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VOL. 85 • NO. 20

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2023

## Lena Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, and Le-Win students celebrate Arbor Day

In celebration of National Arbor Day, the Lena Lions Club, in collaboration with Nick Connell of the Freeport Golden K Kiwanis Club, provided trees for the Lena Community Park District and Lena-Winslow School.

The fifth-grade class of Holly Chrisman, Jamie Woodley, Linsey Killian and aides Tammy Taylor and Lindsey Gerbick planted the trees on Thursday, May 4 in the grounds of the school.

Around 50 students participated in the event, and each student received a goodie bag containing an oak sapling and various other items celebrating the day. It was a fun afternoon and the students got to learn how to plant trees and the importance of having trees within the ecosystem and environment. Additional trees are to be planted within the Lena Community Parks.

**See ARBOR DAY, Page 20**



On Thursday, May 4, 2023, fifth graders at Lena-Winslow Elementary planted trees on the school grounds to celebrate National Arbor Day. This event was held in collaboration with the Lena Lions Club and Nick Connell of the Freeport Golden K Kiwanis Club. Many local community members donated their time or services to support in the planting, and about 50 student participated.

## Panthers win fourth in a row

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT

The Lena-Winslow Panthers went perfect through their busy week. With four games scheduled in just five days, the Panthers didn't have much time to rest. No worries for them, however, as they won all four games to improve to 15-9 on the 2023 softball season.

The Panthers opened the jam-packed week with a home game against Leroy. The first inning had all the looks of an offensive shootout. Le-Win found themselves trailing 3-0 before they even came to the plate. The Panthers' offense got off to a hot start of their own, however, as they matched Leroy with three runs of their own. Cierra Hatelak had a sacrifice fly that allowed the Panthers to tie the game at the end of the first.

Le-Win took their first lead in the bottom of the third. Rachael Setterstrom singled up the middle, driving Morgan Gerber in and putting the Panthers up 5-4. Le-Win held the lead the rest of the way as they went on to win by a score of 8-4. Maddy Chiles was locked in after the third as she shutout Leroy the rest of the way. Chiles pitched a complete game with four strikeouts and eight hits allowed. At the plate, Kieran Madigan led the way, going two for three with three runs scored. Hailee Schiess was next up, going two for three with two runs scored and one run batted in. Emma Kempel had three RBI in the win, as well.

**See PANTHERS, Page 20**

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# Obituaries

## NINA M. SHEETZ

Nina M. Sheetz, 98, of Freeport, IL died peacefully on Friday, Dec. 30, 2022, at Oakley Courts Assisted Living surrounded by family. She was born on Oct. 9, 1924, to Winfield and Lucille (Hermann) Hall of Stockton. Nina and Bill Sheetz were married on Sept. 9, 1944, and farmed in Stockton until their retirement.

Nina was a long-time member of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Stockton where she was a church organist for 60 plus years and accompanied Bill's singing for numerous funerals and weddings throughout their 64-year marriage. Nina was also a member of Eastern Star. She was an avid reader and loved jigsaw and word puzzles, quilting and other needle work, and above all, spending time with her family.

Nina is survived by her three children; Mary Lynn (Gary) Groezinger of Stockton, Milt (Debbie) Sheetz of Yucaipa, CA., and Ellen Sheetz (Bev Miller) of South Dennis, MA., four grandchil-



dren; Marci (Kevin) Schubert of Stockton, Becki (Stewart) Baker of Freeport, Christopher Sheetz of Yucaipa, CA and Brianna (Jordan) Hazell of Sacramento, CA.; three great grandchildren; Sydn Schubert (fiancé Dylan Pulvermacher) of Stockton, Lauryn Schubert of Rock Island, and Annalise Sheetz of Yucaipa; and two great-great grandchildren, Cecelia and Violet of Stockton.

Memorial funds have been established for Oakley Courts Assisted Living, FHN Hospice, or a charity of your choice. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 219 N. Pearl St., Stockton, IL on May 20, 2023. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m. followed by a service at 11 a.m. with a luncheon in the church basement following. A private family burial will take place at a later date.

## DUANE KOEHN

Duane Koehn, originally from Lena, passed away on April 28, 2023, at the age of 69. He was born May 26, 1953, to Arlene (Hodgson) and Harold Koehn.

He is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his brother, Rich (Connie) Koehn and nieces, Macey and Shelley Koehn. Per Duane's wishes, no funeral or memorial service will be held.



## THE SCOOP TODAY SHOPPER'S GUIDE

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# Illinois wheat conditions 'slipped a bit' following storms

BY DANIEL GRANT  
FARMWEEK

The active weather so far this year created two key challenges for wheat growers and their winter crop in Illinois.

Muddy field conditions hindered applications of spring fertilizer and herbicides in many areas while a lack of sunlight potentially slowed crop growth.

A handful of fields were also battered by recent hailstorms, particularly in the northern half of the state, although that situation did not appear to be widespread as of April 6.

"I think the wheat crop has slipped a little bit," Mark Krausz, president of the Il-

linois Wheat Association (IWA), told FarmWeek. "I think it still has potential to be a really good crop. But it could have been excellent."

About half the Illinois wheat crop (56 percent) was ranked good to excellent as of April 3, up slightly from the same time last year, with 35 percent fair and 9 percent in poor to very poor condition, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Illinois field office.

"We've got pretty good tillers and stands, but the crop is not getting any warmth and sunlight. Those are two things really holding back the wheat crop," Krausz said April 20 after his farm re-

ceived another inch of rain. "We should have a stretch (of better weather) coming up."

Once field conditions improve, farmers must decide what to do agronomically with each field. The IWA president noted some fields have ruts from spring fertilizer applications.

"Our situation here in southern Illinois is we're all barely getting by getting fertilizer on," Krausz said. "I'd say two-thirds to three-quarters of the second shot of nitrogen is on. It's been a real struggle."

"And I don't think hardly anybody has Harmony or other herbicides on," he noted. "Weeds are growing through the wheat" in some

fields.

Elsewhere, drought remains an issue in key wheat-producing areas west of the Mississippi River. About 48 percent of the crops are in areas experiencing drought, according to USDA. Meanwhile, planting of spring wheat probably seems like a distant wish for farmers to the north after another blizzard blanketed the Dakotas the first week of April.

Overall, just 28 percent of the U.S. wheat crop was rated good to excellent as of April 3, which is the second lowest to begin the spring rankings since the NASS data series started in 1986, according to Rich Nelson of Allendale Inc. in McHenry.

## News briefs

### Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension

The May meeting of the Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension will be held May 18, 2023, at 1 p.m. at the Pearl City Library. Roll call will be "What Gives You Spring Fever?". Janet Ferguson will present the lesson on *Fuel to Fight Cancer*. Ruth Keltner and Anita Costello will bring raffle items. All are welcome to join.

### Carroll County Help Center Thrift Shop

Carroll County Help Center Thrift Shop is having a \$2 bag sale on infant and children's clothes through size 14 every Friday and Saturday in May.

Customers can choose a free toy with each purchase while supply lasts.

Thrift Shop hours are Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Thrift Shop is located at 126 South 4th St. Savanna.

### American Legion to update Memorial Day roll call

After a few years not holding the roll call of deceased veterans at the Lena Memorial Day service, The American Legion has reinstated this as part of their service.

To be sure that all local veterans are honored, the Legion is asking for assistance in collecting names of any veteran who has passed away since May 2022.

If you know a veteran that lived in Lena or was a member of the Lena American Le-

gion that passed away, please email jamcps54@yahoo.com and include the time of their service.

### Bake and rummage sale

A Bake and Rummage Sale Fundraiser will be sponsored by Holy Ghost Court #228 of the 1891 Financial Life (National Catholic Society of Foresters) in the Holy Ghost

church basement.

The sale will take place on Memorial Day weekend Friday through Monday, May 26 through May 29.

Funds raised up to \$1500 will be matched through the "Hearts and Hands" program. Proceeds will go toward replacing Father Werner's grave cover.

Contact Karen Reese for any questions at 608-568-3124 or dkrees@tds.net.

## Apple River Fort to host an evening with Clifford Krainik

On August 27, 1832, Black Hawk and his remaining allies surrendered at Prairie du Chien, bringing the brief but bloody Black Hawk War to a close. Only a few years later, Black Hawk's name and likeness began appearing on drink bottles, cigars, boats, schools, sports teams, and more. So how did America's Most Wanted turn into America's Advertising Darling?

Join the Apple River Fort as they host an evening with Clifford Krainik, author and historian, to explore Black Hawk's dramatic media transformation. The presentation will also feature a showcase of original Black Hawk memorabilia from Krainik's extensive personal collection. Afterwards, items from Krainik's collection will be on display in the Apple River Fort's Interpretive Center for the 2023 summer season.

