be purchased at:

- St. John Lutheran Church office (625 Country Lane Dr., Lena, IL)
- My Friend's Closet (511 West Lena St., Lena, IL)
- The Lena Mercantile (101 West Railroad St., Lena, IL)

Sorry, no Bazaar and no flu shots this year.

In brief

Freeport tabs former Lena resident for communications post

Kevyn Sutter, a former Lena resident, recently joined the city of Freeport as the director of communications.

Sutter attended Highland Community College, where she pursued an associate degree in mass communication. After completing her bachelor's degree in mass media at Illinois State University and Paderborn University in Germany, Sutter returned home to Stephenson County.

Her previous job experience includes social media management, corporate communication and creating video and blog content on renewable energy policy in Illinois.

Sutter also serves as assistant

coach for speech and debate at Highland Community College.

Lena church invites all to programs, worship

Everyone is welcome to join several programs coming up at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lena:

- Bible study group at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26
- Piece Corps Quilting group meeting from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27
- Never Too Young movie and discussion night at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 31

Worship is at 9:30 a.m. Sundays in the sanctuary or via Facebook Live.

Go online to goodshepherdlena.org or [facebook.com/GSLCLenaIL](https://www.facebook.com/GSLCLenaIL) or call 815-369-5552 for more information.

Fall festival set for Oct. 24 in McConnell

The churches of McConnell and Orangeville are holding a Family Fall Festival on Sunday, Oct. 24, at Grace Free Methodist Church in downtown McConnell.

The free fun starts at 5 p.m. and includes hayrides, trunk or treat, a costume contest, pumpkin decorating and food including hot dogs, burgers, chili and s'mores.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Church notes annual meeting, potluck

Jordan Cernak will offer the sermon at the 9 a.m. worship service on Sunday, Oct. 24, at

See BRIEF, Page 7



PHOTO SUBMITTED Shopper's Guide

FFA accepts memorial donation

Earlier this year the family of the late Ronald Bonnet chose to make a donation of \$5,000 to the Lena-Winslow FFA in his name. Due to the pandemic, a group photo noting the donation was put off until recently. Some of the Lena-Winslow FFA officers are pictured here with members of the Bonnet family. In the back row from left are Avery Baldauf, Nate Noller, Conor Dezell, Kathy Watson-Janssen, David Bonnet, Dan Bonnet and Ed Bonnet. In the front row from left are Morgan Gerber, Isabella Forbes and Nancy Bailey.

Shortages

(Continued from front page)

per room, the report notes, a fact that became tragically evident during the COVID-19 pandemic when Black and brown Medicaid patients in nursing homes were 40 percent more likely to die of the disease than white patients.

The report by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services calls for a dramatic overhaul in the way the state Medicaid program reimburses nursing homes to reward those that improve their staffing levels and quality of care.

"This is not a report that can sit on a shelf and collect dust," Kelly Cunningham, DHFS's deputy director for long-term care, told a legislative panel last week. "The need to take action is now. The issues we're dealing with are urgent. Continuation of the status quo is not acceptable. And we must hold long-term care providers across Illinois to

a higher standard."

The agency is proposing a \$345 million increase in nursing home reimbursement rates, with increases tied to a facility's staffing and other quality and safety improvements. That money would come from a combination of streamlining billing procedures and an increase in a tax the state levies on each nursing facility occupied bed in the state, a pool of money that also draws additional federal Medicaid reimbursements.

That would translate to an average payment rate increase of about 13 percent, although the amount for any given facility would vary. Funding increases would be based on a formula that also takes a facility's profit margin into account so that profitable nursing homes that do not adequately staff their facilities would not see their reimbursements increase on par with those

that do.

The report notes that Illinois spends billions of dollars each year on nursing facility care for roughly 45,000 Medicaid patients, but the state consistently ranks last in the nation for staffing, as measured by the national Staff Time and Resource Intensity Verification, or STRIVE Project. In fact, Illinois accounts for 47 of the 100 most understaffed facilities in the nation when comparing actual staffing levels against their STRIVE target levels.

