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VOL. 84 • NO. 01

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2017

ing awareness and offering victims agency, or a no-kill animal shelter

ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR

As citizens throughout Illinois ring in the New Year, nearly 200 laws will take effect.

A significant number of the new laws target crime, make changes to the criminal justice system, seeks to assist law enforcement, and advance safety provisions for Illinois motor-

Criminal justice reforms poised to take effect

One measure to allow greater flexibility in granting probation for certain non-violent offenders with no prior conviction for a violent crime is set to take effect on Jan. 1. Senate Bill 3164 is part of a bipartisan package of legislative reforms to Illinois' criminal justice system, and was introduced at the recommendation of the Governor's Illinois State Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform.

The commission was charged with identifying policy changes to reduce recidivism and make significant reductions to the state's prison population, which had increased by more than 500 percent in the last 40 years. Senate Bill 3164 is one measure that seeks to reduce the number of non-violent offenders in Illinois' correctional facilities-which are operating at roughly 150 percent of recommended capacity.

New laws aim to address sexual assault and domestic abuse

Another new law, Senate Bill 3096, seeks to increase the reporting, investigation, and successful prosecution of sexual assault cases in Illinois. This new law gives victims a longer period of time to request a rape kit, speeds up forensic testing to address the backlog of testing rape kits in sexual assault cases, and requires more detailed reporting of sexual assault cases by police.

Additionally, cosmetologists will receive special training to spot the signs of domestic violence and sexual violence as part of their license renewal process under House Bill 4264. Advocates of the measure said the training is intended to reduce domestic violence by increasanother place to turn for help – especially those who may not feel comfortable going to the authorities.

Minors protected by new laws

Child victims of battery will be able to give testimony via a one-way closed circuit television thanks to Senate Bill 2880. This new law allows children involved in battery or aggravated domestic battery cases to avoid the serious emotional trauma and distress of testifying in a court-

Senate Bill 2370 requires legal counsel during the interrogation of minors younger than age 15 who have been charged with murder. This law addresses concerns that minors may not fully understand their legal rights, and as a result should have legal representation present when speaking with police.

New law strengthens employee privacy

Another new law, House Bill 4999, seeks to further protect employees' online privacy by strengthening and clarifying existing laws that make it unlawful for any employer or prospective employer to require an employee or prospective employee to provide user names and passwords to their personal online accounts, including social media accounts.

'Bath salts' sales

Senate Bill 210 aims to curb the sale of all synthetic cathinones, drugs that are often sold under as legitimate products such as "bath salts." "Bath salts" have made headlines in recent years for the bizarre, zombie-like behavior exhibited by those under its influence. Under this new law, it will become a Class 3 felony with a maximum fine of \$150 to sell these drugs in a retail store.

Police dog retirement plan

Police dogs will be able to enjoy their retirement in permanent homes with the police officers and staff they worked with, under Senate Bill 3129. Should the officer or employee who worked with the dog be unable to take their canine work companion, under the new law the dog may be offered to another officer or employee in the agency, a non-profit that will find an appropriate owner for the dog.

New transportation laws increase public safety

Don't forget to stop at a railroad crossing when the warning gates

and lights are on! Under Senate Bill 2806, the fine for failure to stop at a railroad crossing will double. A first violation will now cost \$500 and subsequent violations will cost \$1,000.

Private transportation companies

will be allowed to operate video recording devices, under Senate Bill The new law stipulates that vehicles using this type of technology must have a notice posted stat-

See LAWS, Page 10



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Toda

Celebrating 50 years

In celebration of Stockton High School Class of 1966's 50th reunion, a donation was made to the Stockton Education Foundation during the Foundation's 2016 radiothon. In addition, donations were presented to the Tony Valaika Scholarship Fund and to the Wayne Bardell Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Pictured at the presentation Left to right: Front row - Marcia Townsend Dick, Pattie Krippendorf foundation member, Nancy Williams Bartlett. 2nd row - Connie Long Spickler, Barb Platt Manthei, Pam Hill Bjerke, Peggy Rees Katzenberger, Lillian VanHamme Townsend, Tim Kirk. Back row - Ernie Lieb, Clair Miller, Joe Katzenberger, Dave Wulff

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Stockton Police report for week ending Dec. 29

were dispatched to an address on West Front Street in reference to a hit and run accident. The owner of the victim vehicle stated that she had parked her vehicle on the street in front of her residence the night before, and the vehicle was in good condition. Upon returning to the vehicle on this date, the owner found the persons unknown had struck her vehicle causing damage to the front driver's side fender. There are no suspects at this time and the case is under investigation.

12/20 at about 3:47 p.m., the Stockton Police were notified of a theft at Sullivan's Food Store. The manager of the store advised that he had just had a retail theft which occurred about 10 minutes prior to calling the police. The manager gave a description of the offender as a white male suspect, between 45 to his 50's, with gray hair, ball cap, glasses, black leather coat, blue jeans and white shoes. The manager stated that the offender had just stolen two prime rib roasts from the meat section of the store. The offender placed the items in his coat and walked down the cereal aisle towards the front of the store. The offender then ran out the store through the deli area with the manager running after him. The manager was alerted to the offender when he ran past him in the deli. The manager followed the offender outside and watched him get into the passenger seat of a red 2004 Chevy minivan with Illinois registration. The manager stated that there was a younger white male who was driving the van. The van left the Sullivan's Parking lot and drove north through the rear entrance to the parking lot. On the arrival of police, the area was checked with negative results for the van. However, through investigation, police were able to identify a possible offender. This case is under investigation and an arrest is expected.

On 12/21 at approximately 3:43 p.m., Stockton Police were dis-

County Sheriff's Office in reference to a suspicious vehicle. Officers were advised that there was a car in a driveway of a house where someone had recently passed away. The caller advised that they had not seen this car there before. Upon arrival. Police observed the car at the house. Through investigation it was learned that the car was authorized to be at the location. No further police assistance was necessary.

On 12/21 at approximately 5:30 p.m., the Stockton Police were dispatched to an address on West maple Street in reference to a suspicious person. On arrival, the Officer met with the complainant who advised that a male wearing a ComEd hat was knocking at her door and insisting that the complainant open it. The complainant advised that it seemed strange that a representative of ComEd would be trying to speak with people that late in the evening. The complainant instructed the suspicious person to come back during the day on 12-22-16. The complainant did not see where the subject parked, what kind of vehicle he was driving or where the subject went after he left the complainants house. The police checked the area and did not locate the subject.

At approximately 6 p.m. on 12/21 the Stockton Police received a complaint in reference to Financial Exploitation of a Mentally Disabled Person. The complainant stated that he believes that a person who has a court appointed guardian is being taken advantage of persons who have been hanging around with and staying with the disabled subject. The complainant stated that the subject of the guardianship has an extremely diminished mental state and is unable to make sound decisions regarding his own welfare or to care for himself. The complainant stated that the disabled subject has been assisted by his guardian for numerous years as far as personal well being and financial advice and assistance. The complainant stated

suspects took up residency at the disabled persons residence, which is owned by the complainant. The complainant stated that the suspects may have unlawfully gained control of financial instruments belonging to the disabled person. This case is currently under investigation by the Stockton Police Department and The Jo Daviess County States Attorneys' Office.

On 12/21 at approx. 6:38 p.m., The Stockton Police received a call complaining about door to door peddlers. The complainant stated that a person came to their door stating they were from "Direct Energy". It was learned that no one from this company had applied for or received a peddlers or solicitors permit to go door to door in the Village of Stockton. On arrival of police, a search of the neighborhood was negative for the suspicious person.

On 12/22 at approximately 2:19 a.m., The Stockton Police were dispatched to assist the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Office on a call of a Physical Domestic Disturbance. Both subjects had marks on them from "unintentional physical contact with one another which occurred when wrestling over a cell phone". On advice from the States Attorney, the incident was reported for later review and both involved subjects were separated temporar-

On 12/24 at approximately 4:51 a.m., The Stockton Police were dispatched to a call of Possible Domestic Disturbance on East Front Street. Police were advised that there was a call to the 911 Center, where they could hear arguing in the background, but no one was actually on the phone with dispatchers. On arrival, officers encountered the residents at the address. They both stated that neither one had called 911, and that they had been arguing, but there was no need for police intervention. It was discovered that the cell phone, which had low battery. dialed 911 on its own while being charged. The phone was found in a separate room, on a charger, and still connected to the 911 dispatchers. There was no sign of physical violence and neither party requested police Intervention. No further poice action was taken.

Police assisted Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Office on a traffic stop they had performed on a vehicle. The driver of the vehicle was arrested on traffic charges and was brought to the Stockton Police Department for processing and posting

At 9:32 a.m. on 12/26, the Stockton Police were dispatched to an address on North Union Road in reference to a notification. Lafayette County, Wisconsin Sheriff's Office was requesting that we notify the family of a person they were involved with who had been involved in a rollover accident. The message was relayed by the Stockton Police to family members who were then put in touch with the Sheriff in Wis-

At approximately 10:56 a,m,, on 12/26, the Stockton Police were advised of damage to a headstone in the cemetery on Route 20 at Simmons Road. The complainant advised that at approximately 10 a.m. on 12/23 the person plowing snow in the Stockton Cemetery at N. Simmons and E. North Ave. discovered that a monument had been knocked over by a snowmobile near the north eastern edge of the cemetery. Police met with the complainant at that location and observed snowmobile tracks travelling westbound from a field entering the eastern edge of the cemetery. The tracks proceeded through a small hedge row into an overturned monument which the complainant stated that only damage that was apparent on the monument was a small chip on the bottom of it. The complainant advised that the incident could have occurred anytime within the past week. The complainant stated that the family was going to be contacted about the damage. This incident is still under investigation.

On 12/26 at approximately 7:50 p.m. an officer of the Stockton Police Department responded to a call of an assault. While interviewing the victim, it was learned that on the evening of 12/25, the victim went to a residence on North Park Street to visit an old friend. The friend lives at the residence with at least two other much younger subjects. The victim stated that he was at the residence for approximately five minthe victim. The victim stated that The offender then began using profane language and making aggressive threats directed toward the victim. The second younger resident of the premises had to physically restrain the offender from attacking the victim. The victim stated that he believed that if the offender had not been restrained, the offender would have begun striking the victim. The offender then began to threaten the victim by stating "if I see you on the street, I will break your jaw". The victim then immediately left the residence and contacted the police. This case is still under investiga-

At 7:16 a.m. on 12/27, the Stockton Police were dispatched to assist the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Office with a physical domestic altercation. An arrest was made for Domestic Battery by the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Office. This case is being investigated by the Sheriff's Office.

At approximately 2:19 p.m. on 12/27, the Stockton Police were dispatched to a suspicious vehicle at a business on East North Avenue. The complainant reported an abandoned Sierra pickup truck on the west side of their building. A check via computer through the Secretary Of State showed the vehicle was registered to a business located in Jo Daviess County. The complainant stated that they know the people from that business and that no further police service would be needed as they would contact the owner.

Chief Tom Sheehan of the Stockton Police Department would like to remind readers that if you recognize a criminal event that you have read about in the paper, you are invited to contact the police if you have information about the event or an Offender. Also, everyone is reminded not to open your door for persons you do not recognize. If peddlers or solicitors come to your door and the circumstances seem suspicious, CALL POLICE. If the person or persons have a legitimate reason to be at your door, the police will be able to determine this. If the person(s) have no legitimate reason to be at your door, the police want to know who they are. Crime Prevention starts with YOU!

THE SCOOP TODAY "Committed to the communities we serve"

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Sincere thanks

to all for the Get Well cards, food, gifts, all the support and prayers for my recent surgeries and healing process. Thank you for the surprise gifts from our Secret Santa. All is appreciated more

-Yogi (Michael) Logemann

than you can imagine.



