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VOL. 85 • NO. 30

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023



JESSICA TESSENDORF PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

A warm welcome

Lena volunteer firemen Nick Wybourn and Tristen Tessendorf pull a cart through town as part of the firemen initiation on July 10, 2023.

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Obituaries

CHARLES H. MILLER

Charles H. Miller, 86 of Orangeville, IL passed away surrounded by his family on Saturday July 8, 2023, in Monroe, WI. He was born on July 15, 1936, in Freeport, IL to Ivan and Louise (Noe) Miller. He married Sarah Brookover on Sept. 4, 1964, in Freeport, IL and together they raised two daughters.

He was a proud US Army Vet who served in Germany doing various transportation jobs. For many years he worked for Dixon Labors Union at Rockford Blacktop. In winter months he would substitute as a bus driver for Orangeville School District. Charles enjoyed fishing



at Crystal Lake, WI and bird watching. He volunteered with the Freeport Park District at Oakdale to help with various events. He loved working in his garden, he especially loved tending to his asparagus and other vegetables. Charles also loved raccoon hunting with his dogs.

Charles is survived by his wife Sarah of Orangeville; two daughters- Jodi (Mike) Jensen of Orangeville, Jackie (Rick) Wehrenberg of Freeport; six grandchildren- Kris-

tine (Major) Rood, Katie Baker, Nick Jensen, Chris (Nikki) Jensen, Derek (Mary Rose) Wehrenberg, and Rebecca Wehrenberg; three great grandchildren- Rome Rood, Emmalyn Baker, Oliver Paul Wehrenberg; one sister- Carol Fluegel of Dakota; sister-in-law- Nancy Miller; brother-in-law- Alvie Myers; numerous nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; one brother- Roger Miller; two sisters- Lois Myers and Joan (Willard) Buntjer.

A celebration of life service was on Friday July 14, 2023, at The Ville Golf (Brush Creek Golf Course) in Orangeville, IL with a luncheon that followed.

Pastor Roger Bronkema officiated the services. In Lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his memory for Pleasant View Nursing Home and the Orangeville Fire Department. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

MARGARET "MARGE" ANNE MISEK

Margaret Anne (Sichta) Misek passed away peacefully in her sleep at Allure Nursing Center, Mt. Carroll on July 8, 2023, at the age of 75, after a nearly 4-year battle with cancer. A Funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 4, 2023, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Elizabeth, Illinois, with visitation one hour prior to the Mass at the Church.

Marge was a kind, gentle, patient wife, mother, homemaker, teacher, and friend. She was the embodiment of grace and peace, and all who knew her benefited from the warm glow of her humble heart. She leaves a legacy for loving well, always reminding us to, "take care of each other."

Marge will be dearly missed by her husband, Jerry Misek; sons, David (Paula) Misek, Dan (Rebecca) Misek, and Mark (Amber) Misek; grandchildren, Amber (Luke) Riffo, Gina Misek, Andrew Misek, Amiah Misek, Amber Gar-



de, Arianna Misek, and Michahiah Oblack, Veronica Misek, and Ivan Misek; her brother, Robert (Pia) Sichta; and

her sister, Susie (Jim) VerHage. Marge is preceded in death by a brother, Clifford Sichta, Jr, and both parents.

Marge was born March 2, 1948, in Champaign, Illinois, the daughter of Clifford and Virginia (Cuno) Sichta. She is a 1966 graduate of Lanark High School, Lanark, Illinois. She is also a graduated "cum laude" at the University of Illinois with a master's degree. It was at the U of I that she met the love and best friend of her life, Jerry Misek. Marge married her soulmate, Jerry, on Aug. 30, 1969, in Savanna at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Together they celebrated 53 years of marriage and raised three sons at their home in rural Elizabeth, Acorn Acres. In 1970 Jerry and Marge

moved to Jo Daviess County where Marge taught Elementary school at Elizabeth and River Ridge Schools, retiring in 2013 with a break to raise her boys until they reached school age. She loved to inspire her students to follow their passions in life.

In 1975, Marge and Jerry bought a tract of timber near Elizabeth and built their home. They named their beloved property "Acorn Acres." Marge had an absolute love for people, the outdoors, gardening, walking in the woods, traveling with Jerry (to all 50 states). Most of all she loved her God. She was a faithful member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Elizabeth where she enjoyed singing in the choir. She cherished the time she spent with her grandchildren. In 2009 Marge and Jerry received the Carroll County Conservation Family of the year, and in 2011 they received the Outstanding Tree Farm Award in the State of Illinois. She always prioritized time with family, and that has made all the difference.

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Pearl City Boulevard Bash

August 26th

Pearl City **MORE INFO TO COME!!!**

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We wish to thank everyone for the best wishes for our 50th wedding anniversary. Especially our children (Lori), grandchildren and Coaches for making it a very special day.

Gary & Aileen Schreiner

441115

News briefs

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.

WPPO Save the Date Community event

Join Wood Powered Pizza Ovens (WPPO) for an open house event on Aug. 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This will be an all-day event that will accommodate kids, teens, and adults. WPPO will showcase their latest innovations, jaw-dropping demonstrations, and interactive experiences. Bring the whole family along and create memories that will last a lifetime. This event will be the perfect way to kick off

Warren's county fair tractor pull day in style.

Brudi, Arnold, Haas, Knauer, Krohmer, Millerschone Family Reunion

The reunion will be held on Sunday, July 30, 2023, at 12:30 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Lena. Bring a dish to pass, table service and your own drink (lemonade will be available).

Woodbine Unit of Jo Daviess County Home and Community Education

The Woodbine Unit of Jo Daviess County Home and Community Education met at the home of Jane Brown for their June meeting. Prior to arriving at Jane's, unit president Sandy Groezinger gave the ladies of the unit a tour of the Eden Bird Sanctuary. The group then adjourned to Jane's home, where she served a delicious meal.

The next meeting will be held on Aug. 14 at the home of Eloise Pierce.

THE SCOOP TODAY SHOPPER'S GUIDE

"Committed to the communities we serve"

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83rd Reunion to honor
Elwood & Marjorie (Raab) Broshous

Where: Stockton Park House
When: Sunday, July, 30
Doors open at 11 a.m. - ?

440737

The family of Rita Schindler would like to thank family, friends and neighbors for all the memorials, cards, flowers, plants, food, and support during this difficult time.

A huge thank you to the Green County Sheriff deputies, Browntown First Responders, and GCEMS for their quick response.

We would also like to thank Leamon's Funeral Home, The McConnell Community Church and hospitality committee, Pastor Doug Carroll and Ann Pals for their services and kindness. A special thank you to the Dan and Deb Powers family, Dan Jr. and Sara and employees for all their help and a heartfelt thank you to the Monroe Clinic Rehab Services Department.

Sincerely,
Mike Schindler, Ron Scheider, Scott and Patty Scheider and Family,
Jim and Pam Scheider and Family

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Church news

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate the eighth Sunday after Pentecost on July 23. A Worship Service with Holy Communion will begin at 9 a.m. with Pastor Michelle presiding. We will welcome Pastor Leon Ishmon III from Bethany UCC in Freeport and advocates from VOICES of Stephenson County to learn about this vital community organization and its services. A special collection will be taken for needs at the women's shelter. The service will be available on Livestream on the St. John's Pearl City Facebook Page.

