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VOL. 82 • NO. 1

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1, 2020

Panthers take third in holiday tournament

By Trenten Scheidegger
SPORTSWRITER

Over the last week the Lena-Winslow boys' basketball team competed in the Forreston Holiday Tournament. The holiday tournament takes place over three days and hosts a multitude of local teams to come and compete as we all get into our holiday spirit.

The Panthers first game was against the Orangeville Broncos on Saturday, December 14. Alex Daughenbaugh was the story of the tournament opener as he caught fire from deep, hitting four three pointers on his way to a twenty point game. With another ten points from Sean Ormiston, the Panthers were able to grab a 49-37 victory over Orangeville. The Broncos were led by Zach Baker, who finished the game with an impressive 23 points.

Following the round one win, the Panthers were set up to face Oregon in what would turn out to be a heated finish. It took five quarters to decide this one as things went into overtime tied at 44 all. Solid free throw shooting and tight defense turned out to be the difference as the Panthers held Oregon to just four points in the extra quarter and shot eight for ten from the charity stripe to capture a 54-48 victory. Isaiah Bruce led the team in scoring with 21.

The Panthers suffered their first loss of the tournament on Thursday, December 19 when they faced off with Sterling-Newman. Daughenbaugh and Alec Bennett combined for eighteen points, but it wasn't enough as Le-Win eventually fell to Sterling-Newman 53-37. The loss set up the Panthers to compete in the third place game against the

Eastland Cougars.

The third place game was tight from start to finish. The first and fourth quarters proved to be the ultimate difference maker as the Panthers were able to gather slight advantages in both quarters to help squeak out a tight victory. Ormiston had six points in the opening quarter and the entire team combined for twelve in the fourth while holding the Cougars to just five points of their own. The massive fourth quarter was just enough for Le-Win to grab a 36-33 victory as the Panthers took third place in the Holiday Tournament. Isaiah Bruce was named to the First-Team All-Tournament team for his performance.

By Trenten Scheidegger
SPORTSWRITER

Last Thursday, the Orangeville Broncos faced off with Highland for a game full of holiday spirit. Highland was able to jump out to an early lead over the Broncos, as Orangeville trailed going into halftime by a score of 25-17.

The Broncos would fight back in the second half, however. They battled to keep things close until the very end. Orangeville outscored Highland 26-20 in the second half; however, with an eight point deficit coming in, it wasn't enough to pull off the comeback.

Alyssa Ostendorf led the team with nineteen points. She added three steals and three rebounds to go along with her impressive offensive night. Timber Oakes was next



COURTESY PHOTO Shopper's Guide

NW Illinois F4 Jet Memorial donation

Alec Schlichting (6th grader) of Lena presents a check to Terry Yount, President of the NW Illinois F4 Jet Memorial committee. Alec earned this money this past summer holding lemonade stands throughout the community.

Lady Broncos defeat Highland Warriors

By Trenten Scheidegger
SPORTSWRITER

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Alyssa Ostendorf led the team with nineteen points. She added three steals and three rebounds to go along with her impressive offensive night. Timber Oakes was next

up with an eight point, six rebound game. Grace Edler was aggressive in the paint as she racked up twelve rebounds to go along with six points. The trio's play was almost enough to pull it off, but Highland went on to win 45-43.

The very next day, the Broncos were set up to face off with a member of the Northwest Upstate Illini West Conference, in the Warren Warriors. Coming off the loss, the Broncos were looking to respond in emphatic fashion.

The Broncos dominated this one

from the start as they jumped out to a 22-9 lead at halftime. Warren's offense found their rhythm in the second half, but it would not be enough as the Broncos went on to win 40-29. Ostendorf led the way offensively in this one as well, as she finished with sixteen points to go along with five rebounds. Emily George was next up with eight points and ten rebounds. Edler was dominant once again as she grabbed twenty rebounds and added six points, her play was key in allowing her offense to establish a deficit.

Head coach Jay Doyle is happy with his team, saying "So far this year we have matched the win total already from last year." His expectations for this team have remained the same, as Doyle says their goal is still "Competing game to game with a tough physical style of defense, and ball control on offense." Doyle also noted the team's room for improvement, saying "We need to continue to get better offensively with our shooting and limiting our turnovers."

The Broncos are currently 6-9 on their season.

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Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing December winners announced

The Daily Drawing (a cooperative fundraiser) is a drawing for 366 daily cash prizes from Oct. 1, 2019 – Sept. 30, 2020 to those donating for a ticket. Cash prizes vary between \$50 and \$250. A ticket may win multiple times as each ticket remains in the drawing each day for the entire year, no matter how often it may be drawn.

There are nearly 20 organizations working together on the Daily Drawing from Jo Daviess, Carroll & Stephenson County.

Sponsoring organizations include: Caring Community of Elizabeth, East Dubuque Music Boosters, Elizabeth Historical Society, Freeport Dance Team, Galena After Prom, Galena Elks Scholarship, Galena Music Boosters, Hanover Alumni Association, Hanover Chamber of Commerce, Lena-Winslow Education Foundation, Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary Foundation, Pearl City Athletic Boosters, River Ridge Education Association, Scales Mound Travelers, Stewards of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge, Stockton Strong, Warren Athletic Boosters and West Carroll Sports Boosters.

The December 2019 list of winners includes:

- 1st. Sunday. \$50 – Connie Kerkhoff, Pearl City
- 2nd. Monday. \$50 – Velda Krohmer, Elizabeth
- 3rd. Tuesday. \$50 – Michael Dauphin, Elizabeth
- 4th. Wednesday. \$50 – Mason Schamberger, Stockton
- 5th. Thursday. \$50 – Brian & Karlene Saunders, Warren
- 6th. Friday. \$50 – Cheri Martensen, Galena
- 7th. Saturday. \$50 – Pete Mills, Wheeling
- 8th. Sunday. \$50 – Janelle Fenn, Galena
- 9th. Monday. \$50 – Traighton, McGovern, Elizabeth
- 10th. Tuesday. \$50 – Ken Whitmer, Elizabeth
- 11th. Wednesday. \$50 – Bob Strahman, Galena
- 12th. Thursday. \$50 – Bonnie Cox, Galena
- 13th. Friday. \$50 – Chris Sullivan, Savanna
- 14th. Saturday. \$50 – Amy Mahon, Winslow
- 15th. Sunday. \$50 – Rhonda Ransom, Elizabeth
- 16th. Monday. \$50 – Judy Williams, Elizabeth
- 17th. Tuesday. \$50 – Connie Alendorf, Galena
- 18th. Wednesday. \$50 – Steve Stadel, Scales Mound
- 19th. Thursday. \$50 – Leo Petta, Pearl City
- 20th. Friday. \$50 – Mary Ann Smith, Hanover
- 21st. Saturday. \$50 – Helen Jennings, Clinton, IA
- 22nd. Sunday. \$50 – Cindy Hook, Thomson
- 23rd. Monday. \$50 – Jan Schmid,

- Wheeling
- 24th. Tuesday. \$150 – Rod & Christy Clemens, Savanna
- 25th. Wednesday. \$250 – Mike Harris, Nora
- 26th. Thursday. \$50 – Angie Koehn, Freeport
- 27th. Friday. \$50 – Kristina Larkin-Curtis, Galena
- 28th. Saturday. \$50 – Ken Schueler, Scales Mound
- 29th. Sunday. \$50 – Duc Pham, Galena
- 30th. Monday. \$50 – Pearl Hamil, Hanover
- 31st. Tuesday. \$50 – Lori Kempel, Pearl City

American Legion Auxiliary to host culinary competitions

The American Legion Auxiliary will be holding the annual Pie Baking Contest on Saturday, Jan. 25, and Soup Tasting on Sunday, Jan. 26.

On Saturday, the American Legion Auxiliary Units of the Thirteenth District will be hosting the pie baking contest. Fruit pies should be delivered to the American Legion Home in Lena between 10 and Noon. Pies will be judged and cash prizes will be awarded. We need ladies and gentlemen to get out their rolling pins and submit a pie for judging.

On Sunday, the Units will once again sponsor an activity from 11 to 2:30. The Tenth Annual Soup Tasting will feature over twenty different soups and dessert for \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 10.