COURTESY PHOTOS The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Sarah Gow, Lornah Stoewer, and Georgia Vandigo were working on an activity in which they used Christmas lights, aluminum foil (as a wire) and brass fasteners as a switch with a battery to light up a bulb.

Scales Mound School celebrates learning in the Holiday Season

On Dec. 21, elementary, junior on the themes of science, technolhigh and high school students participated in a day of cross-curriculum activities while celebrating the holiday season. The staff and high school students organized activities for the elementary students centered

ogy, mathematics, physical education, English and of course Christmas treats. It was a wonderful day in which all of Scales Mound School celebrated learning while enjoying the cheer of the holiday season.



Jenna Korte, Amanda Withington, Anne Cocagne, Mrs. Reese, Kortney Kudronowicz, and Lexie Sproule used emojis to fill out MadLibs created by high school students and shared their results with the other member of their group.

Scales Mound Community Unit School District 211 challenges students to achieve at higher standards

At the Nov. 21, Scales Mound School Board meeting, the high school course description handbook was approved for the 2017-18 school year. One noticeable change in the handbook was the inclusion of Advanced Placement courses being offered. High school principal, Dr. Matt Wiederholt explained that the inclusion of advanced placement courses is a logical next step in the district's goal to offer rigorous, challenging curriculum. "Offering advanced placement (AP) credit courses provides an additional opportunity for our students to challenge themselves and further prepare them for post-secondary education. These classes will compliment the dual credit course opportunities that we have already provided our students," stated Dr. Wiederholt.

Students have met with Mrs. Brooke Deppe, school counselor, to discuss their course of study and

plans for post graduation. In addition to the advanced placement courses, Scales Mound Community Unit School District 211 students have the opportunity to take dual credit courses from Highland Community College and high school credit courses from the Illinois Virtual School, sponsored by the Illinois Board of Education. "Offering our students a variety of opportunities is critical for their success," said Superintendent Bill Caron. "We want our students to push themselves to higher standards, and if that is our goal, we have to provide them with the vehicle to get to that goal."

Students are currently in the process of registering for 2017-18 courses and Mrs. Deppe and Dr. Wiederholt have met with students in grades 6-11 to encourage their participation in dual credit and advanced placement courses. courses were explained to the sixth and seventh graders and students were encouraged to excel at their studies in order to succeed in advanced course in the future.

Scales Mound students selected as Illinois State Scholars

Congratulations to seniors Zach Stadel and Jacob Winslow for being selected as Illinois State Scholars. Zach and Jacob are role models for our students at Scales Mound Community

Unit School District 211. Their success in the classroom and involvement outside of the classroom propelled them to being selected. We are very proud of their success and achievement.

Highland Community College announces fall 2016 graduates

Highland Community College announces its fall 2016 graduates. Upon the conclusion of the fall semester, 58 students completed degrees and certificates in more than 25 academic areas. All graduates from the 2016-17 academic year will honored at the College's commencement ceremony on May 13, 2017.

Apple River: Jon Smith — Associate of Arts

Cedarville: Jennika Alber — Cosmetology Certificate; Christopher Wolter — Computer Technician Certificate Dakota: Rachel Clay — Associate of Science; Tylor Jacobson — Associate of Science

Davis: Hannah Harshbarger — Associate of Arts Elizabeth: Chriistina Myers — Cosmetology Certifi-

German Valley: Kelci Patterson — Associate of General Studies

Lanark: Blake Steen — Associate of Science

Lena: Susanna Bayer — Certificate in Cosmetology; Chelsea Decker — Associate of Applied Science in Pre-Dentistry; Angela Edler — Associate of General Studies; Shannon McFadden — Certificates in Welding and Fabrication and Basic Welding; Andrew Reid — Associate of Arts

Savanna: Michael Miller — Associate of Applied Science in Information Systems

Stockton: Brooke Haug — Associate of Science in Business Administration; Brenda Miller — Associate of General Studies; Ryan Nadig — Associate of Arts; Wendy Reusch — Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education

Warren: Maurina Montoya — Associate of General Studies; Kyle Smith — Associate of Arts

CTE Academy gives back

The Jo Daviess Carroll Career Technical Education Academy (formerly the Area Vocational Center) recently held a canned food drive. The project began at the start of December and all items were due Dec. 16. Students quickly became involved and friendly banter between programs on who could bring in the most items was tossed around. Community members, local district bus drivers, and CTE staff all contributed as well. When it was all collected, the CTE Academy has amassed over 1000 items. From nonperishable food to socks and personal hygiene items, the lobby was packed with boxes. Students then divvied items

up and helped deliver them to both the Hanover Food Pantry and the Elizabeth Food Pantry.

"At the CTE Academy, we're dedicated to fostering the entrepreneurial spirit and being a part of the community," said CTE Academy Administrator Nancy Jean-Paige Jogerst. "Typically, businesses participate in ways to 'give back' and so it just made sense to encourage our students to do so as well. We're all really proud of this project and the good we could do.'

For more information on the Jo Daviess Carroll CTE Academy visit our Facebook page or website: www. cteacademy.net



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Page 4 - January 4, 2017 - The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

VIEWPOIN

HUD awards nearly \$105 million to Illinois homeless programs

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today awarded nearly \$105 million to support 416 homeless housing and service programs in Illinois. The Continuum of Care grants announced today provide critically needed housing and support services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness across the state.

Today marks another critical investment in support of those working each and every day to house and serve our most vulnerable neighbors," said HUD Secretary Julián Castro. "We know how to end home-

lessness and will continue to encourage our local partners to use the latest evidence to achieve success. These grants support proven strategies to end homelessness once and for all."

This funding will continue to build upon existing efforts to end homelessness and support individuals, youth and families across Illinois when they need it most," said HUD Midwest Regional Administrator, Antonio R. Riley. "It will go a long way put them on the path towards dignity and independence."

This year, HUD continued to challenge state and local planners to support higher performing local programs that have proven most effective in meeting their local challenges, often shifting funds from existing projects to create new ones that will have a more substantial and lasting impact on reducing homelessness.

In 2010, President Obama and 19 federal agencies and offices that form the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) launched the nation's first-ever comprehensive strategy to prevent and end homelessness. Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness puts the country

on a path to end veterans and chronic homelessness as well as to end homelessness among children, family, and youth.

HUD estimates there were 549,928 persons experiencing homelessness on a single night in 2016. Since 2010, local communities around the country reported a 14 percent decline in the number of persons experiencing homelessness. In addition, Veteran homelessness fell by 47 percent, chronic homelessness declined 27 percent and family homelessness fell by nearly 23 percent. Next month, HUD and local planners will launch a more robus effort to more accurately account for the youth and young adult popula-

Across the nation, local homelessness planning agencies called 'Continuums of Care' will organize volunteers to help count the number of persons located in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs and living unsheltered on the streets. These Continuums of Care will report these one-night pointin-time counts' later in the year and will form the basis of HUD's 2017 national homeless estimate.

ner signs bipartisan legislation to extend River Edge tax credit Governor Raui

Governor Bruce Rauner has signed Senate Bill 1488, legislation to extend the River Edge Redevelopment Zone Program. The program allows for an income tax credit to be awarded for the restoration and preservation of a qualified historic structure located in a River Edge Redevelopment Zone.

"The River Edge Redevelopment Zone Program is an important tool for municipalities to utilize to spur economic development while saving and restoring historic buildings," said Rauner. "We're pleased that the legislature moved to extend this program, but hope that we can provide even more support to local municipalities through a balanced budget with reforms to grow jobs, lower property taxes, improve schools and enact term limits.'

Senate Bill 1488 is effective immediately and extends the River Edge Redevelopment Zone Program for one year, to sunset on Jan. 1, 2018. A River Edge Redevelopment Zone is a specific area designated by the State of Illinois in cooperation with a local government to safely revive and redevelop environmentallychallenged properties that will stimulate economic revitalization and create jobs in Illinois. River Edge Redevelopment Zones are located in Rockford, Aurora, Elgin, Peoria and East St. Louis. The program is administered at the state level by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

"This bill ensures our continued support to distressed areas in river communities," said Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity Acting Director Sean McCarthy. "Areas within the River Edge Redevelopment Zone represent historically strong economic engines within the state. This investment will stimulate growth and create good paying jobs for families in these communities.'

'I am incredibly grateful to Governor Rauner for supporting the River Edge Historic Tax Credit extension bill. This vital program has meant millions of dollars in private sector investment in Rockford's urban core, spurred direct and indirect iob growth in our community, and is returning millions of dollars in tax revenue back to the State of Illinois and the five Illinois River Edge communities," said Larry Morrissey, Mayor of Rockford. "The River Edge Historic Tax Credit has become a major part of the economic foundation that has led to explosive growth in Downtown Rockford. It has led to a level of private investment in our Downtown not seen since the 1950's. I hope that this type of smart, strategic bi-partisan legislation can be a model for moving the State forward. It allows us to both grow our economy and return tax dollars back to units of government.'

"The extension of River Edge

Redevelopment Program allows for the continued redevelopment of historic riverfront properties in our region, which will in turn allow for more private investment, create construction positions and ultimately secure permanent jobs," said State Sen. Karen McConnaughay (R-St. Charles). "The River Edge Redevelopment Program is an investment in not only in our riverfront, but in a number of other riverfront communities, which preserves local history while also promoting economic development.

"The State Historic Tax Credits have been THE driving force for redevelopment in Peoria. The HTC's have leveraged over \$32 million dollars in investment creating over 150 new residential units and thousands of square feet of retail and office space," said Jim Ardis, Mayor of Peoria. "Additionally hundreds of construction jobs have been generated in the renovation of these buildings. The HTC program has been the cornerstone of our redevelopment efforts in downtown and the Warehouse District. I applaud Governor Rauner for his unwavering support of economic growth in Peoria as well as the State of Illinois. We are hopeful this one year extension leads to a longer term that will incentivize considerably more investment in the 5 river cities participating while preserving historic properties."

'I have seen firsthand how this program has positively affected Rockford's downtown development. One of many examples is The Prairie Street Brewhouse, a \$12+ million renovation project in Rockford, that resulted in the creation of 110 construction jobs and hundreds of thousands of dollars in state income tax revenue," said State Sen. Dave Syverson (R-Rockford). "These types of projects offer the taxpayers of this state the chance to get a huge return on their investment in terms of tax revenue and economic activity. Just as I supported the initial passage of this bill, I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bipartisan reauthorization.'

"This legislation is a commonsense measure, given the state of our economics in East St. Louis," said State Sen. James Clayborne (D-

Belleville). "I thank the Governor for getting behind this and signing it into law. With that being said, I challenge the business community to come together in moving East St. Louis in the right direction, towards sustaining itself economically."

"This credit is a vital tool for economic development. For years, it has been the only financial incentive for developers to invest in downtown Rockford," State Sen. Steve Stadelman (D-Rockford) said. "To date the tax credit has spurred more than \$100 million in development in our community alone."

"I'm pleased to see the continuation of a plan that has already helped developers make a greater invest-ment in Peoria," said State Sen. Dave Koehler (D-Peoria). "I'm confident extending the River Edge program will open up new opportunities to create thriving business in Peoria and many other communities throughout Illinois. I applaud the governor's action in signing this into law today."

"The Rivers Edge program has already helped preserve a local landmark in Aurora," said State Sen. Linda Holmes (D-Aurora). "This program spurs economic development, repurposes historic structures, and creates jobs in the community. I am glad this important plan will be extended and know it will create even more opportunities for development."

"I thank the Governor for reaching across the aisle on important job creation issues like the Rivers Edge program," said State Sen. Mike Noland (D-Elgin).

"River's Edge historic tax credits are vital to the rebuilding of our historic Illinois towns," said State Rep. Steve Anderson (R-Geneva). "These tax credits are good for the whole state, encouraging investment, creating jobs in our communities that can't be outsourced, building sales tax revenues and reinvigorating our downtowns all at the same time. The River's Edge historic tax credit is a win-win for everyone in our State."

