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# Shopper's Guide

VOL. 88 • NO. 7

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9, 2022



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## Celebrating Valentine's Day

Kids have fun at the after-school program and story hour at the Lena Library. They made Valentine's Day necklaces and heart shaped wreaths to celebrate the upcoming holiday. See more photos inside.

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## Cost of winter shared expense in Lena

By Christopher Johnson  
REPORTER

Preparing for the winter season and all the issues it brings when it comes to safe citizen transfer is something that has been well thought out by officials with the Lena Village Board. Months before need, plans were already in the works for managing the challenges that snow, ice, drifting and frozen pipes bring. Organized attacks on the issue began at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of every month. That's when spending was approved.

Issues such as manpower, vehicle capability, fuel consumption and the need for salt spreading are all line items that need to be covered. Money is required. Dollars are allocated.

Each Department is responsible for spending the tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually to assure all the pieces are in place, before the need is even realized. Then they must inform the Board and get majority approval to eventually pay the bill. At times a majority vote of the citizen-elected council make decisions that involve sharing the expense of need, when possible. Intergovernmental agreements are drawn up and the concept of shared spending is brought to the attention of the citizen-supported council.

In every year those styles of agreements often include fuel and salt usage. All gov-

ernmental agencies will need to be able to fuel municipal vehicles and drive on village through ways. At each taxpayer-supported entity the requirement exists that each body present a plan for spending resident tax dollars. Because of the shared need for fuel and salt, buying in bulk to benefit multiple agencies has been a successful trend in communities across northern Illinois. The Lena-Winslow School Board of Education, Township office and Villages of Lena and Winslow often work together to share the cost of such expenses.

When an issue rises, where the winter weather causes even greater expense, the decisions made to assure a surplus was in place pay off on the ledger. If the Village of Lena needs additional supplies because of increased/emergency need, the cost to be paid will be substantially higher as a solo venture for items such as fuel and salt. At this point winter readiness has allowed Village Officials to shift their focus to the newest, most immediate need that the spring thaw brings.

Snow, ice, rain, and potential flooding are always a concern for Village Officials. Plans are put in place annually to coordinate efforts, when needed, with Township, Stephenson County, State of Illinois and Federal assistance available.

See EXPENSE, Page 8

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# Obituary

## VERA M. PETERSON

Vera Marie Peterson was welcomed into the arms of Jesus on Thursday, Feb. 3, 2022. She was born Aug. 23, 1916, to Carl and Marie (Hart) Toepfer at Massbach in JoDaviess, Co. She attended country school near Pleasant Valley. She worked as a caretaker for Johnnie's mother and later she worked for a family in Freeport at which time she and John started dating. Vera married John Peterson on Sept. 28, 1939 in Des Moines, IA. Vera was a farm wife and homemaker while raising her seven children.

She worked as an aide at Ortez Nursing Home in Lena and later worked at the Villas of Shannon Nursing Home for 22 years as a nurse's aide. After retiring, she volunteered at Villas of Shannon and helped care for people in their Shannon homes.

In 1986, Vera and John moved to Shannon, remaining there for almost 27 years. They then enjoyed independent living in Freeport Liberty Village before moving to Winn Prairie in 2017 where both Vera and John formed more friendships and received care from thoughtful staff. Vera's widely known hobby was quilting. She made quilts for all her family and for a host of people from the area.

Vera was active in the Shannon Woman's Club, served in various capacities at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, such as Ladies Guild, church board, and as a Sunday School teacher. She had been a member of that church since 1940. Vera and John enjoyed traveling with family and later going on bus tours with friends.

Funeral service was at Ebenezer United Church of Christ on Monday, Feb. 7, 2022, at 10 a.m. by Pastor Jim Brown. Visitation for family and friends was at Hermann Funeral Home in Pearl City on Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Memorials in Vera's name can be made to FHN Hospice. Condolences may be shared at [www.hermannfuneralhome.com](http://www.hermannfuneralhome.com).



Jeopardy or Wheel of Fortune.

