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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9, 2022

Contextualizing cash bail's end

Researchers at Loyola University of Chicago add data to public safety conversation

By Jerry Nowicki
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

While a new law overhauling Illinois' system of pretrial detention continues to face scrutiny ahead of its Jan. 1 implementation date, new research suggests that the old cash-based system "results in much less pretrial detention than is generally assumed."

That's according to the Loyola University of Chicago Center for Criminal Justice, which has been measuring the potential effects of the provision commonly referred to as the Pretrial Fairness Act, which will abolish cash bail come Jan. 1.

"What we've found is that, while it's true that many people are jailed under the current cash bail system, most jail stays are brief," researchers wrote in an Oct. 26 brief that examined data from six counties. "Most

people pass through jails, being held for relatively short periods before bonding out—

and that includes people charged with the kinds of serious offenses that are designated 'detainable' under the PFA."

The research is nonpartisan and not conducted for advocacy purposes. It received funding from the National Institute of Justice, which is a research arm of the U.S. Department of Justice.

David Olson, a Loyola professor and Center co-director, spoke to Capitol News Illinois for an episode of the Capitol Cast podcast. Below is a list of questions covered in the conversation, along with other context from CNI's previous reporting on the topic.

How will pretrial detention change under the new law?

The PFA, passed in 2021 as part of the SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform, will end the wealth-based system that decides whether an individual is released from custody while they await trial.

It replaces it with one that allows judges greater authority to detain individuals who

are accused of violent crimes and deemed a danger to the community or a risk of fleeing prosecution. But the new system also limits judicial discretion when it comes to lesser, non-violent offenses.

Under current law, bail hearings typically occur within 72 hours of arrest and last fewer than five minutes. Prosecutors detail the defendant's charges and may recommend a bail amount. The judge then decides the conditions of their release, including how much money, if any, the defendant must post before their release.

"The concern is that in some counties, there's not sufficient time spent considering the decision at hand, ... there isn't adequate or sufficient legal representation at that point where an important decision about liberty is being made," Olson said.

The PFA, he said, was designed to make detention hearings more deliberative.

That's important, he said, because the subjects of the law are defendants who have only been charged with, not convicted of, a crime.

See CASH BAIL, Page 11

River Ridge FFA alumni earn American FFA degrees

Four alumni members of the River Ridge FFA Chapter received their American FFA degrees last week at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Less than 1% of all FFA members achieve this highest of distinctions. To qualify, students must have 50 hours of community service, documented earnings of a minimum of \$10,000 with their Supervised Agriculture Experience

project, and a detailed record book of the time investment in their years-long project(s) which includes at least one year post high-school. The River Ridge FFA Chapter is very proud to have four members of the graduating class of 2021 earn their degree. Conner Tippett, Trevor Grube, Kylie Hiher and Charlie Schnitzler were each officially awarded their degree at the 95th National FFA Convention.



Trevor Grube and Conner Tippett attended the National FFA Convention to formally receive their American FFA Degree. Recipients Kylie Hiher and Charlie Schnitzler could not attend the Convention but were also awarded degrees.

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Pecatonica officials dealing with dilemmas

By Margaret Downing
REPORTER

Back in May, the Illinois State Police arrested Pecatonica Police Sergeant Jeffrey Stacy on the following charges (according to a criminal complaint) -- two counts each of Intimidation (Class 3 Felony); Official Misconduct/Forbidden Act (Class 3 Felony); and Disorderly Conduct (Class C Misdemeanor), along with

one count of Electronic Harassment/Obscene Proposal (Class B Misdemeanor).

More bad news was to come with connections to Pecatonica.

The village's recently appointed police chief, Mike Mund, was arrested following a two-car crash on the evening of Oct. 16 in the vicinity of Springfield Ave. and Montague Road in Rockford.

Mund had replaced former Chief Bob Smith the previous month.

Before taking the job of chief, Mund held the position of Pecatonica's chief executive safety officer for a short time after Chief Smith left.

At the accident site, Rockford police noticed on Oct. 16 a strong odor of alcohol, although Mund denied that he had been drinking, and he refused a field sobriety test and would not give breath

samples, whereupon he was arrested.

Nov. 8 was the date set for a court date.

Chief Mund had been elected to office in April of 2021 with a term to expire in 2025.

Another incident associated with Pecatonica has to do with the discovery of missing funds from the Jesse A. Barloga American Legion Post No. 197.

Post Commander Joe Musso explained recently

that former village president Bill Smull... and also financial advisor and treasurer for the Legion, was requested to turn over a computer recently purchased by Legion members for treasurer records and costing \$800-\$1,200 dollars were told by Smull that "the computer was gone," therefore Smull had no records to turn over to the Legion.

Musso explained that the missing dollar amount "is in the thousands."

As treasurer, records had to be kept but with no records, the Legion isn't even exactly sure how much money is missing.

The next step was for postcards sent to each member of the American Legion advising that "a Legion Trial" was being called for among the approximate 135 members to discuss the situation.

The investigation is at this point ongoing, Musso said, and could last another two months.

Many thanks to my friends and relatives for the lovely cards with notes (received over 90), gifts and flowers for my 90th birthday. Your thoughtfulness meant so much to me.

God Bless you all
Vera Kempel



427881

Freeport Fire Department awarded grant

The Freeport Fire Department was recently awarded a \$1,985 fire prevention grant from FM Global, one of the world's largest commercial property insurers. This grant will be used to purchase an Accelerant Detection device

for detection of hydrocarbons, accelerates petroleum volatiles, and various gasses at fire scenes to determine the cause of a fire. The Freeport Fire Department's administrative assistant, Denise Scudder, assisted in collecting the neces-

sary information to make the department's grant application successful.

"We'll use the fire prevention grant to purchase an all-purpose accelerant detector which is battery operated, portable, accurate, and very

sensitive," says Fire Marshal Hillary Broshous. "This detector will be used in fire investigations and can be used for a wide variety of situations where detection of hydrocarbons and combustible gas is necessary."



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Join Opus Peace Founder, Deborah Grassman, for an educational and inspiring program designed for Veterans, caregivers, and health care professionals. Deborah will provide tools to help Veterans ease any unresolved wounds. Veteran families are encouraged to attend as they are often impacted by their loved one's experience.

The event includes a pinning ceremony for Veterans, Veterans Caregivers, and Vietnam Veterans will be welcomed home in a meaningful way.

Space is limited for this free event. Registration is required at northernillinoishospice.org/veteran or by calling 815.398.0500.

There will be additional educational sessions for health care professionals and Veterans. Visit northernillinoishospice.org/symposium for details.



Presented by: *Deborah Grassman*, ARNP, Founder of Opus Peace

Deborah is the author of *Peace at Last* and *The Hero Within*. She is a contributing author for four textbooks, has 25 published articles, and there are five documentary films featuring her work.

Learn more about Deborah at opuspeace.org.

News briefs

American Legion Cash Bash

The Illinois American Legion Family is holding a Cash Bash on Saturday, Nov. 12. Only 200 tickets will be sold. Tickets are \$75 each and the grand prize is \$5,000. Call 815-369-4684 to purchase tickets.

Hort for the Holidays offered in Freeport

The University of Illinois Extension hosts: *Hort for the Holidays-Stephenson County Edition*. Participants will complete two make and take projects: a Mason Jar Oil Candle and a Holiday Centerpiece using fresh flowers.

The event will be held on Thursday, Dec. 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the University of Illinois Extension located in the Community Services Building (Building R) at Highland Community College.

Registration is required. Register on-line by visiting go.illinois.edu/jsw or by calling (815) 235-4125. Registration cost is \$25.

Orangeville Lions Club fundraiser

The Orangeville Lions Club announces their upcoming fundraiser "Home for the Holidays Craft and Vendor Show".

The event will be held on Nov. 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Orangeville School.

There will be a silent auction, food stands, and over 75 different booths to shop from. Admission is \$12 ages 12 and up.

Please contact HFTHcraftshow@gmail.com or call 815-997-2511 with any questions.

Extension meeting

The November meeting of Blackhawk Extension will be

held Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022, at 1 p.m. at the Pearl City Library.

Judy Shippee will give the lesson on "Meal Kits Mayhem". The minor lesson on senior discounts will be given by Anita Costello.

Dues for the coming year will be collected. Anyone is invited to join the group.

Dubuque Audubon to host JDCF Bluebird Program

The Dubuque Audubon Society will host a free bluebird presentation by Jessica Carryer, JDCF's Director of Education.

Join Carryer to learn about the ideal bluebird habitat and how to monitor nest boxes throughout the nesting season.

The program will take place on Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. at the E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center at Mines of Spain State Park, 8991 Bellevue Heights Rd, Dubuque, IA. RSVPs not needed.