'The River's Edge Tax Credit program has vastly contributed to the overall workforce investment for Northern Illinois Region and Rockford downtown area in particular,"

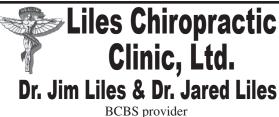
said State Rep. Joe Sosnowski (R Rockford). "I appreciate the Governor's leadership in bringing jobs to families and individuals in Illinois. We also need to reform Illinois in other ways to rejuvenate the state's manufacturing and business environment.'

"Extending the River Edge Tax Credit is essential to promoting development and economic growth in areas of the state that need it the most," said State Rep. Chapa La-Via (D-Aurora). "I've been proud to work with my fellow legislators in Springfield to help spark economic development. I applaud Governor Rauner for his support of this economic tool and look forward to working with him to ensure programs like River Edge thrive for years to come.'

"Peoria was the first city in Illinois that was able to take advantage of the Historic Preservation Tax Credit during the renovation of the Pere Marquette Hotel," State Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth (D-Peoria) said. "Since then, the tax credit has helped bring jobs, redevelopment and economic growth the Warehouse District. There is a \$10 return for every dollar the state invests using this tax credit. When elected officials discuss how they can improve our business climate and create jobs, incentives like this one has to be part of the conversation. I will continue to promote the Historic Preservation Tax Credit and work to make it permanent.'

"This tax credit has been crucial in creating jobs and attracting investment for downtown Rockford, State Rep. Litesa Wallace (D-Rockford) said, "I thank local advocates, Rockford officials and my fellow legislators who worked hard to keep this economic generator for our community and our state.'

"The River Edge Historic Tax Credit is a critical component to revitalizing Elgin's riverfront and downtown economy, and it has proven to be a good return on investment," State Rep. Anna Moeller (D-Elgin) said. "Maintaining this tax credit is important for Elgin to continue creating jobs and growing our local economy, and I'm glad Gov. Rauner signed this measure to extend it into



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Obituaries

BARBARA JANKOVIC

B a r b a r a Jankovic, age 89, of Stockton, IL passed away Dec. 28, 2016 at Presence St. Joseph Center in Freeport, IL. Barbara was born on April 11, 1927 in Germany to the late



George and Barbara Filips. She married Dragoslav A. Jankovic, he died on Nov. 15, 1997.

Barbara was a seamstress for Marshall Fields. She loved vacationing, especially in Florida where it was sunny. She also enjoyed dancing, but most of all she loved being around her family.

She is survived by two daughters, Rosemary (Bruce) Fritz of Stockton, IL and Erna Buchwald of DeKalb, IL; several grandchildren, great grandchildren and a few great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, George and Barbara; husband, Dragoslav; daughters, Laurie (Al) Coglianese and Marianne (Jack) Smith; son, Steven Jankovic and grandsons Tony and Mike.

Visitation was Jan. 2, followed by a graveside service at Ladies Union Cemetery in Stockton. A memorial fund has been established. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with Barbara's family at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

Elmer Verle Schlichting of Nora,

ELMER VERLE SCHLICHTING

IL, Lena, IL and Green Bay, WI passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016 surrounded by his four children and daughter-in-Law. Elmer was born on May 8, 1929 the only child of Elmer Ernest and Lena Marie (Schindler) Schlichting of Apple River, IL. He was baptized at the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Schapville, IL where he attended Sunday school and was also confirmed there. He grew up on a farm near Apple River, IL on North Scout Camp Road in Jo Daviess County. He attended Pine Ridge elementary/grade school and graduated from Apple River High School. On July 21, of 1952 he married the love of his life Audrey Jean Brooker of Avon, WI at the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. They resided in and raised four children in Nora, IL. Elmer began his working career at Fairbanks Morse in Freeport, IL. He spent most of his working career at Newell Companies in Freeport, IL as a machine designer and builder for 38 years until he and Audrey both retired in 1996. Elmer was called to Public Service, he served on The Nora Township Board and as Mayor, the District 205 School Board 20-plus years. With others in our community he started The Blackhawk Park District that acquired land, built playground equipment and in-

stalled a pool so the youth of our area had a place to play. He also served on the church council at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Warren, IL as well as the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. He was a member of the Masonic Temple in Warren, IL and later transferred to the Masonic Temple in Lena, IL. He served as a Mason for nearly 60 years. Elmer enjoyed hunting with his sons and grandsons in Jo Daviess County, Montana and Tennessee. He was an enthusiastic Green Bay Packer fan and attended many games at Milwaukee County Stadium as well as Lambeau Field. Elmer had a unique sense of humor and his favorite movie was Grumpier Old Men.

He is survived by his three sons Mark (Wendy Thompson) Schlichting of Crawfordsville, IN, Mike (Karen Tuescher) Schlichting of Lena, IL, Kurt (Krystal Buske) Schlichting of Green Bay, WI, and his daughter Kim Schlichting of Duluth MN. He has ten Grandchildren and eleven Great Grandchildren.

He was preceded in death, by his loving wife Audrey.

Visitation will begin at 9 a.m. Thursday Jan. 5. A Masonic Funeral Service will be held at 10 a.m. and the funeral service at 10:30 a.m. all at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Schapville, IL. In lieu of flowers a memorial to the Salvation Army will be held in Elmer's name. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

GLORIA J. CARLSON

Gloria J. Carlson, age 67, of Machesney Park, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Dec. 26, 2016. She was born on July 5, 1949 to the late Robert C. and



Eileen (Ertmer) Hill. She was a 1967 graduate of Stockton High School. Gloria married Steve Carlson on Oct. 25, 1969 in Stockton.

She had been the office manager at Production Line in South Beloit and delivered papers for the Rockford Register Star for over thirty years. Gloria enjoyed playing bingo, bowling, knitting and crocheting, but most of all she loved taking care of and spending time with her family.

Gloria is survived by her husband, Steve Carlson; three sons, Jeff Carlson of Machesney Park, IL, Jerry (Amanda) Carlson of Freeport, IL, and John (Shanda) Carlson of Rockford, IL; daughter, Jodi (Brian) Schwartz of Monroe, WI; two grandchildren, Steven (Lisa) Carlson and Preston Schwartz; brother, Roger (Jane) Hill of Stockton, IL; five sisters, Diane (Robert) Heuerman of Stockton, IL, Bonnie Hill of Stockton, IL, Pat Leif of Stockton, IL, Barb (Larry) Jacobs of Roscoe, IL, and Lisa (Allen) Blacker of Gilberts, IL; mother in law,

Grace Carlson of Stockton, IL.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Robert C. and Eileen Hill; niece, Danielle Glover; and father in law, Al Carlson.

A funeral service was held Dec. 31, at the Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton. Visitation was Dec. 30, at the funeral home. Interment will take place at Morseville Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with her family at www.hermannfuneralhome.com

JACK WILLIAMS

Jack Williams, 94, of Lena died Monday Dec. 26, 2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport. Jack was born on Aug. 23, 1922, son of George and Rosetta



(Kupersmith) Williams in Nora, IL. He attended Nora Grade School and graduated from Warren High School in 1940. Feb. 10, 1948 he married Mary Evelyn Campbell at St. Joseph Rectory in Gratiot, WI. They farmed near Nora until retiring to Lena in 1984.

Survivors include wife, Mary Evelyn, two sons; Don (Judy) of Hortonville, WI Tim of Monroe, WI, one grandson Chris of Avon, CO, One sister Viola Dochkus of Rockford, one step-grandson Spencer and two step great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents, one brother Gerald, one grandson Chad, and one step grandson Ben.

The funeral was Dec. 30, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lena.

There will be no visitation per Jack's request.

Interment will be at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Lena, with a luncheon following at St. Joseph's Hall in Lena.

A memorial has been established in his memory.

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

KATHLEEN A. HEILER

Kathleen A. Heiler, age 75, passed away on Friday Dec. 30, 2016 at Unity Point Meriter Hospital in Madison, WI with her family by her side. She was born on Oct. 24, 1941 in



Rockford, IL. She was the daughter of John and Catherine (Bender) Allen. She married John F. Heiler Sr. on June 18, 1960 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Freeport, IL. She was employed by Crum & Forrester Insurance Company and then worked at

Micro Switch Plant #4 for 30 years. She enjoyed Elvis music, collecting green Depression glass, reading and doing arts and crafts.

Surviving by her husband John Sr., daughter Amy Heiler, two sons, Steven (Ronda) Heiler and John Heiler Jr. all of Lena. Four grandchildren; Michael, Jamie, Sarah and Jonathon Heiler, three great grandchildren; Landin and Dean Heiler and Angel Hoeffer all of Lena. One sister Mary (Lonnie) Welt of Seattle, Wa. Two nieces, two nephews and one great nephew.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one aunt and one uncle.

Graveside services will be on Friday Jan. 6, at 1:30 p.m. at the Lena Burial Park.

Pastor Randy Nicholas will officiate

A memorial has been established in her name

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

MARVIN L. KARNATZ,

Marvin L. Karnatz, age 94, passed peacefully away at home in the early hours of Friday, Dec. 30.

Marvin was born Sept. 17, 1922 in Deweese, Nebraska and moved to

Lena in his teens. He graduated from Lena High School in 1941 where he was a member of the basketball team. He joined the US Army in 1942 and married high school sweetheart Lucille Ferguson during his first leave on Dec. 1, 1943. They made their first home in Edmonton, Alberta where he was stationed in support of the Distant Early Warning Line that stretched

across Canada's Yukon Territory.

That experience led to employment with IBM Corporation in a career that spanned four decades and focused on technology support and customer service. He was proud of his support of research scientists at Argonne Laboratories and Fermilab whose projects included leading edge particle physics research and analysis of moon rocks retrieved during Apollo space missions.

The couple lived in Aurora, Illinois for over forty years but maintained a close relationship to their home town of Lena. They purchased a summer home there and returned as residents in 1989. Marvin was a baptized, confirmed and faithful member of St. John's Lutheran Church and was involved with the American Legion post where he helped to lead the effort to build a memorial to Veterans at the Lena Burial Park.

Marvin is survived by his wife of 73 years, Lucille, a brother, Vernon of Maineschaff, Germany, brother in law Norman Wybourn, a daughter, Nancy (Jeff) Hering of Rochester, New York, 2 sons, Jim (Peggy) Karnatz of Indianola, Iowa and John (Billie) Karnatz of Bartlett, Illinois. He loved his seven grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. He is mourned by many neighbors and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, his brother Claire and grandson Tristan Hering.

Visitation was at St. John's Lutheran Church of Lena on Jan. 2 and prior to the funeral service Jan. 3 at the church. A committal service immediately followed the funeral at Lena Burial Park.

Remembrances may be made to St. John's of Lena, Golden Meals of Freeport, Illinois or any worthy charity.

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

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The Mighty Richland Players in Orangeville announce 2017 season

It will be a busy season for the Mighty Richland Players Dessert Theater (MRPDT) in Orangeville. They have set a full schedule of shows in the upcoming year which should please a wide range of audiences.

MRPDT's first production will be a radio show. Due to the wonderful response to their production several years ago, they are bringing back this crowd favorite. It will contain all new shows and feature specially-written commercials for local advertisers. The show will be performed March 3, 4, and 5. The theater will be transformed into a radio network sound stage where the actors will be voicing characters from favorite radio shows of the 40's and 50's. The show will be directed by Kim McIver.

On June 23, 24, and 25, the theater group will be bringing back the wonderfully-funny ladies of Harmony in Harmony Romances. Most of the original cast will be back and will be reprising their

roles. This time, the church ladies are in charge of planning Leah's wedding. She's getting married to Howard, a man she hasn't seen in years and with whom she has had only an e-mail and telephone relationship.

Between discovering a mysterious pentagram design on Howard's hand, to his spastic colon flare-up, it's a race for the ladies of Harmony to get Leah to the altar.