Vera's wit and humor was evident until the very end of her 105 years in this ever-changing world. She continued to challenge her mind in many ways and kept connected with her family even when a pandemic kept visits to virtual chats on the Facebook Portal.

Next to family, Vera's church was the most important thing to her. Her main focus that she voiced recently was that she hoped that all generations of her family would know Christ as their Savior. She always had her morning devotions, attended Bible Study, and attended services as long as she was able. Later, she listened to TV ministries and attended virtual church services. Mom was a Christian example for family and friends.

Vera is survived by her children, Randall (Joyce), Richard (Janet), Ryan (Debbie), Reggie (Linda), Rodney (Nancy), Rita (Randy) Brinkmeier, and Ramona Cruse. Also surviving are 18 grandchildren, 36 great grandchildren, and 7 great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband John of 76 years who died in 2018; a brother Virgil Toepfer; sisters Rosella Quillen, and Marie Brenner; and son-in-law Jerry Cruse.

The Rebuild Illinois Transit grant will allow Pretzel City Area Transit to purchase



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## Spelling bee champions

Congratulations to the 2022 spelling Bee Champions who will be competing in this year's regional Spelling Bee. Mayci Mullen took first place, Lizzy Hartzell, second and Kinley Jones, third.

## Pretzel City Area Transit awarded Illinois Department of Transportation funding

Pretzel City Area Transit has been awarded \$65,000 in grant funds for security video camera upgrades through the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) Rebuild Illinois capital program. The IDOT Rebuild Illinois capital program is dispersing a total of \$111.4 million to 37 Illinois transit systems and over 50 projects, including Pretzel City Area Transit.

The Rebuild Illinois Transit grant will allow Pretzel City Area Transit to purchase

and install 17 video cameras fitted with SIM cards, data plans, live tracking and streaming, and data storage in its transportation fleet. Pretzel City Transit riders and drivers will benefit from improved surveillance, as it improves transit safety and liability.

Pretzel City Area Transit is a demand response public transportation system, which serves a population of over 30,000 throughout Freeport and Stephenson County.

## College news

### Local students make fall 2021 dean's list; awarded degrees

#### Augustana University (dean's list)

Madalyn Reifsteck

#### Aurora University (dean's list)

Devyn Bilich

Lazime Limani

#### Edgewood College (honors)

Austin Carlson  
Zoe Penwell  
Georgia Vandigo

#### The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (graduation)

Greta Shimon

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## Slices of life

# Life without wheels

There are two types of people in this country: those who have a car and those who don't.

There are good reasons for living on each side of the roadway. People without a vehicle often live in areas where public transportation is the norm and street-space is not. If you don't have a garage or a driveway, you might have to pay for parking on a daily basis. That adds to the cost of car ownership, which is no fun. Multiply that if you have to drive around the block multiple times in search of an open space.

Parking aside, the act of driving on populated roadways requires a special skillset.

I traveled to New York City a few years back and saw this firsthand. The space between cars on all sides of the vehicle while traveling at 30-plus miles per hour is mere inches, and that is no exaggeration. It takes an especially talented, level-headed and barbaric person to dare to navigate such treacherous conditions. I may be barbaric, but not that talented or level-headed.

Give me black ice and the most white-out snowstorm in memory. I'll drive through it with a confidence instilled by 4-wheel drive, a good set of snow tires and decades of experience navigating blizzard conditions.

But bumper to bumper traffic with the possibility of road rage in the mix? I'm opting out, thank you very much.

Still, I've lived all my adult life with a vehicle to call my own. I didn't live in New York, or any other highly populated area where taxis trump personal transportation. I was rural, and rural demands a car of your own.

I always had one. At least one.

Until recently, when I found myself 1,500 miles from home, in a new home. My son and I moved across country with his

car. Thankfully it got us here in one piece.

Then the problems started.

The car wiggled when accelerating. It coughed up disturbing noises when making a sharp turn. One tire habitually went flat. The vehicle got us from point A to point B, but it didn't feel right. It felt very, very left. We brought it in for diagnostics and, while opinions differed between mechanics, one thought rang consistent: It was time to get rid of the car.