Come join us for a weekend of fun. The American Legion Home is located 316 West Main Street in Lena, across from the historical water tower.

Questions? Please call: 233-9078 or 369-4684



Krista Keene is a senior at Lena-Winslow High School and the daughter of Troy and Sheila Keene. She is a 10-year member of the Lena Live Wires 4-H Club and plans to attend Highland Community College, and major in Nursing. Krista said on her application, "4-H has helped me grow as a person and I am glad that I have stuck with it. I'm very thankful my mom put me in the 4-H group I'm in now, because we are all like a family, and I am ready to continue my life with the knowledge I have learned from 4-H". One of her favorite 4-H projects was Citizenship, as she was able to help hurricane victims on the United States.



Kyla Glendenning is currently attending Emmaus Bible College in Dubuque, IA and plans to have a coaching program created that combines business and financial areas. She is the daughter of Luke and Alicia Glendenning, and is an 11-year member of the Florence Crickets 4-H Club. She says in her application, "4-H has been a vital tool and community in developing who I am, as the challenge of completing multiple 4-H projects on a busy schedule taught me that anything is possible with dedication and diligence".

Stephenson County Foundation announces Brittany Koch Scholarship winners

Twenty years ago, the 4-H program in Stephenson County was saddened by the loss of a member, Brittany Koch of the Country Cuzins 4-H Club to cancer. A scholarship to support 4-H members' college education was established by her family, and was supported by the 4-H program for years. Now, in the 20th and final year, two Stephenson County 4-H alumni will be the recipients of the scholarship. The 2019 recipients are Krista Keene of Lena and Kyla Glendenning of Pearl City.

About 4-H: Illinois 4-H strives to help youth learn skills for living. 4-H programs are offered in every Illinois County by University of Illinois Extension. Illinois 4-H aims to impact the lives of 250,000 youth each year through sustained learning clubs and groups and short-term programming. 4-H is a community of seven million young people around the world learning leadership, citizenship, & life skills. For more information on any of these events, contact University of Illinois Extension-Stephenson County at 815-235-4125.

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Stockton CUSD #206 BOE regular meeting minutes

The regular meeting of the Stockton Community Unit School District #206 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the middle school conference room. Members present included Neill Cahill, Stephanie Broshous, Nicole Haas, Scott Hayes, John Raab, Todd Vincent, and Rachel Phillips. The board approved to amend the agenda to include 7i proposal of Benning Group to provide professional accounting services to Stockton CUSD 206 for 2020 - 2023 school years 7-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Broshous. The consent agenda items of approving October 21st board minutes for regular and closed session, payment of bills totaling \$95,606.31, and financial report were approved 7-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Raab. Administrative reports were read and approved as written into board minutes 7-0 following a motion by Vincent and second by Haas. No one spoke during public participation.

Superintendent's report, Mrs. Fox reported:

• Strategic Plan – meeting on November 13th complete – Dr. Zabilka took information generated from the meeting and will compile that information. A core task force will review the information and work to formulate goals for the District. I will be contacting committee members when I hear from Dr. Zabilka.

• ESSA school designations – HS commendable; MS commendable; ES exemplary – see handout with explanation of designations. Very proud of both students and staff for this designation.

• I attended the Village meeting on Nov. 12th – I will be contacting Mayor Brandt to set up a meeting.

ES Good News Report, Mrs. Fox reported:

• Elementary school students and staff dressed in many entertaining costumes and participated in a Halloween Parade through the school on Thursday, Oct. 31.

• PTO Book Fair took place the week of Dec. 9 through Dec. 13. A note will be sent on the hours the Book Fair will be open in the first week of December.

• Pajama Reading Party was on Dec. 12 from 6 to 8 at the elementary school.

ES Administrative Report, Mrs. Fox reported:

• Parent/Teacher conferences in the elementary were Oct. 29 and 30. See handout for feedback from the survey.

• Many teachers have attended conferences through the ROE continuing to work on professional de-

velopment.

• Riverview Center came to the elementary at the first week of November to discuss bully prevention material with K- 4th grade students.

• Report cards for First Quarter were issued on Oct. 25. Progress reports for Second Quarter will be sent home on Nov. 22.

HS Good News Report, Mrs. Downey reported:

• Congratulations to Taylor Broshous for being named the Outstanding Student of the 1st Quarter in Construction Technology at the CTE. Taylor is also a Student Ambassador at the CTE along with Janet Katzenberger. These ladies were able to help with the Sophomore Tours held at the CTE on Nov. 5.

HS Administrative Report, Mrs. Downey reported:

• Juniors attended the Northwest Illinois College Fair at Highland Community College on Oct. 24.

• First quarter report cards were issued Friday, Oct. 25.

• Parent teacher conferences were held on Oct. 29 and 30. Twenty-three conferences were held at the high school.

• The SAT Committee met on Tuesday, Oct. 29 to review the high school's SAT review plan for Second Semester.

• Mrs. Malone chaperoned a group of students to the Construction Career Day at UW-Platteville on Wednesday, Oct. 30.

• Tim Reilly presented to small groups of teachers at the high school on Monday, Nov. 4 on SAT strategies and resources.

• All sophomores toured the CTE on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

• The National Honor Society induction was held on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

• NHS hosted a Blood Drive on Thursday, Nov. 7.

• The Veteran's Day assembly was held at the high school on Monday, Nov. 11 at 1 p.m. Veterans and their families were also invited to a pancake breakfast from 8:30-10:30.

• Second quarter progress notes will be issued on Friday, Nov. 22n.

MS Good News Report, Mr. Fox reported:

1. Blackhawks of the month: 5th grade – Madalynn Perry 6th grade – Adrienne Baker 7th grade – Lillian Sikora 8th grade – Gracie Raab and Maecee Rice

MS Administrative Report Mr. Fox reported:

• The 7th and 8th grade classes are collecting food items for the Stockton Food Pantry. This continued until Nov. 22. The winning grade will get the coveted turkey trophy.

• The Veterans Day program went very well. I heard many positive comments from the public. We also had 17 veterans and their families in that snowy morning for pancakes, which went well. I thank Bob and Lu Douglas, and Connie Hill for coming in and helping me out with the pancakes.

• The 8th grade class has joined with the Lions Club to collect can tabs, eyeglasses, keys, cell phones, and Christmas light recycling. This collection continues into February. If you have any of these items they can brought to the Middle School and they will be recycled or refurbished to help families in need.

• Parent/Teacher conferences were held Oct. 29 and 30.

5th grade 80%
6th grade 76%
7th grade 24% (63% of those requested)

8th grade 9% (50% of those requested)

• Second quarter progress reports will go home Friday, Nov. 22.

The following committees reported to the Board: Transportation, Building and Grounds, One Campus, Policy, and Personnel. Mrs. Fox reviewed minutes from the CTE Academy.

In new business, the board took the following action:

1. Approved tentative 2020 Levy 7-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Phillips.

2. Approved purchase of a floor scrubber at or below \$2800 7-0 fol-

lowing a motion by Hayes and second by Broshous.

3. Approved date for State of Schools Address on January 30, 2020 7-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Hayes.

4. Approved administrative succession plan for the District 7-0 following a motion by Broshous and second by Cahill.

5. Approved second read of board policy per attached list 7-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Raab.

6. Approved first read of board policy per Press 7-0 following a motion by Vincent and second by Hayes.

7. Approved the purchase and installation of a heat sensor in high school girls' locker room up to \$1800 7-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Vincent.

8. Approved middle school locker room door hardware upgrades and installation up to \$1800 7-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Cahill.

9. Approved proposal of Benning Group to provide professional accounting services to Stockton CUSD 206 for school years 2020-2023 7-0 following a motion by Hayes and second by Phillips.

The following informational items were discussed:

• Doug McMahan presented information to the board on CTS Group

• Mrs. Malone presented information to the board on the different assessments given by the district. She also reviewed test data from the 2019 school year.

• The Board discussed procedures for facility usage. This will be taken to the policy committee for further discussion.

The board voted to go into closed session under the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) and 2 (c)(9) for the purpose of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of personnel,

and student matters at 9:10 pm 7-0 following a motion by Haas and second by Raab. The board voted to return to open session at 10:05 pm 7-0 following a motion by Broshous and second by Hayes.

