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Corbon's

to acquire

Illinois

grocer

Foods

Sullivan's

On Friday, April 14 Corbon's announced its plan to purchase Sullivan's Foods. Coborn's has acquired several Sullivan's Foods stores, including those situated in Freeport, Kewanee, Lena, Marengo, Mendota, Morrison, Princeton, Mt. Morris, Savanna, Stockton, and Winnebago, Illinois. In addition to these grocery stores, the acquisition also includes other retail units such as the corporate office facility of JB Sullivan Inc. located in Savanna, the Sullivan's Foods Warehouse situated in Savanna, two Sullivan's Ace Hardware stores located in Mendota and Winnebago, Sullivan's Home and Hardware in Savanna, and the Savanna Station, which is a convenience store. The acquisition is expected to be completed in May, and will expand Coborn's portfolio to

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VOL. 85 • NO. 18

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Ag in the Classroom at Pearl City Elementary

Thanks to Stephenson County Ag in the Classroom, the Pearl City fourth grade students have been able to watch and learn about the hatching process in class. Students were thrilled to have the chance to hatch chicks in their classroom. Many thanks to the Stephenson County Ag in the Classroom program for providing the opportunity and all necessary supplies!

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See CORBON'S, Page 9

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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE

Obituaries-

Cathy Aurand, 53, of Lena, Illinois passed away unexpectedly on April 19, 2023, at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford, Illinois surrounded with her family by her side. Cathy was born on May 25, 1969, in Rockford to Donald and Ann (Bivens) Taylor. She attended Rockford Lutheran High School and graduated from Phil Campbell High School in Alabama in 1987. Cathy married Bob Aurand on Oct. 21, 2009, in Galena. Cathy worked previously as an EMT for the Blackhawk Fire Department. Most recently, Cathy enjoyed staying home to spend time with her loving grandchildren.

Cathy enjoyed cooking, Friday night fish fry's, watching her favorite TV shows, tending to her plants, having bonfires with her friends and family, and spoiling her grandchildren. Cathy was very much a people pleaser.

Cathy is survived by her husband Bob of Lena, their children; Kayla (Shaun) Stephens of Rockford, Kelsey (Brandon) Gilbert of Lena, Hailey (Josh G.) Carr of Lena, Mandy (Brett) Brooker of South Wayne, WI, Ben Aurand of Warren, Dusty (Ali-



cia) Sigafus of South WI. Wavne. and die (Jackie) Sigafus of Freeport, grandc h i 1 dren; Keile-

igh, Kaisley, Kenleigh, Kyzer, Kylynn, Logan, Sophia, Laine, Zander, Lyla, Elsie, Kaylee, Zoey, Josie, Zach, Addison, Evan, and Layla, her mother; Ann Jones of Rockford, her siblings; Linda Shine of Byron, Russell Jones of Michigan, and Jeana (Chuck) Keen of Roscoe, several nieces, nephews, and many special friends. She was preceded in death by her fathers; Donald Taylor and Ralph Jones, her son; Zachary Joseph, grandson; Kyler Russell, and her beloved dog Molly.

A memorial service will be held at 12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26, at the Leamon Funeral Home, in Lena. Immediately following the services, a celebration of life will be held at the Lena Community Center (497 Lions Drive). Sean Huguenin will officiate the services. Cremation rites have been accorded. Condolences may be sent to the familv at www.leamonfh.com.



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Rebecca J. Neuenschwander, age 68 of Orangeville, IL passed away peacefully in her sleep at Rachel's Choice in Monroe, WI, on Friday, April 14, 2023. Becky was born on August 8, 1954, in Monroe, WI to Gerald and Rosetta (Baertschi) Mayer. She was a 1972 graduate of Monticello High School. Becky loved her family. She was also an excellent cook, which led to her owning and operating Ye Old Huckelberry Inn in Orangeville, IL for 12 years.

Becky is survived by her children; Jennifer (Thad) Hanson, of Freeport, IL, Bradley Mayer of Monroe, WI, Sherry (Dan) Stepaniak of Gladwin, MI, Mary (Paritosh) Bhole of Cherokee Village,

AR, her grandchildren; Vincent Ott, Cody (Cyndle) Ott, Alisha Ott, Parker Beck, her great-grandchildren; Xander, Franklin, Amaya, her brothers and sisters; Sharon (Jim) Andrews, Kris Squier, Diane (Dewy) Curran, Tim (Stacey) Mayer, Melanie Drake, Shelly (James) Stauffacher. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters Jaquelyn Mayer and Marsha Gempler, and her brother Ed Mayer. A celebration of life was

from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Friday, April 21, at the Moose Lodge (369 3rd Ave) in Monroe, WI. A private family burial will take place at Sunset Acres in Orangeville, IL. A memorial has been established in her memory. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

ELI HENDERSON

Eli "Melon" Nicholas Henderson, age 11, was taken too soon on Saturday, April 15, 2023. He was born in Freeport, IL on July 21, 2011, to Amanda Kriebs and Don Henderson. He was a member of Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton.

Eli was a 6th grader at Stockton Middle School. He was outgoing, quick witted, hardworking, and a comedian who loved to put a smile on everyone's face. Eli loved sports and was a proud member of the Stockton Renegades Wrestling Club. He was #55 for the Stockton 39ers where he played center and defensive tackle. He also played catcher for the Stockton baseball team. Eli loved fishing, bowling, grilling out, and welding with his dad.

He will be deeply missed by his parents, Amanda Kriebs and Don (Lauribeth) Henderson; his brothers, Mason Henderson and Jaylen Kriebs; his grandparents, Michael (Sue) Kriebs and Gary (Vicki) Henderson; his great grand-



mothers. Peggy Magee and Diane Reding; his aunts, Abigail Kriebs and Ashli (John) Span; uncles. Aar-

on Kriebs, Alex (Meghan) Kriebs, and Kevin Henderson; his cousins, Mikaila, Gannon, Taylynn, Knox, Kye and Lennon; as well as an abundance of other cousins, friends, and family members. He was preceded in death by his great grandfathers, Don Reding, Larry Henderson, Richard Magee, and Arnold Kriebs; and his great grandmothers, Phyllis Reding, Joyce Henderson, and Eleanor Kriebs.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, April 22, with Father Michael Morrissey officiating. There was a visitation on Friday, April 21. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.

McCombie to host mobile DMV unit

House Minority Leader B-truck plates; register vehi-Tony McCombie is partnering with the Illinois Secretary of State's Office to bring DMV services directly to area residents. At the three upcoming "Mobile DMV" events, residents will be able to access regular DMV services, like renewing their Illinois driver's licenses, purchasing vehicle license plate stickers, and more. The local event will be held Tuesday, June 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Warren Illinois Community Building, located at 110 W. Main Street.

The Secretary of State's mobile office will help patrons to renew, replace, or correct driver's licenses and state ID cards; purchase vehicle registration renewal stickers for license plates, passenger vehicle license plates, and

cle titles; and receive parking placards for persons with disabilities. REAL ID Driver Licenses and State IDs will not be offered at these events. Patrons are required to present proper identification at the time of service.

A complete list of acceptable forms of identification is available at the Secretary of State website. Acceptable forms of payment include personal checks, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover credit and debit cards. Cash cannot be accepted. Please note that seniors age 75 and up need to visit a DMV to renew a driver's li-

With questions about the upcoming event, contact Representative McCombie's district office at 815-291-8989.

Stockton Chamber of Commerce happenings

By Sam VenHuizen

Spring weather is upon us and people are itching to get out and about. Stockton Chamber event planning is in full swing, and we are excited to see all the networking that will take place in 2023.

A new business is coming to town. Feel free to join us for this exciting ribbon cut-ting on April 27 at The Pit Stop restaurant. Michelle Magee (Stockton native) and her family are new owners of the restaurant on the south side of town.

For those who enjoy a fun town).

day in the sun, mark your calendars for the Chamber Golf Outing on May 7. Registration details can be found on the chamber website and Facebook page.

Stockton area is a great place to live, work, and volunteer. We are proud of all that is in the works, such as welcoming two new chamber board members this year; Dan Dick (the director of the HCC foundation and Canvon Scout Camp) as well as Tamara Rutter (owner of the Keller Williams location in

JDCF announces spring Wildflower Walk

vation Foundation (JDCF) invites the community to a assist with tree ID. Attendees free wildflower walk to celebrate the arrival of spring. Join native plant and birding enthusiasts for a hike in the woods and along the bluffs of the Mississippi Palisades State Park. The walk will take place on April 27 beginning at 9 a.m. Members from page for updates.

The Jo Daviess Conser- the Northwest Illinois Forestry Association will join us to will meet at the south entrance to the park, which is located three miles north of Savanna, IL along Hwy 84 South.

This event is subject to weather-related postponement or cancellation. Please check JDCF's website or Facebook

Illinois 26 construction in Freeport began April 24

Transportation announced today that weather permitting, construction on Illinois 26 in Freeport will begin Monday, April 24. The work zone will be from Fairgrounds Road to South Street. Work will include pavement patching. Northbound and southbound mainline traffic will be kept

The Illinois Department of open to two-way traffic, with one lane open in each direction. In-roadway work is expected to be completed by June 1.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. To avoid the work area,

See CONSTRUCTION, Page 3



CARD SHOWER for LaVerne & Linda Broge's 60th Wedding Anniversary!

