

Serving the communities in Stephenson County

Shopper's Guide

Loescher
HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

Special Offer!

SAVE UP TO \$3,825
*WITH THE PURCHASE OF A YORK HEAT PUMP SYSTEM

10 YEAR **10 YEAR**
Product Registration Required

Reach out for a **FREE** estimate!
1 855 449 4328
LoescherHVAC.com

438732

- ✓ Lower Energy Bills
- ✓ Precise Consistent Temperatures
- ✓ Exceptional Comfort, Value & Flexibility

Receive a \$425 YORK Rebate + \$1,400 ComED Utility Rebate + Up to \$2,000 in IRA 25C Federal Tax Credits

VOL. 85 • NO. 29

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2023



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group in Lena receives grant

Staff at SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group in Lena display several Reach Out & Read books. They recently received a \$3,000 grant from the Monroe Funds Spring 2023 Grant Cycle of the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, Inc to support the program, which encourages literacy for childhood development.

Postal Customer **ecrws

PR SRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
ROCK VALLEY
PUBLISHING LLC

APPEARANCE IS EVERYTHING!

SEE US FOR THE BEST FINISH IN THE BUSINESS!



KONING'S
PRECISION
PAINT AND BODY

301 Dodds Drive, Lena, IL
815-369-4148

- Free Estimates
- Certified Technicians
- Free Pickup & Delivery
- All Insurance Welcome
- Free Car Rental
- Competitive Rates
- Lifetime Guarantee

Obituary

MARY MAHER

Mary Catherine (Deraita) Maher was born Feb. 24, 1936, and passed at home surrounded by her family on July 3, 2023. Mary grew up in Pekin, IL, where her love of learning was fostered by the energy and love of her Italian family.

Her aunt took her to the library as a young child to get her first library card, and she read thousands of books of all genres in her lifetime. As a second grader, she connected with a pen pal in England and the two exchanged letters for nearly 80 years. Mary started taking piano lessons in the third grade from a family friend and took a half-hour bus ride to Peoria for lessons as a teenager.

In high school, Mary was greatly influenced by stories of social justice. After being denied a scholarship application because she was a girl, the valedictorian headed to Western Illinois Teachers College, earning money through typing jobs and secretarial work to cover the cost.

Mary transferred to St. Louis University to finish her degree without realizing she had met her future husband in Richard Maher while at West-



ern. He had sweet-talked her into buying him a bowl of soup and they dated a few months. Two years later, he

found her in St. Louis where they resumed dating. They were married on Jan. 23, 1960. The couple got teaching jobs in the Chicago suburbs, where they started their family before moving to Lena, IL in 1970.

As the wife of a principal and coach who worked long hours, Mary dedicated herself to running their home and raising their children. She taught CCD, played the organ at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, and enjoyed playing for many weddings. She served several terms on the Lena Library board before retiring at the age of 87. Though she wasn't raised watching sports, she learned the game of basketball and supported her husband and children by attending hundreds of games. She continued to watch college basketball and root for his Cubs after Richard passed.

Mary was immensely

proud of her four children, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren and wanted to learn about everything they were interested in. Her favorite holiday was "any day my grandchildren come to visit."

Our mother and grandma only taught in the classroom a few years. But because all of us learned so much from her, she has impacted hundreds of students, our colleagues, and our friends by encouraging each of us to be our best selves. When she got her first teaching job, Mary chose to ride a bus to work rather than buy a car so she could buy a Steinway piano. Playing it brought her great joy throughout her life. To honor her love of music, a memorial scholarship will be established for a Le-Win grad pursuing a degree in music.

Mary is survived by her children Christine (Scott) Hawkinson of Prairie du Sac, WI, Patrick (Victoria) Maher of Highlands Ranch, CO, Daniel Maher of Fort Smith, AR, and Michael Maher (Diane Sandage) of Macomb, IL. Her grandchildren are Lauren Hawkinson of Chapel Hill, NC, Kylee Hawkinson (fiancé Nick Anderson) of Crystal, MN, Blake (Sara) and great granddaughters Hazel and Claire Maher of Navasota, TX, Cassidy Maher of Highlands Ranch CO, Allyson Maher, Thor Maher (Kiera Prim) and great grandson Atticus Junior, and Jonah Maher (Shawn Newlin), all of Fayetteville, AR, and Aaron Sandage of Minneapolis, MN.

She is further survived by her sister Carol (Jim) Deters of FL, two nieces, a nephew, and their families. Mary was preceded in death by her husband Richard in 2018 and her

parents Tranquillo Benvenuto (Frank) and Maria Catarina (Rina) Deraita.

A visitation was held on Friday, July 7, 2023, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena, IL. A Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, July 8, 2023 at the St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lena, IL. Father Andrew Sacayan Hernandez officiating the services. Burial took place at St. Josephs Catholic Cemetery in Lena, IL. A memorial has been established in her memory. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

News briefs

Thrift Shop to host mid-summer sale

The Thrift Shop will hold a mid-summer bag sale on July 14 and 15. Customers can fill a bag for only \$2. The Thrift Shop is open Fridays and Saturdays only at 126 South 4th St. Savanna. Friday hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Items that don't fit a bag are excluded from the sale.

Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension

The July meeting of the Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension will be held Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 1 p.m. at the Pearl City Library. Roll call will be "A Grade School Friend". Becky Thomas will present the lesson, "Don't Go at it Alone: Improve your social connection". Raffle items will be brought by Paula Gerke. All meetings are open to anyone in the community interested in joining.

Church news

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate the seventh Sunday after Pentecost on July 16. A Worship Service with Holy Communion will begin at 9 a.m. with Pastor Michelle presiding.

Collection of school supplies will continue through the month of July. The items most needed are computer mice, earbuds, two-pocket folders, crayons, markers, pencils and rulers. Monetary donations are also accepted.

The Women's Gathering will have brunch and Bible Study on Tuesday, July 18, at 9 a.m. at Karen Bremmer's Home at 313 W. Walgren Rd. Sign up on the bulletin board by July 16.

The last summer VBS Family Night will be held on Aug. 6. A meal will be served from 5 to 5:30 p.m. for families to enjoy. The children will rotate through stations of Bible study, crafts, and music. There is no charge for participating.

St. John's Lutheran Church of Pearl City is an ELCA parish and is located at 229 S. First St., in Pearl City. The church is handicapped accessible. Please call 815-443-2215 for information or with any questions.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL on Sunday, July 16 for Sunday Worship Service. The reading will be from Matthew 13:1-9, 8-23.

On Wednesday, July 19 Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience necessary.

All services will be re-

corded and available on the church's Facebook page and website. Please visit <http://goodshepherdlena.org/> or <http://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 service led by Pastor Christopher Ham at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 West Salem Road, Lena, Illinois, on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at 10 a.m. The Adult Sunday School will be held 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, July 19 at 8 a.m. at the Landmark Family Restaurant, 1 East Main Street, Freeport, Illinois. All are welcome to join.

If interested in getting more involved in the church community, check out the monthly gatherings, Men's Night is at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. During this time the men playing games and get to know each other better. Bible Study is offered at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday 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 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, please contact salemwingsofjoy@yahoo.com.

Evangelical Free Church of Lena

Pastor Scott Wilson will give his farewell message on Sunday, July 16 at the 10 a.m. service at the Evangelical Free Church of Lena. Pastor Scott has served as Youth Pastor for 18 years along with his wife Heather and children Grace, James, and Luke. A potluck lunch will follow the service at the backyard Pavilion.

Richland Free Methodist Church

Richland Free Methodist Church at 3872 W. Richland Rd., near Red Oak, IL will celebrate 150 years of service on Sunday, July 16 at 10 a.m. A potluck meal will follow at 11:30 a.m. The church building has housed several denominations through the years. All are welcome. Please call Pastor Tim at 815-262-5942 with any questions.

Vivian Kepner will celebrate her 99th birthday on July 20! Please shower Vivian with birthday love and wishes!

Cards may be sent to her at:
14179 E. Chelsea Rd.
Lena, IL 61048

George & Diane Walz are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on July 14th!

Please help us celebrate by showering them with cards

Send cards to:
250 North Bellaire Ave.
Freeport, IL 61032

THANK YOU

The family of Larry Cropper would like to thank everyone who brought food to the house and church, sent cards and lovely flowers and loving support at the time of our loss of our husband, father and grandpa. Thank you for your kind thoughts, words and prayers at the loss of Larry.

Mary Cropper
Amanda, Darby, Christina, Jacob & Elizabeth Bennett
Melissa, Tony, Violet Koberstein
Tim, Carah, Seth & Maryn Cropper

Get the beautiful smile you've always wanted.

Dr. Stephen Petras
815-947-3700
Stockton Dental Center
120 West Front Avenue, Stockton, IL 61085
www.stocktondental.com
Licensed Illinois General Dentist

Highland Community College announces 2023 Spring graduates

Highland Community College announces the 2023 spring graduates. Graduates were awarded academic credentials including associate degrees and certificates.