This event will be held in the Elizabeth Community Building on Friday, May 12. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the presentation beginning at 7 p.m.

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# OPINION

## Slices of life

### The extended losses of grief

One of the toughest aspects of ongoing, persistent and long-term grief is the loss of human life.

Not the life of the person who died, but other losses you never would have foreseen—but then again did you foresee that first loss? I didn't think so.

Grief begets loss. Over and over. It's eye-opening, really. It brings about an intense sense of clarity. Life, relationships—everything—is fleeting. It is transient. It is sometimes no more than a mirage: something you thought was real, wasn't even there in the first place.

People you thought were your people turn away, dissolve or simply disappear into the background. They may reach out once or twice but eventually they go silent.

And that's okay. The number of people who have exited my life in the last two years is, honestly, astounding. I blame it on me. I blame it on them. I blame it on grief. I blame it on human nature.

They say public speaking is everyone's number one fear. I beg to differ.

I've come to believe it is grief. Loss. The unexpected upending of the solid and predictable universe as we once knew and trusted it. Being around someone in the throes of it can be difficult. Unbearable, even.

So unbearable that people tend to flee. Or at the very least avoid. Make excuses. Justify their flight. "It's just too hard to be around. Too depressing."

If the grief of another person makes you uncomfortable, imagine for a moment what that other person might be feeling, experiencing every day, every hour, every minute, every breath.

People around me are able to escape this reality because it isn't theirs. Unfortunately, I don't have that option.

I've watched person after person leave the party. Leave the scene of the crime. Without explanation or excuse. They are just gone.

Take it from me. I get it. I understand.

I used to be one of those people. Grief was overwhelming—even when it was the grief of someone other than me. I didn't want to have anything to do with



By  
**JILL  
PERTLER**  
Columnist

it.

So I absconded. I left the party.

Until I couldn't leave because I didn't have that choice. I was forced to watch the aftermath. To live out the algorithm. To experience the fallout. To see the fear in others.

To them I might be a third wheel. I might be a threat. I might be a reminder of what could be coming.

Either way, it isn't pleasant. I get that. I so get that.

My reason for writing this isn't to make people feel bad or guilty. I don't want my grief to do any more damage than it already has - and that has been substantial.

My purpose is to shine a tiny beam of light on the topic. Light a candle, if you will, to open the door to honesty in emotions that are uncomfortable and intimidating.

It's okay to be afraid of grief. I am. I don't think that will ever change. But if you are afraid, and if my grief causes that, please be honest. Let me know. It's okay. I will understand that so much more than your silence. I will understand because I do understand. More than you could ever know.

My grief makes you uncomfortable? Imagine how it makes me feel.

Yeah. Not good.

Let's talk. It's never too late, until it is.

And none of us wants it to get to that.

*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.*



## Weekly connection

### God is alive and well

About ten years ago I was asked by our local paper at the time if I would be willing to write a little article each week about some of my experiences from a pastor's perspective. I decided to accept the request because I figured I had enough stories from my childhood on the farm that would keep me writing articles for a long time. I was right. I realized the other day that I have written roughly five hundred articles since that time that have gone in to one newspaper or another. I started out just writing for one paper for the first five years or so and today my article goes out to about five or six small local newspapers around the Southern



By  
**SCOTT  
CERNEK**  
Columnist

Wisconsin and Northern Illinois area. I know this to be true because I get emails, letters, text messages and I've had many live conversations with people who tell me they are reading my articles. We have had several people come to visit our church too after reading these articles in the paper. So, all in all it has been a great experience and I hope to continue writing for as long as my articles are wanted. The first five years

of articles were put into four different book forms that I think might help people with insomnia to get to sleep at night. Most of those articles are about growing up on the farm with seven brothers and one sister and a lot of cows. You can order them at lulu.com if you need some help sleeping. The titles are Weekly Connection, Some Things Never Change, and Some Things Never Change Volumes 2 and 3. Each book can be ordered by going to lulu.com and typing in Scott Cernek in the search bar. Each book cost about twelve or thirteen bucks. You can also pick up a copy at church for ten bucks if you come visit some Sunday.

We've been experiencing

a powerful movement of God at our church in the past couple years as we have been really concentrating on loving and learning the word of God together. We have several Bible Studies going on each week and at every study we spend time praying together too. In fact, many of us used to be afraid to pray out loud and now we aren't afraid anymore. I believe the Lord really honors good old-fashioned study of the word and prayer. We don't spend a lot of time studying books written about the Bible, instead we just study the Bible, and the Holy Spirit shows up to help us learn what it means just like Jesus

**See GOD, Page 9**

## Come to Lena This Weekend

Don't Miss the Town Wide Garage Sales  
Friday, May 12 &  
Saturday, May 13

Map and Listings in this Issue



# Denver Baughman hired by Ark Encounter Drama Team

Denver Baughman, a senior pursuing a Bachelors degree in Theatre from Bob Jones University, was hired before graduation as an Actor at Ark Encounter Drama Team in Williamstown, Kentucky. Baughman is a current resident of Stockton.

## ANTIQUUE AUCTION

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SATURDAY, MAY 20 • 10 A.M. (RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 21)  
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**DIRECTIONS:** South of Maple Park on County Line Rd 5 miles to Rt. 64, then east ½ mile to sale site. Watch for signs.

\*\*\* Online internet bidding beginning at noon on larger equipment \*\*\*

**TRUCK - FORKLIFT - TRAILERS - JET SKIS:** 2002 IH Durastar 4400, DT 466 diesel engine, Eaton Fuller 6 sp., 11R-22.5 tires, 69,633 miles, with Warren 16' landscape dump body, with flip down sides; Yale GLC050VX Veracitor Forklift, 4800 lbs., 3 stage mast, propane, side-shift, cushion tires, 48" forks; 2004 Winston 7 ½' x 22' with 5 ½' dove tail, Flatbed Trailer, ramps, LT225/75R-16 tires; Cargo Express 8'x20' enclosed trailer; 8'x 20' enclosed trailer; (2) 1998 Kawasaki 1100 ZXI Jet Skis with Shoreland'r PWC trailer.

**EQUIPMENT- PLUMBING & SHOP EQUIPMENT - PLUMBING SUPPLIES:** Quick-Shot 4" and 6" unit, Quick-Lining System; Furukaw F6FSP Hammer Breaker, hyd.; Miller TrailBlazer 302 portable welder generator, CC/CV, AC/DC welder, 11,000 watt generator, 92 hrs., with cables; Skyjack SJ111 3200 Scissor Lift, electric, upper control box; Wanco DS-A1-50 Arrow Board Sign; Core Cut CC1800XL push concrete saw; Swisher Predator 24" self-propelled gas lawn mower; JD 190c automatic lawn mower, 54" deck; Wacker Newson BS50-21 Vibratory Rammer; Dewalt D25980 pavement breaker; Milwaukee heavy duty breaker hammer; Rigid Kollman KJ-3100 water jetter, 16hp with hose reel; Rigid RP 241 cordless press tool kit; Rigid ProPress XL-C ring kit, 2-1/2" to 4", V2 ring actuator with case; Rigid press snap soil pipe cutter; Rigid Mega Press fitting system; Rigid HC-300, 3" hole cutting tool; Rigid 122XL copper cutting, prep machine; General Hot-Shot 400 pipe thawing machine; Conac-Couplex Port-A-Groover; Rigid model 300 pipe threading machine; Rigid 918 roll groover; Wacker WP 1550 Compactor; Rigid K-400 drain cleaning snake auger; (2) pallet jacks; Metrotech 9860 XT utility line locator; MSA Orion multi gas detector; Spectra Precision LL300 laser; Bosch Professional GRL 240 laser; (2) Rigid RP 330 press fitting system; Rigid Seek Tech SR-20, pipe, cable and sonde locator; Bluche electric pipe cutter; (2) Rigid Kollman seesnake camera reels with color; Rigid HC-300, 3" hole cutting tool; McElroy 2LC and Pitbull 14 fusion machine; Rigid Kollan K-1500B drain cleaning machine; Rigid 300-T2 pipe threader; (2) Stihl TS 420 cement saws; Milwaukee heavy duty 1.5" rotary hammer with bits; Milwaukee AVS hammer drill; Generac IQ 2000 generator; Rigid K-400 drum machine; Rigid CM 14500 table saw; Dewalt DW 705 miter saw with Rigid stand.

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— Liz Esposito • Owner —

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## Church news

### St. John's

#### Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate the Sixth Sunday of Easter and Mother's Day on May 14. A Worship Service with Holy Communion will begin at 9 a.m. with Pastor Michelle Knight presiding. The last Sunday School Class until fall will be held during the service.