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. Join in for an afternoon of fun with cards and dominoes on July 27 at 1 p.m. in Luther Hall. All members of the community and area are welcome to participate in fun and fellowship.

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 will have an Outdoor Worship Service on Aug. 6 at the Pearl City Park District Shelter House. Coffee and rolls will be served from 9:15 a.m. to 10 a.m. Worship will begin at 10 a.m. with special music. There is a limited amount of seating at picnic tables; please bring lawn chairs. Enjoy worshipping in the beauty of nature.

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 23 for Sunday Worship Service. The reading will be from Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

On Wednesday, July 26 Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience necessary.

Beginning Monday, July 31 through Aug. 16, Good Shepherd will be offering Adult Vacation Bible School. We will meet three evenings a week, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Each evening we will explore those old familiar Bible Stories, sing a few songs, work on some projects, and spend time together in community.

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

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 23, 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 26 at 8 a.m. at Beltline Café, 325 West South 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. Craftersnoon 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 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.

Scales Mound "Young at Heart" July Gathering

Please join on Tuesday, July 25 at 1:30 p.m. at Scales Mound United Methodist Church (319 Mason Ave.) for an estate and financial planning seminar. The event will cover end of life medical care, as well as funeral and burial planning.

There is no charge for this event. Please contact Pastor Libby Rutherford at 815-990-1428 with any questions.

"Be a Peacebuilder" for Kids at Apple River UMC

Apple River United Methodist church is hosting "Be

a Peacebuilder" - a teacher-designed, creative way for kids to explore peace, and how they can integrate peace into their lives and the lives of others. Each day will be centered around a new peacebuilding theme, with a bible story, kids' literature, innovative art projects and even cooking. Each participant will have their own journal that they can add to each day. All of this is designed to help kids explore peacebuilding and to be encouraged in their efforts and build healthy community with one another.

"Be a Peacebuilder" will take place on July 24 through 27, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Apple River UMC, 102 E Baldwin in Apple River. Kindergartners through sixth graders are welcome, and a snack is included. There is no charge for this event. Please contact Pastor Libby Rutherford at rutherford.libby@gmail.com or call / text 815-990-1428 with any questions.

Missing person found

On July 11, 2023, search crews assisting the Freeport Police Department found missing person Paul Cheney, 67 of Freeport, deceased in the area near Louis Avenue and Albion Street. Cheney was reported missing last week and was suspected to be suicidal.

The Freeport Police Department would like to thank the Stephenson County Sheriff's Department, Carroll County Emergency Management Agency, and Christian Aid Ministries Search and Rescue Team for providing manpower to conduct ground searches. The Freeport Police Department would also like to extend its condolences to Cheney's family and friends in the wake of his passing.



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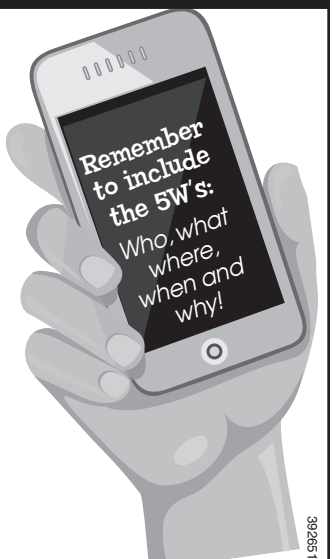
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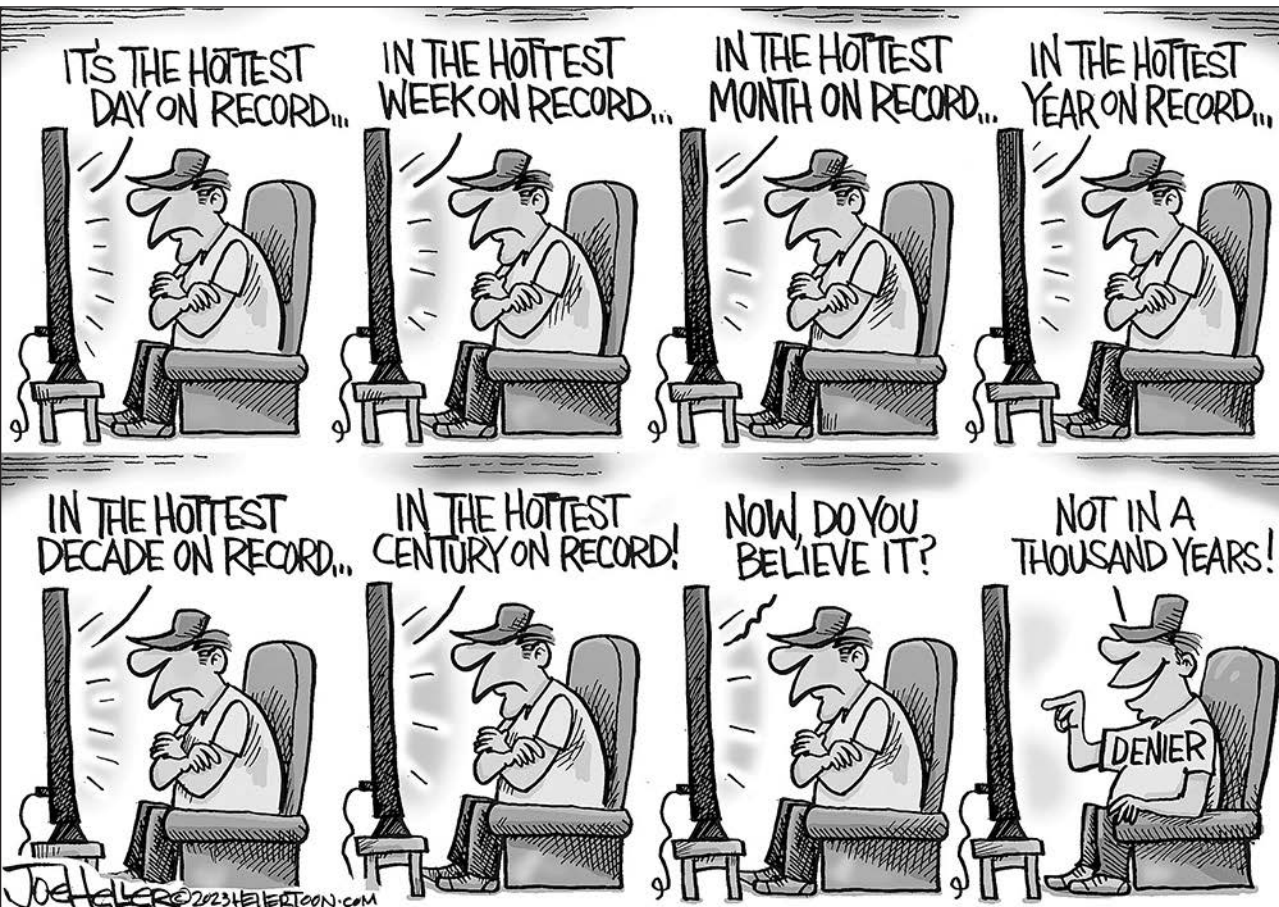


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Slices of life

The eye of the storm



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

Is it just me, or has life gotten more complicated? So many variables and tough decisions. So many crossroads.

And it's all happening at lightning speed.

Even on days when I don't tune in to the cable news networks.

The world feels like is spinning faster and faster on its axis. Or so it seems. And that can make life seem like an upended house during a tornado. (We aren't in Kansas anymore.)