Elizabeth:

Kara Conklin, Associate of Arts; Sarah Pratt, Associate of Science

Freeport:

Isabella Acevedo, Associate of Arts; Kelsey Arendt, Associate of General Studies; Staci Boeck, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Mikko Calingacion, Associate of Arts; Amanda Choumont, Early Care and Education-Certificate; Lillian Collins, Welding & Fabrication-Certificate, Basic Welding-Certificate; Elijah Cooper, Associate of Arts; Jaylynn Coppemoll, Machine Processes-Certificate; Olivia Cummins, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; James Downing, Agricultural Production-Certificate, Agricultural Management-Associate of Applied Science; Kendra Elliott, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Mariah Endress, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Adam Engelkens, Associate of Arts; Cathleen Escamilla, Associate of Arts; Betina

Faga Bergallo, Associate of Arts; Hayley Feary, Associate of Arts; Brianna Griffith, Hospitality Start-Up-Certificate; Courtney Heilman, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Dylan Hoyer, Criminal Justice-Certificate, Criminal Justice-Associate of Applied Science; Damian Kauffman, Associate of Arts; Kyrsten Kuhse-Appell, Account Clerk-Certificate, Associate of Arts; Xavier Lassandro, Associate of Arts; Madison Lesko, Information Systems-Associate of Applied Science; Erica Meinert, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Samantha Nugent, Cosmetology-Certificate; Daniel Paliero, Associate of Arts; Brooke Allison Parkinson, Associate of Arts; Sarah Paul, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Lucia Pinto Martin, Associate of Science; Maggie Plum, Cosmetology-Certificate; Nexhbedije Qamili, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Heather Redmore, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Jamie Rodriguez, Associate of Arts; Ethan Rood, Associate of Arts; Erica Sanchez, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Janelle Sarandi, Associate of Arts; Amanda Sawatzky, Associate of Arts; Katelyn Schiffman, Associate of Arts; Mitchell Schneider, Automotive

Service-Level I-Certificate; Deedra Shippert, Associate of Arts; Marybeth Simler, Associate of Science; Chloe Smith, Associate of Arts; Martin Snyder, Associate in Engineering Science; Willow Stabenow, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Madyson Thomas, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Jessica Tomita, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Lasherrrie Walker, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Alan Whitmer, Associate of Arts; Michelle Wiesenberg, Graphic Design-Associate of Applied Science; Leah Wilhelms, Associate of Arts; Dayna Yoder, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Gregory Yount, Account Clerk-Certificate, Quickbooks Professional-Certificate

Lena:

Kaytelynn Gable, Associate of Arts; Tanner Kalkbrenner, Associate of Arts; Krista Keene, Associate of Arts; Lauren Koch, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Liza Lopez, CAD-Mechanical-Certificate, Machine Processes-Certificate, Basic Welding-Certificate, CNC Machinist-Certificate; Addison Roberts, Associate of Arts; Jennifer Swedlund, Associate of Science

Orangeville:

Grace Edler, Level 3 ECE Credential-Certificate, Level 2 ECE Credential-Certificate, Infant/Toddler Level 3 Credential-Certificate, Infant/Toddler Level 2 Credential-Certificate, ECE Infant/Toddler-Certificate, Early Care and Education-Certificate

Pearl City:

Addison Bremmer, Associate of Science; Cody Pitts, Associate in Engineering Science; Cody Pitts, Machine Processes-Certificate; Jase Sheffey, Agricultural Production-Certificate, Agricultural Management-Associate of Applied Science

Stockton:

Sara Miller, Associate of Arts; Eva Spencer, Associate of Arts

Warren:

Noah Eaton, Associate of Arts; Hunter Kopp, Associate of Arts; Antonio Romero, Nursing-Associate of Applied Science; Teila Thommen, Associate of Arts

Winslow:

Marguerite Johnson, Associate of Arts

New public website for crime statistics

On July 1, the Illinois State Police (ISP) officially launched a new public website to view crime statistics in Illinois. The Crime in Illinois Online website is part of the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) Program, which serves as the state repository for crime statistics to provide reliable information for use in law enforcement.

"The new Crime in Illinois Online website helps meet the growing demand for crime data and transparency," said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. "Legislators, media, academia and the public can use this data to drive public safety priorities and decisions as crime fluctuates from year-to-year in communities across Illinois."

Crime in Illinois Online includes data on crime rates per county, the type of offenses, trends, and more. The website is interactive and contains pin-point crime mapping, data tables, FAQs, agency compliance tracking, and the ability to download crime reports. Previous years' Crime in Illinois Annual Uniform Crime Reports will still be available and future reports will be presented in the same format.

In 2021, the I-UCR Program adopted the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) to meet FBI reporting standards and developed a new crime reporting database, the Illinois NIBRS Repository. Illinois law enforcement agencies are mandated to report crime data to the I-UCR Program. Crime in Illinois Online will be continuously updated as the data reported by law enforcement becomes available in the Illinois NIBRS Repository.

You can find Crime in Illinois Online by clicking the "Crime Stats" icon on the Illinois State Police homepage under Quick Links, or directly at <https://ilucr.nibrs.com>.

Learn about cancer care centered on you at FHN event

Learning of a cancer diagnosis may be some of the most frightening news a person can get. Having a local support and care team can make a huge difference. Join FHN for a special Speaker Series event on comprehensive cancer care available right here in Freeport.

Leonard C. Ferguson Cancer Center at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport Director Risa Tyler, RN, BSN will talk about new state-of-the-art treatments available at the center at a free event beginning at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 19 at the FHN Family Healthcare Center - Burchard Hills, 1010 W. Fairway Drive in Freeport.

The public is invited and there is no charge to attend this event. Registration is requested; register online at www.fhn.org/speaker-series-registration-cancer.asp. For more information on cancer treatment at FHN, visit www.fhn.org.



Is service or installation TODAY soon enough?

AFFORDABLE WATER

Repair on all makes & models
SERVICE CALL SPECIAL \$39.95

\$200 OFF
any water conditioner or iron filter!

815-544-0978
1-877-353-7638

Expires 9/13/23. COUPON MUST BE USED AT TIME OF PURCHASE.

Serving the area for over 30 years

VENDORS WANTED

ANTIQUE DAYS
ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

Winslow Museum • 606 Bridge St. Winslow, IL

EVENT DATES: AUGUST 12 & 13

Reserve your \$10.00 Spot by Calling
Gary: (815) 541-2573

SET UP AVAILABLE ALL DAY ON FRIDAY, AUG. 11

MOWERY AUTO PARTS
USED AUTO PARTS

FOR MOST MAKES AND MODELS
LOCATING SERVICE AVAILABLE

Also buying junk cars & trucks

Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sat. 8 a.m. - Noon

815-599-0480
686 Van Buren, Freeport, IL
www.moweryauto.com

BELVIDERE COLLECTIBLE COINS

NEED CASH? Turn your Gold and Silver into CASH!

10% MORE for jewelry with this ad!

Gold • Silver • Jewelry • Coins
Flatware • Diamonds • Sterling

BUYING ALL: U.S. Rare Coins • World Coins • Proof Sets • Mint Sets • BU Rolls • Gold • Silver • Platinum • Dental Gold • Jewelry • Sterling Silver • Scrap Gold Bullion • Currency • Pocket Watches • Diamonds • 999 Fine Silver/Gold Plate Costume Jewelry • Silverware • Foreign Exchange

815.547.7111 | www.GoldSilverJewelryCoin.com
880 Belvidere Rd. (Logan Square), Belvidere, IL • bcoins60@yahoo.com
M-F 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

THE SCOOP TODAY SHOPPER'S GUIDE
"Committed to the communities we serve"

EDITOR: Kathleen Cruger
Advertising Sales: Cyndee Stiefel: lenaads@rvpublishing.com
Office Manager: Jessica Tessendorf

To contact The Scoop Today & Shopper's Guide:
Telephone: 815-369-4112 • 815-947-3353 • Fax: 815-369-9093
Email: News/Letters to the Editor: scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com
Ads: ads@rvpublishing.com
Classifieds: scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com
Legals: legals@rvpublishing.com
Billing Office: businessoffice@rvpublishing.com
Available online at: rvpnews.com

Mailing Address:
The Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide
240 W. Main Street, Suite B, Lena, IL 61048

Office Hours
Monday/Wednesday/Friday • 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closed Tuesday/Thursday

TO SUBSCRIBE:

- Yearly subscriptions to The Scoop Today and Shopper's Guide are available at \$25 annually for Jo Daviess & Stephenson Counties and \$39.95 annually for those out of the area. Subscriptions are non-refundable. Within our circulation area, The Scoop Today and Shopper's Guide are free. You can pick up single copies of The Scoop Today or Shopper's Guide at convenient locations throughout the area.
- CLASSIFIED RATES: Classifieds start at \$7.00 for the first 3 lines, then add \$1.95 per each additional line thereafter, for private party ads. Please call for complete rate information.

©2023 Rock Valley Publishing, LLC • All rights reserved

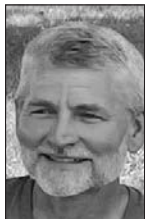
OPINION



Weekly connection

Summer trip to Branson with the Grands

For the past three or four years my wife and I have taken a little summer trip with our oldest daughter and her family to see the places where author of the "Little House" books, Laura Ingalls Wilder lived. Currently there are four girls and a two-year-old baby brother in their family. The girls love the "Little House on the Prairie" books and they've



By **SCOTT CERNEK**
Columnist

read them all. They love the TV show too. Each year on these trips we go to another of the places where Laura

lived throughout her life. Three years ago, we went to Pepin, Wisconsin to see the place where she was born and then on to Walnut Grove, Minnesota and saw Plum Creek where she lived as a young girl. Later her family moved to Burr Oak, Iowa and then on to DeSmet, South Dakota where her dad farmed and worked other jobs. While there Laura actually became a schoolteacher at age sixteen.

Last week we drove down to Mansfield, Missouri near Branson with our daughter and her family to Rocky Ridge Farm where Laura and her husband Almanzo

lived for sixty years and raised their daughter Rose. It was in Mansfield where Laura wrote all of the Little House books while she and Almanzo ran the farm. We toured the two houses on the farm last week and found it to be quite interesting to say the least. The original house was a custom-built two-story farmhouse that took them over seventeen years to build one section at a time as they were able to save the money. All the wood used to build the house came from the farm. I don't think anyone

See **TRIP**, Page 5

Slices of life

When the human gets sick

You don't appreciate your health—until it's gone.

Gosh this is true, and I've learned it the hard way a few times in my life—the most recently last Tuesday.

I woke up in the middle of the night, sweating (never a good sign). My body ached and I didn't know it yet, but the headache that was to come was going to be a doozy. I tried to continue sleeping, but you know how that goes with body aches, which were soon accompanied by a fever—as my body fluctuated between hot and cold sweats, like only sickness will do to you.

In the morning, I grabbed a pillow and headed for the couch. I could hardly move. I drifted in and out of sleep.

Until my body aches pulled me back to reality. My joints shouted in unison, "We hurt! Roll over already!"

While my throbbing head, which threatened to implode the core of my cortex, merely whispered, "Move a muscle and you will die."

And then my stomach jumped in, in a churning manner. Even water sounded vomit-inducing.

In short, I was afraid to eat, drink or move.

But enough about me.

Midway into the evening (because I was dozing all day) I noticed my cat, sitting still, beside me—just staring. She'd been there all day. She didn't meow. She didn't do anything, other than try to shimmy up next to me. She stayed on alert while I slept, although because of my aches I didn't pay her the attention she usually warrants.

Normally when I go to bed, she paroles the house for I don't know how long. I guess however long a cat paroles a house. But on that night, she followed me right into the bedroom, and couldn't snuggle close enough.

I woke up during the middle of the night and she was still there. When I woke again in the wee hours of the morning, she was still beside me, looking at me with her green/yellow eyes. She wanted to smell my breath and my skin and when doing so attempted to lick both.