Married May 4, 1963 in Lena, IL Send cards to: Box 202, Winslow, IL 61089

They were blessed with 2 children, Curt Broge (deceased) and Valerie (Mark) Rothschadl. They have 3 granddaughters and 5 great-grandsons. They plan to celebrate with a family dinner.







Highland Speech Team members (back row left to right) Kevyn Sutter, Ruby Snyder, Noah Redmore, Brooke Allison Parkinson, Mason McIntyre, and Harry Bodell, (front row left to right) Maddie Eppenstein, Olivia Wilhelms, and Tabitha Roenneburg celebrate their wins in the recent 2023 Phi Rho Pi National Tournament. "To say that I am proud of this group of students would be a major understatement. They represent the very best of what Highland has to offer — they are intelligent, driven, hard-working, compassionate, and curious about the world around them," said Harry Bodell, Highland Speech instructor, and team coach. "While we had an incredible time exploring Washington, D.C. and experiencing inspiring competition, the best part of the national experience was watching these students come together as a family to support one another through every high and low.'

Highland Speech Team earns top national placement in program history

and Debate Team, capping a the national organization for strong competition season, had a historic showing at the 2023 Phi Rho Pi National Tournament in mid-April. Competing against schools from across the nation, Highland had the strongest team showing in the program's

Redmore came Noah away from the competition as a National Gold Medalist. Redmore is only the second all-time Highland gold medal winner in the last 25 years for Highland Community Col-

From April 8 through April 15, the Highland Speech and Debate Team traveled to the Washington, D.C. metro area for the 2023 Phi Rho Pi National Tournament. Estabcommunity college forensics (speech and debate) competitions. Highland Community College has regularly attended the competition since the college's earliest years, and the 2023 tournament represented a new competitive high mark for the program. The team received its highest team sweepstakes placing since pre-1990, more than doubling its previous team record number of advancements to the semifinal and final rounds.

This season, Phi Rho Pi Nationals was hosted at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Rockville, M.D. (just outside Washington, D.C.). Community college students from

around the country competed throughout the week, with finalists in each competition category advancing to the top 20 percent semifinal and top 10 percent final rounds. Those who advanced to the semifinal rounds received bronze medals, while those who advanced to the national final rounds received either silver medals placing in the top 10 percent or gold medals placing in the top 5 percent.

Accompanied by coach Harry Bodell and Assistant Coach Kevyn Sutter, seven students represented Highland at the tournament: Maddie Eppenstein (Savanna), Mason McIntyre (Freeport), Brooke Allison Parkinson (Freeport), Noah Redmore (Freeport), Tabitha Roenneburg (Lena), Ruby Snyder (Davis), and Olivia Wilhelms (Freeport).

The results are as follows:

Communication **Analysis**

Brooke Allison Parkinson, Bronze Medalist

Mason McIntyre, Bronze Medalist

Dramatic Interpretation

Noah Redmore, Bronze Medalist

Extemporaneous Speaking

Mason McIntyre, Bronze

Speech to Entertain

Noah Redmore, Silver Medalist

Tabitha Roenneburg, Bronze Medalist

Persuasive Speaking

Noah Redmore, National Gold Medalist

Freeport Memorial School of Nursing Alumni scholarships available

The Freeport Memorial School of Nursing Alumni organization is offering scholarships to help nurses and nursing students further their education. "The idea was proposed at our annual banquet in 1990 by Phyllis Almberg," said FHN Community Services Coordinator Jackie Roach, RN. "Three volunteers investigated the idea and in 1991 we voted to establish a scholarship program. We were proud to begin the program by awarding

Roach said. "Since then, we've awarded 83 scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 each."

The scholarships are available to help cover the cost of pursuing a career in nursing for those just starting out or for nurses pursuing advanced nursing education. Applications are available through area high school guidance counselors, at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport, at SSM Health

Foundation office.

The organization's selection committee determines scholarship recipients based on educational and vocational goals, extracurricular and community activities including organizational, civic, or volunteer work and honors, awards or recognition applicants have received. Applicants must be accepted in a nursing program or pursuing advanced nursing education. Monroe Hospital and at the The deadline for applications

three scholarships in 1993," Highland Community College is June 1. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the 2023 annual banquet June 10. Scholarship funds are sent to the recipients' school in their

> For information on the scholarships or to request an application, contact Marilyn Thoren at 815-789-4707. The scholarships are funded by donations, gifts, and memorials. Those interested in contributing, please contact Cheryl Schofield at 815-541-9657.

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Easter on April 30. A Worship Service with Holy Communion will begin at 9 a.m. with Pastor Michelle Knight presiding. Special music will be presented by Bob and Kathy Eden. Sunday School will be held during church.

The weekly ministry of Healthy Wolves Backpack will continue. Backpacks are filled with food and taken to 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. Currently, 41 children are served through this program. Backpacks are assembled Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. in the upstairs youth kitchen. If interested in funding this weekly project through giving, visit the St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City website.

On Tuesday, May 2 dominoes will be played in Luther Hall. All are invited for a fun afternoon of games. The Men's Breakfast Group will meet at Garden View Restaurant on May 3 at 7:30 a.m. Any men in the Pearl City and Lena area are invited

The Christian Education Committee is excited to announce our plan for Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer. Community VBS Family Nights will take place on May 7, June 4, July 2, and August 6 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. A meal will be served from 5 to 5:20 p.m. for families to enjoy. Families may register their three-year-olds to fifth graders to participate in Community VBS Family Nights by going to https://tinyurl. com/stjohnpcvbs.

St. John's Lutheran Church of Pearl City is located at 229 S. First St., in Pearl City. To contact the church, 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, May 7 for Sunday Worship Service. Holy Communion will be celebrated in this service. The reading will be from John 14:1-14.

On Wednesday, May 10 Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience necessary. Come and tie the quilts and make difference in the world. On Thursday, May 11, Friendship Club will meet at Good Shepherd. The Potluck and meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. Entertainment by Tyger Johnson will start at 1 p.m. No dues are required to attend however, a free will offering would be appreciated.

All services will be recorded and available on the church's Facebook page and website. Please visit http://goodshepherdlena.org/ or and Facebook https://www.facebook.com/ GSLCLenaIL for more information. Please contact the church office at 815-369-5552 with any questions.

• Construction (Continued from page 2)

when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain from using mobile devices and be alert for

For IDOT District 2 updates, follow us on Twitter at @IDOTDistrict2 or view

area construction details on IDOT's traveler information map on GettingAroundIlli-



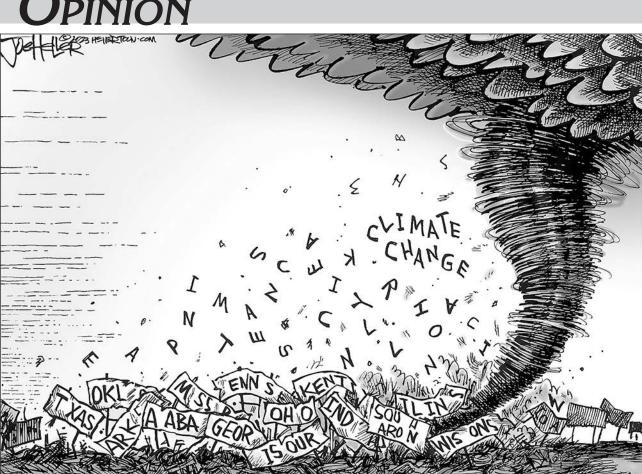
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Weekly connection

Teaching kids to work is still in style wagon. When the wagon

We just finished a week of incredible weather here in southern Wisconsin. It's one of those early spring weeks that comes along every decade or so and it just makes one feel so good. We went from cold and snowy off and on throughout March and early April to a blast

seemed. The sunshine was warm and invigorating and the grass and alfalfa came shooting up out of the ground like crazy. Because of the moisture and heat, I was able to get my four beef cows out onto pasture earlier than normal. Two of them have



out on pasture.

SCOTT CERNEK Columnist

already calved, and two are

expecting in the next couple

tonight who has over a

hundred beef cows of his

own and we both agreed that

working with our beef cattle

weeks so they'll be glad to be

I was talking to my brother

THE SCOOP TODAY Shopper's Guide

"Committed to the communities we serve"

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calves.

reminds us of working with our grandpa and his cattle. When we were little Gramps had about twenty head of Angus beef cows that he took care of on a farm near where he lived about fifteen miles away from where we lived on our dairy farm. Sometimes we would go over and help him feed them. He would climb up inside a little 12X40

silo and pitch the silage down

the shoot and onto a flatbed

got a nice big mound of feed on it, we would vell up to Gramps to stop pitching down the silage. Then he would climb down the shoot, and he would let us drive his little Ford tractor that pulled the wagon of silage through the gate and out into the field to the feed bunks. I tried to steer close but not too close to those bunks and Gramps would fork big fork loads of silage into the bunk as I drove very slowly near the bunks stopping from time to time so he could scoop the feed to those black cows and

The farm work kept us totally occupied every day in thought and deed. Whether it was working on the dairy with my dad, and brothers or going over to help Gramps with the beef, there was so much to do on any given day. Since the farm was the main focus of our life and everyday

See STYLE, Page 5

Slices of life

Beauty in the backyard

It doesn't happen suddenly. At least it didn't for me.

