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VOL. 88 • NO. 35

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 24, 2022



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Tractor enthusiasts invited to join 'Tractor Trek'

The 2nd Annual Tractor Trek will take place on Saturday, Sept. 10. Antique tractor enthusiasts are invited to join the event as the Trek travels through the rolling hills of northwestern Stephenson and Winnebago Counties in the afternoon.

Registration forms are available online at www.winnebago-boonefarmbureau.org/foundation-events.

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Dvorak, Stockton golf dominate at Woodbine Bend

By Trenten Scheidegger
SPORTS WRITER

A trio of varsity boys' golf teams faced off at Woodbine Bend on Monday, Aug. 15. Both Dakota and Eastland made the trip to Stockton to face off with the Blackhawk golfers on their home course. Home course advantage is especially true for Stockton junior Jared Dvorak, who works

at the course over the summer doing maintenance.

Stockton Varsity golf coach Casey Kenna called Dvorak "one of the conference's best players" and acknowledged the advantage Dvorak had due to his summer work, saying he is "overly familiar with the course." Dvorak, who is also the kicker on the varsity football team, is expected to carry

the load for the Stockton golf team in 2022. As a sophomore Dvorak made an appearance in Sectionals and earned a Second team All-Conference award. Dvorak was also a starter on the varsity team as a freshman, making him a three-time varsity letter winner for golf, this season.

See GOLF, Page 16

Ag groups: Hands off crop insurance in 2023 farm bill

By Timothy Eggert
FARMWEEK

Don't fix what isn't broken. That's the approach federal lawmakers should take when they write the crop insurance title of the 2023 farm bill, according to representatives from national ag groups.

"The really important thing to our members is to make sure that crop insurance survives the way it is," American Farm Bureau Federation Vice President Scott VanderWal said. "Maybe we can improve it some, but the bumper sticker message on crop insurance is 'Do no harm.'"

VanderWal, who joined a recent panel discussion at the 2022 Minnesota Farmfest, emphasized crop insurance is "so incredibly important" for farmers because "you don't buy insurance for good times, you buy it for the bad times."

Tom Haag, first vice president of the National Corn Growers Association, agreed, calling crop insurance "our best safety net" that "works" and shouldn't "be messed with."

The discussion around Title 11 comes as policymakers consider whether to expand programs, tighten their scope

and eligibility or codify a permanent disaster program stemming from a series of ad-hoc programs implemented by USDA since the 2018 legislation.

Many ag groups, including Illinois Farm Bureau and AFBF, are opposed to the latter policy idea.

AFBF is also "very opposed" to proposals to tie crop insurance rates and premium discounts to conservation and climate-smart ag practices, which VanderWal said could "damage or mitigate the tendency of people to use it."

"The more people that use crop insurance, the better off it is because you've got more skin in the game," VanderWal said.

Some ag insurance experts shared that same view at a House Ag Committee hearing in July, explaining that setting those requirements to enroll in insurance and other risk management programs would lead to less participation and ultimately higher rates.

Voices from the livestock industry on the panel said current ad-hoc relief programs tied to disruptions from COVID-19, like the Spot Market Hog Pandemic Pro-



gram (SMHPP) need severe adjustments.

"We just had the (SMHPP) payments released like a week ago that are two years old,"

said National Pork Producers Council President Terry Wolters. "If you were in trouble financially two years ago, that program doesn't even come

close to stepping up and helping you."

This story was distributed through a cooperative project

between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

Statewide unemployment rate continues to drop; payroll jobs up in July

The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) recently announced that the unemployment rate fell 0.1 percent to 4.4 percent, while nonfarm payrolls increased by 31,200 in July, based on preliminary data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and released by IDES.

The June monthly change

in payrolls was revised from the preliminary report, from 18,800 to 16,000 jobs. The June unemployment rate was unchanged from the preliminary report, remaining at 4.5 percent. The July payroll jobs estimate and unemployment rate reflect activity for the week including July 12.

In July, the industry sectors with the largest over-the-

month gains in employment include: professional and business services (10,000), manufacturing (6,300), and trade, transportation and utilities (5,700). The industry sectors that reported monthly payroll declines include: construction (1,400) and educational and health services (1,400).

"As the statewide unemployment rate continues to drop and continued claims levels for unemployment benefits remain at historic lows, IDES encourages employers and jobseekers to utilize the Department's robust employment services tools for reentry into the workforce," said Deputy Gov. Andy Manar. "Whether it be participat-

ing in or a hosting a job fair, training or skills building, IDES has the tools needed to assist in the growth of the expanding labor market." "After Illinois reached the lowest unemployment rate since the onset of the pandemic in June, it's encouraging to see the state's unemployment rate continue to drop while seeing continued growth in key industries," said DCEO Director Sylvia I. Garcia. "Looking ahead, DCEO continues to focus on expanding equitable workforce training opportunities, providing incentives to companies who invest in Illinois' workforce, and providing resources and training opportunities for job seekers."

The state's unemployment rate was 0.9 percent higher than the national unemployment rate reported for July, which was 3.5 percent, down 0.1 percent from the previous month. The Illinois unemployment rate was down 1.8 percent from a year ago when it was at 6.2 percent.

Compared to a year ago, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 236,600 jobs, with gains across nearly all major industries. The industry groups with the largest jobs increases include: leisure and hospitality (61,800), professional and business services (56,700), and trade, Transportation and Utilities (44,600). The mining sector (100) was the only industry sector that

reported an over-the-year decline in payroll employment. In July, total nonfarm payrolls were up 4.1 percent over-the-year in Illinois and up 4.2 percent in the nation.

The number of unemployed workers was down from the prior month, a 1.1 percent decrease to 287,200. The labor force was almost unchanged (0.0 percent) over-the-month and up 2.2 percent over the year.

The unemployment rate identifies those individuals who are out of work and seeking employment. An individual who exhausts or is ineligible for benefits is still reflected in the unemployment rate if they actively seek work.

In May 2020, Gov. JB Pritzker launched Get Hired Illinois, a new one-stop-shop website to help connect job seekers with hiring employers in real time. The site features virtual job fairs, no-cost virtual training, and includes IllinoisJobLink.com (IJL), the state's largest job search engine, which recently showed 43,596 posted resumes with 161,574 available jobs.

THE SCOOP TODAY SHOPPER'S GUIDE

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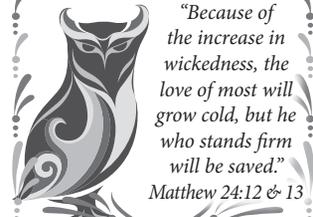
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The West Point Township Board would like to thank everyone that has stepped up to help with the roads the last couple of weeks, since the passing of our Road Commissioner. It is times like this that you realize how great our small town is. We have been able to repair most of the roads and if not done will be done shortly. Thanks again to all who came out to help. Your help is appreciated more than you know



Thank you to all who expressed love by providing food and comfort during our loss. A Taylor Musser memorial fund has been set up at Citizens State Bank.



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Obituary

IRMA ANITA ZUEGER

Irma Anita Zueger, age 94, of Stockton, IL passed away Friday, Aug. 19, 2022, at FHN Hospital surrounded by her family. She was born on July 19, 1928, in Jackson, MI to the late Jurg and Selena (Graf) Jenatsch. At the age of two, the family moved back to Switzerland where she grew up. She came to the U.S. in June of 1955 and met Heinz on Sept. 10, 1955 at Cheese Days in Monroe, WI. They were married on Jan. 12, 1956, in Haggenschwil, Switzerland.

After their marriage, Heinz and Irma settled in Stockton, IL. Irma was a homemaker and together they raised their five children. Once her children were grown, Irma went to work in the office Apple Canyon Egg Farm. Irma and Heinz spent over 20 years wintering in Palm Springs,



CA and traveling to Switzerland each year to visit family and friends.

Irma served as President of Stockton Women's Club. She was a member of Women's Home Extension for over 60 years and President of Altar and Rosary at Holy Cross Catholic Church. She was also an Instructor of Diet Workshop and Stockton Food Pantry Coordinator for 30 plus years. In her earlier years, she was a very skilled seamstress and knitter. She enjoyed reading and working on Swiss crossword puzzles.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers Jurg and Reto. She is survived by her husband Heinz of 66

years, two daughters Susanne (Dennis) Young of Stockton, Cynthia Broshous of Waukeg, IA, three sons William (Dixie) of Stockton, Daniel (Becky) Davis, IL, Timothy (Lori) of Stockton IL, 9 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and special cousin Erwin (Laurie) Zueger of Stockton also her twin sister, Selena and sister Bigna of Switzerland.