Not a common cat behavior.

By this time, I was starting to feel a bit better—and



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

hopefully my breath and skin reflected that. I guess it did, because somewhere around 6 a.m. she rolled up in her proverbial cat bundle and surrendered to a sound sleep. Her grunts and peeps gave proof to this and I understood that she understood that I was on the mend.

This got me to thinking.

Do animals worry? Do they experience loss and grief?

When my husband was sick, she was his constant companion—even before we knew he was ill. I think she understood the situation well before any of us humans in the house did. She probably smelled it. Maybe on his breath, or on the sweat on his skin.

I wonder how much she remembers about that?

I think oftentimes we sell animals short. We think as humans we are so much further evolved. We have language and all, not to mention money, toilets and cable news.

But what do we really know—really?

Let's defer to the Titanic.

It's probably just the tip of the iceberg—our knowledge about animals and our beloved pets.

They are far more in tune to their senses and instincts and perhaps—no, likely—that puts them ahead of us on numerous fronts.

I wish my kitty could talk. I wish she could tell me what she knows—what she really knows.

We haven't figured out how to do that. How to talk to one another. But we do communicate. She sniffs me. I pet her. She licks me. I kiss her. She purrs. We snuggle. I tell her I love her and in-between purrs, I'm pretty sure she's telling me the same.

In fact, I know it.

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.

Homecoming Service



Sunday,
July 23
10 a.m.

Please join us for a time of worship, fellowship and food.

Questions? Call Pastor Dottie at 815-845-2272

Schapville Zion Presbyterian Church
635 E. Schapville Road
Elizabeth, IL 61028 • www.schapvillezion.org

440471

Your "Main Street Chiropractors"
with over 40 years service to our community



Dr. Jared Liles & Dr. Jim Liles

**238 W. Main St. • Lena
815-369-4974**

M-F 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. • Saturday by Appointment.

- Palmer Graduates
- Digital X-Ray
- BCBS, Quartz and Medicare Provider

434622

Consumer advocates, utilities spar over potential energy price increases

'Unprecedented' number of rate cases pending before Illinois Commerce Commission

By Andrew Adams
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
Millions of Illinoisans could see higher energy bills next year, but the size of those increases will be determined by a state agency that has recently had its oversight powers expanded.

gas customers and 5.3 million electric customers in Illinois. All told, electric utilities have asked to raise rates by a combined \$2.8 billion over four years, while gas utilities have requested \$890 million in increases next year.

It's an "unprecedented" number of proposed rate increases for one year, according to David Kolata, the former longtime head of the Citizens Utility Board, or CUB, a non-profit organization created by the General Assembly in 1983

to represent consumers in cases like these.

The number of cases in front of the ICC is due, in part, to a pair of major policy changes affecting the way utilities request rate increases and the commission's authority to amend those requests. For electric utilities, that means a more complicated, multi-year rate-setting process and a more thorough review of profit margins. For gas companies, that means more scrutiny of infrastructure costs.

The utilities are making their case for rate increases in an 11-month regulatory process that is set to conclude around the end of the year. But third parties like business groups and consumer advocates, in addition to ICC staff, also have a chance to weigh in before an administrative judge and eventually the five-member ICC board. The rate changes, if approved by the ICC, would take effect in January.

CUB and other consumer advocacy groups are pushing

for the ICC to lower the electric utilities' requests by at least \$1.4 billion and the gas utilities' requests by at least \$231.8 million.

"Energy is essential. You can't do anything without it," Kolata told Capitol News Illinois prior to his recent departure from the CUB for a climate tech company. "We want to be sure we do everything we can to make our bills affordable."

Gov. JB Pritzker has recently shaken up the board that will have the ultimate say on the rate hikes.

In March, Pritzker announced replacements for three of the five ICC commis-

sioners. The governor tapped former ICC Chair Doug Scott to rejoin the board as a replacement for ICC Chair Carrie Zalewski, who left her role recently. The other two members took their posts earlier this year, replacing members who had either retired or saw their terms expire. Advocates hope these changes will make the board more "consumer friendly."

And while Pritzker hasn't weighed in on the electric cases, he wrote a March op-ed in the *Chicago Sun-Times* calling for increased accountability for gas companies.

See **INCREASES**, Page 15

• Trip (Continued from page 4)

would have the patience to build a house that way today. The counters were all very short because Laura was only 4' 11" tall.

What's really interesting is that their daughter Rose grew up and became a writer before Laura ever picked up a pen to write her books. Rose was the second highest published author for a time in the early 1900's, making her quite wealthy, so she decided to build her parents a more modern retirement home on the farm. She ordered a Sears Roebuck house plan kit with rock siding from the farm and hired the work done. The house was finished in about six months the tour guide said. Even though her parents loved the house that they had built, she insisted that they move into the new house and Rose moved into theirs. Since it had all the modern conveniences, Laura had more time to work on her books. After a few years Rose moved to New York and Laura and Almanzo moved back into their original home for their final years. Anyway, we had a

wonderful little trip and were also able to take in a Christian musical at Sight and Sound Theater in Branson called, Esther. It's the story of the life of Queen Esther from the Bible and how God raised her up to save the Jews from certain destruction in the land of Persia and Babylon after the Jewish exile around five hundred BC. It was very powerful in theme and presentation. I think the most fun of all for the kids was getting to swim in the pool each evening at the hotel where we were "camping". They all took swimming lessons this summer and loved jumping in and swimming across the pool or taking a ride on Grandpa's back as I swam around and around. Our little grandson kicked and kicked and splashed in my arms as he wanted so badly to swim like his big sisters.

Oh, I almost forgot we also went to Dolly's Stampede which is kind of a rodeo dinner show. Two of our granddaughters were asked to participate in the chicken chasing contest and their

team of two almost beat two boys from the other side of the arena. During the show we ate like kings and queens. We each had our own complete small chicken to eat, along with some fried potatoes, corn on the cob, a slice of pork, some cream of vegetable soup, a biscuit, all the lemonade or iced tea we could drink, and a big apple turnover for dessert. It was great! We had so much that we were able to make a lunch out of it the next day when

we got to the St. Louis zoo.

One of my readers contacted me through Facebook and asked me to print my email address in a column so people could respond to my articles if they felt so inclined so here it is, scotternek@gmail.com. Let me know if you would like some of our family to come and sing and share at your church some Sunday night. Thanks, and God bless!

NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

WEATHERIZATION MECHANICAL & ARCHITECTURAL LABOR AND MATERIAL BID NOTICE

The Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency (NICAA) will be accepting proposals for material and labor on a bid for weatherization on homes in Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties through the Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program during the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

- All Contractors interested in submitting a proposal must call our office at 815-232-3141 Ext. 132 by July 21 at 1:00 p.m. to register their company for the informational meeting.
- On Wednesday, July 26, NICAA will conduct an informational meeting for all pre-registered parties. The informational meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the NICAA conference room at 27 S. State Ave., Suite 102, Freeport, IL 61032. The purpose of this meeting is to explain the Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program and to disseminate bid packets to be completed by the contractor. **Only contractors who attend the informational meeting will be given a contractor pre-qualification application, material and labor specification list, and a bid package.**
- All bids are due by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 4 at the NICAA office located at 27 S. State Ave., Suite 102, Freeport, IL 61032. **Only those attending the informational meeting will qualify to submit a proposal.** Proposals will be evaluated, scored and the contract will be awarded by Friday, Aug. 18 to the contractors whose proposals are most advantageous for the Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program and NICAA.

NICAA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal or part of a proposal which in its judgment will be in the best interest of the program and/or agency.

NICAA is an equal opportunity employer. Small, minority, and women owned businesses are encouraged to apply.

440712

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 publication.

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

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency Senior Citizens Services Golden Meals Program

524 West Stephenson, Freeport, IL 61032
815-232-8896

NICAA Golden Meals Program serves senior citizens in Stephenson, Jo-Daviess, Carroll and Whiteside Counties



NICAA Golden Meals delivers hot mid-day meals to persons 60 years of age and older who are homebound or are unable to make their own meals. Meals may be delivered during a short recuperation period after discharge from the hospital or on a permanent basis.



The Golden Meals menus provide one-third of the USDA recommended daily allowances for senior citizens and are approved by a registered dietitian. Each meal includes 3 ounces of protein, two 1/2 cup servings of fruits or vegetables, bread and milk.



Hot meals are delivered Monday through Thursday with a cold tray delivered on Thursday for Friday's meal and frozen meals for the weekend. Sack suppers are available. A suggested donation of \$3.00 per meal is requested. No one will be denied service due to their inability to donate.

To begin home-delivered meal service, call the NICAA Golden Meals office at 815-232-8896. You will be asked some questions to determine eligibility. Meals can usually be started the next day.

Golden Meals Menus are available at nicaa.org

The Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency Senior Citizens' Services Golden Meals program is funded in part with Title III-C Older Americans Act funds received through the Illinois Department on Aging and the Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging. NICAA Golden Meals does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, the U.S. Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Age Discrimination Act and Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions.

Your community in your hands!

The Journal • The Herald • The Gazette • Tempo • The Shopper
The Independent-Register • The Clinton Topper
Belvidere Republican • The Scoop Today • The Shopper's Guide

Weekly news including:

- ★ Community News
- ★ Police Beat
- ★ Local News
- ★ Upcoming Events
- ★ Church News
- ★ Legals
- ★ Auctions
- ★ Classifieds

ROCK VALLEY
Publishing LLC



435565

Find local news online: rupnews.com • indreg.com

Timber Lake Playhouse presents Matilda

Rebellion is nigh in *Matilda JR.*, a gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination! Timber Lake Playhouse (TLP), the premier professional theatre of northwest Illinois, brings *Matilda* to its Summer Mainstage Season July 14 through 16.

Join TLP as they tell the delightful story of a special little girl with an extraordinary imagination. This story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have audienc-

es rooting for the "revolting children" who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson.

Playing the title role of *Matilda* is Rosemary Heckard. Other cast members include Jonas White, Amelia Wilson, Ryker Robinson, Morgan Ayling, Maggie Martin, Paige Lower, Catia Wilson, Autumn Roth, Jeriyauna Jones, Tiarra Danielowski, Henry Warren, Luke Holcomb, Zack Gonzalez, Christine Ayling, Catalina Danielowski, Starlyn Eberman, Taylor Jakobs, Ella Miller,

August Morgan, Wilder Mosley, Bohn Sparboe, William Sparboe, Cassidy Aho, Isabella Ames, Quin Borrás, Nadia Deline, Scarlett Gendreau, Alivia Schmidt, Amira Tharp, and Morelia Vargas.