The weekly ministry of Healthy Wolves Backpack will be wrapping up the school year on May 18 with the last distribution being on Monday, May 22. The program has served 30 to 41 students each week throughout the 2022-2023 school year with backpacks filed with food for the weekend. Personal hygiene items are also sent home once per month. We would like to thank our generous donors for financial gifts and food items that sustain our ongoing effort to fight food insecurity in Pearl City. And a huge thank you goes out to our faithful volunteers who meet each week to sort, pack, shop for food items, and keep track of inventory and supplies. The Healthy Wolves backpack Program will restart in August. A volunteer planning meeting will be scheduled prior. If you would like to help fund this weekly project through giving, visit the St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, website.

The second night of Vacation Bible School (VBS) for the summer's Community VBS Family Nights will take place on June 4. A meal will be served from 5 to 5:20 p.m. for families to enjoy. The children will rotate through stations of Bible study, crafts, and music. Confirmation students will be helping. VBS will continue this summer on July 2 and August 6. There will be no charge for participating. Pearl City High School Bac-

calaureate will be held May 14 at 3 p.m. at Zion Community Church. Women's Gathering Bible Study will be held May 16 at Rte. 20 Bar and Grill at 10 a.m. Those attending need to sign up by Sunday, May 14.

The Grace Meal will be served on Sunday, May 21. The menu is barbecue, Lutheran potatoes, carrots, applesauce, and a cookie. Reservations are due to the church office by 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 18.

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 Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GSLCLenaIL> for more information.

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

### Salem United

#### Church of Christ

All are welcome to join for a service led by Pastor Christopher Ham at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 West Salem Road, Lena, Illinois, this Sunday, May 14, 2023, at 10 a.m. The Adult Sunday School will be hosted prior to service, starting at 9 a.m. on the lower level of the church. Children's Sunday School is held during church service at 10 a.m.

The Wednesday Breakfast Bunch will meet Wednesday, May 17 at 8 a.m. at the Beltline Café, 325 West South Street, Freeport, Illinois. Everyone is welcome to join.

Sunday, May 21 will be the annual White Elephant and Bake Goods Auction. This will take place immediately after service around 11 a.m. on the lower level of the church.

Would you like to get more involved and enjoy the company of the congregation? Join for one of the monthly gatherings. Men's Night is held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. During this time the men spend time visiting, playing games, and getting to know each other better. Bible Study is offered 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Crafternoon is held from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. During this time there are snacks, a brief devotional thought, and plenty of time to work on crafts individually or together. All of the above-mentioned events are hosted on the lower level of Salem United Church of Christ, and all are welcome to join.

For more information on any of these gatherings, you can contact [salemwing-sofjoy@yahoo.com](mailto:salemwing-sofjoy@yahoo.com).

## 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

**E-mail your photos at the highest possible resolution to:**

[scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com](mailto:scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com)

**BY NOON ON FRIDAY**

PHOTOS MAY ALSO APPEAR ON OUR WEB SITE, [rvpnews.com](http://rvpnews.com)

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

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



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Bauer



Heaven  
Brotherton



Sophie  
Buck



Wondale  
Collier



Dylan  
Diehl



Cora  
Dittmar



Sadie  
Fry



Emma  
Goldsmith



Ethan  
Gonzalez



Sam  
Grzeslo



Edgar  
Guerrero-Leon



Sydney  
Hamilton



Cameron  
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Jordan  
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Maddox  
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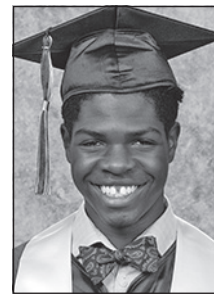
Traighton  
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Arianna  
Pedrin



Kelsey  
Randall



LeBron  
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Samuel  
Ries



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Jamie  
Schnitzler



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Schnitzler



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**Jug's Main Street Tap**  
Elizabeth • 815-858-3333 437468

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101 Exchange St. • Galena • 815-777-2111 437169

**Hartzell's IGA**  
Warren • 815-745-3311 66473

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Boeck**



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Davis**



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**Henry  
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**Livia  
Esser**



**Tianna  
Esser**



**Jace  
Flynn**



**Isabella  
Forbes**



**Levi  
Gable**



**Owen  
Gilbertson**



**Camdyn  
Huttenlocher**



**Nick  
Inden**



**Braden  
Jacobs**



**Samantha  
Johnson**



**Andrew  
Kempel**



**Emma  
Kempel**



**Kai  
Knapp**



**Gunar  
Lobdell**



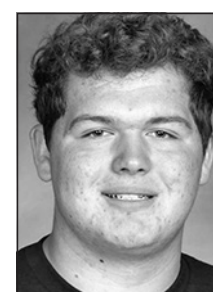
**Jada  
Loomis**



**Kieran  
Madigan**



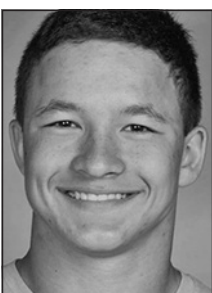
**Emma  
Marvin**



**Michael  
Moscato**



**Hudson  
Nevel**



**Wesley  
Offermann**



**Efrain  
Ortega**



**Ayden  
Packard**



**Olivia  
Parker**



**Sam  
Pecoraro**



**AJ  
Phillips**



**Jenna  
Ransom**



**Chloe  
Renter**



**Jaden  
Robinson**



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Schiess**



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Schulz**



**Xavier  
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Bo  
Tessendorf



Jacob  
Tippet



Seth  
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Alizabeth  
Westergaard



Kansas  
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Phoenix  
Wiederholtz



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**Hometown Trophies & Embroidery**  
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346379







## 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](mailto: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 publication.

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

## • God (Continued from page 3)

said He would. The Bible is God's word given to men who wrote it down for us. It's an incredible book in so many ways, but here are a few of the mind-boggling truths about the Bible. It was written over a fifteen-hundred-year time period by some forty different human writers, and miraculously it agrees with itself perfectly. The first part of the Bible is the Old Testament, and it talks about a coming Savior. The New Testament

talks about the life, death and resurrection of that Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ and how He sends the Holy Spirit to indwell every true believer the moment one believes. The Spirit helps us navigate this sinful world and make our life count for the Lord. Anyway, we love the word of God and would love for you to love it too. It's living and powerful and sharper than a double edge sword. Hebrews 4:12.

Here are some things

going on at our church this summer to mark your calendars for. It's a beautiful little drive to Browntown and the countryside is absolutely breath taking during the summertime. We would love to have you come for a visit any Sunday morning. Our worship service is at 10 a.m. but you could also come take in some of our special outreach events such as.

Sunday eve May 21 - 5 pm supper and 6 pm hymn sing

Saturday eve June 24th - Koinonia Teen Singers from Milton Wisconsin are coming to perform a musical with supper at 5 and the musical performance at 6 p.m.

We also are having the Paul Singers come for the third time. They are a gospel bluegrass band coming in July and the Assemblymen will be here in August for a concert. Keep looking up everyone our Lord is coming. Until next week, God bless.

## Treat Mom Special on Mother's Day



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**10 am - 2 pm**  
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## Mother's Day PRIME RIB BUFFET

Prime Rib, Baked Ham, Broasted Chicken, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, Home Fries, Waffles, Donuts, Fruit, Salad, Steamed Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Homemade Desserts, Milk, Juice & more!

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## Mother's Day Menu 2023

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### Appetizers

SHRIMP COCKTAIL.....	\$11.95
6 jumbo shrimp with cocktail sauce.	
BRUSCHETTA FLATBREAD.....	\$10.95
Fresh tomato, basil, red onion, and garlic on toasted naan bread. Topped with mozzarella and balsamic.	
STUFFED PORTOBELLOS.....	\$10.95
2 large Portobellos stuffed with sausage and mozzarella. Served with marinara.	

### Breakfast

EGGS BENEDICT.....	\$15.95
Poached egg and Black Forest ham on an English muffin topped with hollandaise sauce.	
MIXED BERRY FRENCH TOAST.....	\$14.95
Three thick-cut pieces of toast topped with strawberry, blueberry, and raspberry.	
DENVER OMELETTE.....	\$14.95
Black Forest ham, bell peppers, onion, cheddar cheese, and egg.	
BISCUITS and GRAVY.....	\$14.95
Flaky buttermilk biscuits smothered in peppered sausage gravy. Breakfast served with cheesy hash brown casserole and fruit salad	

### Lunch

Served with garlic mashed potatoes and honey glazed carrots	
PRIME RIB.....	\$32.95/\$36.95
Slow-cooked Angus prime rib. Available in 12 oz. or 16 oz.	
SEARED SALMON.....	\$26.95
Crisp seared salmon on a bed of spinach and topped with creamy lemon caper sauce.	

