

Shopper's Guide

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VOL. 82 • NO. 49

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2, 2020



SUBMITTED PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Officials at Pearl City Elevator believe strongly in investing in future talent, whether it be through a scholarship program or their internship program. Pictured above, from left, are members of the PCE internship team: Colleen Curtin, Addison Keltner, Katie Asche, Lucas Boomgarden and Austin Miller.

Pearl City Elevator offers memorial scholarships

Applications are available now for the Jim Vondra Memorial Scholarship, which is sponsored by Pearl City Elevator Inc.

The scholarship honors the life and memory of Vondra.

"Jim was a highly personable and conscientious employee," according to a news release from Pearl City Elevator. "His customer dedication was second only to his family. His customers invariably became his friends, and their concerns also became his."

The company will award up to three \$500 Vondra scholarships per year.

The scholarships are designed for graduating high school seniors, or previous graduates pursuing high-

er education, and will be awarded based on academic achievement, service and leadership in the community, financial impact and an essay by the applicant.

Applications may be picked up at any of the following locations: Pearl City Elevator in Pearl City, McConnell Co-op in McConnell, Dakota Co-op in Dakota, Warren Co-op in Warren, Baileyville Co-op in Baileyville, Lena Co-op and Alliance Commodities in Lena, or by calling the Pearl City office at 800-851-8584.

More information also is available by going online to pce-coops.com.

All applications must be post-marked or submitted by Jan. 11.

Invested in agriculture: Young people choose to embrace ag lifestyle

By Tony Carton, CORRESPONDENT

Young folks are usually not interested in farming, mostly because of their poor image of the trade being antiquated and less than profitable, but nothing could be further from the truth.

Greg Kent farms near Winslow with his dad and uncle.

"We grow corn soybeans and wheat, and I have a small beef herd with my wife, Jamie," Kent said.

He said operating a farm has changed dramatically over the years.

"There is way more technology," Kent said. "I think two of the biggest changes we've seen are auto-steer and row-by-row shut off."

Auto-steer is a technology that provides automated steering and positioning in the landscape. It is useful in farming because it can reduce the overlap between passes of machines, thereby cutting down on energy and time wasted as well as chemicals and fertilizers. Row-by-row shutoff allows an operator to plant without overlapping point-rows. You can also plant turn-rows in the middle of the field without double planting.

"As with almost everything else, there is a lot more paperwork in farming today," Kent said. "And, there is probably more risk. When I got out of college, the market prices were extremely high and then all of your inputs were really high too."

He said market prices are beginning to show some improvement, but inputs remain high and they are



SUBMITTED PHOTO Shoppers Guide

Nathan Koester and Codie Geisz of the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau Young Leaders group delivered a donation of milk to local food pantries in this file photo. Geisz says it's key to draw in the younger generation to the agriculture industry.

traditionally much slower to come into line.

"Lately our inputs have come to a decent spot where we can maybe upgrade some of our equipment or at least keep our heads above water," Kent said. "Nobody is getting rich farming. It takes a lot of love to do what we do."

He added that farms in his area are becoming more specialized.

"I'm not that old, but when I was a kid you had some pigs and some dairy or beef cattle," said Kent.

See AGRICULTURE, Page 8

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Turkey Day has come and gone. A lot of people don't have many leftovers because there was a slim crowd for their holiday. They either made a small turkey or turkey breast, or they didn't do turkey at all. I know several people who really cut down on the sides, so they didn't have any of those for leftovers. This week features what to do with some of those leftovers, a great appetizer for the holidays and a new way to serve Brussels sprouts. Beginning this week, some candy and cookie recipes will be featured.

Cranberry Brie Pinwheels

People will think you worked really hard when you serve these pinwheels. They have a great taste with the marriage of brie and cranberries.

- 1 sheet frozen puff pastry, thawed
- 2 T. Dijon mustard
- 2 T. honey
- 2 C. finely chopped fresh spinach
- ½ C. finely chopped Brie cheese
- ½ C. finely chopped walnuts
- ¼ C. dried cranberries, finely chopped

Unfold pastry. Combine mustard and honey; spread over pastry. Layer with spinach, cheese, walnuts and cranberries. Roll up jelly roll style; cut into 12 slices. Place cut side down on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake

at 400 for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Freeze option: Place appetizers in a freezer container. To use, preheat oven to 400 and reheat appetizers on a parchment-lined baking sheet until pinwheels are crisp and heated through.

Brussels Sprouts and Cranberry Salad

This salad is timely for the season. I have mentioned before that Brussels sprouts are the "in" vegetable this season. This recipe pairs the little cabbages with cranberries to give the salad a tangy taste. If you want to substitute feta cheese for the blue cheese, that will make only a little difference in taste. Try this vegetable in a salad form, and you may like it better.

- ¼ t. apple cider vinegar
- 4 t. maple syrup
- 1¼ t. Dijon mustard
- ¼ t. salt
- ½ t. black pepper
- 2 T. extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 lb. Brussels sprouts, trimmed and thinly sliced
- ½ C. sliced almonds, toasted
- ½ C. dried cranberries
- ½ C. crumbled blue cheese

In a large bowl, whisk together vinegar, maple syrup, mustard, salt and pepper; whisk in oil in a slow, steady stream until smooth. Stir in Brussels sprouts, almonds, cranberries and cheese until combined. Serve immediately.

Turkey Enchiladas

If you are into Southwestern cooking and have leftover turkey, this tasty recipe is a good one to serve.

- 2 t. olive oil
- 1 lb. finely chopped or ground turkey breast
- ½ C. chopped onion

- 1½ t. cumin
- ¼ t. ground chipotle chile pepper
- 1½ C. mozzarella shredded cheese
- 2 cans (10 oz.) green chili enchilada sauce (Old Paso)
- 15 (6-inch) corn tortillas
- 2 T. raw pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 C. coarsely chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 T. green onion, sliced
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 t. lime zest

Preheat oven to 350. Lightly coat a 9-by-3 baking dish with cooking spray.

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add turkey and onion; cook until turkey is warmed through and onion is tender, about five minutes. Stir in cumin and chipotle. Remove from heat and let cool slightly. Stir in 1 C. cheese.

Spread ¼ C. enchilada sauce in prepared baking dish. Warm tortillas according to package instructions. Divide turkey mixture evenly among tortillas. Tightly roll tortillas and nestle, seam sides down, in baking dish. Top with remaining sauce and remaining cheese. Bake until sauce is bubbly and cheese is melted, about 20 minutes.

Coarsely chop 1 T. pumpkin seeds; stir together with cilantro, green onion, and garlic in a small bowl. Sprinkle this mixture over enchiladas; top with remaining 1 T. pumpkin seeds before serving.

Creamy Turkey Casserole

If you are looking for some way to use that leftover turkey, this creamy casserole has your name on it. It is quick to make, because you use cubed turkey leftover from Thanksgiving.

- 3 C. uncooked penne pasta
- 3 T. butter

- 1 small onion finely diced
- 8 oz. mushrooms, sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 1/3 C. milk
- ½ t. onion powder
- ½ t. garlic powder
- ½ t. paprika
- ½ t. dried basil
- 1 C. Swiss cheese, shredded

Topping

- ¼ C. seasoned breadcrumbs
- 2 T. melted butter

Preheat oven to 375. Combine topping ingredients and set aside. Cook pasta al dente according to package directions. In a skillet, cook onions, mushrooms, garlic and butter until tender, about five minutes. In a large bowl, combine soup, mushroom mixture, milk, seasonings and one-half of the cheese. Fold in pasta and turkey. Spread into a 9-by-13 baking dish; top with remaining cheese and sprinkle with topping. Bake 30 to 35 minutes and casserole is hot and bubbly.

Coffee Shop Fudge

We are now going into holiday baking, and this fudge caught my eye. It is very much like the "Simple Fudge" recipe that I make. The taste is a little richer with the addition of the coffee. On one of my cooking shows, the chef says you are always supposed to add coffee to any chocolate dish you make.

- 1 C. chopped pecans
- 3 C. semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 can (14 oz.) sweetened condensed milk
- 2 T. strongly brewed coffee, room temperature
- 1 t. cinnamon
- 1/8 t. salt
- 1 t. vanilla

Line an 8-inch square pan with

foil and overlap the foil on the sides of the pan; line the foil with butter. Set aside. Place pecans in a microwave-safe pie plate, uncovered. Microwave on high for three minutes, stirring after each minute; set aside.

In a 2-quart microwave-safe bowl, combine the chocolate chips, sweetened condensed milk, coffee, cinnamon and salt. Microwave uncovered on high for one minute. Stir until smooth. Stir in vanilla and pecans. Immediately spread into prepared pan. Cover and refrigerate until firm, about two hours. Remove from pan by lifting foil onto a cutting board; cut into 1-inch square pieces. Cover and store at room temperature.