Under continued new business, the board took the following action:

1. Approved hire of Roger Russell, Carl Lyons, and Barrett Marvin pending appropriate certification as part-time bus drivers 7-0 following a motion by Hayes and second by Broshous.

2. Approved teacher retirement notification with regret of Mary Schmidt at the end of the FY20 school year 7-0 following a motion by Raab and second by Vincent.

3. The hire of elementary para professional was tabled.

The board adjourned at 10:08 pm following as moved by Cahill.

2020 Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference scheduled


The 2020 Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference is scheduled for Friday, March 6, 2020 in Elizabeth, IL. Plan to join the University of Illinois Extension for this annual conference from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Elizabeth Community Building, HWY 20 W. Elizabeth, IL.

The theme for this year's conference is "Understanding the Value of Pasture and Forages".

Presenters at the event will include Larry Tranel, ISU Extension Dairy Field Specialist, Phil Cardoso, Illinois Extension Dairy Specialist, Laura Lant, Midwest Grass and Forage, Jay Solomon, Illinois Extension En-

See CONFERENCE, Page 15

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Capitol recap

New year will bring a higher minimum wage, legalization of cannabis

By Capitol News Illinois

The state's minimum wage will increase by \$1 hourly, recreational cannabis will go on sale to those over 21 years of age, and some state taxes and licensing fees will increase when the calendar hits January.

The changes are among hundreds resulting from laws passed during a busy legislative session which adjourned in early June.

MINIMUM WAGE: The minimum wage will increase by \$1 to \$9.25 hourly on Jan. 1, the first such increase since 2010. The wage will increase to \$10 hourly in July before increasing \$1 each January until it hits \$15 by 2025.

Cannabis Legalization: With the legalization of adult-use cannabis in the state, Illinois residents will be allowed to possess 30 grams of cannabis flower, 500 milligrams of a cannabis-infused product and five grams of cannabis concentrate. Non-residents can possess half those amounts.

Consumption of cannabis will still be banned in public places, however, unless a licensed cannabis facility or certain lounges obtain local government clearance for allowing use at their facilities.

Cannabis legalization will also provide for the expungement of low-level cannabis convictions and criminal records in the state, the first of which were filed in Chicago this month.

New Taxes, Fees for Capital Plan: Some new taxes and fees which will

help fund a multi-year \$45 billion capital infrastructure plan will also take effect starting in January.

Registration fees for passenger vehicles will increase to \$151 from \$101, while electric vehicle registration fees will increase to \$251 annually from \$34 every other year.

The licensing fee for a trailer weighing less than 3,000 pounds will increase to \$118 from \$18, with every weight class above that also seeing a \$100 increase.

A new tax on parking garages will also take effect next month, with a 6 percent rate applied to hourly and daily garages and a 9 percent rate applied to monthly.

The state will also begin taxing the value of traded-in vehicles starting after \$10,000 of value, down from \$20,000.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS: Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker's office announced Monday, Dec. 23, that the state will receive \$40.2 million in federal grants over the next three years to improve early childhood programs.

The competitive grants are administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and they require a 30-percent cost-sharing commitment from non-federal funds. The grants are used to build early childhood program infrastructure and expand high-quality preschool programs in targeted communities, the governor's office said in a news release.

"From our aggressive efforts to secure federal funding to our historic investments in early childhood programs and facilities, Illinois will become the best state in the nation for families raising young children," Pritzker said in the release.

Last week, Pritzker announced that the state is increasing child care provider reimbursement rates by 5 percent statewide and by 20 percent for providers in what the Illinois Department of Human Services calls "Group 2" counties, which are primarily rural counties.

The budget that lawmakers passed during the 2019 session included a \$50 million increase in the state's Early Childhood Education Block grant. In addition, the capital improvements program known as "Rebuild Illinois" provides \$100 million for construction of early childhood facilities across the state.

LGBTQ HEALTH CARE: Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul has joined with 18 other state attorneys general in opposing proposed new federal rules that they say could strip many LGBT individuals of many health care rights.

The proposed rule deals with non-discrimination policies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It would delete current language in HHS regulations, adopted in the final weeks of the Obama administration, that prohibits discrimination in the agency's programs "based on non-merit factors such as age, disability, sex, race, color, national origin, religion, gender identity, or sexual orientation."

That rule was based, in part, on the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized same-sex marriage nationwide. The proposed new rule would replace that language with a generic ban on discrimination "to the extent doing so is prohibited by federal statute."

The proposed change was published in the Federal Register Nov. 19. In that notice, the agency cited concerns that the Obama-era rule violates the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, which prohibits the federal government "from substantially burdening a person's exercise of religion." That law, however, also allows exceptions when there is a "compelling state interest" in do-

ing so and the burden is the "least restrictive means of furthering that interest."

In a letter to HHS dated Dec. 19, the deadline for public comment on the rule, the 19 attorneys general challenged that assertion.

"Our federal tax dollars should not be funneled towards organizations that openly discriminate against certain groups," Raoul said in a separate statement. "I am committed to ensuring that all Americans are protected against discrimination and have an equal opportunity to apply for and take advantage of programs funded through federal grants."

RECREATIONAL CANNABIS: With less than two weeks before adult-use recreational cannabis becomes legal in Illinois, the state Department of Agriculture announced Monday, Dec. 23, that all 21 cultivation centers that have been licensed to grow medical cannabis are now licensed also to grow for adult use.

The final three companies to be approved were Bedford Grow LLC, in Bedford Park; IL Grow Medicine LLC in Elk Grove Village; and JG IL LLC in Edgewood.

Under the cannabis legalization law passed during the 2019 legislative session, cultivation centers already licensed to grow medical cannabis were allowed to apply for early approval of licenses to grow for adult use.

Other applicants will have an op-

portunity to apply for licenses in an upcoming phase of the implementation process, with priority going to "social equity applicants" - generally, applicants from communities "disproportionately impacted" by the war on drugs, or individuals with previous arrests or convictions for minor cannabis violations.

In addition to the three companies whose approvals were announced Monday, the department said in a news release that the other 18 cultivation centers include:

- Ataraxia - Albion
- Compass Ventures, Inc. - Litchfield
- Cresco Labs, LLC - Joliet
- Cresco Labs, LLC - Kankakee
- Cresco Labs, LLC - Lincoln
- Curative Health Cultivation, LLC - Aurora
- GTI Oglesby, LLC - Oglesby
- GTI Rock Island, LLC - Rock Island
- IESO, LLC - Carbondale
- InGown Farms - Freeport
- Nature's Grace and Wellness, LLC - Vermont
- PharmaCann, LLC - Dwight
- PharmaCann, LLC - Hillcrest
- Progressive Treatment Solutions - East St. Louis
- Revolution Cannabis, LLC (DBA Ascend Illinois) - Barry
- Revolution Cannabis, LLC - Delavan
- Shelby County Community Service - Shelbyville
- Wellness Group Pharms, LLC - Anna

Stockton CUSD #206 BOE December brief

The administration reports the following from the Dec. 16, 2019 Board of Education meeting on open session activity. Complete Board of Education Minutes for the December meeting will be approved and presented at the January Board of Education meeting.

The regular meeting of the Stockton Community Unit School District #206 was called to order at 6:30 pm in the middle school conference room. The board approved the agenda. The consent agenda items were approved. Administrative reports were read and approved as written into board minutes. Dan Oppold and Wade Cook spoke during the public participation portion of the meeting.

Reports were given by the following committees to the board: one campus. Mrs. Fox reviewed minutes from the CTE Academy.

In new business, the board took the following action:

- Approved the 2020 levy.
- Approved awarding of fuel bids for bio-diesel and unleaded fuel to Saunders Oil Company. Propane fuel was awarded to Stephenson Ser-

vice Company.

Approved the commencement date for the Class of 2020 on May 24, 2020.

Approved second read of board policy from Press per attached list.

The following informational items were discussed:

Recognized Illinois State Scholars: Kendra Scaze, Jamie Eden, and Winston McPeck

Benning Group representative, Jenny Blocker, presented on the audit.

Information presented on teacher evaluation process by Mrs. Fox.

Information presented to board on threat assessment procedures.

The board went into closed session per the items listed on the agenda.