Stephenson County Historical Museum's Holiday Craft and Gift Show

This holiday arts and crafts show will be held in the historic Taylor Mansion Museum and will feature the area's best arts and crafts including gift ideas and holiday decor.

Over 20 artists and craftspeople will be represented. Also available will be new and out-of-print books on local subjects, small antiques, pretzel gift items, and Rawleigh products.

It will be held at 1440 S. Carroll Ave. in Freeport with free admission on Friday, Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Salvation Army of Freeport

The Salvation Army of Freeport will host their Coat and Clothing Giveaway on Tuesday, Nov. 8 and Thursday, Nov. 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If in need of clothing please visit the Salvation Army and enter through the green door on Van Buren Street.

There is still a need for kids coats, gloves, hats, and plus size coats for men and women and donations are currently being accepted.

On Friday, Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Salvation Army will host Free Food Friday.

The Salvation Army is hiring a Red Kettle Coordinator for a three-month position. If interested in a seasonal job, visit indeed.com or call 815-235-7639.

Obituary

MIKE J. TOWNSEND

Mike J. Townsend, age 78, of Stockton, IL passed away Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022, at FHN Memorial Hospital. He was born Oct. 14, 1944, in Freeport, IL to the late Lige and Ruth (Taylor) Townsend. Mike married Bonnie Chunn on Feb. 12, 1966, at Calvary United Methodist Church in Stockton.

Mike was a 1962 graduate of Stockton High School. He was a member of Calvary UMC in Stockton. He served as President for the Wards Grove Mutual Insurance Company, President of the Stockton Fire Protection District, and member of the JoDaviess County Farm Bu-



reau. Mike farmed his whole life and worked as a carpenter for many years. He was a handyman who enjoyed building things for his family. Mike often enjoyed watching old westerns.

He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Townsend; his daughter, Dawn (Robert) Crowley; his son, Shane (Jolene) Townsend; his grandchildren, Courtney Norem, Corbin Townsend, Brandon Westaby and Abigail Weber; his great grandchildren, Trinity Ber-

tucci, Rebecca Floerke, Eli Floerke and Tatum Townsend; his sisters, Marilyn (Robert) Davey, Myrna (Jack) Gusloff and Maxine Franz; and his brothers, Marlow (Ardale) Townsend and Meredith (Pat) Townsend. He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Marjorie Juergens; and his brother, Morris Blair.

A visitation was held on Sunday, Nov. 6, at Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Interment took place on Monday, Nov. 7, at Townsend Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.



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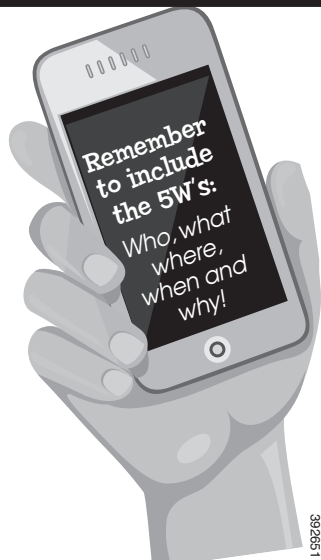
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OPINION



Slices of life

Like my cat



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

This morning I woke up late. I'd planned on an earlier day, but sleep had other plans. As I got up and got ready for the rest of my day, My cat lounged comfortably under the covers. She made a snoozy sound and curled into herself for some more and much-needed even-later morning sleep. It was at that moment I realized something important.

I want to be more like my cat.

I want to sleep in late, when I feel like it and take a nap later because that feels good too.

But that's only the beginning.

I want to bask in the sunshine. My kitty can find a spot of sunshine in any room at any time any day. When she does, she puts herself smack dab in the middle of it and sets out to do what she does best: relax and soak it all in.

I want to live in the moment. My kitty gets a special treat every day at 4 p.m., but she doesn't worry about this at 11 a.m. or even 3 p.m.. At 11 she is most likely sleeping and at 3 most likely napping. She isn't worried about the treats in her future. She just lives (or sleeps as the case may be) in the moment. When it is treat time, she enters the kitchen with tail held high and happy—a sign of confidence—because that is all that living in the moment requires.

I want to eat the good treats first—at least sometimes. These days my diet focuses on two things: Health and hydration. My kitty hardly ever ponders health. I do that for her. She has healthy cat food and then slightly less healthy treats. She always eats the treats

first because they taste better. I get that. I also get health. It's a balance. Between the two of us, we are working on it.

I want to strut my stuff. My kitty walks with her tail held high, clearly proud of her new collar, and especially its bell. It announces her presence in a room and she seems to revel in this power.

I want to purr from deep within, without even knowing why or how this occurs. I want others to know I'm happy because my joy resonates so loudly that it can't be ignored.

I want to land on my feet. Cats have an uncanny ability to jump from high places and consistently and conveniently land on all fours. I want to conquer any adversity in my path and come out on the other end still standing.

I want to keep it neat, complete and inside the litter box.

Cats know and recognize some of the basic tenets of life—like pooping. They don't get all messy with their urination or defecation. We all have messiness in our lives. Cats understand this and keep it contained – in a box. I'd love to take all of the messy aspects of my life and box them up.

On the flip side, my cat thinks outside the litter box. She loves to look out the windows to the outside world. Her inside world is only enhanced by the world

See CAT, Page 5

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One Man's Opinion

Divine intervention

Believing in an afterlife is a struggle for many of us professing to be believers. Raised a Catholic, I still always struggled to believe that one day I would meet my maker. Yes, I've been a "Doubting Thomas", but I've always tried. I do pray for guidance. We have all heard of situations that were miraculous. Typically, it is "an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs". That is according to a dictionary definition. When my faith wains



By **JIM SACIA**
Former State Representative

I am reminded of Private First-Class Desmond Doss, a conscientious objector medic in WWII who distinguished himself during the battle of Guadalcanal. He enlisted in the Army two months after Pearl Harbor. The Seven Day Adventist would

not kill, but still wanted to do his part. Because of his conscientious objector status, he could have been exempted from military service, but no, he would serve and not carry a firearm. Fellow soldiers harassed Doss for being yellow. Once they were all in combat, Doss was always right there when the call came for a medic. His caring, easy-going manner won him the respect of his entire infantry company.

Then came the battle for "Hacksaw Ridge". Seventy-

five American soldiers lay wounded on top of the ridge. Doss ignored calls to "pull back". Under heavy Japanese fire and grabbing one man at a time, he asked God to "just let [him] get one more". He stabilized them as best he could, then lowered them off the ridge by rope one at a time until he saved all 75 over a 12-hour period. The firing he ran through time after time had many soldiers commenting that there was no way that the Japanese rifle and machine gun fire could

miss Doss, but it did. Doss was the only conscientious objector to be awarded the Medal-Of-Honor in WWII. He had previously won two Bronze Stars with the V for valor for his lifesaving actions on Guam and in the Philippines.

Fellow soldier Carl Bentley, who fought at Hacksaw Ridge, says, "it was as if God had his hand on Doss's shoulder. It's the only explanation I can give". His commanding officer, Captain Jack Glover, who had previously shamed Doss,

was one of the 75 men that Doss saved. "He was one of the bravest persons alive" said Glover, "and then to have him end up saving my life was the irony of the whole thing".

President Harry Truman awarded Doss the Medal-Of-Honor at the White House in 1945. A Mel Gibson documentary "Hacksaw Ridge" was released in 2016. It documents the story of Desmond Doss. It is truly one of the many miracles that strengthens my belief in God and a hereafter.

Weekly connection

Another great harvest

It is hard to believe how quickly a fifty- or sixty-acre field of beans or corn can disappear when the combine and grain cart show up for harvesting these days. It used to take three or four days of good weather to pick a field of that size, and that was assuming the equipment didn't break down or there wasn't a problem in the dairy barn that took our attention away from the crops.

We started out with a one row New Idea pull-type picker, many many years ago. The driver would back up the tractor and picker to a small flare box wagon, hook it up, and head out to the field with about thirty feet of equipment trailing behind. The gathering chains would rattle and clang when the



By **SCOTT CERNEK**
Columnist

power-take-off was engaged, and away he would go at about two miles per hour. Harvesting one row of corn at a time was a mighty slow job. Like a snail working his way across the beach, the tractor moved back and forth from one end of the field to the other. Finally, the wagon would be full, another empty one would arrive, and the process would start all over again.

I remember unloading those wagons of ear corn at the corn crib was quite a

chore in and of itself. One had to pull the wagon in just right so the door at the back of the wagon lined up perfectly with the elevator hopper. Then he had to have another tractor to operate the elevator. Once all that was ready, he had to lift the end gate of the wagon and dig those cobs out of the back so they would fall down onto the elevator. The elevator then carried the corn to the top of the crib where the ears would fall down into the growing pile of gold. Sometimes an avalanche of corn cobs in the wagon would break free during the unloading process and the end gate had to be dropped quickly to prevent an overflow onto the elevator, then a big jam-up had to be dug out again.