You live your whole life as a normal person, taking it all in. Appreciating, yet taking it

But not really seeing it, or hearing them, for what they

It is a gradual process. First you see one. Then you might hear another. Or maybe there's a whole group. Whatever it is, it makes you take notice, even though they've been right there, in your backyard all along. Right under your nose, or perhaps beak, so to speak.

There are things in life that are so common you simply don't see them, or pay attention to them.

Like the TV playing in the background, faces in a crowd, the taste of water, the smell of fresh air or the softness of a favorite sweatshirt.

Our senses tune things out because they are commonplace—everyday and we don't always pay attention to the everyday things in life.

Until that changes, in one way or another.

For me it culminated with the birds in my backyard.

For most of my life, I lived a parallel existence with these winged creatures. I knew they were there, but that is where it ended. They existed - nothing more.

But then, I started noticing. One morning, one chirp at a

And one day I realized: the birds were singing. Their chorus of songs was a literal symphony waiting for me to hear.

I heard.

Then I started looking. Who was singing such songs? What color were his or her feathers?

And so it began. Bird watching, or for me,

more appropriately, bird listening.

I am a bird groupie—one



JÍLL **PERTLER** Columnist

Don't knock it until you've

You might think I sound as crazy as a loon, but consider the birds in my backyard. They're anything but crazy when they singsong their sing songs at 6 in the morning, That might sound like an alarm clock, and it might be, if it weren't so joyous.

For me it started with one itty bit of a bird, who perched on a tree right outside my window one morning. He belted out his song like a troubadour: regal and unapologetic. He was so confident; I found a need to know what-or exactly who he was.

Turns out there is an app for that. I downloaded it and entered the professional world of bird listening.

My troubadour was a Carolina wren—well known for his small stature and large voice. I can personally attest to that.

Since then, I've heard more than 20 different species of birds in my backyard. And I'm learning to identify them. It takes a perceptive ear to differentiate between a tufted titmouse and a vellow rumped warbler, but now I'm just bragging—proud as a peacock you might say.

In noticing their songs, my eyes and ears have opened to other backyard wonders. The way the sunlight reflects off the grass carpet under the oaks. The way the wind moves the leaves on the trees, causing them to dance. The tree branches, which serve as home and haven to

See BEAUTY, Page 5

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THE VILLAGE OF STOCKTON will be flushing hydrants beginning May 1 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. weather permitting

You may experience some low pressure or discolored water during this time.

SSM Health Monroe Hospital supports Freeport Community Foundation with financial gift

SSM Health Monroe Hospital recently presented the Freeport Community Foundation with a donation of \$2,000. The gift will support Freeport Community Foundation's food insecurity initiatives that connects regional food pantries with needed funding. basic need of reliable access to food is a prominent challenge in our communities," shared Jane Curran-Meuli, President of SSM Health Monroe Hospital and SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group. "We are honored to support Freeport Community Foundation's work in aiding local food pantries who are vital resources for those in need."

As reported in the 2022-2024 Ŝtephenson County Health Needs Assessment, 19% of the population received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) compared to the national average of 12% and 52% of children in Stephenson County are eligible for free or reduced

Michelle DeHaven-Quast, Executive Director of Freeport Community Foundation, also commented that "We are grateful for our partnership with SSM Health Monroe Hospital and the privilege to help ease hunger through local philanthropy. Food insecurity is a growing concern in northwest Illinois and the generosity of SSM Health will have a meaningful impact for those food pantries on the front lines."

Guidelines for writing, submitting a letter to the editor

Rock Valley Publishing encourages readers to reach out to the community by writing a letter to the editor.

Letters are limited to 500 words. Authors must include their first and last name, the city or village in which they reside, and a phone number and email address where they can be reached in case of questions. Send letters to: scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com

Letter-writers will be limited to one letter per month except for locally elected officials, or individuals specifically associated with local village governments or entities such as school districts, park districts or library districts.

No letters directed to a third party will be accepted for

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

SSMHealth. April 19, 20 23 PAY TO THE FreePort Community Foundation \$ 2,000.00 two thousand 00/100-MEMO FOOD Insecurity SSM Health Monne Hospital 1:7890 - 56731:

SSM Health presented a check to the Freeport Community Foundation on April 19. From left to right are Jane Curran-Meuli, President of SSM Health Monroe Hospital and SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group, Tammie Jamiska, SSM Health Monroe Hospital Community Health Specialist, Michelle DeHaven-Quast, Freeport Community Foundation Executive Director, and Sarah Flashing-Clow, Freeport Community Foundation Community Relations Director.

• Style (Continued from page 4)

was unique, we kids just never got bored. We couldn't wait for each new day to see what we could do to help Dad and Gramps get the work done. Today, all of us have our hands in Agriculture one way or another.

Now I find myself in the role of grandpa and my own grandkids love helping me work the same way I helped my grandpa. Today, for instance, we had a workday at the church and some of the grandkids were helping me put mulch in the flower

beds and around the trees and bushes. Then they helped with raking and carrying debris to the trailer and doing all kinds of work. I was really impressed with how hard they worked and when we got done, they were asking if there was more work to do. For the most part, kids just want to be busy and help get something accomplished if given the chance. It's too bad that too often we don't take the time to get them involved in constructive things that will

help build their character. Sports are good and I've coached sports for forty years of my life, but I don't think you can beat good old-

fashioned hard work. Proverbs12:11 gives this advice, whoever works his land will have plenty of bread, but he who follows worthless pursuits lacks sense. Learning to work begins at a young age. Let's not be afraid to teach our children this important practice. Until next week.



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• **Beauty** (Continued from page 4)

not only the birds but other woodland critters. Even the harsh and loud caws of the American crow contribute to the mix (and then some). My backyard is beautiful. It has been all along.

This may all seem new to me, but it isn't new. The birds have been there, all along, creating their synchronized chorus—just waiting for me to notice. Or maybe not

caring if I noticed at all.

Maybe they create simply to create and me noticing their beauty is but a happy by-product manufactured by and for me.

Either way, it's a gift. One I've overlooked for far too

Call me a bird lady. Call me what you will, but feel free (as a bird) to join the flock. I'd welcome you under

But even if I end up flying solo, it will be an adventure. My eyes and ears are now open.

Tufted titmouse—chirp away!

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



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American Legion Auxiliary Girls State sessions

(ALA) in all 50 states proudly host an ALA Girls State session. This is an amazing week of learning focused on responsible citizenship, leadership, and love for God and country.

Female high school students who have completed their junior year are selected and sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary units for this program, where they learn about the political process, electing officials for all levels of state government, and actively running a mock government. The delegates are assigned to mock cities and either the "Federalist Party" or the "Nationalist Party." Assistance from dedicated ALA volunteers ensures the program's nonpartisan governmental, patriotic, and civic objectives are carried out through interactive learning. Though the week is filled

there is always time for fun and the formation of long-term friendships.

The art of civil debate is one of the main skills learned at this premier program, hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary since 1937. Many ALA Girls State participants have gone on to a lifetime of service to our country in the military, civil service or advocacy.

Candidates should be interested in government and current events, have high moral character, and show strong leadership abilities. Because the structure of state and local government varies, ALA Girls State programs may vary in content and method of procedure, but each adheres to the same basic core values.

Two outstanding delegates are selected from each ALA Girls State session to attend ALA Girls

for a week in Washington, D.C.. where they run for political office, campaign and debate for the passage of legislation, and meet with their real-life counterparts on Capitol Hill. Capping off the week of ALA Girls Nation is a possible meeting at the White House with the President of the United States.

Local businesses and community organizations ensure maximum participation by contributing to the ALA Girls State program, ultimately benefitting their communities, and ensuring educated leaders for future generations. www.ALAforVeterans. org/ALA-Girls-State. The dates for this year's session in Illinois are June 18-24. If interested, contact a local American Legion Auxiliary unit or email: jamcps54@yahoo.com and put ALA IGS in the subject line.



Deadline to sign up is 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 3

Please Sign Up EARLY. Early Registration is Appreciated!!

April Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing Winners

Daily (a cooperative fundraiser) announces its April 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.

Sponsoring organizations from Jo Daviess, Carroll & Stephenson County include: Caring Community of Elizabeth, East Dubuque Music Boosters, Eastland Music Boosters, Galena After Prom, Galena Key Club, Hanover Alumni Association, Hanover Chamber of Commerce, Lena-Winslow Education Foundation, Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary Foundation, Pearl City Athletic Boosters, Philanthropic Educational Organization-Chapter OH, Scales Mound Travelers, Stewards of the Upper Mis-

sissippi River Refuge, Stock ton Girls Sports, Warren Athletic Boosters and West Carroll Sports Boosters.

