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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 5, 2020

Jo Daviess among 11 counties at warning level for coronavirus

The Illinois Department of Public Health on Friday reported 11 counties in the state, including Jo Daviess, are considered to be at a warning level for novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

A county enters a warning level when it experiences an increase in two or more risk indicators from the state's COVID-19 Resurgence Mitigation plan.

The 11 counties were Cass, Gallatin, Jackson, Jo Daviess, Johnson, Perry, Randolph, Saline, Sangamon, St. Clair, and White.

These counties saw outbreaks associated with business operations and activities posing higher risk for disease spread, including school graduation ceremonies, a rise in cases among late teens and 20s, parties and social gatherings, people going to bars, long-term care outbreaks, clusters of cases associated with restaurants and churches, and big sports events including soccer, golf and softball tournaments.

Residents of many communities are not wearing face coverings that have been proven to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Public health officials are finding that most contacts to cases are testing positive as well.

Several counties are taking swift action and implementing mitigation measures to help slow the spread of the virus. Examples include the mayor of Springfield requiring bar employees to wear masks or be subject to fines, Perry County hospitals and nursing homes temporarily suspending visitors and the state's attorney in Jackson County allowing the local food ordinance to be used to enforce COVID-19 guidance at restaurants and bars.

IDPH uses numerous indicators when determining if a county is experiencing stable COVID-19 activity or if there are warning signs of increased COVID-19 risk in the county.

• New cases per 100,000 people. If there are more than 50 new cases per 100,000 people in the county, this triggers a warning.

• Number of deaths. This metric indicates a warning when the weekly number of deaths increases more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks.

• Weekly test positivity. This metric indicates a warning when the seven-day test positivity rate rises above 8 percent.

• ICU availability. If there are fewer than 20 percent of intensive care units available in the region, this triggers a warning.

• Weekly emergency department visits. This metric indicates a warning when the weekly percent of COVID-19-like illness emergency department visits increase by more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks.

• Weekly hospital admissions. A warning is triggered when the weekly number of hospital admissions for COVID-19-like illness increases by more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks.

• Tests perform. This metric is used to provide context and indicate if more testing is needed in the county.

• Clusters. This metric looks at the percent of COVID-19 cases associated with clusters or outbreaks and is used to understand large increase in cases.

These metrics are intended to be used for local level awareness to help

leaders, businesses, health departments and the public make informed decisions about personal and family gatherings, as well as what activities

they choose to do. The metrics are updated weekly, with data from the Sunday through Saturday of the prior week.

A map and information of each county's status can be found on the IDPH website at www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics.

Regional health departments raise COVID-19 concerns

For the first time since Illinois entered phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan, a county in the Northern Illinois Rockford Region reportedly is at the warning level for coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

The Illinois Department of Public Health announced Friday that Jo Daviess County is considered to be at a warning level for COVID-19. This increase in community spread of COVID-19 is associated with travel to hotspots, including neighboring Iowa and larger social gatherings.

"As a community, we must heed the warning and work together to adhere to the social distancing and masking guidance that will help slow the spread of COVID-19 while moving our community forward toward recovery," Jo Daviess County Health Department Public Health Administrator Sandra Schleicher said in a news release.

"Our individual actions impact our local community's ability to prevent further morbidity and mortality from COVID-19 and will impact the safety of activities in our communities like the opening of schools," Schleicher added.

The health departments in the Northern Illinois Rockford Region expressed concerns that the spread of COVID-19 will continue to increase in communities throughout the region and will

require additional strategies to protect the public's health.

The public is urged to take steps to protect our communities and reduce the need to adhere to stricter guidance.

The public can do their part to protect their community by consistently taking the following actions:

- Wear a facemask: Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth covering.
- Watch your distance: Keep at least 6 feet apart from others.
- Wash your hands: Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds.

The public can reduce the risk of becoming COVID-19 positive by leaving a place where guidelines are not being followed, people are not masking or social distancing or the gathering is too large.

For more information, go to IDPH and CDC websites at dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 800-889-3931.

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Pritzker administration unveils overhaul of juvenile justice system

By Raymon Troncoso
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

The state of Illinois plans to begin placing minors in the justice system in smaller, community-based detention centers that focus more on providing intervention services and education.

Gov. JB Pritzker and Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton announced plans to overhaul the juvenile justice system during a news conference Friday in Chicago.

A four-year blueprint split into three phases would move the Department of Juvenile Justice from "an antiquated theory of juvenile incarceration" in larger holding facilities into what the governor called a "21st century transformative model."

Phase 1 is to start immediately with increased investment in community-based interventions and re-entry programs. Phase 2, starting next year, involves housing incarcerated youths in smaller, dormlike facilities closer to their homes. Phase 3, also set to begin next year, would involve continued investment into communities and the transfer of prisonlike facilities from DJJ to the Illinois Department of Corrections for housing overflow adult prison populations.

According to Pritzker, data has

shown for decades the Illinois juvenile justice system is too punitive and discriminatory. While the total number of youths in custody has decreased from 282 in January 2019 to 97 by June 2020, the governor said Black children still make up more than 70 percent of those in DJJ care despite being only 15 percent of the under-18 population in Illinois.

Outside of claims of systemic racism, another point of contention is that the current system just doesn't work. Pritzker said that between 2010 and 2018, an average of 55 percent of juvenile offenders released from DJJ custody eventually returned.

According to DJJ's seven-page overview, a benefit of the transformative model would be increased positive outcomes while saving DJJ and IDOC money.

"This model does not starve the children or employees in the juvenile justice system of resources," DJJ Director Heidi Mueller said. "Instead, this model recognizes that the people we serve matter, and the people who are doing the serving matter."

A theme that permeated throughout the news conference was that the current model of criminal justice attempts

to treat the symptoms of crime. The new model Pritzker and the DJJ are proposing will aim to tackle the roots of crime.

Historically, Black communities in Illinois have been especially impacted by negative factors that increase the crime rate such as discriminatory policies, segregation, disinvestment and gun violence.

"I'm especially excited about how this model will intentionally invest in victim services in communities hit hardest by violence, acknowledging that our current system does little to directly support victims, and that more than 90 percent of the kids in our system were victims before they were offenders," Mueller said.

Pritzker's announcement came a day after the national organizations Youth Correctional Leaders for Justice and Fair Prosecution of Youth released a joint statement condemning the use of youth prisons.

Criminal justice groups in the state, including the ACLU of Illinois, the Children and Family Justice Center at the Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, the Illinois Justice Project and the John Howard Association of Illinois released a joint statement Friday afternoon commending Pritzker, Stratton and Mueller "on this important reform of the juvenile justice system in Illinois."

The JHA, an independent watchdog group that acts as oversight for Illinois prisons, went a step further and released an additional statement on its own praising the change and adding

that it hopes "we will apply these same principles to the adult prison system."

The transformation of the juvenile justice system in Illinois is part of a broader push by Pritzker's administration to institute social justice reforms, culminating in the Justice, Equity and Opportunity Initiative established by executive order last year that coordinates justice reform through Stratton's office.

Other initiatives that have had potentially wide-ranging socioeconomic

consequences for Illinois include legalized adult-use cannabis, social equity licenses for dispensaries and equity grants for investing in disadvantaged communities.

"We cannot continue to be a country that criminalizes the children who need the most help," Stratton said. "We need to help our young people heal, to redirect their energy to realize their potential and foster their dreams."

Capitol News Illinois reporter Peter Hancock contributed to this story.

Clinic offering pediatric wellness exams

Monroe Clinic understands that routine care for children is important and that kids need to continue to receive care, especially during uncertain times.

Monroe Clinic has taken significant precautions to ensure that children can come in for safe care.

To that end, it is offering pediatric wellness checks.

Annual visits include a comprehensive examination to ensure kids are on track with growth and development. Additionally, the child's provider can:

- Talk with children about any health or wellness concerns he/she may have
- Provide guidance and age-appropriate education about health, safety and behavioral topics
- Help talk with kids about COVID-19 or other concerns they may be having
- Clear children for participation in sports/athletics for school
- Review their records and make sure immunizations and vaccinations are up-to-date

Most annual wellness visits are available through insurance with no out-of-pocket expenses.

Annual wellness visits are available at Monroe Clinic's main campus and branch locations. To set up an appointment, contact your child's provider directly or visit monroeclinic.org/wellnessvisit.



COURTESY PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Dr. Lindsay Geier conducts a wellness exam with a boy at the Monroe Clinic's location in New Glarus.