The storms seem to be all around us. The lightning and thunder are imminent. Threatening.

We watch our backs. We peek around the corner before stepping forward. We lose sleep. We worry about the past and what will happen next.

What will happen—if. Life seems out of control, or at least beyond our control. It's scary. Beyond scary. It is overwhelming and all-encompassing. It threatens to take our breath away.

If only we could make it stop.

But we can't.

Or maybe we can. Even if just for a moment.

Take that moment. Take a breath.

For yourself and no one else. Just. Take. A. Breath.

Then take another. And other. And stay there. With just yourself and your breath.

Think of a positive thought and put it into a sentence, if you can.

The world is good. Life is good. I am good.

Peace, kindness, love are inside me. Right now. Right here.

I love tacos.

You get the idea.

Don't worry about bills or the mortgage or your kids or the leaking oil in your car. It will wait until after this moment. Believe me, it will all be there long after this moment.

So take it. The moment.

Take it for you. Take it for all that you love. Take it for all that you hold close to your heart. Just take it.

It isn't selfish. Not at all. It's the opposite of that.

Finding your peace and your calm is generosity at its finest. It enables you to escape the storm that threatens to torment your life. Take a break because you deserve it. You need it. You know you need it.

Oh how you know.

Life can feel like a storm, a tempest, a hurricane.

The wind whips with life's pressures and problems.

Your hair may be drenched. Your clothes cling to your wet body. The air is hard and harsh blowing on your skin.

Thunder echoes; lightning fills the sky. There are too many close calls to count.

But in the midst of every hurricane, including this one, is the eye of the storm. The calm. Find that. In the midst of chaos of life, find the center—the tranquil peace that is the eye of the storm—and hunker down and keep yourself there.

And just breathe.

In the quiet, still space where everything just outside your own being is whirling all around you, stay in they eye - in your own calm.

Where everything is as it should be.

Still. Peace-filled. In focus. Clarity is rampant in the eye of the storm. What a gift that is. Embrace that gift.

Accept it as yours. Know that it is yours for the taking. A choice. Your choice.

The eye - in the calm, your calm can lead to clarity, to sanity in an insane world.

Chaos is undoubtedly all around us and it can be, and is, overwhelming. Find your calm. Your own calm, in the midst of the chaos. Right there in front of you.

In the eye of the storm.

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.

LENA-WINSLOW ALL SCHOOL REGISTRATION

ONLINE OR IN-PERSON THIS YEAR!

ALL FAMILIES WILL NEED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY TO REGISTER

Online Registration for all students in the Lena-Winslow District will start on August 1 and must be completed by August 8 at midnight.

Skyward Family Access is the new parent portal. You should have an email with login instructions.

Registration will be online through Family Access or IN-PERSON August 2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and August 3 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please remember:

1. All families must provide PROOF OF RESIDENCY (3 documents in total) which includes but is not limited to recent property tax bill, mortgage papers, driver's license, vehicle registration, voter registration, etc. Two documents will be required if a Category II document. A more complete list can be found on the le-win.net webpage.

2. All students entering Pre-K, JK or Kindergarten, Sixth, and Ninth grades, and any student entering from out-of-state must present a completed physical examination form by the first day of school. Completed dental exams for JK or Kindergarten, Second and Sixth grades are also required. Local doctors and dentists have these forms in their offices or they can be found under the registration tab at le-win.net.

Fees and lunch money: Fees and lunch money can be paid online through the family access or in-person at any of the building offices. You may also send a check to the District Office, 401 Fremont St., Lena, IL, 61048. Please call Darcy Schierloh at 815-668-0800 if you have any questions.

The first day of school will be Wednesday, August 16, 2023. Dismissal time will be 1 p.m. for the first day.

If you have questions, please call one of the building secretaries at the phone numbers listed below:

Elementary building secretaries: 815-668-0809 or 815-668-0810

Junior High building secretary: 815-668-0818

High School building secretaries: 815-668-0822 or 815-668-0821

Please note that Le-Win has changed to Skyward. The old parent portal logins are invalid. New ones are being sent out via email for access to Skyward. Check Le-Win.net for more info.

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Weekly connection

It's time for VBS



By
SCOTT CERNEK
Columnist

It's VBS season! VBS stands for Vacation Bible School in case you didn't know. When I was a kid, it was always a fun time. We would go into church each day for a week in the summer and spend about four hours learning Bible stories, singing songs, playing games, and coming home every day with a craft of some kind that we had glued or pasted together. I shouldn't forget the daily snack time too of Kool-Aid and cookies. After the days classes were finished, we would go home, eat lunch, and try to get caught up on the farm work that we missed that morning. There was usually some hay to unload, heifers to feed or thistles to cut, always something to do. Since our summers were pretty much all about baling hay, there was always some hay preparation going on when we got home from our morning at church. Somebody had to go jump on the rake and get started

raking the hay that had been mowed and crimped a day or two before. One of us would make sure the wagons were empty and hauled out to the field. Then a couple of us would go hook up the baler and a wagon and get started. One guy would ride on the wagon and stack the bales while the other would drive the tractor and baler. A couple more helpers were back at the barn ready to unload and stack the bales when the wagons came in from the field stacked tall with fragrant alfalfa. Since there were only six of us boys at the time, we usually recruited some of our city-slicker cousins to help unload and mow the hay. It was a good time making

them work.

Our Church in Browntown is having a very unique VBS this year. A church's youth pastor and some high school kids are coming up from Kentucky from July 31- Aug 4 and we are having a sports camp from 9-11:30 at the Browntown Park. Then we are going to go to the church to serve lunch to everyone before we have our Bible Story, craft, songs, games, and craft time. It should be pretty fun for the kids. I used to do sports camps all the time at the school I taught at, but this is the first time I've done a Sports Camp and VBS combined. We are going to have basketball camp, baseball camp, volleyball camp, football camp and maybe some soccer camp too. There is no cost at all,

and we are hoping to have a good turnout from all around the area.

That same week starting on Friday night August 4th we will be starting five nights of tent meetings at the Browntown Park with Kingdom Pursuit Ministries. Those meetings will start at 6:30 each night. Last year we had this group here and it was a very inspirational time of singing, preaching, and prayer. There are at least seven families that travel together in big RV's to make the event happen and the Lord has really blessed their work. I can't wait for these two weeks that will be here before we can say Hallelujah! I sure hope some of my readers will come and be a part of what is happening. Until next week God bless!

Lanark Public Library to host Mississippi River presentation

The Lanark Public Library and the Friends of the Lanark Public Library will be ending their summer program schedule with a presentation by National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, Dubuque, Iowa. They will be presenting *Mississippi River Life: Mussels, snakes and beavers*. Each species has a niche or role in the environment.

Using pelts and other hands-on items, participants will explore animals that call the Mississippi River home. Live animals may be part of the program. The program is on Friday, Aug. 4, 2023, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Heritage Center, 106 S. Broad, Lanark, IL which is directly across the street from the Library, 111-B South Broad, Lanark, IL. This is free and open to the public. Parents are invited to accompany their children.

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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

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.

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.

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Illinois hotels report record revenues for fiscal year 2023

By Andrew Adams
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
For hoteliers, business is booming in Illinois.

