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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1, 2023

Next generation of livestock leaders gain hands-on skills at youth conference



The next generation of livestock leaders gained hands-on experience in the livestock field at this year's Illinois 4-H Junior Livestock Conference held Jan. 21 and Jan. 22 at the Decatur Hotel and Conference Center. Attendees included 100 youth from 50 counties across Illinois, with youth members of the 4-H Livestock Ambassador Team helping to plan and execute this learning experience aimed at 7th, 8th, and 9th graders. This year's conference theme was "Livestock in Paradise."

Cody Noller, Stockton, and Brogan Keltner, Pearl City, attended. "It was such a fun experience creating new friends and learning new skills of

the livestock industry," says Brogan Keltner. Teen leaders were excited to share their knowledge and skills with the youth who will follow in their footsteps as they shape their paths in the livestock industry.

Attendees participated in "Glove-Up Sessions" throughout the conference, which allowed them to work hands-on in various skills, such as giving injections, wound suturing, product quality, marketing, and more. The event focused on education and created great opportunities to build camaraderie and a sense of teamwork around a shared passion for the livestock industry.

Warriors pick up sixteenth win with victories over Orangeville and Stockton

By Trenten Scheidegger
 CORRESPONDENT

The Warren Warriors have been on a tear as of late as they recently went on a seven-game winning streak. The streak included a 67-54 victory over Orangeville and a 54-49 overtime win over the Stockton Blackhawks.

On Monday, Jan. 23 the Warriors were ready to tip off a new week as they traveled to Orangeville to face off with the Broncos, who were winless at the time. The Warriors' winning streak stood

at five games with a hope of making it six as long as they could avoid an upset loss to the Broncos.

The Warriors wasted little time getting to work as the offense was efficient in the first quarter. Treyton Pafford went off for nine points in the opening quarter alone. Reed McNutt had a pair of early baskets and Tyler VenHuizen sunk a first quarter three-pointer. Warren would take a 19-8 lead into the second quarter.

See WARREN, Page 8

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing
 Cody Noller and Brogan Keltner enjoyed their action-packed weekend at the Jr. Livestock Conference in Decatur, IL.

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Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing January 2023 winners

The Northwest Illinois Daily (a cooperative fundraiser) announces its January winners. The Daily Drawing is a drawing for 365 daily cash prizes from Oct. 1, 2022, to Sept. 30, 2023 to those donating for a ticket. Over \$21,000 is paid out to ticket holders during the drawing year. Cash prizes vary between \$50 and \$250. A ticket may win multiple times as each ticket remains in the drawing each day for the entire year, no matter how often it may be drawn.

\$150 – Terry Wienen

\$50 – Chuck Travis
 \$50 – Nora Murphy
 \$50 – Madelyn Wilkinson
 \$50 – Mike Knautz
 \$50 – Brittany Venhmeier
 \$50 – Joe Flies
 \$50 – Ken Whitmer
 \$50 – Gary Sterk
 \$50 – Arlene Groezinger
 \$50 – Debbie Schmidt
 \$50 – Michelle Bennett
 \$50 – Todd O'Dell
 \$50 – Laura Sindahl
 \$50 – Sandi Ertmer
 \$150 – Lucy Heller

\$50 – Dan Bergman
 \$50 – Renee Montgomery
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 \$50 – Mindy Dalgarn
 \$50 – Ed Ziarko
 \$50 – Megan Spahr
 \$50 – Ruth Bussan
 \$50 – Angela Behlke
 \$50 – Chad Bremmer
 \$50 – Jeri Strohecker

Church news

St. John's Lutheran

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany on Feb. 5. A Worship Service with Holy Communion will begin at 9 a.m. with Pastor Michelle Knight presiding. The service will be available on Livestream on the St. John's Pearl City Facebook Page. Sunday School will be held during church. Baptism and new members will be received during the church service with a reception will follow. Confirmation will be held at 5:30 p.m. with supper and lessons to follow in the youth room. Dominos will be held on Feb. 7 at 9 a.m. in Luther Hall. All are welcome to come for a fun morning of dominoes and fellowship.

Healthy Wolves Backpack has been a weekly ministry of St. John's since April of last year. Backpacks are filled with food and taken to the Pearl City school every Friday. The backpacks are sent home with

families for the weekend so that adequate nutrition can be provided for children over the weekend. The families then return the backpack, and they are refilled to be sent home for the next weekend. We currently are serving 41 children through this program. Backpacks are assembled Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. in the upstairs youth kitchen. Anyone in the community is invited to help. Visit the St. John's Lutheran Church website for more information on how to volunteer.

St. John's will serve a free community Grace Meal on Feb. 19. The menu will be chili and corn bread with honey. The meal will be served curbside pick-up for reservations and delivery will be available to shut-ins and homebound of the Pearl City community. Meals must be ordered by Feb. 16 by calling the church office at 815-443-2215 and leaving a message.

St. John's Lutheran Church of Pearl City is located at 229

S. First St., in Pearl City. If you need to contact the pastor or church, you may call 815-443-2215 for information.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL. on Sunday, Feb. 5 at 9:30 a.m. for Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Service. The reading will be from Matthew 5:13-20.

On Monday, Feb. 6 Good Shepherd will be offering CPR classes at 6:30 p.m. The cost will be \$20 per person and a sign-up sheet is available at the church or sign up by calling the church office.

On Wednesday, Feb. 8 Peace Corps Quilting Group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience necessary and all are welcome to attend.

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

will be followed for gathering. For the safety for everyone, it is encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing inside the building.

Evangelical Free Church of Lena

Lenten musical services will be offered for seven weeks during Lent. The following will be held at 11a.m. at the Evangelical Free Church of Lena:

Feb 22 – No Worries Band
 March 1 – Deb Leininger
 March 8 – Butler's Duo
 March 15 – Gone Fishin'
 March 22 – Tyger Johnson
 March 29 – Steven Sheffey
 April 5 – Glenda Linneman

Stockton Concerned Women for America

The Concerned Women for America, Stockton Group, will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 2 p.m. at Calvary Church in Stockton. All are welcome to join. Please contact Carol Rowe at 815-947-2122 or Pam Hess at 815-291-6241 with any questions or if in need of a ride.

A Prayer Drive is also held on the first Monday of each month starting at 2 p.m. in Stockton. Those interested meet at the village parking lot by the ambulance building on Queen Street and carpool around town, covering the town in roughly 60 minutes. This month's drive will take place on Feb. 6

News briefs

Solar energy panel discussion

The Northwest Illinois Forestry Association (NIFA) will host a discussion of solar energy options for homeowners and businesses on Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. at the Stockton Public Library. NIFA has invited three vendors to provide information on installation logistics and needs as well as available financial assistance including grants. In addition, several homeowners will discuss their experiences with solar energy collection systems. Audience questions will be entertained following the discussion.

The Stockton Public Library is located at 140 W. Benton Ave. This meeting is free and open to the public.

Beef Association scholarship

The Jo Daviess Beef Association is excited to announce the release of their 2023 scholarship for students in Jo Daviess County seeking education in the agricultural industry. To obtain an application contact your high school counselor, FFA Advisor, the Farm Bureau office, or the Jo Daviess Extension office. Please contact Karen Koester at 815-275-3083 for further information. Applications must be received by the association scholarship committee by April 1, 2023.