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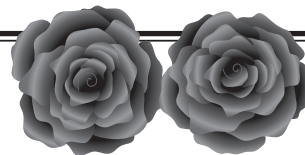
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A heartfelt "Thank You" for the prayers, kind words, cards, memorials, floral tributes, and food for the luncheon. Special thanks to Karl for the outstanding "Celebration of Life" service for Irene. Also to JR, Bonnie, and Tony for the beautiful music. Thank you to Stella's for the catering. Many thanks to the Monroe Hospice and to the Hermann family for all they have done for our family.

Family of Irene Schubert



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Pritzker orders allow for prison transfers, extend disaster proclamation

Schools OK'd to open, sports betting deposits must be made in person

By Jerry Nowicki
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
Gov. JB Pritzker's COVID-19 disaster proclamation now runs through Aug. 22, Illinois Department of Corrections facilities resumed acceptance of transfers from county jails and initial deposits into sports betting accounts must once again be made in person, as opposed to online.

That's after a series of executive actions taken by Pritzker since July 24 extended the proclamation and a number of virus-related measures.

Disaster extension

While Rep. Darren Bailey, R-Xenia, has challenged Pritzker's authority to continuously extend COVID-19-related disaster proclamations and a Clay County court has ruled the proclamations void as they pertain to Bailey, Pritzker has been undeterred in his effort to mitigate the spread of the virus through executive action.

The legal ramifications of that Clay County decision remain contested and several other court cases loom, but Pritzker maintains he has authority under law to issue consecutive proclamations, and so he signed the sixth consecutive such measure related to COVID-19.

Prison transfers

Pritzker's executive order number 50 of 2020 — the 46th related to COVID-19 — was signed July 27, allowing for the transfer of inmates from county jails to IDOC facilities.

With the exception of transfers made at the discretion of the IDOC director, the practice had been on hold since March 26 when the governor signed an order aimed at limiting spread of the virus at state correctional facilities.

An internal IDOC memo issued July 27, when the transfers were to resume, outlined that any prisoner

being transferred would be masked, and 50-passenger transfer buses would be limited to carrying 12 inmates, all socially distanced.

Temperature checks and testing would be conducted at multiple points.

Someone being transferred to a facility must quarantine for 14 days prior to the transfer, and a COVID-19 test must be performed within 72 hours of the transfer. Proof of a negative test will be sent with the transferee to the new facility.

Transferees who are symptomatic upon their arrival will receive a rapid result test, and if the result is positive, the offender and any other people riding on the same transport will not be allowed into the IDOC facility, but will be transported back to the county jail.

Upon arrival, transferees will be required to wash their hands, and their face coverings will be disposed of and replaced with a new one.

Once the procedure is completed, the new arrivals will quarantine for 14 days in a special unit and will be tested within 72 hours of when the quarantine is scheduled to end.

The Illinois Sheriffs' Association filed a lawsuit against the governor and IDOC in late May in an effort to compel them to accept county jail transfers. The latest court appearance in the case was scheduled July 28.

Gambling deposits

Pritzker's executive order number 48 of 2020 was issued when he extended the disaster proclamation. It extended a number of virus-related actions, including a residential eviction moratorium, until Aug. 22.

Notably, however, it did not extend a provision that allowed gamblers to make their initial deposit into sports gambling accounts in-person at one of the state's casi-

nos, as was the intent of the law as passed before the pandemic.

Casinos reopened in June after months of closure, and Rivers Casino in Des Plaines was the only one in the state to launch the gambling app during the window that

allowed for initial deposits to be made online.

Revenue from sports gambling is to go to the state's multiyear capital infrastructure plan to fund the projects that are not related to roads or bridges, such as university

facilities and other building infrastructure.

"The governor issued Executive Order 41 and 44 so sports betting could continue on track amid the

See **ORDERS**, Page 15

Cornerstone Credit Union awards five scholarships

Cornerstone Credit Union has announced the recipients of its 2020 Founders' Scholarships: Chloe Bunker, Monroe High School; Naomi Mullen, Eastland High School (Lanark); Kayla Runkle, Pearl City High School; Kody Velazquez, Rock Falls High School; and Alyvia Woodard, Milledgeville High School.

Each winner received a \$1,500 award.

"Education is the key to a successful future, which is why Cornerstone Credit Union is proud to have offered these scholarship awards annually to high school seniors since 1998," Cornerstone Credit Union President and CEO Gail Clore said in a news release. "Especially during this unique and difficult year, it is our privilege to recognize these outstanding local

students who were chosen for their commitment to furthering their education and community involvement. On behalf of Cornerstone's Board of Directors and staff, I congratulate this year's recipients and wish them future success."

The five winners have impressive lists of academic achievements and activities and have been accepted to an accredited college or university.

- Bunker will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison for a nursing degree, focusing on geriatrics or pediatrics.

- Mullen will be attending UW-Whitewater, pursuing a degree in chemistry with a focus on biochemistry.

- Runkle will be attending St. Ambrose University for a kinesiology

degree and plans to continue on for her doctorate of physical therapy.

- Velazquez will be attending Aurora University for a degree in secondary education/history.

- Woodard will be attending Sauk Valley Community College to pursue an accounting and business degree.

Established in 1939, Cornerstone Credit Union is a nonprofit financial cooperative that offers service centers in Freeport, South Beloit, Sterling and Milledgeville. Membership is open to anyone living or working in the Illinois counties of Boone, Bureau, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago; and Rock and Green counties in Wisconsin.

Visit cornerstonecu.org to learn more.



Chloe Bunker Naomi Mullen Kayla Runkle Kody Velazquez Alyvia Woodard

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To view the improvements or to obtain information regarding the premises, contact David Niemeier at 608-222-3686, niemeier409@gmail.com or Alan Niemeier at 608-214-2145, red.niemeier@gmail.com.

For details relating to the sale, please see "Niemeier" on the www.plager-law.com website.

For information relating to the legal details of the transaction, contact Lyle A. Krug at 800-373-4109 or lkrug@plager-law.com.

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

We have enjoyed a reprieve from the hot, humid weather. But we do need rain. It doesn't look too promising in the forecast, so I guess I will be toting water to my plants. The produce has been coming in, and I've included several recipes this week that you can try using garden fruits and vegetables.

Herbed Feta Dip

If you are into using different herbs and cheeses, this vegetable dip is good at waking up different taste buds. I had this dip on a beautiful wooden cutting board surrounded by vegetables. Try it and see if you like it.

- ½ C. packed fresh parsley sprigs
- ½ C. fresh mint leaves
- ½ C. olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled
- ½ t. pepper
- 4 C. crumbled feta cheese
- 3 T. lemon juice

In a food processor, combine parsley, mint, olive oil, garlic and pepper; cover and pulse until finely chopped. Add the cheese and lemon juice; process until creamy. Serve with vegetables.

Red Cabbage Slaw

Cabbage has been coming into its own in the garden these last few weeks. This recipe uses red cabbage, but you could use green cabbage instead.

- 1 small head red cabbage, thinly sliced and chopped (6 C.)
 - ½ C. grated carrot
 - ½ C. mayonnaise
 - ¼ C. dried cranberries
 - ¼ C. chopped nuts
 - 2 T. apple cider vinegar
 - 1 t. sugar or more to taste
 - Salt and pepper to taste
- Stir together all ingredients until well combined. Chill, covered, at least

4 hours before serving.

BLT Chicken Salad and Stuffed Tomatoes

I like to make and eat stuffed tomatoes once every season. I have eaten them with tuna and chicken; I like chicken salad better.

This recipe combines bacon, lettuce, tomato and chicken. It is a great mixture of a lot of things people like during the summer. If you want to make this as an appetizer, you can use lots of cherry tomatoes and stuff them. It is beautiful on a glass plate. I believe it would be a big hit.

- 4 C. chopped cooked chicken
- 8 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled

- 1 C. mayonnaise
- 1/3 C. finely chopped celery
- 2 T. finely chopped green onion
- ½ t. pepper, divided
- 4 large tomatoes
- ½ t. salt

In a medium bowl, stir together chicken, bacon, mayo, celery, green onion and ¼ t. pepper; cover and refrigerate. Using a serrated knife, cut a thin slice off the bottom of the tomatoes to create a level base. Cut off top of tomatoes. Using a melon baller, remove pulp, leaving shells intact. Place tomatoes, hollow side down, on a paper towel and let stand for 10 minutes. Sprinkle inside of tomato shells with salt and pepper. Spoon chicken salad into each tomato. Place on a Bibb lettuce leaf to serve. Serve immediately.

Bean and Bacon Burger

I have had requests for a vegetarian burger. I know people buy them in the store. One of my healthy friends had a vegetarian cookbook that included this vegetable burger. It has a lot of good things in it. If you would like to try one, this recipe is easy and has most things easily available.