Upon returning to open session the board took the following action:

Approved employment of head golf coach, Casey Kenna for the 2020-2021 school year.

Approved employment of head volleyball coach, Callie McCallips for the 2020-2021 school year.

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ON THE RECORD

Obituaries

BETTY JANE MCNUTT

Betty Jane McNutt, age 86, of Warren, IL passed away on Dec. 25, 2019.

She was born Nov. 20, 1933 in Oxford, WI to George and Marion Nelson. She was a graduate of Oxford High School. On Aug. 20, 1955 she married her high school sweetheart Eli McNutt in Oxford. They celebrated 64 years of marriage. During high school she worked in the dells. After marriage she worked as a waitress in Oxford. They moved to Warren, IL in 1963. She worked at Janlin Plastics, Swiss Colony, Warren Corn Plant, later in life, helping the disabled at the Jo Daviess County Workshop, and Warren Park District. Betty attended the Warren United Methodist Church.

Betty enjoyed gardening, flowers, going to the casino, traveling, she always said: "If the cars going, I'm going", baking her famous pies and cookies, helping anyone that needed and anything but her favorite thing to do had to do with family. Attending ball games of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Family was the most important thing in her life.

Betty is survived by her husband, Eli, children: Tim (Tina) McNutt of Mt. Carroll, Colleen (Tony) Dunlap of Lanark, Allan (Deneen) McNutt of Warren, and Beth (Darin) Toay of Warren; 12 grandchildren: Dayna (Nate) Mullen, Amanda (Brian) Travis, Mitchell (Samantha) Toay, Tony (Maggie Curry) Dunlap, Brad (Ashley) Dunlap, Jared (Kaitlyn) McNutt, Brandon McNutt, Reed McNutt, Sam (Sally) McNutt, Allison (Peter) Barth, Ben McNutt, Mindy McNutt; 14 great-grandchildren: Ellaina Kostenbader, Viviana Travis, Mayci, Maya, Malerie Mullen, Blaine, Tillie Toay, Gabi Brinkmeier, Natalie and Hayden McNutt, Ruby, Eliza Barth, Adalee Dunlap, and baby girl McNutt in February; one sister, Judy (Bill) Gifford, CA, one brother Stanley (Nancy)



Nelson of Westfield, WI; sister-in-law Mary (Owen) Demo of Belmont, WI and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, mother and father-in-law, grandsons Jamie in 2007, Jeremy McNutt in 2015, great-granddaughter, Brynlie Rose Travis 2016; Brother Hubert Nelson and brother-in-law, Norman McNutt.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, Dec. 29, at the Bartell-Leamon Funeral Home in Warren, IL.

Visitation was on Sunday, Dec. 29, at the Bartell-Leamon Funeral Home in Warren, IL.

Pastor Roger Bronkema performed the services

Cremation rites to be accorded.

The family wishes to extend a special thanks to Dr. Cleary and the staff at Lafayette County Memorial Hospital for all their care they gave Betty.

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

RONALD M. BUCHENAU

Ronald M. Buchenau, a big man in stature and heart, went home to heaven to celebrate Christmas on Dec. 24, 2019. He was born on Sept. 6, 1951 in Freeport, IL to Melvin and Lavonia (Bicker) Buchenau of rural Lena, IL. He was a 1969 graduate of Lena-Winslow High School. HE served in the armed forces from 1970-1972, including a tour of duty in Vietnam. On Nov. 4, 1973, he married Sally Schubert-Robinson at the Lena United Methodist Church in Lena, IL. Ron was employed by the State of Illinois in the Department of Agricultural in the meat inspection sector. Ron enjoyed serving others in multiple capacities. He was involved in a myriad of activities serving the Lena community. He was a faithful member of the Lena United Methodist Church, where he enjoyed giving rides to the elderly and helping out



around the church. He was an active member of the American Legion, Lena Lions, and Masonic Lodge. HE served as a fireman for the Lena Fire Department for 25 years. Additionally, he served as a Board Trustee for the Village of Lena for 22 years. Most of all Ron enjoyed spending time with his family.

Ron is survived by Sally his wife of 46 years, sons Christopher Robinson (Kristine) of Lena, and James (Judy) Robinson of Pearl City; four grand-

children Laura (Jordan Kaiser) Robinson of Brodhead, WI, Joseph (Mackenzie Doubler) Robinson of Lena, Jenna and Jaden Robinson of Pearl City; one great-grandchild Mitchell Robinson of Freeport; brother Larry (Judy) Buchenau, sisters Patricia (Ron) Fuchs, and Marcia (Mark) Lobdell of Lena; many nieces and nephews; as well as his dog, Teddy. Ron is preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation was held at the Lena Leamon's Funeral Home on Friday, Dec.

27.

Funeral services were on Saturday, Dec. 28, at the Lena United Methodist Church followed by a graveside service at the Lena Burial Park.

A luncheon followed at the Lena United Methodist Church.

Pastor Keri Rainsburger performed the services

A memorial has been established in his memory.

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

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Pastor Jonathan Singleton (815) 947-2414
E-Mail: calvaryum@yahoo.com
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Sunday School – 8:45 a.m.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA STOCKTON

600 N. Main St., Stockton
Pastor Paul Gebo (815) 858-0941
E-Mail: clc600@frontier.com
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 • *Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m.*
 • *Education for all ages*
Sun. 9:00 a.m. September - May
 • *Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.*
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 • *Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School follows worship*
 • Jan. worship is at Ebenezer-UCC Church
 5421 S. Stone Church Road

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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.
 • Youth Group Wednesdays
 Junior High from 5:30 - 7 p.m.
 Senior High from 7 - 8:30 p.m.
 • Listen to Pastor's weekly sermon
 at www.lenafreechurch.org

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

411 S. Main Street, PO Box 236, Pearl City, IL 61062
 email: pearlcityumc@gmail.com
 Website: pearlcityumc.org
 Find us on facebook at www.facebook.com/pcumcil
Pastor Donna Hoffman (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
 email: firstumcofelizabeth@gmail.com
Pastor Tiffany Garcea
 • *Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School - 8:15 a.m.*
 • Women's Faith Group -
 1st Tuesday monthly - 9:30 a.m.
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www.facebook.com/fumcelizabeth

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 East Mason Street, Lena, IL 61048
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

HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH OF STOCKTON

151 S. Main, Stockton, IL 61085
Pastor David McAusland - (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 6:30 p.m.

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 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

118 West Mason Street, Lena, IL 61048
Pastor Keri Rainsberger (815) 369-5291
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 • *Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.*
 • *Daily Dial-A-Devotion 815-369-4411*

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 Email: info@McConnellUMC.org
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 • *KidZone: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.*
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 * *We are handicapped accessible*

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8491 West Salem Road, Lena, IL 61048
 (Turn on Salem Road at Eleroy Rest Stop)
Rev. Randy Nicholas (815) 369-4511
 • *Adult & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m.*
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m.*
 • *Bookworms Reading Group - 7:00 p.m., 2nd Monday of the month*

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635 East Schapville Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028
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(815) 845-2272
 Cell (815) 238-0670
www.schapvillezion.org
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 • *Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.*
 • Bible Study Classes Available

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536 E. Schapville Road, Scales Mound, IL 61054
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Rev. James Mehlretter
Website: www.shepherdofhill.com
 • *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 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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 229 S. First St., Pearl City, IL 61062
www.stjohnspearlcity.org
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 • Christian Education for all Ages - 10:15 a.m.
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 • *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.