This went on all day long until chore time, and then the next day the process started all over again until the crib was full. Slow and steady wins the race. After a few years we were able to purchase a two-row mounted picker for our tractor which sped things up considerably. We also picked up a couple more wagons so that the picker wasn't sitting in the field waiting. That of course meant that the pace had to be quicker at the crib as well. My Dad lost a finger in the picker that first year, oh, the cost of progress.

Our first combine, a 303 International with a two-row head, sped things up even more. There was no more hooking up and unhooking wagons. Instead of taking three or four days to harvest

that field of fifty or sixty acres, it now only took two and instead of filling corn cribs with ear corn, we put up grain bins. Over the next few years everything changed again as we upgraded to bigger combines and went to planting narrow rows instead of wide rows. Now we were using a six-row head on the combine. We added the grain cart and away we went unloading on the go and saving more time. Now that fifty- or sixty-acre field takes about an hour. Here it is mid-October, and the harvest will soon be complete, and we are not even close to Thanksgiving. It used to take us until

Christmas to get all the crops out of the field.

American agriculture has become amazingly productive and efficient. When I was in Romania a few years ago, the farmers there were, I would say, about thirty years behind us. God has blessed us here in the United States in so many ways. Let's remember to give Him thanks. In Deuteronomy 16:15 we read that the harvest should be a time of deep thanksgiving to the Lord for His blessing in so many ways; it shall be a time of great joy. Live in the joy of the Lord my friend. Until next week, God bless.

•Cat (Continued from page 4)

outside—even if it is safer for her to view it from behind a pane of glass.

This doesn't deter her. Not in the least. She still quivers at the sight of a squirrel or bird. She hunts them without hunting, but at the same time with the wildness of a lioness. It's a sight to see. Her imagination and resourcefulness are to be admired.

When given the chance, she embraces the chance to be outdoors, beyond the glass, in the truest sense. She's been known to track mice, snakes, birds, squirrels and any critters worth crittering with near reckless abandon. I appreciate her passion and love of adventure.

I want to think outside the box and pursue adventure

whenever the door is open—or whenever given the chance.

I want to be honest and unapologetic in all that I do. My cat doesn't fake it. If she loves you, she lets you know—wholeheartedly. If she harbors distain for you, well, ditto. She is either all-in or all-out and there is no guessing about where she stands. She isn't a people

pleaser, yet she pleases me all the time. She walks the line without ever walking the line, and I love her for her honesty.

That, and her gorgeous collar.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. She invites readers to follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.



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Tight supply to keep butter prices high

By Daniel Grant
FARMWEEK

Consumers will likely pay more for butter into the holidays and prime baking season compared to last year no matter how you slice it.

Butter prices rose 24.6 percent in August compared to last year while the overall cost of groceries increased 13.5 percent.

Cheese, milk and other dairy prices are expected to remain elevated as well due to tight supplies and strong demand.

USDA recently estimated average prices of \$2.88 per pound for butter, up from \$1.73 last year, \$2.10 for cheese compared to \$1.67 a year ago and an all-milk price of \$25.60 per hundredweight in October versus \$18.53 in 2021.

"The whole dairy price

situation was generated from events starting the previous summer," said Peter Vitaliano, vice president of economic policy and market research for the National Milk Producers Federation.

"Milk production went through a rate of increase of 5 percent year over year, but then it started dropping and went negative," he noted. "Coupled with recovering demand, it drove the price of key dairy products up, but that didn't bleed through to the retail level until this year."

Butter prices averaged \$3.08 per pound through the week ending Sept. 10 as a reduction of milk output reduced the allocation of it to produce various dairy products, particularly butter.

The amount of butter in storage in August (282 mil-

lion pounds) slipped 22 percent compared to the same time last year. But, while supplies are much tighter, Vitaliano doesn't foresee a "butter shortage" this baking season despite concerns to the contrary.

"When you say there's a butter shortage, to me it means that somewhere in the country you won't see it on the supermarket shelf," Vitaliano said. "That's not the case. Butter is available. It's just the price has gone up."

The cost of most dairy products increased as milk prices climbed. USDA in October pegged average prices of \$21.90 per hun-

dredweight for Class III milk, up \$4.82 from last year, and \$24.60 for Class IV milk compared to \$16.09 last year.

Issues such as record feed prices, challenges from ongoing drought in many parts of the country, the high cost of replacement cows and difficulty securing farm labor all contributed to the shrinking dairy cow herd and higher prices.

"There's a lot of constraints to expand milk production. We went through a year in which farmers were not expanding," Vitaliano said. "The cost of producing milk is at an all-time high."

There were some posi-

tive signs, recently, though as milk output increased 1.6 percent in August. Milk cows on farms averaged 9.416 million head in July, 1,000 more than the previous month but 67,000 fewer than in July 2021, USDA reported.

And demand for dairy products remains strong, which is also bolstering prices.

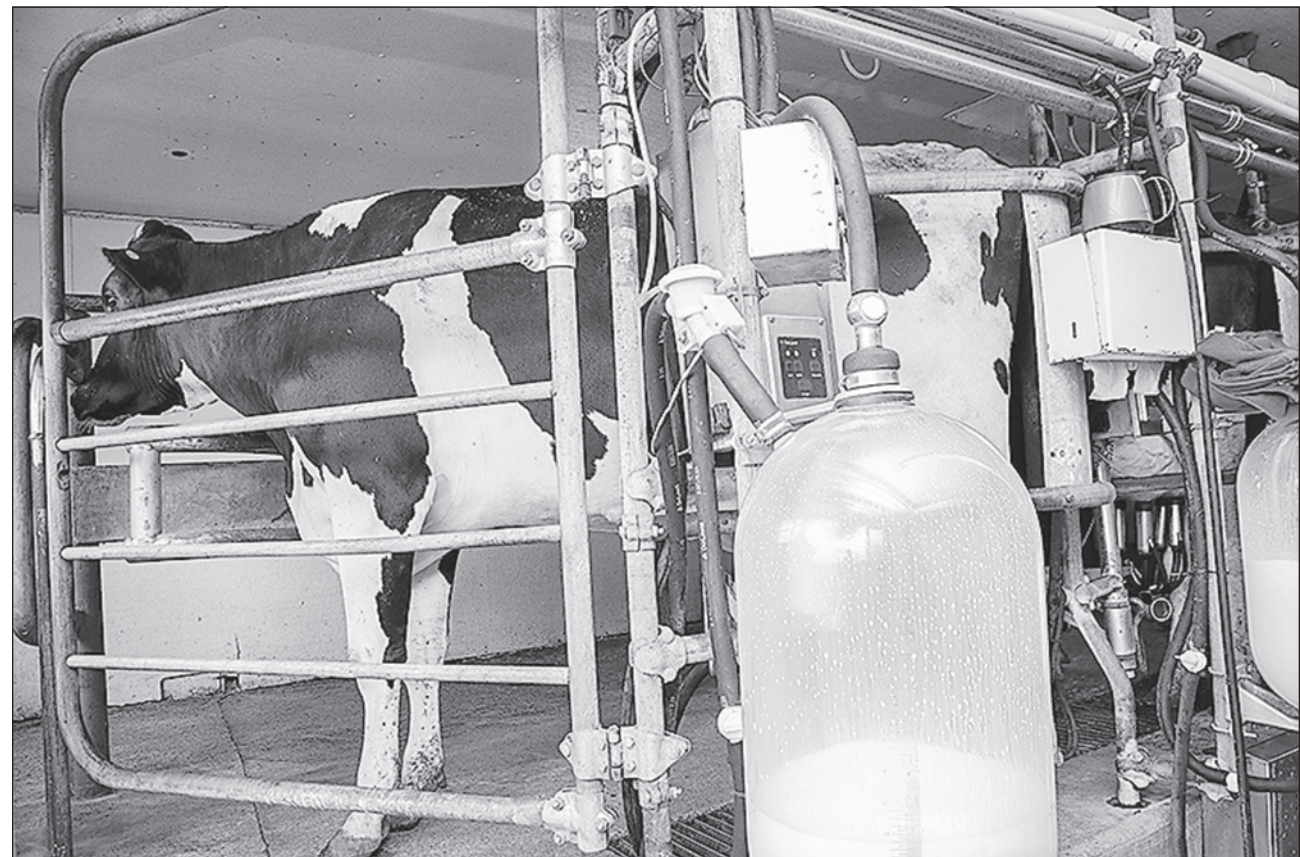
"Consumption has been affected somewhat by higher prices, but dairy is generally price inelastic," Vitaliano said. "When the price goes up, people still buy it."

Meanwhile, the average price of a 40-pound block of Cheddar cheese recently

declined by 12 cents.