- 8 slices bacon, divided
- 1½ C. cooked baby lima beans
- 1 C. breadcrumbs
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 2 T. chopped fresh thyme
- 3 cloves garlic, divided
- 1 t. salt
- ½ t. pepper
- ¼ C. finely chopped red onion

- 3 C. shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided

- ½ C. mayonnaise
- ½ t. paprika
- 4 whole-wheat Kaiser rolls, halved and toasted

Lettuce to serve
In a large, nonstick skillet, cook bacon slices over medium-high heat until crisp. Remove bacon and let drain on paper towels, reserving drippings. Finely chop 4 pieces of bacon; roughly chop remaining 4 slices bacon.

In the work bowl of a food processor, place lima beans and puree until a coarse paste forms. Add finely chopped bacon, breadcrumbs, egg, thyme, 2 cloves of garlic, salt and pepper; pulse until well combined. Fold in onion. Divide mixture into four portions and shape each portion into a 4-inch patty.

In a nonstick skillet, heat 1 T. reserved bacon drippings over medium heat. Add two patties; cook until golden brown and crisp, 3 to 4 minutes per side. Top patties with ½ C. cheese and cover and cook until cheese is melted, 1 to 2 minutes more. Transfer to a large plate and cover to keep warm. Repeat procedure with remaining bacon drippings, remaining patties and remaining ½ C. cheese.

Grate remaining 1 clove garlic into a small bowl and add mayo and paprika, stirring to combine. Spread mixture onto cut sides of rolls. Top bottom half of rolls with patties, lettuce, chopped bacon and top half of rolls. Serve immediately.

Coconut Cream Pie

I have had a lot of coconut recipes for dessert of late. This one is for a coconut cream slab pie. If you need a different dessert for a family gathering or a potluck (if we ever get back to having them), this pie will feed a lot of people.

- 1 C. sugar
- 6 t. cornstarch
- ¼ t. salt
- 1 C. whole milk
- 2 C. unsweetened canned coconut milk
- 8 large egg yolks
- 2½ C. sweetened flaked coconut

- 2 t. vanilla

Crust: In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, salt and sugar. Using a pastry blender, cut in cold butter until mixture is crumbly. Stir in buttermilk 1 T. at a time, until a dough forms. Turn out dough onto a lightly floured surface and shape into a rectangle. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 30 minutes. Preheat oven to 350. Spray a rimmed 9-by-13-inch baking sheet with cooking spray.

On a lightly floured surface, roll dough into a 15-by-12-inch rectangle. Press dough into bottom and up sides of prepared pan. Top with a piece of parchment paper, letting excess extend over the edges of the pan. Add pie weights. Bake for 20 minutes. Carefully remove paper and weights. Bake until crust is golden brown, about 8 minutes more. Let cool on a wire rack.

Filling: In a medium saucepan, whisk together sugar, cornstarch and salt; whisk in milk, coconut milk and egg yolks until smooth. Cook over medium heat, whisking constantly, until mixture is thickened, about 10 minutes. Remove from heat and whisk in coconut and vanilla.

Spread filling into prepared crust. Let cool for 10 minutes. Spread filling into prepared crust. Let cool for 10 minutes. Cover with plastic wrap, pressing directly on surface of filling to prevent a skin from forming. Refrigerate until cold and firm, about 3 hours. Just before serving, top with coconut whipped cream (recipe below). Garnish with toasted coconut if desired.

Coconut Whipped Cream

- 1½ C. cold heavy whipping cream
- 6 T. sugar
- ½ C. unsweetened canned coconut milk

In a large bowl, beat cream and sugar with a mixer at high speed until soft peaks form. Gradually add coconut milk, beating until stiff peaks form. Serve on coconut pie.

Berry Crumb Pie

This berry pie is made in a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. It will feed a crowd. If you can't find all the kinds of berries, you can double up on any one of them. Enjoy this great berry dessert.

Crust

- 2 2/3 C. flour
- 2 t. sugar
- 1 t. salt
- 1 C. cold unsalted butter, cubed
- 4 T. cold whole buttermilk

Filling

- 2 C. fresh blueberries
- 2 C. fresh blackberries
- 3 C. fresh raspberries
- 1 C. sugar
- 2 t. orange zest
- ½ C. cornstarch
- 2 T. flour

Topping

- 1 C. flour
- 1 C. firmly packed brown sugar

- ½ C. quick-cooking oats
- ½ C. unsalted butter, cubed
- Vanilla ice cream

Crust: In the work bowl of a food processor, pulse together sugar, flour and salt. Add cold butter and pulse until mixture is crumbly. With processor running, gradually add 3 T. buttermilk, processing just until a dough forms (add remaining 1 T. buttermilk, if necessary.) Turn out dough onto a lightly floured surface and shape into a rectangle. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 400. Spray a rimmed 9-by-13-inch baking sheet with cooking spray. On a lightly floured surface, roll dough to a 15-by-11-inch rectangle. Press into bottom of and up the sides of prepared pan. Crimp edges as desired.

Filling: In a large bowl, stir together all berries, sugar and zest. Using a potato masher, lightly crush one-fourth of berry mixture. Drain excess liquid from mixture. Stir cornstarch and flour into berry mixture. Pour filling into prepared crust.

Crumble: In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, brown sugar and oats. Using a pastry blender, cut in cold butter until mixture is crumbly. Sprinkle crumble onto filling. Bake for 10 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 350 and bake until crust is golden brown and filling is bubbly, about 40 minutes more. Let cool for 30 minutes and serve warm with ice cream.

Closing thoughts

We all have endured another week of COVID-19 life. The debate rages on about whether we should start in-person school or not. If nothing changes, we in Stephenson County can count ourselves lucky that our rate has remained low. However, as shown in many parts of the country, that can change in a moment. I pray several times a day that we can all remain safe and do what it takes to get through this nightmare.

I know that one of the baseball teams had a problem and couldn't play. But I did enjoy watching the Cubs play this past week. It is refreshing to see something that isn't a rerun or a reality show that is not reality. I may get thrown out, but I really think they are stupid — but remember I love to watch cooking and decorating shows). Here's hoping we get to see more sports.

The one great thing about this summer is the beautiful produce that is around. I know many people are enjoying sweet corn. I have also seen the emergence of giant zucchini!

Have a good week — can you believe it is August already? Keep safe and healthy.

If you have any summer recipes you think readers would like, contact me in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide, 213 S. Center St., or email me at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.

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Obituaries

GEORGIA HESS

Georgia peacefully passed away July 11 in her apartment at The Grand Victorian in Rockford, with her daughter, Janet Schiro, at her bedside. She was born on Sept. 19, 1925, to George (Galileo) and Ida Vannie in Beloit, WI. She graduated from Beloit High School and from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater with a degree in education.

Miss Vannie's first full-time teaching position was as business education teacher at Stockton High School. While working there she fell in love with and married Eugene Hess, a local man just back from military service. Together they had and raised four children. Georgia was the bookkeeper and business manager for Eugene Hess Construction Company. She returned to teaching with positions at Holy Cross Elementary School, Hanover High School and as instructor for a variety of continuing education and GED classes at Highland



and a loyal friend to those many whose lives she was of a part.

She is preceded in death by her husband Eugene; her sister and brother-in-law Vanna (Sam) Schriener; and her parents Galileo and Ida Vannie. She is survived by her four children, Joseph (Jan) Benson (Hess), of La Crescenta, CA, Janet V. (Jack) Schiro, of Machesney Park IL, Gerard (Debbie) Hess, of Kalamazoo MI, and Jonathan (Linda) Hess, of Argyle WI; and six grandchildren, Marissa (Daniel) Feuster, Jillian Sorn, Nick Hess, Alex Hess, Jenna

Community Benson, and Jeremy Benson.

Accomplishments from her early life (that her children never tired of teasing her about) included being crowned junior high tennis champion, being a participant in the high school water ballet in 1941 and having her first secretarial job (as a college student) at the Brown Swiss Dairy Association.

Accomplishments from late in her life, which give testament to her spirit, include her joy at having her family gather for her September birthday celebrations, her persistent intercession with the Catholic Diocese of Rockford, making possible the establishment of a regular schedule of Mass being celebrated at the Grand Victorian, and her embrace of the volunteer role of librarian for The Grand Victorian, from which she shared her love of reading with many others.

Georgia's remains have been cremated, and her family will hold a memorial celebration of her life at a future date.

MARK OZBURN

Mark Dana Ozburn, 48, of Pleasant Prairie, WI, formerly of Lena, IL, passed away on July 29, 2020, at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee.

Mark was born June 20, 1972, in Clinton, Iowa, to Thomas and Mary Ozburn. He was a 1990 graduate of Le-Win High School, where his proudest accomplishment was being the drum major all four years. He attended Highland Community College, where he enjoyed participating in the Royal Scots.