Last week, Gov. JB Pritzker, the state's legislative leadership and representatives of the hospitality industry announced that hotels in Illinois saw record revenues in fiscal year 2023, which ended June 30.

Across the state, hotels brought in \$307.8 million, according to figures from the state's Department of Revenue. That beats fiscal year 2019, the previous record year for hotel income and the last year before the pandemic upended the hospitality industry.

Revenue in 2023 was up 35.8 percent from the prior year and 230.1 percent from fiscal year 2021, when the pandemic was still significantly affecting peoples' travel habits.

"Tourism means more jobs for hotel and hospitality and recreation workers—good paying jobs with health insurance," Pritzker said at a news conference in Chicago. "More tourism means millions of new visitors exploring all the amazing things that our state and city have to offer."

Major events have helped bolster Illinois' tourism industry in 2023, according to Kristin Richards, the head of the state's Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. These include the sold out Enjoy Illinois 300 NASCAR race in Madison and Taylor Swift's Eras tour.

Swift's fans, who descended on Chicago's Soldier Field for three nights over the first weekend in June, contributed to Chicago seeing the highest weekend hotel occupancy rate in history—an average of 96.8 percent, according to reporting from Bloomberg.

But hotel revenues are only one way to measure tourism's impact. Other metrics have yet to match 2019's records.

The state's tourism office partners with analytics firm Tourism Economics to research visitors' impact on the state's economy. The agency reported to the state in June that Illinois saw 111.3 million visitors who spent \$44.3 billion in calendar year 2022. Calendar year 2019, the highest year on record for both measures, saw 122.8 million visitors who spent a combined \$45.5 billion.

The hotel industry as well has not fully recovered from the pandemic's tourism industry interruptions.

Michael Jacobson, president of the Illinois Hotel and Lodging Association, said that while revenues have returned, staffing levels and occupancy rates overall have not yet reached pre-pandemic levels,

although they were trending toward recovery.

"We look forward to returning to our place as one of the most significant economic engines, employers and taxpayers in the state," Jacobson said on Monday.

The state has made some significant investments in tourism

in the past few years, including the \$30.3 million "Middle of Everything" ad campaign. The campaign, which launched in the spring of 2022, stars television actress and Illinois native Jane Lynch.

The campaign's first year brought in an additional 2 million visitors and generated

\$1 billion in Illinois hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and attractions, according to the state's tourism office. The campaign recently launched a

new set of TV ads this summer that feature the television star.

"Being able to share my passion for all things Illinois comes naturally, and getting to

meet and work with so many inspiring people and unique businesses across the state is an honor," Lynch said in a news release.

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JESSICA TESSENDORF PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Lena firemen watch from the sidelines as the latest volunteer firemen attempt to put out a fire despite several obstacles put on their path.

Lena Fire Department Firemen Initiation

On the evening of July 10, 2023, two of the most recent Lena Volunteer firemen, Nick Wybourn and Tristen Tessen-

dorf, were initiated by members of the department. This has been a tradition for many years where a team of men build a structure to be set ablaze and the new firemen perform their duties with multiple hindrances. These obstacles in-

clude wearing silly outfits, rubber boots filled with a concoction of foods that create a toxic smell, pushing and pulling the hose cart to a hydrant in town nearest to the blaze, and using

hoses and buckets that are filled with holes. Despite the hilarity that ensues during the initiation, newcomers are met with encouragement and recognition for a job well done.

Affordable health screenings coming to Lena

Residents living in and around the Lena, Illinois can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with afford-

able screenings by Life Line Screening. St Johns Lutheran Church will host this community event on Aug. 8, 2023. The site is located at 625 Country Lane Dr in Lena.

Screenings can check for the level of plaque buildup in your arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health, HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels, diabetes risk, kidney and thyroid function, and more. Screenings are affordable and convenient.

Free parking is also available. Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants can create a package that is right for each patient based on age and risk factors. Call 877-237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

Hog farmers plan to trim the fat amid market losses

By Daniel Grant
FARMWEEK

USDA's quarterly hogs and pigs report released June 29 indicates farmers plan to trim the size of the herd as market losses continue to pile up. U.S. farmers intend to have 2.94 million sows farrow from June through August followed by estimated farrowings of 2.95 million from September through November. If realized, farrowings would be down about 4 percent the next six months compared to last year.

"I think we'll see lower production numbers as we move into 2024," Tyler Cozzens, ag economist with the Livestock Marketing Information Center, said during a webinar hosted by the National Pork Board (NPB). "That's the signal we're seeing with the farrowing numbers."

Steve Meyer, lead economist with Partners for Production Agriculture, also looks for hog farmers to liquidate a portion of the herd. He projects there could be only two months of profitability in the industry between now and the end of 2024 with breakeven costs in the mid-\$90s.

Lean hog prices as of June 29 averaged \$95 per hundredweight in July and \$92 in August but just \$79 in October and \$75 for December. "This is looking to be one of the worst years we've ever had," Meyer said. "I think it will drive some large liquidation in the business."

Meyer believes implementation of California's Proposition 12, which regulates sales of pork, veal and eggs from livestock whose hous-

ing doesn't meet minimum space requirements, will also force some farmers to cull sows. "We believe there are about 50 percent enough compliant sows at present to meet demand (of Prop 12 in California)," the economist said.

"If that's the case, about 5 percent of U.S. (pork) production has to find another home," Meyer continued. "We think there will be a market impact the second half of the year due to production that can't get into California."

There is a caveat, however, about the expectations of lower pork output moving forward. While farmers plan to farrow fewer sows, their efficiency and production increased significantly in the past quarter to an average of 11.36 pigs saved per litter, up 3.3 percent.

Meyer and Cozzens believe the productivity boost is due in part to fewer disease issues in the herd and genetic potential improving about 1.5 percent each of the past three years. "The big jump in productivity will be important to watch in future months," Meyer said. "We have to reduce the supply of hogs. But it will be a challenge with increased productivity."

Nationwide, the inventory of all hogs and pigs totaled 72.4 million head as of June 1, up 80,000 head from last year. The market hog inventory (66.2 million head) was also up slightly from last year while the breeding inventory (6.15 million head) posted a slight decline.

In Illinois, the June 1 inventory of all hogs and pigs (5.4 million head) was up 3 percent from last year, the breeding inventory increased by 50,000 head to 670,000 and the market hog inventory (4.73 million) increased 2 percent.

Looking ahead, if farmers don't reduce hog and pork supplies, Meyer believes the only two options to get back to profitability would come from a substantial boost in demand or from a significant drop in production costs. But, while U.S. pork exports are up about 10 percent so far this year, per capita domestic pork demand has tailed off by nearly 15 percent as consumers find themselves with less money to spend in an inflationary environment compared to 2020-22. "Demand isn't bad relative to history. It's just bad compared to the last two years," Meyer said.

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IDOT unveils 6-year, \$41 billion plan for infrastructure projects

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

The Illinois Department of Transportation unveiled a plan on July 7 for spending nearly \$41 billion in federal, state and local funds over the next six years to repair and upgrade roads, bridges, airports, rail lines and other infrastructure throughout the state.

The latest version of the plan, which IDOT updates annually, is the largest multiyear plan in state history. It's driven by the state's 2019 Rebuild Illinois capital infrastructure program. The initial six-year Rebuild Illinois plan included \$33.2 billion for transportation, funded largely by annualized increases to the state's motor fuel tax and increases to driving-related licensing fees that took effect in 2020.