Andy Allison, DHFS's deputy director for strategic planning and analytics, said those shortages had tragic consequences during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Imagine ourselves in the year or two prior to COVID, and if we had known it was coming, whether we would have considered resident safety, room crowding and staffing to have been urgent issues," he said. "We lost — this is hard for me — thousands in our nursing

homes. I don't think there's anyone in the country who would not at that point have said, this is urgent. And I think the point is nothing has changed, except that now we know just how bad it can be."

Allison also said increased funding alone will not solve the staffing shortage in nursing homes. He said the industry itself also needs to make fundamental changes to address its workforce challenges.

"We are in an urgent race to strengthen that labor market — not to capture them, but to entice them to stay in the serving profession that they've chosen," he said. "And one of the ways to do that is to make it more of a profession, to give it a pay scale, to allow for promotion, to provide a payoff to staying with it, which is actually one of the principal policy objectives that HFS, the department, has had for years, which is consistency of the relationship between a staff and the residents that they serve."

The recommendations came as welcome news for some in the nursing home industry.

Angela Schnepf, executive vice president of LeadingAge Illinois, an association of non-profit aging service providers, said the policy changes DHFS recommend are long overdue and should have been part of the plan when Illinois first adopted its nursing home assessment in 2011.

"As many of you know, 10 years ago, the General Assembly by a thin margin passed the bed tax for a \$105 million increase to support the staffing ratios passed in the spring of 2010," she said. "The rate increase funded the status quo with an assumption that understaffed nursing homes would apply the money to increase their number of staff. One would have thought this made sense. However, the data shows that did not happen."

Schnepf went on to say that a survey of nursing homes just before the pandemic showed that the 120 facilities with the low-

est staffing levels had actually reduced their staffing hours per resident day by 5.8 percent since 2010, the year before the assessment went into effect, while the statewide average for all nursing homes in the state increased 4.5 percent.

"As you may or may not know, LeadingAge Illinois opposed the bed tax in 2011 because we anticipated the tax would shift money from well-staffed nursing homes to the pockets of owners of understaffed nursing homes because of the zero requirement of accountability to apply the new money to increasing their staff," she said. "As a result, over 40 percent of Illinois nursing homes were losers or lost money, and over 60 percent of our LeadingAge Illinois members were losers. That means good providers bore the tax burden to fund the failed attempt to increase staffing in understaffed nursing homes, all to no avail."

But Matt Pickering, executive director of the Health Care Council of Illinois, which represents for-profit nursing homes, criticized the plan for reinforcing what he called a "punitive relationship" and called for an across-the-board rate increase, especially for those with high percentages of low-income residents.

"These facilities face the most challenges to providing care due to the state paying among the lowest Medicaid reimbursement rates in the country," he said.

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Golf outing pays off for Le-Win students

Members of the Panther Open Committee presented a check for \$16,900 at halftime of a recent Le-Win football game. Thanks to sponsors, volunteers and participants at the Panther Open golf outing, the money will be split to benefit the Le-Win Athletic and Music Boosters. Pictured from the left are Christin Keeffer, Panther Open chair; Jody Schumacher, Music Boosters president; Michelle Weegens, Athletic Boosters president; and Cole Wickersham, Panther Open organizer. Boosters/Panther Open organizers Jennifer Sheppard and Tabitha Engel are not pictured.



PHOTO SUBMITTED Shopper's Guide

Auxiliary girls make patriotism presentation

Junior members of the Lena American Legion Auxiliary recently presented a flag certificate to Quinn Construction of Lena for flying the flag on a daily basis. Seen here from left are Keighlyn Schulz, Rebecca Stiner of Quinn Construction and Kinzley Schulz.

• Brief (Continued from page 6)

Salem United Church of Christ in Lena. The congregational annual meeting will be held immediately following the service, with a potluck dinner in the fellowship hall after the meeting.