### Lunch (cont.)

Served with garlic mashed potatoes and honey glazed carrots	
PINEAPPLE HONEY PORK CHOP.....	\$24.95
Pork chop topped with sweet pineapple and honey glaze.	
CHICKEN CAPRESE PASTA.....	\$22.95
Grilled chicken, cherry tomato, and fresh mozzarella in garlic oil with bowtie pasta. Topped with basil and balsamic, served with garlic bread.	
HERB CRUSTED RACK OF LAMB.....	\$36.95
16 oz. French cut rack of lamb rubbed with a savory herb breading.	
SPINACH and ARTICHOKE CHICKEN.....	\$22.95
8 oz. grilled chicken breast topped with creamy spinach and artichoke dip on a bed of spinach.	

### Soup ~ Salad

<b>Soup</b>	
Lobster Bisque: succulent lobster blended with sweet cream	
<b>Salad</b>	
Spinach and Berries: mixed berries, red onion, pecans, and feta cheese on a bed of spinach served with poppy seed dressing	

### Kids' Menu

Breakfast served with cheesy hashbrowns and fruit	
Mixed Berry French Toast:	
2 pieces.....	\$9.95
Chicken Strips and Fries:	
2 pieces served with French fries.....	\$9.95
1/2 Order of Biscuits and Gravy.....	\$9.95
Mac and Cheese:	
served with French fries.....	\$9.95

### Desserts

Chocolate Lava Cake.....	\$6.95	Limoncello Cake.....	\$6.95	Carrot Cake.....	\$6.95
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**Brunch is served 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Call for Reservations**  
**Stockton, IL • 815-858-3939 • [www.woodbinebend.com](http://www.woodbinebend.com)**

436914



# Lena-Winslow FFA Chapter annual chapter banquet

On April 16, the Lena-Winslow FFA Chapter celebrated a year of accomplishments with their annual chapter banquet. The evening began with a delicious meal catered by Three Headed Monster.

They recognized notable events and achievements from their past year of FFA experiences. Greenhand, Chapter, and State Degree recipients were recognized, honorary members were selected, Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) proficiency winners were recognized, Career Development Event (CDE) successes were celebrated, and the upcoming officer team was announced. The chapter also showed their appreciation to their three American Degree recipients, Conor DeZell, Tyler Croatt, and Ross Stabenow. The chapter has not had American Degree Recipients since 2015, so this was a phenomenal accomplishment for the individuals and the chapter.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing  
Lena-Winslow FFA Chapter Degree recipients include (left to right) Avery Baldauf, Isabella Forbes, and Grace Groezinger. They are the chapter's 93, 94, and 95 State Degree recipients. Congratulations!



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing  
The 2023-2024 Chapter Officer Team consists of (left to right) Lilly Schoger, Sentinel; Mika Schoger, Historian; Hannah Pecoraro, Reporter; Ava Fiedler, President; Kegan DeZell, Vice President; Avery Baldauf, Secretary; Odin Stabenow, Treasurer; Madalyn Schierloh, Junior Advisor.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing  
Chapter Degree recipients include (left to right) Hannah Pecoraro, Rebecca Wise, Mika Schoger, Kale Buss, Madalyn Schierloh, Chloe Mader, Cheyanna Kerr, Ava Fiedler, and Kegan DeZell.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing  
Retiring officers received a plaque to thank them for their year of service to the chapter. Pictured are (left to right) Hannah Pecoraro, Madalyn Schierloh, Ava Fiedler, Avery Baldauf, Odin Stabenow, Chloe Mader, Morgan Gerber, and Isabella Forbes.



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## Best Wishes to all Area Graduates

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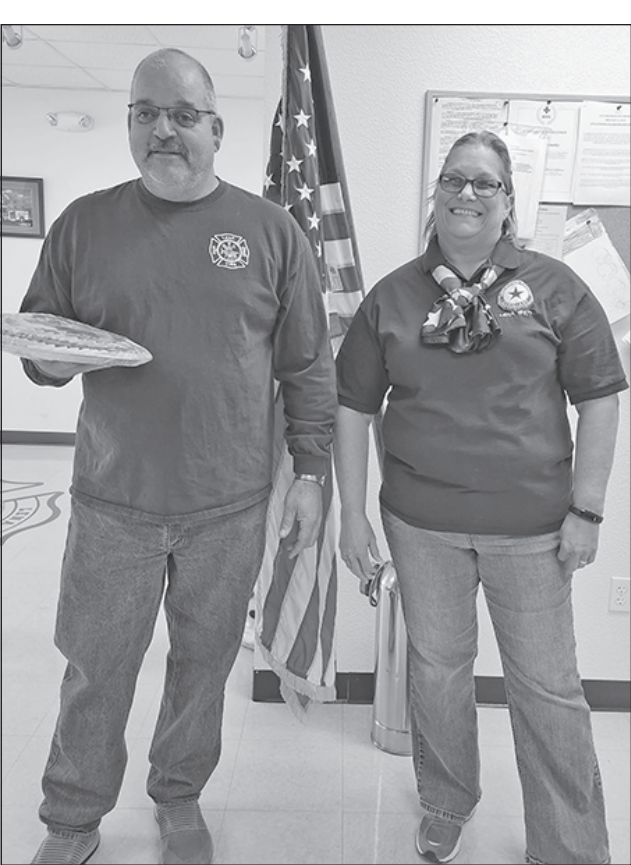
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409647

Greenhand Degree recipients include (back row, left to right) Max Knoup, Aiden Foley, Duncan Nevel, Miles Mahon, Koby Kearns and Brady White, (front row, left to right) Dean Heiler, Cooper Gilbertson, Ashton Gerber, Kenzie Kepner, Ayla Brinkmeier, and Lilly Schoger.

More pictures are found on the next page





SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## A big thanks

Kathy Pignato of the Lena American Legion Auxiliary presents a cheese and sausage tray to Brad Strong, chief of the Lena Volunteer Firemen as a thank you for all they do for the Lena community.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Honorary members are Mark Keuhl and Ann DeZell.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pictured are (left to right) Lena-Winslow FFA Chapter Outstanding Senior, Taylor Robinson; Outstanding Junior, Ava Fiedler; Outstanding Sophomore, Kegan DeZell; Lilly Schoger, Star Greenhand.

# Legacy Gala recognizes two with Lifetime Achievement Awards

It was an evening of celebrating Highland Community College, thanking corporate partners and donors, and recognizing individuals at the Legacy Gala on April 29 at The Wagner House in Freeport. Highland's rich history was celebrated through the presentation of the Delbert Scheider Legacy Gala Lifetime Achievement Award to Dennis Endress and Carl Fairbairn.

More than 200 guests joined the Foundation to celebrate 60 years of Highland. Funds from the Legacy Gala

generate additional support for the Mission of Highland Community College through support to the Legacy Campaign initiatives such as the HOPE Fund. A highlight of the night included raising funds explicitly for the HOPE Fund, as attendees were challenged to raise \$6,000 in six minutes in honor of Highland's 60th Anniversary. More than \$7,000 was raised in under five minutes, bringing the total support for the night to more than \$90,000.

"It's important to note

Highland's success began from visionary leaders," said Dan Dick, Executive Director of the Highland Community College Foundation. "This year marks the 60<sup>th</sup> graduating class of Highland. As we celebrate 60 years, we look back at the leadership and legacy of those who came before us. The trust they've instilled in us to leave our marks for the students and community we serve is one we should never lose focus on." Dick adds, "Delbert Scheider was one of our College's visionary lead-

ers, and it is a tremendous honor to award the Lifetime Achievement award in his memory each year. This year's recipients, and their families, embody the visionary leadership our community needed not only years ago, but the exact leadership we hope for today from across the community. We saw this come to life at the Gala as we came together to celebrate their leadership and invest in the future of Highland Community College."

See AWARDS, Page 20

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# FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Mother's Day is this coming weekend. This week's column is devoted to Brunch recipes for a Mother's Day celebration. Enjoy cooking.

## Strawberry Butter

This strawberry butter can be used on the pancakes, the quick bread, or a piece of toast. Flavored butters are the "in" cooking thing this spring. 6 large fresh strawberries, stems removed and room temperature

- 1 C. butter, softened
- ¾ C. powdered sugar

Pulse strawberries in a food processor until chopped. Add butter and ½ C. powdered sugar; process until blended. Add enough remaining powdered sugar to reach a spreading consistency and desired level of sweetness. Store in the refrigerator for up to 1 week.