Genealogy group discussion

Green County Genealogical Society (GCGS) will hold its monthly meeting Saturday, Feb. 4 at the Monroe Public Library at 10 a.m. The group discussion and program are "Who, what, where are you in your genealogy?"

A short business meeting will be held preceding the program. The meeting will be held in the second-floor meeting room of the Monroe Public Library at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 4. Visitors are always welcome and there is

no cost to attend. Call Donna at 608-921-1537 or Ginny at 608-426-1796 with any questions.

Discovery Center to celebrate Black culture

Celebrate Black achievements in history, science, art, and sports with Discovery Center on Saturday, Feb. 4 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Guest can learn about Black scientists through hands-on experiments, discover educational displays throughout the museum, contribute to a collaborative art project which will be on display all month, and more. All are activities included with admission: \$10/Adult; \$10/Child; Free to Members and all children ages one and younger. Sponsored by Collins Aerospace.

Lena American Legion

The February meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at the Lena American Legion Home at 6:30 p.m. Delegates will be selected to American Legion Auxiliary Illini Girls State, and attendees will make tray favors for the hospitalized veterans. Dues will be collected. New members are always welcome. Kathy Pignato and Shiloh Bausman oversee the social hour. Junior members will meet on Feb. 11 at 10 a.m. at the American Legion Home to work on patches and a service project.

Stockton Comm. Choir

The Stockton Community Choir invites anyone who loves to sing to come and join in on preparing an Easter Cantata "Come to the Cross and Remember" by Pepper Choplin. Rehearsals will begin on Feb. 2 at 8 p.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church. Rehearsals are one hour long. The Cantata will be performed on April 2 at 6 p.m. to the public for a free will offering. The Cantata is under the direction of Lana Crandall. All are welcome.

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Pi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International provides books to local classrooms

Pi Chapter is honored to be awarded a Delta Kappa Gamma (Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies, Inc.) grant to support the 2023 "It's All About Books" project for the fourth year. In 2019 Mary Stayner succeeded in getting the first grant with the support of the foundation so the chapter could continue to provide books to the classrooms in the Jo Daviess and Carroll County schools.

The Literacy Committee personally contacted each teacher to gain their insight and/or request of books to either support their reading program, novel studies, or enhance their classroom libraries. Last year, books were provided to 19 third grade classrooms, totaling over 750 books donated. The teachers and children were both excited to receive the carefully selected books.

This year Jane Yoder was instrumental in getting the grant. The project will be providing books to all second graders in Jo Daviess and Carroll counties schools. Once again, the books can either be recommended by the classroom teachers to enhance their curriculum or books that the Pi Chapter deems appropriate for second grade if teacher requests are not submitted. In addition to the funds provided by Lambda State Delta Kappa Gamma Illinois State Organization, Pi Chapter sponsors fund raisers to be able to provide the classrooms with as many titles as possible. This project is a blessing to so many students and teachers, as well as the Pi Chapter members.

University of Illinois Extension events

Getting Started with Grazing course offered

Join University of Illinois Extension for the second topic in the "Livestock Production and Principles for Beginners Webinar Series." Doug Gucker, Ag and Natural Resources Extension Educator, will discuss "Getting Started with Grazing" on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. This program is being offered as a Zoom webinar and is at no cost to participants. Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, Feb. 22, to receive the Zoom link. To register or for more information on the program please visit go.illinois.edu/jsw or call 815-235-4125.

This presentation will be a basic overview for those looking to get started in grazing. During the presentation, Doug will cover the basics of grazing for the beginner. Specific topics that will be discussed include fencing needs,

pasture plant species, optimal grazing height, and seasonal pasture plant growth. Also being discussed are how to estimate the number of animals your pasture will support for the grazing season and different types of grazing management and what might best fit your operation.

Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit

The University of Illinois Extension is pleased to announce the fifth annual Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit that will be held at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau Building, 210 W. Spring Street, Freeport, IL on Tuesday, Feb. 14. The program will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch provided. This year's conference will feature University of Illinois and University of Wisconsin-Madison specialists discussing research-based, agronomic strategies that will help crop producers make informed de-

isions for the next growing season.

The morning will start with Phillip Alberti, Research Program Manager, UW-Madison, discussing the *Midwestern Hemp Database: Using Data to Select Compliant Industrial (Grain/Fiber) Hemp Cultivars*. Next, *Tillage Economics- the true cost of tillage in 2022*, will be addressed by Dan Smith, Nutrient and Pest Management Specialist, UW-Madison. Following lunch, Nick Seiter, Field Crops Entomologist, U of I Extension, will talk about *Insect management in corn and soybeans*. To round out the day, *Agronom-*

ics of crop production - focus on the fundamentals will be discussed by Giovanni Preza Fontes, Field Crops Agronomist, U of I Extension.

Registration is required to attend the Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit and can be completed by completed online at go.illinois.edu/jsw or by calling the U of I Extension at 815-235-4125. Registration cost is \$15 per person. If you a reasonable accommodation is needed to participate in either program, please contact the Extension Office. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow enough time to meet individual needs.



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 paycheck 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.

There is no more funding for LIHWAP water and sewer bill assistance.

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

College news

Local students make

Dean's List

Aurora University

Abigail Weber

Kamryn Cain

Katie Wright

Jenna Bidlingmaier

Thomas Gorgosz (graduate)

Bradley University

Miah Stiefel

University of Northern Iowa

Kamron Klever

Allyson Milder

Jenna Zeal

Mount Mercy University

Andrew Lorig

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Madison Cahoon

Elizabeth Eden

University of Dubuque

Cameron Kent

Caden Albrecht

Bryton Engle

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OPINION



Slices of life Sun and shade



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

I've always loved gardening. No, I'm going to take that a step further: I've always loved growing things.

Growing things—as in flowers, vegetables, friendships, babies and kids, this column, faith, my marriage, knowledge, compassion, kindness and most importantly love. And more, of course. There is always more to grow.

I've learned many insider tips and tricks about growing things over the years. Today I realized I'm still learning.

I'm in a new climate and meeting new neighbors. That's a scenario ripe for learning potential.

This morning I was talking with a neighbor. She has numerous plants in her yard that are common in this region, but completely new to me. I asked her about a couple—whether they liked sun or shade, water requirements, whether they were finicky or easy to grow, and so on.

"Oh, honey," she said. "I just plant them. If they grow, they grow. If they don't, they weren't meant for my yard. They have to be happy to be here."

I thought that was insightful and wise.

In my last house I had a large garden plot filled with shade. The owners before me planted roses. Rose plants thrive on sun and temperate winters. I had neither.

However, I did have an ample supply of small children at the time, which prevented me from treating my roses with the TLC they needed to survive in my yard.

So they perished. At the time, I thought: Any plant can grow in the sun. It takes something special to grow in the shade.

I replaced the roses with hostas. Hostas are a common perennial in the cool, dark climates that favor them, but apparently, they aren't as widespread as I thought. My autocorrect wants to change the word to "hostess," so apparently, they haven't even made their way into some dictionaries.