"Over the next six years, we're investing over \$40 billion to improve all modes of transportation across our great state," Gov. JB Pritzker said at a news conference in Springfield. "And that means better roads and bridges, modernized transit and aviation, and expanded and faster passenger rail service. It even extends to improved river ports, new sewers and water infrastructure and a huge upgrade to bicycle and pedestrian accommodations."

More than half of the plan, \$27 billion, will go toward road and bridge projects, including \$4.6 billion in the current fiscal year. That will fund repair and reconstruction of 2,866 miles of roadway and 9.8 million square feet of bridge deck on the state highway system, along with another 738 miles of roadway and 1.1 million square feet of bridge deck in systems maintained by local governments.

The project list includes \$611.5 million for reconstruction and improvements to portions of Interstate 90 in Cook County that will include improving safety and access to O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. The plan also calls for spending \$135.1 million to expand portions of U.S. Highway 24 to four lanes in Peoria and Fulton counties; \$156 million to replace a bridge over

the Mississippi River in Quincy; and \$116 million to replace a bridge over the Ohio River at Cairo.

The multiyear plan also earmarks \$13.96 billion for other modes of transportation, including \$9.85 billion for transit systems, \$2.67 billion for freight and passenger rail, \$1.25 billion for aviation projects, and \$190 million for ports and waterways.

Among the intermodal projects in the plan are \$100 million for safety and reliability improvements on Amtrak's Saluki service between Chicago and Carbondale and runway improvements at municipal airports in Litchfield and Pontiac.

Transportation Secretary Omer Osman said the \$41 billion six-year plan represents a 10 percent increase over the previous multiyear plan, and the money earmarked for the current fiscal year represents a 25 percent increase over the previous fiscal year. "But that is due in large part to the engineering and planning effort in the early years of capital program (which) is starting to result in more construction activity on work on the street," he said.

Pritzker and other officials at the news conference emphasized that the Rebuild Illinois program is meant to do more than improve safety and efficiency in transportation. The program is also supporting thousands of high-paying jobs in construction, engineering and other fields.

"This is more than just new rail. This is more than a runway at an airport," said Illinois AFL-CIO President Tim Drea. "This is about opportunities. We can see all those physical infrastructure improvements, but what we don't really see is the opportunities that this program creates for a diverse workforce with high wages, middle class wages, health care, and retirement security."

Through four years of the Rebuild Illinois program, IDOT has completed \$12.1 billion of improvements statewide, including 5,339 miles of highway, 533 bridges, and 762 other safety improvements.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

COUNTRY Financial[®] representative Steve Rothschadl retires, Stacey Block to take over

COUNTRY Financial Representative Steve Rothschadl is retiring at the end of July, 2023. Stacey Block, who has been working in the office for 15 years, will be taking over the Lena-based business effective, Aug. 1, 2023. Rothschadl has served the needs of the Lena community for more than 38 years. He's been active in supporting a variety of local projects – most recently, the Northwest Illinois F-4 Jet Memorial Project. "Where does the time go? "It's been a privilege serving the Lena community. I have the utmost confidence in Stacey as she continues to help people, families and businesses manage risk and plan for the future," Rothschadl stated. There will be a retirement Open House on July 23 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wolf Hollow Golf Course, 6546 North Shippee Road, in Lena. All are invited to attend the gathering in the Banquet Room.

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Vivian Kepner
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SSM Health Monroe Hospital announces new residency program sponsorship

SSM Health Monroe Hospital is excited to announce the change of accreditation sponsorship of their Family Medicine Residency Program to University of Wisconsin

(UW) School of Medicine and Public Health.

The program will benefit from the support and resources provided by the medical school and Department of

Family Medicine and Community Health and is committed to providing compassionate and comprehensive rural osteopathic primary care training. UW has a longstanding commitment to rural medicine sponsoring the UW Baraboo Rural Training Track and the Rural Health Equity Track. Residents will benefit from the opportunity to train at SSM Health St. Mary's Madison Hospital and SSM Health Dean Medical Group physicians.

"The partnership with the University of Wisconsin allows our residents to benefit from educational opportuni-

ties offered by a nationally recognized department of family medicine," shared Lori Rodefeld, Medical Education Manager at SSM Health Monroe Hospital. "Additionally, the ability to rotate alongside UW residents at SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital in Madison will strengthen their rurally focused training in Monroe."

SSM Health Monroe Hospital has a longstanding partnership with the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health serving as one of the first rural preceptorship sites for medical students nearly 80 years

ago. To date the hospital has trained over 1,000 UW medical students and residents.

"We welcome the opportunity for increased collaboration in furthering our rural health and osteopathic missions and are grateful for continued collaboration with SSM Health in southern Wisconsin," says Ildi Martonffy, MD, Vice Chair of Education for UW Department of Family Medicine and Community Health.

Of the 17 physicians who have graduated from SSM Health Monroe Hospital's Family Medicine Residency Program, over 80% have con-

tinued practicing in communities across Wisconsin.

SSM Health Monroe Hospital's Family Medicine Residency program started in 2015 and is the first American Osteopathic Association (AOA) accredited rural training track in the country. The program offers the best of both worlds by combining the resources of major teaching facilities with the appealing environment of a smaller, community-based hospital. Residents graduating from the program are equipped to be successful in providing compassionate and comprehensive care in the changing healthcare market.

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Convicting a Killer: The First use of forensic dentistry in a US court

Dentists need to keep meticulous records to evaluate, plan, meet, and maintain the oral health of their patients. In the event of a tragedy, the value of having accurate, comprehensive, and up-to-date records in identifying a victim cannot be understated. While it is common practice today to present these dental records as evidence in legal investigations and civil and criminal justice cases, the first court trial to use forensic dental evidence in the USA did not occur until 1849.

In 1846, a wealthy philanthropist, Dr. George Parkman, asked his dentist, Dr. Nathan Keep, to make him a set of dentures. Dr. Parkman had donated property to Harvard, so their medical school could relocate from Cambridge to Boston. As Dr. Parkman had no teeth in his upper jaw and only a few in his lower, he wanted to be presentable when he gave a speech at the opening ceremonies of the new facility. Due to Dr. Parkman's idiosyncratic oral anatomy, and his tight time frame, Dr. Keep sought the assistance of his colleague, Dr. Lewis, in creating these unique dentures. The fabrication of these particularly complex dentures and the special materials and adjustments required to make them function for Dr. Parkman left an indelible mark on the memory of both dentists. Little did they know that these unique dentures, joined with their patient's dental records and impression casts, would be used just three years later to convict his killer.

While Dr. Parkman was an extremely wealthy man and a generous philanthropist, he was very frugal in his personal life. Rather than purchase a horse, his long walks to collect the rent from his many properties made him a well-known figure in the community. John Webster, a lecturer



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

in chemistry at Harvard, was a long-time colleague and friend of Dr. Parkman. Beginning in 1842, Mr. Webster started borrowing money from Dr. Parkman. By 1849 Webster owed Dr. Parker \$2432 (approximately \$96000 today). On Nov. 23, 1849, Dr. Parker stopped by the Harvard Medical College to discuss repayment of Webster's debt. He was never seen again.