The funeral service will be held on Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022, at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton at 11 a.m. with a visitation beginning at 10 a.m. There will also be a visitation at the church on Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2022, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. A memorial fund has been established with FHN Hospice and Stockton Food Pantry. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

News briefs

Salvation Army news

The Salvation Army will host the Eats and Beats event on Aug. 26 and 27 in downtown Freeport. Twenty non-for-profits will raise funds to help their organizations give back to those in need within Freeport and Stephenson counties.

Hunger Walk participants wanted

The Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 2. Registration will begin at 1 p.m. at Debate Square. Opening ceremony and step-off will be at 1:30 p.m. Individuals, organizations, businesses, and congregations are invited to participate. Come join this 39-year community involvement in this fight against hunger. For more information, please contact Linda Truckenmiller-Krum at 815-233-5276 or mslistk@yahoo.com.

Lena American Legion Auxiliary forum

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary is planning a candidate's forum/debate for Wednesday, Oct. 5, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lena American Legion Home at 316 W Main

St., Lena.

Stockton homecoming parade

Stockton's homecoming parade is Thursday, Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. To include a float in the parade please contact Deb Sullivan at Stockton High School, 815-947-3323.

Bonnet Family Reunion

The Bonnet Family Reunion will meet on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2022, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Joseph's

Church Hall, 410 West Lena St, Lena IL 61048. The hall will be open at 11 a.m. For those who haven't joined us recently, the hall is air conditioned, provides a fully stocked kitchen, tables, chairs, restrooms and indoor playrooms. There is plenty of parking and the hall is wheelchair accessible. Masks are optional.

Please bring one meat dish to share, one side dish (appetizer, salad, dessert, etc.), table service and drink. If you have any questions, please call Nancy (Bonnet) Bailey at 815-979-9824.

Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL. on Sunday, Aug. 28, at 9:30 a.m. for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service. The reading will be from Luke 14:1, 7-14.

On Tuesday, Aug. 30, Bible Study group will meet at 11 a.m. Anyone who enjoys learning is welcome to join for frank conversation about scripture and time of prayer. On Wednesday, Aug. 31, Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience necessary. Come and tie the quilts and make difference in the world.

All the services will be recorded and be available on church's Facebook page and website. Please visit <http://goodshepherdlena.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/GSLCLenaIL> for information. Please contact the church office at 815-369-5552 with any questions.

Salem United Church of Christ

All are welcome to join Salem United Church of Christ for a service led by Pastor Christopher Ham at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 West Salem Road, Lena, Illinois, on Sunday, Aug. 28, at 10 a.m. The Wednesday Breakfast Bunch will be meeting Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2022, at 8 a.m. at Amigos, 306 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois. All are welcome to join.

In addition, due to the excessive rain on Aug. 7 and 8, the annual Shrimp Boil has been postponed and rescheduled for Sunday, Sept. 25. Church service will be held at 10 a.m. with the Shrimp Boil lunch to follow at 11 a.m. Come enjoy good food and good company.

St. John's Lutheran Church to host card and dominoes

Join St. John's Lutheran Church in Pearl City on Sunday, Aug. 28 at 9 a.m. for worship led by Pastor Shellie Knight and for cards and dominoes on Thursday, Aug. 25 at 1 p.m. in Luther Hall. All are welcome.

Sunday School and Confirmation will be starting on Sept. 18. Confirmation students and their parents will gather for an orientation after worship with Pastor Shellie.

The September Grace Meal will be held on Sept. 18 and will feature meatballs with noodles, corn, jello, and chocolate pudding. All curbside reservations are due on Thursday, Sept. 15.

St. John's Lutheran Church is located at 229 S. First St., Pearl City, IL. 815-443-2215. Worship Services are currently in-person and livestreamed on Facebook Live by visiting www.StJohnsPearlCity.org.

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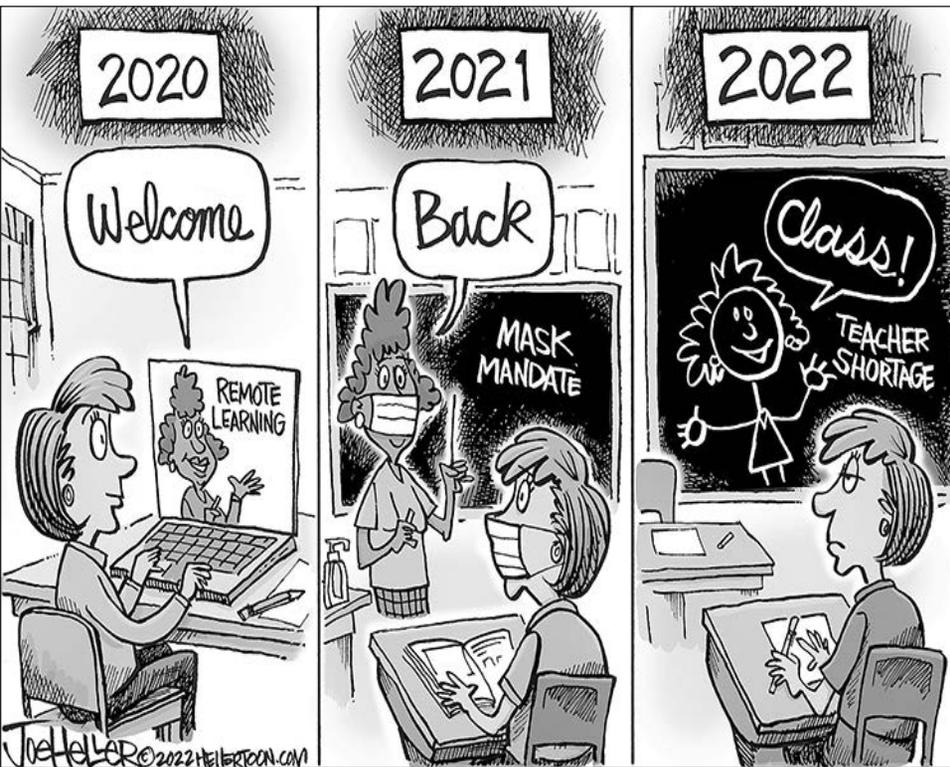
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OPINION



Slices of life

When your world changes, but the world doesn't



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

The world still looks the same. Nothing has changed.

The sun rises in the east and sets in the west. Water evaporates and later falls from the sky. Each day starts with morning dew on the grass and ends as darkness envelops the air as stars become visible in the night sky. Seedlings sprout. Flowers bud and blossom. Bees make honey. Babies are born. Children laugh. I breathe in and out, living in a world that looks like it hasn't changed.

Except for the fact that it has. Except for the fact that nothing is the same. Except for the fact that it never will be. Not ever again, because from my perspective, everything has changed.

I live in a completely different world than I did just two years ago. I guess grief—deep, deep heart-rendering grief—does that to you.

I have come to terms with the reality that my world will never be the same.

And you know what? That's OK.

It's excruciatingly sad. But it's OK. It has to be. I don't have a choice except to make it be OK. There is no alternative.

I'm not writing these words for pity. I don't want anyone's pity. That's not what grief is about.

It is about love. At its core, grief is all about love. And love is never to be pitied.

I guess I'm writing this

to simply say that grief not only turns your world upside down, it changes it forever. It changes you forever. The world still looks the same, it still operates the same, but you come to understand you'll never be the same. Because you've changed. Right down to your DNA, or nearly so. Or maybe exactly so. It impacts that deep.

And that changes you in other ways. In ways beyond just grief.

Just grief. Ha! (There's a pair of words that should probably never be paired.)

It's true. Grief changes your world. At least it's changed mine. It has caused an evolution in my life. It has molded me into a person I never thought I would be.

And as much as I've hated the process, I'm beginning to like the new me. As much as I wish I could change the last two years, I'm proud of where I am today. I survived what I thought was unsurvivable—insurmountable. I have not yet made it to the mountain peak, but I am climbing my way out and up. Sometimes the rocks are jagged, other times the path is clear and the

steps come easy, but I know what I have to do. I have to keep going.

It's what he wants. It's what I want. It's what we want.

I wake up each morning to face the day in a world that looks the same, but has changed in every way. But the birds are still singing. The squirrels scamper. The grass grows. The sun shines through the clouds and filters in through my bedroom curtains. The rays of light dance on the wall in spontaneous patterns. I breathe in and out and even though so much has changed, including me, the world—and life—while different, is still beautiful.

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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Inviting Illinois college students to help Renew Illinois

Editor's note: This op-ed was distributed by Capitol News Illinois on behalf of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own.