For those unfamiliar, hostas are sort of leafy northern versions of large-leaved tropical plants. They typically grow in a round mound, with leaves flowing outward. They can be as

small as six inches in diameter or as large as 6 feet—and just as tall (or short). Cultivars have come up with hundreds (and probably thousands) of named varieties. I believe I had close to 40 or 50 different strains in my backyard.

It took years to build, and was one of the hardest things for me to leave when I sold my house.

But, there were other gardens to grow.

I moved from a plot of ever-present shade and ever-present winter (or so it seemed) to ever-present sun and ever-present warmth. I've looked around and there isn't a hosta to be found in my new environment.

Apparently growing hostas in my yard now would be akin to growing roses in my old plot. With that comes the realization: Not every plant likes the shade. It takes something special to grow in the sun.

Herein lies the wisdom of my new neighbor. Not everything can grow everywhere. Plants have to be happy in their environment. You can try forcing them, like the people who planted the roses at my old house, but it's always going to be a battle against nature—against the order of things.

The same goes for people. Sometimes we find the right amount of shade and cool temperatures; other times we seek the sun. Both are good. Both can be good.

Bottom line, we all get to figure out where we grow best. When it's time to put down roots and when it's time to replant and regrow—sunshine or shade or maybe even a little of both.

I'm not sure where that will take me, but for now, right here seems right, but I'm still learning. I hope I never stop.

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.

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We reserve the right to edit a letter for reasons of clarity, space restrictions and libel.

Senator Chesney co-sponsors legislation rejecting progressive income tax

State Senator Andrew Chesney (R-Freeport) stood with his Senate Republican colleagues on Wednesday as they announced the filing of Senate Resolution 27, which calls on the Illinois Senate to reject any progressive income tax measure that is introduced in the 103rd General Assembly.

"When voters from 101 of Illinois' 102 counties soundly reject a constitutional amendment, that's a pretty loud message sent to lawmakers," said Senator Chesney. "But evidently, Democrats are unwilling to respect the will of Illinois citi-

zens who have already voted this proposal down. Resurrecting their progressive income tax plan is nothing more than another attempt at a cash-grab by greedy politicians."

In 2020, the "Fair Tax" Amendment fell more than 360,000 votes short of a simple majority that was needed of all votes cast in that election, and more than 760,000 votes short of a three-fifths majority that was needed of those voting on the question. "While everyday Illinoisans continue to struggle with the effects of record-high inflation, Democrats now want to hit them with a new income tax structure that will take even more money out of their pockets," added Senator Chesney. "I will fight vehemently against this bill because the people I represent in Northwestern Illinois want nothing to do with any measure that will raise their taxes."

Senate Resolution 27 was read into the official Senate record on Wednesday. It now awaits to be assigned to a Senate committee.



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To keep our democracy strong, we need to restore trust in news media

Editor's note: This op-ed was distributed by Capitol News Illinois on behalf of the News Literacy Project. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own.
By Alee Quick

Americans are politically polarized, cynical about long-respected institutions and disappointed with elected leaders at the local, state and national levels. What's driving these trends? I believe a sweeping lack of trust is a significant factor.

Trust is an essential element to strong personal, professional and societal relationships. Without it, relationships break down, often with unfortunate consequences. Research bears this out. The 2022 Edelman Trust Barometer found that nearly 6 in 10 respondents automatically distrust something until they encounter evidence of its credibility. And nearly two-thirds said we can no longer have constructive, civil discourse about important issues. The researchers noted, "when distrust is the default—we lack the ability to debate or collaborate."

The public's wariness is understandable, and misinformation is a major factor. In the 2020 Northwestern University Medill Trust in U.S. News Media study, 82 percent of those surveyed expressed concern about discerning fact-based information from falsehoods. Three-quarters of respondents in the Edelman study worried about misinformation being used as a weapon.

News organizations and journalists are the focus of

much cynicism. Trust in news fell in half the countries surveyed for the 2022 Reuters Institute Digital News Survey, with the U.S. at the bottom with just 26 percent of respondents trusting the news. And 46 percent of Edelman respondents found journalists credible, making them the least trusted of societal leaders in the report, barely ahead of government leaders, who gained the confidence of just 43 percent of respondents.

When trust waivers, so does democracy

Once trust is gone, it's tough to regain. But it's critical that we all work to restore it. That's because public trust and a news media industry that does its job well go hand in hand in protecting our democracy. That's why my organization, the News Literacy Project (along with The E.W. Scripps Company), is focusing on trust in newsrooms and news coverage during our fourth annual National News Literacy Week (Jan. 23-27). News literacy is the ability to identify credible new sources so you know what information you can trust, share and act on.

The acceptance of facts is central to productive discourse and the functioning of our institutions. When we can't agree on a common set of facts and credible sources, that cynicism cascades into distrust of institutions, decision-makers and governing bodies. The result is a weaker democracy.

Then there's this: Distrust is simply bad for us. A 2021 study at the University of

Bonn in Germany found that lack of trust in others is associated with chronic loneliness.

Restoring trust: It's up to the press and the public

Trust is a two-way street. To repair this credibility gap between the public and the press, both members of the media and news consumers must act.

News organizations must keep the public well-informed and cover the issues that communities care about most. Newsroom leaders need to clearly identify what is opinion, analysis, or straight news and explain how their newsroom decides what stories to

cover and how to cover them.

Improving newsroom diversity is imperative to better reflect the community. While nobody is perfect, being transparent and fixing errors promptly and prominently goes a long way in maintaining credibility.

News consumers are the other half of the equation. We have responsibilities, too. Pay attention to what's happening in your community. Subscribe to a local news outlet to ensure your town doesn't become a "news desert." Hold news organizations accountable. When they make a mistake or coverage falls short, call them on it. Be civically engaged. Learn about the issues import-

ant to you and vote.

Most importantly, become more news-literate.

News literacy is key

What does it mean to be news-literate? This nonpartisan approach to media literacy teaches people how to think about news and other information, not what to think. It provides an understanding and appreciation of the First Amendment and the role of a free press in a democracy, and it emphasizes a healthy skepticism—not cynicism—about the information we encounter.

There are easy ways to learn the skills you need to navigate the news more confidently,

protect yourself—and your friends and family—from being misled, and push back against the kind of false and misleading information that eats away at the public's trust in news. You can learn how to identify credible news sources, spot red flags that often accompany misinformation, and build other news literacy skills at NewsLiteracyWeek.org.

Closing the credibility gap is crucial to the health of our democracy. Trust me on this.

Alee Quick is the civic marketing manager for the News Literacy Project. She lives in Carbondale and may be reached at aquick@newslit.org.

Letter to the editor

I am writing to thank Lena area residents for sharing the true meaning of Christmas with children in need this past holiday season. Generosity throughout contributed to a successful shoebox gift collection season at drop-off locations for the Samaritan's Purse project, Operation Christmas Child. Across the U.S., the project collected over 9.3 million shoebox gifts in 2022. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2022, the ministry is now sending

nearly 10.6 million shoebox gifts to children worldwide.

Through shoeboxes packed with fun toys, school supplies, and hygiene items, Lena-area volunteers brought joy to children in need around the world. Each gift-filled shoebox is a tangible expression of God's love, and it is often the first gift these children have ever received. Through the continued generosity of donors since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 209 million gift-filled shoeboxes

to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

This year, Samaritan's Purse delivered its milestone 200 millionth shoebox, which was packed on a country-wide tour and then hand-delivered to a young girl in Ukraine.