The janitor of the medical college, who had seen Dr. Parkman enter the building on Nov. 23, became suspicious when Webster started behaving strangely. His investigations led to the discovery of the charred remains of several body parts underneath the wall of Webster's private privy in his lab. This led the police to conduct a thorough search of Webster's lab, where they discovered other charred body parts, including a set of charred dentures and several loose prosthetic teeth. Webster was arrested and a trial date set was set for March 19, 1850. Now the prosecutor had less than four months to not only positively identify the badly damaged body but prove that the death occurred by homicide. This was the first time in US History that dental evidence was entered and accepted in a trial.

Dr. Keep's testimony included demonstrating to the jury how the dentures perfectly fit the plaster cast he had used to create them, how the loose teeth found fit into the plates, and recognition of the distinctive springs and pins utilized in the fabrication of Dr. Parkman's dentures. This testimony, along with the records of Dr. Parkman's

unique oral anatomy, positively proved the identity of the body as Dr. Parkman. Dr. Keep's testimony also showed that the dentures found in Webster's lab had to be in Dr. Parkman's mouth when the body was burned and removed after. The jury found Webster Guilty of murder on March 30, 1850.

The dental evidence, which provided the only means to positively identify the victim beyond any doubt, set the precedent for the legal use of forensic dental evidence in the judicial system.

NFPA announces official theme for Fire Prevention Week

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week™ for more than 100 years, has announced "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention TM" as the theme for Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 8-14, 2023. This year's focus on cooking safety works to educate the public about simple but important steps they can take to help reduce the risk of fire when cooking at home, keeping themselves and those around them safe.

According to NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; cooking is also the leading cause of home fire injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires and related deaths. In addition, NFPA data shows that cooking is the only major cause of fire that resulted in more fires and fire deaths in 2014-2018 than in 1980-1984.

Following are cooking safety messages that support this year's theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention":

Always keep a close eye on what you're

cooking. For foods with longer cook times, such as those that are simmering or baking, set a timer to help monitor them carefully.

Clear the cooking area of combustible items and keep anything that can burn, such as dish towels, oven mitts, food packaging, and paper towels.

Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove. Keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.

Create a "kid and pet free zone" of at least three feet (one meter) around the cooking area and anywhere else hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

"Staying in the kitchen, using a timer, and avoiding distractions that remove your focus from what's on the stove are among the key messages for this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign," said Carli.

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week and this year's theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention," visit www.fpw.org. Additional Fire Prevention Week resources for children, caregivers, and educators can be found at www.sparky.org and www.sparkyschoolhouse.org.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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. Brad-
bury, of Freeport, Illinois.
Letters of Office were is-
sued on June 27, 2023, to:

Thomas M. Bradbury
1317 S. Locust Ave.
Freeport, IL 61032

as independent Admin-
istrator 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 ad-
ministered without Court
supervision unless, under
Section 28.4 of the Pro-
bate 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 represen-
tative, 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 represen-
tative 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**
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)

IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT

STEPHENSON COUNTY
- FREEPORT ILLINOIS
AmeriHome Mortgage
Company, LLC
Plaintiff,

vs.
Angela M. Figueroa
Defendants.

Case No. 2022FC1
708 North Hunt Avenue,
Freeport, IL 61032

Judge David M. Olson
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is
hereby given that pursuant
to a Judgment of Foreclo-
sure and Sale entered in
the above entitled cause
on June 21, 2022, Steven
M. Stovall will on August
17, 2023, at the hour of
9:30AM at the Stephen-
son County Sheriff's Of-
fice, Stephenson County
Courthouse, 15 North Ga-
lena Avenue, Freeport, IL
61032, sell to the highest
bidder for cash, the follow-
ing described mortgaged
real estate:

Lots 10, 11 and 12 in
Block 7 in Johnson Wheel
Company's Plat of West
Freeport. Situated in the
City of Freeport, Stephen-
son County, Illinois.

Commonly known as 708
North Hunt Avenue, Free-
port, IL 61032

Parcel Number(s): 18-13-
25-331-009

The real estate is im-
proved with a Single Fam-
ily Residence.

Sale terms: Bidders must
present, at the time of sale, a
cashier's or certified check
for 10% of the successful
bid amount. The balance
of the successful bid shall
be paid within 24 hours, by
similar funds. The subject
property is offered for sale
without any representation
as to quality or quantity of
title and without recourse
to Plaintiff and in "AS
IS" condition. The sale is
further subject to confir-
mation by the Court. The
property will NOT be open
for inspection.

If this property is a con-
dominium unit, the pur-
chaser of the unit at the
foreclosure sale, other than
the mortgagee shall pay the
assessments and the legal
fees required by the Con-
dominium Property Act,
765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and
(g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE
MORTGAGOR (HOME-
OWNER), YOU HAVE

THE RIGHT TO REMAIN
IN POSSESSION FOR 30
DAYS AFTER ENTRY
OF AN ORDER OF POS-
SESSION, IN ACCOR-
DANCE WITH SECTION
15-1701(C) OF THE IL-
LINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information call
Plaintiff's Attorney, Man-
ley Deas Kochalski LLC,
One East Wacker, Suite
1250, Chicago, IL 60601.
Phone number: 312-651-
6700. Attorney file num-
ber: 21-027746.

Jenna M. Rogers
MANLEY DEAS
KOCHALSKI LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
One East Wacker,
Suite 1250
Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone: 312-651-6700
Fax: 614-220-5613
Attorney. No.: 6308109
Email: StateEFiling@
manleydeas.com
I3224870

(Published in
The Shopper's Guide
July 19, 26 & Aug. 2, 2023)
441047

IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT

STEPHENSON COUNTY
- FREEPORT ILLINOIS
Fifth Third Bank,
National Association
Plaintiff,

vs.
Susan E. Feuerborn;
Fifth Third Bank, N.A.
FKA Fifth Third Bank
(Chicago); Unknown
Owners and Non-Record
Claimants
Defendants.

Case No. 2022FC31
510 West Washington,
Cedarville, IL 61013

Judge David M. Olson
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is
hereby given that pursuant
to a Judgment of Foreclo-
sure and Sale entered in
the above entitled cause
on March 7, 2023, Steven
M. Stovall will on August
17, 2023, at the hour of
9:30AM at the Stephen-
son County Sheriff's Of-
fice, Stephenson County
Courthouse, 15 North Ga-
lena Avenue, Freeport, IL
61032, sell to the highest
bidder for cash, the follow-
ing described mortgaged
real estate:

Beginning at the South-
west Corner of the South-
east Quarter of Section 36,
Township 28 North, Range
7 East of the Fourth Prin-

cipal Meridian, running
thence East along the Sec-
tion Line, 39 rods 7 1/2
links, thence North 29 rods
6 links, thence West 39
rods 7 1/2 links to the Half
Section line, thence South
along said line 30 rods to
the place of beginning and
being the West 39 rods 7
1/2 links off from Lots 10
and 11 in the Subdivision
of the West Half of the
Southeast Quarter of said
Section 36, according to
a plat of said Subdivision
recorded in Book "A" of
Plats, in the office of the
Recorder of Deeds of Ste-
phenson County, State of
Illinois, at page 28;

Except
Part of Lots 10 and 11
in the Subdivision of the
West Half of the South-
east Quarter of Section 36,
Township 28 North, Range
7 East of the Fourth Prin-
cipal Meridian, described as
follows:

Beginning at the South-
west Corner of said South-
east Quarter of said Section
36 and running thence on
and along the Section line,
South 90 degrees East, a
distance of 509.81 feet,
thence North 1 degrees 20
minutes East a distance of
489.86 feet to the North-
erly line of said Lot 10,
thence North 89 degrees 23
minutes West on and along
the Northerly line of said
Lot 10, a distance of 505.1
feet to the half section line,
thence South 1 degrees 57
minutes West on and along
said half section line, a
distance of 495 feet to the
place of beginning; situ-
ated in the Village of Ce-
darville, in the County of
Stephenson, and State of
Illinois.