Snickerdoodle Blondie Bars

If you like snickerdoodle cookies, you will like these bars. They would make a great addition to a cookie plate. Some people need something other than chocolate, and these fill the bill.

- 1 C. butter, softened
- 2 C. packed brown sugar
- 3 t. vanilla
- 2 eggs, room temperature
- 2 1/3 C. flour
- 2 t. baking powder
- 1 t. cinnamon
- ¼ t. ground nutmeg
- ½ t. salt

Topping

- 1½ t. sugar
- ½ t. cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350. Cream butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in vanilla and eggs, one at a time. In another bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, spices and salt; gradually beat into creamed mixture. Spread into a greased 9-inch square baking pan.

Mix the topping ingredients; sprinkle over top. Bake until set and golden brown, 35 to 40 minutes. Cool in pan on a wire rack. Cut into bars when completely cool.

See KITCHEN, Page 13



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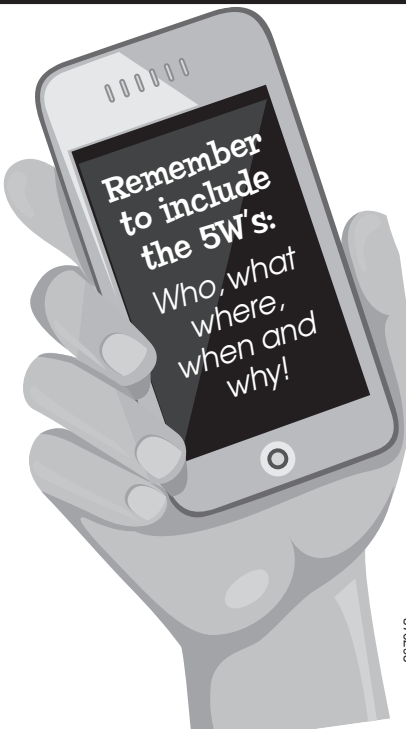
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Students raise \$6,000 for local family dealing with life-changing injury

STOCKTON HIGH SCHOOL SERVANT LEADERS

Despite the limitations of a pandemic, the Stockton High School Servant Leaders organized the successful Nov. 22 Pizzas for Patrick event in support of Stockton resident Patrick Hatfield and his family.

Hatfield was critically injured in an Aug. 17 motorcycle accident. He became paralyzed from the neck down and has had surgery to repair his cervical spine.

While the end result of his mobility remains questionable, the Hatfield family did receive news that Patrick will most likely come home soon. Patrick's family — his mother, Lee Sa, and his siblings, Kimberly, Dillon and Jennifer — have been traveling to visit and keep Patrick's spirits high as well as taking classes in order to care for him at home.

In order to help the Hatfield family, the Servant Leaders sold raffle tickets and took orders for pizzas. With the help of Stockton School District Food Director Barb Schultz, students then assembled more than 200 take-and-bake pizzas and delivered them to customers in the high school parking lot.

Raffle winners that evening were:

Lorie Wright (Apple iPad), Kristin Krippendorf ("COVID Quarantine" gift basket) and Brenda Enright (quarter of beef).

After inputs were paid, the Servant Leaders were able to present the Hatfield family with a check for \$6,000.

Senior Hayley Johnson, who led the effort, said she was happy with the turnout.

"It's so amazing to see what not only Stockton citizens, but people from other surrounding areas, can do for one family when something tragic like this happens," Johnson said. "Due to our current circumstances, we did not ask for any donations, so to raise this much money was unbelievable."

Fundraisers take the help and support of many, and the Servant Leaders would like to give special thanks to: Barb Schultz, Diane Kunz, Dan Leitzen, Jennifer Johnson, Sonya Williamson, Karen McArdle, St. John's Lutheran Church and everyone who bought pizzas and raffle tickets.

This year's Stockton High School Servant Leaders are Hayley Johnson, Jenna Haas, Trace Williamson, Maria Bender, Diana Montalvo and Justin Eden.



SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Jenna Haas, Maria Bender, Diana Montalvo and Barb Schultz assemble pizzas for pickup during the Nov. 22 Pizzas for Patrick fundraiser at Stockton High School. The money raised by the school's Servant Leaders through pizza sales and a raffle was donated to the family of Patrick Hatfield of Stockton. Hatfield was critically injured in an August motorcycle accident.

USDA launches new customer service program

Officials at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's recently launched the new AskUSDA Contact Center program. The AskUSDA Contact Center will serve as the "one front door" for phone, chat and web inquiries.

"Part of our work here at USDA to be the most efficient, effective and customer-focused agency in the federal government is to ensure our customers and Americans across the country can easily get support from our department and answers to their questions," USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue said in a news release. "The AskUSDA Contact Center will act as one, centralized front door, ensuring good customer service is given to everyone who interacts with USDA."

The public can contact AskUSDA by phone at 833-ONE-USDA with representatives available 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern time weekdays. The website, ask.usda.gov, is available 24/7 and includes live chat agents available 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern time weekdays. Inquiries also may be sent via email at any time to askusda@usda.gov.

Streamlined service

Prior to the creation and implementation of AskUSDA, members of the public had to navigate dozens of phone numbers and had no chat function or online platform for self-service, creating frustrations and inefficiencies, according to the news release. AskUSDA was created to make USDA more responsive

to the public by providing a single destination for phone, chat and web inquiries.

"Whether it's talking to a USDA representative via phone, chatting with a live agent on our website or communicating with USDA via email, the public will have streamlined access," the release said. "With over 29 agencies and offices, USDA's mission impacts every single person in the U.S. and hundreds of millions around the globe. AskUSDA assures that farmers, researchers, travelers, parents and more have efficient access to the information and resources they need."

AskUSDA is set up to handle common questions across programs that service a variety of audiences. For example, customers who may have basic questions about USDA's nutrition services can be assisted across phone, e-mail and web chat by trained AskUSDA representatives, and customers who may have complicated questions about loan programs can be quickly connected to agency experts. AskUSDA also hosts more than 5,000 articles for a self-service option to help with more common questions such as food safety inquiries or pet-travel guidance.

Over the course of its pilot program, AskUSDA successfully assisted with more than 93,000 citizen inquiries, and the AskUSDA website saw more than 1.4 million knowledge article page views.



SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Justin Eden of the Servant Leaders hands over some pizzas during the Nov. 22 Pizzas for Patrick event at Stockton High School.



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ON THE RECORD

Obituaries

CATHERINE J. (BOYLE) BROSHOUS

Catherine J. (Boyle) Broshous, age 56, of Stockton, Illinois, passed away Saturday, November 21, 2020, at home. She was born Feb. 10, 1964, in Freeport, Illinois, to Owen and Nola (Mitchell) Boyle. Cathy married Doug Broshous on May 21, 1983.

She was a 1982 graduate of Stockton High School. Cathy had worked at Stockton Elementary School and Saunders Family Citgo in Stockton. She also was owner of Broshous Tire and Auto for 37 years. She loved watching her children and grandchildren play Stockton Blackhawks sports. She was a former member of Blackhawk Run Golf Course and enjoyed golfing on ladies league. Cathy was a member of Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton. She loved anything sung by Queen. More than anything, she loved spending time with her family, especially her children and grandchildren.

Cathy is survived by her husband, Doug Broshous, of Stockton; her mother, Nola Hopkins of Stockton; her children, Clint (Amber) Broshous of Stockton, Brittney (Evan) Shockley of Stockton, Christopher (Sara) Broshous of Stockton and Colton Broshous of Stockton; her grand-



children, Brady Broshous, Slayten, Landyn and Blakyn Shockley and Rylee and Collin Broshous; her siblings, Steve and Carol Hollister of Morrison, Connie Larson of Stockton, Pat

and Kim Boyle of Pearl City, Colleen Hoefler of Stockton, Chris and Russ Tippett of Lena and Corky and Mike Luke of Stockton; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Owen Boyle; her step-father, Howard Hopkins; her mother-in-law, Sharon Broshous; three nephews, Troy Boyle, Dusty Luke and Jason Larson; brothers-in-law, Dennis Broshous, Richard Larson and Dave Logemann; and her sister-in-law, Tina Boyle.

A visitation and funeral service were held Nov. 28, 2020, at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton. A visitation was also held Nov. 27.

A memorial fund has been established.

Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

MARIAN L. KENT

Marian L. Kent, loving mother, 92, of Warren, Illinois, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2020. She was born March 18, 1928, in Gratiot Township, Wisconsin, to Fred and Rose (Meier) Kant. She married Beverly Kent in 1948. She worked 32 years at Micro Switch in Warren before retiring.