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 • Chair Lift to Sanctuary

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209 Clinton St., P.O. Box 445, Warren, IL 61087
Vicar Michelle Knight
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 • 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 Chuck Wolbers (262) 308-2379
 • *Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*
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 • Adult Bible Studies Available
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Pastor Robert Patin (815) 230-1862
608-669-5770
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 • Prayer and Bible Study – Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Home
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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)

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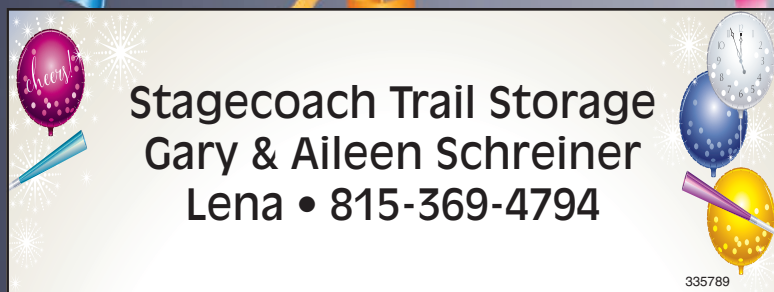
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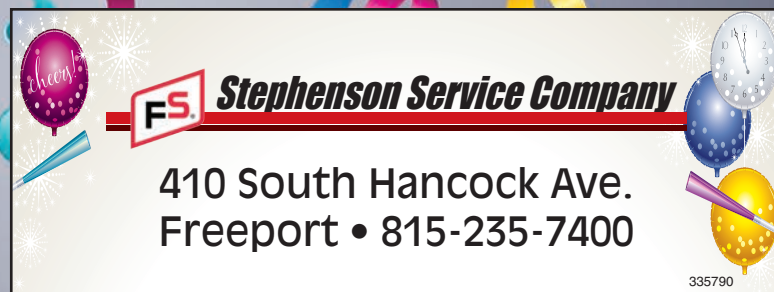
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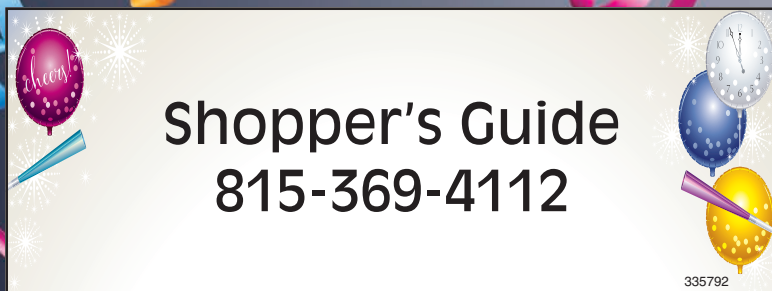
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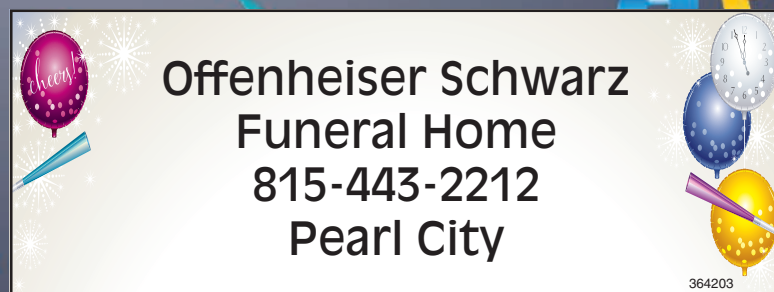
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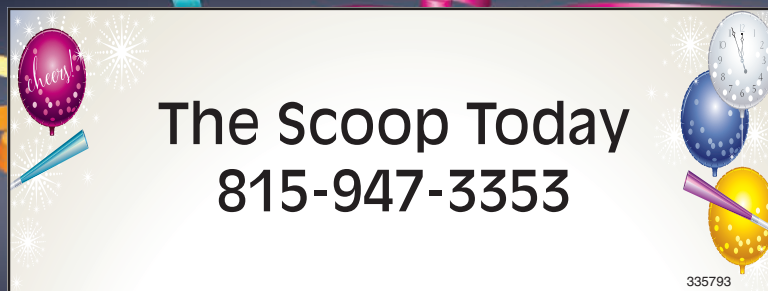
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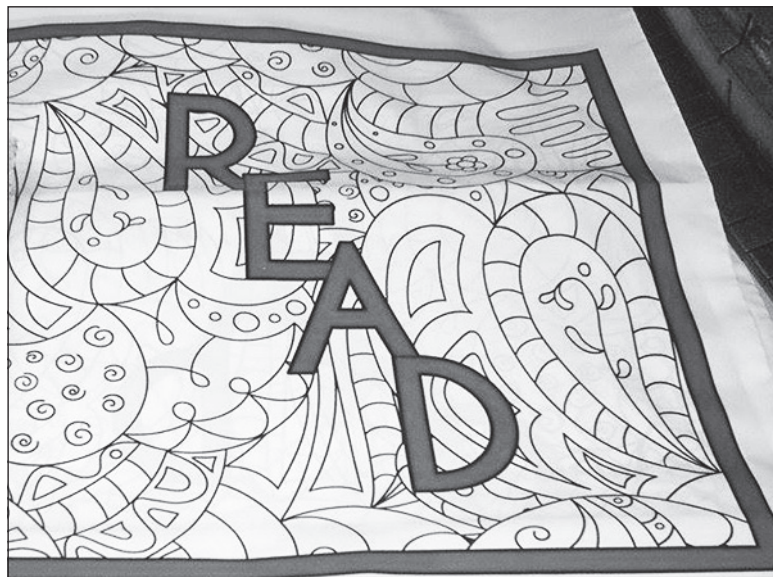
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U.S. NAVY PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Freeport native serves aboard USS Harry S. Truman

Quartermaster 3rd Class Kyler Venson, from Freeport, Illinois, left, and Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 1st Class John Turner, from Fayetteville, North Carolina, raise the American flag on the flag bridge of the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) while transiting the Bab al-Mandeb Strait Dec. 17, 2019.



PJ's Thursday Story Time

Families are welcome to bring kids preschool to Kindergarten ages for a half hour story time on Jan. 9, starting at 6:45 p.m. Library staff will read to the children who are encouraged to come in their PJ'S.

COURTESY PHOTO Shopper's Guide



COURTESY PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Lego League captures Spirit Award

The Pearl City Lego League Team participated in the First Lego League Challenge. 32 teams from around Northern Illinois entered the competition and the Pearl City Team came home with the Spirit Award for robotics!

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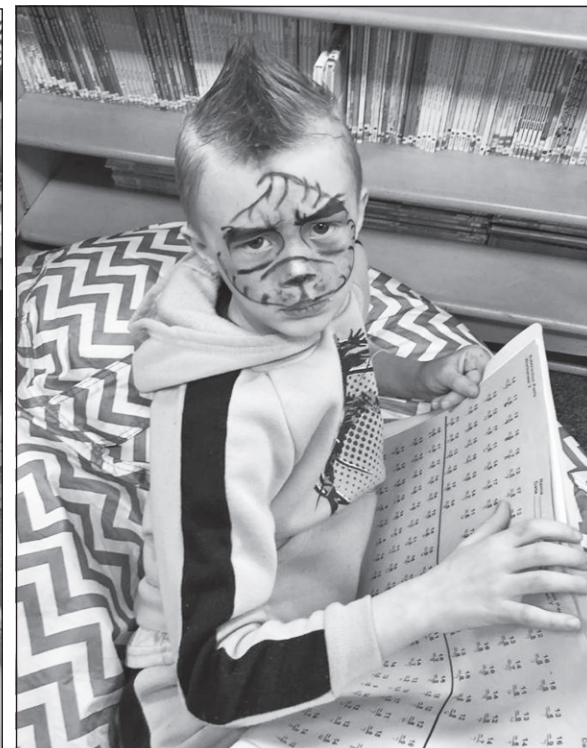
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COURTESY PHOTOS Shopper's Guide

Pearl City school celebrates Grinch Day

(Above left) Cindy Lou Who, Adeline Pickard works hard in Pearl City second grade.

(Above Right) The Grinch, aka Carter McColley, visited second grade Grinch Day at Pearl City school.

Monroe Clinic Residency Program receives educational grant



COURTESY PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Dr. Ameen Taleb conducts a recent training session.

Monroe Clinic Residency Program has received a \$63,000 grant from the Wisconsin Rural Physician Residency Assistance Program (WRPRAP) for the development of a critical care curriculum for residents and fellows. The grant will aid in supporting faculty training, curriculum development, and education training resources for procedural training.

Due to lower critical care volumes, residents and fellows have less access to both patients and procedures due to the rural nature of our area. This project will address the gap by providing them with enhanced skills and competencies to meet the needs of caring for rural patients.