The church is located at 8491 W. Salem Road, Lena. The church's Breakfast Bunch will gather at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, at Stella's restaurant in Stockton.

College singers present musical afternoon

The Highland Chorale, Chamber Singers, Highland Youth Choir and Royal Scots will present "From Stage to Screen," an afternoon of Broadway and movie music, at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 24, at the bandshell in Krape Park, 1799 S. Park Blvd., Freeport.

Music of many styles will be presented from musicals such as "Rent" (1996), "Jersey Boys" (2005) and "Shrek"

(2008), and classic films such as "Lean On Me" (1989), "The Sandpiper" (1965), "Lullaby of Broadway" (1951) and "The Wizard of Oz" (1939), plus selections from animated shows.

The concert is free and open to the public.

Disability help group receives grant

RAMP, a group that works to help people with disabilities reach their full potential, recently received a grant

of \$3,640 from the Freeport Community Foundation.

The donation will help fund an electronic door opener for even greater accessibility for RAMP consumers and visitors to access RAMP's building,

2155 W. Galena Ave., Freeport. The grant also will help fund some repairs and maintenance needed in the RAMP building.

RAMP also received a \$1,000 grant from Farmers In-

surance for its youth education advocacy services.

For more information, go online to rampcil.org or contact Renea Noordhoff at 779-774-1013 or moordhoff@rampcil.org.



Getting a lesson in fire safety

Above: Members of the Pearl City Fire Department volunteered their time Oct. 15 to teach students about fire safety and proper procedures during an emergency. Students from JoDeen Bunker's kindergarten class gather for a photo with firefighters and their truck.

Right: Pearl City firefighter Rob Knoup helps Hudson Sheffey through a window during a fire safety day demonstration in JoDeen Bunker's kindergarten class.

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

licious vegetable, some main dishes that are easy to make and some good desserts.
Happy cooking!

Bacon-Ranch Pasta Salad

If you are a ranch dressing fan, you will like this pasta salad. The recipe calls for using dry ranch salad dressing mix. You can buy it in an envelope to make ranch dressing for a dinner salad; however, they do make it in a ranch dressing jar of dry dressing. If you wanted to experiment, you could make it with the prepared dressing. It is a really pretty salad with the tricolor pasta.

1 pkg. (12 oz.) tri-color rotini pasta

- 10 slices bacon
- 1 C. mayonnaise
- 1 pkg. (1 oz.) dry ranch salad dressing mix (3 T.)
- 2 T. cider vinegar
- ½ t. garlic pepper
- ½ C. milk
- 1 large tomato, chopped (1 ½ C.)
- 1 C. shredded sharp cheddar cheese

1 can (3.8 ox.) can sliced black olives, drained

Chopped fresh parsley

Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain, rinse under cold water and drain again. Cook bacon in a skillet over medium-high heat, turning once, until crisp. Drain on paper towels, then pat away excess grease and chop.

Stir together mayo, ranch dressing mix, vinegar, garlic pepper and garlic powder in a very large bowl. Stir in ½ C. milk until smooth. Add cooked pasta, bacon, tomato, cheese and olives to the bowl; toss to coat. Chill, covered, at least one hour. If salad seems dry after chilling, toss with additional milk as needed. Top with parsley just before serving.

Cauliflower au Gratin

This veggie dish is a great way to introduce cauliflower to people who don't think they like it. There is plenty of cheese in the sauce and then to top it off, there is the crunch of but-

tered bread crumbs that makes the cauliflower extra good.

- 1 large head cauliflower, cut into florets
- 2 T. olive oil
- 1 t. salt, divided
- 1 t. pepper, divided
- 4 T. butter, cubed
- 3 T. flour
- 2 C. milk
- 1 C. shredded Swiss cheese
- ½ C. grated Parmesan cheese
- ½ t. onion powder
- ½ t. ground mustard
- ½ t. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/8 t. cayenne pepper
- 4 T. butter, melted
- ½ C. bread crumbs

Preheat the oven to 375. Place the cauliflower on a rimmed baking sheet. Drizzle with oil; sprinkle with ½ t. salt and ½ t. pepper. Toss to coat. Bake for eight minutes. Stir; bake until crisp-tender and lightly browned, seven to eight minutes longer.