## Breakfast Casserole

I have a friend who loves to serve brunch after church. And there are a lot of us who love it when she does! She has several casserole recipes that use potatoes, bread, biscuits, tater tots, and even more. This recipe is a simple one that can be made the day before. You need good bacon that isn't greasy—A.J.'s Lena Maid Meat is the best. The onion needs to be a sweet one. I can't wait for Vidalia's to arrive. This is an easy casserole that doesn't take a lot of fuss-

ing. Enjoy this great egg and potato dish.

- 1 lb. sliced bacon, diced
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 6 eggs, lightly beaten
- 4 C. frozen shredded hash brown potatoes, thawed
- 2 C. shredded cheddar cheese
- 1½ C. cottage cheese
- 1¼ C. shredded Swiss cheese

Preheat the oven to 350. In a large skillet, cook bacon and onion over medium heat until bacon is crisp; drain. In a large bowl, combine remaining ingredients; stir in bacon mixture. Transfer to a greased 9 x 13 baking dish. Bake, uncovered, until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean, 35 to 40 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before cutting.

## Asparagus and Ham Strata

This casserole combines eggs, ham, and asparagus. You can buy the ham at the deli counter. Sullivan's usually has a deli ham on sale. Just ask for them to cut you a chunk of it, and you are good to go. The casserole is a smaller one; it is in an 8-inch square pan. If you have a small group, this casserole is perfect.

- 5 eggs
- 2 C. whole milk
- ½ C. half-and-half cream
- ½ t. salt
- ¼ t. pepper
- 1/8 t. ground nutmeg
- 4 C. cubed Italian or French bread
- 1¼ C. shredded Monterey Jack cheese, divided
- 1 C. cubed deli ham, ½ inch thick
- 1 C. cut fresh asparagus, 1-inch pieces

In a large bowl, whisk the first six ingredients until blended. Stir in bread, 1 C.

cheese, ham, and asparagus. Transfer to a greased 8-inch square baking dish. Refrigerate, covered, several hours or overnight.

Preheat the oven to 325. Remove strata from refrigerator while oven is preheating. Bake, uncovered, 20 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining cheese; bake 40 to 50 minutes longer or until puffed, golden, and a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Let stand 5 to 10 minutes before serving.

## Maple Pancakes

Many times, people don't want to have pancakes for brunch because they are too hard to make for a group and have everything ready at the same time. This recipe can be made ahead of time by making the pancakes and keeping them warm in the oven. I know people that make them, refrigerate them overnight, and then microwave them also. These pancakes are thin and almost crêpe like.

- 2 C. flour
- 4½ t. baking powder
- 1½ t. salt
- 3 eggs
- 2¼ C. 2% milk
- 1/3 C. canola oil
- 3 T. maple syrup

In a large bowl, combine flour, baking powder and salt. In another bowl, whisk eggs, milk, oil and syrup; stir into dry ingredients just until blended. Preheat griddle over medium heat. Lightly grease griddle. Pour batter by ¼ cupful onto griddle; brown pancakes (they will be thin) until tops begin to pop and bottoms are golden brown. Turn, cook until second side is golden. Serve with maple syrup (warm) butter and fresh fruit.

## Overnight French Toast

A lot of brunch tables have French Toast as one of the entrées. This one is an overnight dish also. You can make it along with an egg casserole and have it ready in no time. It is best to use day old bread for the recipe.

- ½ C. melted butter
- 1 French bread loaf, sliced ½ inch thick
- 1 C. brown sugar
- 1 t. cinnamon
- ¼ t. nutmeg
- 1 t. vanilla
- 5 eggs
- 1½ C. milk
- Maple syrup

Melt butter and pour in bottom of a 9 x 13 baking dish. In a small bowl, mix brown sugar, cinnamon, and nutmeg. In a larger bowl, whisk vanilla, eggs and milk. Take sliced French bread and place one layer of bread slices on top of butter on the bottom of the baking dish. Sprinkle with ½ of the brown sugar mixture. Place the second layer of bread slices on top. Pour egg mixture evenly over the top layer of bread slices. Sprinkle remaining brown sugar mixture over top.

Cover with foil and refrigerate until morning. To bake, cover with new foil and place in a preheated 350 oven for 30 minutes. Remove foil and bake an additional 10 minutes. Drizzle maple syrup over the top and put back into the oven for 5 minutes. Let casserole sit for 10 minutes before serving.

## Blueberry Almond Quick Bread

Every brunch table must have a quick bread. This one uses blueberries and almonds to flavor it up. Serve it with the strawberry butter, and it will be a hit.

- ½ C. oil
- ½ C. plain yogurt
- 2 eggs
- 2 t. vanilla
- 1½ C. plus 1 T. flour
- ¾ C. sugar
- 2/3 C. sliced almonds

- 2/3 C. old-fashioned oats
- 2 t. baking powder
- 2 t. cinnamon
- ½ t. salt
- ¼ t. baking soda
- ¼ t. ground nutmeg
- 1¼ C. blueberries

Preheat the oven to 350. Coat a 9 x 5 loaf pan with cooking spray. Whisk the oil, yogurt, eggs, and vanilla in a medium bowl. In a large bowl, whisk 1½ C. flour, sugar, almonds, oats, baking powder, cinnamon, salt, baking soda, and nutmeg. Fold the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients. Toss the blueberries with the remaining 1 T. of flour and then fold into the batter. Scrape the batter into the loaf pan. Bake the bread until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, 55 to 60 minutes. Let cool 1 hour in the pan, then remove to a rack to cool completely.

## Strawberry Cake

I also think every brunch table has to have a cake on a pedestal that shows off how pretty dessert can be. This recipe is easy to make with the cake mix and the Jell-O. Enjoy this beautiful ending to a perfect brunch!

- 1 pkg white cake mix
- 1 pkg. (3 oz.) strawberry Jell-O
- 3 T. sugar
- 3 T. flour
- 1 c. water
- ½ C. canola oil
- 2 eggs
- 2 C. finely chopped strawberries

Frosting  
½ C. butter, softened  
½ C. crushed strawberries  
½ C. powdered sugar  
Fresh strawberries for garnish

Preheat the oven to 350. Line the bottom of 2 greased 9 inch round baking pans with parchment; grease parchment. In a large bowl, combine cake mix, gelatin, sugar, and flour. Add water, oil and eggs; beat on low speed 30 seconds. Beat on medium 2 minutes. Fold in chopped strawberries.

Transfer to prepared pans. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 25 to 30 minutes. Cool in pans 10 minutes before removing to wire racks; remove paper. Cool completely.

Frosting: in a small bowl, beat butter until creamy. Beat in crushed strawberries. Gradually beat in enough powdered sugar to reach desired consistency. Spread frosting between layers and over the top and sides of cake. Garnish with fresh strawberries.

## Final Thoughts

It is time to think about plants. It has been so cold that if you bought any or had any started in the house, you had to keep them covered or inside. This past week the weather has finally gotten warm enough for me to get some spring clothes out. I am not putting all of my winter ones away just in case. Plants and spring clothes make for all of us to have things to look forward to.

Prom season is over for most schools, track meets, and ball games are finishing up, and graduation looms on the horizon. Time is marching forward even though there have been times in the last two months where we all thought it wasn't moving at all. Fields continue to be planted. I mentioned in a column a couple of weeks ago that we all need to be vigilant about farm vehicles on the road. We need them to be able to move from field to field if we want crops. I like to eat, so we do want crops! Remember that for the most part, any of their machinery is bigger than our vehicles. Be careful and be safe.

Hopefully everyone will have a great Mother's Day celebration. Treasure your mother because there are a lot of us who can't honor our mothers in person. We honor their memory and how lucky we were to have them. Hopefully you can find a recipe to serve that will help celebrate.

It is time to be thinking about strawberry recipes. I mentioned that 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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# Breastfeeding promotes craniofacial and airway development

As a follow-up to last week's column on the negative effects of mouth-breathing, I would like to share some information that I recently presented at the FHN Second Annual Perinatal Symposium. It is easy to understand while many people think that the sole benefit of breastfeeding lies in the content of the mother's milk. Breast milk is both nutritionally and immunologically superior to infant formula. It has all the right nutrients, in just the right amounts, which are better absorbed than formula. Breast milk is species-specific, and a mother's milk provides the best nutrients for her infant's brain, nervous system, and overall development. It is also a rich source of antibodies and probiotics that stimulate and support the immune system. However, many people are not aware of the critical function that breastfeeding serves in the growth and development of orofacial anatomy and the physiology of our respiratory system.

Postnatal growth is most rapid during the first year of life. This early development influences orofacial function throughout life. Therefore, we want to do everything in our power to promote positive growth. In order to understand how breastfeeding promotes proper mandibular and maxillary growth and development, proper tongue position, and proper breathing, I would like to begin with a little review of early facial development. The mandible sits below the maxilla (upper jaw) and forms the lower jaw. It is the largest and strongest bone of the facial skeleton. Other than the middle ear, it is the only moveable bone in the skull. One unique feature is that it has two articulated joints, one on the left and one on the right that must work in unison with each other.