The production features lighting design by Dylan Carter, costume design by Julie Wilson, props design by Annabell Sapp and sound design by Joe Cave. Jaguer Heier is Production Stage Manager and Kayden Reynard is Tech Director. Sydney Vega Pauley, Anna Cagle and Gabriel

Pauley round out the production staff.

Packed with high-energy dance numbers and catchy songs, *Matilda JR.* is a joyous girl power romp. Children and adults alike will be

thrilled and delighted by the story of the special little girl with an extraordinary imagination.

Information and tickets for all Timber Lake Playhouse events are available online

at www.timberlakeplayhouse.org or by calling the Box Office at 815-244-2035. The Box Office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and show days until intermission.

SATURDAY, AUG. 26 • 9 A.M.
SCHRADER SUMMER EQUIP. AUCTION
5995 IL 75 E. • Dakota, IL
 Selling: Tractors, field equip, livestock equip., fencing, shop & yard equip., hay & straw, lumber, vehicles. NO guns or household items.
 Get listings in NOW to advertise. 815-449-2215

440633

your source for on-line news:
RVPNEWS.COM



Chris Folmar
 Financial Advisor
 640 W. South St, #4
 Freeport, IL 61032
 815-616-5955

Compare our CD Rates
 Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

1-year 5.30% APY*	2-year 5.00% APY*	3-year 4.70% APY*
--------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 07/05/23. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

440639

Edward Jones
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

ONLINE AUCTION

Warren & Ruth Heimerdinger (Living Estate)
 430 N. Simmons St., Stockton, IL 61085
 Bid online, go to Diekenauktion.hibid.com
 or Visit - Diekenauktionsservice.com

Friday, July 14, 6:00 a.m. - Wednesday, July 19, 6:00 p.m.

Preview date, Thursday, July 13 from 5 - 7 p.m. Come take a look
 2002 Chevy S-10 Truck, Household, Furniture, Collectibles, Hummels, Horse Figurines,
 Local Paintings, Garage Items, & Miscellaneous. (No Shipping)

Pick up only, Friday, July 21 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

and Saturday, July 22 from 8 a.m. - 1p.m.

Bring help, & tools for loading your items.

Term/Cond.: Credit/Debit card payment only, 15% Buyer's Premium. Everything Sold AS IS.

Dieken Auction Service, Warren, IL 61087

815-222-0542 Like us on facebook

diekenauktion@gmail.com Terry Dieken, IL Lic. #440000430/WI Lic. #859

440600

Daws MEMORIALS

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE • ESTABLISHED IN 1991

MONUMENT SALES

LOTS OF GRANITE IN STOCK

6-8 Weeks From Start To Finish

And Placed In Cemetery

UP TO **40% CHEAPER THAN COMPETITION!**

Bruce Does It All! Sales & Service

STOP BY FOR A QUOTE

Weekdays • Weekends • Evenings • Holidays

APPOINTMENTS WELCOME!

Call 815-369-4246

or 815-238-6307

207 LEET STREET, LENA, ILLINOIS



437456

Lena Lions Club 72nd Annual Fall Festival

The Lena Lions 72nd Annual Fall Festival, known as "The Cadillac of Small-Town Festivals", will be held in downtown Lena on Sept. 8 and 9. This year kicks off the 75th Anniversary of the Lena Lions Club.

Entertainment includes The Maddmen on Friday evening and The Crosscut Reunion Band on Saturday. A 50/50 cash raffle will be offered again this year. Tickets are available for \$10 each or three for \$20 from Lion members or at the festival. Winning tickets will be drawn on Saturday, Sept. 9 at the close of the festival. A second prize of \$250 Lena Money gift certificate

and third prize of \$100 Lena Money gift certificate will also be awarded.

The Lena Lions will also sell raffle tickets for the 2023 Polaris UTV Ranger to be given away on Saturday at approximately 11 p.m. The tickets cost \$10 per ticket or three for \$20. A \$200 Lena Money gift certificate will be the second prize and a \$100 Lena Money gift certificate will be the third prize.

Skidders Amusements returns for the 63rd year with carnival rides for all ages in the downtown parking lot starting at 6 p.m. on Friday and 2 p.m. on Saturday. Merchandise Bingo and the Ham

Stand, Lion's operated favorites, will be in their usual places on Main Street. No pets will be allowed on the midway except for service animals. Credit cards will be accepted this year to purchase ride tickets.

There will be food galore with the Lions famous "Pork Chop on a Stick", Le-Win Sports Association Food Stand, and other favorites filling their usual spots. Classics like cotton candy, elephant ears, ice cream and soft drinks will also be available.

The theme of this year's parade is "Our Past - Our Future". The 100+ unit parade will be stepping off from the Old School Apartments at 12

p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9. A flyover by the Freeport Pilot's Association will kick off the parade, taking the same route through town as previous years. High school bands, church floats, Scout and 4-H groups, antique and classic cars, and antique tractors, along with area fire trucks will be featured. Kids are encouraged to decorate their bikes and participate in the parade.

Parade entry registration starts at 9 a.m. Please, no 4-wheel drive tractors, duals, or semis. A valid driver's license will be required to drive tractor. For additional parade registration and information please contact Bill Crichton

at 815-291-9361, Festival Chairmen Dan Smunt 708-828-7775 and Gary Meyers 815-821-2400, Street/Vendor

Chairman Connie Kraft 815-541-0020, Adv/Pr: Chairman Marcia Meyers 815-821-2300.

2023 4-H Project Shows

The Stephenson County 4-H is gearing up for our summer shows. Even before the official start of the local county fair, most 4-H activities will be taking place at the Stephenson County Fairgrounds. From foods to livestock, and horticulture to rabbits, 4-H members will exhibit many projects at this year's shows. Following is a summary of the activities that are planned:

Saturday, July 15

At 9 a.m. the 4-H Cat and Dog shows will take place at the Stephenson County Fairgrounds. The dog show will be hosted in the 4-H building, which is commercial building C-2. The Cat show will take place inside the old Dining Hall behind the Home Ec. building.

Wednesday, July 19

At 9 a.m. the 4-H General Projects Day will take place in the two large commercial buildings out at the fairgrounds. 4-H members will be bringing out their 4-H projects to be judged in a conference-style platform by judges. This will be a full morning of judging projects such as: Aerospace, Natural Resources, Visual Arts, Woodworking, and Animal Science to name a few.

Friday, July 21

We will be holding our Sewing & Textiles, Food Decorating, & Flower Arranging Shows at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau office, inside the Lincoln Douglas Room. The Clothing & Textiles show will begin at 9 a.m. Food Decorating/ Candy Making starts at 10 a.m. And lastly, the flower arranging will start at 1 p.m.

Saturday, July 22

The 4-H Horse show will take place at the Stephenson County Fairgrounds. Starting at 8 a.m. Feel free to come out and bring lawn chairs to enjoy the show! We will have Custer's Last Stand food truck on site from 10:30-2!!

Monday, July 24

A full slate of shows begins at 9 a.m. with Crops, Foods, and Horticulture projects in the 4-H Building- commercial building 2. Cloverbuds who are 5 to 7 years old will have

their projects judged in the 4-H Building starting at 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 25

The day begins with the Rabbit Show at 8:30 a.m. in the Rabbit/Poultry barn. The Poultry show will begin at 8:45 a.m. in the Poultry/Rabbit barn. The Sheep, Beef, and Swine Shows will begin in their respective barns starting at 9 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. the 4-H Dairy and Goat Show will take place in their respective barns.

A fun evening of activities is scheduled for 4-H families inside of the 4-H building, taking place from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday evening. There we will be announcing trophy winners, recognizing our 2023 4-H Hall of Fame nominee, games, activities, and root beer floats. All 4-H members and families are welcome to come out for a fun evening.

Saturday, July 29

The Master Showmanship Contest will begin at 1p.m. in the swine show ring. This contest is coordinated by the Stephenson County Farm Bureau & the Stephenson County 4-H. 4-H members ages 14-18 (as of 9/1/2022), who are enrolled in a livestock project through 4-H may participate. Registration is required by July 27.

Master Showmanship is a contest where 4-H members will show a sheep, pig, and beef animal and are individually scored on how they did with each species. The top 2 winners will receive a cash award, plus an engraved tumbler, provided by the Stephenson County Farm Bureau. We invite all family and friends to come on out and watch the very fun and exciting competition.

Throughout the week of the Stephenson County Fair the 4-H building will be full of 4-H projects on display for our community to come and see what the local 4-H members have worked so hard on! We will have a coloring table for youngsters, make and take activities, yard games that will change daily, a farm scene set-up for photo opportunities, and a daily demonstration in the afternoons starting at 3 p.m. (Wed - Fri).

See SHOWS, Page 9

PROUDLY OFFERING THE INDUSTRY'S BEST MASTIC SIDING WINDOWS INCLUDE EGRESS and EXTERIOR DOORS



Window World is America's Largest Home Improvement Company

0% FINANCING NOW AVAILABLE*



NO FADE SOLAR DEFENSE PROTECTION NO PAINT - NO STAIN NO HASSLE

"Not only do we stand behind our windows, we stand on them!"
Local Owner,
Scott Williamson



Se Habla Español

- Locally Owned & Operated
- Professional Installers - Energy Efficient - Lifetime Guarantee
- True Lifetime Warranties, Guaranteed Forever!
- Serving Northern Illinois for nearly 20 years

Call Today For Your FREE ESTIMATE

815-395-1333

www.windowworldrockford.com

6010 Forest Hills Road, Rockford, IL

Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am - 5 pm, Sat 9 am - Noon



*PLEASE SEE A TEAM MEMBER OR OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Children 'are revolting' at Timber Lake Playhouse in Matilda, JR.

Rebellion is nigh in Matilda JR., a gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination. Timber Lake Playhouse (TLP), the premier professional theatre of northwest Illinois, brings Matilda to its Summer Mainstage Season July 14 - 16.

Shows (Continued from page 8)

There will also be a couple of contests going on: a Garbology contest where 4-H members paint garbage cans to promote the theme '4-H... Discovering Together!' Be sure to look for these cans throughout the fairgrounds.

This year, the 10 local 4-H clubs will be decorating a round bale at the fairgrounds. Each club is creating their own theme and the public is invited to stop by the 4-H building and vote on their favorite round bale. Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, along with a peo-

ple's choice award.