She is survived by her children, Nancy and Joan Kent of Warren and Jerry (Tina) Kent of Apple Riv-

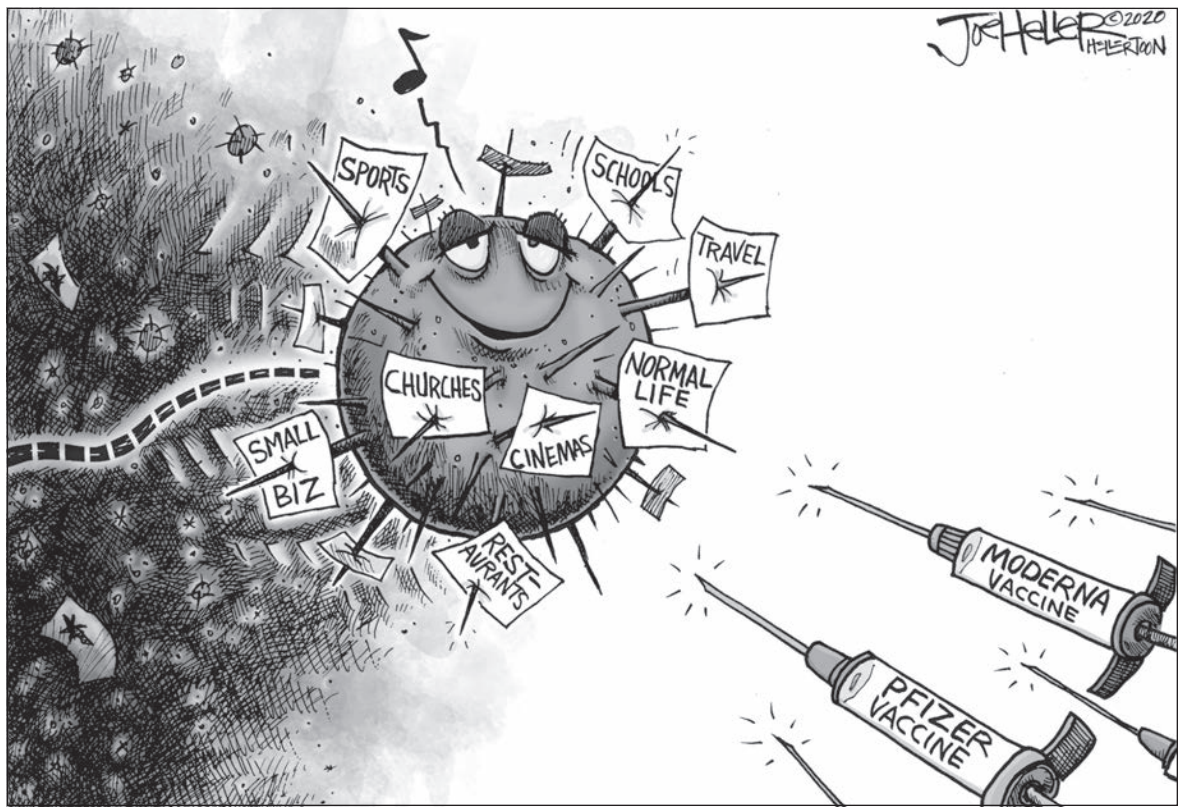
er, Illinois; two grandchildren, Jerry (Lindsay) Kent Jr. of Apple River and Nolayne Kraft of Dakota, Illinois; great-grandchildren, Cameron and Braxten; honorary granddaughter, Nicole Deyo; and special cousin, Kathryn Blehinger.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by her husband in 2001.

A private family service was held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Warren.

Burial will be at Elmwood Cemetery.

VIEWPOINT



Slices of life

True love is a gift to treasure

"Love is a friendship that has caught fire."

— Ann Landers

We met when we were 15, in driver's training class. He caught my eye and I his. We've been best friends ever since. Somewhere along the way, best friendship turned into something more and before you can say, "I do," we were married.

We were husband and wife for 33 years, best friends for 41. I wish it could have been more. And even though I almost always knew what he was thinking, I realize now I didn't know his favorite song.

We grew up in the classic rock era and I know all of his favorite bands and many of his favorite songs, but not the one. Why didn't I ever think to ask? I wish I'd asked. There are those little things that slip through the cracks. They don't matter, really, but when it's all said and done and you are looking back on what could have been, you wish you'd asked.

He had a brilliant mind but couldn't find the ketchup in the fridge if someone had put it back on the "wrong" shelf. He shut the kitchen curtains. I opened them. He made coffee for me every morning



By
**JILL
PERTLER**

Contributor

and brought a hot cupful up to our bedroom. He held my hand when we went for walks because he knew I liked it. Ditto goes for spooning in bed. He was never, ever hungry for power, although he had many opportunities to seize it.

He coached our kids in sports. He attended piano recitals and second-grade choir concerts. He taught Sunday school and helped with various science, history and math projects. He went on school field trips. He taxied our kids everywhere. He was a true family man. And that's what he'd want to be remembered for — for the successful family he built. It is his legacy.

We talked about important things and nothings. We sat together in comfortable silence. We laughed a lot. We had private jokes. We exchanged knowing looks often. We were each a half of the whole. Our

love was strong. I never, ever doubted that.

In fact, I'll be so bold as to say he adored me, as I did him. I didn't deserve such a life-changing love, but I am forever grateful knowing it was bestowed on us. To be so loved, so adoringly, is a gift many people never receive. I had that for 41 years.

We were on vacation, looking for a winter retirement home, when he fell ill. The tragic nature of that will never be lost on me.

I've written about my husband before; he was always a good sport about it. I tried to portray him in a favorable (often humorous) light.

He was a light — the light of my life. I never published his name because I didn't think it was pertinent to readers or my message.

His name was Thom. He came up with the rather unusual spelling on his own when he was in kindergarten, telling his teacher, "The 'H' is silent."

I always loved that about him. It shows his uniqueness, independence and creativity. He was one of a kind.

He was kind, a kind and gentle soul and sometimes this cruel and tempestuous world was too much

See LOVE, Page 7

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Extension offers home energy checkup webinars

With winter setting in, officials at the University of Illinois Extension are offering help for people to better understand energy use and reduce energy costs.

Extension educator Jay Solomon will offer two sessions of "Home Energy Checkup with a Northern Illinois Perspective," an interactive webinar. The sessions will help people learn ways to identify energy-saving and cost-saving opportunities at home.

"Every home and family have a unique energy use pattern. Understanding where energy is used in your home is the best way to find cost- and energy-saving opportunities," Solomon said in a news

release. "There are often groups of small changes and modifications that can add up to big savings, without a lot of expense to home or appliances."

The webinar will be held on the Zoom online meeting platform at noon Dec. 15 or at 6 p.m. Jan. 12.

Each webinar will last an hour. Registration is required to attend and can be completed online at <https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw>.

For more information, call the University of Illinois Extension at 815-235-4125.

The webinars are presented as part of an Illinois Science & Energy Innovation Foundation educational grant funded project.

Daily Drawing notes November winners

Organizers of the Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing have announced the November winners.

The Daily Drawing is a drawing for 365 daily cash prizes from Oct. 1, 2020, through Sept. 30, 2021, to those donating for a ticket. More than \$21,000 is paid out to ticket-holders during the year, with cash prizes varying between \$50 and \$250.

A ticket may win multiple times as each ticket remains in the drawing each day for the entire year, no matter how often it is drawn.

Sixteen organizations from Jo Daviess, Carroll and Stephenson counties work together on the Daily Drawing:

Caring Community of Elizabeth, Dakota Athletic Boosters, East Dubuque Music Boosters, Eastland Music Boosters, Elizabeth Historical Society, Galena Elks Scholarship, Galena Key Club, Galena Travelers, Hanover Alumni Association, Hanover Chamber of Commerce, Lena-Winslow Education Foundation, Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary Foundation, Pearl City Athletic Boosters, Scales

Mound Travelers, Stewards of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge, Warren Athletic Boosters and West Carroll Sports Boosters.

The November winners are: John Conrad of Andover; Lori Stearns of Davis; Larry Zigler Of Macomb; Sarah Hanviriyapunt of Lanark; Ryan Lange of Dubuque, Iowa; Emily Dkystra of Albany; Laurie Stitzel of Shannon; Kristy Allen of Scales Mound; Mike Kohl of Pearl City; Sharon Kaspar of Mount Carroll; Doris Trader of Elizabeth; Kyle Simons of Lanark; Emma Eaton of Galena; Karen Griffin of Apple River; Vicki Wurster of Elizabeth; Jeff Stamm of Lena; Carol Knockle of Peosta, Iowa; Karisa Timmerman of Benton, Wisconsin; Ashley Carroll of Elizabeth; Thomas Edler of Lena; Darryl Cannon of Lena; Jan Schmid of Wheeling; LeaAnn Michels of Savanna; Doug Aadson of Bradenton, Florida; Treasea Perdue of Pearl City; Amy Krolow of Pearl City, Brian Saunders of Warren; Brett Noble of Galena; Carolyn Creighton of Hazel Green; Wisconsin; and Alec D'Amico of Galena.