In infancy, the mandible is in two parts, a right and left plate, which is connected by fibrocartilage. Of all the facial bones, the mandible undergoes the most growth postnatally, with the fibrocartilage changing to bone (ossifying) and two halves fusing together, as the lower jaw grows downward and forward.

Neonatal sucking is an autonomic (unconscious) reflex and your infant's mouth is perfectly designed for breastfeeding. All babies



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

are born with a slightly retrognathic (posterior and behind) mandible and an oversized tongue that sits far back in the throat over the epiglottis. This allows the infant to breathe while sucking (but not swallowing) and helps prevent milk from spilling into the trachea when swallowing. An infant's swallow is characterized by tongue thrust (a plunger-like action of the tongue), pursed lips (perioral sphincter action to create a seal around the areola), and a forward thrust of the mandible against the mother's breast. The facial muscles move the mandible up and down in this forward position during sucking and swallowing. This action actively stimulates the growth and development of the posterior portion of the mandible along with the mandibular muscles.

The palate forms the roof of the mouth, separating the cavities of the nose and mouth. In the initial stages of development, the palate is fairly soft and malleable. It hardens with age. Proper palatal development is influenced by the placement of the baby's tongue at rest and especially during breastfeeding. When the nipple is drawn back into the infant's mouth, the tongue undulates, pushing up against the palate. It is this proper tongue movement and position that widens and expands the infant's palate by stimulating bone growth along the palatal suture lines. This helps develop room to accommodate the teeth and form a palatal vault that promotes proper nasal cavity growth. As the teeth erupt, the lateral and anterior borders of the tongue create a light force that guides the teeth in a neutral position between the pressure of the facial muscles and the tongue.

Nasal breathing is integral to craniofacial development. Breastfeeding establishes a nasal breathing pattern that encourages the growth of the nasal airways and proper closed mouth breathing habits. As the baby sucks, the lips remain in complete contact with the breast stimulating the nose to do the

breathing. The nose warms, humidifies, and filters the air in preparation to enter the lungs and bronchi. It is important to note that the body does not get oxygenated during inspiration. The transfer of oxygen and carbon dioxide takes place during expiration. The turbinates in the nose create a resistance when we breathe out. This

resistance compresses the air against the pulmonary vascular bed enabling the optimal absorption and transfer of oxygen and carbon dioxide. Studies show that nose breathing brings eighteen percent more oxygen to the brain and promotes optimal sleep cycles.

As we develop, the relationship of the mandible

to the skull is determined by the occlusion of the teeth, the balance of the intra-oral and extra-oral musculature of the maxilla and the mandible, and the left and right condyles of the mandible. Our orofacial development is perfectly designed by evolution to coincide with breastfeeding. A proper seal around the breast places the mandible

in a protruded position stimulating proper mandibular or lower facial development. The tongue needs to press up against the upper palate to stimulate the proper development of the upper arch or maxilla. A proper seal promotes nasal breathing and mouth closure necessary for proper oral development and tooth alignment.

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# Lena Townwide Garage Sales

**107 W TOWNLINE RD** Thurs, Fri & Sat, 9-4 Misc. household, decor, books & DVD's, clothing teen-adult & women's plus size, wm shoes size 10 & 11.

**113 ROLLIN DR.** Thur. & Fri. 8-4, Sat. 8-noon Girl's NB-6, kids shoes, women's M-L, lots of women's jeans 9-11, toys, Halloween & Christmas decor, home decor, Munchkin diaper organizer, dining rm hutch, reclining chair, washer & gas dryer.

**11885 W. GALENA RD.** Fri & Sat 8-4 Many like-new household decorations and wall hangings, Precious Moments collection, 32" TV, women's sz XS-S & sz 6.5 shoes, serving-table-lamps-kitchen items and more

**204 E. RAILROAD ST.** Fri. & Sat. 8-2 Kids, women's men's clothes, home & holiday decor, games, books, toys, jewelry, household, costumes, shoes, plants & other assorted items.

**205 CHESTNUT ST.** Fri. & Sat. 8-? A literal mini Wal-Mart! Furniture, dishes, fishing-hunting-duck decoys-camping items, flower pots & stands, holiday, McCoy Pottery collection & salt & pepper, cargo hauler for receiver hitch & more!

**208 HICKORY DR.** Thur. 2-5, Fri. 8-4, Sat. 9-11 Embroidered dresser scarfs, milk glass & misc. dishes, tupperware, sewing & office items, jewelry armoire, plants & pots, books, golf & camera bags, fishing items and more.

**209 WALNUT ST.** Fri. 8-5 & Sat. 8-3 Oak dining table w/6 chairs, tan cloth rocker recliner, women's clothing & lots of jeans, decor, too much to list. Merging 2 households, need to purge.

**213 W RAILROAD ST.** Fri. & Sat. 8-5 Women's S-L clothing, 7 1/2-8 women's shoes, purses, jewelry-belts-accessories, select household items, books, Christmas decor & lots of misc.

**214 E. PROVOST ST.** Fri. & Sat. 8-1 Boys clothes 7/8-10/12 winter/summer, teen girl clothes, shoes, kitchen table set, microwave, boys toys, booster seats, home items.

**228 E. PALM DR. ESTATE SALE** Fri. & Sat. 8-4 Walk thru sale. Some items marked.

**302 N. CENTER** Fri. & Sat. 8-5 New kids weight bench set, New 12" Princess bike, a lot of New name brand boy 4-6, girls 10-14, Yg women M-XL, shoes, coats, Dora Hot Wheels Jeep, microwave, double oven/stove, toys, books, puzzles, kitchenware, foot massager, holiday decor, household.

**303 S. FREEDOM ST. by antique water tower** Fri. 8-6 & Sat. 8-4 2 desks, child's table/2 chairs, child's wood cupboard, boys infant-14, girls 2-14, women's all sizes, men's M,L,XL, something for everyone-priced to sell.

**308 FREMONT ST.** Sat. 8-4 ONLY lots of brand new/gently worn clothing up to 4X, purses, bed linens, boxes of misc, furniture items & collectibles. Definitely something for everyone.

**316 W. MAIN ST. @ LENA LEGION MULTI-FAMILY SALE** Fri. 8-3 & Sat. 8-noon..Lots of kids clothing - Boys sizes 2T - 10/12; Girls sizes 24mos. - 3T, toys, books, games, Men's & Women's name brand clothing, house décor, shoes, jewelry, Color Street, Epicure, & More.

**402 N. SCHUYLER** Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-noon Sony theater amp, NCIS Seasons 3 & 6, sleeping bags, dog beds, valances, Barbies, Stampin' Up stamps, crystal mugs, games, kids toys, men's pants 38x29, XXL shirts, women's Lg tops, blue Mason jars, glassware, dishes, lots of misc. Come see us.

**404 N. FREEDOM** Fri. 8:30-5 & Sat. 8:30-1 CASH ONLY Farm shop tools/etc., vintage-trunk-pump organ-Elvis puzzle-sugar bag-washboard-1970 Steph. Cty history-wood train, electric start snow blower, JD 1/16 tractor, household misc.

**408 N. FREEDOM ST.** Fri. 8:30-4 & Sat. 8:30-noon Toys-excellent selection & nice, girl clothes to 6T, girls shoes, lots of household, grills-Weber & charcoal. Low prices!

**409 OAK ST FRI. & SAT.** 8-4 too many items to mention-pet clothes, electronics, collectibles, shoes, sport equipment, tools.

**436 N. FREEDOM ST.** Fri. & Sat. 8-5 Tool chests, water pump, boat motors, canoe, log chains, 125gal. aquarium, men's & women's clothes, girls 18mo, men's & wom-

en's shoes, girls shoes-18mo, toddler up to sz 5, car seat, toys, high chair, kitchen items, Christmas, tent, treadmill, row machine.

**514 W. FAIRWAY DR.** Thur. Fri. & Sat. 8-? Girls clothes infant-10, toys, games, cookbooks, German stoneware collector mugs, Avon 'Cape Cod' collection, Little Tikes kitchen, table, chairs, canning jars, freezer containers, baby equip, New bathroom countertop-30", misc. kitchen & decor.

**518 W. FAIRWAY DR. HELP ME EMPTY THE GARAGE!** May 11-13, 9-? XL tops, girls 10-12, books, tea cups, dishes, crockery, bears, shoes, medicine cabinet, decor, vintage Pyrex Fire King, Blue Ridge pottery, kid activity packs, puzzles, coin purses, greeting cards, XL rings & much misc.