Lastly, 4-H clubs have been running a Food Drive Campaign for local food pantries this summer. Non-perishable food items will be collected at the 4-H building during the week of the fair Tuesday through Saturday. The 4-H Ambassadors have turned this into a friendly competition to see which club can bring in the most items by the end of the fair week. All donations will be donated to the local food pantries within Stephenson County.

24-HOUR SERVICE ON ALL BRANDS

BECKER SUPERIOR
HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

New installation • Remodeling
Routine maintenance • Repairs

815-291-2866 • Lena, IL
www.superiorhvacservices.com

Christmas in July
Shop and Compare
MODEL FOR MODEL

RITE-WAY GUARANTEES THE LOWEST PRICES* on Furniture that you will find ANYWHERE!

MATTRESS SETS with frame \$299.95	ELECTRIC BEDS starting at \$1089.95	4-DRAWER CHESTS from \$119.95	SELECT CARPET & VINYL REMNANTS 60% OFF	ACCENT CHAIRS starting at \$229.95	ENTERTAINMENT CENTER \$269.95
---	---	---	---	--	--

RECLINERS **\$479.95** Ashley 1010425

\$229.95 Ashley 1037-13

\$549.95 Ashley 3980138

CLEARANCE
Select Bedroom, Dining Room, & Living Room Items.
Refurbished Appliances, Bean Bags, Foot Stools, & Mirrors
ALL SALE PRICED

ALL APPLIANCES SALE PRICED **SELECT SERTA MATTRESSES ON CLOSEOUT**

Rite-Way
Northwest IL Largest Furniture, Mattress & Appliance Dealer

*FOR ANY FURNITURE ITEM OVER \$200, IF YOU SHOW US EVIDENCE OF A LOWER PRICE FOR THE SAME MODEL AT ANY OTHER AREA STORE, WE WILL NOT ONLY MEET THAT PRICE BUT GIVE YOU \$20

20 E. Stephenson St., Downtown Freeport 815-235-4911 ritewayfreeport.com
Mon - Fri 9 am to 5 pm and Saturday 9 am to 4 pm

YOUR LOCAL ASHLEY FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC. DEALER

Ask about Short & Long Term Financing

2022 BEST OF THE REGION FURNITURE & APPLIANCE



COME!

To The Elizabeth Community Fair

July 21 • 22 • 23, 2023



440624





**Supports the
Community Fair!**



Elizabeth • 815-858-9111

440711



THE Apple River STATE BANK

Located In

Elizabeth 815-858-2225 **Hanover 815-591-2201**

www.appleriverstatebank.com
www.communitybankgalena.com



Locally Owned, Independent, full service loans.

HAVE FUN AT THE FAIR

421290



Citizens State Bank
Confident. Courteous. Close by.
www.csbnw.com

Member FDIC 440625



Elizabeth Fast Stop
24 Hour Fueling

Be Sure to Attend the Fair!



Elizabeth • 815-858-9300

421291

THE 102ND ELIZABETH COMMUNITY FAIR

JULY 21, 22, 23, 2023

Check out our website!
www.elizabethcommunityfair.com

Find us on
Facebook

FRIDAY JULY 21ST

- 7:00 am Steer Weigh-in
- 9:00 am Dairy and Sheep Show
- 10:00 am Crafts and Gardening Judging
- 1:00 pm Dairy Goat Show
- 5:00 pm- 10:00 pm Kid Zone Open-Inflatable Rides
- 7:00 pm Fantasy Truck Pullers** (weigh-in beginning at 5:00 pm)

SUNDAY JULY 23RD

- 9:00 am Community Church Service- St. Paul Lutheran Church
- 10:00am Bean Bag Tournament for All Ages Sponsored by G.E.A.R**
- 11:00am-1:00pm Bingo
- Noon-4:30pm Kids Zone Open
- 1:00 pm- Fantasy Truck Pullers** (with weigh-in beginning at 11:00 am)
- 4:00 pm Ice cream Eating Contest
- 4:30 pm Home Grown Wrestling** Stick around for the Pie and Cake Auction

SATURDAY JULY 22ND

- 8:00 am Beef Show beginning with heifers & steers to follow
- 11:00 am Parade "Growing the Future"**
Presented by the Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce
Sponsored by Apple River State Bank
Grand Marshalls: Representatives of River Ridge Community School District
- Noon- Free Lunch for first 500 people- Lunch prepared by The Jo Daviess County Beef Association and sponsored by Citizens State Bank
- Noon- 10 pm Kid Zone is Open
- Noon- 2 pm Music by Betty Calling
- Noon to 3pm- Bingo
- 1:00 pm Kiddie Tractor Pull by the Jo Daviess County Young Leaders. Sign up at 12:30
- 1:00 pm Ag Games by River Ridge FFA
- 1:00pm-4:00pm Jo Daviess County Sheriff Department Games, Raffles and Activities**
- 2:00pm Kg Demonstration
- 3:00 pm Elizabeth's Best BBQ Competition Public Tasting**
- 2:00pm-5:00pm Outlaw Garden Tractor Pull
- 6:00 pm Elizabeth Fair Queen, Junior Miss & Little Miss Pageant
- 7:00pm-8:30pm Hypnotist and Mentalist Brian Imbus**
- 8:30 pm- Midnight Music by the Deal Breakers

PARADE INFORMATION

- Parade Theme
"Growing Our Future"
- Saturday July 22nd
- Line up at 9:30am
- Parade Steps off at 11:00am
- Categories include; Floats, Kids, Antique Cars and Antique Tractors
- \$1000 in Prizes!**
- For information contact Jason Thomasson @ 815-930-4425

ADMISSION

- Adult Season Pass \$15
- Child Season Pass \$15
- Daily Adult \$10
- Daily Child \$10
- 5 & Under Free
- *Cost of Children includes the Kidz Zone***
- Throughout the weekend Great Food, Vendors, Antique Tractor and Farm Demonstrations, Music, Beer Tent and More!**

440245

FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Taco Pasta Salad

This easy summer salad is a great side or a good picnic salad. The recipe calls for Catalina dressing, but I think any good French style dressing will do. Also, you can substitute the yellow and orange peppers with red and green ones. The yellow and orange peppers are a little sweeter.

- 2 C. uncooked spiral pasta
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 3 C. shredded lettuce
- 2 C. halved cherry tomatoes
- 1 C. shredded cheddar cheese
- ½ C. chopped onion
- ¼ C. chopped yellow peppers
- ¼ C. chopped orange peppers
- ½ C. Catalina salad dressing
- Tortilla Chips

Cook pasta according to package directions. In a large skillet, cook beef over medium heat until no longer pink, breaking it into crumbles; drain. Stir in the taco seasoning; cool. Drain pasta and rinse in cold water; stir into meat mixture. Add the lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, onion, green onions, peppers, and dressing. Toss to coat. Serve with tortilla chips.

Asparagus and Green Beans with Tarragon

If you planted spices, they should be ready to use. Mine are really going great because I watered them. Fresh herbs are great for this dish. Tarragon and lemon help these two vegetables really shine. Serve as a side or an appetizer.

- 1 lb. fresh asparagus, trimmed
- 1 lb. fresh green beans, trimmed

- 1 C. mayonnaise
- ¼ C. lemon juice
- 1 green onion, finely chopped
- 2 T. minced fresh tarragon or 1 t. dried tarragon
- 2 T. minced fresh parsley or 2 t. dried parsley flakes
- 2 t. grated lemon zest
- Dash of pepper

Place 1-inch of water in a large pot; add asparagus and beans. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 3 to 5 minutes or until crisp tender. In a small bowl, combine the mayo, lemon juice, onion, tarragon, parsley, and zest. Drain vegetables; transfer to a serving bowl. Drizzle with dressing and serve.

Chicken Waldorf Salad

This hearty salad has a lot of goodies in it: chicken, apples, lettuce, eggs, and nuts. You can use spinach or a spring mix for the romaine lettuce. The dressing is light, so this makes a great lunch or summer dinner.

- 4 eggs
- ½ C. walnut or pecans
- 1 sweet red apple
- ½ C. plain Greek yogurt
- ¼ C. mayonnaise
- 1 T. cider vinegar
- ¼ t. salt
- 8 C. romaine lettuce
- 2 C. shredded rotisserie chicken
- 2 celery ribs, sliced

In a small pot, combine eggs with enough cold water to cover by 1 inch, over high heat. Bring to a boil. Cover. Remove from heat; let stand 10 minutes. Drain, rinse under cold water. Cover eggs with cold water. When cool enough to handle, peel and halve.

Heat small dry skillet over medium heat. Add nut pieces; cook, stirring occasional-

ly until fragrant and roasted, about 5 minutes. Transfer to a plate; let cool. Halve, core, and thinly slice apple. In a bowl, mix yogurt, mayo, vinegar, and salt. Transfer lettuce to a platter. Top with chicken, apple, eggs, celery, and nuts. Drizzle with dressing.

Slow Cooker Swiss Steak Supper

This supper is an easy and good one for hot weather. Serve with noodles; add a salad, and you have a meal. Kitchen stays cool!

- 1½ lbs beef top round steak
- ½ t. onion powder
- ½ t. garlic powder
- ½ t. paprika
- ¼ t. pepper
- 1 T. canola oil
- 3 medium potatoes
- 1½ C. baby carrots
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 1 can (14½ oz.) Italian diced tomatoes
- 1 jar (12 oz.) home-style beef gravy
- 1 T. minced fresh parsley

Cut steak into 6 serving size bites; flatten to ¼ inch thickness by placing steak between plastic wrap and pounding with smooth side of mallet. In a small bowl, combine the onion and garlic powder, paprika, and pepper. Rub meat with mixture. In a large skillet, brown beef in oil on both sides; drain. Cut each potato into 8 wedges. In a 5 qt. slow cooker sprayed with cooking spray, layer potatoes, carrots, beef, and onion. Combine tomatoes and gravy; pour over the top. Cook, covered on low for 5 to 6 hours or until meat and vegetables are tender. Place on serving plate with vegetables around the meat; sprinkle with parsley.

Zucchini Walnut Cake

Another way to use that plentiful zucchini in a great cake. Enjoy this different combination of flavors.