"The U.S. the last several months has been the lowest-cost cheese supplier of any of the major exporting countries, so we've seen a big increase in exports," Vitaliano said. "I'm looking for exports to be a growing share of the total market, which is already approaching 20 percent of total (dairy) production."

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



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Butter, cheese, milk and other dairy prices are expected to remain high into the holiday season.

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency PY23 ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency, as administrator of the Home Energy Assistance Program in Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties, is pleased to announce that funds are available through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to assist income-eligible households with their natural gas, propane, and electric heating bills.

The LIHEAP program began Sept. 1 for all income-eligible households. Applications will be taken on a first-come first-served basis through May 31, 2023, or until funding is exhausted. There will be no priority groups this program year. Households in need are encouraged to apply.

Due to funding limitations, there will be NO NEW enrollments in the PIPP program this year.

Applicants may apply for a Direct Vendor Payments (DVP) which provides a one-time benefit payment for income eligible homeowners and renters to gas or propane and electric vendors to help with home utility bills and for reconnection assistance. Households must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines listed below to receive a benefit from LIHEAP.

Income Guidelines:

| Family Size | 30 Day Income | Family Size | 30 Day Income |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1 | \$2,265 | 6 | \$6,198 |
| 2 | \$3,052 | 7 | \$6,985 |
| 3 | \$3,838 | 8 | \$7,324 |
| 4 | \$4,625 | 9 | \$7,484 |
| 5 | \$5,412 | 10 | \$7,643 |
| | | 11 | \$7,802 |

For more than 11 household members, please add \$590 for each additional person.

Please call the Freeport office at 815-232-3141 or 800-883-1111 to receive information on how to receive a pre-application packet. Completed pre-application packets and required documents listed below may be submitted for processing by mail, email, drop box or fax. Appointments will be made for those needing help with the packet.

**** To submit an application, you MUST submit ALL of the required documents. ****

- Proof of Social Security numbers (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) for all household members. Individuals without an SSN or ITIN can still apply and NICA will advise.
 - Proof of all gross income for all household members for 30 days prior and including the application date such as pay check stubs, SSA/SSI/SSD income, pension/retirement statements, unemployment reports, child support, TANF/AABD/Township GA assistance, self-employment reports and proof of zero income.
 - Complete current heat and electric bills issued within the last 30 days.
 - Copy of current lease if any utilities are included in the rent payment.
- LIHWAP water and sewer bill assistance funding is exhausted.

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency
27 S. State Ave., Suite 102, Freeport, IL 61032
815-232-3141 or 800-883-1111 • www.nicaa.org

Warren's 31st Annual
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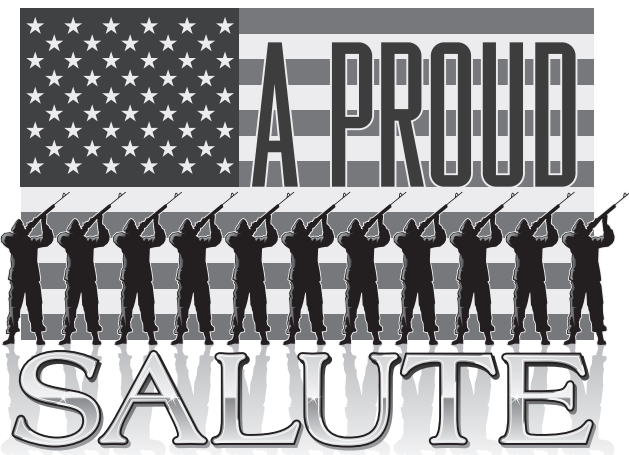
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Winter wellness and holiday treats

The temperatures will soon be dropping, and kids of all ages will be spending more time indoors. Keep them entertained this December with the University of Illinois Extension, and 4-H's *I MADE That* educational cooking kit.

The *December, I MADE That: Winter Wellness and Holiday Treats* educational cooking kit will help them to make the most out of the holiday season by practicing the healthy habits learned this past year while adding a few extras into the mix. They can begin by heading outdoors for a winter scavenger hunt, then warm up inside with one of the yummy holiday treats or another fun activity.

The kits include the *December: I MADE That* booklet, fun activities, and select recipe ingredients to get started. This project is ideal for families to work on together or for youth with cooking experience.

Register your youth now for this fun holiday make-at-home project. Kits are \$5 and will be available for pick-up beginning Dec. 5 at our Extension offices in Jo Daviess, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties.

Register early to reserve your educational kit by calling our office at (815) 235-4125 or visiting us online at go.illinois.edu/jswIMadeThat. The registration deadline is Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022.

Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church announces upcoming events

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL. On Sunday, Nov. 13 at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday Worship Service. The reading will be from Luke 21:5-19.

On Tuesday, Nov. 15 Bible Study group will meet at 11 a.m. Anyone who enjoys learning is welcome to join for frank conversation about scripture and time of prayer. The reading will be from the Book of Leviticus.

On Wednesday, Nov. 16 Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience necessary and new members are always welcome.

Please contact the church office at 815-369-5552 with any questions.

Salem United Church of Christ to host brunch, men's night and more

All are welcome to join for a service led by Pastor Christopher Ham at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 West Salem Road, in Lena on Sunday, Nov. 13 at 10 a.m.

The Wednesday Breakfast Bunch will be meeting Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 8 a.m. at the Beltline Café, 325 West South Street, Freeport, Illinois. All are welcome to join.

On the first Wednesday of each month, Salem United Church of Christ will host Men's Night. On these evenings the men

will meet at the church in fellowship hall on the lower level for a time of visiting and playing games.

For the ladies, on the third Wednesday of each month, the church will offer *Craft-ernoons*. There will be snacks, brief devotional thought, and plenty of time to share projects with one another. Attendees may bring any craft they would like to work on.

For more information on these gatherings, contact salemwingsofjoy@yahoo.com.

Orangeville United Methodist Church welcomes community

This holiday season Orangeville United Methodist Church would like everyone in the community to enjoy a good dinner with friends and family.

On Thursday, Nov. 24 there will be a Community-Wide Thanksgiving Dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church. There is no charge for this dinner, and it will be open to the public. Everyone is welcomed to join.

If unable to attend, meals can be dinner delivered. Carry-out is available by pre-order when possible. Transportation can also be provided if needed.

Please call the Orangeville United Methodist Church office at 815-789-3170 for arrangements, meal orders, or with any questions.

The Methodist Women will host the Harvest Bazaar on Nov. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The bazaar will offer frozen mince-meat, rugs, baked goods, pickles, and more.

Working toward regenerative agriculture

Join Jay Solomon, University of Illinois Extension Natural Resources, Environment, and Energy Educator, and John Strauser, University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension Grassland and Perennial Agriculture Outreach Specialist for this program that will identify ways groups can work together to implement perennial forage agriculture.

This event will take place on Friday, Dec. 9, 2022, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at

the Elizabeth Community Building, HWY 20 W. Elizabeth, IL 61028. Lunch will be provided for all participants. There is no fee to attend this program, but pre-registration is strongly encouraged by December 2 to ensure your meal. To register or for more information visit us online at go.illinois.edu/jsw or call us at 815-858-2273.

To facilitate this discussion, we have invited Grassland 2.0 Project team mem-

bers Laura Paine, Outreach Specialist for Grassworks, Jim Munsch, full-time farmer, and Sarah Lloyd, University of Minnesota Supply Chain Specialist to share their insights

If planning to attend please register at go.illinois.edu/jsw. If reasonable accommodation is needed to attend this program, please call the Extension Office at 815-858-2273. Early requests are strongly encouraged.

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WHITE MEAT TURKEY DINNER | SERVES 10-12 \$199.99
Dinner includes: 10lbs cooked Turkey Breast, 4 lbs Mashed Potatoes, 2 lbs Turkey Gravy, 5 lbs Sage Dressing, 3 lbs Green Bean Casserole, 2 lbs Buttered Corn, 1 lb Fresh Cranberry Relish, 16 Fresh Baked Dinner Rolls, Three 8" Bakery Fresh Pies (Pumpkin or Apple)

HOLIDAY TURKEY FEAST FOR 4 \$74.99
Dinner includes: 4 lbs cooked Turkey Breast, 3 lbs Mashed Potatoes, 1 lb Country Gravy, 3 lbs Sage Dressing, 2 lbs Green Bean Casserole, 10 oz Fresh Cranberry Relish, 6 Fresh Baked Dinner Rolls, One 8" Bakery Fresh Pie (Pumpkin or Apple)

GLAZED HAM FEAST FOR 4 \$59.99
Dinner includes: 2.5 lbs Glazed Baked Pit Ham, 3 lbs Mashed Potatoes, 1 lb Country Gravy, 3 lbs Sage Dressing, 2 lbs Green Bean Casserole, 10 oz Fresh Cranberry Relish, 6 Fresh Baked Dinner Rolls, One 8" Bakery Fresh Pie (Pumpkin or Apple)

BUMP UP SIDES Choose any 3 sides for \$12 when you purchase a Holiday Meal to BUMP IT UP! (1 pound each)
Macaroni & Cheese | Cheesy Potatoes | Escalloped Corn | Au Gratin Potatoes | Sweet Potato Bake | Steamed Vegetables | Bread Pudding | Waldorf Salad | Broccoli Cauliflower Salad | Pea & Cheese Salad | Bread Stuffing | Pumpkin Fluff | Pistachio Fluff | Strawberry Fluff
Order extra Pumpkin or Apple Pies for only \$5.00 each with purchase of any meal.