In a word: Ugh.

Then life happened. I won't bore you with the details, but in amidst of life happening, I went about six weeks without a car. Luckily I had a bike and a backpack. It's amazing how many groceries you can fit into a small space when you are hungry.

I also blessed the gods for delivery of bulky items like toilet paper and cat litter.

So, as dire as I make it seem, it wasn't. It was only irritating. But irritating gets old quickly. Especially when irritating denies you access to the super store, or, worse yet, the dollar-point-two-five store, which it now is, if you've done your research.

Never mind eating, it felt as though my crafting days were over.

But back to the bike. The bike saved me. It got me from here to there, and I even figured out how to fit a frozen pizza into a backpack. That is no small effort.

I decided to embrace the adventure. I was able to bike to the grocery store in the middle of a January winter. I haven't been able to make that claim to fame for most of my life, so why not look on the bright side. Yes, leaking chicken juice into the back pack was not a desired outcome so rotisserie chicken was probably out of the question.

But I had other options. I figured out the frozen pizza backpack challenge. I also figured out how to find a new (used) car.

It was another adventure, which I conquered—successfully.

I now have reliable wheels—two on a bike and four on a little SUV. I can head to the superstore and fill my cart with a mega pack of toilet paper, a couple of rotisserie chickens and as many frozen pizzas as my heart desires.

Life is good.

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

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# Incidentally; International Toothache Day



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

Although largely preventable, dental caries or tooth decay remains the most prevalent chronic disease throughout the world. The personal and economic costs of untreated oral disease include mild to unbearable pain, disruption of eating, drinking, sleeping, and talking, infection, lost days of school, work and income. Untreated dental disease not only impacts your oral tissues but can initiate or exacerbate other health conditions that negatively impact your overall health and well-being. Oral disease is a global health issue that creates economic burdens for families and healthcare systems. International health organizations are working together to address the challenge of reducing oral disease through prevention. International toothache day, which is held annually on Feb. 9, was established to get the word out about what causes a toothache and the proactive steps that you can take to prevent dental disease.

Focusing on prevention remains critical as the pandemic continues to take a serious toll on global oral health. Dentists throughout the world have reported an increase in cavities and gum disease. This is believed to be a result of negative changes in diets and a decrease in daily oral hygiene. They also note an increase in stress-related conditions such as teeth grinding and jaw clenching. These activities have increased the incidence of cracked and chipped teeth, as well as jaw pain.

Dental caries (dental de-

cay) and periodontal disease are bacterial infections. They can be prevented by reducing or eliminating the pathogens (microorganisms that cause disease) through effective oral hygiene, and increasing your resistance to disease through good nutrition, drinking fluoridated water and tobacco cessation. Maintaining oral health is essential to your well-being. Skipping or ineffective brushing and flossing allows the growth of pathogens that lead to tooth decay and periodontal disease. Routine dental visits and cleanings are important tools in your arsenal to prevent, detect and treat oral disease in its earliest stages. They also provide the opportunity for you or your children to learn how to effectively brush and floss.

International Toothache Day reminds us to take advantage of our access to community fluoridated water and its enamel strengthening properties. We can also prevent toothaches by decreasing our consumption of sugary and acidic beverages and food. It also serves as a reminder to replace a worn and frayed toothbrush before it harms our oral tissues.

# FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

cheese; mix well. Stir in onions, bacon,  $\frac{1}{4}$  C. almonds and cranberries. Spread into a greased 1 to 2 qt baking dish. Sprinkle with remaining  $\frac{1}{4}$  C. almonds. Place on baking sheet. Bake, uncovered, until bubbly, 25 to 30 minutes. Serve with pita chips or thinly sliced baguette slices.