With funds from the grant, Monroe Clinic Medical Education is purchasing educational resources that allow for improved learning experiences. The new TraumaMan, CentralLineMan and AirwayMan training systems will help staff "obtain a greater understanding of pathology and treatment," explained Dr. Eli Burks, a Monroe Clinic hospitalist involved in the creation of the new curriculum. "This will result in quicker evidence-based decision making with lower stress and reduced mortality rates."

The curriculum features topics such as shock, acute kidney injuries, respiratory distress, trauma, strokes, chest pain, and specialty intensive care units. "These topics will make our future providers capable of caring for critically ill patients in the emergency room and hospital setting, improve quality of care

and prepare our fellows for their board examination in emergency medicine," said Dr. Ameen Taleb, Monroe Clinic Emergency Care physician, who also helped create the curriculum. Each month, a 4-hour training session digs deeper into one of the topics with a critical care lecture, workshop for the specific procedures and simulation of critical care and trauma cases.

"Our hope is that Monroe Clinic will become a leader in rural hospitals providing critical care training and this grant will help us reach that goal," shared Lori Rodefled, Coach of Medical Education at Monroe Clinic.

To learn more about Monroe Clinic's Residency and Fellowship programs, visit www.monroeclinic.org/medicalresidency.



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**To make donations or buy advanced tickets contact Brian Saunders at 815-541-1030,
Adam Wurster at 815-238-5103 or Mike Blair at 815-541-3512**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL, will gather for worship with Holy Communion on Jan. 5, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. It's Sing Out! Christmas Lessons and Carols. We will sing favorite Christmas carols throughout the service. Come and share the joy of Christmas. Following worship, there will be a time of fellowship. All Sunday School children will gather for Sunday School at 10:45 a.m. for songs, Bible study, and prayer. Confirmation class will meet at 11 a.m.

On Wednesday Jan. 8, 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! On Thursday Jan. 9, Friendship Club will meet at noon for a Potluck Dinner & entertainment with "No Worries Band".

If you have any questions, please call the church at 815-369-5552.

Salem United Church of Christ

Begin the new year worshipping with us at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 W. Salem Road, near Lena, on Epiphany Sunday, Three Kings Day, Jan. 5, at 10:30 a.m., when the sermon titled "Take a Deep Breath" by Pastor Randal Nicholas will be based on scripture from Ephesians 1:3-4. The service will include open communion and the monthly offering for the benefit of the Osterloo family. Sunday School for all ages is at 9:30 a.m. The Wednesday Morning Breakfast Group meets on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 8:00 a.m. at the Beltline Café, 325 W. South Street in Freeport.

St. John's Lutheran Church (Pearl City)

You're welcome to celebrate the Second Sunday of Christmas on Jan. 5, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Pearl City. The Helping Hands/Health Ministries Committee will meet at 8 a.m. before worship. The Prayer Shawl Ministry, Grace Meal Committee and the Property Committee will both meet after worship. Sunday School and Confirmation will both resume meeting after worship also. The first Scrip order of 2020 is due Jan. 5, also.

The SPLAT Youth Group and SPLAT Youth Parents are both meeting at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 5.

Clark Strohecker, Lena, won the \$200 Calendar Raffle drawing on Dec. 22, 2019.

The Men's Breakfast will meet at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at Brother's Inn, Lanark. Bible Studies will resume on Jan. 6.

Need a place to hold an event in Pearl City? The main hall at St. John's is available for rent. Call the church for more information and availability.

St. John's Lutheran Church is at 229 S. First Street, Pearl City, Illinois. The office phone number is 815-443-2215 (mornings). All are invited to our weekly worship services and youth to our Sunday School and youth ministries. You may also email at prshadmin@gmail.com.

United Methodists for Meatloaf

United Methodists for Meatloaf will gather for fellowship at Stella's Cafe and Catering, 100 N Main St, Stockton, on Thursdays including Jan. 2 and Jan. 9, at 11 a.m. Bring appetite and join us! Call Rob Crowley by Wednesday for group seating 1-815-238-8238, thank you.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Merry Christmas

Christmas services at Holy Cross Church in Stockton feature a living Nativity scene.

• Brief (Continued from page 4)

Approved employment of head football coach, Jesse Snyder for the 2020-2021 school year.

Approved the resignation of head cross country coach, Brooke Moore, with regret.

Approved resignation of Trish Krugg at the end of the 2019-2020

contract.

Approved resignation of facilities director, Wayne Marvin. This will go into effect as soon as a replacement is hired.

Approved appointing volunteer boys' basketball coach, Zach Lacher for the 2019-2020 basketball season.

The board returned to closed session per the items on the agenda.

Upon returning to open session the board took the following action:

Tabled the principal retirement request.

The board adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. The day was beautiful. There were no problems traveling after the fog lifted. It was one of the most picture-perfect December 25th I have ever seen. I know there was some disappointment because there was no snow, but the weather let people travel safely and get places on time. This week's recipes can help you get ready for a New Year's Day celebration.

These are great appetizers that require just a little work. The nuts in the filling give them a good crunch and flavor. This appetizer will be a good one for a Super Bowl party.

Nutty Stuffed Mushrooms

- 20 large fresh mushrooms
- 3 T. butter
- 1 small onion, chopped
- ¼ C. dry bread crumbs
- ¼ C. finely chopped pecans
- 3 T. grated Parmesan cheese
- ¼ t. salt
- ¼ t. dried basil
- Dash of cayenne pepper

Preheat the oven to 400. Remove stems from mushrooms; set caps aside. Finely chop stems. In a large skillet, heat butter over medium heat. Add the chopped mushrooms and onion; sauté until liquid evaporates; about 5 minutes. Remove from heat; set aside.

Combine remaining ingredients; add mushroom mixture. Stuff firmly into mushroom caps. Bake, uncovered, in a greased jelly roll pan until tender, 15 to 18 minutes. Serve warm.

Finding different ways to use cauliflower seems to be one of the food crazes for this year. We have cauliflower mashed potatoes as well as pizza crust. This simple recipe uses the spiciness of hot sauce with a great dipping sauce. Enjoy this unique cauliflower dish.

Buffalo Cauliflower

- Head cauliflower, cut into florets
- 2 T. olive oil
- Salt
- Dip
- ½ C. plain Greek yogurt
- ¼ C. crumbled blue cheese
- 1 T. buttermilk
- 1 T. mayonnaise
- 1 T. fresh lemon juice
- ½ t. minced fresh garlic
- Salt and cayenne pepper to taste
- Sauce:
- 1/3 C. hot sauce
- 2 T. unsalted butter
- 1 T. fresh lemon juice
- ½ t. garlic powder

Celery Sticks

Preheat oven to 500. Toss cauliflower with oil and season with salt in a large bowl. Transfer to a baking sheet and roast until charred and tender, about 20 minutes, flipping halfway through.

Dip: whisk together yogurt, blue cheese, buttermilk, mayo, lemon juice and fresh garlic; season with salt and cayenne. Place in small bowl.

Sauce: heat hot sauce, butter, lemon juice and garlic powder in a saucepan over medium until butter melts. Toss cauliflower with hot sauce mixture and arrange on a serving platter with celery sticks. Serve cauliflower and celery sticks with dip.

Along with cauliflower, Brussels sprouts are the vegetable we all should be eating. Since these are really little cabbages, they are a great New Year's dish. My German relatives always believed that if you had some sort of cabbage the first day of the year, you would have lots of luck and good fortune. So, eat that cabbage dish!

Honey Mustard Brussels Sprouts Salad

- 1 lb. fresh Brussels sprouts, trimmed and shredded
- 2 medium tart apples, chopped
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- 1 small orange pepper, chopped
- ½ C. chopped walnuts
- ½ C. green grapes, sliced
- ½ C. shredded cheddar cheese
- 3 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
- ¼ C. olive oil

- 2 T. red wine vinegar
- 2 T. honey mustard
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- ¼ t. salt
- ½ t. pepper

In a large bowl, combine the first 8 ingredients. In a small bowl, whisk remaining ingredients. Pour over salad; toss to coat.

If you need a good casserole for a crowd, this dish is an easy one to make. Serve it with some good bread and a salad or the Brussels sprouts from the last recipe.