John T. Shaw

By John T. Shaw
As summer winds down and fall approaches, the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University is eagerly gearing up for one of our signature events: the Renewing Illinois Summit for college and university students.

This year's summit will be held at SIU in Carbondale on Thursday, Sept. 29, and Friday, Sept. 30, and our theme will be "One Illinois: Noble Aspiration or Impossible Dream"? We are eager to explore the question of state identity and the reality of clear regional tensions and per-

sistent misunderstandings.

We believe we have created an all-star lineup for the Summit, with in-person presentations by Illinois House

Speaker Chris Welch, former U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, Comptroller Susana Mendoza, and Erika Harold, director of the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism.

We are also delighted to host journalists Shia Kapos of Politico's Illinois Playbook, Shruti Singh of Bloomberg, Jennifer Fuller of WSIU, and Jeff Rogers of the Illinois Press Foundation. They will discuss how they report on, and write about, Illinois.

Students will have plenty of opportunities to interact with these speakers and each other. There will also be plenty of fun, including a night of bowling.

In organizing the Summit, the Institute is reaching out to a group whose views are too rarely sought or seriously considered when policymakers contemplate the future of Illinois: college students. The Institute is especially interested in those who are already leaders on their campuses and envision public service for their futures. These are the people who will soon decide whether to settle in Illinois and revive our state or leave for what they perceive to be greener pastures.

The Institute has three main goals for the Summit. First, to generate new and interesting ideas and incorporate

unheard voices into the discussion about the future of Illinois. Second, to build a thriving network of creative problem-solvers from Illinois colleges who will stay in touch with the Institute—and each other—over the coming years. The Institute hopes these "Simon Summiteers" will revitalize Illinois as they leave college and enter businesses, foundations, universities, community colleges, public schools, and nonprofits and participate in our state's civic life. Third, to be at the vanguard of a constructive agenda for Illinois. We want to help strengthen Illinois.

I believe the Renewing Illinois Summit reflects—and embodies—Paul Simon's best values and his optimism about the future of our state.

Our hope in that this Summit will help forge a positive

agenda for Illinois. As we do so, we will consider fundamental issues and hard questions:

What specifically can be done to build a common identity and a sense of shared destiny in Illinois?

- Is it necessary—or misguided—to think of One Illinois?

- Are the different regions in Illinois treated fairly in the allocation of financial resources and political power?

- Can the urban-rural division be bridged?

- Do the people of the various regions of Illinois inevitably view such issues as guns, education, economic development, criminal justice reform and transportation differently?

- Are Illinois's regional

tensions related to, or distinct from, the challenges facing other large states such as New York, Florida, Ohio, or Minnesota?

We are eager for a successful Summit in which we confront large issues and explore inspiring and tangible ways to Renew Illinois. We invite college and university students in Illinois to learn more about the Summit and then to join us in Carbondale. They should contact us at PaulSimonInstitute@siu.edu

John Shaw is the director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Shaw's monthly column explores how Illinois can work toward better politics and smarter government.

Overcoming Political Divisions in Illinois on anniversary of Lincoln-Douglas Freeport debate

By Andrew Chesney
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

August 27 marks the anniversary of the historic debate between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas held in Freeport in 1858. Douglas, a Democrat and a powerful U.S. Senator, was challenged by Lincoln, a lawyer from Springfield and a member of the new Republican Party.

Freeport hosted the second of seven debates between the two candidates that year, who were to face each other again just two years later in the presidential election of 1860. According to the Lincoln-Douglas Society of Freeport, Illinois, an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 people attended the Freeport debate to hear two of our nation's most influential statesmen speak.

In an era before radio, television, social media and big tech companies, candidates appeared in person to address crowds so that voters could hear from them directly, unfiltered. Very rarely, however, did opposing candidates appear together, as Lincoln and Douglas did throughout the summer and early autumn of 1858. At the time, the United States stood on the verge of Civil War, which was to break out in 1861.

While the story of what Lincoln and Douglas said in Freeport that day is worthy of its own column, it is striking how politically divided our country is today as it was then. Unfortunately, differences in political views leads some people to stop speaking with family members or friends. The rhetoric you hear on cable news chan-

nels and other media outlets arouse seemingly endless "us vs. them" attitudes that separate us into red or blue states and pits different groups of Americans against each other. It is no wonder that public trust in the media and in government is so low today.

Up until the last two decades or so, it was not like this. In the 1980s and 1990s, Presidents Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton presided over periods of economic resurgence and secured bipartisan legislative victories despite congressional majorities held by the opposing political party. Here in Illinois, we had a Republican Governor from 1977-2003, and except for 1981-82 and 1995-96, Democrats held the majority in the Illinois House of Representatives. Partisan

differences on legislation were resolved through negotiation and compromise. The state functioned with stability and purpose. Not so today.

The last several years, we have suffered under a Governor who runs Illinois by executive order as if he were a monarch or a dictator, sidestepping the people's elected representatives in the state legislature as often as possible. Despite this challenge, I have remained committed to delivering results for Northwest Illinois families.

In light of my reputation as an unapologetic voice for conservative principles, you may be surprised to learn that of the 56 House Bills passed into law during the 2021-22 legislative session that I personally sponsored or co-sponsored, 35 were

carried by a Democrat Representative and 21 were carried by a Republican Representative. On issues ranging from support for Illinois manufacturing and agriculture to animal welfare and veterans' issues, I have succeeded in finding common ground with colleagues across the aisle to make meaningful changes in state law that benefit hard-working families and retirees right here in Northwest Illinois.

I will keep doing my part as a citizen and a public servant to compete honestly and fiercely in the public debate on policies, and when an election is over, work together with everyone whether they agree with me or not to find solutions that make Illinois a safer, stronger, more prosperous place to live.

FHN invites community members to COVID-19 vigil

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the communities of northwest Illinois in many challenging ways, from opportunities lost to special occasions missed and plans cancelled to the devastating loss of family members, coworkers, or friends. FHN invites the public to attend a short vigil service at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 7 outside the Stephenson Street entrance of FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport.

A special invitation is extended to all healthcare workers and first responders who give so much to help protect the safety of their communities for an opportunity to

offer gratitude for the lives they continue to save and the compassionate care they provide to all.

Clinicians from the FHN Family Counseling Center will be available to speak with individuals after the event. The vigil will take place outdoors. Please follow Illinois Department of Public Health Guidelines at the time of the event (dph.illinois.gov). Individuals with symptoms, a positive test, or who have had recent exposure to someone with COVID-19 should attend the event virtually via livestream at fhn.org/vigil.FHN.



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Analysis: Notes and quotes from Illinois State Fair political days

2022 hopefuls come out in force for one of state's biggest campaign stages

By Jerry Nowicki
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Along with fried foods, carnival rides and an 800-pound cow made of butter, the Illinois State Fair is known for its political theater.

For the Statehouse press corps, it means we clear our schedules for at least two days in mid-August each year to take in the candidate stump speeches, hand shaking and one-liners.

On that last front, the quips ranged from the knee-slapper to the brow-raiser.

One comment that falls into the latter category came from Republican attorney general candidate Thomas DeVore, the lawyer who gained statewide notoriety by suing Gov. JB Pritzker to challenge his executive order authority during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During his stump speech at Republican Day Aug. 18, DeVore took aim at Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx, a favorite target of many on the Republican ticket for her prosecutorial leniency in certain

circumstances.

"You make me attorney general, and if Kim Foxx won't prosecute 'em, I will," DeVore told the crowd. "And she better get to prosecuting or we'll figure out a way to prosecute her."

It's the type of comment Democratic Attorney General Kwame Raoul alluded to when he contended the AG's race "matters more than any time in American history."

Crime was also on gubernatorial candidate Darren Bailey's mind when the downstate farmer said for at least the third time in recent months that he believes Chicago is a "hellhole."

He doubled down when asked by reporters if he thinks most Chicagoans believe the same.

"Actually, I believe they do," he said. "Because it's unsafe. But it's going to change."

Pritzker, meanwhile, characterized the Bailey-led GOP as having been taken over by the "lunatic fringe."

"They'll say anything, do anything, destroy anything to

get elected," Pritzker said in his Dem Day speech Aug. 17.

While Bailey also criticized Pritzker's "soft hands" as compared to his work-worn "hands of a farmer" in a compelling contrast, the hellhole comment is the type of messaging that has made many in the GOP hesitant to even mention Bailey's name.

House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, told members of the media he'd support the Republican ticket but wouldn't go as far as name-dropping Bailey for an endorsement.

Durkin said he's optimistic the record-high 106 Republican candidates for the state House can make a dent in Democratic supermajorities, especially if candidates focus on economic conditions.