Across IL, shoebox packers often shop for deals on shoebox items throughout the year, and many serve at a deeper level by becoming a year-round volunteer. Information about ways area participants can get involved year-round can also

be found at samaritanspurse.org/occ or by calling 630-474-9478. Although local dropoff locations for gifts are closed until Nov. 13 through 20, 2023, anyone can still be a part of this life-changing project by conveniently packing a shoebox gift online in just a few simple clicks at samaritanspurse.org/buildonline.

These simple gifts, packed with love send a message to children worldwide that they are loved and not forgotten.

Sincerely,
Lizette Miller

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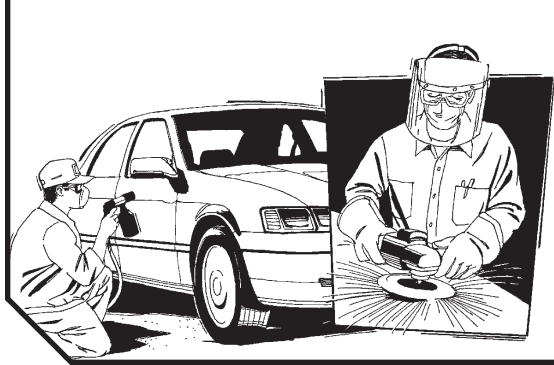
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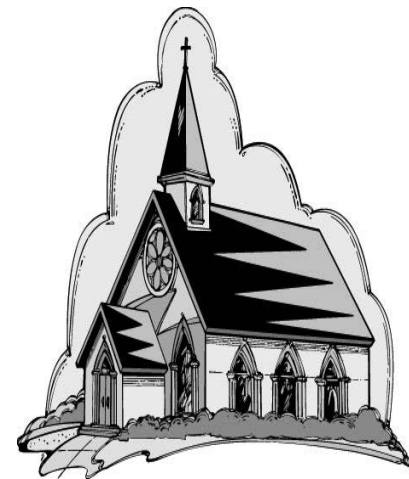
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State preparing further defense of assault weapons ban

Judge found fault with often-used legislative shortcuts

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Attorney General Kwame Raoul on Jan. 23 filed a petition asking an appellate court to vacate a temporary restraining order that was issued late in the afternoon Jan. 20, blocking enforcement of the state's recently-passed assault weapons ban. Raoul's office filed the petition in the 5th District Appellate Court in southern Illinois, arguing that Effingham County Judge Joshua Morrison had abused his discretion and the plaintiffs are unlikely to succeed in their lawsuit, thus the restraining order was granted incorrectly.

Morrison's order applies to only the 800-plus plaintiffs in the case filed by Tom DeVore, the unsuccessful 2022 GOP candidate for attorney general. "Although disappointing, it is the initial result we've seen in many cases brought

by plaintiffs whose goal is to advance ideology over public safety," Gov. JB Pritzker said in a statement shortly after the order was announced.

House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, D-Hillside, and Senate President Don Harmon, D-Oak Park, issued similar statements within hours of the judge's decision.

"We passed the Protect Illinois Communities Act to get dangerous weapons off the street and create a safer state," Harmon said in a statement. "This ruling will be appealed. We look forward to our day in court to zealously advocate for our neighbors who are weary of the gun violence epidemic."

But the Illinois State Rifle Association, which has filed a separate challenge to the law in federal court, applauded Morrison's ruling, saying the ruling is "a clear indication" that Pritzker and lawmakers "rammed this law through improperly."

In his ruling Jan. 20, Morrison sided with the plaintiffs' argument that there were legitimate issues about whether the law violates their rights

to due process and equal protection because it limits most people's Second Amendment right to keep and bear certain firearms, while at the same time exempting some groups of people from the law but not others.

But Morrison also devoted much of the opinion to the procedural shortcuts lawmakers used to pass the bill—shortcuts routinely used in order to pass legislation quickly, especially when the General Assembly is facing statutory or constitutional deadlines.

In this case, the law's underlying bill, House Bill 5471, passed through both chambers in its final form during the final two days of the legislature's "lame duck" session earlier this month, with Pritzker signing the bill the night of Jan. 10. At noon the next day, Jan. 11, newly-elected lawmakers were sworn in and a new biennial

session began, meaning the process would have had to start over after that point.

A House committee held multiple hearings on the bill in December, but at that time the draft language of the bill was contained in HB5855.

The Illinois Constitution requires that bills be read by title into the record on three different days in each chamber, a process that would normally take at least five days to complete. But at the tail end of the lame duck session, lawmakers didn't have that much time, so engaged in a commonly-used maneuver known as "gut and replace."

That means the Senate took a bill that had already passed the House—in this case, one amending a portion of the state's Insurance Code dealing with public adjusters—gutting it of all its content and replaced that content with the language of the

assault weapons ban. Then they sent the "amended" bill back to the House for an up-or-down concurrence vote.

"This Court finds that the Defendants unequivocally and egregiously violated the Three Readings Rule of the Illinois Constitution in order to circumvent the Constitutional requirements and avoid public discourse," Morrison wrote.

Morrison also said he believes the legislation violates the Constitution's requirement that bills be limited to only one subject, unless they deal with appropriations, codification, revision or rearrangement of laws. He said the assault weapon bill violates that provision because it contains provisions that also relate to human trafficking and drug trafficking.

The Illinois Supreme Court, however, has historically declined to strike down

legislation based on either of those two arguments, ruling repeatedly that if the speaker of the House and president of the Senate both certify that a bill was properly passed, the court would not second-guess that decision.

Morrison was just elected as a 4th Circuit judge in November. Prior to that, he had been the state's attorney in Fayette County and was among a group of state's attorneys who sued the state to challenge the constitutionality of the sweeping criminal justice reform law passed in 2021 known as the SAFE-T Act.

In 2020, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Morrison also wrote to Raoul to question the enforceability of Pritzker's emergency orders at the time. DeVore later cited that letter as part of his 2022 campaign for attorney general.

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Wildcats pick up pair of home wins over Potossi-Cassville and Warren

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The River Ridge-Scales Mound Wildcats went on a five-game winning streak recently. The streak includes a pair of wins over Potossi-Cassville and the Warren Warriors. The wins improved the Wildcats' record to 23-3 on the season.

On Monday, Jan. 23 the Wildcats played host to a Wisconsin team in Potossi-Cassville. The Wildcats wasted no time in this one as they held a double-digit lead at the end of the first quarter. Laiken Haas made a splash in the opening quarter as she hit a pair of three-pointers. Sydney Driscoll and Annie Werner each posted four points in the opening quarter, as well. Addison Albrecht would hit a pair of shots at the foul line, helping the Wildcats take a 16-6 lead into the second. Potossi-Cassville answered back in the second as they outscored RR-SM 10-8. Emily Wiederholdt hit her first two baskets of the game, and Sadie Fry got on the board with a basket, as well.

Coming out of the halftime break, the Wildcats held a 24-16 lead. It seemed Head Coach,

David Wiegel, and his squad were happy with the lead, but knew it should have been much bigger. The Wildcats made a statement in the third quarter as the offense exploded for 21 points.