$\frac{1}{4}$  t. pepper

1 pkg. (16 oz.) potato gnocchi

$\frac{1}{2}$  C. chopped fresh spinach

In a Dutch oven, brown chicken in 2 T. butter. Remove and keep warm. In the same pan, sauté the onion, carrot, celery, and garlic in remaining butter until tender. Whisk in flour until blended; gradually stir in the milk, cream, bouillon granules and pepper. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cook and stir until thickened, about 2 minutes. Add the gnocchi and spinach; cook until spinach is wilted, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the chicken. Cover and simmer until heated through (do not boil), about 10 minutes.

## Creamy Chicken

### Gnocchi Soup

I love the Gnocchi Soup they serve at Olive Garden. A friend sent me this "knock off" recipe that is almost as good. You can buy gnocchi in most grocery stores. It is a pasta that is usually potato based. Make this soup on a cold night and serve it with salad and a breadstick; you can close your eyes and imagine you are at the Olive Garden restaurant.

1 lb. boneless chicken breasts, cut into  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch pieces

$\frac{1}{2}$  C. butter, divided  
1 small onion, chopped  
1 medium carrot, shredded  
1 celery rib, chopped  
2 garlic cloves, minced  
1/3 C. flour  
3 1/2 C. 2 % milk  
1 1/2 C. heavy whipping cream

1 T. chicken bouillon granules

## Layered Jell-O Squares

I got this recipe several years ago, and when I was cleaning up some of my recipes, I came across it. It is a perfect salad for "red" day. It does take time because you have to set the layers before moving on to the next one. It is a beautiful salad without many ingredients, so it is very economical.

1.6 oz. pkg. raspberry Jell-O

See KITCHEN, Page 7

## February Lifelong Learning schedule includes in-person and online classes

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE Lifelong Learning February courses include Beginning Jewelry Making, Computers and Mobile Devices, Spring Bulb Gardens A and B, The Bio-Energetics of Thriving, and Cahokia and the Mississippian Culture, held in-person and online. Courses being held in person will be

practicing social distancing and masks will be required. Others have the option to attend through Zoom™. To register online and view the complete Lifelong Learning schedule, visit [highland.edu/lifelong](http://highland.edu/lifelong). For more information about Lifelong Learning and to find out the latest in new course offerings, call 815-599-3403.

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## Pearl City students hard at work

Pearl City's Quiz Bowl team competed in the second round of the Bergstrom's Stateline Quiz Bowl on Saturday against Marengo. The episode will air on Valentine's weekend. From the left: members include Sidney Wright, Madi Diddens, Cody Pitts, Oliver Petta, Kenner Brinkmeier, Owen Joseph and Jacob Joseph.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Mrs. Bunker's kindergarten class celebrates the 100th day of school.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing  
Clara Kempel and Michelle Herron work together on a project to show it is the 100th day of school.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Mrs. Rauch's 6th Grade class prepares for a "gallery walk". The students have been reading "The Odyssey" with Porter Krolow, Camdyn Smith and Elly Voss (above) preparing a poster to demonstrate their interpretation of the plot.

## WHAT WOMEN WANT FOR VALENTINE'S DAY

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# Broncos defeat Panthers in NUIC showdown

By Trenten Scheidegger  
SPORTS WRITER

The Orangeville Broncos boys' basketball squad won two straight games last week, including a victory over the Lena-Winslow Panthers.

On Friday, Jan. 28 the Broncos played host to the Aquin Bulldogs. The Bulldogs came into the matchup with a record of 10-9, making them the favorites over the 6-7 Broncos. Orangeville came into the game with a bit of a chip on their shoulder, however. Not only did the Broncos suffer a 51-35 loss to the Bulldogs back in early January, but Orangeville was fresh off a heartbreak-

47-45 loss to Dakota. Hungry for a win and some revenge, the Broncos brought the horsepower on Jan. 28.

Aquin held the early advantage in the first quarter. The Bulldogs posted nine points in the opener, more than doubling up the Broncos' first quarter score of four. With a five-point deficit to make up for, the Broncos would need to turn it around in the second.