"The cost of living, inflation," he said in an interview. "Those are the things on people's minds, and they've had enough."

Durkin also had one of the more memorable one-liners in characterizing the Democratic festivities at the Bank of

Springfield Center, sometimes referred to by its initials, BOS.

"The only thing they should have done is removed the 'O' from the BOS because it was more of a BS center, because I could smell it all the way on I-55 when I was driving into town," he said.

While Durkin used the phrase "limousine liberals" to describe the majority party, "Democrats deliver" was the tagline put forth by the opposite side as they spoke of climate legislation, minimum wage increases, a tax relief plan and other legislative accomplishments.

Senate Majority Leader Don Harmon, of Oak Park, contrasted the two parties with alliteration as well.

"It has become clear to anyone paying any attention to Washington or Springfield that there's a party that whines and there's a party that works," he said. "Our party, the Democratic Party, is the party that works."

For Emanuel "Chris" Welch, the state's House speaker from Hillside, the rallying cry was "we won't go back," as he alluded heavily to the tumultuous tenure of Republican ex-Gov. Bruce Rauner, of Evanston.

Of the 106 GOP candidates for the House, Welch said, many of them were recruited by "Bruce Rauner's buddies," the Illinois Policy Institute think tank.

Comptroller Susana Mendoza went back to the Rauner well as well, reminiscing of her days as a foil to the impasse-allowing ex-governor who was in power as the state's bill backlog rose to about \$16 billion. Bills due now number about \$2.2 billion, which means they're paid within a few weeks of being received by the comptroller.

"That guy earned eight consecutive credit downgrades during the best economic bull market in our lifetime," she said. "It is hard to be that bad."

While Mendoza pointed out Illinois has had six credit upgrades in Pritzker's term, her opponent, McHenry County Auditor Shannon Teresi, focused on some of Mendoza's political ties.

"She got her career start in Danny Solis' ward organization. He has been indicted," Teresi said. "She got married in Ed Burke's home by Ed Burke's wife (Supreme Court Justice Anne M. Burke), and Ed Burke has been indicted. She gave the nominating speech for Mike Madigan to become Speaker of the House and he is indicted."

Bloomington GOP Rep. Dan Brady, meanwhile, had a strong one-liner of his own when he promised to make his speech "as short as the lines will be in driver services facilities when I'm elected secretary of state."

The assistant minority lead-

er in the General Assembly also gleefully told reporters he had shown his line-shortening savvy at the GOP Day picnic, separating the long free BBQ line into two.

"On day one, we make sure we start cutting those lines just like we moved people through two lines here for lunch at the Republican picnic today," he said. "And I'm not even secretary of state yet."

Brady's Democratic opponent in the race to replace retiring SOS Jesse White—a man praised by both candidates—is Alexi Giannoulis, the state's former treasurer. He sought to tie Brady to the top of the GOP ticket and former President Donald Trump.

"Make no mistake, Darren Bailey, Dan Brady and others are part of Donald Trump's new Republican Party," Giannoulis said. "The same party that wants to eliminate abortion rights, put assault weapons on the streets, undermined our elections and restrict who can cast a ballot."

Brady said he voted for Trump in 2020, but the only people who ask him about that are in the news media. The public would rather focus on cutting down wait times and improving driver services, he said.

"That's what I'm talking about, and that's what people are talking to me about," he said.



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Replacing missing teeth

Missing teeth not only affect the beauty of your smile and the contours of your face but can lead to some serious oral and systemic complications. Your teeth play a critical role in preserving your bones. Like all living tissues, the bone tissues your teeth are rooted in go through a continuous growth cycle, with older bone cells dying and being resorbed and new bone cells being formed to take their place. When we chew, the forces generated from the roots of our teeth stimulate this growth cycle. When someone loses their teeth, this stimulus is lost as well. Without normal opposing pressure, bone and tissue loss will occur. When teeth are lost due to injury, decay, or disease, this loss of bone and tissue allows the surrounding teeth to drift, leading to the development of malocclusion or



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

“bad bite.” Missing and misaligned teeth affect chewing, which can lead to a compromised diet. Misaligned teeth are more difficult to clean, further compromising your dental health and increasing your risk for decay, periodontal disease, further bone and tissue loss, and TMJ pain. As discussed in previous columns, these conditions, and their accompanying inflammation, in conjunction with compromised nutrition, negatively affect your overall health. As many speech sounds depend on the interplay between teeth, tongue, and lips, difficulty with pronunciation and

other speech impediments may also develop. This can exacerbate the low self-esteem generally associated with missing teeth, leading to reduced social interactions and/or a reluctance to smile. This does not only take a toll on your personal life and professional success but on your overall health and well-being. When you smile your brain releases neuropeptides and neurotransmitters which relieve stress, lower your blood pressure, and heart rate, and reduce depression.

The development of dental implants allows a dentist to replace missing teeth without losing jawbone mass. Compared to all other options, dental implants most closely resemble a natural tooth, as they provide the strength and stability to withstand biting forces. This is due to the fact that when the implant is placed in the jaw,

it stimulates bone to grow directly over and around the implant, in a process called osseointegration. Implants are the only dental restoration that preserves and stimulates bone growth.

When considering implants, a full dental exam, which includes a comprehensive medical history, will be necessary to evaluate your unique health needs. Your dentist will also order a dental cone beam CT scan (CBCT). This is an essential diagnostic procedure for planning and placing implants. CBCT provides critical diagnostic information which cannot be obtained from traditional x-rays. If significant bone loss has occurred, bone grafting may be required prior to implant placement.

Placement of an implant into the jawbone is performed under local anesthesia. The number of teeth being replaced

will dictate how many implants will be needed. Healing time is unique, but osseointegration usually takes about three months. The patient then returns for a second procedure to create a new tooth, or crown which will be attached to the implant. When replacing multiple teeth or a traditional denture, a new bridge or implant-supported denture will be designed.

While the new replacement teeth are being created, your dentist will provide a temporary, crown, bridge, or denture.

Dental implants look, feel, and function like natural teeth. Implant-supported dentures, whether removable or fixed, securely hold your denture in place. This stability preserves your ability to speak clearly and bite and chew your food more naturally. This allows you the self-confidence to speak and eat in public.

Obtaining optimal nutrition helps to maintain both oral and overall health. Implant-supported dentures also eliminate the need for messy and costly adhesives. As your denture will now rest on the implants and not the gums, it prevents the friction that leads to sores and loss of gum tissue and eliminates the constant direct pressure on the jaw that accelerates bone loss.

While implants offer a wide range of benefits, not everyone is a candidate for this tooth replacement option. Situations where implants may not be an option for you include certain autoimmune disorders, uncontrolled or advanced diabetes, and severe periodontal disease. To avoid the complications associated with missing teeth, your dentist will develop a treatment plan to replace them that meets your unique health needs.

Around the Northern Hills with Annette Eggers

The Young Leaders Committee will have their next meeting on Thursday, Sept. 8 at 7 p.m. at the farm bureau office in Elizabeth. Anyone between the ages of 18 and 35 that has an interest in agriculture is welcome to attend. For more information, call our office at 815-858-2235.



By **ANNETTE EGGERS**
Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau

for Oct. 11 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. To place an order, stop in our office or go to our website www.jodaviesscfb.com and click on the order form on the home page.

Pop tops collection

I have had a couple of people ask me recently if we still collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City. The simple answer is, yes! We are happy to support a worthwhile cause that has benefited people from our area. If you have pop tabs that you would like to donate, please drop them off in any kind of container to the Jo

Daviess County Farm Bureau office Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Amazon shopping

Do you shop on Amazon? Did you know that by shopping on Amazon you can

also support the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau Foundation? All you need to do is go to www.smile.amazon.com and choose the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau Foundation as your charity. This is a great way to support Ag in The Classroom and ag-

ricultural scholarships while doing your normal shopping!

Farm Fun Fact

Americans today consume 17.3 billion quarts of popped popcorn each year. The average American eats about 68 quarts!

Home cooked meals fundraiser

Take part in the Ag in the Classroom Freezer meal fundraiser. You will get 10 meals frozen for you and ready to re-heat. Each meal feeds 3-5 people. The cost is \$175 for the set and the 10

meals include pulled pork, smoked pork loin, chicken fajitas, BBQ meatballs, chicken noodle soup, smoked pork chop sandwiches, shepherd's pie, ham and potatoes, chicken bacon ranch pasta, and pulled pork mac and cheese.