Beef Goulash

- 1 T. olive oil
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 T. Montreal steak seasoning
- 1 small sweet onion, chopped
- 1 medium red pepper, seeded and chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 can (28 oz.) whole plum tomatoes, undrained
- ¾ C. water
- 2 T. ketchup
- 1½ t. hot sauce
- 1 t. dried basil
- 2 C. cooked elbow macaroni
- Garnish shredded Parmesan cheese, chopped fresh parsley

In a medium Dutch oven heat oil over medium-high heat. Add beef and steak seasoning; cook until browned and crumbly, about 8 minutes. Drain. Add onion, pepper, and garlic to pot; cook over medium-high heat; stirring occasionally, until vegetables are tender, about 5 minutes. Stir in tomatoes, ¾ cup water, ketchup, hot sauce and basil; bring to a low boil. Reduce heat to medium; cover and cook for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally and using the back of a spoon to break up tomatoes. Stir in macaroni; cook until heated through, about 5 minutes. Garnish with cheese and parsley.

I have had this easy chicken dish in a long time ago. One of my friends lost her copy of the recipe. She thought she knew it by heart, but really needed a refresher. Enjoy this easy chicken dish some night when you need a quick supper.

Cheesy Chicken Crescent Supper

- 1¾ C. cooked chicken or 2 cans (5 oz. each) drained boned chicken

- ½ C. shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 C. milk
- 1 can (8 oz.) refrigerated crescent rolls

Preheat the oven to 375. In a small bowl, combine the chicken and 2 T. cheese. Separate crescent dough into 8 triangles. Place about 2 T. chicken mixture on wide end of each triangle; roll up. In medium pan combine soup, milk and ¼ C. cheese. Heat until cheese melts. Pour half of soup mixture into ungreased 8 or 9 inch square baking dish. Arrange filled crescents over soup mixture and bake 20-25 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Return to oven 5-10 minutes. Serve with remaining sauce.

If you would rather eat your margaritas flavoring, a dessert, this cheesecake bar is for you. You start out with a cake mix, so it already is easy. Enjoy this tasty lime recipe.

Margarita

Cheesecake Bars

- 1 box lemon cake mix prepared as box directs

- 1 t. freshly grated lime peel
- 1/3 C. fresh lime juice
- 1 pkg. (2½ t.) unflavored gelatin
- 3 pkgs. (8 oz. each) cream cheese
- ½ C. sugar
- 1 lime for garnish

Heat oven to 350. Spray bottom of 10 x 15 inch jelly roll pan. Spread cake batter in pan. Bake as directed on box. Cool.

Pour lime juice into a small saucepan. Sprinkle with gelatin. Let stand 1 minute and then stir over low heat for 3 minutes or until gelatin is completely dissolved. Remove from heat. Beat cream cheese, sugar, and lime peel in large bowl with mixer on medium speed 2 minutes until fluffy. Slowly beat in gelatin mixture. Beat 1 minute to blend. Spread on cake evenly to edges. Refrigerate 1 hour to set. Loosely cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours or overnight. Cut into 42 bars. To garnish, cut peel off lime with a citrus zester. Cut the lime in quarters lengthwise then crosswise in 11 slices. Top bars with lime and zest.

These decadent bars take a little time in preparation, but they are well worth the extra work. Enjoy these pecan praline treats.

Pecan Praline Sheet Cake

- 1¾ C. firmly packed brown sugar
- ¾ C. unsalted butter, melted
- 3 eggs
- 1 T. vanilla
- 3 C. flour
- 1 T. baking powder
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1 t. salt
- 1½ C. buttermilk
- 1 C. roughly chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350. Line a 9 x 13 pan with parchment paper letting excess extend over sides of pan. In a large bowl, whisk together brown sugar and melted butter until combined. Add eggs, one at a time, whisking just until combined after

SALE OF FARM LAND BY SEALED BIDS DORIS A. ILS ESTATE

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 112 acres, more or less, vacant farmland, with approximately 101 acres tillable, situated in the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 11, and part of the North Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 14, all in Township 27 North, Range 6 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Erin Township, Stephenson County, Illinois. Located on North Unity Road and West Salem Road, Lena, Illinois.

BIDDING PROCEDURE: A packet of information is available from Henry Ils, Executor of the Doris A. Ils Estate, 15252 W. Busch Road, Pearl City, IL 61062, telephone 815.541.1458, and Shockey & Cox Law Offices, 208 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, Illinois. Sealed bids must be delivered to Shockey & Cox Law Offices by 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 17, 2020. Bids must be made on the form prepared by the executor. The minimum bid to be considered is \$7,500 per acre.

Bids will be opened at 9 a.m. on Friday, January 17, 2020, at Shockey & Cox Law Offices, 208 W. Stephenson Street, Freeport, Illinois, and at that time the top three (3) bidders should be present to raise their bids. All announcements on the day of the private auction shall take precedence over any advertisement or preprinted material. Henry Ils, as executor and seller, reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

TERMS OF SALE: The property will be sold for cash. Each bidder must tender an earnest money cashier's check in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) that will accompany the bid payable to Security First Title Company Trust Account, which payment shall be returned to all unsuccessful bidders following the auction. A total down payment of 10% of the purchase price, including the initial earnest money deposit, will be required to be tendered upon the completion of the private auction and the execution of a contract for sale with the successful bidder. The balance of the total price will be paid at closing on or before February 21, 2020, at Security First Title Company, Freeport, Illinois. Buyer will be provided a title insurance commitment in the amount of the purchase price prior to closing and an Executor's Deed conveying clear title at closing.

The tillable farmland is not subject to a farm lease for the 2020 crop year. Buyer will receive possession as of closing. Buyer will be responsible for all 2020 real estate taxes.

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO:

Henry Ils, Executor
15252 W. Busch Road
Lena, IL 61048
Phone: 815-541-1458

- OR -

Attorney David Shockey
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Isaiah Bruce signing

Officially a Hawkeye!! Stand out Lena-Winslow football powerhouse Isaiah Bruce signs letter of commitment to the University of Iowa.

• Kitchen (Continued from page 12)

each addition; whisk in vanilla.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Gradually add flour mixture to butter mixture alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour mixture; stirring just until combined after each addition. Fold in pecans. Spread batter into prepared pan. Bake until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean, 35 to 49 minutes. Using excess parchment as handles, remove from pan and let cool completely on a wire rack. Spread Caramel Buttercream onto cooled bars and sprinkle with pecans. Serve with remaining caramel from Buttercream.

Caramel Buttercream

- 3 large whites, room temperature
- 1 C. sugar
- 1½ C. unsalted butter, softened
- ¼ t. salt
- 1 jar (12.25 oz.) caramel topping

In a bowl of a stand mixer, whisk together egg whites and sugar. Place mixer bowl over a saucepan of simmering water. Cook, whisking occasionally, until mixture registers 155 to 160 on an instant read thermometer. Carefully return bowl to stand mixer. Using the whisk attachment, beat at high speed until stiff peaks form and bowl is cool to the touch, 5 to 7 minutes. Add butter, 2 tablespoons at a time, beating until combined. Beat in salt. Slowly add 2/3 C. caramel topping, and beat until smooth, about 2 minutes. (Reserve any remaining caramel to serve with cake).

By the time you get this paper it will be 2020 knocking on the door. Remember all the hubbub when we went from 1999 to 2000? What a waste of time and energy. I hear there are some rumbles around about another "catastrophe" that could happen when we get to 2020. I certainly

will not lose any sleep. I think the biggest thing I am having trouble with is that we are going to be in 2020! Happy New Year, and blessings on you and yours as we race into another year. Everybody will be going back to work. I will be cleaning up Christmas decorations. We will be cooking some soups and bread this next month. If you have any recipes you think we would like, contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, *Shopper's Guide* at 213 S. Center St. or email us at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.

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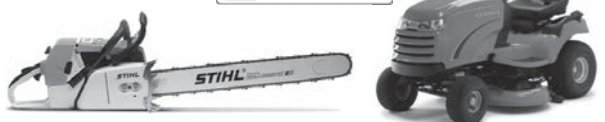


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Application deadline: February 28, 2020.

Application Process: Please send cover letter, resume, transcripts, 3 letters of recommendation, and a copy of Illinois Teaching License to Mrs. Casey Downey, High School Principal, 540 N. Rush St., Stockton, IL 61085 or email to casey.downey@stocktonschools.com.