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\$50 – Jody Carroll

\$50 – Trish Krug

\$150 – Margaret Wurster \$50 – Steve Jordan

\$50 - Amelia McDivitt

\$50 - Tim Brinkmeier

\$50 - Ron Babcock

\$50 - Dana Haynes

\$50 - Sheila Ohms \$50 – Wes Cowell

\$50 - Trisha Manns

\$50 - Jennifer Kehl \$50 - Sharon Wand

\$50 - Jared Sauer

\$50 – Dixie Beyer

\$50 – Jennifer Kempel

\$50 – Pennie Miller

\$50 - Vicki Wurster

News briefs

Lena Historical Society annual dinner

The Lena Historical Society will host their annual dinner on Wednesday, May 3 at the Lena Community Center. The presentation, "An Evening with Benjamin Franklin", will be led by Tim Connors.

Advanced registration is required. Dinner tickets are \$35, and there will be a raffle along with a silent auction. Dinner and raffle tickets can be purchased at Cindy's Beauty Salon, Engel's Repair, or Lena Mercantile. For more information, please call Eleanor at 815-238-2372.

Lena Friendship Center open house

Join the Lena Friendship Center on Sunday, June 11 for the 25th year celebration open house. The open house will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and light refreshments will be served. The center is located at 311 North Lake Road in Lena, IL.

Veterans' Footlocker in need of donations

The current needs for the Veterans Pantry in Freeport are paper towels, four-roll packages of toilet tissue, bar bath soap, Q-tips, body wash, body lotion and shampoo. Donations can be delivered to the Lena American Legion Home at 316 W. Main St. on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Please contact 815-369-4684 with any questions. Thank you for your generosity.

McConnell American Legion Auxiliary

The McConnell American Legion Auxiliary May meeting will be held on May 15, 2023, at the McConnell Legion. Social time will begin at 6 p.m. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided by Teri Thyberg. All are welcome to join. Please contact mcconnellauxiliary@gmail.com with questions or concerns.

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Newly elected Justices O'Brien, Rochford challenged over campaign donations

CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Two newly elected justices of the Illinois Supreme Court have declined to recuse themselves from a case challenging the state's recently passed ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. The court as a whole also issued an unsigned order declining to disqualify them.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs in the case, which include state Rep. Dan Caulkins, R-Decatur, filed a motion March 30 asking Justices Mary Kay O'Brien and Elizabeth Rochford, both Democrats, to recuse themselves from the case or, in the alternative, that the court disqualify them from participating.

The motion noted that both received substantial campaign donations during their 2022 campaigns from Gov. JB Pritzker and House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, both of whom are named defendants in the case. The motion also noted that both received endorsements from two prominent gun control lobby organizations, Gun Violence Prevention PAC and Giffords PAC.

According to campaign finance records, both judicial candidates received \$500,000 each from the JB for Governor campaign and another \$500,000 each from the Jay Robert Pritzker Revocable Trust. Both also received contributions from Welch's committee, \$350,000 for O'Brien and \$150,000 for Rochford,"The significance of the campaign derstated as often in politics. cash follows cash, especially when one considers the stake the Governor and/or Speaker were taking in the race(s)," the motion stated. "Thirty-Nine percent (39%) of Justice O'Brien's cash came

Thirty-Six percent (36%) of Justice Rochford's cash came from litigation stakeholders.'

The motion also cited a joint statement from G-PAC and Giffords PAC issued Nov. 9, the day after the election, in which the groups touted the victories of 88 'gun-safety" candidates they had endorsed in the election. "Chief among them are victories in both contested Illinois Supreme Court races as well as a pickup in the Illinois Senate and four pickups that build the supermajority in the Illinois House," the groups

"G-PAC congratulates the gun safety candidates who were victorious in the general election, particularly newly elected Supreme Court Justices Elizabeth Rochford and Mary Kay O'Brien as well as Senator-elect Rachel Ventura and Representatives-elect Diane Blair-Sherlock, Nabeela Syed, Mary Beth Canty and Laura Faver Dias," they said.

In their motion, the plaintiffs' attorneys conceded that there is no Supreme Court rule specifying how a justice could be disqualified. But they did cite portions of the Illinois Code of Judicial Conduct, which states in part that, 'A judge shall be disqualified in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned.'

That includes cases in which the judge has a personal bias or prejudice concerning the parties, attorneys or issues involved, as well as cases in which the judge has made public statements outside of a court proceeding that appear to commit the judge to a particular decision.

In Illinois, the decision on whether Supreme Court justices should recuse themselves from a case rests solely with the justices them-

Rochford declined to do so.

In separate orders written by each of the two justices, O'Brien and Rochford noted that the plaintiffs did not point to any specific pledges or statements that would indicate a bias in the case. They both also argued that the contributions they had received were within the state's campaign finance limits for judicial elections.

Both justices cited a case involving now-retired Justice Lloyd Karmeier, a Republican, who was asked in 2014 to recuse himself from hearing an appeal in a \$10 billion class action lawsuit against tobacco giant Philip Morris. Plaintiffs in that case argued

company, Altria Group, had given \$500,000 to a group that supported Karmeier. "The claim that a judge may not hear a case because a party may have some association with a public interest group or political party that did support or may have supported the judge's candidacy has no basis in the law, would be unworkable and is contrary to the very notion of an elected judiciary," Rochford quoted Karmeier as writing at the time.

"When judges are elected, as the Illinois Constitution requires, it is inevitable (and entirely appropriate) that interest groups will support judges whose judicial within hours of its passage,

are most closely aligned with their own views," Rochford's quotation of Karmeier continued.

O'Brien quoted Karmeier as well, stating: "Litigants must not be permitted to create the grounds for recusal by criticizing the judge or casting sinister aspersions, nor may a party engage in 'judge-shopping' by manufacturing bias or prejudice that previously did not exist."

Lawmakers passed the ban on more than 170 types of semiautomatic firearms and high-capacity magazines during a special lame duck session in January. Gov. JB Pritzker signed it into law state to enact such a ban.

There are currently two challenges to the law pending in state courts. The Caulkins case originated in Macon County while a separate suit filed by attorney Thomas De-Vore, the 2022 Republican candidate for attorney general, originated in Effingham County.

The Supreme agreed to hear the Macon County case on an expedited schedule while the Effingham County case is being held "in abeyance" pending the outcome of the Macon County case. The law is also being challenged in federal court in East St. Louis where a judge heard oral arguments.



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Broncos suffer first losses of 2023 season with busy week

By Trenten Scheidegger CORRESPONDENT

The Orangeville Broncos had a jam-packed schedule with five games on the plate last week. The Broncos entered the week with a perfect record of 11-0, but some tough games, including the Monroe Tournament, would change that.

On Tuesday, April 18, home game against the Morcarried a 7-5 overall record ahead of the matchup. In a low-scoring affair, the Broncos struggled to get the bats going against Morrison's best

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three hits and one walk on the day. the Broncos had one of their day, leaving them with limittoughest tests of 2023 with a ed baserunners. Leah Baker tossed a complete game, alrison Mustangs. Morrison lowing just one earned run on nine hits. Despite that, Baker took the loss on the mound as the broncos fell 3-1. Anicka Kraft, Addyson Wheeler, and Megan Holder were the only pitcher. Orangeville had just Broncos to tally hits on the

After seeing the zero in the loss column disappear, the Broncos quickly bounced back with a win over a gritty Lena-Winslow squad. Despite being on the road, the Broncos had the hot hand as they combined for fourteen hits on the day. Holder had a massive day, going four for five with three runs scored and three runs batted in. Wheeler was nearly perfect at the plate, going three for four with four RBI. Wheeler hit a triple in the third inning that blew the game wide open. Hanna Broge had two hits and three RBI as well. Baker continued her quality pitching. Baker tossed another seven innings, allowing three earned runs off seven hits. Baker struck out six as she collected the win on the day. Kieran Madigan led Le-Win with two hits and a pair of runs scored. Emma Kempel went one for three with one RBI as the Panthers fell to Orangeville 12-3.

The next day, the Broncos were back on their home field as they played host to Wisconsin's Pecatonica team on Friday, April 21. This time around, the Broncos were led by their pitching and defense. Laney Holland tossed a gem for Orangeville, going seven innings with seven strikeouts and five hits allowed. Holland had zero earned runs on

At the plate, three different ing just 11 runs.

Broncos had multiple hits in Holder, Wheeler, and Meghan Carlisle. Carlisle led the way, going two for three with one RBI, while Wheeler finished two for four with one RBI. Holder went two for four with a pair of runs scored as the Broncos picked up the 5-2

On Saturday, April 22 the Broncos left the state themselves as they traveled to Monroe, Wisconsin to compete in a pair of games. The Broncos opened the invitational with a tough opponent in Kenosha Tremper.

Immediately, the Broncos found themselves trailing as Kenosha jumped out to a two-run lead in the top of the first inning. In the bottom of the fourth, Orangeville came to the plate trailing by three. Holland sparked some momentum with a leadoff single up the middle. After a pair of wild pitches, Holland scored Orangeville's first run of the game. With two outs, Baker singled to right field, driving Carlisle in, and bringing the Broncos within one.

That was the closest they would get, however, as Kenosha quickly got three runs back in the top of the fifth. Orangeville was unable to complete the comeback as they fell by a final score of 7-4. There was no shortage of offense as both teams combined for 25 hits, despite scor-

Holland took the loss on the mound, throwing seven innings with six earned runs on 14 hits allowed. Holland made up for it at the plate, however, going four for four with a pair of runs scored. Wheeler went two for four, and Baker was two for three with an RBI. That was a majority of their offense, however, as the Broncos were unable to string anything together for that big inning.