SUBMITTED PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Stockton students top meats judging

Members of the Stockton FFA Chapter placed first overall in the Section One Meats Judging Contest held Nov. 13. Nineteen Stockton students participated, with nine finishing in the top 10 for individual results: Morgan McPeek, first; Joseph Brudi, second; Caleb Mammoser, third; Hunter Hille, fourth; Jason Hermann, fifth; Jenna Haas, seventh; Ivannie Jones, eighth; Connor Vincent, ninth; and Katie Bartch, 10th. The students judged 25 retail cuts, graded carcasses on yield and quality and more. Pictured from left to right in the back row are Jason Hermann, Hunter Hille, Joseph Brudi, Ian Broshous, Caleb Mammoser, Morgan McPeek, and Andrew Mensendike. In the middle row from the left are Ivannie Jones, Tyler Williams, Austin Eisfeller and Jenna Haas. In the front row from the left are Connor Vincent, Patrick Mensendike and Simon Rillie.

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E-Mail: calvaryum@yahoo.com
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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.
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 • *Sunday School follows worship*
 • Dec. worship is at Ebenezer-UCC Church
 5421 S. Stone Church Road

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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

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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: firstumcfeleizabeth@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.
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Pastor Miho Yasukawa (815) 369-5552
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 • *Sunday School – 10:45 a.m. (Sept. - May)*
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 • *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

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(Church luncheon following morning service)
 • *Sunday Afternoon Service - 12:30 p.m.*
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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.*
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 • High School & Adult Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

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

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608-669-5770
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 • *Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.*
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 • *Sunday School – 9:15 a.m.*
 (when available)

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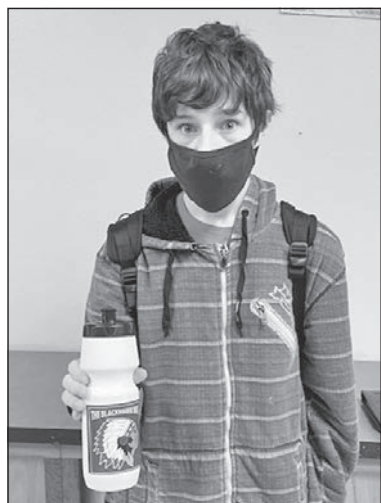
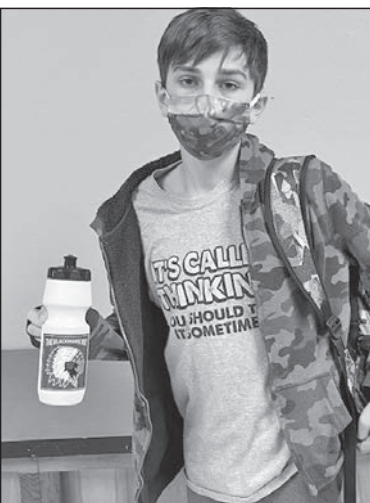
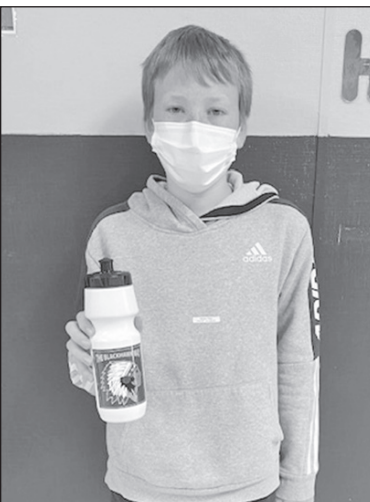
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Pastor Chip Sohl • 815-541-1425
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 • *Prayer Shawl Knitting Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.*
 • *Bible Study Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.*





SUBMITTED PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Honor students welcome new inductees



Current members of the Stockton High School National Honor Society attended the recent induction ceremony for new members. The students pictured, from left, are: Kaylee Luke, Adriana Curtiss, Elise Adleman, Hayley Johnson, Bryce Smith, Mitchel Coffey, Jason Hermann, Case Harmston and Simon Rillie.

SUBMITTED PHOTO The Scoop Today

Leading the way at Stockton Middle School

Each month Stockton Middle School students are recognized as Blackhawks of the Month for going above and beyond to display the Blackhawk Way expectations. They have been nominated for special acts of being respectful, responsible and safe. Clockwise from top left are fifth-grader Sam Sikora, sixth-grader Morgan Haas, seventh-grader Keagan Jones and eighth-grader William Hart.

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• Love (Continued from page 4)

for him, as it is for many of us. As it is often for me. Especially now, as I grieve this great loss.

I wasn't sure of his favorite song, but at the end, when he was very ill, I played many of the classics for him bedside. The first one I picked was "Free Bird" by Lynyrd Skynyrd. When I asked my son today what he thought his dad's favorite might be, that was the one he chose, so I think it's likely a top contender. The lyrics talk about leaving and being remembered and flying free like a

bird. This couldn't be more fitting, especially since he'd talked about flying in his dreams.

His name was Thom. He loved me very much and I loved him. Still do. Always will. He was a good man, a great man; in my eyes he was the best. I hope those who knew and loved him always remember that. Enough said.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Apple River Township and Apple River Township Road District.

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Apple River Township and Apple River Township Road District for 2020 will be held on December 9th, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Apple River Township Building.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact James C. Goken, Township Supervisor, at 2704 E. Stagecoach Trail, Apple River, IL. 61001. Phone # (815) 499-1730

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2019 were \$51,556.43

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2020 are \$59,287.00. This represents a 15% increase over the previous year.

The Road District and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2019 were \$73,273.76

The proposed Road District and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2020 are \$84,263.00. This represents a 15% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2019 were \$0.00

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2020 are \$0.00. This represents a 0% increase over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2019 were \$124,830.19

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2020 are \$143,550.00. This represents a 15% increase over the previous year.

(Published in The Scoop Today Dec. 2, 2020)

• Agriculture (Continued from front page)

"Now, you have cattle or you have grain and that's what you do."

He said economics have changed and that may be an underlying cause for why some young people are leaving farming.

"Companies are offering benefit packages, paid vacations, and holidays off, but things are tougher on the farming side," Kent said. "Jamie has a job off the farm for health insurance. My mom and my aunt both have jobs off the farm for health insurance; it's just a lot of hours if you want to make it work."

He said in spite of all the difficulties, there are still a lot of young people entering the field of agriculture.

"In our neighborhood there are more young people than you would think that are involved in agriculture," he said. "I think to step in and not have someone to partner with is definitely a problem. To buy a farm and the equipment is hard, but there are a lot of family operations in my area and they all have young people that are there wanting to step up and step in."

"I know it's not that way everywhere, but here in Stephenson County, there are a lot of young leaders entering agriculture."

Over in Jo Daviess County, Codie Geisz considers herself a farm advocate through her work as a family and consumer science teacher at Warren Junior/Senior High School and as a member of the Farm Bureau Young Leaders group.

"When I was younger we regularly visited my grandparents' farm," Geisz

said. "We did 4-H and the whole FFA thing. My mom grew up on the farm and we did chickens and beef cattle when we were in 4-H."

Currently she is not on a farm, but she does try to make it back as often as possible and her fiancé's family owns and operates an organic dairy farm.

"In a way you could say I still farm, but I would say I'm more on the professional side of agriculture, still advocating for family farmers and the guys that are trying to make a living," she said.

Getting involved in the young leaders offered her a chance to stay connected to agriculture throughout college.

"I got involved because it's a great transitional or next step effort," Geisz said. "A lot of colleges offer it through the Collegiate Farm Bureau, and I think there are at least seven colleges in Illinois that offer Collegiate Farm Bureau."

"When I went to Illinois State University they had Young Leaders and I was involved in that and Highland Community College in Freeport offers it. It's just a really good next step."

Getting the next generation to embrace agriculture is key, she said.

"One of the negative things that we're seeing is that we're losing our younger generation," Geisz said. "I think it's very important that we have organizations like Young Farmers that are working in support of our young crowd."