**535 N. FAIRWAY DR.** Thur. 1-4, Fri. 8-4 & Sat. 8-noon Lots of men's SM clothes, set of old golf clubs, puzzles, toys, some tools, crafting paper & a few sets of Stampin' Up. Come see what we have!

**546 W. FAIRWAY DR.** Thur. 4:30-6:30, Fri. 8-2 Boy clothes 5-6, girls 6-7, household decor & kitchen items.

**560 W. FAIRWAY DR.** Thur. 8-5, Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-noon Car seat, suitcases, 42" TV, traveling bassinet, pots & pans, house wares, utensils, spices, storage bins, pasta maker, men's & women's clothing L-2XL, printer, linens and more.

**600 VIRGINIA AVE MULTI-FAMILY** Thur. 3-6, Fri. 7-4 Dog kennels, riding lawn mower, wooden barn, highchair, purses, Harley-Davidson coat, holiday decor, men's & women's clothes, household, books, puzzles, lots of misc.

**606 VIRGINIA AVE.** Fri. 8-4 & Sat. 8-noon Small appliances, large chair & ottoman, holiday decor, Collector Barbie & Longaberger items, books, ladies clothing S-M, Minnkota Edge trolling motor, 1984 Mercedes, garden tractor parts & more!

**621 N. QUAIL DR.** Fri. & Sat. 8-? Household decorating items, Longaberger baskets, Jr./womens clothing, furniture, Noritake Silk Garland china setting for 8.

**6318 N. LAKE RD.** Fri. 10-5 & Sat. 9-5 Large household sale...Tools, furniture, clothes, shoes, coats, jewelry, purses, baby shower centerpieces, linens, giftware, NEW gift items for Mother's day, vintage items, holiday decor, artwork, games & more.

**702 VIRGINIA AVE.** Fri. 8-2 & Sat. 8-noon Kids toys ages 3-7, vintage Star Wars toys, DVD's, wall mounted desk, military gear & clothes, K-Tec restaurant grade smoothie blender \$75, glassware, many other collectibles.

**707 S. LOGAN ST** May 12 & 13, 8-4. Plus size clothes, teen clothes, boys clothes, household and more.

**709 LOGAN ST.** Multi-Family Thur. 10-4, Fri. 8-6, Sat. 8-4 Home decor, wedding decor, women's & men's clothes, girl's clothes up to 5T, baby items, formal dresses, antique doors, sport bags, luggage, toys, child drum set, printers, pitching net and so much more!

**717 MAPLE ST. FRIDAY ONLY** 8-5 Boys clothes infant-10, girls clothes 4-6, king size bedding, toddler bedding, home decor, soccer cleats & more.

**720 N FREEDOM ST.** Fri. May 12, 8-4 & Sat, 8-noon Clothes for all ages, some furniture, lots of misc. **Donation ONLY.** All money collected will be given to Lena Food Pantry and Lifeline Coalition (formerly known as Freeport Pregnancy Center). <http://www.lenafreechurch.org>

**728 S. SCHUYLER ST.** Thur 12-6, Fri 8-5, Sat 8-3. LARGE MULTI-FAMILY SALE Lots of infant, children & adult name brand clothing, baby items, shop supplies, household goods, decorations, CD's DVD's, jewelry, bedding, books, toys, antiques, collectibles, Hallmark & Precious Moments.

**8275 W. MOUND RD.** Fri. 9-5 & Sat. 9-3 Black walnut for baking, Wanda's homemade cookies, enamelware, antique kerosene lamps, kitchen stuff, vacuum cleaner, craft items for gift giving!

**8539 W. MCCONNELL RD. WIN-SLOW** Fri. & Sat. 9-5...Tools, antiques, fixture, lamps, furniture, Shop Vac, vintage clothes 10-12, dishes, glass cookware, yarn, fabrics, misc.

**8707 W. DAMEIER RD.** Fri. 10-7 ONLY. Working front load washer & dryer, lots of animal cages & many misc.

**9752 W. RANGE RD.** Sat. 10-4 ONLY Girls clothes 4T-10/12, Boys clothes NB-24mo, womens SM-XL, mens S-2X, home decor, toys, shoes, books.

**STATELINE SOLAR 310 W. MAIN ST.** Multiple people selling a variety of items. Baby & toddler clothes & toys, home goods, adult clothing, tools & more!



**Garage Sale Shoppers Are On The Move**

**Friday, May 12**

**8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Saturday, May 13**

**8 a.m. - 3 p.m.**



# LEGAL NOTICES

## PUBLIC NOTICE

We, Brent and Colleen 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.statena-tionalhelp.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

## 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.statena-tionalhelp.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

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JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
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ASSOCIATION,  
PLAINTIFF,  
VS.

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

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The property is occupied.

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No. (312) 346-9088. Please  
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PURSUANT TO THE  
FAIR DEBT COLLEC-  
TION PRACTICES ACT,  
THE PLAINTIFF'S AT-  
TORNEY IS DEEMED  
TO BE A DEBT COLLEC-  
TOR ATTEMPTING TO  
COLLECT A DEBT AND  
ANY INFORMATION  
WILL BE USED FOR  
THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not  
required to provide addi-  
tional information other  
than that set forth in this  
notice of sale.

I3215826

(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
April 26, May 3 & 10, 2023)  
436530

IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT FOR THE 15TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
STEPHENSON COUNTY  
- 15 North Galena Avenue,  
FREEPORT, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF  
Duane E. Williams,  
DECEASED.

23 PR 22

Notice is given to cred-  
itors of the death of the  
above named decedent.  
Letters of office were is-  
sued to Carla Williams,  
Lena, Illinois 61048, as  
Independent Executor,  
whose attorney of record  
is SJ Chapman, Bielski  
Chapman, Ltd, 123 North

Wacker Drive, Suite 2300,  
Chicago, Illinois 60606.

The estate will be ad-  
ministered without court  
supervision, unless under  
section 5/28-4 of the Pro-  
bate Act Ill. Compiled Stat.  
1992, Ch. 755, par. 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 with the clerk  
or with the representative,  
or both, on or before No-  
vember 3, 2023, or, if mail-  
ing or delivery of a notice  
from the representative is  
required by section 5/18-3  
of the Probate Act, the date  
stated in that notice. Any  
claim not filed on or before  
that date is barred. Copies  
of a claim filed with the  
clerk must be mailed or  
delivered by the claimant  
to the representative and to  
the attorney within 10 days  
after it has been filed.

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cases with limited exemp-  
tions. To e-file, you must  
first create an account with  
an e-filing service provid-  
er. Visit <http://efile.illinois-courts.gov/service-provid-ers.htm> to learn more and  
to select a service provider.  
If you need additional help  
or have trouble e-filing,  
visit <http://www.illinois-courts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.

SJ Chapman  
Bielski Chapman, Ltd  
(6312516)  
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Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312)583-9430  
I3218914

(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
May 3, 10 & 17, 2023)  
436764

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING KENT/ERIN MULTI TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Notice is hereby given  
that a tentative budget and  
appropriation ordinance  
for the Town of Kent/Erin  
Multi in the County of Ste-  
phenson, State of Illinois,  
for the fiscal year begin-  
ning 1 April, 2023, and  
ending 31 March, 2024,  
will be on file and conven-  
iently available to public  
inspection at 8100 W. Dub-  
lin Rd., Pearl City from  
and after 9 o'clock A.M.,  
5th day, May, 2023.

Notice is further given  
hereby that a public hear-  
ing on said budget and  
appropriation ordinance  
will be held at 6:30 o'clock  
P.M., 5th day, June, 2023,  
at 2699 N. Unity Rd., Lena  
in this Town and that final  
action on this ordinance  
will be taken by the Board  
of Town Trustees at the  
meeting to be held at 6:30  
o'clock P.M., on the 5th  
day of June, 2023.

Dated this 1st day of May,  
2023.

Marcia Hammer,  
Supervisor  
Ryan Pickard, Clerk  
(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
May 10, 2023)  
437283

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET

Notice is hereby given  
that a tentative budget and  
appropriation ordinance for  
road purposes of the Erin  
Township in the County of  
Stephenson, State of Illi-  
nois, for the fiscal year be-  
ginning 1 April, 2023, and  
ending 31 March, 2024,  
will be on file and conven-  
iently available to public  
inspection at 8100 W. Dub-  
lin Rd., Pearl City, from  
and after 9 o'clock A.M.,

5th day, May, 2023.

Notice is further hereby  
given that a public hearing  
on said budget and appro-  
priation ordinance will be  
held at 7 o'clock P.M., 5th  
day, June, 2023, at 2699  
N. Unity Rd., Lena in this  
Township and that final  
hearing and action on this  
ordinance will be taken at  
meeting to be held at 2699  
N. Unity Rd., Lena, IL at  
7 o'clock P.M., 5th day,  
June, 2023.