Orders are due to our office Sept. 17. Pick-up is set

JDCF announces Family Night Mothing Party

The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) invites the public to a Family Night Mothing Party at Casper Bluff Land and Water Reserve on Friday, Aug. 26. The free event will be co-led by insect enthusiasts who are excited to share their knowl-

edge of moths and other insects with you and your entire family.

From 6 to 8 p.m., join to learn various techniques for collecting insects such as sweep netting, tree beating, and pit-fall trapping. The mothing party will run from 8

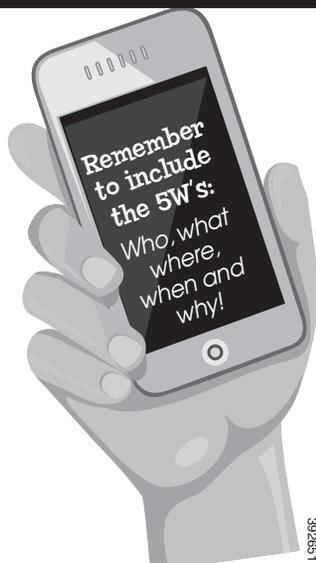
to 11:30 pm. RSVPs are not needed, and guests are free to arrive and depart at any time during the event. There is no fee to attend but donations are gladly accepted. The rain date is Saturday, Aug. 27 at the same time and location. This is a trap and release event.

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Nayak Farms delivering on goal to impact lives

By Kay Shipman

FARMWEEK

David Nayak bought a Grundy County farm in October with a goal to impact lives and fight hunger. On July 28, the Chicago physician delivered fresh sweet corn to two food banks.

"I think God is calling us to feed our state," Nayak told FarmWeek the day after helping with his first harvest at the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

Nayak Farms is working with Feeding Illinois to donate fresh sweet corn to food banks as part of the Farms to Food Bank initiative.

Initiative partners include Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Specialty Growers Association, Illinois Farmers Market Association, University of Illinois Extension and the Prairie Research Institute's Illinois Sustainable Technology Center.

"The timing is right. We need all the food we can get," said Stephen "Steve" Ericson, executive director of Feeding Illinois.

Through Nayak Farms' efforts, 16,000 pounds of sweet corn were divided into about 13,200 meals at the Chicago Food Depository. That same day, the second of his new, refrigerated semitrailers delivered sweet corn to the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva.

It seems a guardian angel and greater power helped along the way.

A central Illinois native, Nayak described how he and his wife, Alicia, concentrated on food insecurity in Chicago after medical school. An idea to establish grocery stores, possibly in a school, was tied up in red tape and logistics, but the couple's desire to fight hunger continued.

"I think God is calling us to do something bigger," he remembered telling his wife.

That's when 160 acres in Gardner came up for auction after being owned by the same family for 100 years. With an idea to fight hunger by growing food, the Nayaks attended the October auction in Dwight, bought the land, retained the longtime tenant family and joined the Kendall-Grundy Farm Bureau.

Nayak chuckles recalling when he told his farm operator, Brian Christensen, about planting sweet corn to donate on some acres instead of soybeans and field corn. Christensen guessed they'd plant half an acre and was surprised to hear Nayak's goal of 16 acres and 250,000 pounds of sweet corn.

And the doctor proposed to spread out sweet corn harvest so his farmer staggered planting. On the last week of July, two of the 16 acres were



DAVID NAYAK PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

A bin of sweet corn from Nayak Farms moves from the Grundy County fields to be loaded and trucked to a Chicago-area food bank.

picked. Nayak's goal is to harvest every 10 to 14 days until mid-October. "I want to grow the most delicious, best-tasting corn," he added enthusiastically.

Along with the farmland, other necessities came through at the right time. After learning about harvest losses, Nayak bought a one-row corn picker that was delivered only weeks before harvest — "just in time," he said. Nayak also secured the needed trucks, bins, pallets and boxes to transport the harvest.

Nayak Farms is donating the sweet corn to food banks, while the doctor's foundation,

Strength to Love, is coordinating the truck drivers, fuel and logistics, he explained. "We are blessed by God to have the ability to do this," Nayak said.

The Farm to Food Bank initiative's second-year progress has exceeded expectations, Ericson said, adding "I'm thrilled with where we are."

In addition to Nayak Farms, the initiative also gained Gibbs Family Farms in Woodford County and Roth Countryside Produce of Morton along with others. The initiative's pilot farm, Rendleman Orchards in Union County, has increased its participation, Ericson said.

Farm to Food Bank connects

food banks with farmers to buy fruit, vegetables, cheese, milk, meat and eggs. Interested farmers may contact Ericson by visiting FeedingIllinois.org. "I'd rather spend money on Illinois food and farmers than on transportation costs. It's a win-win-win," Ericson said.

With big plans and more ideas, Nayak hopes to donate 1 million pounds of sweet corn within a few years and provide off-season donations from a future building with a cooler and freezer. His progress may be guided by a guardian angel, his late mother Dr. Anjali Nay-

ak. "I think my mother is smiling down," Nayak said.

This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.



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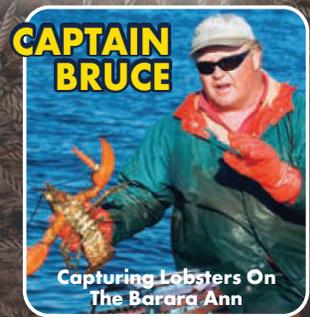
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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

This past week had a lot of picture-perfect days. The sunrises were brilliant, and the temperature warmed up just enough. We did get some showers toward the weekend, but nothing was like it was several weeks ago. We continue to have wonderful things from the garden. This week we use some vegetables and add some fruits that are summer favorites. Enjoy cooking this week!

Pineapple Pecan Cheese Ball

Most cheese balls are savory but this one is a delicious blend of sweet and savory. It is easy to make with things from your pantry and garden. If you have never used lemon pepper, it is a great addition to your spice rack. It is really good on baked fish. Don't be afraid of experimenting with

it as a seasoning. It is a good appetizer for any time of the year.

- 2 pkg. (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened
- 1 can (8 oz.) crush pineapple, well drained
- ½ C. chopped green pepper
- ½ C. chopped green onions
- 1 t. lemon pepper seasoning
- 1 t. seasoned salt
- 2 C. chopped pecans, divided

Assorted crackers

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth. Stir in the pineapple, green peppers, onions, seasonings, and ½ C. pecans. Place on a sheet of plastic wrap; shape into a ball. Refrigerate overnight. Just before serving, roll cheese ball in remaining pecans. Serve with crackers.

Pennsylvania Dutch Coleslaw

If you have a lot of cabbage, this easy slaw is a way to get rid of it in a tasty way. You need to plan ahead because it needs to be refrigerated overnight.

- 1 medium head green cabbage, shredded (8 C.)
- 1 C. shredded red cabbage
- 5 carrots, shredded
- 1 C. mayonnaise

- 2 T. cider vinegar
- ½ C. sugar
- 1 t. salt
- ¼ t. pepper

In a large bowl, combine cabbage and carrots; set aside. In a small bowl, combine the mayo, vinegar, sugar, salt, and pepper. Pour over cabbage mixture. Toss well and refrigerate overnight.

Angel Hair Primavera

This stove top pasta is easy to prepare. It makes use of summer squash, peppers, asparagus, and peas. It is a vegetarian recipe, but you could use chicken broth if you don't have vegetable stock. You can also substitute white wine vinegar for the white wine.

- 2 T. unsalted butter
- 1 medium yellow squash, halved lengthwise and sliced crosswise
- 1 large red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 C. thinly sliced red onion
- 2 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 1 carton (32 oz.) vegetable broth
- ¼ C. dry white wine
- ½ t. salt
- ½ t. pepper
- ¼ t. red pepper flakes
- 1 pkg. (16 oz.) angel hair pasta
- 2 C. chopped fresh aspara-

- gus
- 1 C. frozen peas, thawed
- 1 C. shredded Parmesan cheese
- ½ C. chopped fresh parsley

In a large Dutch oven, melt butter over medium-high heat. Add squash, red pepper, onion, and garlic; cover and cook, stirring occasionally, until vegetables are tender, about 6 minutes. Stir in broth, wine, salt, black and red pepper; bring to a boil. Add pasta, reduce heat to medium. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, until pasta is tender, about 10 minutes, adding asparagus and peas during last 3 minutes of cooking. Stir in cheese and parsley. Serve immediately.

Haystack Supper

This recipe will feed a ton of people. You can divide it in half for your family. It makes two large cake size pans and is great for a potluck or any gathering. Use it for your main dish. It has several layers and lots of surprises.