In a saucepan, melt the butter over medium heat. Stir in the flour until smooth; gradually whisk in the milk. Bring to a simmer, stirring constantly; cook until thickened, two to three minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in the cheeses, onion powder, ground mustard, Worcestershire sauce and cayenne pepper and the remaining salt and pepper. Pour ¾ C. cheese sauce into a greased 2-quart baking dish. Top with cauliflower and remaining cheese sauce. Bake, uncovered, until bubbly and lightly browned, 30 to 35 minutes. Mix the melted butter and bread crumbs together. Sprinkle on the casserole and bake for an extra 5 minutes or until bread crumbs are toasted.

Garlic Chicken with Honey and Rosemary

If you like chicken thighs and want them fixed in a different recipe, this next recipe is an easy one to make. It is made on top of the stove and uses rosemary as the herb. The combination of rosemary and chicken is really good.

- 3 T. butter
- 2 t. garlic powder
- 2 t. chopped fresh rosemary
- ½ t. salt

½ t. pepper
6 boneless, skinless chicken thighs
2 T. honey
2 T. lemon juice
Melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add garlic powder, rosemary, salt and pepper; cook until fragrant, about one minute. Add chicken to skillet and turn to coat. Cook until browned on one side, about five minutes. Reduce heat to low and turn over chicken. Cover and cook 15 minutes or until thermometer inserted into the thickest parts registers 170. Remove chicken from skillet and skim off fat from pan juices. Return chicken to skillet.

In a small bowl, stir together honey and lemon juice. Drizzle over chicken. Continue cooking until heated through, three to five minutes. Garnish with chopped parsley; serve over cooked rice.

Spaghetti Pie

If you are looking for a quick week-night meal, this pasta pie is great. You can get it ready and finished in the oven in just over an hour. There are egg whites in two places; one is for the crust and one is for the filling. I wouldn't use angel hair pasta because you need a pretty substantial pasta for the crust.

- 4 oz. uncooked spaghetti
- 2 egg whites, lightly beaten
- 1/3 C. grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 T. olive oil
- 2 egg whites, lightly beaten
- 1 container (12 oz.) or 1 ½ C. cottage cheese, drained
- 8 oz. uncooked lean ground beef
- 1 C. sliced fresh mushrooms
- ½ C. chopped onion
- ½ C. chopped green or red pepper
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 can (8 oz.) tomato sauce
- 1 ½ t. dried Italian seasoning, crushed
- 1/8 t. salt
- ½ C. shredded mozzarella cheese

Preheat the oven to 350. Coat a 9-inch pie plate with nonstick

See KITCHEN, Page 12

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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.

Volleyball

• Oct. 12, Dakota defeated Le-Win, 25-13 and 25-21.

Kalli Humphrey and Molly Amendt each had five kills for Le-Win. Amendt also had five digs on the night.

• Oct. 12, Galena defeated Warren, 25-15 and 25-17.

Claire Riedl had five kills, eight blocks and four digs for the Lady Warriors. Addy Bohnsack had five digs for Warren.

• Oct. 14, Stockton defeated Warren, 25-20 and 25-19.

Claire Riedl had eight digs, six blocks and three kills for Warren. Addy Bohnsack racked up eight digs and two kills.

• Oct. 14, Le-Win defeated Orangeville, 25-10 and 25-16.

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

Football

• Oct. 15, Orangeville defeated Amboy, 55-6

• Oct. 15, Le-Win defeated Stockton, 48-6

Springfield transportation hub to relieve rail congestion

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

A railway improvement project intended to greatly improve traffic congestion between St. Louis and Chicago reached a milestone Oct. 12 as work began on a multimodal transportation hub in the capital city.