Self-help for Dummies will be performed in the fall on Sept. 22, 23 and 24. When a self-absorbed psychologist is late for work, the ever-growing collection of "mixednuts" in his waiting room begins to interact with hilarious results.

Nov. 25 and 26 is the annual Christmas Show with Sue Wich-

man directing. It will be filled with comedy and songs with a holiday theme. The MRPDT welcomes anyone who would like to perform or be part of the show.

All Friday and Saturday performances start at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday matinees start at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each. There is a dessert intermission included in the ticket price. Performances are held in the historic Masonic Hall, 203 High Street, Orangeville, IL. Reservations are preferred; please call (815) 819-1310.

For more information on a show, the theater group, or the theater which rents out for weddings, showers, and other events, feel free to visit mightyrichlandplayers.com or view their Facebook page.

Births

OBADIAH DALE BENSON

Stephen (Bud) and Stephanie (Heid) Benson of Thomson, IL are the proud parents of a son, Obadiah Dale, born Friday, Dec. 16, 2016 at Mercy Medical Center, Clinton, IA. He weighed 6 lbs 3 oz. and was 19 in. long.

He was welcomed home by sister Ivy Ruth (1½) and two brothers, Cosmo and Wyatt.

Grandparents are Bill and Kim Heid of Thomson, IL and Shannon Brasher of Asbury, IA.

Great-grandparents are Dean and Ruth Wright of Stockton, IL; Betty Gallentine of Thomson, IL; Galen and Linda Heid of Stockton, IL and Dale and June Clabaugh of Picayune, MS.

ELI EILDERS

Chelsea Karstedt and Chad Eilders of Freeport, Ill. are the parents of a son Eli Thomas Eilders born Friday Dec. 23, 2016 at FHN Memorial Hospital, Freeport. Eli has a brother Peyton Eilders, 6. Grandparents are Thomas and Jennifer Karstedt of Freeport, Lisa Freneh of Lena, Ill. and Marybeth and Vernon Eilders of German Valley, Ill. Great grandparents are Carl and Donna Reuter of Freeport and Barb Reuter of Galesburg.



Lena KOA honored for service

The Lena KOA was recently recognized for 10 years of service to the Kampgrounds of America System. The campground was honored last month during KOA's annual International Convention in Chattanooga, Tennessee. It is one of 490 KOA locations in the U.S. and Canada. campground is owned and operated by Joe and Diane Long, and is located at 10982 US Highway 20 W in Lena, IL. Kampgrounds of America was born on the banks of the Yellowstone River in Billings, Motana in 1962 and will be celebrating its 55th anniversary in 2017.

100 Women Who Care awards donation to Children's Hands-On Museum

Congratulations to Children's Hands-On Museum on being the November quarterly meeting recipient of all members' donations. This week we were able to present all the cash and checks to them totaling \$11,100!

This is the largest donation made by 100 Women Who Care-Stephenson County and our first donation over \$11,000!

The Children's Hands-On Museum was founded in 2014. During that time, they have popped up at venues in local schools, the Stephenson County Fair, churches, summer outdoor community events and the Stephenson County Historical Society. They have hosted two Expos showcasing their exhibits that were sponsored by the Eagles Club, and most recently held a Holidays Around the World event at the Lin-

coln Mall.

The Children's Hands-On Museum mission is to have a locally accessible, affordable, interactive and educational environment that inspires children and families to learn about themselves and the world around them. The pop-up museum provides diverse, creative, hands-on learning with stimulating exhibits in science, health, arts, reading and place sense.

With a goal of \$75,000 to start up the all-volunteer organization, Children's Hands-On Museum is dedicating the generous contribution from 100 Women Who Care-Stephenson County to reach the goal of finding a permanent space for the museum in 2017 to serve as a resource to children, their families, and schools of Northwestern Illinois. Congratulations Children's Hands-On Museum!

A little levity to lighten your day

A man buys a parrot, not knowing that it previously belonged to a foul-mouthed longshoreman. One day, after several weeks of trying to teach the bird not to curse constantly, the man and parrot get into a screaming match. In frustration, the man tosses the parrot into the kitchen freezer and slams the door. After several seconds of terrible swearing there is dead silence. Horrified that he may have killed the bird, the man opens the freezer door. The parrot calmly walks out, perches on the man's shoulder and says, "Please accept my sincere apology for my past behavior. You may be assured that I will never again use offensive or inappropriate language." The man is dumbfounded. He is about to ask the parrot about his change of attitude, when the parrot continues, "If I may ask, what did the chicken do?"

RICK VRSTAL PHOTO 815-369-4218
Weddings • Seniors • Families

WinnPrairie to host veteran aid and attendance seminar

You are invited to learn about the Veteran's Aid and Attendance benefit that can apply to wartime veterans or their surviving spouse.

Jim Cauthorn of the Cauthorn Financial Group will give a presentation on Saturday, Jan. 14, at 10 a.m. at WinnPrairie, 1545 S Forest Rd., Freeport, II.

Many wartime veterans are unaware that they may be entitled to a pension penefit. This tax-free benefit may be used to offset the cost of Assisted Living. Please call Patti at (815) 656-4800 to make a reservation for this informa-

Please call Patti at (815) 656-4800 to make a reservation for this informational seminar.

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency Announces the 2017 LIHEAP, PIPP, and Weatherization Assistance Programs

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency has funding from the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to assist residents of Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties with home heating utility costs through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), and Weatherization Programs.

The option to enroll in PIPP is not available after December 31, 2016 for the current LIHEAP program year which began September 1, 2016 and ends May 31, 2017.

To qualify for Weatherization assistance, you must apply for and be approved for LIHEAP.

Starting November 1st, all income eligible households may call to schedule an appointment to apply for assistance with their heating utilities.

Eligible households may call 800-883-1111 or 815-232-3141 from 8:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. to schedule an appointment to apply for assistance at one of the following locations.

NICAA Main Office - Freeport Warren Township Library Citizens State Bank of Lena Illinois Bank & Trust-Galena Downtown

<u>Income Guidelines:</u> To qualify, a household must have income at or below the levels shown on the chart for 30 days including the application date.

# of po	eople in	30 day
<u>Hou</u>	sehold	Gross Income
	1	\$1,485
	2	\$2,003
	3	\$2,520
Add \$520 for each additional person.	4	\$3,038

** You must bring the following documentation with you to your appointment. If you are missing these documents, your appointment will be rescheduled.**

- Social Security Cards for all members of the household
- Proof of all gross income for all household members for 30 days including the application date including pay check stubs, SSA/SSI/SSD current benefit letters, pension/retirement statements, child support, unemployment reports, TANF/AABD/Township GA assistance notices, self employment reports, and proof of zero income
- Top portion of current heat and electric bills issued.
- Medical Card from Illinois Department of Human Services
- A signed copy of current lease or proof of homeownership (tax bill or title for mobile home) is required to apply for weatherization assistance



ICYMI: Why the General Assembly must reform workers' compensation

The following is an excerpt of an op-ed written by Governor Rauner that was published this morning by Crain's Chicago Business:

Illinois has every reason to succeed. We have the hardest-working people in America, the best infrastructure in America and the best location of any state. We have unlimited economic potential. Yet, despite these advantages, the state's economic policies have led to very weak economic growth and massive manufacturing job losses.

Nearly two years ago we unveiled an ambitious 44-point plan to create more jobs and spur economic growth. Since then—in the spirit of compromise—we've narrowed our focus to the most criti-

Millie's quote of the week

"It isn't what they say about you, it's what they whisper,"

cal priorities—term limits, more county and municipal governments jobs, lower property taxes, better schools and real pension reform. When it comes to job creation, we have continued to advocate for changes to the workers' compensation system because of its direct impact on state government and job creation. As part of a balanced budget, workers' compensation reform should be a core part of a comprehensive agreement.

When I meet with employers, both in Illinois and across the country, they cite two primary challenges for businesses in Illinois: the highest property tax burden in the nation and our uncompetitive workers' compensation system. Those costs are particularly harmful to businesses with large physical footprints and large workforces. So it shouldn't be a surprise that Illinois has lost 34 percent of its manufacturing jobs since 2000 alone, while other states, like Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky, are growing.

Workers' compensation is not just a business issue. It directly impacts taxpayers by costing state,

more than \$400 million every year, plus additional costs for school districts and special purpose districts. Government employees file workers' compensation claims for injuries and illnesses more than 50 percent more often than privatesector workers.

Illinois employers spend approximately \$3 billion per year on workers' compensation, including medical expenses and disability benefits. The most widely used national study, conducted by the state of Oregon, shows that Illinois jumped from 23rd to the third most expensive state in the nation following 2005 changes to the law. Bipartisan reforms in 2011 helped to reduce costs, but Illinois remains the most expensive state in the Midwest and is tied as the benefit from balanced reform: Emseventh most expensive state in the nation. [...]

The workers' compensation system has been forced to absorb the growing costs of obesity, heart disease, diabetes and other degenerative conditions. Most other states, including blue states like Massachusetts and Oregon, have responded by reforming their causation standards—a reform that Attorney General Lisa Madigan said in 2012 would "exclude those conditions which are primarily caused by the natural degenerative process which occurs during aging" and was necessary "to protect taxpayer dollars." [...]

Many other good ideas have been proposed to make the system more efficient. Ultimately, we will all

ployers will save costs, Illinois will be a more attractive place in which to create jobs, workers will still be protected in the case of a workplace injury while enjoying greater job opportunities, and the state and local governments will experience a broader tax base through growth.

If we cannot provide Illinois residents with good jobs and expand our tax base, the state will never be able to properly support education and human services to the level they deserve, and our pension liabilities will look even more

Change is not easy, but the status quo is unacceptable. We cannot afford to fail.

ing to action. Regional workshop presenters will share the plans, policies, and practices for successful water resource management in Northwest Illinois' Apple Plum Watershed.

As a bonus, on Jan. 10, there will be a chance to socialize over wine and cheese while playing the Watershed game, an interactive tol that helps individuals understand the connection between land use and water quality.

Come and join the team. Clean water is critical for all of us.

For more information or to register or sponsor the event, please visit

Jump in to watershed protection at Galena Rotary Roundtable

Our water is in trouble we are all in the same boat. We need clean water for drinking and industry, and healthy ecosystems to support the life around us. It's time for us all to jump in, learn about what can be done, and get going on doing it!

Here's a first step. On Jan. 11, the Galena Rotary partners with the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County to hold a day-long conference at Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa in Galena. This conference titled ""Water, We're all in the Same Boat" will be part of the 30th Annual Galena Rotary Roundtable. National and atate speakers will describe water quality issues and solutions, lead-

www.galenaroundtable.com **Stockton Chamber of Commerce**

to host Lunch and Learn

Join us Tuesday, Jan. 10, at Creativeations in downtown Stockton for a presentation by Brian McIntyre, President of Thames Management Resource LTD, as he explains the benefits of TCEDA's 10-month series. Build it - Grow it that will be held in Warren, IL. These sessions feature the Growth Wheel - a business tool used to achieve focus, make decisions, and take action. TCEDA will give Warren the same opportunity Elizabeth had by offering free education and consulting for the first year!

Mr. McIntyre has experience in operations, sales, management and small business development. He has been an entrepreneur, and has held key positions in both manufacturing and technology. During the 10-month series he will discuss marketing tools to help grow your business to the next level. Come find out how this 10-month series can help strengthen your business!

SOS+ to host **Game Day**

Mark your calendars and be sure to join the fun on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 2 p.m. for "Game Day" at Calvary United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Bingo and cards along with any other game of your choice will be packed with fun and prizes at the first SOS+ meeting of the new year.