Scott Stich, a retired band/music teacher at Le-Win High School, was a good friend and musical mentor throughout Mark's life. Mark loved country music, enjoyed singing, playing his guitar, entertaining and composed songs. He also had a karaoke business for a while. Throughout his life he lived in Nashville and Atlanta to be near his passion of music. Mark was a member of the Nashville Songwriters Association International. His other passions were German shepherds, driving fast (anything cars), hunting and fishing and could tell a good story with the best of them.

Mark attended Crossroads Community Church, Freeport campus, for a time and was involved in their leadership program. At the time of his death, Mark was working as a glazier out of the PDC14-Glaziers Union in Chicago. During his employ as a union glazier, the projects Mark was most proud of were working on was the John Hancock Tower in Chicago and the installation of the tilt windows, 1,030 feet off the ground, offering views of Chicago's famous skyline, and at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital in Iowa City, IA, in which he worked on the "press box" project located on the 11th floor where kids and their families are able to watch the Hawkeyes football games at Kinnick Stadium. The windows installed at the hospital were specially made to withstand an EF3 tornado.

His paternal and maternal grandparents and his mother, Mary Ozburn, who passed away March 11, 2014, precede him in death.

He is survived by his father, Tom (Desi) Ozburn, of Lena, his brother Scott Ozburn, of Lena, his former



wife Becky (Boramie) Noordhoff, of Sparks, MD, and his fiancée Kendra Hackers, of Pleasant Prairie.

SHERI BARR

Sheri Ann Barr, 60, of Freeport, IL, passed away Friday, July 17, 2020, at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport. She was born Nov. 8, 1959, in Freeport, the daughter of David and Barbara (Beyer) Kaufman.

Sheri always saw the positive in life and always had a smile on her face. She enjoyed reading, cooking and visiting with people. She also loved her cat.

She is survived by her mother Barbara Jansen; her brother Steve Kaufman; her sister Diane (Kent) Willett; and several aunts, uncles,

NICK PATTERSON

Nick R. Patterson, 48, of Lena, IL, went on to be with the Lord on July 24, 2020. He was born on Dec. 19, 1971, in Stoughton, WI, to parents Ray and Anne (Harms) Patterson. He loved to ride his motorcycle, go on trails with his ATV and spend time with his family and friends. He was a member of Damascus Outpouring Center Church.

Survivors include his spouse, Jennifer Patterson, mother Anne Patterson, daughter Anna Patterson, son Taylor Patterson, brother Todd Patterson and

stepson Tyler Dennis Oakley, both of Lena, stepdaughter Tawni Brooks Riepe, of Fort Collins, CO, his stepbrothers Josh (Renea) Noordhoff, of Shannon, IL, Zach

nieces, nephews and cousins. Her father and her grandparents preceded her in death.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, Aug. 1, at Morseville Cemetery at 11 a.m. A memorial fund has been established for Pleasant Valley Church of God. Condolences may be shared at hermannfuneralhome.com.

sister Krissy Patterson. His father, Ray Patterson, preceded him in death.

A memorial service was held on Aug. 1 at the Schwarz Park Blvd. Chapel, 608 S. Park Blvd. in Freeport, IL. A memorial has been established in his memory. Online condolences may be shared at schwarzfh.com.

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MARY ANN MORHARDT

Mary Ann (Kloss) Morhardt, 54, of Elizabeth, passed away on Friday July 17, 2020, due to a tragic vehicle accident.

A visitation was held Friday, July 24, at the Law-Jones Funeral Home in Elizabeth. A private funeral Mass was held July 24 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Elizabeth. Interment was in the St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery. Friends and family are invited to share in Mary Ann's life at lawjonesfuneralhome.com.

Mary Ann was born on June 6, 1966, in Freeport, IL, daughter of Russell and Beverly (Schuldt) Kloss. She was a graduate of Elizabeth High School (Class of 1984). She married Duane Morhardt on Aug. 31, 2001, at St. Mary's in Elizabeth. They farmed in the Elizabeth/Stockton area.

Outside of helping out as a farmer's wife (a job she truly enjoyed), Mary Ann previously was employed at Dura Automotive in Stockton and later on at Walmart in Galena. She developed so many lasting relationships at Walmart and will be missed by all.

Mary Ann was an active member at St. Mary's, attending Mass regularly and serving as a Eucharistic minister. In her free time, she enjoyed baking, photography, making arts and



crafts and always helping out when she could and selflessly thinking of others. She enjoyed all animals, especially her cats and cows. A few of her other favorite things included gardening, the Green Bay Packers, Eeyore and being an active role in her niece's and nephew's lives as much as she could.

Mary Ann is survived by her husband, Duane Morhardt, of Elizabeth; her mother, Beverly Kloss, of Elizabeth; her brother, Bill Kloss, of Elizabeth; her sister, Heather (Drew) Kluesner and their children, Alicia and Ben, of Dubuque, IA; Uncle Eric Thomasson (pseudo-grandfather), of Stockton; her brother-in-law Michael (Debbie), of Great Falls Montana; her sister-in-law Lynette (Wayne) Schultz, of Stockton; and sister-in-law Paula Morhardt, of Stockton; along with other aunts and cousins.

Mary Ann was preceded in death by her father Russell Kloss, her father-in-law Harold Morhardt, her mother-in-law Rose Morhardt, her brother-in-law LaVerne Morhardt and many other aunts and uncles.

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Our Area Churches Welcome You

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102 E. Baldwin St., P.O. Box 188, Apple River, IL 61001
Pastor Libby Rutherford (815) 990-1428 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
Pastor Paul Gebo (815) 858-0941
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

EBENEZER – SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

P.O. Box 102, Pearl City, IL 61062
Pastor Randy Nicholas • 815-369-4511
Sunday Worship Alternates Monthly
At the two churches

Find us on Facebook

- *Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.*
- *Sunday School follows worship*
- August worship is at Salem UCC Church
 At the corner of Loran & Kent Roads

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 – 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.*
 • Awana Wednesdays at 5:30 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: firstumcfeizabeth@gmail.com
Pastor Roger Bronkema 815-291-6261
email: rbronkema18@gmail.com
 • *Sunday Worship - 8:30 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
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
 • *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.gbmg-umc.org/mcconnellumc>
 Email: info@McConnellUMC.org
 "Like" us on Facebook
Pastor Donna Hoffman (608) 293-0194
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m.*
 • *KidZone: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.*
 1st & 3rd Thursday - monthly
 * *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
 • *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*

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
Church number (815) 845-2061
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

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 and Pastor Bruce Burbank
Church: 815-589-3367
 • *Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.*
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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'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - KENT

The Little Church with a Big Heart
 1334 Sunnyside Road, Kent, IL 61044
 1/2 mile north on Kent Road
 • *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
Vicar Michelle Knight
(815)745-3444
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
A LGBT Friendly Church
Services and Religious Education are on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
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WARREN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Water & Jefferson St., Warren, IL
Pastor Roger Bronkema (815) 291-6261
email: rbronkema18@gmail.com
 • *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 Chuck Wolbers (262) 308-2379
 • *Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m.*
 • Adult Bible Studies Available
 • Communion Every 1st Sunday
 • First Sunday potluck following church services.
 • Open Sanctuary for meditation time from 4 - 6 p.m. every Wednesday
 * *Handicapped Accessible*

WINSLOW GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

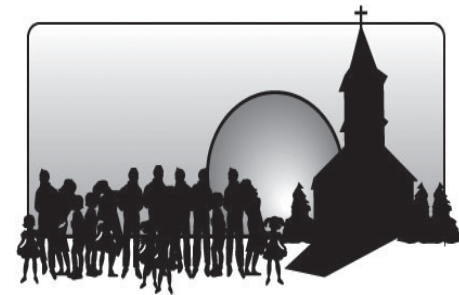
197 Carver Street, Winslow, IL 61089
Pastor Robert Patin (815) 230-1862
608-669-5770
 • *Sunday Worship – 10:45 a.m.*
 • *Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.*
 • Prayer and Bible Study – Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Home

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)

ZION COMMUNITY CHURCH

10100 W. Sabin Church Rd., Pearl City, IL 61062
Pastor Wayne Fischer • 815-266-6260
Pastor Chip Sohl • 815-541-1425
 • *Sunday Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.*
 • *Children's Church - during church service*
 • *Prayer Shawl Knitting Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.*
 • *Bible Study Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.*



Hole-in-one

Mark Anderson, of Freeport, recently registered a hole-in-one at Coach's Golf & Grill in Lena. His grandson, Jared Baumgartner, of Monroe, witnessed the shot. Baumgartner accomplished the feat on the 130-yard ninth hole using a 9 iron. It was the first hole-in-one for the 2020 season at the Lena course.