Fortunately, Orangeville once again displayed their ability to bounce back from a loss. In their next game, the Broncos picked up a 16-6 victory over Tomahawk. A big fourth inning lifted the weight off the offense's shoulders as they put up ten runs. A trio of Bronco hitters finished with three hits as Holder went three for five with three runs scored, Baker went three for five with three RBI, and Broge went three for five with two runs scored and one RBI.

After the long week, the Broncos held a record of 14-2. While there is no longer a zero in the loss column, Orangeville remains one of the top teams in the area and will continue to have a target on their back each and every game.

On Thursday, April 27 the Broncos play host to the Durand Bulldogs. The next day, Orangeville plays host to Lena-Winslow for their second conference matchup of the



Panthers win five in a row

their head coach Nick Werhane

By Trenten Scheidegger CORRESPONDENT

Following their double header against Dakota, the Lena-Winslow Panthers' and

knew they had to be better. Ever since that less than stellar performance, the Panthers have held a chip on their shoulder as they went on to win five consecutive games, improving their record to 10-2.

The winning streak began on Tuesday, April 11 when the Panthers defeated Aguin 15-1 and then 18-1 two days later. On Saturday, April 15 the Panthers put up over 15 runs for the third consecutive game as they beat Amboy 17-6.

It took a comeback effort to beat Amboy, as the Panthers found themselves trailing 6-2 after two innings of play. Le-

Win was boosted by a massive fifth inning as they put up 10 runs on offense. Jake Zeal led the way in the win as he was perfect at the plate. Zeal finished the day going four for four with three runs scored and six runs batted in. Zeal provided nearly half of the team's hits as Le-Win finished with nine on the day. Drew Streckwald was the only other Panther with multiple hits as he went two for three with two runs scored and one RBI. Wes Offerman picked up the win on the mound, going all five innings with four earned runs on five hits.

See PANTHERS, Page 9



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• Panthers (Continued from page 8)

by Coborn's. Coborn's plans

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will need to make some ad-

justments to their business to

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livan. Sullivan started as a

meat cutter while serving in

the U.S. Army and eventually

bought his own store when he

moved to Savanna, IL.

• Corbon's (Continued from front page)

and all workers are being hired Coborn's first venture into the

On Tuesday, April 18 the Panthers opened the new week with a double header against the Orangeville Broncos. Although the Broncos have struggled through the 2023 season, it was imperative that the Panthers picked up some important NUIC-East wins if they wanted to continue competing for the top spot.

Le-Win put in dominant performances in both games, winning by scores of 17-0 and 27-0. In the first game, the Panthers wasted no time iumping out to a lead with five runs in the first. By the end of two, Le-Win held a 15-0 lead. Rowen Schulz led the way in the win with two hits and four RBI. Luke Madigan was right there with him, going two for four with two RBI.

In the second game, Streckwald and Schulz combined to pitch a one-hitter as they shutout the Broncos again. At the plate, Streckwald led the way, going three for three with four runs scored and five RBI. Cobryn Lynch had a massive day, going two for three with two runs scored and a trio of RBI. Both Landon Grindey and Offerman finished with two RBI as well

Prior to their games against Pearl City this week, Werhane spoke about the importance of those wins, and the schedule "The Games against Pearl City are so important," Werhane said, explaining, "Even though we didn't put our best effort on the field against Dakota, we still are in a position to at least share the conference championship, or possibly win it outright. That's always a goal in our program at the beginning of the season, win the conference. We have put ourselves in a position where if we beat Pearl City twice and take care of business against Durand-Pecatonica the following week, that it's ours."

Werhane knows those games against Pearl City are no walk in the park, however. Following the Orangeville wins Werhane said, "We need to play our best baseball next week. I have so much respect for coach [Ryan] Plager and

his program. He does things the right way and they are a good team with good numbers coming up at the JV level. It's going to take our best game to beat them with [Nathan] Brinkmeier on the mound, as he's the toughest pitcher in the area. Then we have another hurdle to clear after Brink, and that's either [Tanner] Purdue or [Kyle] Niehaus. It's not going to be easy, but I know my guys are up for the challenge. We certainly have the talent to do it, but we have to put it all together. Offense, defense, and consistent pitching.'

Fortunately for Le-Win, they are playing some of their best baseball of the year as of late. Werhane spoke about the offense's improvements saying, "Our offense is our team's best quality. I'm blessed to have talented and knowledgeable hitters on my team. We are also very aggressive running the bases, so that helps get things going. Since the Dakota games, I'd say we have seen average pitching. We have certainly taken advantage of that, which is what needs to happen. However, we need to be able to figure out a way to beat above average pitching. Dakota is a talented team, and when Eyster is pitching they can hang with just about anybody. However, we didn't put our best effort on the field that night. Not trying to take anything away from Dakota, but we have to play better against the better teams.

When asked if it felt good to see the team put everything together in their recent run, Werhane answered, "Yes it does. As important as offense is to our program, we take a lot of time to stress and teach the importance of playing good defense. We don't have a dominant pitcher this year who's going to strike out 12 batters and put our team on his back, so it has to be a team effort and that's what we have been doing lately."

This Thursday, April 27 the Panthers host Pearl City for their second meeting. On Tuesday, May 2 Le-Win returns home to play host to the Durand-Pecatonica Rivermen.

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From Lena's Kitchen



The not so skinny cook

We are in typical northwestern Illinois weather. One day warm, the next day we need all kinds of clothes layered to stay warm. The grass is greening up, the trees are budding out, and my tulips and daffodils survived the snow. This week's recipes are using some of the vegetables that are going to be coming out soon. Read on for a good appetizer, a great salad, some good and inexpensive main dishes, and unique desserts. Have a good week cooking.

Asparagus Puffs

great treat to have on hand would make a great addition ter; drain and pat dry. to a Mother's Day brunch buffet. Puff Pastry is wonderful; it is in the frozen section of most grocery stores, and it is easy to use.

- 1 lb. fresh asparagus, trimmed
- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 C. grated Parmesan
- 1 T. stone-ground mustard
- 2 t. lemon juice
- ¼ t. salt
- ¼ t. pepper
- 1 pkg. (17.3 oz.) frozen puff pastry, thawed
 - 1 egg
 - 2 T water

In a large skillet, bring 11/2 inches of water to a boil.

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to those readers who have sent a donation to help

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newspaper and would like to help us pay for its operation,

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Add the asparagus spears; until golden brown, 25 to 30 dressing to have a little kick, spray. Add chicken broth This appetizer uses aspar- cook, uncovered, until crisp agus and puff pastry. It is a tender, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove the asparagus and imfor any kind of party. It mediately drop into ice wa-

In a small bowl, mix the cream cheese, Parmesan, mustard, lemon juice, salt and pepper until blend-Unfold the puff pased. try sheets. Cut each sheet in half to make a total of 4 rectangles. Spread each rectangle with a fourth of the cream cheese mixture within 1/4 inch of the edges. Arrange the asparagus over top, allowing tips to show in each end; roll up jelly roll style. Using a serrated knife, cut each roll crosswise into 4 sections. Place seam side down on a parchment-lined baking sheet. In Preheat the oven to 400. a small bowl, whisk egg and water until blended, brush lightly over tops. Bake puffs

minutes. Remove from pan add two drops of Tabasco to wire rack; serve warm.

Tangy Ranch Slaw

This slaw is really unique because it has lots of additions. You certainly get your veggies in this salad. The homemade dressing is a buttermilk base. You can buy a large container of buttermilk because several of the recipes in this column use it.

- ½ small green cabbage, cored and thinly sliced
- 2 cucumbers cut into matchsticks
- 4 oz. sugar snap peas, thinly sliced on bias
 - ½ C. ranch dressing
- 2 small carrots, sliced into matchsticks
- 2 green onions, thinly sliced on bias
- 1 bunch radishes, cut into matchsticks

Chopped fresh dill for serv-

In a large bowl, toss cabbage, cucumbers, and sugar snap peas with ranch dressing to coat. Toss in carrots, onions, and radishes. Sprinkle with dill.

Ranch Dressing with **Buttermilk**

½ C. sour cream

½ C. buttermilk

¹/₄ C. mayonnaise 2 garlic cloves, minced

1 t. salt

1/4 t. pepper

1½ t. dried dill

4 t. dried chives

2 t. fresh lemon juice

Combine all ingredients in a medium bowl and whisk well. Taste and adjust seasoning if necessary. Chill until ready to serve. The dressing will keep well in the refrigerator for 3 to 4 days. The dressing can also be used as a dip. If you want the sauce.

Asparagus Stuffed Chicken Breast

If you need a nice main dish for a special occasion, this recipe will be the one to serve. Because we are starting to get fresh asparagus in the stores, it is a good time to

- 8 fresh asparagus spears
- 2 boneless skinless chicken breast halves
 - 1 T. Dijon mustard
- 4 fresh sage leaves or 1 t. dried sage
 - 2 slices provolone cheese
 - 2 slices deli ham

1/4 C. flour

1 egg, slightly beaten

½ C. breadcrumbs

¹/₄ C. grated Parmesan

1½ t. butter

1½ t. olive oil

1/4 C. chicken broth

In a large skillet bring ½ inch of water to a boil. Add asparagus; cover and boil for 3 minutes, remove from water, and immediately plunge asparagus in cold water. Drain and pat asparagus dry. Flatten chicken to ¼ inch thickness. Spread mustard over one side of each chicken breast. Down the center of each, place two sage leaves or some dried sage, a cheese slice, a ham slice and four asparagus spears. Fold chicken over asparagus; secure with toothpicks.