Ryan A. Pickard, Clerk  
(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
May 10, 2023)  
437284

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Notice is hereby given  
that a tentative budget and  
appropriation ordinance  
for the Town of Erin in  
the County of Stephen-  
son, State of Illinois, for  
the fiscal year beginning  
1 April, 2023, and ending  
31 March, 2024, will be  
on file and conveniently  
available to public inspec-  
tion at 8100 W. Dublin Rd.,  
Pearl City from and after  
9 o'clock A.M., 5th day,  
May, 2023.

Notice is further given  
hereby that a public hear-  
ing on said budget and ap-  
propriation ordinance will  
be held at 7 o'clock P.M.,  
5th day, June, 2023, at  
2699 N. Unity Rd., Lena,  
IL in this Town and that  
final action on this ordi-  
nance will be taken by the  
Board of Town Trustees at  
the meeting to be held at  
7 o'clock P.M., on the 5th  
day of June, 2022.

Dated this 1st day of May,  
2023.

Andy Lobdell, Supervisor  
Ryan Pickard, Clerk  
(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
May 10, 2023)  
437285



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# Wolves geared for postseason

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT

The Pearl City Wolves are hoping their tough competition to end the regular season has them prepared for the playoffs. Pearl City split games with Le-Win and Amboy. As of May 6, Le-Win and Amboy combined for 25 wins as two of the better teams in the area.

After dropping the first game of the series against Le-Win, the Wolves made a statement in game two. It took a comeback effort from the Wolves. At the end of the fourth, Pearl City trailed 2-1. A huge fifth inning changed the course of the game as the Wolves exploded for six runs.

Jon Dinderman had the hit to start it all as a single up the middle allowed a pair of runs to come in. That blew the game wide open as the Wolves went up 5-2. Later, with two outs, Kip Martens had a two-run single of his own. By the end of the top half, the Wolves held a 7-2 lead.

That was just enough for Pearl City to hold on for an 8-4 victory over the Panthers. Dinderman finished the day

one for two with two runs batted in. Martens led the way with three RBI. Nathan Brinkmeier was solid, going two for two with a pair of walks.

On Saturday, April 29 the Wolves picked up an exciting walkoff victory over East Dubuque. In the bottom of the seventh, Will Birchen reached home safely on a Martens ground out. That gave Pearl City the 5-4 victory over East Dubuque.

Later that day, the Wolves suffered an 11-9 loss to Amboy. On that loss, Pearl City head coach Ryne Plager said, "We had the lead early, but with it being our fourth game of the week and playing Le-Win twice and East Dubuque, we just ran out of pitching." No worries for the Wolves though, as they quickly bounced back with a pair of victories over Aquin.

In their first meeting, the Wolves beat Aquin by a score of 13-0. Their senior leaders paved the way as Brinkmeier went three for four with a pair of runs scored. Tanner Perdue was right there with him, going three for three with four runs and one RBI.

The string of games were crucial for the Wolves. With the wins over Aquin, Pearl City guaranteed themselves part of the NUIC-North Championship with Le-Win and Dakota. "It's the first conference championship for Pearl City since 2001, so that is huge for our program," Plager added.

Plager spoke on the tough, late schedule and the wins over impressive competition. "The last two or three weeks we are starting to find our groove. Picked up a big win at Lena after losing at home to them. Came back with a walk off win against East Dubuque on Saturday. Both teams are the one and two seed in our sectional, so I think that gives our guys confidence to know we can play with anyone," the Pearl City coach shared.

With Pearl City's turnaround and the rise of their program, a number of area coaches have shared their respect for what Plager has done to help build them up. Plager remains humble, knowing there is plenty of work left to be done. "The guys have started to buy in and get a taste of success and they want to keep getting better,"

Plager shared. To Plager, the Wolves began to make the turn in fall ball saying, "It started back in the fall when we played in the Fall Ball league in Rockford, and that continued into our winter workouts with a great turnout."

Plager's program thrives on strength in numbers. "I think one of our biggest attributes is having great numbers in guys playing baseball, and that pushes guys in practice because they know there is someone behind them that wants their spot," The Wolves' coach shared. This has Plager excited for the future as he explained, "Six of our nine starters are underclassmen and we have a good class coming in next year."

Still, Plager gives credit where credit is due. "It helps when you have guys like Nathan [Brinkmeier] and Tanner [Perdue], who set the tone for the entire team and have high expectations," Plager added.

The Wolves play host to the Galena Pirates on Thursday, May 11. On Saturday, May 13 the Wolves have their final regular season game as they travel to face off with West Carroll.

## •Panthers (Continued from front page)

The Panthers closed the business week with a pair of games against a struggling Pecatonica Indians squad. Le-Win took game one by a score of 18-0. The Panthers were led by Schiess, who was a perfect three for three with two RBI. Kali Brinkmeier had three RBI, and Kaidynce Lynch added two RBI of her own.

In game two, the Panthers picked up another blowout victory over the Indians. Le-Win combined for 13 hits in an 11-1 win. Madigan led the way going a perfect three for three with three runs scored and three RBI. Hatelak was also three for three with two RBI. Aspen Roberts was two for four with an RBI, as well.

To end the week, the Panthers got some weekend action in as they traveled to face off with the Polo Marcos on Saturday, May 6. The Panther offense didn't miss a beat. In the top of the first, Le-Win put up three runs. A two-run double by Hatelak gave the Panthers the early advantage.

Le-Win doubled their efforts in the second inning. Chiles drove in a pair of runs on a liner up the middle. Madigan and Schiess then hit back-to-back doubles, putting the Panthers up 7-2. Before the end of the inning, a pair of defensive errors by Polo allowed the Panthers to push their lead to 9-2.

Madigan was perfect on the day, going three for three with three runs scored and two RBI. Schiess was three for four with four RBI. Hatelak added three RBI of her own. Finally, Ava Fiedler went two for three with two runs scored as the Panthers beat Polo 12-2. Chiles got the win on the mound. In five innings of work the Le-Win pitcher struck out five, while allowing six hits.

On Thursday, May 11 the Panthers play host to Milledgeville at 5:30 p.m. The next day, Le-Win is back at home to host West Carroll at 5 p.m. On Saturday, May 13 the Panthers travel to face off with Rockford Lutheran for their final regular season game of 2023.

## •Arbor Day (Continued from front page)

Lena Lions Club would like to thank Anne's Nursery of Freeport for supply of the trees at discounted prices, Freeport Park District Bruce Clubberly and Karen Valkema for the goodie bags, H&S Landscaping of Lena for donating mulch,

Lena Community Park District - Andy Martin and Kevin Warner for digging holes and helping to plant the trees, Lion Doug Wybourn, Lion Ryan Wybourn and Hewitt Dameier for digging holes and helping to plant the trees, Mark Keuhl, Holly

Chrisman, Jamie Woodley, Linsey Killian and aides Tammy Taylor and Lindsey Gerbick for supporting the event, Lions Marcia Meyers, Jim Cox, Dan Erner, Bill Engel and Jim Noller (both for supplying tree stakes) for supporting the event, and

Scott Olberding of Lena for supplying the tree saplings for the goodie bags.

This was a great opportunity to team with the School and Park Districts but most importantly the students of Lena-Winslow School.

## •Awards (Continued from page 11)

Endress has been part of the College from the beginning of its rich history of providing quality education to the district. When Highland was first formed, it was called Freeport College. Endress is passionate about this mission and pushed hard to change the name to reflect all the communities it serves. He was elected to the Highland Board of Trustees in 1989 and served for 18 years. During the course of his tenure on the board, he served two years as Chair and two years as Vice-Chair. Some of his accomplishments were overseeing the addition of Childcare and Nursing programs. He attributes his greatest accomplishment to the addition of the Student/Conference Center on campus.

Fairbairn has likewise always been a resolute promoter of higher education. Fairbairn served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1972 to 1975. The Neenah and Carl Fairbairn School of Nursing was created in honor

of Carl's wife Neenah and after the Foundation received a generous gift from Malcolm Fairbairn, their son, honoring the legacy they've created in our region. As part of a lifelong Stephenson County family that has cared for and supported HCC for more than 50 years, his heart and passion remain with Highland.

Philanthropic support generated through the dinner and fundraiser goes to directly support HCC Cougars (student worker program, student activities, and student recruitment and retention) and instructional equipment.

Eyewitness News Chief Meteorologist Candice King, an alumna of Highland Community College, was the guest host for the Gala. Entertainment was provided by the Highland Music Department, with performances by the Royal Scots, and a live auction was presented by HCC alumnus Tim Connors.

For more on the Highland Foundation visit [highland.edu/foundation](http://highland.edu/foundation).



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