- 1¾ C. crushed saltines (about 40 crackers)
- 2 C. cooked rice
- 3 lbs. ground beef
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1½ C. tomato juice
- ¾ C. water

- 3 T. taco seasoning
- ½ t. salt
- ¼ t. pepper
- ½ C. butter cubed
- ½ C. flour
- 4 C. whole milk
- 1 lb. Velveeta, cubed
- 4 C. shredded lettuce
- 3 C. shredded sharp cheddar cheese

- 3 medium tomatoes, diced
- 1 jar (10 oz.) pimiento stuffed olives
- 1 pkg. (14 ½ oz.) tortilla chips

Divide the crackers between 2 ungreased 9 x 13 baking dishes. Top each with rice. In a large skillet, cook beef and onion until meat is no longer pink; drain. Add the tomato juice, water, taco seasoning, salt and pepper; simmer for 15 to 20 minutes. Spoon over rice.

In a large saucepan, melt butter. Stir in flour until smooth. Gradually add milk. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until thickened, about 2 minutes. Reduce heat and stir in Velveeta cheese and stir until melted. Pour over beef mixture. Top with cheddar cheese, tomatoes, and olives. Serve with chips. I would serve some salsa and sour cream on the side. Refrigerate any leftovers.

Salted Caramel Pretzel Krispies

- 1 10 oz. pkg of miniature marshmallow
- 3 T. canola oil
- 5 C. Rice Krispies cereal
- 1 C. chopped caramels, divided
- 1 C. chopped pretzels, divided
- 1 pkg. (11 ½ oz.) milk chocolate chips

In a large saucepan over low heat or in a microwave, melt the marshmallows in canola oil; stir until smooth. Remove from the heat and stir in cereal. Add the caramels and pretzels to the cereal mixture. Press mixture into a greased 9 x 13 pan using waxed paper or a lightly greased spatula. Melt the chocolate chips and spread over the cereal mixture. Top with the chopped caramels and pretzels. Sprinkle with sea salt.

Pina Colada Dump Cake

This cake is an easy tropical cake. It has all the island ingredients for a great dessert: macadamia nuts, coconut, and pineapple. If you don't have white rum, you can substitute

See KITCHEN, Page 15

The Scoop Today & Shopper's Guide

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JO DAVIESS COUNTY - GALENA, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v.- ELAINE L. MILLER et al Defendant

2022 FC 7

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 14, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:30 PM on September 20, 2022, at the office of Vincent Roth Toepfer & Leinen PC, 11406 U.S. Route 20 W, Galena, IL, 61036, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

A PART OF THE SOUTH WEST QUARTER OF THE NORTH EAST QUARTER OF SECTION TWENTY-FOUR (24) IN TOWNSHIP TWENTY-NINE (29) NORTH OF RANGE FOUR (4) EAST OF THE 4TH P.M., BEGINNING IN THE SOUTH LINE OF MAIN STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF WARREN AT A POINT 200 FEET WESTERLY FROM THE INTERSECTION OF THE WEST LINE OF LONG STREET AND THE SOUTH LINE OF MAIN STREET, AND RUNNING THENCE SOUTHERLY PARALLEL WITH LONG STREET TO LAND FORMERLY OWNED BY JOHN D. PLATT, THENCE WESTERLY ALONG PLATT'S NORTH LINE 200 FEET, THENCE NORTHERLY PARALLEL WITH LONG STREET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF MAIN STREET, THENCE EASTERLY ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF MAIN STREET 200 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS AND STATE OF ILLINOIS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A TRACT OF LAND IN THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE AFORESAID DESCRIBED PROPERTY MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING

AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 1, BLOCK 2 OF PHILLIP'S ADDITION TO WARREN, THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF MAIN STREET 75 FEET, THENCE RUNNING AT RIGHT ANGLES IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION PARALLEL WITH THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT 1, BLOCK 2, PHILLIPS ADDITION 156-1/2 FEET, THENCE RUNNING IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF MAIN STREET 75 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT 1, THENCE IN A NORTH-EASTERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT ONE, 156-1/2 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, SITUATED IN THE VILLAGE OF WARREN, COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

SUBJECT TO COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD, IF ANY. Commonly known as 411 W. MAIN ST., WARREN, IL 61087

Property Index No. 43-21-001-147-00

The real estate is improved with a residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

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

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300

E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-22-01341

Attorney ARDC No. 00468002

Case Number: 2022 FC 7
TJSC#: 42-2875

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Case # 2022 FC 7
I3200778

(Published in The Scoop Today Aug. 17, 24 & 31, 2022) 423161

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS - GALENA, ILLINOIS FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION; Plaintiff, vs. TIMOTHY HUNT; KATHY HUNT; HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION, III; THE GALENA TERRITORY ASSOCIATION, INC.; Defendants,

22 FC 13

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the office of James J. Nack, 106 North Main Street, Galena, Illinois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Lot 111 in Thunder Bay Unit 3 of Branigar's Galena Territory, according to the plat thereof recorded in Jo Daviess County, Illinois,

Situated in the State of Illinois, County of Jo Daviess. P.I.N. 08-203-111-00.

Commonly known as 14 East Aspen Court, Galena, IL 61036.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. File Number 20-013237 ADC

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3201090

(Published in The Scoop Today Aug. 24, 31 & Sept. 7, 2022) 423400

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY IN PROBATE In Re the Matter of the Estate of: Vicky L. Benoodt, Deceased.

No. 2022 PR 71

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of Vicky L. Benoodt, of Freeport, Illinois. An Order was entered issuing Letters of Office as described herein and requiring the representative to file an inventory within 60 days. Letters of Office were issued on August 12, 2022, to:

Aaron P. Burke
c/o Burke-Tubbs Funeral Homes
504 N. Walnut Ave.
Freeport, IL 61032
as independent Administrator of the Estate of Vicky L. Benoodt, 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 February 27, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before said date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date August 16, 2022
FILED
Stephenson County, IL 8/16/2022
by Shanelle Bardell
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Aaron P. Burke,
Administrator
By: Anthony V. Coon,
Anthony V. Coon,
Attorney At Law

Anthony V. Coon,
#6269568
Attorney at Law
10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210
Freeport, IL 61032
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(Published in The Shopper's Guide Aug. 24, 31 & Sept. 7, 2022) 423534

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State police questioned over handling of report on alleged Highland Park shooter

GOP lawmakers say agency had authority to deny Robert Crimo III a FOID card

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Officials from the Illinois State Police faced questioning Aug. 17 from Republican lawmakers who said the agency had authority to reject a gun permit application from a man who later allegedly carried out a mass shooting at a July 4 parade in Highland Park.

The alleged gunman, Robert Crimo III, is being held without bond on a 117-count indictment for the mass shooting that left seven dead and dozens more injured.

State Sen. John Curran, R-Downers Grove, criticized ISP for claiming that it had no authority to deny Crimo a Firearms Owners Identification, or FOID card, when he applied for one in December 2019, just three months after he had been the subject of a "clear and present danger" report filed by an individual who alleged Crimo had threatened to "kill everyone."

"This report clearly, by any independent review, would meet the level of preponderance of the evidence," Curran said. "It is clearly above the 50 percent threshold, more likely than not, that there (was) a threat of violence in that home."

The questioning came during a meeting of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, a legislative panel that has oversight of the administrative rulemaking process.

On Sept. 5, 2019, Highland Park police received a report, believed to be from a juvenile member of the Crimo family, that Crimo had made a threat in the household a few days earlier and that he intended to "kill everyone." The report-

ing individual told authorities of being afraid to go home due to the nature of the threat.

When police arrived at the residence, according to the report, they interviewed both Crimo and his mother, Denise M. Pesina. Crimo reportedly admitted to being depressed when he made the statement and admitted having a history of drug use. The reporting officer noted that neither Crimo nor his mother was forthcoming about the language he used when making the threat.

Police then recovered a tin lunch box containing 16 miscellaneous knives along with a 12-inch dagger and a 24-inch Samurai-type blade.

The weapons reportedly belonged to Crimo's father, who did not live in the residence, but were being stored in Crimo's bedroom closet.

During the interview, Crimo denied that he felt like hurting himself or others.

ISP said in a statement after the July 4 shooting that no arrest was made following the September 2019 incident and that no one, including Crimo's family, was willing to move forward with a complaint or provide further information on threats or mental health issues that would have allowed law enforcement to take additional action.

Highland Park police then forwarded a copy of the report to ISP, which is responsible for administering the state's FOID law. But because Crimo did not have a FOID card at the time and had not yet applied to obtain one, ISP discarded the report.