- 2 C. shredded zucchini
- 2 C. sugar

- 1 C. canola oil
- 4 eggs
- 2 ½ C. flour
- 1 ½ t. cinnamon
- 1 t. salt
- ½ t. baking powder
- ½ t. baking soda
- ½ C. chopped toasted walnuts

Frosting

- 3 oz. cream cheese, softened
- ¼ C. butter, softened
- 1 T. 2% milk
- 1 t. vanilla
- 2 C. powdered sugar
- Walnuts for garnish

Preheat the oven to 350. Grease a 9 x 13 baking pan; set aside. In a large bowl, beat the zucchini, sugar, oil, and eggs until well blended. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, cinnamon, salt, baking powder and baking soda together. Gradually add to zucchini mixture. Fold in nuts. Pour into prepared pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 40 minutes. Cool completely.

See KITCHEN, Page 12

Watermelon Salsa

The watermelon has been good lately. This easy salsa is a great one that is different than the regular tomato-based salsa.

- 1½ t. lime zest
- ¼ C. fresh lime juice (about 3 limes)
- 1 T. sugar
- ½ t. pepper
- 3 C. seeded and finely chopped watermelon
- 1 cucumber, peeled, seeded and diced
- 1 mango, peeled and diced
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
- 1 small red onion, finely chopped
- 8 fresh basil leaves, finely chopped
- ½ t. garlic salt

Stir together the lime zest, lime juice, and pepper in a bowl. Add the watermelon, cucumber, mango, jalapeno, onion, and basil. Toss gently. Chill the salsa at least an hour. Add the garlic salt just before serving. Serve with chips.

A Great Big
THANK YOU TO OUR READERS

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

the Scoop Today / Shopper's Guide

240 W. Main Street, Suite B • Lena, IL • 61048

IF YOU THINK YOUR NEWSPAPER IS WORTH
50¢ an issue, it would be \$26.00; 75¢ an issue - \$39.00
or \$1 an issue - \$52.00

You won't get a Scoop/Shopper's Guide tote bag, an Apple gift card, or a discount on an extended car warranty. But you will get the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped support your favorite newspaper.



Name _____

— Please keep my paper coming: _____

Address _____

Phone _____

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

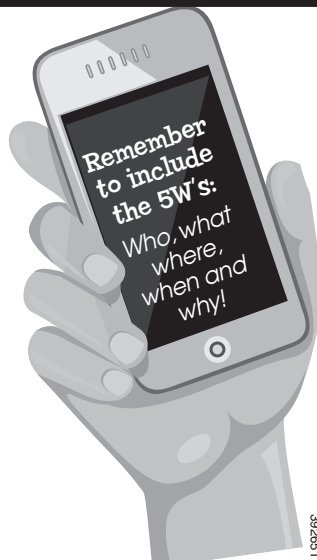
▼ **Please do NOT crop your photos.**

▼ 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
BY NOON ON FRIDAY

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

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



LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JO DAVIESS COUNTY - GALENA, ILLINOIS

Federal National Mortgage Association PLAINTIFF Vs.

Karen Dick a/k/a Karen L. Dick; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants DEFENDANTS

No. 2023FC5 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:

Karen Dick a/k/a Karen L. Dick Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants

That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit:

COMMONLY KNOWN AS:

237 N. Simmons St Stockton, IL 61085 and which said Mortgage was made by:

Karen Dick a/k/a Karen L. Dick

the Mortgageor(s), to Midwest Community Bank, as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Jo Daviess County, Illinois, as Document No. 307203; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court,

Kathy Phillips Clerk of the Circuit Court Jo Daviess County Courthouse 330 N. Bench Street Galena, IL 61036

on or before July 28, 2023, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300

DuPage # 15170 Winnebago # 531 Our File No. 14-23-02362 NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector. I3223335

(Published in The Scoop Today June 28, July 5, 12, 2023) 440079

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS - GALENA, ILLINOIS

Planet Home Lending, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. Brian Donath AKA Brian H. Donath; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants, Defendants,

22 FC 76 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., James J. Nack, 106 North Main Street, Galena, Illinois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

LOT NUMBER ONE HUNDRED NINE-TY-NINE (199) IN PIONEER ACRES FOURTH ADDITION IN SECTIONS TWENTY-EIGHT (28) AND THIRTY-THREE (33), DUNLEITH TOWNSHIP, JO DAVIESS COUNTY, ILLINOIS, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF. P.I.N. 05-301-990-000. Commonly known as 199 Peace Pipe Lane East Dubuque, IL 61025. The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Ms. Mary E. Spitz at Plaintiff's

Attorney, Sottile & Barile, LLC, 7530 Lucerne Drive, Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130. (440) 572-1512. ILF2210030 IJSC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3223139

(Published in The Scoop Today June 28, July 5 & 12, 2023) 440080

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS - GALENA, ILLINOIS

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. BRIAN L. GIFFORD; KELLY J. HAASE; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,

22 FC 71 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the office of James J. Nack, 106 North Main Street, Galena, Illinois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

LOT 14 IN VALLEY VIEW ESTATES SUBDIVISION, LOCATED IN SECTION SEVEN (7), TOWNSHIP TWENTY-SEVEN (27), NORTH, RANGE FOUR (4) EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN JO DAVIESS COUNTY, ILLINOIS. P.I.N. 17-000-069-14. Commonly known as 6173 East Oak Court, Stockton, IL 61085. The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condo-

minium Property Act.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032 or with the representative, or both, on or before January 12, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before said date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or

delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date: June 27, 2023. Thomas M. Bradbury, Administrator

By: Anthony V. Coon Attorney At Law Anthony V. Coon, #6269568 Attorney at Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste 210 Freeport, IL 61032 815-235-2212 Fax 815-232-5500 tonycoonlaw@aol.com (Published in The Shopper's Guide July 5, 12 & 19, 2023) 440377

(Published in The Scoop Today July 12, 19, & 26, 2023) 440644

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY IN PROBATE In Re the Matter of the Estate of: Adam T. Bradbury, Deceased.

No. 23-PR-36 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of Adam T. Bradbury, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on June 27, 2023, to: **Thomas M. Bradbury 1317 S. Locust Ave. Freeport, IL 61032** as independent Administrator of the Estate of Adam T. Bradbury, whose attorney is

Anthony V. Coon Attorney At Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210 Freeport, Illinois 61032

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

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032 or with the representative, or both, on or before January 12, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before said date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or

delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date: June 27, 2023. Thomas M. Bradbury, Administrator

By: Anthony V. Coon Attorney At Law Anthony V. Coon, #6269568 Attorney at Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste 210 Freeport, IL 61032 815-235-2212 Fax 815-232-5500 tonycoonlaw@aol.com (Published in The Shopper's Guide July 5, 12 & 19, 2023) 440377

PUBLIC NOTICE VILLAGE OF PEARL CITY SIXTH AMENDMENT TO PEARL CITY TIF DISTRICT

Pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code [65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(c)], the Village of Pearl City, Stephenson County, Illinois, hereby gives notice of an Amendment to the Village of Pearl City Tax Increment Financing District Redevelopment Project Area, Plan and Projects by reducing the size of the Area.

The following change has been made to the Redevelopment Project Area: Ordinance No. T-23-01 was adopted by the Mayor and Village Board of Trustees on July 5, 2023, providing for and approving the Sixth Amendment to the Pearl City TIF District Redevelopment Project Area, Plan & Projects. The Sixth Amendment removes the three (3) parcels listed in Exhibit A from the Redevelopment Project Area. If you have questions regarding the Sixth Amendment to the Pearl City TIF District, please contact Village President Mat Diehl at (815) 443-2141.

Cheryl Liebenstein, Village Clerk (Published in The Shopper's Guide July 12, 2023) 440722

PUBLIC NOTICE Bids are being accepted for providing bread and dairy products for the Lena-Winslow School District for the 2023-2024 school year. Bid specifications may be picked up at the Superintendent's Office at 401 Fremont St., Lena, IL. from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or you may call 815-

668-0800 to request the forms. Bids are due at the Superintendent's Office no later than 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19, 2023. Lena-Winslow School District reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide July 12, 2023) 440725

•Kitchen

(Continued from page 11)

Frosting: in a small bowl, beat the cream cheese, butter, milk, and vanilla until smooth. Add powdered sugar and mix well. Frost cake. Sprinkle with nuts for garnish.

Strawberry Three ingredient Dump Cake

This easy cake is a good one for a summer picnic.

1 box white cake mix
1 can (21 oz.) strawberry pie filling
½ C. butter, cold
Whipped cream and fresh strawberries

Pour the strawberry pie filling into a 9 x 13 pan that has been sprayed with cooking spray; spread filling out evenly, using a spatula. Then sprinkle the cake mix on top, making sure to cover all the pie filling. Top with pats of butter evenly across the baking dish and in each corner. Bake the cake for 45 to 50 minutes, until the top is golden brown, and the filling is bubbly. Remove from the oven and cool slightly. Serve topped with fresh sliced strawberries and whipped cream.

Final Thoughts

Music in the Park continues. Barb Wire called to tell me that if there is inclement weather at the lake, the concert is moved to the first shelter house off the lake road. Remember to check for the Lena Park District concerts at 6 p.m. and the Freeport Band concerts at 7 p.m. on Sunday evenings.

We are racing towards the middle of July. The corn in most places is knee high, so that is going according to plan. I know that some have been harvesting green beans, onions, and lettuce. As I mentioned earlier, zucchini and summer squash are plentiful. Several people have also been lucky enough to get some blackberries. Summer fruits and vegetables are starting to come in. I have heard that this year is a bumper cherry crop too. If you have some great summer recipes and would like to share, 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.

IN*CI*DENTAL*LY

The role of oral care in dying with dignity

When someone has a serious health condition that can't be cured, palliative care focuses on what can be done to make them comfortable and support their quality of life. Palliative care aims to identify and treat symptoms early to avoid unnecessary suffering, both physical and psychological. Due to our aging population, the importance of palliative care is gaining global significance.



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

Doctors recommend hospice, an even more refined area of palliative care, when the patient and family choose care that focuses on comfort only. While treatment of the patient's underlying condition stops, that in no way means health care stops.

Although the oral cavity plays an essential role in many of our fundamental social activities that contribute to quality of life, as well as our physical, psychological, and overall health, the mouth is often not included as part of the daily basic healthcare routine in home health, nursing homes, and other healthcare facilities. Maintaining oral health helps our loved ones

to speak, smile, taste, chew, swallow, communicate, and connect socially with others. Oral hygiene is an essential component of providing end-of-life dignity so they may continue these activities with confidence and without pain. In general, older patients tend to be reluctant to voice their need for assistance with their daily oral care. Still others may no longer have the ability to recognize and/or voice their needs. Neglecting daily oral hygiene may lead to family and friends avoiding close contact with their loved ones due to halitosis (bad breath). This only adds to feelings of low self-esteem, isolation, depression, and abandonment.