Place flour and egg in separate shallow bowls. In another shallow bowl, combine breadcrumbs and Parmesan cheese. Dip chicken in the flour, egg, then breadcrumbs. In a large skillet, brown chicken on all sides in butter and oil. Transfer to an 8-inch square baking dish coated with cooking

to skillet, stirring to loosen browned bits from pan. Pour over chicken. Bake at 350 for 20 to 25 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink. Discard toothpicks before placing on a serving platter.

Slow Cooker Salisbury Steak

If you are looking for a budget friendly beef dinner, this recipe will help the pocketbook out. It is good enough to serve for company or Sunday dinner.

- 1 C. crushed saltine crackers (about 30)
 - 1/3 C. water
 - 2 t. Worcestershire sauce ½ t. salt

 - ¼ t. pepper
 - ½ t. garlic powder
 - 1 t. onion powder
 - 2 lbs. ground beef
 - ¹/₄ C. flour 2 T. canola oil
- 2 cans cream of mushroom
- soup, undiluted

Mashed potatoes or noodles In a large bowl, combine cracker crumbs, water, Worcestershire, garlic and onion powder, salt, and pepper. Crumble beef over mixture and mix lightly but thoroughly. Press into an ungreased 9-inch square pan. Cover and refrigerate for at least 3 hours. Cut the meat into 3-inch squares, dredge in flour. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium heat; add beef and cook until browned on both sides, 2 to 3 minutes on each side. Transfer to a 3-qt slow cooker with a slotted spatula or spoon. Add soup. Cover and cook on high until meat is no longer pink, about 4 hours.

See KITCHEN, Page 13

Serve with either mashed po-

tatoes or noodles. Sprinkle

with minced parsley.

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Galena ARC offering summer youth art classes for the tri-state area

The Galena ARC is offering several art classes this summer for youth ages 6-18. Classes are open to everyone in the Tri-State area and beyond. There are a variety of classes offered from pottery to bookmaking to cooking.

Join Liz Larson, ARC Art Director for Art Tuesdays this Summer during June and August. Classes are designed for ages six and up (adult students are welcome to join as well). Each age can achieve success at their individual skill level. Classes begin at 1 p.m. and end at 5 p.m. Each class is \$35 and includes all supplies and an afternoon snack. These classes offer a creative environment for young artists to explore new ideas, develop skills, and build self-esteem through making and learning about art. Class topics include fairy houses, wool felting, book making, drawing lessons and macramé.

Create a pottery built bird house and 3-dimensional bird with ARC pottery instructor

O'Shaughnessy. Use slab building techniques to create your own three-dimensional bird house and clay bird then glaze with multiple fun colors for truly unique pieces. This two-day class is for ages 8 through adult.

The ARC also offers cooking classes for youth ages 9 and up as well as adult classes taught by Lynn Kaufman. She has been featured in both Taste of Home magazine and Food Network magazine. Being a retired culinary instructor plus dietitian, Lynn has plenty of adventures with cooking to share.

The ARC Music Studio also offers private lessons in piano, flute, guitar, and ukulele. Janet Kolimas has over thirty years of experience teaching different age groups. Contact Janet at 708-204-9622 with any questions. Scott Waterhouse is accepting new guitar students for private lessons. He teaches adults and well as youth. Scott also teaches music theory on all instruments. Conand local artist Stephanie tact Scott at 815-776-0604.

Summerset Theatre 48 tickets for 'Matilda the Musical' go on sale April 27

8 a.m. online Thursday, April 27 for the Summerset Theatre 48 production of "Matilda the Musical," which will be presented at Highland Community College's Ferguson Fine Arts Center Theatre on June 22, 23, 24, 29, and 30, and July 1 at 7:30 p.m. There is a matinee at 3 p.m. on July 2.

In-person/phone sales will begin at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 27 and run through Thursday, May 11. In-person/ phone sales will begin again on Monday, May 22 at 1 p.m. Online sales will be continu-

Summerset is a collabo-

Tickets will go on sale at ration of the theatre and music departments at Highland Community College. The cast is made up of local students and community members. The production is directed by Laura Early, Highland Theatre instructor.

> Ticket prices are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors (60 and older), and \$10 for students and children. Visit the box office at 2998 West Pearl City Road in Freeport, go online to highland.edu/boxoffice or call 815-599-3718. Tickets also will be available for purchase for a half-hour before each performance in the lob-



The Scoop Today & The Shopper's Guide

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PUBLIC NOTICE We, Brent and Colleen MICAH WILSON; Myers are bringing forth

our Land Patent for the following parcel located at 4606 Lily Creek Road Freeport, Illinois [61032]. Any party interested in viewing or challenging this claim can view the associated documents here_https://www.statenationalhelp.com/brent-colleen-myers

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2023) 434572

IN THE CIRCUIT **COURT OF THE 15TH** JUDICIAL CIRCUIT **STEPHENSON** COUNTY, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, PLAINTIFF,

VS. COURTNEY WILSON; MICAH WILSON; **UNKNOWN OWNERS** AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; COURTNEY WILSON; **UNKNOWN OWNERS** AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,

DEFENDANTS. NO. 22 FC 18 1264 WEST STAVER STREET FREEPORT, IL 61032

NOTICE OF SALE **PURSUANT TO** JUDGMENT OF **FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE** FORECLOSURE ACT PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale en-

highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment: CITY OF FREEPORT LOT 51 OF CREST-WOOD ADDITION TO THE CITY OF FREE-PORT, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN BOOK "F" OF PLATS, AT PAGE

TAX NO. 18-13-36-128-

Total Revenues: \$1,095

Total Revenues: \$306

Annual Treasurer's Report Pleasant Valley Township Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2023

tered by the Court in the

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

Revenues: Property Tax 51,410; Repl Tax 1,516; Dividend 566;

Miscellaneous Income 62; Checking Acc't Int 967.

Total Revenues: \$54.521 Disbursements: Salaries: (Range under \$25,000)R. Eden; J. Haas; P. Haas; T. Haas;

R. O'Connor; J. Werner; T. Wurster. Total Salaries 30,250. Payroll Taxes: 2,345. Vendors: Citizens State Bank (Truck Loan) 19,970; TOIRMA Ins 3,953; all others (less than \$2,500 ea) 3,500. **Total Disbursements: \$60,018**

CEMETERY FUND

Revenues: Property Tax 1,001; Bank Acc't Interest 67; CD Interest 27.

Total Disbursements \$2,877

Disbursements: Mowing (R&R Lawncare) 2,877. GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Revenues: Property Tax 1; Bank Acc't Interest 305.

<u>Disbursements:</u> Allied Benefit (MACI Insurance) 650. Total Disbursements: \$650 ROAD DISTRICT FUNDS (Road & Bridge, Audit, FICA, Insurance)

Revenues: Property Tax 61,523; Replacement Tax 2,350; Bank Acc't Interest 1,252; TOIRMA Dividend 463; Insurance Claim Proceeds 18,890; Misc. Inc. 1,469.

Total Revenues: \$85,947 Disbursements: Payroll: (Range under \$25,000) S. Haas, Total Payroll 1,547. Pay-

roll Taxes 252. Vendors: Citizens State Bank (Truck Loan) 14,170; HDI Quarry 7,936; TOIRMA Insurance 3,234; John Deere Fin. 10,396; AC McCartney 3,000; Haas Dirtworks 5,740; Henderson Prod 17,713; Tegeler Body & Fr 10,450; The Specialists, Inc. 11,713; Stephenson Service Co. 7,624; Louie's Trenching 13, 955; all others (less than \$2,500) 8,307. **Total Disbursements: \$116,037**

BRIDGE FUND

Revenues: Property Tax 25,861; Bank Acc't Interest 523. Total Revenues: \$26,384 **Disbursements: Total Disbursements: \$0**

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION Town Gen'l Road Dist. **Bridge Cemetery Funds** Assist. **Funds** 76,207 9,094 123,934 58,397 **Beginning Bal** 29,816 1,095 54,521 306 85,947 26,384 Revenues Disbursements 60,018 2,877 650 116,037 7,312 29,472 **Ending Balance** <u>70,710</u>

Subscribed and sworn to this 11th day of April 2023. Terry Haas, Pleasant Valley Township Supervisor and Treasurer of Pleasant Valley Township Road District. I, Rena Eden, Clerk of the Township of Pleasant Valley, JoDaviess County, State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023.