COURTESY PHOTO *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*



Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency announces the PY21 LIHEAP, PIPP, and Weatherization Assistance Programs

Assistance available for gas, propane, and electric bills

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 (gas, propane, electric) through the Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) and Weatherization Programs.

The LIHEAP and PIPP programs for PY21 will begin on July 27, 2020 and end on June 30, 2021. All income eligible households are eligible to apply beginning July 27, 2020. Applicants may apply for a DVP payment or the PIPP program.

The Direct Vendor Payment (DVP) is a one time payment to gas or propane and electric utilities.

LIHEAP clients with ComEd and /or Nicor Gas as utility providers may have the option of choosing the Percentage of Income Payment (PIPP) instead of the DVP.

Please call the office at 815-232-3141 or 800-883-1111 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to receive an application packet. **All applications will be taken by mail, email, phone or fax.**

Income Guidelines:

| Family Size | DVP 30 Day Income | PIPP 30 Day Income |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | \$2,127 | \$1,595 |
| 2 | \$2,873 | \$2,155 |
| 3 | \$3,620 | \$2,715 |
| 4 | \$4,367 | \$3,275 |
| 5 | \$5,113 | \$3,835 |

For each additional person add \$474

For each additional person add \$560

**** The following documents will be required to apply for assistance. ****

- Social Security Cards for all members of the household. **No other document is accepted as proof of social security number.**
- Proof of all gross income for all household members for 30 days which includes the application date such as 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
- Complete current heat and electric bills **and** disconnect notices you may have received.
- Medical Card from Illinois Department of Human Services
- Copy of current lease or rent receipt
- Proof of Homeownership (Title for Mobile Homes) and tax bill are required for weatherization assistance.

The office is closed to the public and outreach appointments are suspended until further notice.

PY 21 LIHEAP Emergency Furnace Program

An Emergency Furnace Assistance Program is available for LIHEAP households of Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties who are **homeowners** and whose **existing** heating systems are not functioning or have been red-tagged by their utility.

The purpose of the LIHEAP Furnace program is to restore heat to the household and is available from July 27, 2020 through April 30, 2021 or until funds have been exhausted.

All income eligible homeowners may apply for emergency furnace assistance.

To qualify for the LIHEAP Emergency Furnace Program, the household must first apply for and be approved for LIHEAP assistance.

The household must have active service with both primary and secondary heating utilities. Households and disconnected utilities are not eligible for this assistance.

In addition to LIHEAP documents, the following homeownership documentation must be provided:

1. Copy of real estate tax bill
AND
2. One or more of the following:
 - Copy of warranty deed, contract for deed, or quit claim deed (all of these must be stamped and registered with the county clerk)
 - Copy of current mortgage statement
 - Copy of the original Mobile Home title

Please call 815-232-3141 or 800-883-1111 to request an application to apply for assistance.

All applications are by mail, email, phone and fax.

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency
27 S. State Ave., Suite 102, Freeport, IL 61032
www.nicaa.org

LENA-WINSLOW ALL SCHOOL REGISTRATION

ALL FAMILIES WILL NEED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY TO REGISTER

Online Registration for all students in the Lena-Winslow District will start on August 3rd and must be completed by August 9th at midnight.

Registration will be online through the Parent Portal.

Please remember:

1. All families must provide PROOF OF RESIDENCY (3 documents in total) which includes but is not limited to recent property tax bill, mortgage papers, driver's license, vehicle registration, voter registration, etc. Two documents will be required if a Category II document. A more complete list can be found on the le-win.net webpage.

2. All students entering Pre-K, JK or Kindergarten, Sixth and Ninth grades, and any student entering from out-of-state must present a completed physical examination form by the first day of school. Completed dental exams for JK or Kindergarten, Second and Sixth grades are also required. Local doctors and dentists have these forms in their offices or they can be found under the registration tab at le-win.net.

Frees and lunch money: Fees and lunch money can be paid online through the portal. You may also send a check to the District Office, 401 Fremont St., Lena, IL 61048. Please call Darcy Schierloh at 815-668-0800 or Bonnie Broge at 815-668-0802 if you have any questions or would like to pay with cash.

The first day of school will be Wednesday, August 19, 2020. Dismissal time will be 1 p.m. for the first day.

If you are unable to complete registration online, you need to call the building offices to schedule a time to register your child(ren).

PLEASE NOTE: The phone number for the buildings have changed. You can dial 815-369-2525 to choose a building or you can call the following numbers:

Elementary building secretaries: 815-668-0809 or 815-668-0810

Junior High building secretary: 815-668-0818

High School building secretaries: 815-668-0822 or 815-668-0821

Lone Star ticks in Illinois can carry, transmit the Heartland virus

By Diana Yates
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
NEWS BUREAU

Researchers recently confirmed that Heartland virus, an emerging pathogen with potentially dire consequences for those infected, is present in Lone Star ticks in two Illinois counties hundreds of miles apart.

Lone Star ticks were first detected in Illinois in 1999 but had not been found to be infected with Heartland virus in the state.

The findings are reported in the journal *Emerging Infectious Diseases*.

In July 2018, a resident of Kankakee County was hospitalized after suffering several tick bites while camping on private property.

Two months later and more than 250 miles to the south, a resident of Williamson County was hospitalized with many of the same symptoms: fever, diarrhea, headache, fatigue, decreased appetite and nausea. This patient also noticed tick bites after camping.

The Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention confirmed that clinical samples from both patients tested positive for Heartland virus, which is spread by ticks. Both patients eventually recovered.

Tick-borne illnesses share symptoms with many other diseases and misdiagnoses sometimes occur, said Holly Tuten, a vector ecologist with the Illinois Natural History Survey who led the new research.

INHS is a division of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

"Heartland virus won't show up on a standard diagnostic panel for tick-borne bacterial diseases," she said. "And with COVID-19 on the collective mind, a tick-borne viral infection could be overlooked, especially in cases where a tick bite was missed."

According to the CDC, there are no vaccines to prevent infection with the Heartland virus or medications to treat it. Most people infected with the virus end up hospitalized and a few have died.

To determine the source of the viral infections, health department officials in each county interviewed the patients to learn where they

were when they were bit. This information allowed Tuten and her team to determine whether ticks in those areas carried the virus.

Previous research showed that the Lone Star tick can carry and transmit the Heartland virus, so the researchers focused their efforts on collecting this species.

"Lone Star ticks are very aggressive ambush predators and many people don't realize this," Tuten said. "I've seen Lone Star ticks run across a forest floor to me."

The site in Kankakee County was a rural homestead with barnyard animals and a small amount of forest surrounded by cropland, Tuten said. The patient in Williamson County may have been exposed in a heavily wooded wildlife refuge or outside a suburban home with a few trees.

The researchers collected ticks in all three locales. They shipped their tick samples to the CDC Arboviral Diseases Branch in Fort Collins, Colorado, where the ticks were combined in batches of 10-30 for testing.

"A single batch of male Lone Star ticks from each county was found to be positive for the Heartland virus," Tuten said. "Infected Lone Star ticks had been found as far north as Missouri, so we expected to find the infections in ticks from Williamson County in the southern part of Illinois. But finding so many Lone Star ticks in Kankakee County, including some with the virus, really surprised us."

The detection of Heartland virus in adult Lone Star ticks a year after human infection suggests that the infected ticks may have overwintered in the area, Tuten said.

"We want to alert physicians and public health officials throughout Illinois that there is a fairly new pathogen out there that is a danger to public health," she said. "I don't want people to avoid the woods and parks. I just want them to be aware, so they can take concrete steps to reduce tick encounters and bites."

This investigation was a collaboration between the INHS Medical Entomology Laboratory, the Illinois Department of Public Health, the CDC, conservation officials and Illinois residents.



FRED ZWICKY PHOTOS *The Scoop Today*

Illinois Natural History Survey vector ecologist Holly Tuten, left, graduate student Erica Hernandez and their colleagues discovered that Lone Star ticks in two Illinois counties were infected with the Heartland virus.



Tuten creates a stationary trap with dry ice. The carbon dioxide attracts ticks, which mistake the gas for exhaled CO2.



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378635

Highland agriculture program receives grant



COURTESY PHOTO *The Scoop Today*
 Leland Houzenga, a Highland Community College agriculture ambassador, teaches fifth-grade students about crop science.

The Highland Community College agriculture program has been awarded the Growing Agricultural Science Teachers grant, which is funded by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Highland agriculture will receive \$25,000 per year for three years to recruit, educate and retain high school agriculture teachers.

The money will fund two new programs and tuition scholarships that engage high school and college students in exploring careers in agricultural education.