That was when the Orangeville offense began to garner some momentum. The Broncos combined for 14 points, while holding the Bulldogs to just eight, in the second quarter. Orangeville was propelled by a

dynamic performance by senior Nate Anderson and junior Gunnar Lobdell. The duo helped to flip the momentum in the second quarter as the Broncos, eventually, took an 18-17 lead into the halftime break.

In the third quarter, the Broncos would slightly extend their slim lead. They outscored Aquin 13-12 in the quarter, giving Orangeville a two-point lead with one quarter remaining. The final three quarter of the game consistently went in favor of the Broncos. Aquin was outscored by one point in the second, one point in the third, and two points in the fourth as Orangeville did just

enough to protect their slim lead.

It was a feel-good victory for the Broncos as they picked up the 53-49 win over the Bulldogs. It was their seventh win of the season as Orangeville improved to 7-7 on the year. Anderson led the team in scoring with 18 points, including a pair of three pointers. Lobdell was right behind him with 17 as the junior shot over seventy percent on the evening. Senior Carson Rote was the next leading scorer with nine.

Almost a full week later, the Broncos were back in action for an NUIC matchup against the Lena-Winslow Panthers.

It was expected to be a tight matchup as the Panthers came into the game with a record of 11-11, leaving both teams at an even five hundred on the year. With the opportunity to get above five hundred in the winning percentage, there was a little added excitement to this conference matchup.

The Panthers jumped out to the early lead in the first quarter. Senior guard, Luke Benson, drilled a pair of three pointers and a trio of free throws as he scored all nine of the Panthers' first quarter points. Lobdell did his best to keep up with the Panthers. Lobdell hit a pair of free throws as he posted five points in the opening quarter. Still, Le-Win held a 9-7 lead at the end of one.

Once again, the Broncos found their momentum following the opening quarter. After getting warmed up, Orangeville had an offensive awakening in the second quarter. Anderson came on strong with a pair of three pointers and a few other baskets as the senior posted twelve points in the quarter. Brayden Cahoon added a three pointer of his own as the Broncos combined for 16 points in the second.

Handsaker led the way in the fourth as she posted another five points in the final quarter. Musser added a basket of her own as Pearl City combined for seven points in the fourth. That was just enough as they managed to walk away with a 23-22 victory over Dakota.

Handsaker led the Wolves in scoring with nine points on the evening. Pearl City had an all-around performance in this one as the next leading scorers were three Lady Wolves each tied with four points in Boyer, Musser, and Wright. Lartz wrapped up the stat line with two points of her own as the Wolves picked up their ninth victory.

The Panthers struggled to match their energy. After Benson's explosive first quarter, he had zero points in the second. Kam Klever hit a three pointer for the Panthers, providing a majority of their offense in the quarter as they went into the break trailing Orangeville 23-18.

Le-Win managed to, slightly, swing the momentum back in their favor in the third. They

outscored the Broncos 14-13 to cut into the Orangeville lead. Brody Mahon posted five points in the quarter, while Benson added another four. Rote had eight points in the third for Orangeville as he did just enough to help his team keep their lead, going into the fourth up 36-32.

Just when they needed it, the Broncos had another offensive breakout. The team combined for 14 points in the final quarter as Anderson came through clutch at the charity stripe. The senior hit all four of his free throw attempts in the fourth as he continued to provide his team with some insurance. Anderson scored eight of the Broncos' final 14 points of the game as he put the team on his back. Cahoon added four fourth quarter points as the Broncos held on for a 50-39

Just when they needed it, the Broncos had another offensive breakout. The team combined for 14 points in the final quarter as Anderson came through clutch at the charity stripe. The senior hit all four of his free throw attempts in the fourth as he continued to provide his team with some insurance. Anderson scored eight of the Broncos' final 14 points of the game as he put the team on his back. Cahoon added four fourth quarter points as the Broncos held on for a 50-39

Le-Win managed just seven points in the fourth, three of which came from Benson's free throws. Benson led the Panthers in scoring with 16 points, while Mahon finished the game with seven. Anderson led the Broncos with 25 points as he scored half of Orangeville's total points. Rote was next up with nine points, while Lobdell and Cahoon each had seven.