Order by November 19, 2022!
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FSA encourages farmers and ranchers to vote in County Committee Elections

The 2022 Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections begin on Nov. 7, 2022, when ballots were mailed to eligible voters. The deadline to return the ballots to local FSA offices, or to be postmarked, is Dec. 5, 2022. County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA

and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs; conservation programs; incentive indemnity

and disaster programs for some commodities; emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who

is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm, may also be eligible to vote.

Eligible voters in local administrative area 2, who do not receive a ballot can obtain one from their local USDA Service Center. Local Administrative Area 2 includes Apple River, Warren, Nora, Thompson, Rush, Stockton, and Wards Grove townships.

Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2023. The candidates in this

year's election are:

Amy Beyer is nominated in LAA2, Jo Daviess County, to serve as a committee member for a three-year term. Beyer resides in Warren, has grown up working on her family's dairy farm and she currently produces corn and soybeans with her husband for the last 6 years.

Tim Brinkmeier is nominated in LAA2, Jo Daviess County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Brinkmeier resides in Warren, operating dairy, beef, and hog

production along with producing corn, soybeans, and alfalfa.

Garrett Toay is nominated in LAA2, Jo Daviess County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Toay resides in Stockton, producing corn and soybeans along with feeding 70 head of cattle a year.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2022 fact sheet, can be found on the FSA website at fsa.usda.gov or at a local USDA Service Center.

Around the Northern Hills with Annette Eggers

Do you know a graduating senior or college student? The IAA Foundation just announced the lineup for the 2023 IAA Foundation Scholarships. This includes 100 scholarships totaling \$201,501. We have had several winners from Jo Daviess County in the past, so I would encourage anyone interested to mark Jan. 1 on their calendar so they don't miss this great opportunity.



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

Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau members who purchase a ROPS could receive a reimbursement of \$250 towards the purchase of a ROPS (we have two more available this year). To receive the \$250, members need to bring in their paid invoice to the Farm Bureau office in Elizabeth. Customers are responsible for the cost, freight, and installation which are available through the dealer.

For more information about this program, or to become a member of our organization, contact the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau office at 815-858-2235 or email jdcfbmgr@gmail.com.

Farm fun fact

One bushel of wheat will produce 73 one-pound loaves of bread.

purchase

The Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau would like to offer funds to reimburse farmers for purchasing Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS). Fifty-five percent of farm tractors in Illinois do not have a cab or ROPS. Only one in five victims will survive a tractor rollover accident. The leading cause of farm related deaths in Illinois is tractor rollover accidents.

ROPS help protect farmers and family members from being crushed in the event of a tractor turnover or rollover.

Family farm signs

As we are getting closer to the Christmas season, I've got a great gift idea for that farmer on your list. "This is a Family Farm" signs are the perfect way to show pride in a farm. The signs are 17.5" X 23" and cost \$30. Stop by our office and pick one up.

\$250 towards R.O.P.S.

River Ridge first quarter honor roll

Middle School

4.00+ Nicholas Cobine, Jackson Goldsmith, Chloe Griner, Faith Morhardt, Ella Dittmar, Evalynn Doms, Wesley Haas, Russell Howard, Genevieve Kidwell, Amber Schlarman, Ashlynn Wasmund, Samuel Cobine, Violet Golden, Brogan Grube, Christian Morhardt, Benjamin Schoenfeld

3.50 - 3.999 Janna Barrett, Kaden Bauer, Hamish Boden, Amber Davis, Aletheia Fogle, Piper Golden, Hunter Peck, Alejandra Velazquez, Ashton Velzis, Makenna Wurster, Bria Andrade, Benjamin Blankenbaker, Carson Dodd, Bryson Eganhouse, Clara Gerlich, Bronx Gonzalez, Lane Groezinger, Dalton Kloss, Memphis Marks, Elizabeth Rife, Wyatt Ritchie, Payson Streight, Hayden Bradbury, Frida Carriaga, Hadessa Fogle, Natalie Haas, Luke Holcomb, Frances Howard, Morgan Kloss, Sophia Martinez, Brock Turner, Lucas Wurster

3.00 - 3.499 Sydnie Bertucci, Sully Bower, Elijah Go-

odrich, Allauna Karberg, Natalie Keleher, Jordan Ballard, Anastasia Cross, Aubreanna Diaz, Joseph Frazier, Alexander Grijalva-Marcotte, Garrett Leonard, Bryce Randall, Breck Roche, Alexa Rolwes, Kyla Atutis, Lyla Rae Brotherton, Mackenzie Greenwald, Chase Parker, Johanna Rosenbach, Travis Velazquez

High School

4.00+ Camdyn Bauer, Haven Brotherton, Sophie Buck, Cora Dittmar, Sam Grzeslo, Lauren Kloss, Jamie Schnitzler, Nicholas Schnitzler, Emily Wurster, Enver Ahmedi, Addison Albrecht, Cora Boop, Ruby Dickerson, Avery Engle, Morgan Flynn, Lynnea Groezinger, Lucas Holland, Arthur Horn, Matthew Johnson, Gwendoline Miller, Micaela Miller, Benjamin Richmond, Isaac Rife, Evelyn Walters, Kathryn Cobine, Kayla Diehl, Aizlynn Griffiths, Nathan Haas, Elaina Doms, Sawyer Fry, Samuel Rife, Gracie Schnitzler, Sarah Winter

3.50 - 3.999 Sadie Fry,

Emma Goldsmith, Jackson Ketelsen, Samuel Ries, Cecilia Turner, Millicent Boden, Macey Fulton, Dolan Geerts, Amie Richmond, Cora Ritchie, Ty Spahn, David Buck, Kelly Chapman, Zoe Eisenberg, Brynn Fry, Laiken Haas, Isabella Haring, Lucius Mendenhall, Gracie Vanderheyden, Luna Vivaracho Menendez, Ian Wachter, Devin Bradt, Jaime Miller, Harmony Packard, Kaci Patterson, Leah Spahn, Ryan Tippett

3.00 - 3.499 Cameron Harris, Jordan Havens, Maddox Knauer, Traighton McGovern, Arianna Pedrin, Kelsey Randall, Izak Sample, Bodhi Schulze, Emma Walters, Arianna Bird, Kaytlyn Booras, Katherine Leonard, Hope Mulholland, George Winter, Damon Dittmar, Camden Flack, Jala Haberman, Logan Keleher, Wendy Weimerskirk, Joseph Winter, Bindilene Boop, Brook Bradbury, Zoey Chapman, Joseph Dubord, Ava Ketelsen, Berkeley Mensendike, Matthew Ransom, Avery Rolwes



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•Cash bail (Continued from front page)

The new process will allow a prosecutor to petition the court for pretrial detention and a defendant is given the right to legal representation at their first hearing, with the detention hearing typically taking place within 24 or 48 hours of the first appearance in court.

Will more defendants walk free while awaiting trial because of the new law?

Olson said the research can't predict whether more or fewer people will be jailed while awaiting trial once the PFA takes effect, but the makeup of jail populations is likely to change.

It's likely, researchers found, that lower-level defendants will spend less time in jail, while stays may get longer for those accused of violent crime because they can no longer free themselves on bail.

One study estimated that a judge would not have been able to detain the defendant in 56 percent of arrests that occurred statewide in 2020 and 2021 had the PFA been in place.

But another analysis showed only 19 percent of individuals with pending felony cases were in jail custody while awaiting trial on average from 2017 through 2019, with another 17 percent on electronic monitoring or pretrial supervision.

That means about 64 percent of individuals awaiting trial for felony charges over that timespan were living in the community without any sort of supervision, the study found.

"The important caveat to that, and I think what the law seeks to address, is that they spend some time in jail," Olson said.

"And even if they spent a few days in jail, it's disruptive to their life. And we didn't really achieve anything if we were thinking we were achieving public safety, because we only held them for one or two days before (they posted bond)," Olson added.

Another study of Cook County data showed individuals charged with an offense that would be non-detainable under the PFA paid an average of \$1,646 to be released from jail in 2021.

Individuals who could be held as flight risks under the PFA were required to pay an average of \$4,846, while those detainable as risks to the community under the PFA could pay an average of

\$5,344 for release from jail.