It was Haas who had the hot hand in the third, as she drilled another pair of three-pointers on her way to nine points in the quarter. Albrecht added a pair of baskets of her own, while Driscoll hit a trio of free throws. The breakout quarter blew the game wide open as they held Potossi-Cassville to just five points on the other end.

With the Wildcats in control, they were able to coast their way towards a 50-30 victory. Haas led the team in scoring with 17 points. Driscoll was next up in scoring with nine and a team-leading eight rebounds, and Werner had seven. RR-SM combined to have 18 steals on the defensive end.

The very next day the Wildcats were back on their home court for a Northwest Upstate Illini-West Conference matchup with the Warren Warriors. Warren came into the matchup with a record of 13-11. This was their second meeting of

the season with the Wildcats winning the first by a score of 58-20.

The second matchup was much of the same as the Wildcats earned another convincing victory. It was a tight first quarter, but the Wildcats still held a slim 13-9 lead over the Warriors. This time around, it was a big second quarter that swung the momentum into the Wildcats' paws. They outscored Warren 17-7 in the quarter, allowing RR-SM to take a 30-16 lead into the break.

The third quarter was much of the same. RR-SM posted another 17 points as their offense was efficient. On the game, the Wildcats shot above forty percent from three-point range. At the free throw line, the team hit eight of their twelve attempts. The Wildcats shot forty-four percent from inside the arc, which was something the Warriors just couldn't keep pace

with.

The Wildcats had two scorers in double digits as Gwen Miller led the team with 16 points. Haas was next up in scoring with ten points. Ava Travis had a solid performance with eight points and seven rebounds, which tied for the team lead. Sadie Fry also had seven rebounds on the night. It was an all-around performance for Fry as she added six points and three steals to her line.

Warren had no answer for the Wildcat offense as RR-SM picked up the 60-28 victory. RR-SM went to drop their next game 44-33 to Lena-Winslow. It was a non-conference matchup, but the Wildcats' overall record fell to 23-4. On Wednesday, Feb. 1 the Wildcats will travel to face off with the 25-1 Galena Pirates. That same night, Warren will travel to play against the 5-15 East Dubuque Warriors.

• Warren (Continued from front page)

The Warriors blew the game wide open in the second quarter as they outscored the Broncos 16-1. McNutt scored five points in the quarter, including going three for four at the free throw line. VenHuizen sunk another three-pointer on his way to five second quarter points. Brady Stietz sunk a basket as the Warriors took a massive 35-9 lead into the break.

The Broncos wouldn't be counted out so easily, however. Orangeville fought back with a big third quarter, outscoring Warren 23-20 as they tried to make it a game again. The Broncos' momentum carried into the fourth quarter, where they put up another 22 points. Orangeville nearly fought all the way back in a game that Warren appeared to have wrapped up. Fortunately for the Warriors, their big lead from the first half would prove insurmountable as they held on for a 67-54 victory.

It was a big night for Pafford, who led the Warriors with 27 points. McNutt was next up for Warren with 15. Linden Mahoney finished the game with 12 points, and VenHuizen was the fourth warrior in double figures with 11. Stietz added five points in the victory.

Two days later, the Warriors were looking to add to their win streak as they played host to the Stockton Blackhawks. Stockton came into the matchup with an overall record of 7-10. They would prove to be a challenging opponent for the Warriors. A low scoring first half had the Warriors in a bit of trouble early on. After scoring just six points in the opening quarter, Warren found themselves trailing 25-14 at the halftime break. It certainly wasn't something

the Warriors could have predicted, but it was the perfect opportunity for Warren Head Coach, Michael Flanagan, to evaluate his team.

The Warriors came out strong in the third quarter. Led by Stietz, the Warriors managed to outscore the Blackhawks 18-9 in the quarter. The 18-point quarter was more than the Warriors had scored in the first two quarters combined. After trimming nine points off the deficit, the Warriors went into the fourth quarter trailing 34-32.

While Warren still needed to complete the comeback, it was the Warriors' defense that stood out in the fourth. They held the Blackhawks to just eight points, giving themselves an opportunity on offense. Mahoney hit a key free throw on his way to three fourth quarter points. McNutt hit a crucial three-point and VenHuizen and Stietz each hit baskets as the Wolves managed to tie the game at 42-42. An extra period was needed to decide a winner in this one.

Warren continued to ride their wave of momentum in the overtime period. They locked down the Blackhawk offense, holding Stockton to just seven points. The Warriors jumped into the lead and hit some clutch free throws to give them the advantage when it mattered most. Stietz led the way with 18 points, while McNutt finished with 11, and Mahoney had ten. VenHuizen added nine points in the 54-49 victory.

Alex Altfillisch and Ryley Schultz led the way for the Blackhawks as they both finished with 14 points. Parker Luke was the third Blackhawk in double figures as he added ten points.

Warren's winning streak would come to an end with a 65-44 loss to the 21-4 Scales Mound Hornets. The loss dropped Warren's record to 16-5 on the year. Stockton would go on to fall 43-28 in a matchup with Galena, which dropped their record to 7-12.

On Thursday, Feb. 2 Stockton will play host to Warren for their second matchup of the season. It looks to be an exciting way to end the season considering the results of their first matchup.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Warren students are laser focused

Warren science students in Mr. Homa's 8th grade class spent the week testing wave properties such as reflection, refraction, and absorption using lasers.

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432167

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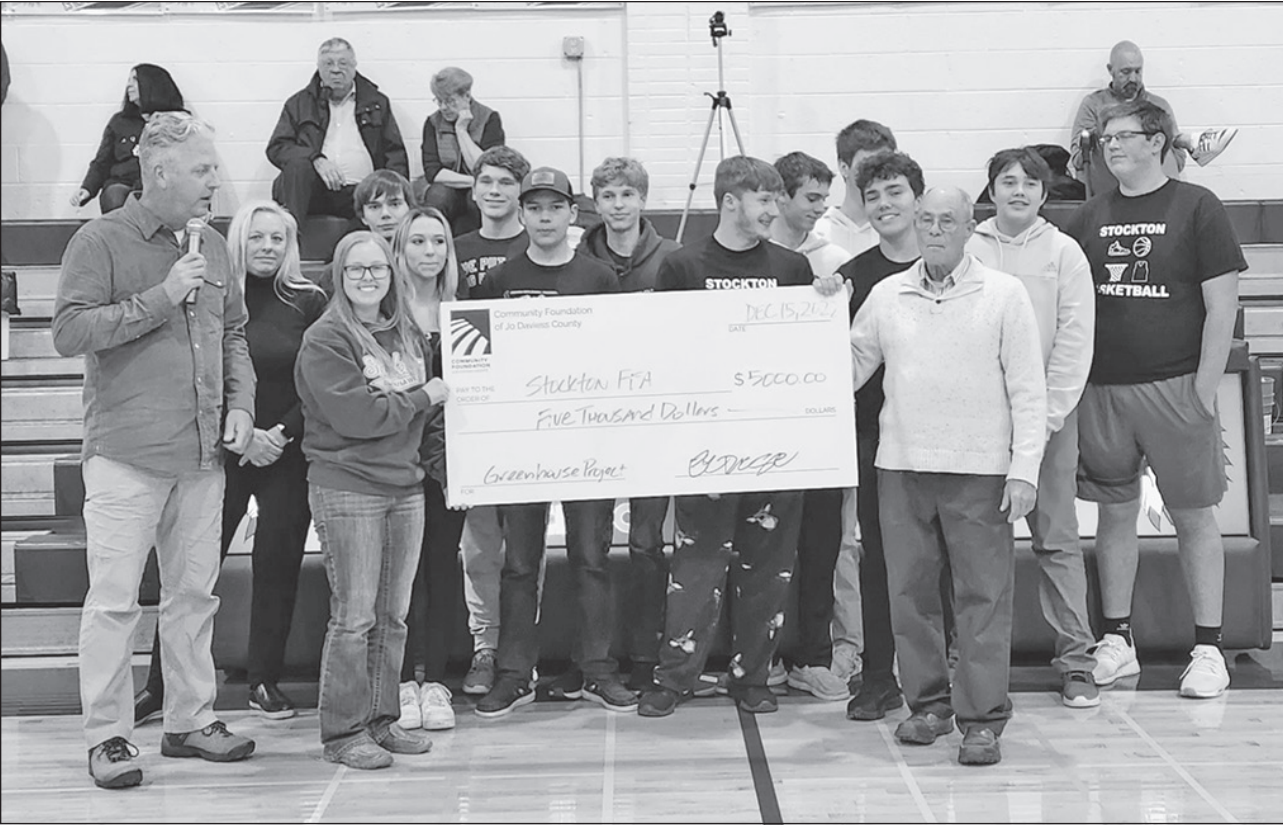
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A big thanks for a good cause