Gov. JB Pritzker was joined at a groundbreaking ceremony by U.S. Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, along with several state lawmakers and local government officials, both Republicans and Democrats, to break ground on the Springfield Sangamon County Transportation Center, or what local officials have come to call "The Hub."

"When this multimodal facility is completed, public mass transit will make the communities of Chatham and Sherman, Springfield, Rochester and Riverton as well as adjacent communities, more accessible to each other, and to St. Louis and Chicago and beyond," Pritzker said during the ceremony.

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:
Faithe R. Reed,
Deceased.

No. 21-P-58

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of Faithe R. Reed, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on May 12, 2021, to:

Benjamin F. Malsch,
MSSC

Vice President - Trust
Officer of Midland
Trust Company
as independent Administrator of the Estate of
Faithe R. Reed, 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 April 29, 2022, and any claim not filed on or before said date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date: October 13, 2021.

Benjamin F. Malsch,
MSSC

Vice President-Trust
Officer of Midland Trust
Company, Administrator

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

/s/Anthony V. Coon
Anthony V. Coon,
#6269568
Attorney at Law
10 N. Galena, Ave.,
Ste. 210
Freeport, IL 61032

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tonycoonlaw@aol.com
(Published in
The Shopper's Guide
Oct. 20, 27 & Nov. 3, 2021)
406111

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND INTENTION TO ADOPT TAX LEVIES

A Tax Levy Ordinance of the Stockton Fire Protection and Ambulance District, Jo Daviess County, IL, for its FY 2021/2022, has been prepared and is available for viewing in the lobbies of Citizens State Bank and Illinois Bank & Trust Co., as well as at the District Fire Station, all in Stockton, IL, or by contacting the District's attorney, Ronald Paja, at pajalaw@mchsi.com, and requesting a copy.

It is the intention of the District to adopt tax levies for its corporate and ambulance funds for FY 2021/2022 that do not exceed the amount(s) extended for the previous year by more than 105%.

It is the intention of the District to adopt a tax levy for its audit fund for FY 2021/2022 in the amount of \$4,250.00 that exceeds the amount extended for FY 2020/2021 of \$3,130.37 by 135.78%.

It is the intention of the District to adopt a tax levy for its tort immunity and liability insurance fund for FY 2021/2022 in the amount of \$40,500.00 that exceeds the amount extended for FY 2020/2021 of \$29,666.22 by 136.52%.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a public hearing on said proposed Tax Levy Ordinance for the District for its FY 2021/2022 will be held in the District Fire Station at 127 E. Front Ave., Stockton, IL at 7:00 PM on Monday, November 22, 2021, at which time and place all persons interested in said matter may appear and be heard.

DATED: October 13, 2021.

RONALD PAJA
Attorney for the Board of
Trustees of the Stockton
Fire Protection
and Ambulance Dist.
(Published in
The Scoop Today
Oct. 20, 2021)

405901

Annual Treasurer's Report Village of Stockton

Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2020 and Ending April, 30, 2021