So what are 'detainable' offenses?

Under the PFA, police will maintain discretion to arrest and bring to the station any individual who is charged with a crime and deemed a threat to the public.

What's new is that the law will create a presumption in favor of pretrial release for any individual charged with offenses for which a judge cannot deny pretrial release. That means officers are instructed to cite and release lower-level offenders who, under the officer's discretion, are not deemed a threat to the community.

They would be given instructions to appear in court within 21 days.

Once an individual is arrested, prosecutors may petition the court for pretrial detention. Once a judge receives that petition, their decision to detain would hinge on whether the state has proven "by clear and convincing evidence" that the defendant has committed a detainable offense.

Detainable offenses include non-probationable forcible felonies such as murder, aggravated arson, residential burglary, stalking, domestic battery, offenses where the abuse victim is a family or household member or if the defendant was subject to the terms of an order of protection, gun offenses and several specified sex offenses.

Persons deemed to be "planning or attempting to intentionally evade prosecution" may also be detained pretrial under what is called the "willful flight" standard if they've been charged with a crime greater than a Class 4 felony—such as property crimes, aggravated DUI and driving on a revoked license.

Olson noted the detention standards create a greater likelihood that individuals accused of domestic violence remain in jail

than under current law.

That's one reason domestic violence victim advocacy groups, which helped craft the law, remain among its most ardent supporters.

"When we get to the domestic violence offenses, currently, they are detained to a degree but most post bond within a relatively brief period of time," he said.

"So it may be under the law that more of them stay in pretrial detention for a longer period of time," Olson said.

How is judicial discretion limited by "non-detainable" offenses?

Under the PFA, there are no offenses that would be non-detainable in every circumstance. Even misdemeanors and other low-level offenses can result in detention if the defendant is already on pretrial release, probation or parole.

But for the most part, the law prohibits detention of individuals accused of committing lower-level, non-violent offenses.

Olson used the example of vandalism, criminal trespass where the defendant is not deemed a threat, "someone stealing a six pack of beer," small-amount felony drug possession or low-level retail theft offenses.

There are many levels of nuance to detainability, Olson added. F

or example, he noted, a homeless person who steals a purse might not be detained on robbery charges because it would be difficult to prove them to be a risk of willful flight. But an armed robbery with a firearm would be a detainable offense under the dangerousness standard.

"Most arrests in Illinois are for relatively minor crimes," he said.

"It's not the crimes that get much attention from the media or the public, but most arrests are for relatively minor crimes. And so the idea is divert those

from the formal trappings of this process that take time and resources," Olson explained.

Olson noted judges in many counties will have more options for setting release conditions for all defendants come Jan. 1 when the Illinois Supreme Court launches its Office of Statewide Pretrial Services in about 70 counties that don't currently offer such services.

Pretrial services and supervision can range from sending reminders about court appearances, to mandating monthly check-ins to confirm a defendant's address, to providing transportation, to overseeing individuals placed on electronic monitoring.

Supervision may also include court orders for counseling or treatment programs and requiring face-to-face reporting to a pre-trial service officer.

Why not give judges greater authority to detain all individuals?

A frequent argument against the PFA from prosecutors and Republicans is that the new detainability standards are too limiting for judges.

Some have requested Illinois implement a system similar to one adopted in New Jersey in 2017, which allows judges to detain even for misdemeanor crimes.

They've also argued that the standard for proving willful flight is too high and some sections of the new law are contradictory, creating wider categories of "non-detainable" offenses than the bill's drafters intended.

Olson noted the question

of where to draw the line on judicial discretion is important because of the finality of pretrial detention under the new system.

"Now, the stakes are a lot higher, right?" Olson said.

"The decision to detain is a decision to detain; it's not a wishy-washy on-the-fence of well, 'We're going to hold you but if you can come up with \$1,000, you're free.' This is a decision about freedom. And so I think with that the argument by many is that detention should be more constrained."

By providing lower-level offenders with a citation and scheduling them to appear in court within 21 days, Olson said, the intent of the law is to allow officers to go back to the beat rather than booking an individual, and to allow the courts to spend more time on cases where violence was involved or was likely to be involved.

It's also something that, research has shown, has already been happening more frequently since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

Olson said the first hearing for cited-and-released individuals would be brief and would not focus on an individual's detention, although a judge could set conditions of pretrial release or pretrial supervision.

What could change about the new law before Jan 1?

Judicial discretion is a matter that could be reconsidered when lawmakers return to the Capitol on Nov. 15.

A follow-up bill spon-

sored by former prosecutor and current Democratic Sen. Scott Bennett, of Champaign, would, among other things, widen judicial authority to allow for detention of a defendant charged with any crime if the court believes they are a serious risk of skipping trial, pose a danger to the community, or are likely to threaten a potential witness or juror.


That's a bill that Gov. JB Pritzker has said could be a launching point for discussions as lawmakers consider amendments to the PFA, although he has not endorsed all of its components.

The bill's House sponsor and domestic violence victim advocacy groups have pushed back against that specific provision, arguing that it would overburden the court system and divert resources from more serious cases where a person's freedom is on the line and they're accused of violent crime.

Olson agreed that by expanding detainable individuals from roughly half of those arrested to all individuals entering the system, the intent of the law would be drastically changed by the proposed amendment.

Will those held in lieu of bail on Jan. 1 be freed under the PFA?

Nothing in the bill says that will happen, although opponents of the PFA have cited its silence on the matter as a point of concern. Pritzker said he would like it made explicit in a follow-up bill that individuals held in lieu of bail when the bill takes effect will not be released.




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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

The Halloween trick or treaters were once again in full force on our streets. They were sure darn cute. The night was warm, and it was easy to give out candy. Halloween ended October with beautiful weather. November's first week was just as great. This week we are featuring some recipes to get us ready for the special holiday of Thanksgiving. Enjoy cooking with some great recipes.

Classic Roka Cheese Ball

I have a cheddar cheese ball made with one the Kraft cheese spreads. If you can't find the Roka blue cheese Kraft spread, this appetizer is a great one to serve for the holidays.

- ½ lb. (8 oz.) Velveeta cut into ½-inch cubes
 - 1 jar (5 oz.) Kraft Blue Cheese Spread
 - 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese softened
 - ½ t. garlic powder
 - ¼ C. chopped pecans
 - ¼ C. dried cranberries
- Mix the Velveeta, Blue Cheese spread, and cream cheese until well blended. Refrigerate for 2 hours. Shape into a ball and coat with pecans and cranberries. Serve with crackers.

My Melted Cabbage

Doris Burton sent this simple cabbage recipe that she loves to serve with cheese ravioli. It is easy to make and tastes delicious. Thanks, Doris, for sharing.

- ½ head of cabbage, sliced
- 1 medium red onion, sliced
- 5 pats of butter
- ½ t. fennel seed
- 1 t. salt
- ½ t. pepper

In a large, uncovered pan on medium heat, melt butter. Add onion and cabbage. Season with fennel, salt, and pepper. Stir often. It takes about 10 minutes to cook until nicely softened, but cabbage still has a little crunch. Doris serves this with cheese ravioli. She cooks the ravioli according to package directions, puts the ravioli on a plate and sprinkles with cheese and tops the dish with her cabbage.

Everything Spice Roasted Cauliflower

One of my friends used to make a delicious roasted cau-

liflower vegetable dish that is a lot like this one. The seasoning is "Everything Bagel Seasoning." You can get it at most grocery stores in the area. It is a great way to serve a nontraditional side for the holidays.

- 2 t. salt
- 1 large head cauliflower
- 2 T. unsalted butter, melted
- ¼ t. garlic salt
- ½ C. mayonnaise
- 3 T. Everything Bagel Seasoning

1 t. crushed red pepper
Preheat oven to 350. In a large skillet, pour water to a depth of ½ inch; add salt, and bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Add cauliflower, stem side down; cover skillet with foil. Cook until cauliflower is just tender, about 8 minutes. Remove cauliflower and let drain, stem side down on a wire rack for 15 minutes. Wipe skillet dry.

In a small bowl, stir together melted butter and garlic salt. Slowly drizzle butter mixture into center of cauliflower. Place whole cauliflower stem side down in the same skillet. Spread mayonnaise all over cauliflower; sprinkle the bagel seasoning and red pepper all over the cauliflower. Bake for 30 minutes. Rotate skillet in oven; bake until golden brown and a knife inserted in center of cauliflower comes out easily, 5 to 8 minutes more.

Two Potato Gratin

If you are looking for a good side dish for Thanksgiving, this two-potato dish will fill the bill for both white and sweet potatoes. You can assemble it the day before and cook it the morning of the big celebration. It will go with turkey, chicken, ham, or beef.