On a cold winter's day, come join in fellowship with the area seniors of Stockton and surrounding areas (SOS+). All are invited. The meeting will start at 2 p.m. in Stockton's Calvary's UM Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments made by the seniors will conclude the day's activities. SOS+ (Senior Outreach of Stockton & Surrounding Areas) is an active outreach ministry with its main purpose to provide interesting programs, entertainment and fellowship to our area seniors. SOS+ is made up of area volunteers from all denominations who work diligently to bring fun and educational programs each month. An array of fun and exciting programs for 2017 are being planned, all in celebration of SOS+ 12th year of ministry. All seniors are invited. A freewill offering is taken to offset program costs.

For more information on SOS+, please feel free to call Mary Feltmeyer (815) 297-5425, Nancy Rice (815) 947-3683 or Shirley Toepfer (815) 947-3639. If you are in need of a ride to the church, we would be more than happy to accommodate you.

Stockton American Legion to host pasties fund raiser pork, potatoes, rutabaga, carrots,

Stockton American Legion Post 449 is holding a fund raiser during January. The legion post will be taking orders for pasties, a pot pie type meal made with meat and vegetables all wrapped in delicious dough and made to be eaten by hand, no

fork required. Pasties were brought to Upper Michigan (UP) by the Cornish miners who worked in the copper mines but if you ask around up in the UP, the Finns, Swedes, Germans, Irish and Scots will all claim some part in the history of the pasty.

The pasties the legion post will be taking orders for are 12 oz. and made in Crystal Falls, MI in the Upper Peninsula, They will come frozen and require 60 minutes of baking at 350 degrees. Listed below are the different pasties the legion post will offer and their main ingre-

Beef - ground beef, potatoes, carrots, onions and spices

Beef and pork - ground beef,

onions and spices Cornish - ground beef, pork, po-

tatoes, onions, carrots and spices

Italian pork - pork, potatoes, diced red peppers, onions, fennel seeds and spices

Chicken - Skinless ground chicken, potatoes, onions carrots, celery

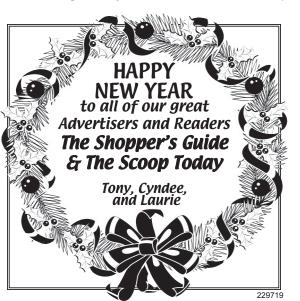
Vegetable - Potatoes, onions, carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, cheddar cheese and spices

Mexican - Beef taco meat, refried beans, potatoes, onions, garlic, red peppers

The Stockton American Legion will be taking orders at the post home located at 128 E. Front Street on Saturday, Jan. 7, and 14, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The pasties will be available for pick up on Saturday, Jan. 21, from a.m. to noon. Pasties will cost \$3 each, payable at time of order.

If you have any questions please call Mike Beatty at 947-2987.







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METHODIST CHURCH
102 E. Baldwin St., P.O. 1801 188, Apple River, IL 61001 Pastor Joey Garcea (815) 656-0362

Church (815) 594-2223 • Sunday Worship – 9 a.m.

• Bible Study - Every Monday 9 a.m.

Friendly Folks - Casual Attire - Join Us!

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 315 W. Maple St., Stockton, IL 61085

Pastor Jonathan Singleton (815) 947-2414 E-Mail: calvaryum@yahoo.com

• Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m. • Sunday School – 8:45 a.m.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH **ELCA STOCKTON**

600 N. Main St., Stockton

Rev. Susan Davenport (815) 947-2033 E-Mail: clc600@frontier.com https://www.facebook.com/pages/ Christ-Lutheran-Church-Stockton-IL

• Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m.

• Education for all ages Sun. 9:00 a.m. September - May • Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

Confirmation Ministry

Wednesdays 3:05 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

• Healing Services on 5th Weekends

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
P.O. Box 102, Pearl City, IL 61062
Pastor Randy Nicholas • 815-369-4511
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Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School follows worship

EVANGELICAL FREE

CHURCH OF LENA
720 N. Freedom Street, Lena, IL 61048 Dr. Jim Erb, Pastor (815) 369-5591 Rev. Scott Wilson Associate Pastor of Youth

• Sunday Morning Worship – 10:00 a.m. • Sunday School – 8:45 a.m.

Awana Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

• Junior & Senior High

Youth Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 Jefferson Street, Warren, IL 61087 Pastor Ryan Bare (815) 745-2287

• Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.

• Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m.

• Sunday Afternoon Worship – 1:15 p.m.

• Wednesday Evening Bible Study – 7:00 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

411 S. Main Street, Pearl City, IL 61062 email: pcumc@aeroinc.net Find us on facebook at www.facebook.com/pcumcil

Pastor Matthew Smith (815) 443-2177

Sunday Worship – 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School – during worship after the children's message

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 309 S. Main Street, Elizabeth, IL 61028

Pastor Tiffany Garcea

Email: firstumceliz@yahoo.com
• Sunday Worship - 8:45 a.m.
• Sunday School - 8:00 a.m.

• Women's Faith Group -1st Tuesday monthly - 9:30 a.m.

We are handicapped accessible Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fumcelizabeth

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 East Mason Street, Lena, IL 61048 Interim Pastor Miho Yasukawa

(815) 369-5552 • Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School – 10:45 a.m. (Sept. - May)

• Piece Corps Quilters –

Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH OF WOODBINE

1904 S. Vel Tera Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028 Pastor Michael Burdett (815) 858-3843

• Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

• Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

• Prayer meeting – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Sunday services broadcasted at 11:30 a.m. on Radio WCCI 100.3 FM

GRACE FMC - McCONNELL

205 East Main Street, McConnell, IL 61050 **Pastor Paul Alf (815) 868-9213**

• Sunday School - Sept. - May 9:00 a.m.

• Sunday Morning Worship - 10:00 a.m. Check our website for other activities and

www.gracefmc.org

HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH **OF STOCKTON**

151 S. Main, Stockton, IL 61085 Pastor Bob Zdziarski - (815) 947-2986

• Sunday Morning Service – 10:00 a.m. (Church luncheon following morning service)

• Sunday Afternoon Service - 12:30 p.m.

• Bible Study & Prayer - Wednesday Evening

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

223 E. Front Avenue, Stockton, IL 61085 Father Mike Morrissey (815) 947-2545

• Saturday Evening Mass – 4:30 p.m. • Sunday Mass – 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
• Reconciliation Saturday – 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

• Parish Hall for Rent – Seats 200

LENA BAPTIST CHURCH

845 North Birch Drive, Lena, IL 61048 **Pastor Randy Hockema (815) 369-4612**

• Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School – 11:00 a.m.

· Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study/Prayer, Kids 4 Truth for Children

• Wednesday 7:00 p.m. - Junior and Senior High Teens

LENA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

118 West Mason Street, Lena, IL 61048 Pastor Brian LeBaron (815) 369-5291

Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.
Daily Dial-A-Devotion 815-369-4411

McCONNELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 211 Hulbert Rd. P.O. Box 97, McConnell, IL 61050 http://www.gbgm-umc.org/mcconnellumc mcconnellumc@yahoo.com "Like" us on Facebook

Pastor Matthew J. Smith (815) 868-2324
Sunday Family Worship – 10:30 a.m.
Children's Ministries Please call church

for dates and times

• United Methodist Women – 1:30 p.m. (1st Wednesday of each month)

* We are handicapped accessible

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

8491 West Salem Road, Lena, IL 61048 (Turn on Salem Road at Eleroy Rest Stop) Rev. Randy Nicholas (815) 369-4511

• Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m.

• Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m.

• Bookworms Reading Group - 7:00 p.m., 2nd Monday of the month

SCHAPVILLE ZION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
635 East Schapville Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028 Pastor Dottie Morizzo

(815) 845-2272

Cell (815) 238-0670

www.schapvillezion.org

• Sunday Worship Service – 10:00 a.m. • Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.

• Bible Study Classes Available

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

536 E. Schapville Road,

Scales Mound, IL 61054 **Pastor Mark Oehlert**

(815) 970-4780 (cell) (815) 845-2061 (church)

• Sunday Worship - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School (Sept. – May) – 8:45 a.m.
Holy Communion is celebrated weekly.

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

608 East Railroad, Warren, IL 61087 Father Skrobutt (815) 745-2312

• Sunday Mass – 8:00 a.m.

• Reconciliation Sunday – 7:30 - 7:50 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod 625 Country Lane Drive, Lena, IL 61048 Rev. Rick Bader (815) 369-4035

• Saturday Evening Worship – 5:30 p.m. • Sunday Worship – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. • Blast Program at 9:00 a.m.

• High School & Adult Sunday School at 9:15

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Evangelical Lutheran Church of America 229 S. First St., Pearl City, IL 61062

www.stjohnspearlcity.org

Pastor Thomas Ekstrand (815) 443-2215 • Sunday Morning Worship – 9:00 a.m.

• Christian Education for all Ages - 10:15 a.m. Handicapped Accessible

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

8315 S. Massbach Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028 Pastor Lisa Burbank

Church: 815-589-3367

Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School – 10:00 a.m. 'Celebrating 153 Years of Faith"

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH 105 West Webster, Apple River, IL 61001 Father Skrobutt (815) 745-2312

• Saturday Mass - 6:00 p.m. • Reconciliation Saturday – 5:30 – 5:50 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH 410 West Lena Street, Lena, IL 61048 Father Skrobutt (815) 369-2810

• Saturday Mass – 4:00 p.m. • Sunday Mass – 10:00 a.m.

• Reconciliation Saturday – 3:30 – 3:50 p.m.

ST. PAUL EV. LUTHERAN
CHURCH - LCMS

411West Catlin Street, Elizabeth IL, 61028
www.stpaulelizabeth.org
Pastor: Mike Nesbit (815) 858-3334

• Sunday Worshin - 10:00 a m

• Sunday Worship — 10:00 a.m. • Sunday School & Adult Bible Study - 8:45 a.m.

• Wednesday Evening Worship - 7:00 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Little Church with a Big Heart 1334 Sunnyside Road, Kent, IL 61044

1/2 mile north on Kent Road Pastor Carole Andres (815) 232-4010 wogac@comcast.net

• Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Holy Communion every Sunday
Women Meet at 9 a.m. on the 2nd Sunday

• Chair Lift to Sanctuary

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 209 Clinton St., P.O. Box 445, Warren, IL 61087

Megan Preston Intern as Pastor www.stpaulswarren.org

Saturday Worship – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF STOCKTON

219 N. Pearl St., Stockton, IL 61085 www.uuchurchofstockton.org Rev. Armida Alexander (815) 947-3812

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WARREN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Corner of Water & Jefferson St., Warren, IL Pastor Roger Bronkema (815) 745-3647 email: warrenumcchurch@bhawk.net

Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School before Worship • Children Sunday School - During the service Communion Every First Sunday

* Handicapped Accessible WESLEY UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH Corner of Hudson & Benton St.,

Stockton, IL 61085 **Pastor Brenda Morris**

(815) 947-2541 or (815) 601-6742

• Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. • Sunday Worship - 10:45 a.m.

• Fellowship following service • Adult Bible Studies Available

• Communion Every 1st Sunday · Connections (meal and education for youth

and adults) Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

* Handicapped Accessible

WINSLOW GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

197 Carver Street, Winslow, IL 61089 Pastor Robert Patin (815) 230-1862

7:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.

• Sunday Evening Service – 7:00 p.m. • Prayer and Bible Study – Wednesdays at

YELLOW CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 12602 W. Dublin Road, Pearl City, IL

Pastor Ellis Boughton • 815-864-2049 Email: ellis.boughton@live.com

• Sunday Services – 10:00 a.m. • Sunday School – 9:15 a.m.

(when available)

10100 W. Sabin Church Rd., Pearl City, IL Worship Leader - Ed Curry (815) 541-3278

ZION COMMUNITY CHURCH

• Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

• Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Please call 815-369-4112 or 815-947-3353 if you wish to have your church listed on the church page.

CHURCH NOTES

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will gather for worship Jan. 8, at 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL, at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd on this Baptism of Our Lord with Holy Communion. Following worship, there will be a time of fellowship. All Sunday School children will gather for Sunday School Opening at 10:45 a.m. followed by learning, Bible study, prayer, and fellowship.