Under the administrative rule in place at the time, ISP was required to maintain records of people who are determined to present a clear and present danger. But the rule also said ISP "shall not maintain a record of those persons who are not determined to present a clear and present danger for these purposes."

The rule also defined a "clear and present danger" as someone who poses "an ac-

tual, impending, or imminent threat of substantial bodily harm to themselves or another person that is articulable and significant" or a person "who will be likely to act in a manner dangerous to public safety or contrary to the public interest if they were granted access to a weapon."

Curran, however, questioned whether any determination had been made in Crimo's case, pointing to what he interpreted to be inconsistencies in ISP's public statements.

He noted that on July 5, the day after the shooting, ISP issued a news release stating that the agency took no action on the report because Crimo did not have a FOID card to revoke or a pending application to deny.

But the following day, Curran noted, ISP issued another release indicating the agency had, in fact, reviewed the Highland Park police report which indicated that officers found no probable cause to arrest Crimo.

"Upon review of the report at that time, the reviewing officer concluded there was insufficient information for a clear-and-present-danger determination," the release stated.

Curran said the conflicting statements have led to confusion.

"We don't know if the determination was ever made because you're not telling us," Curran said. "You put two different versions out there. I'd like to know which one (is accurate)."

Other Republicans on the panel criticized the Pritzker administration over its handling of the incident.

"The Pritzker administration's purported review of the FOID card process following the Aurora shooting in 2019 failed to recognize this gap in the interpretation and application of clear-and-present-danger reports submitted to the ISP," Sen. Donald DeWitte, R-St. Charles, said in a statement. "Had the Pritz-

ker administration done what they said they were going to do, which was to review and make sure laws already on the books were being implemented more effectively, the tragedy in Highland Park might never have occurred."

But Kelly Griffith, ISP's acting chief legal counsel, defended the agency's actions, saying its hands were tied by the rules in place at the time.

"At the time that the clear present danger came to the Illinois State Police in September 2019, the rule would not have allowed us to keep that information," she said. "The

person didn't have a FOID card. They didn't have an application on file. And so that report was actually not kept."

On July 21, ISP published a new emergency rule to make it clear that the agency will maintain records of clear-and-present-danger reports, even if the person does not have a FOID card or pending application.

It also broadens the definition of a clear and present danger to match the definition in statute, which does not require that the person pose an "impending, or imminent threat" or that the threat be

"articulable and significant."

State agencies are allowed to issue emergency rules under some circumstances, but they are still subject to JCAR review and can stay in effect for only 150 days before they either expire or are replaced with permanent rules. ISP has indicated it intends to submit permanent rules, which will also be subject to public comment and further review by JCAR.

JCAR did not issue an objection to the emergency rule Aug. 17, meaning it is allowed to remain in place through the 150-day window.

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:

W. Neil Brown,
Deceased.

No. 22-PR-73

**NOTICE FOR
PUBLICATION -
CLAIMS**

Notice is given of the death of W. Neil Brown, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on August 16, 2022, to:

**Jacqueline N. Brown
423 Bruce Ave.
Billings, MT 59101**

as independent Administrator of the Estate of W. Neil Brown, 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 **February 27, 2023**, 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 (10) days after it has been filed.

Date: August 17, 2022.

FILED

Stephenson County, IL
8/17/2022

by Shanelle Bardell

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Jacqueline N. Brown,
Administrator

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

Anthony V. Coon,
#6269568

Attorney at Law
10 N. Galena Ave.,
Ste. 210

Freeport, IL 61032
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tonycoonlaw@aol.com

(Published in
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423581

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT

STEPHENSON COUNTY
IN PROBATE

In Re the Matter
of the Estate of:

Brenda E. Mitchell,
Deceased.

No. 2022 PR 74

**NOTICE FOR
PUBLICATION -
CLAIMS**

Notice is given of the death of Brenda E. Mitchell, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on August 16, 2022, to:

Judith C. Cary
621 W. Douglas St.
Freeport, IL 61032

as Independent Executor of the Estate of Brenda E. Mitchell, whose attorney is
Anthony V. Coon
Attorney At Law

10 N. Galena Ave, Ste. 210
Freeport, Illinois 61032

Notice is given to persons who are heirs or legatees in the above proceeding whose name or address is not stated in the Petition and that an Order was entered by the Court on August 16, 2022, admitting the estate to probate.

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 February 27, 2023, 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.

FILED
Stephenson County, IL
8/18/2022

by Shanelle Bardell
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Anthony V. Coon,
#6269568

Attorney at Law
10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210
Freeport, IL 61032
815-235-2212

Fax 815-232-5500
tonycoonlaw@aol.com

(Published in
The Shopper's Guide
Aug. 24, 31 & Sept. 7, 2022)

Cornerstone Credit Union and the BBB host Free Community Shred Day

To help members and the community protect their identity by securely destroying sensitive personal information, Cornerstone Credit Union and the Rockford Regional office of the Better Business Bureau will partner

for a Free Community Shred Day on Saturday, Sept. 10, at Cornerstone's main branch in Freeport, 550 W Meadows Drive. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. A Freeport Recycling truck will be in the credit union parking lot

with volunteers to take containers of personal documents for on-site shredding. Please follow traffic directives for entering and exiting. A maximum of two boxes per vehicle is requested so everyone may be helped.



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Pritzker talks session timeline, highlights infrastructure spending

Gun, abortion-related bills could wait until new year, depending on lawmaker support

By Jerry Nowicki
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

In a series of downstate news conferences coinciding with the Illinois State Fair, Gov. JB Pritzker last week gave an update on the possibility of a special session, outlined new state infrastructure investments and announced a new program for some Illinoisans over age 55.

While the governor quickly announced he would call a special session after the landmark Supreme Court case *Roe vs. Wade* was overturned in June, lawmakers have thus far not scheduled any return to the Capitol.

Recently, Pritzker wasn't any clearer as to when he expected lawmakers to return to address issues such as abortion rights and gun violence.

"As you know, the working groups are hard at work in the House of Representatives, working on various aspects of legislation, working with advocates, listening to them," he said. "And so we're cautiously optimistic that they'll be able to come up with ideas for us to be able to bring forward in a special session, or in veto session, or some of it may even be in the new year."

On Aug. 16, Pritzker was asked about session again, noting he was in favor of banning high-capacity magazines and assault-style weapons like the ones used in the Highland Park July 4 shooting.

But, he said, measures passed after May 31 need three-fifths supermajorities

to become law immediately once signed. Bills passed with simple majorities after that date cannot take effect until June 1 of the following year, or in this case June 1, 2023. Measures passed after Jan. 1, however, can take effect immediately on a simple majority vote.

"So the question is: can they come up with a compromise or bills that will meet my requirements that could get done before the new session, and that's what I'm looking for," he said.

The regular veto session is scheduled for Nov. 15 through 17 and Nov. 29 through Dec. 1.

Mainstreet improvements: In his latest celebration of state infrastructure funding, Pritzker stopped in Alton Aug. 15 to highlight a \$106 million state investment in revitalization of main streets across Illinois. It will be met by \$109 million in other matching funds, for a total investment of \$215 million.

The state was able to double its initial planned \$50 million investments in the program to \$106 million due to funding made available through the federal American Rescue Plan Act, according to the governor's office.

The grants will be made through the state's Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in more than 50 communities with a maximum allotment of \$3 million.

The funding is aimed at modernizing downtowns, addressing long-awaited infrastructure needs and boosting local economies, Pritzker said.

In Alton, that includes \$3 million for the renovation of downtown space for a business incubator. In Rantoul in Champaign County, it included \$3 million for downtown improvements, infrastructure upgrades and implementation

of a master plan.

Over \$2 million will go to Carbondale for downtown arts and entertainment district improvements, while Carrollton, in Greene County, will see \$1.9 million for courthouse improvements.

The funding for Rebuild Illinois' building infrastructure component comes from an expansion of gambling in the state, as well as an increase to cigarette taxes and parking taxes. Those measures have all been in place since 2019.

A full list of downtown revitalization projects is available here.

Law enforcement campus: Pritzker also stopped in Belleville Aug. 15 to announce a plan for a new law enforcement-focused campus in partnership with the city of Belleville, Southwestern Illinois College, the Illinois State Police, and Southern Illinois University.

The Southwestern Illinois Justice and Workforce Development Campus will be located at a site which once housed Lindenwood University's undergraduate program.

The city of Belleville purchased the building through a \$3 million DCEO grant, and SWIC was allocated \$5.9 million from the Illinois Community College Board to operate the facility.

Beginning in the fall of 2022, according to the governor's office, SWIC will launch a new police training academy at the site. It will host 125 to 130 cadets in the inaugural class, and the site could host more SWIC criminal justice programs in the future.