- 5 T. unsalted butter, softened and divided
- ½ lbs. Yukon gold potatoes, peeled
- ½ lbs. sweet potatoes peeled and halved lengthwise
- ¾ C. heavy whipping cream
- ½ C. minced garlic
- 1 T. chopped fresh sage
- 1 t. chopped fresh thyme

- ½ t. pepper
- ¼ t. ground nutmeg
- 1 C. shredded Gruyere cheese
- ½ C. shredded Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 400. Spread 1 T. butter on bottom and up sides of an 11 x 8 baking dish; place on a rimmed baking sheet. Fill a large bowl with cold water. Using a mandolin or very sharp knife, carefully cut potatoes crosswise into 1/8-inch-thick slices. Add potatoes to bowl of cold water as you work. Drain potatoes well, and pat dry. Layer half of potatoes in bottom of prepared pan as desired.

In a medium saucepan, heat cream, garlic, sage, salt, thyme, pepper, nutmeg and remaining 4 T. butter over medium heat just until bubbles form around the sides of the pan. Do not boil. Gradually pour half of cream mixture all over potatoes in pan; sprinkle with half of Gruyere. Repeat layers with remaining potatoes, remaining cream mixture, and remaining Gruyere. Sprinkle with Parmesan.

Spray a piece of foil with cooking spray; cover pan with foil; spray side down. Using a wooden pick, poke several holes in top of foil. Bake for 40 minutes. Uncover and bake until potatoes are tender, and sauce is golden brown and bubbly, 25 to 30 minutes more, re-covering with foil to prevent excess browning if necessary. Let stand for 30 minutes.

Harvest Pork Roast

This delicious pork roast is even better with the addition of squash and apples. If you add the cranberries, you have a colorful meat dish for any meal.

- 1 boneless pork loin roast (4 lbs)
- 1 T. plus ¼ C. olive oil
- 1 t. salt
- ½ t. pepper
- 3 garlic cloves, peeled and sliced
- 1 butternut squash (3 to 4 lbs.)
- 4 large apples, peeled and

each cut into 8 wedges
1 C. dried cranberries
½ C. packed brown sugar
Preheat oven to 350. Rub pork with 1 T. olive oil; sprinkle with salt and pepper. In a large skillet over medium-high heat, sear pork until browned on all sides, 7 to 9 minutes. Place in a roasting pan; top with garlic. And cover; place in oven. Toss squash, apples, berries, brown sugar and remaining olive oil.

Remove pork from oven after 30 minutes; add squash mixture. Return to oven and roast uncovered 40 to 50 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before slicing. Drizzle pork with pan juices after slicing. Serve with roasted squash mixture.

Pumpkin Layer Cake

If you are looking for a beautiful Thanksgiving pumpkin dessert, this layer cake will make everyone happy. Put it on a cake stand and it makes for a great table decoration. The cream cheese frosting finishes off this tasty dessert.

- 3 C. flour, plus more for dusting
- 2 t. baking soda
- 1½ t. pumpkin pie spice
- ½ t. salt
- 1½ C. sugar
- ½ C. packed light brown sugar
- 1 C. oil
- 3 eggs at room temperature
- 1 T. vanilla
- 1 can (15 oz.) pure pumpkin

Frosting

- 2 pkg. (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened
- 10 T. butter, softened
- 1 T. vanilla
- 6 C. powdered sugar

Preheat the oven to 350. Coat two 9-inch round cake pans with cooking spray and dust with flour. In a separate bowl, whisk the flour, baking soda, pie spice, and salt; set aside. Combine the sugars and oil in a large bowl and beat with a mixer on medium spread until combined, about 2 minutes. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Mix in the va-

nilla. Add the flour mixture in 3 batches, alternating with the pumpkin in 2 batches, mixing between each addition until the batter is smooth.

Divide the batter between the cake pans. Tap the pans on the counter 8 to 10 times to remove any air bubbles. Bake the cakes until a toothpick inserted into the centers comes out clean, 30 to 35 minutes. Let cool in the pans for 15 minutes. Remove the cakes to a rack and let cool completely.

Frosting: beat the cream cheese, butter, and vanilla in a large bowl with a mixer on medium speed until smooth and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Beat in the powdered sugar, 1 cup at a time, until smooth, about 3 minutes. If the tops of the cakes are domed, trim them with a long-serrated knife to make them level. Place 1 cake on a plate stand or platter. Spread with about 2 C. frosting on first layer and spread over top. Place the second layer on top and spread the remaining frosting over the top and sides of the cake.

Final Thoughts

I mentioned at the beginning of this column that we had a lot of children on our street for Halloween. The Village of Lena closed the streets of Mason and Oak. It was great because no one had to worry about cars, trucks, and any other motorized vehicles. The many kids on those two streets had a great time just being kids. I was so impressed with how well behaved they were and the parents that were with them. Almost every one of

them said thank you for their candy. We have hope for the future. I would also like to add that although the costumes were great, I am out of the loop as to what was "in" for the many characters depicted. Thanks to my helper who was a real trooper handing out hundreds of pieces of candy. We are looking forward to next year.

I am looking forward to the Beef and Noodle dinner which I will be eating on the day the paper comes out. Hats off to all those wonderful noodle makers who use their talents to feed so many of us. I am so glad we are able to have it once again. If you are planning on having a traditional turkey dinner this year, I hear every day about the price of turkeys and all the fixings. We must decide if we want to go with tradition or do something different this year. I have a friend whose family is scattered and will be there on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. They are planning on pizza. It doesn't really matter what we eat, we just are grateful to be together.

If you are doing some fall cooking and if you have some good vegetable, apple, or pumpkin recipes for the season, send them our way. If you have some good Thanksgiving dishes, we would like you to share them. Or if you have enjoyed this column for many years, let me know that too. You can contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, Shopper's Guide at 240 W. Main St. or email us at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.



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Mountain lions on the move through Illinois, not here to stay

Mountain lions have been on the move this fall with two confirmed sightings of animals in northern and central Illinois. Large predators occasionally pass through Illinois but are not here to stay.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources reported on Oct. 17 that a mountain lion, also known as cougars, had been struck and killed by a vehicle on I-88 in Dekalb County.

Another young male mountain lion was tranquilized by the IDNR on Oct. 28 on the western edge of Springfield and relocated to a sanctuary in Indiana.

Officials had been tracking its movements through a GPS collar that was attached last fall by researchers in Nebraska.

Mountain lions are protected and it is unlawful to hunt, kill or harass them unless they pose an imminent

threat to a person or property, which is rare.

Black bears, wolves, and cougars are rare but not unheard of in Illinois. These large predators were extirpated from Illinois in the late 1800s as natural habitats changed and white-tailed deer were hunted nearly to extinction in the Midwest. The big cats have regularly reappeared over the past few decades, with many sightings coming from the increased public use of trail cameras.

"These animals periodically wander into our state which is exciting, but most of Illinois does not have the habitat to support populations so they will continue to move on," says Peggy Doty, University of Illinois Extension natural resources,

environment, and energy educator.

Doty recently led a program, available at go.illinois.edu/ILLargepredators, about the return of apex predators exploring behaviors, ranges, and identification.

Mountain lions, also known as cougars and pumas, were historically found across North America but are now primarily in the western states.

Young male mountain lions wander large distances as they look for a forested territory of their own. Their minimum home range is about 70 square miles.

DNA testing of cougars previously found in Illinois showed they were originally from the Black Hills in South Dakota.

"Apex predators are cru-

cial to maintaining the overall health of natural systems," Doty says. "Illinois now has a large population of white-tailed deer due in part to the lack of predators."

While predators are an important part of the ecosystem and research from the Illinois Natural History Survey shows people in Illinois have a neutral stance on their recolonization, Doty says there are no plans to reintroduce them to the state.

Illinois does not have sufficient habitat to support stable populations of these large predators. Southern Illinois has the most contiguous forest in the state but still could not support many mountain lions, says Joy O'Keefe, University of Illinois Natural Resources and

Environmental Sciences Assistant Professor and Extension wildlife specialist.

To coexist with large cats and other predators is a matter of tolerating them during the periods when they visit our state.

"We'll need to learn how to live with them during the periods when they move through - adopting anti-predator behaviors, such as keeping pets and children indoors or under supervision if near locations where the animals are seen," O'Keefe says.

The public can report wildlife sightings at www.wildlifeillinois.org/sightings. More information about mountain lions is also available on the Wildlife Illinois website at www.wildlifeillinois.org.

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VILLAGE OF LENA REQUEST FOR BIDS

Bids are invited for removal of trees within the village limits.

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The closing date for receipt of sealed bids at Village Hall is 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 23.

The bids will be discussed at the Monday, Nov. 28 Committee of the Whole meeting at 6 p.m. at Village Hall. Bidders need not be present.

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Madigan, McClain enter not guilty pleas

23-count indictment alleges bribery schemes involving ComEd, AT&T

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
Former Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan and his longtime political ally Michael McClain entered not guilty pleas last week to bribery and corruption charges involving utility giant Commonwealth Edison and telecommunications company AT&T Illinois.