On Tuesday Jan. 10t, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will host the Hymn Sing at the Lena Living Center at 9:45 a.m. It will be a wonderful time of singing favorite hymns. Volunteers are welcome to come and sing along and to help residents with their hymn books.

On Wednesday Jan. 11, at 8 a.m. the Piece Corps Quilters will work together to craft quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They are always looking for more people to help tie quilts and sew. No previous quilting experience is necessary. Come join the fun and make a difference in the world!

The After School Program for fourth through eighth graders will meet at the Hangout downtown on Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. Each day there is worship with music and a Christian message; pizza; homework help; and lots of time for all sorts of games, challenges and play.

On Thursday Jan. 12, The Friendship Club will meet at 12 p.m. at Good Shepherd for Potluck and Bingo.

Kent/Willow United Methodist Churches

Kent/Willow UMC will worship together Sunday Jan 8, at 9 a.m. at Kent UMC. Pastor Brenda Morris will be giving the message; all are invited and welcome and please stay for the fellowship following the service. Sunday School is at 10:30 a.m. studying from the Holy Bible; all are invited and welcome to join in this time too.

Kent UMC is located right in the town of Kent, IL. for more information, please call (815) 601-6742

Lena United Methodist Church

Regardless of one's age, race, life-story, or standpoint, each unique individual is welcomed within our church. Saturday Jan. 7 will begin with a breakfast at 8 a.m. followed by UMW meeting at 9:30.

Sunday will open with the 9 a.m. worship followed by Sunday School at 10:30. Bible study will be at 6 p.m. at Edlers and Holmes Bible study will be at Gary Rich's at 6:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 9, there will be a Finance Meeting.

On Tuesday, Jan. 10, the quilters will meet an there will be a Church Council meeting at 6:30 p.m.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." (Acts 28:19-20)

St. John's

St. John's will hold an Epiphany service, Festival of the Epiphany, on Friday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. We will be gathering on Epiphany for an abbreviated Eucharist and an old tradition of Christian hospitality called "blessing of the doors" or "chalking of the doors." In addition, the Saturday Evening worship service will be held on Janu 7, at 5:30 p.m.

On Sunday, Jan. 8, Pastor Ekstrand will lead worship on the First Sunday of Epiphany or the Baptism of Our Lord Sunday. The worship service will begin at 9 a.m. After worship, the Property and Helping Hands committees will meet. In addition, members of the church council will be available to answer questions at Coffee with Council. Whirl Sunday School will resume on Jan. 8, and will focus on the lesson, "A Light to the Nations." Confirmation class will also meet at 10:15 a.m. The SPOTS (fifth and sixth grades) youth group will meet at 11 a.m. in the Youth and Family Center.

The Fifth Quarter (seventh and eighth grades) will meet at 6 p.m. on Jan. 8, in the Youth and Family Center followed by Genesis (high school) youth group at 7:30 p.m.

A Men's Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 7:30 a.m. at Little John's. The Christian Education Committee will meet on Jan. 4, at 7:30 p.m. The Strategic Planning Committee will meet on Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m.

All are welcome to walk downstairs in the lower level on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. The Bible Studies will resume on Monday, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m. and the Thursday morning study will resume on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 9:30 a.m.

Save the date: St. John's will host their annual Pancake and Sausage supper on Wednesday, Feb. 1. Sausage gravy with biscuits will be on the menu also.

Early bird discounted bald eagle bus tours are a unique gift idea

Terrence N. Ingram, Exec. Dir. of the Eagle Nature Foundation (ENF), has announced that ENF is offering three 4-hour Bald Eagle Bus Tours in 2017.

The dates for these four-hour bus tours are Jan. 21, Feb. 11 and Feb. 25. All of the Eagle Tours will leave at 8 a.m. and return about 12:30 p.m. to the Best Western Motel, on Hwy. 20 on the east side of Galena.

All of the tours will be led by Terrence Ingram, who has been leading bald eagle bus tours for over 50 years. During each four hours these tours will visit five different historical bald eagle wintering communities to see bald eagles flying, fishing, and roosting. Several bald eagle nesting sites will be seen as well as

nighttime roosting sites. Cameras and binoculars are recommended, as possibly the bald eagles may be seen fairly close to the bus. As many as 450 bald eagles have been seen during just one four-hour tour in the past, but with the bald eagle population declining on the Mississippi, there is no guarantee of seeing even ten bald eagles on a tour this year. He recommends that if anyone has never gone on a tour before, or has seen a bald eagle in the wild, they should try to take one of these tours as soon as possible.

Until the ENF web page is up-dated a person will need a brochure to register for these tours. To get a brochure, call ENF's office (815) 594-2306 to leave your name and ad-

dress, or write: Eagle Nature Foundation, 300 East Hickory Street, Apple River, IL 61001.

For more information contact: Terrence N. Ingram, Exec. Director, Eagle Nature Foundation, 300 East Hickory St., Apple River, IL 61001 Phone (815) 594-2306

A little levity to lighten your day

The best money managers in the Bible were Noah, who was floating his stock when everyone else was in liquidation, and Pharaoh's daughter, who went down to the bank of the Nile and managed to draw out a little

Baptism of Our Lord Sunday at St. Paul's in Kent

On Sunday, Jan. 8, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Kent will observe The Baptism of our Lord during their 10 a.m. family worship service. Gary Groezinger will be the liturgist. Deb Winning will play appropriate music. Two hymn texts written by Carolyn Gillette, a Presbyterian minister and friend of Pas-

tor Andres, will be sung to familiar tunes during worship. Holy Communion will be celebrated.

Please join us at the little church with the big heart. We are located on 1334 N. Sunnyside Road, about one fourth mile north of Kent. For further information, please call Pastor Andres (815) 232-4010.

Highland Community College's Early-January Lifelong Learning Courses

Highland Community College Lifelong Learning is offering a full listing of courses beginning in 2017. Two of the classes to be offered in early January are Power Yoga and Installing a Flat Screen TV.

Power Yoga - Power Yoga is an advanced class for the avid yoga student looking for a course that will provide strength as well as stretching. Prior yoga experience is required. The class is taught by certified yoga instructor, Cindy Tessendorf, who has been active in fitness training since 1992. Please bring a mat. The course will meet on Thursday evenings, January 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 2, from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Student/ Conference Center, room H-210. The registration deadline is January 5, 2017. The cost is \$80.

Installing a Flat Screen TV - Would you like to learn how to hang your TV on the wall, and don't know where to start? During this hands-on class, Mike Gunderson, Highland's A/V Specialist, and resident A/V Installer, will show

you mounting techniques, types of mounts and how to hide the wires inside the wall. This is a one night class that will be held Thursday, January 19, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in Building M, room 122. The registration deadline is January 12, 2017. The cost is \$20.

The vision of Highland's Lifelong Learning is to serve all populations throughout the College's four-county district, including community members, seniors, and the region's business professionals.

To register for Lifelong Learning courses, and to see a complete listing of upcoming classes, visit highland.edu/lifelong or call (815) 599-3414. For more information about Lifelong Learning classes, and to find out the latest in new course offerings, call (815) 599-3403.

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0040



FILE PHOTOS The Scoop Today

2016 in review

Mason Brown, 16-month -old son of Anthony and Kelsea Brown of Elizabeth came to an Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Music in the Park to rock out a bit and enjoy a sippee cup (or two) before bedtime.



Stockton Police Department, Detective Casey Folks of the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's office, Warren Chief of Police Bryan Bohnsack, Carroll County Sheriff Jeff Doran, and John Korth, a detective with the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's office are all highly trained members of the CIRT Investigative squad serving Carroll and Jo Daviess Coun-

Knautz Flooring Family run for 40 years has now been handed down to Michael Knautz. We install everything from flooring, custom showers, back splashes, and fireplace surrounds. We would love to give you a free estimate on your project.



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The Warren High School band marched with almost perfect precision and the crowd showed its appreciation during the Warren's annual Pumpkin Fest parade



Elementary School students Avery Wackerlin and Jacob Harbach, Middle School students Hannah Deininger and Cody Breuer, and Stockton Education Foundation members Colleen Fox, Dave Gilliland, and Brad Fox standing behind 50 laptop computers worth \$15,000 purchased by the Stockton Education Foundation. The Stockton Education Foundation has now awarded over \$200,000 in grants to Stockton's students and teachers in eight years. The Foundation wishes to thank the many Foundation contributors over the years. Memorials and donations are accepted year round by the Foundation.

• Laws (Continued from front page)

ing that a passenger's conversation may be recorded. Any data recorded becomes the sole property of the vehicle's owner.

The Annie LeGere Law

House Bill 4462 was prompted by the tragic death of 13-year-old Annie LeGere of Elmhurst, who suffered a fatal anaphylactic reaction at a sleepover party. The Annie LeGere Law provides better access to livesaving treatment for allergic reactions by expanding training for law enforcement on how to recognize and respond to anaphylaxis, including the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector.

Veterans and military families aided by new laws

Student musicians may now be excused from school in the case of a military funeral procession under a new law that takes effect on Jan. 1. House Bill 4432 ensures that Illinois public students in grades 6-12 are permitted to attend a funeral of a deceased veteran during school hours for the purpose of playing "Taps," a bugle call traditionally performed during flag ceremonies and military funerals.

To honor fallen soldiers, House Bill 4344 creates the Heroes Way Designation Program Act. The law allows for the families of veterans who were killed in action while on active duty to apply for a designation to honor the departed with a personal sign on designated roadways under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Transportation. This new law was inspired by a similar law in Missouri that allowed interstate interchanges to be designated for Missouri residents who were killed in action on or after Sept. 11, 2001, in either Afghanistan or Iraq.

New laws focus on children

Children under the care of the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) will now have access to a greater family support system. House Bill 5656 requires that DCFS provide visitation privileges and accommodations to the grandparents and great-grandparents of a child under the department's supervision – as long as it's in the best interest of the child.

Amending Childhood Hunger Relief Act, Senate Bill 2393 is a new law this year that requires all school districts in Illinois to implement and operate a "breakfast after the bell" program. The legislation asserts that schools must provide breakfast for their students after the instructional day has begun—and may also begin serving before the day has begun.

New laws provide new ways to hunt and trap

In order to trap wild game in past

years, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) required that all individuals must complete a hunting training course. Senate Bill 2410 has lifted that requirement and now permits that individuals ages 18 and younger can trap wild game without certification as long as they are accompanied by an adult age 21 years or older.

Thanks to House Bill 5788, fishermen can now add catfish to the list of species that may be caught with a pitchfork, underwater spear gun, bow and arrow, or a bow and arrow device. Under the new measure, the DNR will authorize the selling of species taken by the above methods.

Being able to sell these fish not only benefits fishermen, but is also crucial to the state's overall environmental health. The current overpopulation of Asian Carp throughout the state is causing irreparable damage to Illinois' waterways and ecosystems. The DNR's authorization will allow fisherman to sell the carp carcasses, which are often taken by non-traditional methods and can be used to make fertilizer - providing incentives to catch them in greater numbers.

More details on these laws, and a full listing of all the new laws taking effect on January 1 can be found at www.senategop.state.il.us.



Kellogg's monument at Grove was erected in 1887, stands 34 feet tall and is made of native limestone. It is on the **U.S. National Register of Historic** Places.

2016 IN TOVIOW All eyes were on Lena, Illinois in early September as the Lena Lions Club kicked off its Sixty-Fifth Annual Lena Lions Fall Festival.



It is not unusual to see older students sitting next to a younger student in Pearl city Schools. A variety of activities take place regularly to help build a strong community. Students read, play games, help with skill practice, act as mentors and just have fun together. We have a unique situation where students from Pre-K to Twelfth grade are all in the same building, making interacting with each other very easy. Building a strong caring community is important to us in Pearl City.