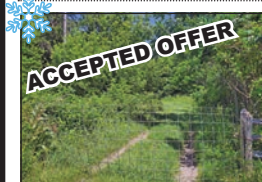
The Stockton FFA Chapter would like to thank the Jo Daviess County Community Foundation for their generous donation of \$5,000 toward the greenhouse project. The chapter applied for the foundation's youth fund grant, a grant offered to projects that ensure children and youth are healthy, ready to learn, succeeding in school, and empowered to contribute to the growth and vitality of the communities in Jo Daviess County. Jo Daviess Community Foundation members presented the check to the chapter at the Stockton boys basketball game on Dec. 15. Pictured are members (back row, left to right) Kathy Gable, David Lancaster, Kyle Haas, Eli Haas, Noah Larson, Jon Randecker, Ian Eisfeller, Brady Broshous, (front row, left to right) Eric Dregne, Hannah Brudi, Kendra Robledo, Javier Montalvo, Noah Hess, Dawson Broshous, and Tom Heidenreich.

Gianna Willson says:

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432171

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Saturday, Feb. 11



8 - 11 a.m. at Le-Win High School • Carried live on WCCI FM 100.3

Pledges support the completion of the Northwest Illinois Veterans' Memorial Park featuring the Vietnam Era F-4E Phantom Jet

Program Includes

Music • Interviews with Government leaders, area veterans, and community business leaders • Refreshments

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411430

Periodontal Disease

When you do not floss and brush your teeth, plaque that is allowed to remain in the mouth will begin to absorb the minerals found in saliva, transforming it from a soft, easily removable form into a hard substance called calculus. Calculus cannot be removed by brushing and flossing. It also forms a base for further plaque accumulation. This rough and irritating buildup can cause your gums to become inflamed and pull away from your teeth, creating pockets where your toothbrush and floss cannot reach. This



By **DR. STEPHEN PETRAS**
Illinois Licensed
General Dentist

inflammation of the gums, or gingivitis, is the first stage of periodontal disease.

One of the things that your dentist does during a routine dental exam is to screen you for periodontal disease. He or she will measure and record the space between each tooth and the gum line to

map out your pocket depths. This record will be used in conjunction with your dental x-rays to both diagnose and plan treatment as needed. It will also be used to compare your progress at later exams.

If gum disease is caught early and no structural damage exists below the gumline, a professional cleaning and a commitment to effective daily removal of plaque through brushing and flossing should return your oral health. However, if pockets between your teeth are too deep, scaling and root cleaning may be prescribed.

Scaling involves the removal of all the plaque and calculus down to the bottom of the pocket. Planing refers to smoothing off the root surfaces after they have been cleaned, so that the gingival tissues can heal and reattach to the tooth. Depending on the severity of each individual case, the procedure may need to be broken down into four sessions. Your dentist may also decide to use a laser to remove the inflamed tissue, apply a slow releasing antibiotic, use an ultrasonic scaler, prescribe antibiotics

and/or a short-term antibiotic rinse. In severe cases, scaling and root planing may need to be followed up by periodontal surgery.

Pocket formation happens over time and the healing process will also require time. The amount will depend on the extent of damage that occurred before dental intervention. The most critical factor in healing is patient compliance. Maintaining the benefits of scaling and root planing depends on an excellent daily oral hygiene routine and ongoing periodontal

maintenance visits.

If periodontal disease is not addressed, it can cause your gums, teeth and supporting bone tissues to deteriorate. Bacteria involved in gum disease can enter the blood stream and travel throughout the body, releasing toxins and inflaming blood vessels. Multiple research studies have implicated these oral bacteria in autoimmune diseases, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, premature birth, low birth weight babies and hypertension.

'Telling a People's Story' traveling exhibit comes to Clarence Mitchell Library

The Highland Community College Clarence Mitchell Library is hosting the traveling exhibition, "Telling a People's Story: African-American Children's Illustrated Literature" during the month of February for Black History Month. The library is located in the Marvin-Burt Liberal Arts Center, second floor, at Highland, 2998 W.

Pearl City Rd., Freeport, Ill. The exhibit opening reception will be from 1 to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 7. The public is invited to the opening reception and to visit the exhibition during library hours in the month of February. The traveling panel exhibition features 12 panels with 120 reproduced illustrations. The

exhibit is organized by the Miami University Art Museum through a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation. The Exhibition will carry the full title of the Exhibition and the Credit Line: "Organized by the Miami University Art Museum through a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation."

African-American children's illustrated literature is the focus of the exhibition, highlighting artwork produced for book designs. The presentation of this genre offers a lens into the cultural, historical, and social makeup of African-American cultural identity — while shedding light on the long-neglected world of African-

American authors and illustrators in the pantheon of children's literature. The exhibit is free, and the library is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Learn more from Reference Librarian Laura Watson at 815-599-3456 or laura.watson@highland.edu.

ABC'S OF THE NEW YEAR

V is for **Valentine**



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Your Smile is a nice reflection on us.

431820

W is for **Welcome to Worship**

Jesus first in the New Year!
Because He first loved us!

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Saturday at 5:30 p.m.
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Zero in on your target, and go for it!

FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

The snow and cold has decided that January was too warm, so we are getting some winter weather. The recipes this week feature a lot of spinach and some good soup recipes. I guess spinach is the theme (although there is a little cabbage thrown in the mix). Have a great week cooking.

Hot Spinach and Crab Dip

This dip recipe would be great for a Super Bowl party. I use the imitation crab instead of the canned crab. I think it tastes just as good because it has spinach and cheese in it.