PACE program: On Senior Day at the fair, Pritzker and representatives from the Illinois Department of Human Services announced the state's participation in a Medicare- and Medicaid-funded program aimed at giving Illinoisans aged 55 and older in

certain communities an alternative to nursing home care.

The Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, or PACE, will be available to Illinoisans age 55 and older who qualify for Medicaid and Medicare in West Chicago, South Chicago, Southern Cook County, Peoria and East St. Louis.

The program provides coordinated medical care and social services to adults who fit those categories and qualify for nursing home care but can safely live at home.

It's a federal program that Illinois tried to participate in in the 1990s, IDHS Director Theresa Eagleson said, but participation was minimal. Pritzker said 31 states already have such programs in place.

"Seniors who enroll in PACE will receive interdisciplinary and comprehensive services right in their communities right at home," Pritzker said. "That's everything from home and personal care to individualize specialty medical care and diagnostic services."

The governor's office said

the programs are expected to be up and running in Fiscal Year 2024, which begins in July 2023. The funding comes from a redistribution of existing resources within the state's managed care program.



REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JO DAVIESS COUNTY - GALENA, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v.- ELAINE L. MILLER et al Defendant

2022 FC 7 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 14, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:30 PM on September 20, 2022, at the office of Vincent Roth Toepfer & Leinen PC, 11406 U.S. Route 20 W, Galena, IL, 61036, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 411 W. MAIN ST., WARREN, IL 61087 Property Index No. 43-21-001-147-00 The real estate is improved with a residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to

the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g) (4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

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

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. File Number 20-013237 ADC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3201090

(Published in The Scoop Today Aug. 24, 31 & Sept. 7, 2022) 423400

you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Case # 2022 FC 7 I3200778 (Published in The Scoop Today Aug. 17, 24 & 31, 2022) 423162

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS - GALENA, ILLINOIS FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION; Plaintiff, vs. TIMOTHY HUNT; KATHY HUNT; HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION, III; THE GALENA TERRITORY ASSOCIATION, INC.; Defendants,

22 FC 13 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the office of James J. Nack, 106 North Main Street, Galena, Illinois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 08-203-111-00.

Commonly known as 14 East Aspen Court, Galena, IL 61036. The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. File Number 20-013237 ADC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3201090

(Published in The Scoop Today Aug. 24, 31 & Sept. 7, 2022) 423400

•Kitchen

(Continued from page 11)

pineapple juice or white grape juice.

1/3 C. coarsely chopped macadamia nuts

1/2 C. sweetened shredded coconut

1 can (20 oz.) crushed pineapple, undrained

1/3 C. white rum

1 pkg. white cake mix

1/2 C. butter melted

1/2 C. warm water

Whipped cream and maraschino cherries

Preheat oven to 350. Evenly spread coconut, nuts and pineapple in a greased 9 x 13 baking dish; drizzle rum over the top. Sprinkle with cake mix. Drizzle with butter and water. Bake until golden brown and bubbly, about 45 to

50 minutes. Serve warm with whipped cream and decorate with cherries.

Final Thoughts

School started this past week. After teaching for 40 years, I still get a little nostalgic about the first days of school. There is a lot of excitement and some fear. There is a beginning for the little ones and the beginning of the end for the big ones. I loved seeing all the first day of school pictures on Facebook. I am hoping that everyone has a great year—students, teachers, administrators, and parents. Good luck to all of you.

With the beginning of school there is also the be-

ginning of school sports. The first football and volleyball games have begun, and golf has had more meets than you can imagine. Now we all have some entertainment that we have been without for the last three months. We are soon coming upon Labor Day. If you have any recipes for a last of summer gathering, remember that we continue to seek good farm stand recipes. Also, if you have some good vegetable or fruit recipes for the season, send them our way. You can contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide at 240 W. Main St. or email us at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.



Come to Pearl City - Boulevard Bash - Saturday, Aug. 17

Shopper's Guide & The Scoop Today
 240 W. Main St.
 Suite B, Lena, IL

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 - 11 AM: Parade (Registration at 10 am) Contact Nathan Pickard at 815-821-2403
 - 11 AM: Hog Roast Lunch/Dinner
 - 11 AM: Kids Activities
 - 11:30 AM: LIVE BAND Rock Steady
 - 12 PM: BINGO (until 5 p.m.)
 - 12:30 PM: Kiddie Tractor Pull (Sponsored by Stephenson Cty. Farm Bureau in school parking lot)
 - 2 PM: Kiddie Water Fights, Sponsored by PC Fire Department, School parking lot
 - 2 PM: Alumni Baseball Game, Contact Ryne Plager 815-291-9822
 - 4:30 PM: LIVE BAND The Frazer Project
 - 6 PM: PC Pitmaster BBQ Samples available (while supplies last!)
 - 6:30 PM: Gail "Johnny" Johnson Service Award
 - 6:45 PM: Class of 1972 Presentation
 - 7 PM: Check Presentation
 - 7:15 PM: PC Pitmaster Awards
 - 7:30 PM: LIVE BAND 3 Day Rain
 - 9:30 PM: Raffle Drawing
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Enjoy the Boulevard Bash!!!

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SSM Health continues COVID-19 policies for hospitals and clinics

The spread of COVID-19 has gone up and down throughout the past year, but SSM Health Monroe Hospital and SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group leaders want patients to know that safety protocols for healthcare facilities remain in effect.

SSM Health reminds patients and visitors of the following:

Masks are still required at all times within healthcare facilities. There are still limitations on visitors for most appointments and locations. Patients and visitors will continue to be subject to COVID-19 screenings.

These policies benefit patients, visitors, and staff, as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "community level" of COVID-19 for Green County and Stephenson County continues to be "high" and hospitalization rates elevate.

A high-quality mask, such as a medical-grade surgical mask or an N95, is required to be worn by patients and visitors over the nose and mouth, including while patients are waiting in clinic rooms for a nurse or provider.

Visitor restrictions remain

in effect to limit the opportunity for spread of the virus in healthcare facilities. Because policies can vary based on the location and type of appointment, patients should always confirm the visitor policies with their provider or clinic prior to the appointment.

Patients who have COVID-19 are not permitted visitors unless under rare circumstances such as end-of-life care. Visitors should refrain from accompanying or visiting patients if they recently tested positive for COVID-19 or are currently experiencing a COVID-19 symptom.

Finally, all patients are subject to COVID-19 screening and should answer screening questions honestly. This allows care teams to provide the best care and take the proper precautions, such as donning additional personal protective equipment, using virtual appointments or sometimes rescheduling appointments.

As cooler weather approaches and schools begin, SSM Health is closely monitoring the state of COVID-19 in the community and working to ensure facilities remain a safe place for all to receive the care they need.

• Golf (Continued from front page)

Fellow junior Bennett Graves who is also extremely familiar with Woodbine Bend, is expected to perform well this season. Kenna acknowledged Graves' hard work, saying the junior has "improved dramatically." Graves is also extremely familiar with Woodbine Bend, as he played league there this year.

Whether the junior duo is familiar with the course or not, they still had to show up and compete if Stockton wanted to pick up a win. Dvorak's knowledge of the course was evident as he crushed the competition with no other golfer finishing within nine strokes of his final score. Dvorak finished the day with the first-place medal, shooting a 39. Graves also performed well, shooting a 48, which was good enough to earn a place as co-runner up. Eastland's Kaegan Strauch was the other runner up with a 48 on the day.

The duo of juniors performed well enough to get team wins over Eastland and Dakota, but it was Dvorak's dominating performance that secured the victory over Eastland. While Dvorak and Graves combined for a score of 87, Arrison Bauer shot a

55 and Blake Zink shot a 58. Stockton's quad combined for a final score of 200 on the day.

Eastland gave the Blackhaws a run for their money. With Strauch's co-runner up finish, the rest of the team combined for a final score of 205, leaving them just five strokes behind Stockton. Dakota's group struggled most of the day, combining for a score of 250.

Kenna, who is in his 21st year as Stockton's coach, credited the two wins to the play of Dvorak and Graves. "[Dvorak] played well", Kenna said, adding that "he is a good ball striker." When discussing Dvorak's night. Prior to the season, Kenna acknowledged the inexperience of his team saying, "We have some players with junior varsity experience, but we will mostly be a two-horse team." That was certainly true in the early season outing at Woodbine Bend, as Graves and Dvorak led the way to a 2-0 start. "Those two played well and it was a great night for us to get two wins", Kenna shared.

The Stockton golf team will travel to the Eagle Ridge South course to face off with Galena at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24.