Revenues:		Company, Inc.	
Corporate Replacement Taxes	\$19,274	Mahoney Publishing	5,154
Sales Taxes	597,349	Martelle Water Treatment	3,024
State Income Tax	226,013	McGovern, Terry	8,027
Motor Fuel Taxes	128,025	MediaCom	16,682
Property Taxes	488,748	Mullen Tree Care	3,072
Licenses and Permits	31,038	Municipal Well & Pump	15,050
Fines and Forfeitures	9,412	Northern Illinois	5,779
Reimbursements from		Environmental Applications	29,897
State of Illinois	5,443	Mensendike, James & Molly	5,105
Cable Franchise Fees	15,862	Metropolitan Industries, Inc.	5,446
Telecommunications Fee	23,326	MSA Professional Services, Inc.	109,994
Video gaming	46,729	Paja Law Office	8,655
Water, Sewer and Garbage		PDC Laboratories, Inc.	2,986
Receipts	1,210,286	Quill Corporation	3,827
Interest Earnings	20,717	Roeder Outdoor Power	3,000
Rent	7,000	Servicemaster DSI	39,841
Miscellaneous	226,338	Sloan Implement	13,930
Total Revenues:	\$3,055,560	Steiner Electric Company	2,824
Vendors over \$2,500:		Stephenson Service Company	2,626
A.C. Paving Striping Co. Inc.	\$59,108	Stockton Ace Hardware	14,881
American Legal Publishing Corp	2,866	Stockton Chamber of Commerce	3,145
Barkau Automotive	31,588	Stockton School District #206	13,250
Blue Cross Blue Shield	73,947	Stockton Service Center	9,228
Bonnell Industries Inc.	3,651	Stockton Township Road District	3,250
Brewster Cheese Company	26,773	The Bauer Group	46,724
Cargill, Inc.	29,043	Townsend Concrete	4,390
Casey's General Stores, Inc.	2,922	Tri-State Computers, LLC	27,129
CCECO Generation	13,468	Uniform Den East, Inc.	3,702
CEPS	37,399	United Health Care Insurance	6,657
Citizens State Bank	11,472	United States Treasury	202,530
Civil Constructors, Inc.	84,281	University of Illinois	5,351
Civil Materials	17,666	US Bank	263,075
Com Ed	28,969	US Cellular	2,570
Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.	61,603	USA Blue Book	8,928
Core & Main LP	6,616	Utility Service Co., Inc.	30,217
Crystal Image Cleaning, Inc.	5,285	Viking Chemical Company	9,289
Direct Energy Business	30,596	Village of Stockton-ECF	
Erickson Paving, Inc.	3,330	COVID Grant	10,000
Evergreen Landscaping	5,000	Village of Stockton Petty Cash	3,058
Frontier	10,380	VISA - 1533	2,583
Gills Freeport Disposal	176,790	VISA - 5434	2,620
Guy's Truck & Tractor		Wards Grove Township	
Service, Inc.	6,151	Road District	2,594
Heidenreich, Thomas	43,668	WatchGuard Video	21,737
Herrell Electric Service	6,554	WEX Bank	20,446
Hesse Martone, PC	7,563	Willet Hoffman & Associates	9,345
Illinois Department of Revenue	36,407	William Charles Electric LLC	---
Illinois Environmental		Wipfli LLP	9,750
Protection Agency	99,510	All other under \$2,500	101,950
Illinois Municipal Retirement		Grand Total	\$2,366,353
Fund	157,810	Salaries:	
Illinois Public Risk Fund	21,148	Salaries under \$25,000: Bourland;	
Illinois State Disbursement Fund	42,566	Brandt; Deneen; Eisfeller; Gonnerman;	
Jo Daviess County Collector	2,544	Hatfield; Heidenreich; Julius; Kunz;	
Johnston IT Consulting	11,574	Lickes; Lingle; Logemann; Perry; Tempe;	
Jones & Curtiss Farms	31,958	Venderheyden, J; Wachter.	
Kathleen Field Orr & Associates	8,756	Salaries from \$25,000 to \$49,999: Altfil-	
Kleckner Snow Plowing	2,830	lisch; Eden; Haas; Olson; Marvin; West;	
L.W. Allen, LLC	34,413	Young.	
Lexipol LLC	3,865	Salaries above \$50,000: Cass; Rice;	
Lyons Lab	2,965	Schock; Schubert; Sigafus; Stewart; Sul-	
Lyons Well Drilling		livan; Townsend; Venderheyden, C.	