"We're always going to need food



SUBMITTED PHOTO Shopper's Guide

Local members of the Farm Bureau Young Leaders gather for a photo at a farmer appreciation breakfast. In the back row from left are Val Girot, Courtney Schultz, Michael Schultz, Michael Carroll, Sam Albrecht and Kyle Hubb. In the front row from left are Hannah Brudi, Jacquelynn Albrecht and Codie Geisz.

and we're always going to need to keep the land healthy, so we need to find ways to keep our younger generation involved."

Geisz said she thinks young people are leaving agriculture because there are so many opportunities out in the world.

"You have bigger towns, bigger cities, and our students are realizing what all is out there," she said. "We do see some of our students coming back. Maybe they're not involved directly in farming, but there are peripheral businesses here and many of them are becoming involved with those. There are many different aspects to agriculture, not just farming

on the farm."

Geisz embraces education as key to the problems currently facing agriculture.

"Letting people know about agriculture and how agriculture is used in their daily lives is important," she said. "Farm Bureau does a great job of that, whether it's at the state or national levels. (T)he Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau office has many projects

underway to inform kids because it's important to start at a young age.

Just getting the word out about agriculture helps so much. The more we can do that, the better our economy is going to be, and it will also bring consumers to work in support of agriculture."

For more information about the young leaders group in Jo Daviess County, call 815-858-2235.

FHN presents family holiday fun

Organizers at FHN are planning a slate of "free, family-friendly, pandemic-safe Festival of Trees events" this holiday season, according to a news release.

Festival of trees

This year's Community Festival of Trees at the Freeport Public Library will be arranged to ensure social distancing guidelines can be followed.

The trees, decorated by local service organizations, clubs and church groups competing for prizes, will be on display during library business hours through Saturday, Dec. 26. People can vote for their favorite tree through Sunday, Dec. 12.

Luminaria night

On Sunday, Dec. 20, a community luminaria night will be featured along Stephenson Street and Lincoln Boulevard in Freeport. People may stroll or drive past to enjoy the luminaries outside FHN Memorial Hospital and the surrounding area.

For more information about any of the FHN Festival of Trees events, go online to www.fhn.org/festivaloftrees or call 877-600-0346, extension 901.

Letters to Santa

Throughout the season, FHN invites children to write a letter to Santa and drop it off in the Freeport Public Library Youth Services Department or at the front desk at FHN Memorial Hospital, FHN Family Healthcare Center – Burchard Hills or FHN Family Healthcare Center – Highland View Drive in Freeport.

Parents can download a decorated letter template at www.fhn.org/festivaloftrees and should fill in the requested information so Santa can write back.

Parents outside Freeport can take a photo or scan their child's letter and return via email to wecare@fhn.org. Children's letters must be received by Dec. 12 to make sure Santa has time to write back.

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May your holidays be filled with peace, joy, and prosperity!

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FHN offers COVID-19 update video

FHN President and CEO Mark Gridley and FHN Family Counseling Center Clinical Director Susan Johnson address seasonal affective disorder and the organization's COVID-19 preparations in the latest FHN COVID-19 update video.

The video, along with all of the previous weeks' videos, is available by going online to www.fhn.org/coronavirus.

As the days get shorter and the weather gets colder, people may begin to experience the symptoms of SAD, including changes in eating and sleeping habits and mood, a lack of interest in things that used to be pleasurable and a tendency toward isolating oneself.

Children can experience SAD, as well.

"Parents might see their child become more irritable, angry or withdrawn, or see changes in their child's sleeping habits," Johnson said in a news release.

The best way to ease or avoid those symptoms is to stay as connected as possible with friends, neighbors and loved ones, Johnson suggested.

"If you or a loved one is experiencing SAD to the point that it affects your daily life - you can't work, clean your house, or take care of your kids - don't be afraid to reach out to a counselor for help."

To arrange an appointment or assessment, contact the FHN Family Counseling Center at 815-599-7300.

COVID-19 cases increase

Pandemic fatigue may be one of the reasons for the current uptick in area COVID-19 cases, FHN officials said.

"People are getting together, and so many of us are trying to make everything 'business as usual,' which is exposing more people to the virus and driving local cases up," Gridley said.

FHN Memorial Hospital, while dealing with increasing case numbers, continues to prepare for a possible coronavirus surge.

"We have enough personal protective equipment in general, though we can see some shortages in testing kits and surgical gowns, which is the same across the nation," Gridley said.

The best thing the public can do to help, he said, is to keep following pandemic precautions - wear a mask, stay socially distant or stay home if possible and keep washing your hands well.

Briefs

Lena man ready to celebrate 99th birthday

Well-wishers are hoping that community members will help Alvin Kemper celebrate his 99th birthday on Dec. 10.

Cards for Kemper may be mailed to him at: Lena Living Center, c/o Alvin Kemper, 1010 S. Logan St., Lena, IL 61048.

Parade features new route, online viewing

The Lena lighted holiday parade steps off at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, from Lions Park.

The expanded route, designed to encourage social distancing, goes from the park south on Washington Street onto Railroad Street, turns onto Vernon Street, crosses the railroad tracks, turns lefts on Main Street and ends at Lena Village Hall. The parade also will be lives-

reamed on the Lena Business and Professional Association Facebook page.

Church notes sermon, book group meeting

The Rev. Randal Nicholas will give the sermon "Imagine That!" based on Isaiah 40:1-1 during the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, Dec. 6, at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 W. Salem Road, Lena.

In addition, the church's Bookworms reading group will meet at Janice Lockwood's home for a social evening at 7 p.m., where they will share Christmas books that they have individually read.

Legion auxiliary sets December meetings

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary will meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, at the Legion

home, 316 W. Main St. Attendees will be making tray favors for hospitalized veterans and dues will be collected.

New auxiliary members are always welcome.

Junior auxiliary members will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Legion home. Guests are welcome to attend.

Dean's list includes Lena chiropractic student

Brooke Olberding of Lena has been named to the summer 2020 trimester dean's list at Palmer College of Chiropractic's main campus in Davenport, Iowa.

Palmer College of Chiropractic, the first and largest college in the chiropractic profession, has campuses in Davenport, Iowa; San Jose, California; and Port Orange, Florida.

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Community COVID testing set in Freeport

The state of Illinois, through the Stephenson County Health Department, is sponsoring a COVID-19 community test site in Freeport. Anyone can get tested at no cost, even if they do not have symptoms.

Tests will be administered from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, and Saturday, Dec. 5, in Parking Lot C at Highland Community College, 2998 W. Pearl City Road in Freeport. Participants are asked to use the Pearl

City Road entrance.

"Simple nasal swabs will be used for the test, and results will be delivered via phone call within four to seven days," according to a news release from FHN.

Those who come for a test should bring an insurance card if they have one. People still may be tested without an insurance card.

For more information, go online to fhn.org/coronavirus.

New rules apply to cover crop program

The Illinois Department of Agriculture will open the second year of the Fall Covers for Spring Savings program with an online application that will be available online beginning Dec. 15 and running through Jan. 15, or until the funds are depleted. It is a first come/first serve program with a \$250,000 funding allotment.

For the 2021 cover crop premium discount program, applicants are required to certify their cover crops through their local Farm Service Agency county office at their local USDA Service Center before applying.

When completing the application

See RULES, Page 16

CHRISTMAS in the Village

ELIZABETH, IL

FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER

Outside Homes Decorating Contest

Judging after dusk. Entries due by 5 pm on Thurs, December 3rd.
To enter: post a picture on our Facebook page : Energize Elizabeth - Shop Local.

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER

SANTA VISIT
-and-
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10 am - 3 pm.
Artists & Artisans,
137 N Main St.

See Santa and talk to him safely. Santa will be in the window of Artists & Artisans, where you will be able to see Santa and tell him if you were naughty or nice. You will also be able to drop of your letter to him at this time. All COVID precautions will be taken to ensure your child(ren)'s safety.

DECORATE A TREE

Artists & Artisans,
137 N Main St.

Any group or business in Elizabeth is welcome to bring a tree to Artists & Artisans on Sunday, Nov 29th from 2pm-4pm and showcase your group/business. Help bring awareness to your group/business and make Elizabeth festive. \$25 in chamber bucks to the most original design. To register, contact mseyve73@gmail.com.

Shop Local
-with-
Merry the Elf

Local Businesses,
Elizabeth, IL

Christmas Shop in Elizabeth, take a selfie with one of our elves and your purchase and post the picture to our Facebook page for a chance to win Chamber Bucks.

Our shops & businesses will have Holiday Sales and Specials on Saturday, Dec 5th!

Mrs. Claus Virtual Story Time

Anywhere you are!

Login starting at 10 am to the Elizabeth Township Library Facebook page & hear Mrs. Claus reading a story from the North Pole, in the comfort of you own home! Story will be available on the page anytime after 10 am on the 5th.

Sponsored by the Elizabeth Township Library.