Orangeville will play host to the Pearl City Wolves the night of Wednesday, Feb. 9. The Panthers will be back on the floor on Thursday, Feb. 10, when they play host to Pecatonica.

## Pearl City earns back-to-back wins

By Trenten Scheidegger  
SPORTS WRITER

The Pearl City varsity girls basketball squad has struggled throughout much of the 2021-22 season. After beginning the year just 3-8, the Lady Wolves have been trying to climb back to a five hundred winning percentage ever since. Last week, the Wolves picked up back-to-back wins over the Dakota Indians to help with that endeavor. The consecutive wins show significant improvement for Pearl City Head Coach, Brock Musser's, squad. The Lady Wolves have won four of their last five games and have an overall record of 6-8 over their last 14 games, which is a clear step up compared to their first 11 games.

On Monday, Jan. 31, the Wolves met up with the Indians for the first time this season. While the Indians came in with a record of just 5-20, the Wolves sat just ahead of them at 7-16.

The Wolves jumped out to an early lead by doubling up the Indians in the first quarter. After outscoring Dakota 12-6 in the first, Pearl City managed to post another 12 points in the second quarter. While holding the Indians to just eight points in the second, Pearl City managed to hold a 24-14 lead at the halftime break.

Dakota managed to cut into the Wolves' lead to start the second half. The Indians managed to flip the roles as they outscored Pearl City 12-6. After taking six points off the deficit, Dakota went into the final quarter trailing Pearl City 30-26.

Pearl City managed to get their offense active again in the final quarter. The Wolves combined for another 12 points in the fourth. It was the third time the Wolves posted 12 points in a quarter that night. While the Indians continued to find success on offense, it would not be enough to pull off the comeback against the Wolves. Pearl City would

hold on to win the game by a score of 42-37.

Just two days later, these teams were facing off again as Pearl City played host to Dakota on Wednesday, Feb. 2. While the Indians were feeling confident off their offensive performance in the second half of the last game, the Wolves knew they had what it takes to defeat the Indians.

The first half featured a low-scoring, defensive battle. Both teams combined for just 11 points in the first quarter, but the Wolves held a 6-5 lead after one. Pearl City's Cheyenne Handsaker drained a couple of free throws in the first, while both Emma Boyer and Brea Musser each had baskets.

In the second quarter, the Wolves stumbled offensively. They had one of their worst quarters in recent memory as Pearl City posted just two points in the second quarter. Those two points came from Boyer as the senior point guard

finished with four points in the first half. That was a majority of Pearl City's offense, however, as Dakota held a 13-8 lead at the break. With the Wolves being the ones forced to play catchup this time, it would be a good test for the Wolves to see if they could pull off the comeback, unlike the Indians just two days prior.

The Wolves managed to slightly cut into Dakota's lead in the third quarter. Senior forward, Sidney Wright, had four points in the third as she helped the Wolves outscore Dakota 8-7. Handsaker and Audra Lartz both added third quarter baskets as well. Although Pearl City cut just one point off the Dakota lead, that one point turned out to be crucial by the end of this one.

There was plenty of defensive action, and it was the Pearl City defense that allowed them to pull off the comeback. By holding the Indians to just two points in the fourth quarter,

the Wolves gave their offense an opportunity, despite the low-scoring affair.

Handsaker led the way in the fourth as she posted another five points in the final quarter. Musser added a basket of her own as Pearl City combined for seven points in the fourth. That was just enough as they managed to walk away with a 23-22 victory over Dakota.

Handsaker led the Wolves in scoring with nine points on the evening. Pearl City had an all-around performance in this one as the next leading scorers were three Lady Wolves each tied with four points in Boyer, Musser, and Wright. Lartz wrapped up the stat line with two points of her own as the Wolves picked up their ninth victory.

The Wolves have another conference matchup coming this Wednesday, when they travel to face off with the Aquin Bulldogs on Feb. 9.