Village of Stockton

Summary Statement of Condition

Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2020 and Ending April 30, 2021

	General	Special Revenue	Enterprise
Beginning:			
Fund Balance, as restated	\$597,523	\$52,206	\$6,955,996
Revenues Received	1,195,189	518,739	1,341,632
Expenditures Disbursed	(1,055,057)	(473,061)	(812,500)
Depreciation	--	--	(464,055)
Other Financing:			
Sources	6,158	56,708	563,348
Uses	(60,852)	(9,700)	(555,662)
Ending	\$682,961	\$144,892	\$7,028,759

Subscribed and sworn to this 12th day of October, 2021.

/s/Rena Eden
Rena Eden, Treasurer

I, Stefanie Hatley, Village Clerk of the Village of Stockton, Jo Daviess County, Illinois do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2021.

/s/Stefanie Hatley
Stefanie Hatley, Village Clerk

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The Pearl City School District is looking for a Cook for its Nutrition and Dining Services. A high school diploma is required, 1-3 years of cooking experience preferred, must have or be willing to obtain Food Service Sanitation Certification, must possess good interpersonal and oral communication skills. Position is a nine month (180 days) full time position with salary and hours to be established by the Board of Education.

Please send letter of interest, resume, and three (3) references to Dr. Mike Schiffman, Superintendent, Pearl City School District
100 S. Summit St., Pearl City, IL 61062,
or email to mschiffman@pcwolves.net, by
October 21, 2021.

406072

To place an ad in our Help Wanted Section
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Teeth

(Continued from page 5)

foods, speak clearly and give them a beautiful smile. They are also holding the space while their permanent teeth are forming.

Make regular dental visits and daily oral care positive and fun. Model proper dental care for your children.

Children (and sometimes parents) can be impatient when a tooth first becomes loose. Just because a tooth is loose doesn't mean you should pull it. Primary teeth become loose because

the root of the tooth begins to resorb. This resorption takes time. Pulling out a tooth prematurely causes pain and bleeding because the roots are not fully dissolved, so nerves and blood vessels still remain.

Pulling a tooth too soon can leave a broken root and/or cause an infection. If the tooth is very loose, you should place a piece of gauze over the tooth and gently squeeze it. If the tooth is ready to come out, it will fall away without any trou-

ble and minimal bleeding.

If a baby tooth is injured or lost through an accident, it is important to have your child evaluated by a dentist. When possible, primary teeth should be retained to hold the place until the permanent teeth can fully develop. If the tooth cannot be saved, it may be necessary to place a spacer, so teeth do not drift out of place.

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

Hub

(Continued from page 9)

Sangamon County Board Chairman Andy Van Meter said the \$86 million Hub is just one part of a massive, \$122 million project to upgrade the entire six-mile stretch of line that passes through the city that includes rerouting the line away from the city's downtown.

For decades, the major rail line carrying both passenger and freight trains from St. Louis to Chicago has passed directly through the center of Springfield's downtown.

As part of the state's \$45 billion capital improvements program passed in 2019, that traffic will be diverted several blocks to the east. That is just one part of a major upgrade to rail service along the entire St. Louis-to-Chicago line that is intended to improve the flow of traffic and ease rail congestion

along the route.

Duckworth described it as a project that will have economic benefits for the entire state and the nation.

"In fact, you know, parts of the southeastern United States have been purchasing grains like soybeans from places like Brazil, because we can't get our goods and products to market fast enough from Illinois, compared to how fast they can send it from Brazil to the southeastern part of the United States," she said. "That's why I wanted to focus on infrastructure and transportation when I went to the United States Senate."

Durbin noted that the site of the new Hub, along what's known as the 10th Street Corridor in Springfield, is near the historic Great Western depot where Abraham Lincoln gave

his famous "Farewell Address" speech before boarding a train to Washington for his inauguration.

"So there's a long connection in history between the place where we stand and the political past of America, and particularly with President Lincoln," Durbin said. "But it's more than that. These trains and railroads are an integral part of our economy."

According to the project's website, officials expect to complete design of the Hub by the end of this year. That will include determining what amenities and services will be located in and near the center. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2025.