The Agricultural Education High School Internship Program will give high school students the opportunity to participate in a paid internship with their local high school agriculture teacher.

Through this program, students will gain experience teaching lessons, managing science, mechanical, land and greenhouse lab facilities. The money also will be used to fund FFA meetings and events alongside their local agriculture teacher and FFA adviser.

“Being able to offer paid internships and programs to both high school and college students allows Highland to do its part to counter the statewide agriculture teaching shortage through recruitment and training opportunities,” Highland ag instructor said Monica

Pierce said in a news release. “In addition, the tuition waiver scholarships remove financial barriers for students who want to learn more about a career in agricultural education.

“After taking this introductory course, students may find themselves well on their way to become a future Illinois agriculture teacher,” Pierce added. “Highland is excited to be a part of this statewide effort to recruit and retain highly qualified agriculture teachers in our region and state.”

The Highland Agriculture Ambassador Program will give HCC students who have chosen a career path in agricultural education the opportunity to communicate with and inspire high school students to consider the same path.

Ambassador activities may include visits to area high schools, workshops at FFA leadership events, campus tours and academic advising.

Finally, the GAST grant will fund a number of tuition scholarships for students interested in taking AGRI 190: Introduction to Agricultural Education, to learn more about a career in agricultural education.

For more information about the agriculture program at Highland Community College, visit highland.edu or call 815-599-3637.

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LEGALS

ASSUMED NAME

PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on July 9, 2020, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Jo Daviess County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons, owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: **Trigeneral**, located at **422 S. Main St. #2, Galena, IL 61036**.

Dated: July 9, 2020

ANGELA KAISER

County Clerk

SHANNON DIEHL

Deputy

(Published in The Scoop Today July 22, 29 & Aug. 5, 2020)

377884

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

JO DAVIESS COUNTY - GALENA, ILLINOIS
APPLE RIVER STATE BANK Plaintiff,

-v.-
CLINT D. BROSHOUS et al Defendant

2020CH1

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on March 12, 2020, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:30 PM on August 25, 2020, at the office of Vincent Roth Toepfer & Leinen PC, 11406 U.S. Route 20 W, Galena, IL, 61036, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT THIRTEEN (13) IN SUBDIVISION OF BLOCK SEVEN (7) IN THE ORIGINAL VILLAGE OF STOCKTON, AS THE SAME IS NUMBERED ON THE PLAT RECORDED IN THE RECORDS OFFICE OF THE COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. SUBJECT TO COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD, IF ANY.

Commonly known as 424 E. FRONT STREET, STOCKTON, IL 61085

Property Index No. 17-001-069-00

The real estate is improved with a residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee

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

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

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

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

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

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

county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

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

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

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

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

E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-19-10423
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Case Number: 2020CH1

TJSC#: 40-1941

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

Case # 2020CH1

I3152948

(Published in The Scoop Today July 22, 29 & Aug. 5, 2020)

377952

PUBLIC NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS AND BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS

The Property: The Elizabeth Community Fire Protection District (ECFPD) is upgrading its fire equipment therefore their 1988 Chevrolet C-70 Kodiak is being offered for sale. The truck has a top-mount pump with a 750-gallon tank and 1,000 gallon per minute pump. It has a 3208 Caterpillar engine with 250 hp. The truck has 20,700

miles and 600 hours. Vehicle is sold "AS IS" with no recourse against the ECFPD. While it is in very good condition with low hours, there are neither warranties nor representations as to condition or suitability for use.

Date and Time: Sealed bids will be received until 7:00 P.M. on Monday, September 21, 2020 at the Elizabeth Fire Department, corner of Catlin and Madison, P.O. Box 224, Elizabeth, IL 61028.

BID ENVELOPES SHALL BE PLAINLY MARKED "TRUCK BID."

The sealed bids will be opened publicly and read aloud at the above time, date and place. All bidders have the right to be present at the time the sealed bids are opened. **All bidders will have the right to raise his or her bid at that time.**

Terms: 10% down on the date the bid is accepted and the balance within 24 hours. Possession will be delivered upon full

Continued on next page

Annual Treasurer's Report Pleasant Valley Township Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2020

TOWN FUNDS: (General, Audit, FICA, Insurance)

Revenues: Property Tax 55,636; Repl Tax 503; Dividend 566; Miscellaneous Income 51; Bank Acc't Int 8; CD Int 86.

Total Revenues: \$56,850

Disbursements: Salaries: (range under \$25,000) R. Eden; J. Haas; P. Haas; T. Haas; R. O'Connor; J. Werner; T. Wurster. Total Salaries 27,790. Taxes: FICA 3,299; Fed'l w/h 207; IL w/h 198. Vendors: ComEd 1,096; IL Bank & Tr (Tractor Loan) 13,399; Risk Mgmt Insurance Cont. 3,801; all others (less than 1,000 each) 2,694.

Total Disbursements: \$52,484

CEMETERY FUND

Revenues: Property Tax 1,779; Bank Acc't Interest 1; CD Interest 888.

Total Revenues:

\$1,868

Disbursements: Mowing (R & R Lawncare) 3,230.

Total Disbursements: \$3,230

GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Revenues: Property Tax 497; Bank Acc't Interest 1; CD Interest 219.

Total Revenues: \$717

Disbursements: Allied Benefit (MACI Insurance) 650; Home Relief/Emergency Assistance 225.

Total Disbursements \$875

ROAD DISTRICT FUNDS (Road & Bridge, Audit, FICA, Insurance)

Revenues: Property Tax 61,827; Replacement Tax 779; Bank Acc't Interest 11; CD Interest 126; TOIRMA Dividend 463; Dump Truck loan proceeds 120,950.

Total Revenues: \$184,156

Disbursements: Payroll: S. Haas, Total Payroll 595. Taxes: FICA 71; IL w/h 17, IDES 1. Vendors: TOIRMA Ins Premium 3,110; Stephenson Service Co. 3,209; Spencer Haas 2,880; Thompson Truck (New Truck) 67,950; Haas Dirtworks Inc 14,726; HDI Quarry 6,930; all others (less than 2,500 each) 9,803.

Total Disbursements: \$109,292

BRIDGE FUND

Revenues: Property Tax 20,101; Bank Acc't Interest 1.

Total Revenues \$20,102

Disbursements:

Total Disbursements: \$0

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION

| | Town Funds | Cemetery | Gen'l Assist. | Road Dist. Funds | Bridge |
|----------------|------------|----------|---------------|------------------|--------|
| Beginning Bal | 55,208 | 15,243 | 30,790 | 78,055 | 14,969 |
| Revenues | 56,850 | 1,868 | 717 | 184,156 | 20,102 |
| Disbursements | 52,484 | 3,230 | 875 | 109,292 | 0 |
| Ending Balance | 59,574 | 13,881 | 30,632 | 152,919 | 35,071 |

Subscribed and sworn to this 14th day of April 2020. Terry Haas, Pleasant Valley Township Supervisor and Treasurer of Pleasant Valley Township Road District.

I, Rena Eden, Clerk of the Township of Pleasant Valley, JoDaviess County, State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020.

MOTOR FUEL TAX SUMMARY REPORT:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance: | 38,266.15 |
| Revenues: | 61,954.07 |
| Disbursements: | 49,796.99 |
| Ending Balance: | 50,423.23 |

*NOTE: Motor Fuel Tax Agreement Cash Control Report attached.
(Published in The Scoop Today Aug. 5, 2020)

IHSA implements modified schedules for fall sports seasons

By Trenten Scheidegger
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

One common complaint among state member schools was that the Illinois High School Association had yet to develop a plan that would give them hope and allow them to plan for the fast-approaching school year.

So, the IHSA recently announced that it would defer all decisions when it comes to fall sports seasons and their Return to Play guidelines to the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Illinois State Board of Education and the governor's office.

By placing the pressure of decision-making on the state, the IHSA got the ball rolling in setting off a chain of events that would allow everyone to come together with a clear-cut plan.

In the early hours of July 29, worry

grew among Illinois student-athletes and parents, when Gov. JB Pritzker announced the plan to suspend all youth and adult sports for the upcoming school year.

While the headlines drew plenty of attention and caused commotion for athletes around the state, it allowed the IHSA to develop a plan that would fall under the governor's guidelines.

Instead of all of the back-and-forth and inability to come to an agreement, the IHSA forced the state to make a decision first, which gave it an opportunity to create an actual plan rather than leaving everyone to wonder with schedules up in the air.

Shortly after Pritzker's announcement, the IHSA Board of Directors held a special meeting at which they announced their plan for a modified schedule for the 2020-2021 sports

year.