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# Kitchen

(Continued from page 3)

1.6 oz. pkg. strawberry Jell-O  
 1½ C. plain yogurt, room temperature  
 4 C. boiling water  
 Fresh strawberries, cut into slices

Combine the raspberry Jell-O with 2 C. boiling water in a large bowl and stir until dissolved. Remove 1 C. of the mixture and set aside in a separate bowl. Combine remaining mixture with 2/3 C. room temperature yogurt and whisk until smooth. Pour into a 9 x 13 pan and place in fridge to chill until set, about 30 minutes. Take reserved raspberry gelatin and warm slightly if it has become thick. Stir in 2/3 C. water and pour over first layer. Place in fridge to chill until set, about 30 minutes.

Repeat the process in a clean bowl for the remaining box of Jell-O: Combine the strawberry Jell-O with 2 C. boiling water in a large bowl and stir until dissolved. Remove 1 C. of mixture and set aside in a separate bowl. Combine remaining mixture with 2/3 C. room temperature yogurt and whisk until smooth. Pour over raspberry layer. Brush strawberries

with set aside gelatin and place slices on the 3<sup>rd</sup> layer. Stir in 2/3 C. water and pour final layer of gelatin and place in fridge to chill a final time, at least 3 hours.

## Make Ahead Cabbage Rolls

If you are looking for something different for a special dinner, and you don't want the usual pasta, steak, or seafood, this is an economical and a rather elegant meal for that special dinner. Even people who don't like cabbage like this dish because of all the great flavors. It is also a great dish to make ahead; just pop it into the oven when you need it.

12 cabbage leaves  
 2 lbs. ground beef  
 ¾ t. salt  
 ¼ t. pepper  
 2 C. cooked long grain rice  
 2 eggs, lightly beaten

**Sauce:**

¼ C. butter, cubed  
 1 large onion, halved and thinly sliced  
 2 celery ribs, chopped  
 2½ C. water  
 1 can (15 oz.) tomato sauce  
 1 can (8 oz.) tomato sauce

2 T. lemon juice  
 2 t. sugar  
 2 t. dried parsley flakes  
 1 t. salt  
 ¼ t. pepper

In batches, cook cabbage leaves in boiling water until crisp-tender, 3-5 minutes. Drain; cool slightly. Trim the thick vein from the bottom of each cabbage leaf, making a V-shaped cut.

In a large skillet, cook beef, salt and pepper over medium heat until no longer pink, breaking into crumbles, 8 to 10 minutes; drain. Stir in rice and eggs. In another skillet, over medium-high heat, add onion and celery; cook and stir until tender, 6 to 8 minutes. Stir in water, tomato sauce, lemon juice, sugar, parsley, salt, and pepper. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered until thickened, 15 to 20 minutes. Spoon about ½ meat mixture onto each cabbage leaf. Pull together cut edges of leaf to overlap, fold over filling. Fold in sides and roll up. Transfer to a greased 9 x 13 baking dish. Pour sauce over rolls. Refrigerate, covered, overnight. Remove from refrigerator 30 minutes before baking. Preheat oven to 350. Bake, covered until heated through, 50 to 60 min-

utes.

## Almond Cherry Cobbler

If you are looking for a special Valentine's dessert, this cobbler is easy and delicious. You can get the dark sweet cherries at A.J.'s Lena Maid Meats in the frozen fruit and vegetable section. I often add a handful of these to my regular cherry pie. I have an apple cobbler recipe that pours the hot water over the fruit, and it is delicious.

3½ C. fresh dark sweet cherries, pitted  
 1 C. flour  
 ¼ C. plus ½ C. sugar, divided

1 t. baking powder  
 ¼ t. salt  
 ½ C. milk  
 3 T. butter, melted  
 1 T. cornstarch  
 ¼ t. cinnamon

Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2022 THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE Page 7  
 week. Many people are looking forward to the Olympics starting. There will be plenty of coverage and excitement, I am sure. I have two closets left to clean, and then it is time to tackle the kitchen cupboards. Sometimes I have found some interesting things that I haven't seen for a lot of years. When you have been in your home for twenty years, there is a lot to go through and get rid of. During these cold days it is easy to go through boxes and remember things. I hope that you all have a great heart day and make something special. Stay safe and healthy. We continue to look for some heartier cooking recipes, so if you have a good soup, bread, or pie recipe, send it our way. Contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide at 240 W. Main St. or email us at scoopshopper@rv-publisher.com.