Please make sure to wear a mask while visiting our businesses. For more info, like Energize Elizabeth - Shop Local on Facebook or visit elizabeth-il.org.

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State preps for expected initial 400,000 doses of vaccine

First batch of vaccines will go to hospital workers, first responders

By Sarah Mansur
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

After Pfizer recently submitted its application for a COVID-19 vaccine to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Illinois public health officials have continued preparing locations to store and distribute the vaccine that could be released to frontline hospital workers in a matter of weeks.

Pfizer announced Nov. 20 that it planned to submit its COVID-19 vaccine application for emergency approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration — a process that could take between two and four weeks, Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said during a news conference.

On Nov. 20, Ezike said she expects the state will receive about 400,000 doses of the vaccine in the first round of distribution.

"That is the number that we're working with to identify how we will partition that out for the first phase," she said.

"And we already know that we heard directly from General (Gustave) Perna that, as soon as FDA approval is granted, the next day they would start shipping out vaccines," she added.

Perna is the chief operating officer of Operation Warp Speed, which is

the Trump administration's national program to develop, manufacture and distribute a COVID-19 vaccine.

Dr. Moncef Slaoui, Operation Warp Speed's chief science adviser, reiterated this timeframe during a recent interview on ABC's "This Week with George Stephanopoulos."

Slaoui said vaccines would be shipped to states "within 24 hours from approval."

"Hopefully, people will start to be immunized, I would say, within 48 hours from the approval," Slaoui said during the interview.

Under the state's COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Planning Guide released in October, the first vaccine doses released will be given to front-line hospital workers and first responders.

Gov. JB Pritzker was asked about ensuring access to the vaccine among low-income or marginalized communities.

"I just want to say that one of the big concerns that I have is making sure that we do this with an equity lens, and that includes not only people of color but rural communities, places that often are left out and left behind, forgotten," he said. "I want them to be significantly considered for the near-term possibility of getting the vaccine but this vaccine is going to roll out over quite a number of months. We're not really going

to see, as I understand, the vaccine coming to the general public until perhaps March or April at the earliest."

Ezike said the hospital workers set to receive the vaccine in the first rounds include staff who are not health care professionals, such as the cleaning and food staff.

"A lot of those people in those jobs are our Black and brown communities and so we are going to make sure that they are included in that first phase 1a," she said.

Essential workers outside of hospitals and at-risk individuals, including people 65 years of age and older, will be next in line to receive the vaccine in the first phase of distribution when limited doses are available, according to the vaccination planning guide.

Ezike said the initial doses of the vaccine will be distributed through hospitals in each of the 11 regions of the state.

State public health officials are also identifying freezer storage locations, since Pfizer's vaccine must be kept at 94 degrees below zero.

"We've also ordered 20 separate contraptions that can hold vaccines at that ultra-cold level. So those 20 freezers, if you will, will be placed in all of the 11 regions to make sure that there is access for every part of

the state to the vaccine," Ezike said.

Pharmaceutical company Moderna could seek emergency approval for its COVID-19 vaccine application with the FDA by the end of the month, Slaoui said.

Unlike the vaccine under FDA review from Pfizer, Moderna's vaccine can be shipped and stored long-term

at standard freezer temperatures of 4 degrees below zero, for six months.

The FDA also has issued emergency approval for a second antibody therapy treatment for mild-to-moderate COVID-19 infections in adult and pediatric patients.

See VACCINE, Page 15



SONYA WILLIAMSON PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Windows come alive

Onlookers enjoy the activity in the window of Furst Staffing, 112 S. Main St., during the Nov. 27 Living Windows display in downtown Stockton.

Happy Thanksgiving

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

Hannah Boldt, left, is sworn in as a student trustee by Terri Grimes, board secretary, during a meeting of the Highland Community College Board of Trustees.

Student serves on college board

Hannah M. Boldt of Freeport has been elected by her peers to serve as student trustee on the Highland Community College Board of Trustees until April.

Boldt was seated at the Nov. 24 trustees meeting. She serves as a liaison between the students and the board and will be a voice for the Highland students.

Boldt is a graduate of Freeport High School. She plans to graduate from Highland with an associate of science degree, with a goal of transferring her studies to Illinois State University to explore a career in speech pathology.

"I am excited to be more involved not only in my school but in my community," Boldt said. "This allows me to be active in the decision-making of my school for students now, and future students of Highland. I want to be able to make a difference in our school and be a

voice from the student body."

The Board of Illinois Community College District 519 serves Stephenson, Ogle, Jo Daviess and Carroll counties. The trustees set policy for Highland Community College and monitor the success in meeting its mission.

Current elected trustees include:

- James G. Endress, chairman, Shannon
- Blake R. Musser, vice chairman, Freeport
- David D. Shockey, Ridott
- Douglas R. Block, Pearl City
- Dr. Steven R. Jennings, Freeport
- Pennie S. Groezinger, Stockton
- Shawn M. Boldt, Freeport
- Hannah M. Boldt, student trustee, Freeport

To learn more about the Highland Community College Board of Trustees, go online to highland.edu/about-us/board-of-trustees.

BBB issues warning on police charity scams

The Better Business Bureau's ScamTracker has received more than a dozen reports of a nonprofit organization using what consumers think are shady tactics to solicit donations.

Potential donors should be aware. If an organization isn't a charity, then contributions are not "donations" and cannot be deducted from your taxes.

How the scam works

You receive an unsolicited call from someone who claims to be representing a nonprofit organization. The "charity" has a name that includes a law enforcement word ("police," "trooper," etc.).

There are lots of variations on this scam. The caller explains that the goal of this nonprofit is to help keep police officers, their families, or even police dogs safe.

The organization's goals may seem noble, but do your research before making a pledge.

A previous BBB investigation revealed many red flags about one of these groups, including the fact that contributions are not tax-deductible, and no information is available on the

organization's president, board members and active chapters.

According to tax records, only a small fraction of donations made to the organization actually support law enforcement officers. This is just one example of how fundraisers can look and sound like a charity, but actually be lining the pockets of opportunists.

If you begin asking specific questions about the organization or how your money will be used, you may find the caller has no answers for you.

In other cases, you are told to call a different number where your questions will also be evaded. Callers often use intimidation tactics or try to make you feel guilty about not supporting their cause. Don't fall for it. It's all a way to get your credit card information and a donation.

How to avoid scams

• Do your research: If a nonprofit organization isn't completely transparent, it's impossible to know for sure that your money will support a good cause.

Ask for documentation on how much of your contribution will be used

for program services and how much will go for fundraising and management expenses.

• Don't give into high-pressure tactics: If a caller makes you feel uncomfortable by making you feel guilty or telling you your donation is urgently needed right this minute, it's best to simply hang up. Intimidation tactics are often used by scammers and are a red flag.

• Check the rating: Check the charity's rating on Give.org. For a charity to receive BBB accreditation, it must meet 20 standards of accountability covering everything from governance to fundraising.

If the organization does not appear on BBB's website, that does not mean they are not a real charity, but it can be a warning that you need to do more investigation before you give.

• Give locally: Contact your local or state law enforcement agency and ask how you can support them.

Most agencies have a non-profit "friends of" type organization and will be happy to refer you to a more worthwhile option.

A BIG "THANK YOU"

to those readers who have sent a donation to help underwrite **The Scoop Today and Shopper's Guide**. For those of you who haven't done so in the past year, but enjoy this newspaper and would like to help us pay for its operation, please send a donation in any amount to:

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12 • Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020 - The Scoop Today/ Shopper's Guide

New rules apply to cover crop program

The Illinois Department of Agriculture will open the second year of the Fall Covers for Spring Savings program with an online application that will be available online beginning Dec. 15 and running through Jan. 15, or until the funds are depleted. It is a first come/first serve program with a \$250,000 funding allotment.

For the 2021 cover crop premium discount program, applicants are

required to certify their cover crops through their local Farm Service Agency county office at their local USDA Service Center before applying.

When completing the application to receive the cover crop premium discount, producers will need to attach their FSA-578 (Report of Commodities - Farm & Tract Detail Listing form) to their application.

The program is only applicable for those with federal crop insurance administered by the United States Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency.

The online application may be found on the IDOA website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Pages/default.aspx>.

For more information about the program, contact IDOA at 217-782-6297.

The Scoop Today & Shopper's Guide

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2020-12-2-2020-32

386261

Extension offers tips for healthy, happy holidays

If you're looking for healthy tips to get through the upcoming holidays, join the University of Illinois Extension for their weekly holiday health boosters.

The 30-minute online sessions will address cooking for the holidays with health in mind while mixing in time for physical activity and managing holiday stress, according to an Extension news release.

"We know your time is precious and limited," the release said. "We also know everyone needs a little

inspiration and help to manage the season's ups and downs."