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Illinois Extension develops industrial hemp resources

Illinois producers did you grow hemp in 2019? Are you interested in giving it a shot in 2020? With the end of the growing season here,

there are many hemp growers who will be looking to find processors and end buyers for their product. As this is an emerging industry without

a developed supply chain, there are a lot of holes to fill in. In response to this, University of Illinois Extension has created several production resources to help producers navigate this new industry which can be found here: go.illinois.edu/hemp.

First, Illinois Extension has created a "buyer/seller" database which will help connect hemp growers, processors, and end buyers in Illinois. Information will be filled out using the "Industrial Hemp Buyer/Seller Form" and will then be posted to a document labeled "Industrial Hemp Buyer/Seller List." Please note that this information will be

public and as such you are able to enter the amount of information you feel comfortable with sharing. This tool may take some time to develop but is meant to help our growers across the state as a supply chain is developed. Similar tools have been shown to be effective in other states in which hemp production has been legalized.

Secondly, the University of Illinois Extension has created a "Needs Based Assessment" for industrial hemp production in Illinois. As this is an emerging industry, we are looking for the best ways in which we can serve our stakeholders, you!

In order to help us with our research and extension efforts, we ask that you take the time to fill out this quick needs-based assessment to help us develop research trials and educational programs. The brief needs assessment will only take several minutes and can be found here: <https://go.illinois.edu/HempNA>.

For additional questions, contact Phillip Alberti, Crop Science Educator with University of Illinois Extension in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences at palberti@illinois.edu, 815-599-3644 or on Twitter (@NorthernILCrops).

Capitol dome damage study nears completion

A Capitol dome study conducted earlier this month revealed "some obvious flaws on the exterior of the dome," a state employee said Tuesday, Dec. 17.

Inspectors also found cracks inside the structure and changes made over the years that have altered the Statehouse's historical profile. The flagpole atop the Capitol needs to be replaced and the holiday lights will probably need to be hung in a different manner, Harl Ray, senior project manager for the secretary of state's Department of Physical Services, said at a Capitol Architect board meeting.

Secretary of State Jesse White's office is tasked with overseeing buildings in the Capitol Complex.

Chicago-based, women-owned firm Bailey Edward performed an inspection from the top of the Statehouse dome to the fourth floor, where access to the inner dome is located right outside the House gallery. That dome, standing about 235 feet tall, is what Illinoisans see from inside the building. The outer dome is the silver-colored, 361-foot tall structure seen from outside the building.

The firm's final report, expected by mid-January, will include "a detailed and prioritized list of recommended corrections and repairs to guide future preservation efforts of the Illinois State Capitol Dome," according to its website.

Ray said examiners found open seams in the outer dome's protective metal skin and other spots where the sheet metal overlaps incorrectly. Those areas are "actually catching rain," as opposed to allowing the rain to run from one metal shingle to the next, and causing "active leaks."

Secretary of state crew members are using plastic sheeting to guide water into buckets so it does not seep below the inner dome to occupied ar-

eas of the Statehouse.

Inspectors also "discovered a crack on all four compass points" of the bracket structures supporting the stone columns visible outside the Capitol.

Bunker's Bargains!!!



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2011 Chevy Malibu LS w/1LS
Silver ice metallic, 2.4L 6V, auto, 140k miles. **\$4,999**



Stock #66881
2008 Toyota RAV4 LTD
Blizzard pearl, 2.4L 4 cyl., auto, 136k miles. **\$7,494**



Stock #295501
2015 Hyundai Accent GLS
Century white, 1.6L I4 DGI DOHC 16V, auto, 65k miles. **\$8,535**



Stock #293342
2011 Chevy Equinox LT w/1LT
Cardinal red met., 2.4L 4 cyl., auto, 100k miles. **\$8,995**



Stock #292771
2011 GMC Terrain SLE-1
Mocha steel met., 2.4L 4 cyl., auto, 95k miles. **\$9,893**



Stock #292822
2013 Ford Explorer XLT
Sterling grey met., 3.5L 6 cyl., auto, 163k miles. **\$10,914**



Stock #6666
2016 Chevy Cruze LT
Tungsten met., Ecotec 1.4L I4 SMPI DOHC, auto, 32k miles. **\$11,990**



Stock #200381
2015 Chevy Equinox LT
Blue velvet met., 2.4L 4 cyl., auto, 85k miles. **\$12,500**



Stock #6704
2016 Chevy Cruze Ltd
Silver ice met., Ecotec 1.4L I4 SMPI DOHC Turbocharged Vt, auto, 38k miles. **\$12,994**



Stock #6713
2015 Chevy Impala LT
Summit white, 3.6L V6, auto, 89k miles. **\$13,994**



Stock #29337A
2016 Jeep Renegade Ltd
Black, 2.4L I4 MULTAIR, auto, 74k miles. **\$14,625**



Stock #66732
2013 Ford Mustang-V6
Deep impact blue met., 3.7L V6, 6 sp., 59k miles. **\$14,900**



Stock #6671
2016 Honda Accord Sedan LX
Champagne frost pearl, 2.4L 14 DOHC 1-VTEC 16V, CTV, 37k miles. **\$15,399**



Stock #293301
2012 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT
Mocha steel met., 5.3L V8, auto, 110k miles. **\$16,956**



Stock #291011
2014 Ram 1500 Big Horn
Maximum steel met cc, 3.6L V6, auto, 59k miles. **\$18,999**



Stock #67112
2012 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE
Mocha steel met., 5.3L V8, auto, 100k miles. **\$19,500**

• Conference

(Continued from page 3)

ergy and Environmental Stewardship Educator, and Phillip Alberti, Illinois Extension Commercial Ag Educator.

To register for the 2020 Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference, call the University of Illinois Extension at 815-858-2273 or visit us online at go.illinois.edu/jsw. Registration fee is \$20 before February 21, \$25 after February 21, or \$30 the day of the conference. The fee will include some handouts and lunch.

Please stay tuned for more detailed information to follow on this as the conference date gets closer.

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COURTESY PHOTOS Shopper's Guide

Thank you Santa!

Here is a quick look at some of the smiley faces that came to the Lena Community District Library to visit with Santa.



COURTESY PHOTOS Shopper's Guide

Making icicle ornaments

Holiday excitement is in the air on Crafts Day at the Lena Community District Library.



Santa ornaments

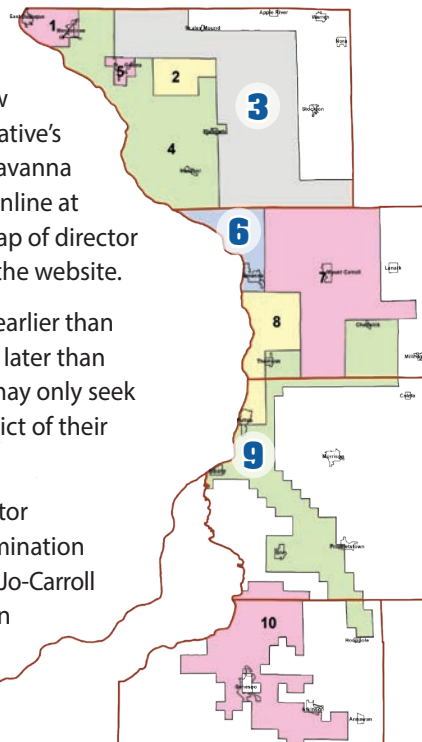
The Lena Community District Library Wednesday Story Hour class made Santa ornaments this week.

Jo-Carroll Energy seeks board of director nominations for districts 3, 6 and 9

Nomination petitions for the Jo-Carroll Energy Board of Directors are now available from the cooperative's Elizabeth headquarters, Savanna office, Geneseo office or online at jocarroll.com. A larger map of director districts can be found on the website.

Petitions may be filed no earlier than **January 13, 2020** and no later than **April 9, 2020**. Members may only seek nomination from the district of their primary residence.

Complete details on director qualifications and the nomination procedure can be found in Jo-Carroll Energy's bylaws, posted on the cooperative's website.



Jo-Carroll Energy

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COURTESY PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Celebrating 150 years

Leamon's Funeral Home had an open house celebrating 150 years in business in Lena. What a great achievement.