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•Kitchen (Continued from page 8)

cooking spray; set aside. For crust: Cook spaghetti according to package directions. In a medium bowl, stir together two egg whites, Parmesan cheese and olive oil. Drain spaghetti well; add to egg white mixture and toss to coat. Press spaghetti mixture evenly into the bottom and up the side of the pie plate; set aside.

In a small bowl, stir together two egg whites and drained cottage cheese. Spread the cottage cheese mixture over the crust in the pie plate. Set aside plate once again. In a large skillet, cook beef, mushrooms, onion, pepper and garlic until meat is browned. Drain off fat. Stir in tomato sauce, Italian seasoning,

and salt into meat mixture in skillet. Spoon over cottage cheese mixture in pie plate. Bake about 20 minutes or until heated through. Sprinkle with mozzarella cheese. Bake five minutes more or until the cheese is melted. Let stand for 15 minutes before serving. Cut into wedges to serve.

Cranberry Carrot Cake

If you want to jazz up a traditional carrot cake, this recipe has plenty of goodies to help make the traditional into something special. When you read the recipe, you will notice it takes 1 tablespoon of baking powder and 1 cup of mayonnaise. These two are not traditional ingredients,

but it will make for a light and moist cake. It is topped off with cream cheese frosting, so it has to be good.

- Cake**
 2 C. flour
 1 T. baking powder
 2 t. baking soda
 2 t. cinnamon
 ½ t. ground ginger
 Pinch of salt
 1½ C. sugar
 1 C. mayonnaise
 3 eggs
 2 t. vanilla
 2 C. finely shredded carrots
 1 can (8 oz.) crushed pineapple, with juice
 ¾ C. dried cranberries or raisins
 ½ C. chopped toasted pecans
 Caramel topping, which

has been warmed in microwave to consistency to pour

- Frosting**
 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
 ½ C. butter, softened
 2 t. vanilla
 5½ to 6 C. powdered sugar
Cake: Preheat oven to 350. Grease three 8-inch round cake pans. Line the bottoms of pans with wax paper or parchment paper. Grease and flour paper. Whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger and salt in a bowl. In a mixing bowl, cream together sugar, mayonnaise, eggs and vanilla occasionally. Stir in flour mixture and then fold in car-

rots, pineapple and cranberries. Divide evenly between prepared cake pans.

Bake until a toothpick inserted into centers comes out clean, 30 to 35 minutes. Let cool in pans on wire racks for 10 minutes; remove from pans and let cool completely. Place on a cake plate (a footed one makes the cake really pretty).

Frosting: Beat together cream cheese, butter and vanilla in a large bowl with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in powdered sugar to reach spreading consistency. Spread frosting on cake. Sprinkle with toasted pecans and drizzle with caramel ice cream topping.

Make sure the apples are totally submerged, then cover the bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate for four hours.

To serve, melt butter on a griddle or frying pan over medium heat and toast the pound cake about three minutes per side. Serve a piece of cake with some vanilla ice cream. Add a big helping of apples and syrup over the top of the cake and ice cream. (If you want a lighter version, serve the apples in a small dish with a squirt of whipping cream on top).

Final thoughts

Both football and volleyball seasons are winding down their regular seasons. It seems as if fall just started.

Everyone who has apple and pear trees is having bumper crops. I still am getting tomatoes from friends, and the tomatoes are lasting longer than usual.

I had a suggestion from a reader that I remind you if you are baking with apples, you should splash some lemon juice on them. The lemon juice will keep the apples from turning brown. The fall flowers are really enjoying our weather too.

I know I will have to get the lawn ornaments, lawn furniture and solar lights put away. Word of warning: The yellow jackets are plentiful and mean. Be careful when you put things away because they tend to lurk everywhere.

I made my first pot of soup this week, so I guess that means I am getting ready for cooler weather. We continue to look for fall vegetable and meat dishes along with apple and cranberry goodies.

If you have some recipes with apples or pumpkins, some seasonal 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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