Commonly known as 510
West Washington, Cedar-
ville, IL 61013

Parcel Number(s): 13-08-
36-452-016

The real estate is im-
proved with a Single Fam-
ily Residence.

Sale terms: Bidders must
present, at the time of sale, a
cashier's or certified check
for 10% of the successful
bid amount. The balance
of the successful bid shall
be paid within 24 hours, by
similar funds. The subject
property is offered for sale
without any representation
as to quality or quantity of
title and without recourse
to Plaintiff and in "AS
IS" condition. The sale is
further subject to confir-
mation by the Court. The

property will NOT be open
for inspection.

property will NOT be open
for inspection.

If this property is a con-
dominium unit, the pur-
chaser of the unit at the
foreclosure sale, other than
the mortgagee shall pay the
assessments and the legal
fees required by the Con-
dominium Property Act,
765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and
(g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE
MORTGAGOR (HOME-
OWNER), YOU HAVE
THE RIGHT TO REMAIN
IN POSSESSION FOR 30
DAYS AFTER ENTRY
OF AN ORDER OF POS-
SESSION, IN ACCOR-
DANCE WITH SECTION
15-1701(C) OF THE IL-
LINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information call
Plaintiff's Attorney, Man-
ley Deas Kochalski LLC,
One East Wacker, Suite
1250, Chicago, IL 60601.
Phone number: 312-651-
6700. Attorney file num-
ber: 22-008301.

Zachariah L. Manchester
MANLEY DEAS
KOCHALSKI LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
One East Wacker,
Suite 1250
Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone: 312-651-6700
Fax: 614-220-5613
Attorney. No.: 6303885
Email: StateEFiling@
manleydeas.com
I3224871

(Published in
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July 19, 26 & Aug. 2, 2023)
441049

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 Foreclo-
sure 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, Il-

linois 61036, sell to the
highest bidder for cash, the
following described mort-
gaged real estate:

LOT 14 IN VALLEY
VIEW ESTATES SUB-
DIVISION, LOCATED
IN SECTION SEVEN
(7), TOWNSHIP TWEN-
TY-SEVEN (27), NORTH,
RANGE FOUR (4) EAST
OF THE FOURTH PRIN-
CIPAL MERIDIAN AC-
CORDING TO THE PLAT
THEREOF RECORDED
IN JO DAVIESS COUN-
TY, IL SITUATED IN JO
DAVIESS COUNTY, IL-
LINOIS.

P.I.N. 17-000-069-14.
Commonly known as
6173 East Oak Court,
Stokton, IL 61085.

The improvement on the
property consists of a sin-
gle family residence. If the
subject mortgaged real es-
tate 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 Sec-
tion 18.5 of the Condo-
minium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down
by certified funds, balance
within 24 hours, by certi-
fied funds. No refunds. The
property will NOT be open
for inspection.

For information call The
Sales Department at Plain-
tiff's Attorney, Diaz An-
selmo & Associates, P.A.,
1771 West Diehl Road,
Naperville, Illinois 60563.
(630) 453-6925. File Num-
ber 6706-188152 IJSC

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(Published in
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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Mother Nature continues to give us some of that beautiful rain. I know we are still behind, but every little bit helps. Gardens have begun to help us out with great things to eat. We continue to offer recipes that use these garden products.

Kale Slaw

Kale is coming into the gardens. It is the "in" green and has been for a couple of years. This salad mixes kale, romaine, and coleslaw mix. It also adds red cabbage. I also would add slices of sweet onion for extra flavor. If you don't have sesame oil, use more olive oil instead. This refreshing salad feeds a group, and it is pretty.

- 5 C. chopped fresh kale
 - 3 C. torn romaine
 - 1 pkg. (14 oz.) coleslaw mix
 - 1/2 C. chopped celery
 - 1 C. chopped broccoli
 - 1/2 C. shredded red cabbage
 - 1 C. crumbled feta cheese
 - 1/4 C. sesame seeds, toasted
 - 1/4 C. extra virgin olive oil
 - 3 T. sesame oil
 - 2 T. honey
 - 2 T. cider vinegar
 - 2 T. lemon juice
 - 1/3 C. strawberries, pureed
- Garnish with sliced strawberries

Combine kale and romaine in a large salad bowl. Add coleslaw mix, celery, broccoli, and red cabbage, sprinkle with feta cheese and sesame seeds. Toss to combine.

In a large measuring cup, stir together olive oil and sesame oil. Whisk in honey, vinegar, and lemon juice. Add pureed strawberries. Whisk until combined. Toss salad with dressing before serving; top with sliced strawberries.

Zucchini and Squash Cakes

This combination of summer vegetables is a great way to use the excess produce

from the garden. They make a tasty side instead of potatoes.

- 1 large zucchini
- 2 small yellow squash
- 1 C. toasted plain bread-crumbs
- 1 C. shredded Parmesan
- 1/3 C. minced Vidalia onion
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 1/2 t. dried Italian seasoning
- 1/2 t. salt
- 1/2 t. pepper
- 1/2 C. butter

Grate zucchini and squash; press between paper towels to remove excess moisture. In medium bowl mix zucchini, squash, breadcrumbs, parmesan, onion, eggs, Italian seasoning, salt, and pepper. Shape mixture into 2-inch patties, pressing together firmly. In a large skillet, melt butter over medium heat. In batches add squash and zucchini cakes; cook, flipping once until cooked through and golden, 2 to 4 minutes. Drain on a paper towel. Serve as a side for supper!

Creamy Ravioli with Spinach and Peas

If you are looking for a quick no-meat dinner complete with veggies and cheese, this ravioli dish is just the ticket. You buy the frozen ravioli, and you are well on your way to an easy dinner any night of the week.

- 3 T. unsalted butter
- 1/2 C. Panko breadcrumbs
- 1 bunch spinach, stemmed
- 1 C. frozen peas, thawed
- 1 lb. cheese ravioli
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 t. chopped rosemary
- 1/2 C. heavy cream
- 1/2 C. grated parmesan cheese

Heat 1 T. butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the panko and cook, stirring often, until golden, about 4 minutes. Season with salt and pepper and remove to a small bowl; set aside. Wipe out the skillet. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Heat 1 T. of butter in the skillet over medium high heat. Add the spinach and cook until wilted and tender, about 3 minutes. Transfer to a fine mesh strainer and press out excess liquid, then transfer to a cutting board and roughly chop. Combine the spinach

and peas in a medium bowl. Wipe out the skillet.

Add the ravioli to the boiling water and cook as the label directs. Reserve 1/2 C. cooking water and then drain. Heat the remaining 1 T. butter, the garlic and rosemary in the skillet over medium heat. Cook until the garlic is just tender, 1 1/2 to 2 minutes. Add the heavy cream and 1/4 C. of the reserved cooking water; bring to a simmer. Stir in the cheese and cook until melted, about 1 minute. Add the spinach and peas and cook, stirring until slightly thickened, about 3 minutes. Add the ravioli to the skillet and toss to coat. Add more cooking liquid if needed to loosen the mixture (Add one tablespoon at a time). Place in a serving bowl.