"This plan, like nearly every aspect of our current lives, remains fluid," IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson said. "Changes may come, and if they do, we will be agile while putting safety and students first. It was important that we provide a framework today for our student-athletes, coaches, administrators and officials to begin preparing for the 2020-2021 school year."

Some lower-risk sports will find themselves unchanged for the most part and will be able to start on Aug. 10 as scheduled. Boys and girls golf, girls tennis, cross country and girls swimming and diving will remain as fall sports, competing from Aug. 10 to Oct. 24.

However, fall sports competitions will be limited to only conference

opponents and other schools in the same geographical area. Scheduling limits will be provided to schools in the coming week. However, schedules will continue to be assessed throughout the season.

With the current plan, the fall season will end on Oct. 10, winter will be conducted Nov. 16 to Feb. 13, spring falls on Feb. 15 through May 1 and summer will complete the sports year from May 3 to June 26.

A majority of team sports that are considered higher risk, such as football, girls volleyball and boys soccer, have been moved from fall to spring. Currently, all winter sports, including wrestling, have remained the same and are set to take place on their normal timeline. A full chart that displays the changes for every IHSA sport is available on its website. Postseasons

are yet to be determined but are considered a priority by the board and will be developed on a sport-by-sport basis.

"I understand that today's announcement will be met with mixed emotions," Anderson said. "Our staff and board have heard from thousands of people over the past few weeks with ideas, opinions and proposals on how we should proceed. We respect and understand their passion, because we share in it. It is a great reminder that if we want high school sports to return to normal, we all need to do our part to help stop the spread of COVID-19."

While the situation remains fluid and important details are yet to be determined, this is a step in the right direction and provides schools with a framework for what their future will look like.

FHN notifies patients of unauthorized access to employee email accounts

FHN announced Friday that it is mailing letters to patients whose information may have been involved in a recent incident involving unauthorized access to a limited number of FHN employee email accounts.

On April 30, FHN's ongoing investigation into an email compromise incident determined that an unauthorized person might have accessed a limited number of FHN employees' email accounts. At that time, it was not known specifically what information might have been contained in the accounts.

After identifying suspicious activity within the employees' email accounts, FHN immediately took steps to secure the accounts and a leading computer forensic firm was engaged to assist with the investigation.

The investigation determined that an unauthorized person accessed the accounts between Feb. 12 and Feb. 13.

The investigation was unable to determine whether the unauthorized person actually viewed any emails or attachments in the accounts. Out of an abundance of caution, FHN reviewed emails and attachments contained in the email accounts to identify patient information that may have been accessible to the un-

authorized person.

As a result of that review, FHN identified emails and/or attachments in the accounts containing patient information, which may have included some patients' names, dates of birth, medical record or patient account numbers and limited treatment and/or clinical information, such as provider names, diagnoses and medication information. In some instances, patients' health insurance information and/or Social Security numbers also have been identified in the accounts.

This incident did not affect all FHN patients, but only those patients whose information was contained in the affected email accounts.

FHN has no indication that individuals' information was actually viewed by the unauthorized individual or that it has been misused.

However, as a precaution, FHN began mailing notification letters to those whose information was found in the affected accounts. FHN also has established a dedicated, toll-free call center to answer questions individuals may have about the incident. Patients with questions can call 888-800-3306 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. central time. For patients whose Social Security numbers and/

or drivers' license numbers were identified in the email accounts, FHN is offering complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services.

FHN recommends that affected patients review statements they receive from their health insurers and health care providers. If they see charges for services not received, they should contact the insurer or provider immediately.

FHN regrets any concern or in-

convenience this incident may cause. FHN remains committed to protecting the confidentiality and security of patient information. To help prevent something like this from happening in the future, FHN has reinforced education with its staff regarding how to identify and

avoid suspicious emails and is making additional security enhancements to its email environment, including enabling multifactor authentication.

Additional information is posted on FHN's website at www.fhn.org/data-incident.asp.

LEGALS

Continued from previous page payment.

Inspection of the Vehicle: By appointment only by contacting Fire Chief Andrew Nolan at (815) 238-2978.

THE ELIZABETH COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WAIVE FORMALITIES OR TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.

(Published in The Scoop Today Aug. 5 & 12, 2020)

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0819-503HC-03015-5/19/2020

Lawsuit seeking compensation for store closures should be tossed, state says

Business owners say COVID-19 shutdowns were 'seizure of private property'

By Rebecca Anzel
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
Illinois' attorney general asked a federal judge July 27 to dismiss a lawsuit alleging Gov. JB Pritzker's executive orders closing non-essential businesses and workplaces are unconstitutional.

A group of Chicagoland business owners argued the governor's COVID-19 restrictions amount to the confiscation of private property

without monetary compensation. Such an action would violate the U.S. and Illinois constitutions, they say.

Those orders "caused the seizure of private property, business interests and livelihoods of individuals across the state, forcing indefinite closures and the layoff of hundreds of thousands of people," according to the group's complaint, an amended version of which was

filed in June.

Their lawsuit asks a U.S. district court judge to compel the state to pay all "similarly situated persons, companies and entities ... just compensation."

But the state in a response filed on July 27 contends that would be "entirely unreasonable" because the relevant executive orders have expired, allowing all businesses in Illinois to reopen. In its response to the lawsuit, it points out all the businesses listed in the lawsuit have resumed operations.

And any request that might affect future restrictions is "speculative," the state says in the document.

Also, the attorney general's office said, because a federal court is constitutionally barred from forcing a state to pay damages as the businesses are asking, the suit should be dismissed.

Alan Bruggeman, a Mokena-based attorney representing the group, wrote in a court filing that

by classifying some businesses as essential and others as non-essential, Pritzker's executive orders were "applied in a completely arbitrary and capricious manner."

The governor's actions, he added, "simply picked winners and losers without regard to" Illinoisans' right to petition the government to reconsider its COVID-19-related rules.

"Never in the history of this nation and certainly in the history of the State of Illinois has a state government issued such sweeping executive orders that so extensively and so completely usurped the private property rights of individual business owners for a public person," the business owners argued in a court document. "The business class members have been called upon to sacrifice all economically beneficial use of their property in the name of the 'common good.'"

"Without just compensation, ... (they) will be saddled with the cost of paying for government action to 'flatten the curve' of the COVID-19 epidemic for the benefit of all Illinoisans."

In its response, the attorney general's office argued mitigating the novel coronavirus' spread for the benefit of state residents does not violate either the U.S. or Illinois constitution. Pritzker, they wrote, used his "police powers," not eminent domain, which would have required monetary compensation.

They added that all owners of private property in the U.S. are under an "implied obligation" to not use it in a way that would harm

their community. "Necessary restrictions" on Illinois businesses during the pandemic were designed to "protect the health and lives" of all residents.

"The state is sensitive to the economic impact that COVID-19 has had on its residents and has continually adapted its response to COVID-19 to allow for more businesses to open with proper regulations in place," the attorney general's office wrote. "However, the temporary closure of certain businesses is not unduly oppressive, as required to negate the police power."

If a judge were to agree with the business owners, the state argued, "even orders temporarily closing businesses violating health codes, fire-damaged buildings, or crime scenes would require compensation." Companies do not have a fundamental right to conduct business without regulation.

They should, Bruggeman wrote, have a right to advocate for themselves in court.

Business owners named in the lawsuit include Samantha Palya, owner of Palos Hills-based Absolutely Pawfect Pet Styling Inc.; Amanda Hamerman, owner of Color Envy Inc. in Bolingbrook; James Van Dam, owner of Mokena-based Van Dam Auto and Truck Repair; Jeff Carpenter, owner of Caveo Learning in Schaumburg; and John Brown, owner of Chipper's Grill in Streator.

The group has until Aug. 31 to respond to the state's request that the lawsuit be dismissed.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15 • 9 A.M.

SCHRADERS' EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT

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Number of House Democrats calling for Madigan's resignation grows

Speaker issues statement refusing to step down

By Jerry Nowicki
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Cracks are beginning to show in Michael Madigan's hold over the House Democratic caucus that he has led as Speaker for all but two years since 1983.

Three more members of that caucus called for Madigan to resign last week, at least as House Speaker and chair of the state's Democratic Party. They join another Democratic representative and three senators—all women—and a number of high-profile Republicans in calling for Madigan's resignation from at least one of his leadership positions.

Later in the evening on July 30, a spokesperson for Madigan released a statement on his behalf after he reportedly spent much of the day call-

ing Democratic caucus members.

"I understand that the last couple of weeks have been difficult for our caucus and party, and I have had many candid conversations with members of the Democratic caucus on this matter. The feedback is positive and demonstrates continued support for me and my leadership roles," Madigan said in the statement. "I have no plans to resign. I have never made a legislative decision with improper motives and any claim otherwise is unfounded. I will continue to lead the effort to defeat Donald Trump, expand the Illinois congressional delegation and the majorities in the Illinois House and Senate."