Both were charged previously in the ComEd scandal, but federal prosecutors last month added new charges involving AT&T after that company entered a deferred prosecution agreement and agreed to pay a \$23 million fine.

ComEd entered a similar agreement in July 2020 and agreed to pay a \$200 million fine.

In those agreements, the companies admitted they engaged in yearslong schemes to influence Madigan by making payments or awarding jobs and contracts to his associates in exchange for favorable legis-

lation. In the case of AT&T, the alleged payments to a Madigan associate were aimed at influencing Madigan to support passage of a 2017 "carrier of last resort," or COLR, bill that gives the company the opportunity to opt out of a requirement that it offer landline service to any customer in its service territory who requests it, if approved by the Federal Communications Commission.

In the case of ComEd, that involved the 2011 Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act, which established a formula-based system of setting utility rates that effectively bypassed the Illinois Commerce Commission. It also involved the 2016 Future Energy Jobs Act, which, among other things, provided ratepayer-funded subsidies to two nuclear power plants owned by ComEd's parent company Exelon.

The 23-count indictment, which was unsealed Oct. 14, charges both men with multiple counts of bribery, racketeering, wire fraud and use of interstate commerce facilities to carry out illegal activity.

Both Madigan and McClain waived their rights to appear at the arraignment, which was conducted by teleconference in federal court in Chicago.

Their not guilty pleas were entered by their attorneys.

Madigan has consistently denied any wrongdoing, saying the alleged bribes had no influence on his legislative decisions, and he has defended the utility legislation as good public policy.

His arraignment came exactly one week before the Nov. 8 general election in which Re-

publicans are hoping to make gains in the General Assembly by tying Democratic incumbents to the so-called "Madigan Machine."

During a news conference following the arraignment, House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, R-Western Springs, wouldn't predict how many

seats, if any, Republicans stand to gain in the election, but he said there needs to be an effective check against Democratic power in the General Assembly.

"Our caucus is working very hard, but Illinoisans need a balance of power," he said. "They need to see some type of, you

know, checks and balances in the House of Representatives."

Editor's note: This story has been updated to more accurately reflect the nature of AT&T's admitted attempts to influence and reward former House Speaker Michael Madigan in exchange for favorable legislation.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JO DAVIESS COUNTY - GALENA, ILLINOIS Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Trustee of Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust F PLAINTIFF Vs. Annette L. Rowan; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants DEFENDANTS 2022FC67

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU: Annette L. Rowan Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit: COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2895 W Cording Rd Galena, IL 61036 and which said Mortgage was made by: Annette L. Rowan Donald J. Rowan the Mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Jo Daviess County, Illinois, as Document No. 402115; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court, Kathy Phillips Clerk of the Circuit Court Jo Daviess County Courthouse

330 N. Bench Street Galena, IL 61036 on or before December 9, 2022, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 DuPage # 15170 Winnebago # 531 Our File No. 14-22-06097

NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector. 13206707

(Published in The Scoop Today Nov. 9, 16 & 23, 2022) 428040 STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY IN PROBATE In Re the Matter of the Estate of: Betty J. Duray, Deceased.

No. 22-PR-89 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS Notice is given of the death of Betty J. Duray, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on October 27, 2022, to: Ronnie L. Pohl 11754 N. Gobeli Rd. Winslow, IL 61089 AND Jody R. Miller 1225 5th St. Monroe, WI 53566 as independent co-Executors of the Estate of Betty J. Duray, whose attorney is Anthony V. Coon Attorney At Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210

Freeport, IL 61032 The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless, under Section 28.4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4), any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a Petition To Terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032, or with the representative(s), or both, on or before May 19, 2023. Any claim not filed on or before said date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative(s) and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e filing, visit <http://illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office

Date: October 31, 2022 Ronnie L. Pohl & Jody R. Miller, Co-Executors By: Anthony V. Coon Anthony V. Coon, #6269568 Attorney At Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210 Freeport, IL 61032 815-235-2212 Fax 815-232-5500 tonycoonlaw@aol.com (Published in The Shopper's Guide Nov. 9, 16 & 23, 2022) 427862

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: JON PAUL LORENZ, Deceased.

CASE NO. 2022 PR 53 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of JON PAUL LORENZ, of Rockford, County of Winnebago, and State of Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on SEPTEMBER 13, 2022 to KRISTA LORENZ as Administrator. KRISTA LORENZ's attorney is VELLA & LUND, P.C., by ANDREW VELLA, 401 West State Street, Suite 300, Rockford, Illinois, 61101.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at STEPHENSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Probate Division, 15 N. Galena Ave., Freeport, IL or with the representatives, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first date of Publication and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

KRISTA LORENZ, Administrator By: Andrew Vella, ANDREW VELLA, her attorney ROGER B. KELLERMAN ARDC No. 6229559 VELLA & LUND, P.C. 401 West State Street, Suite 300 Rockford, Illinois (815) 965-7979 Email: vellalundlaw@yahoo.com (Published in The Shopper's Guide Nov. 9, 16 & 23, 2022) 427972



PUBLIC NOTICE
PEARL CITY PARK DISTRICT

The Pearl City Park District has the following vacancies for the upcoming Consolidated Election on April 4, 2023

Two (2) Commissioners 6 year term

One (1) Commissioner 6 year unexpired term, expires 2027

Candidates may obtain petition packets by calling Kris Visel, the Park District's secretary, at 815-297-3817

The Park District petition must be filed with Kris Visel no earlier than Monday, Dec. 12, and no later than Monday, Dec. 19.

426867

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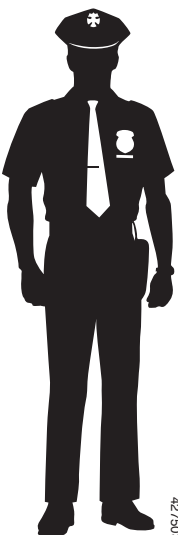
JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Village of Lena will be accepting applications for Illinois Certified part-time police officers.

A background check and an oral interview will be given prior to consideration for employment with the Village of Lena. All applicants must be able to perform normal police duties daily. You will not be considered for employment if you have had any felony convictions, DUI or any domestic battery or similar offenses. Eligible applicants will be notified to schedule an in-person interview.

Applications can be picked up at Village Hall in Lena (122 E Main St, Lena, IL). To have an application emailed, please call 815-369-4016. All applications must be turned in to Village Hall by Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 4:30 p.m.

The Village of Lena is an equal opportunity employer.



427526

Pearl City Park District Recreation Director

The Pearl City Park District has an opening for a Recreation Director to oversee and grow the park's programs. The ideal candidate will be a self-starter interested in growing with the park and growing the park's reach in the community. We are looking for someone who is energetic and engaging as well as detailed and imaginative.

The duties include but are not limited to: Managing reservations for rentals of our facilities, Working with the coordinators of our various leagues and activities to manage schedules, taking payments, and other related tasks, Working with other community groups to increase the park's offerings, General cleaning of park facilities, Reporting to maintenance staff any items that need to be repaired, Purchase and manage supplies for the park, Monitor the park's FOB access and security camera systems, Attend park board meetings and provide monthly reports

A qualified candidate will have the following attributes: Self-motivated/self-starter, Basic level abilities with office computing and software, Good people skills, particularly dealing with the public as well as with children, Be excited to create new programs and opportunities for our taxpayers to enjoy our parks, Basic mechanical and maintenance abilities a plus

This is a part-time position with full-time potential.

The right candidate will earn more hours by creating more events, programs, and activities for the park. This is an ideal position for someone who loves being involved in their community and loves the opportunity to grow with a job.

Please send resume to

Pearl City Park District, P.O. Box 244, Pearl City, IL 61062

427962

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386158



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pearl City students in Ms. Boyer's High School Spanish class spent some time with the Pearl City Kindergarten students to teach them about Day of the Dead, a Mexican holiday and celebration. The high school students did a writing activity and decorated skull cookies with the elementary students.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Mr. Allen's kindergarten students spent the week working on a S.T.E.M. project. The students were to make a bridge from basic materials that could hold weight and withstand wind forces. Jordan, Anabelle, and Julian worked together to get their bridge ready for the test. Their bridge passed!



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Dylan Olvera helps Amalia Caswell on her classroom Project in Mrs. Bunker's kindergarten room as part of their Day of the Dead project.

Pearl City School news



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Aubrianna Mefford helps her sister Cora Pickard during buddy reading time in Mrs. Merboth's first grade class.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pearl City first graders from Mrs. Merboth's room read their books to their sixth-grade buddies from Mrs. Rauch and Mrs. Scott's rooms. The students loved reading to the older students and showing off their abilities. Lucy Voss helps Riley Rauch read through her story.

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