- 2 T. unsalted butter
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1 t. Worcestershire
- 1/2 t. dry mustard
- 1/2 t. paprika
- 1 lb. frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed very dry
- 8 oz. lump crab meat, picked through for bits of shell
- 1/2 C. Monterey Jack
- 3 T. grated Parmesan
- 2 T. panko breadcrumbs

Preheat the oven to 425. Melt the butter in a medium pan over medium heat. Add the onion and garlic, season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally until softened, about six min-

utes. Add the cream cheese, Worcestershire, dry mustard, and paprika; stir until melted. Add the spinach and crabmeat and stir until warm and bubbling. Stir in the cheeses and season with salt and pepper. Transfer the dip into a small baking dish and top with panko. Place baking dish on a sheet pan and bake until bubbling and golden, about 15 minutes. Serve with butter crackers or pita chips.

Cabbage and Brussels Sprouts Slaw

This cabbage slaw has Brussels sprouts in it and red onion. You char the cabbage and sprouts for a deeper flavor. A lot of people like a slaw that doesn't have a mayo or sour cream base. This one is a lighter version of slaw with just a hint of fruity flavor.

- 1/2 small green cabbage, cored and halved
- 1/2 lb. Brussels sprouts, trimmed and halved
- 1/4 C. fresh orange juice
- 3 t. fresh lemon juice
- 1 T. finely chopped dill
- 1 t. whole-grain mustard
- 1/4 t. salt
- 1/4 t. pepper
- 3 T. extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced

Heat a large skillet over high heat. Add cabbage and Brussels sprouts; cook, turning occasionally until charred on all sides about five minutes. Let cool for one minute. Thinly slice cabbage and Brussels sprouts. In a small bowl, whisk together orange juice, lemon juice, dill, mustard, salt, and pepper. Whisk in oil in a slow, steady stream until smooth. In a large bowl, stir together cabbage mixture, red onion, and dressing. Garnish with dill.

Swiss Corn Casserole

This side is great for everyday or holiday dinners. Enjoy the creamy Swiss cheese combo of corn and cheese.

- 4 eggs
- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1/2 t. salt
- 1/4 t. pepper
- 4 C. frozen corn, thawed
- 3 C. shredded Swiss cheese, divided
- 1/4 C. chopped onion
- 3 C. breadcrumbs
- 1/4 C. butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350. In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, salt and pepper; stir in corn, 1 1/2 C. cheese and onion. Transfer to a greased 11 x 7 baking dish. Toss breadcrumbs with melted butter, sprinkle over casserole. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake, uncovered, until golden brown and heated through, 35 to 45 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Cauliflower Cheddar Soup

Soup is good tasting when the weather turns cold. The next two recipes are two kinds of soup that would make great weeknight meals. The first one is a creamed vegetable soup. Somehow veggies taste better when paired with cheese. The second soup is a beef-based soup with vegetables and tomatoes as well as beans. Enjoy this wintertime dinners with bread and salad.

- 1 medium head cauliflower, broken into florets
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 can chicken broth
- 1 chicken bouillon cube
- 2 T. butter
- 2 T. flour
- 3 C. whole milk
- 2 C. shredded cheddar cheese

- 1 T. dried parsley flakes
- 1 t. salt
- 1/4 t. ground nutmeg
- 1/8 t. cayenne pepper
- 1/8 t. curry powder
- 1/8 t. white pepper

In a large saucepan, combine cauliflower, onion, broth, and bouillon. Cover and cook over medium heat until vegetables are tender. In a medium saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Stir in flour until smooth; gradually whisk in milk. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly; cook and stir until thickened, two to three minutes. Reduce heat; stir in cheese until melted. Add seasonings. Pour into cauliflower mixture. Simmer slowly for 30 minutes. Do not boil. Sprinkle with dried parsley.

Beef Lentil Soup

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 can (46 oz.) tomato or V8 juice

- 4 C. water
- 1 C. dried lentils, rinsed
- 2 C. chopped cabbage
- 1 C. sliced carrots
- 1 C. sliced celery
- 1 C. chopped onion
- 1/2 C. chopped green pepper
- 1/2 t. pepper
- 1/2 t. dried thyme
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen chopped spinach, thawed.

In a large stockpot, cook beef over medium heat until no longer pink, five to seven minutes; crumble the meat; drain. Add the tomato juice, water, lentils, cabbage, carrots, celery, onion, green pepper, pepper, thyme, and bay leaf. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered for 1 to 1 1/2 hours until lentils and vegetables are tender. Add spinach and heat through. Remove bay leaf.

Creamy Spinach Chicken Dinner

If you want a quick stove-top dinner, this combo of spinach and chicken will be just the thing for a weeknight supper. It has the pasta, meat, and vegetable in one dish. It also finishes with cheese, and that makes everything good!

- 1 1/2 C. uncooked penne pasta
- 1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/2 C. chopped onion
- 2 t. olive oil
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 C. heavy whipping cream
- 10 C. coarsely chopped fresh spinach
- 2 C. shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/8 t. pepper
- 1/3 C. parmesan cheese

See KITCHEN, Page 14

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:

the Scoop Today / Shopper's Guide

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or \$1 an issue - \$52.00

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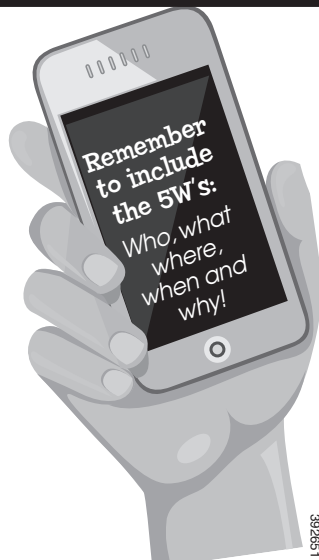
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You ought to be in pictures!

THIS IS AN OPEN CALL FOR SUBMITTED PHOTOS TO BE USED IN YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

- ▼ Community events, car washes, festivals, lemonade stands, school projects - people at work and at play.
- We are interested!**
- ▼ Show the community what your group has been doing!
- ▼ **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!**
- ▼ Just shoot and e-mail!
- ▼ We need you to ID everyone in the photo *first* and *last* names required
- ▼ Tell us what's happening in the photo
- ▼ **Please do NOT crop your photos.**
- ▼ Tell us who took the photo and we will give them a photo credit

This is your chance to promote your organization or special event!



Remember to include the 5W's:
Who, what, where, when and why!

E-mail your photos at the highest possible resolution to:
scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com
BY NOON ON FRIDAY

PHOTOS MAY ALSO APPEAR ON OUR WEB SITE, rvpnews.com

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
 No. 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 February 17, 2023, 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.
 I3211443

(Published in The Scoop Today Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1, 2023)
 431594

TAX DEED NO.: 2023TX3
 FILED: 1/9/2023

TAKE NOTICE
 County of Jo Daviess
 Date Premises Sold: October 19, 2020
 Certificate No.: 202000144
 Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2019
 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A
 Warrant No.: N/A
 Installment No.: N/A

THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
 Property Located at: 212 North Park Street, Stockton, IL 61085
 Legal Description or Property Index No.: 17-001-171-00

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on July 5, 2023.