Prevention of oral disease through daily oral care is an essential aspect of palliative and end-of-life

care. Palliative care patients often experience problems such as salivary gland dysfunction which can lead to dry mouth(xerostomia). This can influence appetite and the ability to swallow and speak. Tooth loss, ill-fitting dentures, oral sores, infections, and dental pain can further impede proper nutrition and lead to impaired speech, weight loss, altered cognitive function, and reduced self-esteem. These can further contribute to social isolation and loneliness among nursing home residents and hospice patients.

While you may feel distraught that you cannot offer comfort to your loved one in their final years or days, assisting them with oral care is a critical area where you can render comfort. If you feel that you can provide this assistance, don't hesitate to ask the healthcare staff for instructions and support. Initially, depending on the situation, some patients in palliative care are still able to participate in their oral care or may require minimal support. In this

case, offer your support, ask permission to observe and assist as needed. This initial assessment will make you familiar with the normal appearance of their mouth, so you can report any changes or concerns that may arise. As the patient's health deteriorates, they may be at risk for aspiration, so always check with the healthcare staff before providing oral care.

When brushing, use a small-headed soft bristled toothbrush and a pea-sized amount of mild toothpaste. Gently clean the teeth, gums, cheeks, tongue, and palate (roof of the mouth). If the use of toothpaste presents an aspiration risk or is not tolerated, cleaning the teeth with a damp toothbrush helps to remove plaque and rehydrate the mouth. As tolerated, use a floss holder to remove food and plaque between the teeth.

For denture wearers, remove and clean the dentures thoroughly twice daily and clean the mouth. For end-of-life care, gently misting the mouth using a small spray bottle

containing water can ease the discomfort and halitosis that accompanies a dry mouth. Aim carefully to ensure the water is not sprayed toward the back of the mouth. This may be repeated throughout the day to keep the mouth

moist and hydrated.

Bottom line, providing mouth care for your loved ones can help to keep them comfortable, maintain their dignity and enhance their ability to communicate with their family and friends.

FREELANCE REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED

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



G & H PAINTING

Interior & Exterior Painting & Staining
LENA, IL
Fully Insured
Brent Geilenfeldt
815-369-5368 • Cell 815-275-1069
Adam Heimann
815-275-6450 111032

The Scoop Today & Shopper's Guide Service Corner

PEARL CITY SEAMLESS GUTTERS INC.

5" & 6" Seamless Gutters & Gutter Guards Available. Multi-color, Color Match.
Owner Operated
815-291-6449 423071

Massage
Indulgence by Design

Therapeutic Massage
Deep Tissue Massage
Trigger Point Therapy

Monika Algrim, LMT
112 W. Lena St.
Lena, IL 61048 • 630-669-0096
malgrimlmt@gmail.com
www.malgrim.amtmembers.com 434740

Place Your Service Ad

Minimum of 4 weeks
Additional Sizes Available

Bob's Handyman Service

(Formerly Wybourn Construction)
Lena, IL
Cell: 608-558-1095
bobwybourn@gmail.com
• Windows • Doors • Kitchens
• Bathrooms • Decks
No Job Too Small To Appreciate! 407366

HEID REPAIR TORO

Your local Toro Dealer & Master Service Center

SUMMER SALES EVENT!!

Cash Discounts up to \$2,000 on select models
0% Interest Financing Options available

10240 N. Old Mill Rd. • McConnell, IL 61050
815-541-3348 • heidrepair@yahoo.com
Repairing & servicing all brands of mowers & small engines. 440483

Denny's Service Center

10146 N. Wachlin Rd. • McConnell, IL 61050
815-291-9010 • E-mail denrak03@yahoo.com
Dennis Rakowska Auto Technician

FULL SERVICE & REPAIR GARAGE

SIX POINT SERVICES

Residential and Commercial
Power Washing
Gutter Cleaning
Window Washing
Holiday Lighting
Fully insured

Nick Judge • 815-990-8937
www.sixpointservices.com 413671

Call
815.369.4112
to place your ad

Classifieds

AD DEADLINE:
Friday
at 4 pm

SERVING NORTHERN ILLINOIS AND SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

employment



for sale



rentals & real estate



automotive



services offered



help wanted

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois is searching for a caring and dedicated DSP to join our team!
This FT position is 2nd shift, starting pay \$15.25 per hour and has great benefits and perks!

Contact Victoria at Victoria.schless@lssi.org or Text at 312-493-5221 for more information and find out why Lutheran Social Services was ranked one of the top companies to work for! 438879

Wanted: Carpenter helpers, part time, work around Lena, Freeport area. Call 608-558-1095 440100



Sales/Marketing

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

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

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

We publish newspapers, shoppers and niche publications throughout the stateline. You have the opportunity to sell into all Rock Valley Publishing, L.L.C. publications, making your paycheck much larger!

For immediate consideration send resume/job history to:

Vicki Vanderwerff, Director of Advertising
Email: vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com
Fax: (262) 725-6844 392953



For details on placing your Help Wanted ad in our Classified Section
Call 815-369-4112 42799

Auction Deadline is Noon Friday!

Contact Rhonda at rmarshall@rvpublishing.com for information on advertising.

For details on placing an ad in our Classified Section
Call 815-369-4112

Serving the communities in Jo Daviess County Serving the communities in Stephenson County
The Scoop Today Shopper's Guide

Find us online: rvpnews.com



real estate for sale

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

garage sales

Lena

6318 N LAKE RD Fri. July 14, 10-5 & Sat. 9-3 Custom made corner desk with storage, lots of housewares, Clothes, vintage dishes, chairs, tables, plastic hanging baskets, growing pots, women's shoes, lamps, games, holiday decor, crafts, selling greenhouse with shelves, new outdoor garden flags and accessories, new flower pots, vinyl window and so much more!

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

Burial Needs

7 CEMETERY PLOTS Willing to sell as a group or individually. Located at Roselawn Memory Gardens 3045 WI-67, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. This is a private sale. Contact Randy, the seller at randy@slpublishers.com.

Landscape Materials

FREE clay fill dirt. You haul. Plus load charges. Waddams Grove area. 815-369-4334



IT'S GARAGE SALE TIME AGAIN!

transportation

Automobiles

2011 BUICK REGAL Dark blue, mint cond., 111,000 miles. \$7,000 262-215-3478.

2021 TOYOTA CAMRY LE Like new, superb cond., 40MPG, original owner. 12,000 mi., KBB price, \$26,995. 815-520-1094.

Boats

1973 25' CHRIS CRAFT CABIN CRUISER V8, old tandem trailer. \$800 OBO 847-497-3692

1977 SYLVAN 16' CONSOLE STEERING w/cover, replaced flooring, transum, carpet, swivel seats. 1985-50HP Mercury SS prop. Minn Kota trolling motor. Lowrance locator, down riggers, trailer and xtra's. \$3,500 OBO. 262-758-7663.

Campers and RVs

2021 KEYSTONE DUTCHMAN 35' 5th Wheel. Mint cond., king bed, fireplace, residential fridge, double vanity sink, pantry, lots of storage. \$42,500. 262-620-6794.

Motorcycles

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

Other Automotive

SIMPLICITY TRACTOR 9020 20 hp, 60" mower, Onan engine, completely rebuilt. \$4,900. Call 262-878-3600.

Parts & Accessories

2002 CHEVY CAVALIER PARTS Trans, engine & tires all good. 6 alum rims. \$500. OBO. Call John at 262-903-6978.

Sports/Classic Cars

1996 CORVETTE Excellent cond., 37k miles, red. \$16,000. 815-904-1660.

AVENGER FORD GT40 Mid eng., Buick turbo v-6, 4 sp., tube frame w/roll bar. See the movie "Ford Verses Ferrari." Many spare parts. Please call 847-838-1916.

MANTA MIRAGE, STREET CAM-AM CAR Mid. eng. Chev V8, 4 spd, tube frame w/roll bar, Almag 35 custom wheels, bright yellow, excellent cond., show winner. Please call for details. 847-838-1916

RARE 1956 PLYMOUTH FURY Show car. Asking \$29,000. Lena, IL. Call 815-369-4334.

The Wheel Deal

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

\$19⁹⁵

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)

PRIVATE PARTY ONLY.

Ad must be prepaid.
Deadlines vary.

Call
815-877-4044



Increases (Continued from page 5)

"Illinois (gas) utilities want a combined \$900 million in rate increases this year alone, and if no action is taken to stop it, Illinois ratepayers could be left footing the bill," Pritzker wrote in the article published two days before he announced his new ICC appointments.

Controversial natural gas policy to sunset this year

Customers of the four gas utilities with pending rate cases—Ameren Illinois, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas—could pay between \$60 and \$140 more for gas per year on average if the ICC approves their requested rates.

Infrastructure upgrades and maintenance are typically a major factor in rate increases, and for about a decade, gas utilities recouped their costs on those projects through a formula-based process that allowed them to collect—and routinely increase—a customer fee without having to go through an 11-month rate case.

Advocates say that program—referred to as the "qualified infrastructure plant," or QIP—encouraged wasteful capital spending. For example, the consumer advocacy group Illinois PIRG says Peoples Gas' pipeline replacement program in the Chicago area has been mismanaged and overly broad, although the utility says the program is needed to reduce safety risk.

North Shore Gas, which is owned by the same company as Peoples Gas, does not serve enough customers to charge a QIP fee to customers. Only Nicor, Ameren and Peoples Gas are large enough to do so under existing law.

The QIP program is scheduled to expire at the end of the year, giving the ICC greater authority to review the utilities' infrastructure-related expenses and fees through the standard rate case process moving forward.

"Going back to rate cases isn't a panacea necessarily, but it's a better system," CUB's Kolata said.

Even with the expiration, Peoples Gas spokesperson David Schwartz said in an email that the infrastructure upgrades historically funded by QIP—which he called "critical for the sake of Chicagoans' safety"—will continue. He cited an ICC study saying that the majority of Chicago's pipes have less than 15 years of remaining life.

"Our rate filing, as an administrative matter, would just move the cost from one line of customers' bills to a different line of the bills," Schwartz said. He also said falling gas prices could mitigate the impact of the rate increase on consumers.