In another bowl, mix cornstarch, cinnamon and remaining sugar; sprinkle over batter. Mix boiling water and almond extract; pour slowly over top. Bake, uncovered, 45-50 minutes or until top is golden brown and filling is bubbly. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream.

## Final Thoughts

I can't believe that January is behind us and we are coming up on the middle of February. We are supposed to be in for some decent weather this next

## News briefs

**"Believers Basic" Bible Study**

This Bible study offering will be held on Feb. 13 at 5 p.m. at the Lena Community Center, LL at 497 Lions Dr. The study will include looking at scripture, verses from Isaiah 48, Exodus 3, and John 4. Call Pastor Cliff 716-229-9281 for information.

**Carrol Country Thrift Shop**

The Carroll County Thrift Shop is offering a Valentine's Sale on Feb. 11 and 12. Anything marked in red will be half price. Regular Friday hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shop is located at 126 South 4<sup>th</sup> St. Savanna.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**VILLAGE OF LENA  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING  
214 S. Schuyler St.  
CONDITIONAL USE  
PERMIT**

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 28th at 5:30pm at the Village Hall, 122 E. Main St., Lena, IL 61048.

The public hearing shall be for the purpose to consider granting a conditional use permit to Shayne and Melissa Campbell. This permit will be used to sell crafts and gifts at the property located at 214 S. Schuyler Street in Lena, IL.

Interested persons may appear and be heard regarding the proposed permit at this meeting. The Village Board may subsequently consider the merits granting the permit at its March 14, 2022 Village Board Meeting.

(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
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## Lena Library celebrates Valentine's Day

Kids participate in the after-school program and story hour at the Lena Library. They made Valentine's Day necklaces and heart shaped wreaths to celebrate the upcoming holiday.

## Lena library news

Valentine's Day is coming up and kids have been busy crafting away for the holiday. This past week the After School group made heart wreaths that were put on display. The Story Hour kids learned all about Groundhog's Day, reading *Ten Grouchy Groundhogs*, *Who Will See Their Shadow This Year?*, and singing the groundhog song. The kids also made Valentine's heart necklaces.

The OverDrive app will no longer be available in app stores beginning Feb. 23, 2022. Patrons must transition to the new Libby app. Everything will transfer from the OverDrive app, including holds, and wish lists. The login information will be the same information as it was for OverDrive. Download the Libby app and start reading

today. For more information, FAQs, and even how-to videos visit the Libby Help center at <https://help.libbyapp.com/en-us/index.htm>

Book Discussion Group will be meeting at the library Feb. 16 at 10 am.

### New Fiction

Invisible-Danielle Steel, Criminal Mischief-Stuart Woods, What Happened-Lisa Scottoline, A Stranger's Game-Colleen Coble, Her Hidden Genius-Chamberlain, Lightning In A Mirror-Jayne Ann Krentz, One Step Too Far-Lisa Gardner, The Overnight Guest-Heather Gudenkauf, When You Are Mine-Michael Robotham.

### New Non Fiction

Enough Already-Victoria Bertinelli

## Expense

(Continued from front page)

A second discussion was held on the potential for a Fighter Jet Grant and what steps would have to be taken to activate realization.

Citizens are encouraged to address the Lena Village Board at open meetings of the municipal leadership council. Sign up ahead of time is often required. A strict adherence to rules and protocols regarding time allowances stands in place. Citizen concerns can feature a range of topics, in accordance with community guidelines, decency standards and constitutionally protected rights for citizen-taxpayers.

A proposal was issued to committee members regarding the approval of a grant for the Lena Lions Club in relation to the Lena Fall Festival.

(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
Feb. 9, 16 & 23, 2022)

411192