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before July 5, 2023.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of

Jo Daviess County in 330 N. Bench St., Galena, IL 61036, Court Room 1, on July 17, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before July 5, 2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Jo Daviess, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Galena, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK
 330 North Bench Street
 Room 104
 Galena, IL 61036
 (815) 777-0161

Equity One Investment Fund LLC
 Purchaser or Assignee
 January 13, 2023

Jessica Cannon as Independent Executor of the Edward W. Coppernoll Jessica Cannon Unknown Heirs & Devises for the Estate of Edward W. Coppernoll Terry Batchelder Terry Batchelder Occupant William A. Hart Anthony R Bird Angela Kaiser, County Clerk of Jo Daviess County, Illinois Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners" "Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots"
 10750-929534

(Published in The Scoop Today Feb. 1, 8 & 15, 2023)
 431781

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY-IN PROBATE

In Re the Matter of the estate of:
 Donald G. Miller,
 Deceased.

No. 23-PR-4

your source for on-line news:


NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of Donald G. Miller, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 26, 2023, to:

Kathy J. Miller
237 W. Garfield
Freeport, IL 61032
 as Independent Executor of the Estate of Donald G. Miller, whose attorney is
Anthony V. Coon
Attorney At Law
10 N. Galena Ave.,
Ste. 210
Freeport, Illinois 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, or both, on or before August 11, 2023, and 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 and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date: January 27, 2023.
 Kathy J. Miller
 Executor
 By: **Anthony V. Coon**
Anthony V. Coon,
Attorney At Law
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 Feb. 1, 8 & 15, 2023)
 432276

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

The following self-storage Cube contents containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart to satisfy a lien on February 9, 2023, at www.storage-treasures.com. Online Bids START approximately 14 days prior to the final sale date listed above at the store and approximate times listed below:

Online Bids END
Approx. 1:00 pm at
CubeSmart #4409, 555
W. South Street, Free-
port, Illinois 61032 (815)
616-5331:

Cube 1486 Ajee Laqui Alexander

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Jan. 25 & Feb. 1, 2023)
 431536

Buckeye Township Cemetery Association Financial Statement

Balance		
12-10-21	\$	141.40
Taxes & Interest		\$ 13,447.17
		\$ 13,588.57
Expenses:		
Rock Valley Publishing	\$	30.00
Afolkey Cemetery	\$	1,951.00
Bellview Cemetery	\$	1,115.00
Cedarville Cemetery	\$	8,681.00
Richland Cemetery	\$	836.00
Zion Cemetery	\$	690.00
Total Expenses		\$ 13,303.00
Balance		
12-1-22	\$	285.57
Trustees Dennis Fryer Dale Kubatske Jim Obert		

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Feb. 1, 2023)
 432303

•Kitchen

(Continued from page 13)

Cook pasta according to package directions. In a Dutch oven over medium heat, cook and stir chicken and onion in oil for five minutes or until chicken is no longer pink. Stir in soup and cream. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, for 2 minutes. Stir in the spinach, cheese, and pepper; cook for 1 to 2 minutes or until spinach is wilted and cheese is melted. Drain pasta and add to chicken mixture; toss to coat. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese.

Devil's Food Cookies

This cookie recipe is easy because it starts with a cake mix and has only four other ingredients. If you need a quick dessert, these cookies will fill the dessert slot for your evening meal.

- 1 pkg. devil's food cake mix (regular size)
- 2 eggs, room temperature
- 2 T. butter, softened
- 3 T. water
- ½ C. miniature semisweet chocolate chips

Preheat the oven to 350. In a large bowl, combine the cake mix, eggs, butter, and water. The batter will be thick. Fold in chocolate chips. Drop by tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart onto baking sheets coated with cooking spray. Bake 10 to 13 minutes or until set and edges are lightly browned. Cool 2 minutes before removing to wire racks.

Final Thoughts

We finally got some snow for the snow lovers. It is just in time for Winterfest activities. That should make a lot of people happy. I know the people with snowmobiles and the skiers have been itching to get out and play. The ice rinks will also like the cold weather. It is hard to believe that Valentine's Day is just around the corner too. Time marches on even when we are stuck in our houses!

February is racing in. When I taught, it was always the shortest, longest month. Even though there were fewer days, it always seemed longer. Lent will be starting, so we will be looking for those meatless recipes. We are looking for recipes for the "red" month, and Valentine's Day and cherry recipes for President's Day. If you have any recipes that you would like to share with us, 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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Deb Brown
 Financial Representative
 Lena
deb.brown@countryfinancial.com
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 0221-508HC_07764-10/25/2021



409359

Rock Valley Publishing

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Classifieds

AD DEADLINE:
Friday
at 4 pm

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help wanted

Stockton Township Public Library Job Opening

Part time - 25-28 hrs/week

The Stockton Township Public Library is currently accepting applications for the position of Library Director. The applicant should possess: excellent interpersonal communications skills; the ability to oversee library employees; be comfortable with computer technology; feel confident with completing employee salaries and monthly billing requirements; submit to local governmental agencies required paperwork inherent to a public taxing body; possess the ability to interact with local, state and federal agencies concerning grants and other financial opportunities; and submit reports to the Board of Directors on a monthly basis or as necessary.

Interested applicants should send a letter of interest and resume to: Terry Sertle, President, Stockton Township Public Library, 427 N. Stockton St., Stockton, IL 61085.

432166

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

Rock Valley Publishing, your hometown newspapers serving the stateline has an opening for an experienced Media Sales Representative to call on current and new accounts in a protected sales territory.

Growing area with many new businesses, this is a great opportunity for the right applicant.

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For immediate consideration send resume/job history to:

Vicki Vanderwerff, Director of Advertising
Email: vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com
Fax: (262) 725-6844

392953

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431872

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for rent

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815-947-2237

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This Institution in an Equal Opportunity Provider.



394158

for sale

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DISCLAIMER NOTICE This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

Wanted to Buy

NEW HOLLAND 256 or similar hay rake. 815-232-3500

Misc. For Sale

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Excellent quality, net wrapped, stored inside.

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Priced Reasonably
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427078

real estate

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transportation

Automobiles

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2008 YUKON DENALI XL With a 6.2 liter motor, 168,000 miles, 2nd owner, runs great, interior in exc. cond. w/new tires, some rust. Family vehicle, have work provided vehicle, looking to sell to good home. \$10,000 or OBO. Please call or text 262-758-4769.

2009 CHRYSLER TOWN & Country Minivan, Dark Green Exterior, Tan Interior, 3.3 V6 Engine, Fair Condition, Weak Reverse \$1,800. Call 608-921-4010

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real estate

Other Real Estate

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Friday & Saturday, Feb. 3 & 4 • 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 5 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Collectible glassware, crocks, bowls, jugs. Christmas decorations, linens, handmade quilts, rolling pin collection, bedroom set, lamps, kerosene lamps, collectible vases, small tables, craft items, antique books, kitchen items, small kitchen appliances, antique chest, irobot vacuum, massage chair pad, walker, library table, quilting supplies, thimble collection, small kitchen table, craft items, sewing machine and so much more. No pre-sales. Accepting cash or venmo only.

431954

398158



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

This week's Little Blackhawks

Congratulations to these Stockton Elementary and Middle School students who were recognized for following the Blackhawk Way.

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