The latest calls for the Speaker's resignation come nearly two weeks after he was implicated in a bribery

scheme relating to utility giant Commonwealth Edison. In a court document, ComEd admitted to handing out benefits such as lobbying jobs and subcontracts to close associates of the Illinois House Speaker in an effort to gain support for legislation benefitting the company.

Madigan has not been charged with any crime and has denied wrongdoing.

Rep. Anne Stava-Murray, a Naperville Democrat, was the only member of the House Democratic caucus who had called for his resignation before last week. She was also the only Democrat who did not vote for Madigan as speaker at the beginning of this session of the General Assembly.

Last week, Reps. Terra Costa How-

ard, (D-Glen Ellyn, 48th District), and Stephanie Kifowit, (D-Oswego), added their names to the growing list seeking Madigan's resignation. Others have called for the Speaker to resign if the allegations in the ComEd court document are true.

Howard, in a statement July 29, called for Madigan's resignation as Speaker and party chair.

"The sworn statements in the U.S. Attorney's agreement with Commonwealth Edison detail a years-long scheme of payoffs and bribery involving many of Speaker Madigan's closest allies. Even if he was not directly involved in this scheme, these accusations clearly demonstrate that the Speaker's leadership has failed," she said in the statement. "Speaker Madigan has a duty to rec-

ognize that these allegations have cast a deep shadow on the reputation of our House. He must take action now to avoid inflicting further damage on the members of the House and the Democratic Party."

While she said Madigan has not been charged and is entitled to "the presumption of innocence and due process," his ties to the investigation "make it impossible for Rep. Madigan to continue in his leadership roles."

"I hope he will do the honorable thing and step down," she said.

On July 30, Kifowit tweeted that she "electronically delivered" a letter to the speaker requesting he step down.

See RESIGNATION, Page 15

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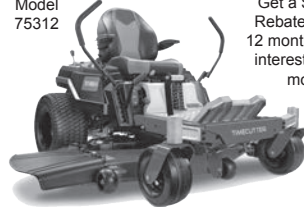
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50 years in the making

Ken and Sandy Foltz, of Lena, IL, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 30, 2020. They were married on Aug. 30, 1970, at St. John's United Church of Christ in Freeport, IL, officiated by Rev. Reifsteck. Ken retired as Freeport fire chief after 23 years of service and went on to serve as the global director of environmental and safety compliance for Danfoss for 18 years. Sandy worked for 35 years at General Casualty Insurance as underwriter assistant. They are proud parents of Dana (Brian) Keim, of Lanark, and Philip (Lina) Foltz, of Cedarville, and blessed to be grandparents of Chad Foltz, of Whitewater, WI, and Brinkley Foltz, of Cedarville, and Macomb, IL, and Jalen and Harper Keim, of Lanark. They celebrated with a family dinner at the Hideaway Supper Club in Benton, WI.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS *The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide*



• Resignation (Continued from page 13)

"I write this letter as a legislator who voted for you for Speaker in the past," Kifowit wrote. "The reality is that each time, the vote I made for you was carefully considered. I voted with the view that you would respect and honor the leadership position of the Speaker of the House."

But, in light of the ComEd document, Kifowit said it was clear that Madigan—or at least those he empowered in his inner circle—"did not hold the respect and dignity of the institution of the Illinois State House and the General Assembly as a whole."

"The actions described in the U.S. Attorney's deferred prosecution agreement by ComEd show that you have compromised the integrity of the office of Speaker of the House and undermined the public trust," she said. "... Therefore, I demand you to do the right thing and step down immediately as Speaker of the House. In the event that you do not, and if you choose to seek nomination to this position again, I will vote against said nomination and will not vote for you should your nomination be successful."

Hours after Kifowit's letter, Rep. Kelly Cassidy, D-Chicago, joined

her colleagues in calling for the Speaker to resign from his leadership roles.

"I have long been an outspoken critic of Speaker Madigan, but I have always stopped short of calling for his resignation, deferring to many of my colleagues' concerns about due process," she said in a statement. "...As a leader on criminal justice reform, I feel strongly about the principles of innocent until proven guilty and the right to due process. I also believe leadership must be held to a higher standard, and it is clear that the constant drip of corruption stories will interfere with our ability to advance a progressive agenda. Whether these investigations ultimately implicate him or continue to pick away at his inner circle, the damage is done."

Earlier last week, prominent Democratic Sen. Heather Steans, of Chicago, called on Madigan to resign those two positions as well.

"Some will argue that the Speaker is innocent until charges are filed and he's proven guilty. But those are not the standards that should apply to his leadership role. Serving as Speaker is not a right; it's a privilege. A leader's actions must avoid

even the perception of wrongdoing. Speaker Madigan repeatedly has violated that trust," she wrote in a statement.

Sen. Melinda Bush, D-Grayslake, called for his resignation to both those positions and as a member of the General Assembly shortly after the ComEd news broke as well.

Sen. Iris Martinez, D-Chicago, has called for Madigan's resignation as party chairman.

Republicans have been steadily beating the drum on the ethics issue since the news broke, with Illinois House Republican Leader Jim Durkin taking a stronger stance July 30 than he had previously.

"After reviewing the facts contained in the ComEd deferred prosecution agreement, it is abundantly clear that Michael J. Madigan is unable to execute his responsibilities as Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives and as state representative for the 22nd House District," Durkin said in a statement. "I call for the immediate resignation of Speaker Madigan from the Illinois House of Representatives, and will be filing a resolution to have the House Chamber vote on a new speaker immediately."

• Orders (Continued from front page 3)

pandemic that forced the closure of casinos, which made it impossible for players to create sports betting accounts in person," Pritzker spokesperson Jordan Abudayyeh said in a statement. "Now that the state has entered phase 4 and casinos have resumed in-person business, there is no longer a need to suspend provisions of the law that require in-person registration. The Illinois Gaming Board has been in communication with the industry and has worked to ensure gaming could continue to generate revenue despite the challenges presented by COVID-19."

In-person education

Unexpectedly, Pritzker's executive order — number 47 of 2020 — allowed for the opening of schools for in-person learning for the fall

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Those guidelines specifically noted in the executive order include limiting the number of people in one place to no more than 50; ensuring compliance with social distancing requirements; requiring symptom screenings, temperature checks or self-certification that an individual is free of COVID-19 symptoms; ensuring appropriate hygienic practices including hand washing; and requiring the use of appropriate personal protective equipment by students, staff and visitors, including the use of face coverings for those over age 2 who are medically able to tolerate them.

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(Published in The Scoop Today
July 22, 29 & Aug. 5, 2020)

Across the Northern Hills with Annette Eggers

Peaches and more peaches! For those of you who pre-ordered peaches, they are coming in this week. I know we are starting to get phone calls from those people anxiously awaiting their fresh Illinois fruit.

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By **ANNETTE EGGERS**
Contributor

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• Did you know that you don't need to be a farmer to be a farm bureau member? Give me a call at the office and I can tell you how you can become a member.

You can take advantage of the many membership benefits that Illinois and Jo Daviess County farm bureaus have to offer. You also can join online by going to www.ilfb.org/membership/join/.

Farm Fun Fact: One cowhide can produce enough leather to make 20 footballs, 18 soccer balls, 18 volleyballs or 12 basketballs.

Drive-thru communion

Stockton Wesley United Methodist Church will host a drive-thru service from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 9.

There will be an opening prayer, the Rev. Chuck Wolbers will distribute the elements for communion and

then attendees will be given a snack and a devotion to take home with them.

Participants are asked to wear masks/face coverings. Churchgoers are asked to enter the parking lot on Benton Street in front of the church.

Eagle Nature Foundation raffle

The Eagle Nature Foundation has announced it will conduct a 50/50 raffle to help raise funds for its bald eagle preservation efforts.

This fundraiser is open until the drawing during Eagle Fest in Galena on Sept. 19.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each. Anyone purchasing a ticket should send their check to ENF, 300 East Hickory St., Apple River, IL 61001. The winner does not have to be present for the drawing to win.

The foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that has pro-

ected bald eagle habitat for more than 25 years. The ENF and its predecessors have protected or helped protect more than 12,000 acres of bald eagle habitat throughout the Midwest. They have conducted more than 20 research projects and sponsored International Bald Eagle Days across the nation and in Canada.

For more information about the organization and its efforts, contact Executive Director Terrence N. Ingram, Eagle Nature Foundation, 300 E. Hickory St., Apple River, IL 61001. Or call 815-594-2306.

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