Ameren officials also noted that gas transmission upgrades, which are often federally required, will continue.

"We're making ongoing in-

vestments in system integrity and QIP, no QIP, that commitment to safe and reliable gas delivery service doesn't change," Matthew Tomc, an executive at Ameren that oversees government affairs, said in an interview.

Tomc also noted that the end of the QIP fee has injected unpredictability into the infrastructure investment process.

"Going forward, I think we're going to have to have a conversation, you know? What does the framework for gas investment look like without QIP? Is it more frequent rate filings or is there some other approach?" Tomc said.

Beyond QIP, Gas company representatives have pointed to changes in the macroeconomic landscape to explain their requested increases.

"This rate increase is necessary to run our business due to inflation and rising global impacts that continue to affect our operating and maintenance costs," Nicor Gas spokesperson Jennifer Golz said in an email statement.

But for many in the state, the prospect of increased energy bills is daunting. In April, 12.3 percent of customers of utilities with pending rate cases had a deferred payment agreement—meaning they were more than a month behind on their bills—according to data submitted by the companies to the ICC. About 20.6 percent of Peoples Gas customers had past due bills in April, the highest number among the six utilities with pending rate cases.

In low-income, majority-Black communities, the percentage of people in debt to Peoples Gas during April was even higher. About 49 percent of residents of Chicago's Englewood neighborhood and 42 percent of West Englewood residents had deferred payment agreements, according to ICC filings. Indebted customers in those South Side neighborhoods owed the company more than \$1,100 on average.

That's led the city of Chicago to file testimony opposing several components of Peoples Gas' filings in their rate case.

"Not only is Peoples Gas requesting a record-high rate hike at the same time that they are raking in record profits, but take a look, a real close look, at who will bear this burden: the working people of Chicago, people of color," the city's treasurer, Melissa Conyears-Ervin, said at a June 1 news conference.

Abbe Scarr, PIRG's director and a vocal critic of both Peoples Gas and the QIP fee, said the expiration of the QIP process will provide an opportunity for regulators to rein in spending at the gas utilities.

"Even the most non-consumer friendly commission would want to curtail these

rate hikes," Scarr said, noting that he believes that Pritzker's recent appointments to the ICC have made it a "consumer-friendly" group.

Clean energy reforms in practice

On the electric side, Ameren and Commonwealth Edison's rate plans are the first filed under a new kind of regulatory process outlined in the landmark 2021 Climate and Equitable Jobs Act, or CEJA. While the ICC's new rate approval process is handled in a similar regulatory fashion to a traditional rate case, utilities' requests are part of four-year plans that are considered in conjunction with a comprehensive grid plan for modernization projects.

CEJA also ended a controversial formula ratemaking process that was a product of ComEd's lobbying efforts a decade earlier. The formula-based rates were a major focus of the recent federal criminal corruption trial that ended with the conviction of ComEd's former CEO and three ex-lobbyists.

Consumer advocates have praised the public involvement that's allowed in the new process and electric executives have credited the multi-year planning process for facilitating smoother coordination between setting rates and grid planning.

Kolata said the former formula-based system for setting electric rates "put a lot of things on autopilot." The new system provides more opportunities for input and accountability, particularly as the electric sector moves toward the legislation's goal of carbon-free energy generation by 2045, he said.

"Everyone recognizes the nature of this transition is going to require broader stakeholder involvement and feedback," Kolata said.

ComEd's plan would increase prices over four years, with residential customers paying around \$200 per year more in electric prices by 2027. Ameren Illinois' similar plan would result in the average residential customer paying about \$300 more per year by 2027.

Louie Binswanger, who oversees regulatory affairs at ComEd, said his company's plan includes everything from maintenance and infrastructure upgrades to outlining how the utility will prepare the grid for increased electrification, such as in the transit sector and in commercial and residential heating.

"The plan also ensures that the electric grid remains reliable and resilient for the 9 million people ComEd serves in northern Illinois as severe weather events become more common due to climate change," Binswanger said in an email statement.

Ameren Illinois officials were similarly optimistic about their plans, noting the complexity of the new process required

"a high degree of diligence." A point of contention between advocates and the utilities has been the electric utilities' return on equity, or ROE. This is the main component of a utility's profit that had, for years, been automatically calculated using a formula derived from the interest rates on 30-year Treasury bonds.

CEJA did away with this formula and placed new authority in the hands of the ICC to calculate ROE—and advocates are pushing for the commission to use it.

"The utilities are way over-asking," Kolata said.

ComEd, in its initial January testimony, recommended a 10.5 percent ROE, up from its current ROE of about 7.85 percent. ComEd argued that the 10.5 percent ROE puts the utility in line with others in the industry.

ICC staff argued for an 8.91 percent ROE. In written testimony, they supported continuing to calculate ROE by the interest-driven formula the utilities have been using for over a decade, even though it is no longer required.

Illinois PIRG argued for an even lower 6.5 percent ROE in the ComEd case.

"These very small changes in profit rates can result in hundreds of millions of dollars in profit and higher prices for consumers," Scarr said.

Binswanger, however, defended his company's requested profit margin.

"Our proposed investments provide meaningful benefits to our customers and communities and support the goals of the state's Climate and Equitable Jobs Act," Binswanger said. "We look forward to working with the commission and all participants in the proceeding to prove that out."

Similar arguments have been made in Ameren's electric case, in which the utility has also asked for a 10.5 percent ROE. ICC staff recommended an 8.91 percent return on equity, calculated using the same formula tied to Treasury bonds.

Tomc argued that Ameren's proposed formula for return on equity would be better for the electric grid.

"Those methodologies are designed to produce a number conducive to sustain the kind of investments in Illinois infrastructure that we require," Tomc said.

Other affordability measures

In December, fulfilling another requirement of CEJA, the ICC announced that it would require large electric and gas utilities to put forward plans to offer discounted rates to low-income customers and encourage smaller utilities to do the same.

The ICC said these utilities should offer "tiered discounts for different income levels," meaning the amount a consum-

er pays for utilities would be proportional to income.

While gas utilities have included rate design proposals in their current rate cases, ComEd and Ameren will file electric rate design cases separately over the coming years, according to Karen Lusson, a senior attorney at the National Consumer Law Center.

Lusson said the companies that have filed rate design cases have not gone far enough in lowering prices for low-income customers.

"Each gas company has interpreted that directive a bit differently and all of them insufficient in the amount of the discount," Lusson said.

Naomi Davis, founder of the environmental justice group Blacks in Green, has protested the proposed rate increases from Peoples Gas and has advocated for major affordability reforms at the Statehouse.

In response to problems faced by low-income utility customers, Davis and others launched a "Campaign to End Energy Poverty."

"Salaries do not increase at the rate that these energy prices are accelerating. What is a person to do?" Davis said in an interview.

In a March committee hearing, lawmakers heard Davis and representatives of the utility industry discuss a proposed reform package that she described as a "strategic" method of achieving energy affordability despite utilities' objections to it. While lawmakers on the House Public Utilities Committee did not vote on the package, they indicated they were open to considering it further in the future.

Each utility involved in these rate cases has programs to help low-income customers afford their bills.

REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS - GALENA, ILLINOIS
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff,
vs.
BRIAN L. GIFFORD; KELLY J. HAASE; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,
22 FC 71

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the office of James J. Nack, 106 North Main Street, Galena, Illinois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 17-000-069-14.
Commonly known as 6173 East Oak Court, Stockton, IL 61085.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. File Number 6706-188152 IJSC
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
I3224209
(Published in The Scoop Today July 12, 19, & 26, 2023)
440645

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF JO DAVIESS - GALENA, ILLINOIS
Planet Home Lending, LLC, Plaintiff,
vs.
Brian Donath AKA Brian H. Donath; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants, Defendants,
22 FC 76

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., James J. Nack, 106 North Main Street, Galena, Illinois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 05-301-990-000.
Commonly known as 199 Peace Pipe Lane East Dubuque, IL 61025.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds.

The property will NOT be open for inspection.
For information call Ms. Mary E. Spitz at Plaintiff's Attorney, Sottile & Barile, LLC, 7530 Lucerne Drive, Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130. (440) 572-1512. ILF2210030 IJSC
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
I3223139
(Published in The Scoop Today June 28, July 5, 12, 2023)
440081

Monroe Clinic & Hospital Foundation receives grant for Reach Out & Read Program

Monroe Clinic & Hospital Foundation, a member of SSM Health, is honored to receive a \$3,000 grant from the Monroe Funds Spring 2023 Grant Cycle of the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, Inc. The grant was written to provide additional financial resources to the Reach Out & Read program benefiting the children who receive care at SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group in Lena.

The Reach Out & Read Program encourages literacy as part of healthy childhood development. Through this initiative, children receive a free book at each of their well-child visits, from age six months through five years. Books vary depending on age and are selected based on stages of development.

"We are appreciative of the Ray & Betty L. Stamm Grant for helping our Reach Out & Read program", shared Jane Sybers, Mon-

roe Clinic & Hospital Foundation Executive Director. "In 2022, 433 books were given to our littlest patients in Lena and with this grant we will be able to continue creating this special opportunity for families to read together."

This grant is made available from the Community Foundation's Ray and Betty L. Stamm Charitable Fund for the Community of Lena and Dr. Fred W. and Alice J. Kundert Charitable Fund, of the Monroe Fund. The Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin is a resource for area nonprofit organizations whose programs and services are working for the betterment of our communities. Grants from the Ray and Betty L. Stamm Charitable Fund for the Community of Lena and Dr. Fred W. and Alice J. Kundert Charitable Fund, of the Monroe Fund have supported the arts, education, environment, health and human services and historic preservation.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Lena American Legion Auxiliary

ALA Member Judy Oellerich helped with cookies for the recent blood drive.



SERVICE YOU CAN COUNT ON FOR 60 YEARS!

24 HOUR SALES & SERVICE



Stephenson Service Company

KEEP FULL SERVICE

- Dependable keep-full service that you can rely on!
- E-mail filling notification available by request.

BUDGET PAY PROGRAMS

- Eleven-month payment plan to prevent high heating bills in the winter.
- Fixed Pricing Contracts.
- Lock in your price for the winter to avoid volatile winter pricing.

CONTACT RODNEY RANDECKER TODAY!

1487 US HWY 20 W, ELIZABETH IL 61028
815-858-9300 • 815-541-7264 CELL • STEPHENSONFS.COM