MOTOR FUEL TAX SUMMARY REPORT:

Beginning Balance: 108,791.31 96,375.21 Revenues: Disbursements: 135,275.52 **Ending Balance:** 69,891.00 (Published in The Scoop Today April 26, 2023) **LEGAL NOTICES**

March 9, 2023, Sheriff of Stephenson County will on 6/20/2023, in Stephenson County Courthouse 15 N. Galena Ave (West Door), Freeport, IL 61032, at 9:30am, sell at public auction and sale to the

29, **STEPHENSON**

COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

above entitled cause on 008

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1264 West Staver Street

Freeport, IL 61032 Description of Improve-

ments: The property is a single family. The property has a one car garage. The garage is attached. The exterior is vinyl siding. The color is white. The property does not have a fence. The property is occupied.

The Judgment amount was \$92,918.41. Sale Terms: This is an

"AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property

is subject to general real

estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without

any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by

the court. Upon payment in full of SESSION, IN ACCOR-

chaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please The successful purchaser has the sole responsibilirefer to file# 22-08936IL ty/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals FAIR DEBT COLLECpresently in possession of the subject premises. THE PLAINTIFF'S AT-

IF YOU ARE THE tional information other MORTGAGOR (HOME-OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POS-

the bid amount, the pur- DANCE WITH SECTION confirmation of the sale.

If this property is a con-

dominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and

than that set forth in this notice of sale. I3215826 April 26, May 3 & 10, 2023)

FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST, 2023

ANY

Property Taxes: \$64,825, Replacement Tax: \$1,434, TOIRMA: **TOWNSHIP-EXPENDITURE SUMMARY:** Advertisement: \$1,710; Community Relations: \$500; Donations: \$202; Office Supplies: \$713; Legal & Accounting: \$773; Utilities: \$275; Repairs & Maintenance: \$483; Dues & Subscriptions: \$202; Insurance: \$2,941 **COMPENSATION SUMMARY:** Jeffery Schuldt: \$330; Kevin Pierce: \$300; Brad Mapes: \$270; Sarah Heller: \$330; Garrett Toay: \$2,800; Ben Wooden: \$1,700; Jase McGivney: \$35,000, Delmar Nieman: \$4.312.50; Kyle Hubb: \$5,262; Mike Schultz: \$1,965,

Austin Westaby: \$2,100 ROAD DISTRICT-REVENUE SUMMARY: Property Taxes - \$118,516, Replacement Tax: \$5,645, Interest Income: \$931

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

RUSH TOWNSHIP & ROAD DISTRICT

TOWNSHIP-REVENUE SUMMARY:

ROAD DISTRICT-EXPENDITURE SUMMARY:

Reimbursed Mileage: \$87; Dues & Subscriptions: \$369; Fuel: \$23,189; Job Materials: \$463,240; Insurance: \$4,599; Supplies: \$11,603; Utilitie: \$488

Maintenance Services Equipment – \$12,227

Subscribed and sworn this 11th day of April, 2023.

Garrett J Toay, Supervisor

I, Ben Wooden, Clerk of the Town of Rush, Jo Daviess County, IL, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2023.

Subscribed and sworn to this 11th day of April, 2023.

Ben Wooden, Clerk

436328

(Published in The Scoop Today April 26, 2023)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

15-1701(C) OF THE IL-

For Information: Visit our

Between 3 p.m. and 5

p.m. only - McCalla Ray-

mer Leibert Pierce, LLC,

Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N.

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INFORMATION

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MORTGAGE

LINOIS

MEETING On May 10, 2023, at 9:00 am, a meeting conducted by Pearl City School District will take place at the Pearl City School in the HS

Library. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the district's plans for providing special education services to students with disabilities who attend private schools and home schools within the district for the 2023-24 school year. If you are a parent of a home-schooled student who has been or may be identified with a disability

and you reside within the

boundaries of Pearl City

Schools, you are urged to

attend. If you have further questions pertaining to this meeting, please contact Dr. Mike Schiffman, Superintendent of Pearl City schools at 815-443-2715.

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide April 26, 2023)

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436438

Cream Laver

chopped

1 egg

½ t. vanilla

In a small bowl, beat the cream cheese, sugar, egg, and vanilla until smooth and set aside. For the Brownie Layer, combine the butter, sugars,

Beat in eggs and vanilla. In a small bowl, combine the flour and baking powder; gradually add to cocoa mixture. Stir in crushed Oreo cookie crumbs.

and cocoa in a large bowl.

Pour into a greased 11 x 7 baking pan. Spoon cream cheese mixture over batter. Sprinkle with coarsely chopped cookies. Bake at 350 until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out with moist crumbs, 25 to 30 Cool completely minutes. on wire rack. Cut into bars. Store in refrigerator.

Lady Bird Cake

I don't often put recipes that use bananas because I have a severe allergy to them, however, one of my friends said this cake is delicious. Even though I won't be able to have a slice, it does have good stuff in it. I know if you try it, you will like it.

1 C. unsalted butter, soft-

2 C. sugar

3 eggs, room temperature 2 C. mashed ripe bananas

1 jar (12 oz.) pineapple preserves

3 C. flour

1 T. baking powder

½ t. salt

½ C. buttermilk, room tem-

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• Kitchen (Continued from page 10)

Cookies and Cream

Brownies

these bars, but this one has a

bit of a different take on the

brownie recipe because it uses

both brown and white sugar. I

love different bars, and you

will like the Oreo addition

½ C. packed brown sugar

2 eggs, room temperature

12 Oreo cookies, crushed

8 Oreo cookies, coarsely

1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese,

Brownie Layer

½ C. sugar

1 t. vanilla

½ C. flour

½ C. butter, melted

½ C. baking cocoa

1 t. baking powder

I have a similar recipe to

1 C. chopped pitted dates Pineapple Cream Cheese Frosting

Garnish with pecans and dried pineapple

Preheat oven to 325. Spray a 9 x 13 pan with baking spray with flour. In a large bowl, beat butter and sugar with a mixer at medium speed until fluffy, 4 to 5 minutes, stopping to scrape sides of bowl. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in mashed banana and preserves until combined. In a separate bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt. With mixer on low speed, gradually add flour mixture to butter mixture alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour mixture, beating just until combined after each addition. Stir in dates. Spread batter into prepared pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 55 minutes to 1 hour. Let cool completely in pan on a wire rack.

Pineapple Cream Cheese Frosting

1 C. unsalted butter, softened

1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened

¹/₄ C. pineapple preserves 6 ½ C. powdered sugar.

In a large bowl, beat butter and cream cheese with a mixer at medium speed until smooth and creamy, stopping to scrape sides of bowl. Beat in preserves. Gradually add powdered sugar, beating at low speed until well combined, stopping to scrape sides of bowl. Increase mixer speed to medium high and beat until light and fluffy. Spread frosting onto cake. Garnish with pecans and dried pineapple. Cover and refrigerate. Can be stored in refrigerator for 3

Final Thoughts

My allergies are driving me crazy. I know other people are suffering as much

as I am. I can't wait for all the trees and bushes to get done bursting out. I am hoping the pollen count will go down. My allergy medicine is not even making a dent in the dripping nose and watery eyes. Enough about my aller-

Dwain, my tree guy, was here and got the limbs from my yard just in time for the mowing to begin. I still have my two Charlie Brown pine trees standing, but they will soon come down. My backvard will be naked. I will have some decisions to make about planting something. I have a lot of wires that go through the yard to my and my neighbor's yards, so there will be some careful thought put into this process.

Prom season is upon us. The big dance and all its trimmings have started. Spring brings these traditional rituals that introduce some great memory making times. Spring also brings out dangers with driving. Please be aware of our farmer friends as they attempt to go from field to field in preparation and plant-Stop and think about what danger you are putting oncoming traffic, the farmers, and yourself in as you try and pass when you have no business doing so. They are bigger than you are; they are slower and can't stop on a dime. Use caution. They are as worried about you as well as themselves. Be safe when traveling.

The next holiday is Mother's Day. We will be looking for some brunch recipes and of course, the rhubarb is beginning to peek out of the ground. We will continue to look for Spring recipes. If you have any rhubarb or spring fruit recipes, we would like to see them. 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, The Shopper's Guide at 240 W. Main St. or email us at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.

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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, Brian and Carla Myers are bringing forth our Land Patent for the following parcel located at 4480 Illinois Route 26 North, Freeport, IL [61032]. Any party interested in viewing or challenging this claim can view the associated documents here https:// www.statenationalhelp. com/brian-carla-myers

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2023)

435765

NOTICE OF PUBLIC **SALE:**

The following self-storage Cube contents containing household and other good will be sold for cash by CubeSmart to satisfy a lien on May 11,2023 at www.storagetreasures. com. Online Bids START 14 days prior to the final sale date listed above at the stores and approximate times listed below:

Online Bids **END** 1:00PM at Approx: **CubeSmart #4409, 555** W. South St. Freeport, IL 61032 (779)677-2500: cube 1006 Katelyn Vander-

(Published in The Shopper's Guide April 26 & May 3, 2023)

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC **MEETING**

On April 28, 2023 at 10:00 AM, a meeting conducted by the Lena-Winslow School District will take place in the District Board Room at 401 Fremont St., Lena, IL. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the district's plans for providing special education services to students with disabilities who attend private schools and home schools within

the district for the 2023-24 trict Office at Stockton school year. If you are a parent of a home-schooled student who has been or trict's plans for providing may be identified with a disability and you reside within the boundaries of Lena-Winslow School District, you are encouraged to attend. If you have further 2023-2024 school year. If questions pertaining to this meeting, please contact Dr. Tom Chiles at (815) 668-0800.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide April 26, 2023)

NOTICE OF **PUBLIC MEETING**

On May 17, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. a meeting conducted by Stockton Community Unit School District #206 will take place in the Dis-

High School. The purpose will be to discuss the disspecial education services to students with disabilities who attend private schools and home schools within the district for the you are parents of a homeschooled student who has been or may be identified with a disability and you reside in/within the boundaries of stockton CUSD #206, you are urged to attend. If you have further questions pertaining to this meeting please contact James Bunting, Superintendent at 815-947-3391.