The Nerds bed racing team looked great roaring down the track all those years ago, but eventually ran out of steam and lost the bed race to the Fitness on Main team, Butz and Gutz.



their special brand of winter fun to Winterfest and the crowds wanting a frosty sleigh ride kept the pair of draft horses busy for most of



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ASHLEY

What Christmas Means To Me

Mrs. Offenheiser's Stockton Fourth Grade

Christmas means many different things to people. To me, Christmas means going shopping for the poor. If I got a boy I would put boy toys in a box like a football, soccer ball, pants, shirts, socks, shoes and a card that has lots of money. I would be happy and my family would be happy when I spend time with them. Christmas also means my grandma making really good food and cookies on Christmas. I spend time with all of my cousins when they come to my grama's house and we play snowboarding or NFL Football. I would cook with my grandma and my cousin. Ari, him and I like that snowboarding game. Blake, him and I like the NFL football and I would pick the Cowboys. He is really good at football. That's what I think Christmas means to me.

By Javier Montalvo

What Christmas means to me

To me Christmas means snow, presents, and cookies. Another thing Christmas means to me is family and friends. For example, since 2013-2016 my family goes to the Kalahari and is about 2017. It is a three hour drive so it is pretty long. We play the tablets in the car.

This is what Christmas means to

By Zaidin Arand

What Christmas means to me is fun because I get to open presents with my family. I like when Santa brings toys and joy. My family has stockings with our names on them. I never want to get coal for Christmas because it would be a little heartbreaking. I love when my family and I go to my Grandma Paula and my Grandpa Mike's house and Grandma Layanda and Grandpa Spencer's. I like to play in the snow and make snowmen with my family and friends. Also, I love when my elf on the shelf does funny things like when he lays on the fan and hides in the candy. My elf is funny and nice. This is what Christmas

I love my mom and dad. Amber Haas

I love Christmas! It's the best time of the year. I wish it was every day. I love the presents. Christmas Rocks! Christmas is the best holiday. No school on Christmas. December is my favorite holiday. My name is Daniel Schmoll and this is what Christmas means to me.

Daniel Schmoll

This Is What Christmas Means To

Putting the star on top of the tree, eating pie chocolates and more, hearing Santa come through the

when you wake up on Christmas

and hear the bells on St Nick's sleigh,

when you go to bed

with dreams of reindeer blowing through your head,

when you hear Frank Sinatra on

and suddenly stub your toe,

when you look out the window and see Sparkling white snow, when you go to the store and see

Christmas stuff on clearance and your mom goes wild

Like the wildfires in Texas and your dad wrecks the Lexas,

When you're with friends & family too and grandmas making stew.

That's what Christmas means to

Dare to tell me what it means to

By Molly James

What Christmas means to me is... Seeing family I do not see often because I always see my uncles on Christmas and they live in Wisconsin. It means sleeping in on Christmas break so I can be lazy. It means staying up late, no school and having fun because you can play all day. It means celebrating with my family, playing board games and having snowball fights. It means building snowman, making caves in ice and being cold and covered in snow.

By Landon Warner

Engagement, Makkiage of Anniversaky

in the family recently?

Christmas is very special to me because I get presents and it brings family together and you get to eat sweets. Christmas is about celebrating Jesus and having fun. Christmas is also about The Golden Rule. The Golden Rule is: Treat People The Way you Want To Be Treated. Christmas is about putting the tree up with your family. Putting the tree up is what I do with my family. When it is close to Christmas and people are out ringing bells I always put money in their box because I know where it is going. It is going to homeless people. It might also be going to the cancer center .I like to give toys to the people who cannot afford it and I will also give toys to the cancer center. Christmas is the time that I get to hang out with my grandma, grandpa, my cousins, my mom and dad. This is why Christmas is special to me.

By Annastyn Larson This is what Christmas means Christmas brings snow and joy for all. When I slip the snow breaks my fall. It brings ice which is quite cold. It makes cars slip on the road. It is fun to play in and stay all day in the snow. Santa comes and gives everyone a present with goodies inside unless he decides they were bad which is sad because they get coal. It's a time to give gifts and if you go to church you may have heard this line. "If you give a gift to someone you're giving a gift to Jesus." This is something I strongly believe in and if someone tells me I don't, I don't listen. Christmas is a main event in church and this causes churches to give donations and have parties. I'm not much of a church person but this is something I believe in. I don't care what others think this my belief and I stick to it. Now, if you're gonna tell me I'm wrong just back off. This is what Christmas means to me. Hope you like my story. I put my heart into it. To my loved ones back home and my friends and family back in John-

Love Peter LaLond

What does Christmas mean to you? Christmas, to me, means a family gathering because you get to make cookies with your family. I like Christmas because you get stuff for your family and from them. My mom and dad work hard to get enough stuff for the kids. Also, the kids have to work too. The kids have to work around the house because the kids might want to buy something for the

Christmas means the kids are downstairs and the parents are upstairs talking. Then we come upstairs and eat and laugh together. I would also give presents to people in need so they have a merry Christmas. That's what Christmas means to me.

By:Katelyn Winters

Do you think Christmas is about presents? Well, it is not. It is about family. You get at least one thing a year, and it is your family. That is your first thing you will ever get. Be happy about that. Yes, it is nice to have presents, but family is most important of all. If it was not for family not one of us would be here right now. Do you get what I am trying to say? CHRISTMAS MEANS FAM-ILY. I am happy I have family because this Christmas will be a good and happy Christmas. Have a good Christmas everyone! Hope you get one present.

Bryce Grube

Christmas means many things to many different people and this is what it means to me I think Christmas means family and spending time with family and being kind. (Tiz the season to be jolly fa la la la la la la la la.) You should help someone if they're down and be kind to all no matter what skin type. Christmas is wonderful! (Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year) I love hanging stockings and having fun. And those songs you just read are explaining what I'm telling you about Christmas. You will eat ham or turkey while Mom, Dad, Brother, Sister wait at the chimney. Sometimes you will sing Christmas carols. And the sound of joy I hear brightens my heart. (Fa la la la la la la la la Tiz the season to be jolly fa la la la la la la.)

Jessica Rood

What I think Christmas is all about is celebrating the day Jesus was born, having a feast, making sure everyone is happy, bringing friends to enjoy the moment and hoping everyone is happy. Christmas is also about Santa totally bringing presents to you like when I got my cats. I love them because I love cats and I love my mom for that. Christmas feels so God and you can make stuff out of the snow and it is the best thing ever. There are so many things I could go on about Christmas. That is what Christmas

Jimi Wickler

What Christmas means to me is... to give and to get. My favorite part about Christmas is seeing family and getting to go to their houses. I get to see my cousins and we always have a good time. I miss seeing my two cousins in Portland, OR, I also love getting presents and love giving presents to family and friends. Once I gave my sister a magic wand and I got a stuffed animal in return. Christmas also means that I get to go to Christmas parties and I get to have Christmas dinner and I can't wait for Christmas dinner. My favorite part of Christmas dinner is talking with my family. My Grandma also makes really good cookies that I love to eat. That is what Christmas means to me.

By Ava Hess

What Christmas means to me is that I get to see my cousins and my Aunts and Uncles. It also means that we get to buy Christmas presents for my family members. One year we bought grandma and grandpa a new tablet. I felt real excited when I saw how happy they were when they opened it. Another great thing about Christmas is I always go to my grandma's house and eat a lot of food. I absolutely love her mashed potatoes. When we're done eating we all get to open presents together. All of the kids bring their snow gear. Then we all make a snowman family. When we get all warmed up we all make sugar cookies. Then we get to eat all of them. This is what Christmas mean to me.

By Emily Broshous

Christmas means different things to a lot of people. To me it means that Santa is coming. When Santa arrives I get presents. Also, to me, it means you get to give then you get. One time I gave my little brother a smelly stuffed animal and I received a light decoration for my room. It also means that you get to spend time with your family like Mom, Dad, my brother & sister, aunt, uncle, Grandma, Grandpa and all of your friends. It's a time to see the important people in your life. You get to decorate your house and you get to put up a

tree and decorate it with ornaments. This is what Christmas means to me.

By Veyah Luke

What Christmas means to me is to get with family and have fun playing games. I like decorating the tree with my family. I like playing in the snow with my brothers because it spreads the holiday cheer.

By Gracie Luke

What does Christmas mean to me? Christmas means to me that you gather up your family for a holiday. Some people have traditions that they do on holidays. I go to my grandma's and we eat there and play games. We also make Christmas cookies. Also I think Christmas is about giving not getting. So you can give someone a present for Christmas. I think it is about Santa and songs, having hot chocolate and snowball fights and playing with your family on vacation. This is what Christmas means

By Kacy Wright

Christmas to me means Joy and my family gives me joy. For Christmas my mom hands me and my little brother, Bencho, gifts. My grandma and grandpa hold the trash bag. My aunt comes down with her two boys, Izzy and Justin. My uncle comes down and brings his mean cat, Smalls. We love his cat because he is cute and cuddly. My grandma, my mom and I help make Christmas dinner. I help with rolls, grandma does the ham and turkey and mom does the sides and pies. We open our toys and play with them after we eat. My mom and aunt let the four of us go play outside in the snow. We go inside for coco and play with our toys some more. This is how we do Christmas

BY Shirley Cook.

What Christmas means to me...

I think Christmas is about celebrating the birth of Jesus and honestly I think that's what it should mean to all of us. His name is literally right in the title of Christmas. Christ is right at the beginning. If he was not born you wound not even celebrate Christmas because the holiday would not have been created. Also, if it was not about him why would we celebrate? It's kind of pointless to celebrate because Santa was not born on Christmas but Jesus was. One more thing, if Christmas was not about Jesus why is it so important to go to church and worship him on CHRISTMAS Day and not Santa?? Because Santa only brings you presents. This is what Christmas means to me!!!!

By Keagan Steen

What Christmas means to me...

Is that I have a fun time. I get to open presents and have a fun time with my sister. I get to be with my brother and his birthday is one day after Christmas. I get to my toys and have fun with my parents and my two dogs. My grandma and grandpa will be there and I get to face chat with my other Grandma and Grandpa because they are in Phoenix, Arizona. I get to eat and my two uncles and aunt are going to be there. So Christmas means to me is that it is fun for me and my family.

By Ethan Steien

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2016 in review

Words cannot express how grateful we are for the outpouring of donations that we received to help sponsor the ministry Operation Christmas Child. In November, with approximately 50 helpers, we were able to pack 300 shoeboxes. This was our goal. Our congregation is awesome! A special thank you to our Weekday School kids, Thrivent, the Board of Stewardship, and Third Day Bible Study. These shoeboxes will be shipped to a distribution center for more specific packing. From there, they will be shipped to share the love of Jesus with children around the world. Please pray for the children receiving these gifts that their eyes are opened to our Savior this Christmas. To God be the glory! St. John's Lutheran Church, 625 Country Lane Drive, Lena.

(Right top) Warren School District #205 Foundation member Jan Barker presented Coach Jared McNutt with a check for \$995.00 for the purchase of a new squat rack for the school's Fitness Center.

(Right bottom) The tactical side of the two-county CIRT program practices its maneuvers bi-monthly to stay fresh and alert should the need for their skills arise.





Happy New Year









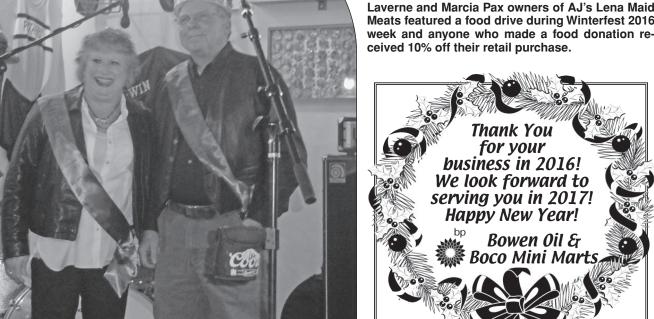




Tim and Dawn Thyberg of Twisted Metal Collision Center collected dozens of lightly used coats and comforters to be donated to the My Friends Closet resale shop where they will be sold with the proceeds going to the Friendship Center.