The free online webinars are set for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Dec. 8 and Dec. 15. Registration is required by going online to go.illinois.edu/holidays.

The Dec. 8 session is "Balancing Extra Calories through the Holidays." Learn tips to enjoy favorite

foods and incorporate physical activity.

The Dec. 15 session is "Making a List and Checking it Twice," which will offer simple steps for decreasing stress and enjoying the holidays.

For information about more upcoming nutrition and wellness programming, go online to go.illinois.edu/jsw or call 815-235-4125.

•Kitchen

(Continued from page 2)

Final thoughts

We have now raced into December. Small Business Saturday was last week. These two go together in Lena because the Lena Business and Professional Association have an activity to start the month. On Friday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m., the Lena Christmas Parade will take off. Lineup will be different this year. The parade will begin at Lion's Park and end at Village Hall. Participants should check in at 4:45. If you would like to be part of the parade with a float or wagon or on foot, you need to register at the LBPA Facebook page. Santa won't be at the Lena library because the library is closed due to COVID.

I would encourage you to shop local for your Christmas presents this year. We have so much to offer. There are great cheese and meat gifts at Torkelson's and A.J.'s; craft and decorative gifts at Brandon's Hardware; DeVoe Floral, Lena Drug Store and Sugarbaker's; candy at Sweetie Me's (they also have jewelry and unique things from the past); antiques and collectibles at Lena Mercantile, gift certificates for food and eating at Sullivan's, Café 217 espresso and bakery, Coach's, Mulligan's, The Garden View Cafe, Main Street Eats and Treats, Rafters and Beach's.

You can buy practical things at Dollar General and Brandon's Hardware. You can get hair and nail gift certificates at the Lena Hair Center, Rescue Me Salon and Spa and Bella 360. Check out the gifts and products at the Barrel and Brie at Eleroy. Gift items and shirts are available at Hometown Trophies, toys from Down on the Farm and shop online for clothes and accessories at Fluegels.

There are gift ideas at the Red Barn and The Old Mill as well as the Lena Brewing Company. You can send a beautiful floral arrangement from DeVoe Floral & Flowers by Paris. You can arrange for snow removal and lawn care for the person who has everything.

So hit the local stores and avoid the crowds; you can shop safely and help our small businesses survive this unique Christmas season.

If you have found any holiday recipes you think we would like, contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide, 240 W. Main St., Lena, IL 61048 or email us at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.



SUBMITTED PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Greenhands show their selling skills

River Ridge FFA Greenhands Avery Engle, Isaac Rife, Ben Richmond and Lucas Holland placed second in the Ag Sales contest, an FFA career and leadership development event held earlier this fall. The students had the task of "selling" leaf blowers to potential customers, which required them to give their best sales pitches. Engle had the high score in her individual sales call. Cora Ritchie was the team alternate. Greenhands are first-year FFA members.



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NOTICE

The Pearl City Park District has the following positions open for the upcoming Consolidated Election on April 6, 2021.

Two - 6 year term Commissioners

One - 2 year unexpired term Commissioner

Petition packets can be picked up up by calling Kris Visel at 815-297-3817.

The Park District Commissioner's petition must be filed with Kris Visel no earlier than *Monday, Dec. 14, 2020* and no later than *Monday, Dec. 21, 2020*.

386243

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS - GALENA, ILLINOIS CAMA PLAN SDIRA LLC FBO T130717-04; Plaintiff,

vs. KEITH KOUZMANOFF AKA KEITH J. KOUZMANOFF; VICKIE KOUZMANOFF; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,

20 CH 40

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the office of James J. Nack, 106 North Main Street, Galena, Illinois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

LOT 9 AND 10 IN COURSEN'S LANDING FIRST NORTH SUBDIVISION AS LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, JO DAVIESS COUNTY, ILLINOIS; ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED NOVEMBER 15, 1978 AS DOCUMENT NO. 149517 IN PLAN HOLD 2 OF PLATS, NO. 125-B. SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

P.I.N. 43-10-000-239-33 (old) and 10-000-239-33 (new); 43-10-000-239-36 (old) and 10-000-239-36 (new).

Commonly known as 13447 Clipper Lane, Galena, IL 61036.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community,

the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds.

The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Ms. Mary E. Spitz at Plaintiff's Attorney, Sottile & Barile, LLC, 7530 Lucerne Drive, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130. (440) 572-1512.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3160552

(Published in The Scoop Today Dec. 2, 9 & 16, 2020)

386003

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

To the legal voters, residents of the Town of Apple River, in the county of JoDaviess and the State of Illinois, that the **Annual Town Meeting** of said Town will take place on

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 2020

at the hour of 7:30 p.m. at the Apple River Township Building

for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said Town; and after a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting; and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Elect a Moderator
- Annual Financial Reports
- Transfer of Funds
- Open Forum
- Dated November 24th, 2020

Valerie J. Stocks
Town Clerk

(Published in The Scoop Today Dec. 2, 2020)

386050

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Application Process: Please send letter of interest and resume to Mrs. Casey Downey, High School Principal, 540 N. Rush St., Stockton, IL 61085 or email to casey.downey@stocktonschools.com.

385629

Lena-Winslow School District currently has an opening for a **Cook** in the Elementary/JH kitchen.

The position is 7 hrs/day at \$10.00/hr.

Please send letter of interest and credentials to Andy Lobdell, Principal, Lena Winslow Junior High School, 517 Fremont St., Lena, IL 61048 or email him at lobdella@le-win.net. Applications accepted until position is filled. Lena-Winslow CUSD #202 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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2004 CHEVY VAN Needs brakes. Asking \$465. Call 847-587-0278.

2005 C230 MERCEDES BENZ KOMPRESSOR Black, 4dr. sport, 150k, auto, great cond., runs great. \$4,500 OBO 262-758-9027

2007 FORD EXPEDITION 165K, new cats, O2 sensors, new plugs, coil packs, tires. Excellent condition. \$5,500 Can text or call 262-989-4112



2012 CHEVY TRAVERSE nice condition, 142k Hwy miles, 2 new tires, \$6500. 815-947-2972

Automobiles Wanted

PLEASE DONATE YOUR VEHICLE To disabled brothers in there 70's for Dr's appointments, etc. 262-895-1050

Farm Machinery

1996 CASE VIBRA FIELD CULTIVATOR 24 ft. with drag, new shovels. \$5,900. White 580-5 bottom plow 18-20 wide cut. \$3,900. J D 4 row corn planter \$699. 262-994-2099.

Motorcycles

1986 KAWASAKI ZG 1200 Best offer. Call 224-518-6491

Parts & Accessories

S.B.C. DART11 IRON EAGLE SPORTSMAN HEADS ported, polished, stainless valves-202in, 160 ex. \$750.00. Huggins Cam 540 int, 562 ex. lifters, pushrods \$125.00 less than 500 miles on both. 1932 Ford original running boards, new covers \$400.00. 262-497-1898

Sports/Classic Cars

1987 COUGAR 20th Anniversary, 118k, owned since 1989, excellent condition. \$3,500 Can text or call 262-989-4112

Trucks & Trailers

1998 FORD RANGER, 4X4, with cap, automatic, power, transmission fluid leak, \$795. 262-949-6997 text preferred.

FORD RANGER 2002 4X4. 158K. \$2,000. Call 262-534-6480.

Vans, Mini Vans

2001 FORD, E-150 1/2 ton van, white, 4.2 liter. Great for camping or work! \$395 Delavan location. 262-949-6997 text preferred.

2006 FORD E350 Super duty 12 passenger Van. 5.4 V8, 225,000 miles. \$3,200. 608-921-4010.



State initiative launched to help Illinoisans expunge marijuana arrests, convictions

By Raymon Troncoso
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS |

A new state-funded initiative called New Leaf Illinois aims to connect Illinoisans who want to remove marijuana arrests or convictions from their records with 20 nonprofit organizations that provide free legal representation and information on expungements.

New Leaf Illinois was launched Nov. 19 by the Illinois Equal Justice Foundation, an organization created by a 1999 state law to distribute funding appropriated by the government to support nonprofit legal aid programs and initiatives. IEJF administers state appropriations to three programs — a broad legal aid grant program, a legal aid service for veterans, and, most recently, a marijuana offense expungement program.

As part of the 2019 Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act — the law that legalized marijuana for recreational use — arrests and convictions for certain marijuana offenses are eligible for expungement. Arrests and minor offenses are eligible for automatic expungement, while some convictions require a petition be filed in court.

The 2019 law also set aside a portion of the tax revenue generated from the legal sale of marijuana that must be put toward the expungement process. Through the IEJF, a portion of these funds are

given as grants to New Leaf organizations to provide legal services.