(Published in The Scoop Today April 26, 2023)

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT NORA-RUSH-WARREN MULTI-TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST, 2023.

REVENUE SUMMARY: PROPERTY TAXES \$18,283, Interest Income - \$84, US Treasury Refund:

Total Revenues: \$18,727

COMPENSATION SUMMARY: Steve Wulfekuhle \$75, Ben Wooden \$75, Donna Ernst \$300, Laura Busch \$75, Michelle Bennett \$75, Garrett Toay \$450. Assessor: \$13,800

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY: TOIRMA: \$500; Rock Valley Publishing: \$82.50, Bauer & Fonseca PC: \$924.75; Jo Daviess Co Supervisor of Assessments: \$202.50; Reimbursed Assessor Expenses: Mileage: \$891.14; Meals: \$92.90; Office Supplies: \$132.55; Lodging: \$309.81; IPAI: \$124.88; GIS: \$91.80; SP Internet: \$224.21; Postage: \$1.20, Advertising: \$48.90

Total Expenditures: \$18,477

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION

Beginning Fund Balance,

Retained Earnings, April 1st, 2022, \$18,092 \$18,727 Revenues Expenditures \$18,477

Ending Fund Balance,

Retained Earnings, March 31st, 2023,

I, Garrett J Toay, Clerk-Treasurer of the Nora-Rush-Warren Multi-Township Assessment District, Jo Daviess County, IL, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2023.

Subscribed and sworn this 11th day of April, 2023.

Garrett J Toay, **Clerk-Treasurer**

(Published in The Scoop Today April 26, 2023)

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business & service

Other Services Offered

Winnebago County Fairgrounds • Pecatonica, IL Friday, May 5, 4-9 p.m. Saturday, May 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, May 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Marvin Kraus Promotions • 563-608-4401

for sale

Announcements

CLASSIFIED IN-COLUMN ADS cannot be credited or refunded after the ad has been placed. Ads canceled before deadline will be removed from the paper as a service to our customers, but no credit or refund will be issued to your account.

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

Lawn & Garden

HONDA GARDEN TRACTOR 20 HP, 48" mower deck, 48" Twin-Stage Snow Blower. \$1300. Call

garage sales

Durand

DURAND GARAGE SALES April 28th and 29th. Durand, IL. Some sales will be open Thursday, April 27th. Pick up a flyer at Shell or Ringo's Restaurant.

Lena

239 HICKORY DRIVE Thur. April 27, 3-7 Fri. April 28, 8-5 & Sat. April 29, 8-noon. Kids clothing, toys, baby equip, toddler beds. Items mrkd. all others 50cents!

IT'S GARAGE SALE TIME AGAIN!

realestate

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familiar/ status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-900-669-9777. The toll-free tele phone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. EQUAL HOUSING **OPPORTUNITY**

transportation

Automobiles

CONVERTIBLE HARD **TOP** Chrysler Sebring. Mint cond, one owner, 50,000 mi. \$13,000. 815-494-0938.

Boats

14 FT. FISHING BOAT Trailer, small engine, 3 seats. \$500 OBO 414-940-4624.

Campers and RVs

5TH WHEEL COUGAR CAMP-**ER** YEAR 2000, 28 ft. long, slide with new awnings. \$7,000 or OBO. 847-946-7660

Farm Machinery

2017 JOHN DEERE 1025R With 120R loader, 54" AutoConnect mowing deck, ballast box. 50 hours. Great condition-always garaged. \$18,500. Call 262-492-8206

Motorcycles

2002 Honda VTX1800R 1 owner, well maintained, Candy Apple red, \$5k. 815-369-4295

2005 SUZUKI BERGMAN 400 Very good condition, 38,000 mi, \$2.500 262-379-0548.

2010 HARLEY DAVIDSON Heritage softail classic, 32k, metallic flake merlot color, \$9500 firm. 815-947-2895

Trucks & Trailers

2005 FORD F150 STX 2 WD, 140,000 mi., 6 1/2' bed, runs great, good tires, new exhaust. \$5,000. Call 815-985-7202.

TRAILER: WOODEN FRAME Spring time - time for moving! 11ft. 6in. long, 4ft. wide, 12in. deep. Made of 2x8 and 2x10 planking. 15" tires. \$575. Pell Lake, WI. 262-279-3188.



The Wheel Deal

Place your car, truck, motorcycle, boat or RV for one price and it runs for up to 16 weeks.

1st three lines Extra lines are \$1.95 each 17 Papers

Starts for 4 weeks and if not sold you call us and we will renew at no additional charge! (Maximum run 16 weeks total)



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Write your ad below, One Word Per Box, be sure to include your price

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YOUR NAME	EPHONE
ADDRESS	
_	

Lena American Legion breakfast to support veterans

A breakfast will be held on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2023, at the Lena American Legion Home, located at 316 W. Main St., Lena. It is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary and proceeds will be donated to Sons of the American Legion to help send veterans to a Chicago Cubs game.

Breakfast will be served from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., followed by a memorial service. Breakfast will include scrambled eggs, french toast, biscuits and gravy, sausage, ham, coffee cake, fresh fruit, juice, milk and coffee. The price is \$10 per person or \$5 for children under 10 years old. Carryouts are available.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Baking for a cause

Judy Shippee, a member of the Lena American Legion Auxiliary, serves cookies to the blood donors at the recent blood drive held at the Lena American Legion home. The American Legion Auxiliary makes homemade cookies for the four times a year that the blood drive is held. The Lena Masonic Lodge, the Knights of Columbus, The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion all work together to hold these blood drives.

Rainwater Management with Native Plants program offered

Join University of Illinois Extension Natural Resources, Environment, and Energy Educator, Jay Solomon for "Rainwater Management with Native Plants". This program is taking place on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 6 p.m. at the Jo Daviess County Extension Office, 204 Vine St. Elizabeth, IL 61028. There is a \$5 fee to attend the program and pre-registration is requested. To register or for more information call 815-858-2273 or register directly at go.illinois. edu/Rainwater.

Learn about options for diverting rainwater from hardscapes into designed areas for absorption instead of lost as runoff. Solomon will discuss how rain gardens, bioswales, and other structures can be designed into your landscape to retain this valuable resource. He will also talk about how native plants can complement these efforts.

If reasonable accommodation is needed to participate in this program, please call 815-858-2273. Early requests are strongly encouraged.





SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Lena Lions honors members for their dedication to the Club

Lions Mary Gerbode, Glenn Harman, and Claire Smunt receive the Foundation Fellows Award for their very active work with the Lena Lions. Foundation Fellows Awards are the highest Club award given at the state level. Presenting the awards was Lion Gary Meyers.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

And the 'Lion of the Year' goes to...

Lion Cheryl King is presented with the "Lion of the Year" award by President Dan Smunt. Lion Cheryl goes above and beyond in helping with the Lions many projects and in the Lena Community.

Rock Valley Publishing is seeking freelance reporters and photographers to produce local news and photos for your hometown newspaper. Weekly stories and photos needed for Jo Daviees and Stephenson Counties. Writing and reporting experience a plus. Work from home as an independent contractor with no in-office requirement. PLEASE EMAIL RESUME TO: scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com

The Scoop and Shopper's Guide

Affordable health screenings coming to Lena

Residents can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Lena Community Center will host this community event on May 17, 2023. The site is located at 497 Lions Dr. in Lena.

Screenings can check for the level of plaque buildup in your arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular

Residents can learn about health, HDL and LDL Choeir risk for cardiovascular lesterol levels, diabetes risk, kidney and thyroid function, and other chronic, seri-

Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available. Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit our website at www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

PLAINTIFF, VS.

MICAH WILSON; COURTNEY WILSON; MICAH WILSON; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; COURTNEY WILSON; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.

NO. 22 FC 18 1264 WEST STAVER STREET FREEPORT, IL 61032 NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF

FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on March 9, 2023, Sheriff of Stephenson County will on 6/20/2023, in Stephenson County Courthouse 15 N. Galena Ave (West Door), Freeport, IL 61032, at 9:30am, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

TAX NO. 18-13-36-128-008 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1264 West Staver Street Freeport, IL 61032

Description of Improvements: The property is a single family. The property has a one car garage. The garage is attached. The exterior is vinyl siding. The color is white. The property does not have a fence. The property is occupied.

The Judgment amount was \$92,918.41.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate,

water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

The property will NOT be open

for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. The successful purchaser has

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

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

(4).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAG-OR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our website at http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 22-08936IL

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Plaintiff's attorney is not re-

quired to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.

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April 26, May 3 & 10, 2023)

43653



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WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES AND CORRECT PRINTING ERRORS