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FILE PHOTOS The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

2016 in review

Congratulations to Jill Harmston who participated in the All-State Choir in Peoria, IL last Jan.30. At the time, Harmston was a junior at Stockton High School and the daughter of Greg and Peggy



(Below) Pastor Brian LeBaron of the Lena United Methodist Church and a great volunteer crew served nearly 200 country breakfasts in conjunction with Winterfest 2016.

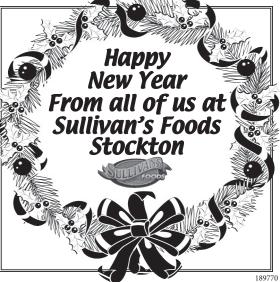














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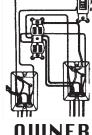
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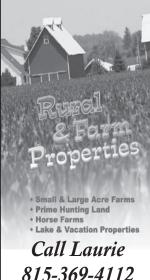
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MANTA MIRAGE, STREET CAN AM RACE CAR S. B. C., 4 spd. tube frame, custom wheels, chrome yellow, show winner, fast. 847-838-1916

SOUTHERN ANTIQUE, smaller Toronado. Seats 6. V-6, FWD. new wheels, tires, rare. TRADE? \$1600 847-395-2669

Sport Utilities

2000 LINCOLN Navigator, 121k miles, black w/gray leather interior, new headlights, air bag to spring conversion. Very nice condition, \$2,600, 262-989-4112

Trucks & Trailers

2015 CHEVY EXTENDED VAN 24k, 4.8 V8, side doors, no glass, 414-687-5857.

Call 815-369-4112



What Christmas Means To Me

Amanda Thompson 's Stockton Fourth Grade

What Christmas means to me is TOYS! CANDY! FUN! AND ... FAMILY! Family, because family is the most important thing in the world. Fun, because you can have fun with all of the people in your family, and they can have fun with you. Candy, because after dinner you can eat a whole lot of candy. Last, but not least, toys! Toys because you can have fun with all of your toys, and your brother and sister can't touch it . Especially my brother and sister, they break everything of mine.

By, Aydyn Young

What Christmas mean to me is waking up and going down stairs and opening presents. Then, we have breakfast. Next, we go to our cousins and eat. Then, we play. My family and I will go into the living room and someone will read about Jesus' birth in the bible. My cousin and I will open presents, and then we all play again. This is what Christmas mean to me.

By, Dillon George McIntosh

What Christmas means to me is spending time with my family. I think it is also about having fun. I also like to drink hot cocoa. It is also about celebrating Jesus' birthday. I think Christmas is supposed to be fun. This is what Christmas means to me

By, Dylann Broshous

Christmas means running down to open presents. Once we are done, we all go out and play protect the fort. Next, we go to church .Then from 11:00am to 6:00pm we all have free time. I ride the four-wheeler. Finally, we sit down and watch polar express while drinking hot chocolate. This is what Christmas means to me.

By, Eli Haas

Christmas means waking up in my PJs and running into my parent's bedroom, jumping on their bed, waking them up, and then we love to listen Christmas Carols. We all always laugh and talk while opening Christmas presents. Mom sometimes gets a little teary eyed, but Christmas means all of the love and peace on Earth. We are always together. This is what Christmas means to me.

By, Emma Demeter

What Christmas means to me is spending time with family. I like spending time with family. It's fun drinking hot chocolate and playing games with them too. I like opening presents and talking. I also celebrate Jesus' birthday. I do this because Jesus died on the cross for us. That is what Christmas means to me.

By, Jacob Harbach

What Christmas means to me is happiness through the whole world. You get to open presents, and if I could give Jesus a present, I would. The present would be love. I'm sure everyone would want to do that. You also get to watch Christmas movies, play with your presents, and eat a lot of cookies! I love to (along with a lot of other kids) play in the snow until my hands are as cold as ice-cubes! Christmas is one of my favorite hol-

idays, and by the way I especially love listening to Christmas music, and looking at all the beautiful Christmas lights on people's houses! This is what Christmas means to me!

By: Kendra Robledo<3

Christmas means waking up early with my family. It also means spending time with family. It also means seeing family that you don't get to see all the time. It means opening presents and looking in stockings with family. It also means having fun with family and friends. You can also visit family that you can't always visit. Finally, it means celebrating Jesus' birthday. That is what Christmas means to me.

By, Kinzie Bruketta

What Christmas means to me is joy to the world. It also ,means hanging out with family and friends. It means building big forts and playing in the snow. Then we'll be drinking egg nog or hot cocoa. It also means having food and treats with family. It means celebrating Jesus birthday. It means having fun, playing games, and having the spirit of Christmas. It also means watching Christmas moves with my family. This is what Christmas means to me.

By, Kyla Arnold

What Christmas means to me is opening presents. It means joy. It means going outside and playing in the snow. I go inside and drink hot cocoa once I turn red. I play with my new games I got. I put up decorations. This is what Christmas means to me.

By, Kyle Haas

Christmas means having fun with family .You can open presents, play

games, play with your toys, and have hot chocolate. You can play outside and build a snow man. You can play with your friends. You can go skating or go to Grandma's. This is what Christmas means to me.

By, Leighton Krueger

Christmas means happiness and love. My favorite part is Jesus' birthday. We also put a lot of Christmas decorations up. Also, I get to see my family. I love Christmas, with all the caroling out on the snow, scary ghost stories, and tales of the glories. That is what Christmas means to me.

By, Lillian Kathleen Sikora

What Christmas means to me is waking up and hoping to get beats head phones. Also, I Like to play football. Next, I would go to my grandma's. Then we would eat and open more presents. Then, we would build snowmen and go sledding. That's what Christmas to me.

By, Lucas Baney

Christmas means spending time with your family and playing outside. So I like going outside and building a snowman and a snow fort. Then, I like to go inside and spend time with my family. After I spend time with my family, I go on the couch to get cozy and watch T.V. When I'm done watching T.V., I like to go help mom cook lunch. After lunch I go to my room and read for a while. Christmas is very special. It is my favorite season. I especially like putting up decorations, and decorating the tree. This is what Christmas means to me.

By, Madalyn Mammoser

Christmas means waking up and opening my presents. Family comes

over and we eat cookies .I play with my cousins .We dance and play .When it is time to go home, we read a Christmas Carol . Then we go to bed and dream about sugar plums .That is what Christmas me.

By, Masyn Cahill

Christmas is a time when you spread kindness with family and friends. Also, Christmas means a time to celebrate Jesus' birthday. We respect Jesus on his birthday. Christmas also means unwrapping presents and decorating. Christmas means fun to me. Christmas means to have a good time.

By, Nikita Adhikari

What Christmas means to me is spending time with family and friends and having laughs all the time. Also, you get tons of presents and eat lots of food. Then, you can go back to your house. You can play with all of your games and toys that you got. This is what Christmas means to me.

By, Sam Hille

Christmas is about joy and happiness. I enjoy helping mom decorate the tree with ornaments and popcorn. There will be snowballs for building a fort and snowball fights. Mom and dad put presents under the tree to make me happy. Together we open presents, watch T.V., and play video games on Christmas Day. I enjoy spending time with my family on Christmas. That is what Christmas means to me.

By, William Hart

LEGALS

TAX LEVY ORDINANCE OF THE STOCKTON FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR FROM MAY 1, 2016 TO APRIL 30, 2017

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE STOCKTON FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE DISTRICT:

Section 1: LEVY.

For there be and is hereby levied on all of the taxable property within the corporate limits of the Stockton Fire Protection and Ambulance District subject to taxation for its fiscal year beginning May 1, 2016 and ending April 30, 2017, the following sums for the various purposes mentioned in the District's Budget and Appropriation Ordinance as follows:

ation Ordinance as follows.			
	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	
ITEMS	APPROPRIATED	LEVIED	
1. Administration Expense	10,000.00	8,500.00	
2. Station Expense	25,000.00	21,500.00	
3. Operations Expense	154,000.00	137,625.00	
4. Contingent	1,000.00	500.00	
Total Appropriation for	\$190,000.00		
Corporate (Administration, Station,			
Operations and Contingent) purposes			
TOTAL LEVY FOR CORPO	\$168,125.00		
(ADMINISTRATION, STATION,			
OPERATIONS and CONTINGENT)			
PURPOSES			
5. Ambulance Service	75,000.00	71,865.00	
TOTAL LEVY FOR AMBULANCE 71,865.00			
SERVICE			
6. Tort Immunity, Liability		27,500.00	
Workman's Compensation			
Insurance(s)			
TOTAL LEVY FOR TORT I	27,500.00		
LIABILITY and WORKM.			
COMPENSATION INSUR			
7. Audit	3,000.00	2,890.00	
TOTAL LEVY FOR AUDIT		2,890.00	
SECTION 2. <u>NECESSITY</u> .			

That each and every of the sums of money above set forth and the aggregate thereof are deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees of the Stockton Fire Protection and Ambulance District to defray the necessary expenses of said District during its fiscal year beginning May 1, 2016 and ending April 30, 2017.

SECTION 3. WHEN EFFECTIVE.

That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in accordance with law.

APPROVED and PASSED

D. ROBERT MELCHER

on November 28, 2016. D. ROBERT MELCHER

President

ERNEST S. LIEB ERNEST S. LIEB

(Published in The Scoop Today Jan. 4, 2017)

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ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES AUCTION

507 E. MAIN ST. • LENA, IL SATURDAY, January 7, 2017 - 10:00 A.M. (Severe weather date: Sunday, January 8)

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES: Sanford's Ink display case; oak cupboard, secretary, hi-boy, commode & glass door display case; modern 2-dr kt cupboard; walnut dresser & commode; claw ft organ stool; wood 55-gal barrel; spool cabinet; store counter display case; vintage adv signs & tins; Sun Crest enamel thermometer; cardboard adv signs/ads; Nice selection of Rawleigh tins; vintage toys & games: vintage wood scooter & riding horse; Marx tin Gangbusters gun; Little Orphan Annie tin stove; General Grocery tin litho display; board & card games; Barbie case w/doll; WWII German Army Dagger w/ Swastika by WKC Solingen; vintage Barometer; vintage wood duck decoy; vintage Halloween; wood adv boxes & crates; Western 3-gal crock drink dispenser; brass search light; vintage kt items; Oak Brand Ice Cream tray; Coca-Cola & beer trays; local cabinet photos; shooter marbles; clay marbles; paper wts; adv whistles; milk bottles incl. Argyle WI; blue fruit jars; carnival; art glass; Fenton; Pyrex mixing bowls; Fire King; Delft items; nic-nacs & figurines.

TERMS: CASH or GOOD CHECK

LOBDELL AUCTION SERVICE - 815-238-0832 IL LICENSE #440000644 - www.lobdellauctionservice.com

densited in the Secop Today van. 1, 2017)

Secretary

WINTER WARRIORS

- live • on raised stage



SAT. JAN. 7, 2017 - 1 & 7 PM

DOORS OPEN AT NOON & REOPEN AT 6 PM

At the Apple River Event Center Apple River, IL

7 pm show followed by

ISC MA

Matinée Show: \$10-Students • \$15 Adults OR Two Adults for \$25

Evening Show: Advance Tickets \$20 each OR Two Adults for \$30 - \$25 at Door

AUCTION ITEMS-DOOR PRIZES 50/50

Advance Tickets Available at:

- ★ Saunders Oil Co., Inc. ★ Smiley's Pub

★ Full Throttle Powersports

- ★ Stockton Travel Center
- ★ Southside Pub
- ★ Hixster's Bar & Grill

- ★ Scales Mound Sinclair
- ★ Stockholders Saloon

To make donations or buy advance tickets contact Brian Saunders at 815-541-1031, Adam Wurster 815-238-5103 or Mike Blair at 815-541-3512