Tax revenue from legal marijuana sales has also been earmarked for other services, like the R3 community investment program.

According to Leslie Corbett, IEJF executive director, the organization received a \$1.6 million appropriation to create the New Leaf initiative, with \$1.46 million being distributed as grants to the 20 member organizations and the remainder being used to administer the program.

IEJF estimates there are approximately 700,000 Illinoisans eligible for marijuana offense expungement, either through the automatic process or the court filing route. Automatic expungement means the beneficiary doesn't have to personally ask for expungement, but the process itself must still be carried out manually by the Illinois State Police and criminal justice officials on a case-by-case basis.

Due to the volume of records, ISP has set a 5-year timeline for when arrests and minor convictions will be expunged, in order of when the offense occurred. New Leaf Illinois offers to help applicants speed up the process if an arrest for a marijuana offense remains on their record.

"These individuals may have a criminal record that could make it harder for them to actually get

a job, advance their education, or even be able to rent an apartment," Gray Matteo-Harris, an IEJF board member and partner at the Fox Rothschild law firm, said at a recent news conference.

"If you look at the data, Black and brown people and economically disadvantaged communities were disproportionately penalized by past criminalization. The expungement process is one step toward repairing that harm for people who were previously arrested or prosecuted for something that is now legal for all of us," she said.

Illinoisans with an arrest or conviction for marijuana can go to NewLeafIllinois.org and fill out a form to be paired with a legal professional from one of the 20 member organizations to determine what options are available to them. They can also call the New Leaf Illinois hotline at 855-963-9532.



SUBMITTED PHOTO The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide

Nursing assistant Shanaye Howard recently received the BEE Award from Monroe Clinic. The award recognizes extraordinary patient care given by non-nursing staff members.

Nursing assistant receives honor for quality care

Inpatient Services nursing assistant Shanaye Howard recently was named the newest recipient of Monroe Clinic's BEE Award. Howard has been a member of the Monroe Clinic team for two years.

Howard was nominated by Inpatient Services nurse Janet Fenley.

In the nomination, Fenley wrote, "Shanaye and I were providing care for a patient who lived alone, and her out-of-town family were anxious about her lack of support system. Shanaye lives only five minutes from her, so with permission from the patient's family, she gave the patient her personal phone number to call if she ever needed anything."

"The patient and her daughter were very grateful for Shanaye's assistance and compassion while providing the high level of care she always does."

Howard received a second nomination from a thankful patient, which read, "As far as I'm concerned, Shanaye went above and beyond with the care she provided! She was friendly, helpful and explained everything as it happened."

The BEE Award was created to recognize any non-nursing staff member who demonstrates excellent quality care, extraordinary compassion, focus on the patient

and the patient's needs and effective collaboration with other members on the patient-care team.

Monroe Clinic officials ask the community to help spotlight the contributions of their staff, like Howard, by nominating them for the BEE Award. Nomination forms are available at Monroe Clinic greeter's desks and by going online to monroeclinic.org/beeaward.

Chambers connect businesses throughout region

The Galena Area Chamber of Commerce and the Stockton Chamber of Commerce recently hosted a virtual networking event in partnership with NW Illinois Economic Development.

The event included representatives from more than 30 area businesses and business service organizations, included retailers, educators and service providers from communities including Galena, Stockton, Lena and Chadwick.

Each attendee gave a 45-second

elevator pitch, including their business name, one thing they had to offer, and one thing they were looking for from fellow attendees. After each business had a chance to speak, participants joined breakout rooms where they could connect with others in their field and develop new collaborations.

Membership in the Stockton Chamber of Commerce is open to all those doing business in the greater Stockton area. For more information, send an email to info@stocktonil.com.

For more information about the Galena Area Chamber of Commerce, which has members in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin, go online to galenachamber.com.

NW Illinois Economic Development promotes economic development by fostering business growth in Jo Daviess and Carroll counties. For more information, contact Executive Director Emily Legel at elegel@nwiled.org or go online to nwiled.org.

REAL ESTATE LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS - GALENA, ILLINOIS
CAMA PLAN SDIRA LLC FBO T130717-04;

Plaintiff,
vs.
KEITH KOUZMANOFF AKA KEITH J. KOUZMANOFF; VICKIE KOUZMANOFF; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,

20 CH 40

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the office of James J. Nack, 106 North Main Street, Galena, Illinois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.I.N. 43-10-000-239-33 (old) and 10-000-239-33 (new); 43-10-000-239-36 (old) and 10-000-239-36 (new).

Commonly known as 13447 Clipper Lane, Galena, IL 61036.

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

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds.

The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Ms. Mary E. Spitz at Plaintiff's Attorney, Sottile & Barile, LLC, 7530 Lucerne Drive, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130. (440) 572-1512.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
3160552

(Published in The Scoop Today Dec. 2, 9 & 16, 2020)

• Vaccine

(Continued from page 10)

Ezike said the government has already provided the state with about 8,500 doses, and that the treatment is meant to be given early in the infection to help prevent hospitalization for high-risk and older individuals.

"We have teams that are working right now to discuss the equitable distribution of this very important resource. We are going to make sure that, in terms of communication, the public is aware of this resource and who are the appropriate candidates," she said.



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Pritzker announces intent to borrow \$2 billion from federal program

New sum adds to \$1.2 billion already borrowed

By Sarah Mansur
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Gov. JB Pritzker has announced that the state would give notice to the federal government that it plans to borrow \$2 billion from a federal program created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in an effort to fill the state's budget deficit.

That figure is less than the \$5 billion in short-term borrowing authorized by the Illinois General Assembly in May when it passed legislation allowing the state to tap into the Federal Reserve's Municipal Liquidity Facility program. The program permits the central bank to buy the debt of state and local governments that are in need of funds.

The MLF program was approved as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security, or CARES Act, which is a \$2.2 trillion stimulus package passed by Con-

gress in March.

Pritzker said the \$2 billion will be used to cover revenue losses and unforeseen COVID-19 expenses for this current fiscal year.

The state previously borrowed \$1.2 billion from the Fed's MLF program to cover losses from the last quarter of the previous fiscal year, and is the only state that has borrowed from the MLF thus far.

The state has paid \$200 million toward the first \$1.2 billion federal loan, according to Pritzker's spokesperson. The interest rate incurred on the \$1.2 billion loan was 3.82 percent.

Since the announcement was only for a notice of intent, the interest rate on the \$2 billion would not be known until the actual sale is finalized. As of Nov. 23, the website for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York showed a sample rate of roughly 3.37-3.41 percent for municipalities with Illinois' investment grade, which is one notch above what is referred to as "junk status."

"Although the General Assembly

authorized as much as \$5 billion of borrowing from the Federal Reserve, I am very reluctant to saddle our state with that large amount of short-term debt. I believe it would be irresponsible to borrow that entire amount, given the persistent fiscal pain it would cause over the next three years, as we would struggle to repay that entire amount," he said. "Our collective intention is to repay this line of credit as early as possible, after either the awarding of stimulus by Congress or a sufficient recovery of state revenues."

Pritzker said the goal of the short-term borrowing is to continue managing the state's massive bill backlog, which has reached more than \$7 billion, according to the Illinois Comptroller's Office.

The governor's comments on the state's financial situation came during his daily COVID-19 briefing, which he and members of his administration delivered remotely as they have each day recently.

State: Unemployment claims

up 40 %

There has been a surge in new unemployment claims filed in Illinois.

The Illinois Department of Employment Security recently reported that 65,596 workers in the state filed first-time claims for regular unemployment during the week that ended Nov. 21 — an increase of 40 percent from the week before.

In addition, the U.S. Department of Labor reported an additional 14,878 workers filed first-time claims that week for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, a federally funded program for gig workers, independent contractors and other self-employed individuals who don't qualify for traditional unemployment insurance. That was a 47 percent increase from the week before.

During the week that ended Nov. 14, the federal agency said, 339,922 Illinois workers were receiving continuing unemployment benefits, down 1.9 percent from the prior week.

IDES also reported unemployment rates for October in the state's 14 metropolitan areas. The Chicago-Naper-

ville-Arlington Heights area posted the highest rate, at 7.8 percent, while Bloomington and Champaign-Urbana were tied for the lowest rates, at 4.1 percent.

The statewide jobless rate in October was 6.5 percent.

• Rules

(Continued from page 9)

to receive the cover crop premium discount, producers will need to attach their FSA-578 (Report of Commodities - Farm & Tract Detail Listing form) to their application.

The program is only applicable for those with federal crop insurance administered by the United States Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency.

The online application may be found on the IDOA website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Pages/default.aspx>.

For more information about the program, contact IDOA at 217-782-6297.

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