Dry Rubbed Country Ribs

These pork ribs are tender and delicious. They are a great Sunday dinner. Serve with twice baked potatoes and a vegetable. Make your own BBQ sauce or buy it premade. I like to use Sweet Baby Ray's Honey BBQ sauce.

- 1/4 C. packed light brown sugar
- 2 T. dry mustard
- 1 T. salt
- 1 T. chili powder
- 2 t. onion powder
- 2 t. ground paprika
- 1 t. garlic powder
- 1/2 t. pepper
- 4 lbs. boneless pork country style ribs
- 2 red onions, divided
- 2 T. oil
- Barbeque Sauce

In a small bowl, whisk together the brown sugar, mustard, and spices. Rub spice mixture all over the ribs, coating well. Tightly wrap ribs in plastic wrap; refrigerate overnight. Unwrap ribs and let stand at room temperature for 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 350. Slice 1 onion 1/2 inch thick; place in bottom of a 12-inch ovenproof skillet. Place ribs on top of onion. Cover the skillet with foil. Bake until ribs are tender, about 3 hours. Gently remove the ribs and onion wedges to a plate, wipe skillet clean. Cut remaining onion into wedges. In the skillet, heat oil over medium

heat. Working in batches, gently add ribs and remaining onion wedges. Cook until just browned on bottom, 2 to 3 minutes. Brush a thin coat of barbecue sauce onto ribs; carefully turn ribs and onion and cook for 1 minute. Serve ribs with BBQ sauce and onions.

Salted Butterscotch and Pecan No-Bakes

If you want some cookies and don't want to use the oven, these tasty bites are just what you are looking for. They don't use flour but use the magic of sweetened condensed milk. Enjoy this cookie in summer and keep it for a Christmas cookie plate!

- 1 1/4 C. toasted pecans
- 1 1/2 t. salt
- 1 can (14 oz.) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 1/2 C. unsweetened finely shredded coconut
- 1 pkg. (3.4 oz.) instant butterscotch pudding
- 1/2 C. sugar
- 58 pecan halves, toasted

Place 1 1/4 C. toasted pecans and salt in a food processor; pulse until pecans are finely ground. Transfer to a large bowl. Stir in milk, coconut and pudding mix until blended. Refrigerate, covered for 30 minutes or until mixture is firm enough to roll. Shape mixture into 48 1-inch balls. Roll in sugar. Top each with a pecan half, flattening slightly. Store in airtight containers in the refrigerator.

Hawaiian Dream Cake

I made this cake a little differently a long time ago. This recipe feeds a much larger crowd because you make it in a jelly roll pan. It is a refreshing summer dessert perfect

for a picnic or a dinner with guests.

- 1 can (20 oz.) unsweetened crushed pineapple
- 1 pkg. yellow cake mix
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 C. canola oil
- 1/4 C. water
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 C. cold 2% milk
- 1 pkg. (3.4 oz.) instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1 carton (8 oz.) Cool Whip, thawed
- 1/2 C. chopped pecans
- 1/3 C. flaked coconut

Preheat oven to 350. Drain the pineapple, reserving 1 C. juice. Set pineapple aside. In a large mixing bowl, combine the cake mix, eggs, oil, water, and reserved juice; beat on low for 30 seconds. Beat on medium 2 minutes. Transfer to a greased 15 x 10 x 1 inch baking pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted near center comes out clean, 15 to 18 minutes. Cool completely on a wire rack.

Topping: In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in the milk and pudding mix until blended; fold in reserved pineapple. Spread over cake. Top with Cool Whip. Sprinkle nuts and coconut over top. Store in the refrigerator.

Final Thoughts

We have made it to the middle of July without tornadoes or windstorms, and summer activities continue to be important. There is a Pet and Bicycle Show in Lena on the weekend. I don't know what that entails because it is the first ever. I'm looking forward to seeing cute pets and decorated bikes. Music in the Park continues Saturday and Sunday nights. Remember it is free and very entertaining! Summer sports camps and

games continue, so our kids should be busy.

Remember that if you have zucchini, you can freeze it for later to make all kinds of breads and cakes. I know people are still using rhubarb too. Blackberries are plentiful if you can find them, and soon blueberries will be able to be picked. 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.

LEGAL NOTICES

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

In Re the Matter of the Estate of :
Jasmine M. Sherrer,
Alleged Disabled Adult.

No. 23-GR-12
NOTICE

To: Brian F. Sherrer:

Take notice that on July 5, 2023, a Petition for Guardianship was filed under the Illinois Probate Act by Tabatha M. Sherrer in the Circuit Court of Stephenson County, Illinois, entitled In Re the Matter of the Estate of Jasmine M. Sherrer, an alleged disabled adult, and that in courtroom 3 at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 10 N. Galena Ave., Freeport, Illinois on Monday, August 21, 2023, at the hour of 9:00A.M., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to have the Respondent declared a disabled adult under that Act.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

Prepared by:
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
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real estate

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garage sales

Pearl City

308 W. DEVORE AVE. Wed. July 19-22, 8-5 Multi-fam sale. antiques, adult bikes & accs, crafts, household, pet crates, tools, yard tools, new stuff added daily. 815-291-2356

503 GUSTY TRAIL Fri. July 21 8-5 & Sat. 8-noon Ladders, deck benches, 8' banquet table, Dremel, travel golf bag, elec. filet knife, elec. snow thrower, office sign & items, Marvel desk cabinets/drawers, milk glass, dishes, plants, garbage barrels, misc.

for sale

Announcements

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

DISCLAIMER NOTICE 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.

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

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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.

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

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Local superheroes to visit Discovery Center Museum

Join a gathering of community superheroes on Friday, July 21 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Meet real emergency first responders and explore the science community heroes use every day.

Learn about fingerprinting, use microscopes like a forensic scientist, explore fire science in live demonstrations and take a photo with costumed superheroes. If it doesn't get called for an emergency, you can even get up close to the Mercy-health REACT helicopter and the MD1 response vehicle in the parking lot from

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Rockford Police Department will have K-9 demonstrations at 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.

All activities are included with museum admission

of \$10/person for the public and free to museum members and all children ages one and younger.

Kona Ice and Cantina Taco will be onsite as a delicious lunch option.

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426072

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 FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT ILLINOIS

AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC Plaintiff,

vs.

Angela M. Figueroa Defendants.

Case No. 2022FC1

708 North Hunt Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

Judge David M. Olson

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause on June 21, 2022, Steven M. Stovall will on August 17, 2023, at the hour of 9:30AM at the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office, Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Commonly known as 708 North Hunt Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

Parcel Number(s): 18-13-25-331-009

The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence.

Sale terms: Bidders must present, at the time of sale, a cashier's or certified check for 10% of the successful bid amount. The balance of the successful bid shall be paid within 24 hours, by similar funds. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

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

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

For information call Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski LLC, One East Wacker, Suite 1250, Chicago, IL 60601. Phone number: 312-651-6700. Attorney file number: 21-027746.

Jenna M. Rogers
MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
One East Wacker, Suite 1250
Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone: 312-651-6700
Fax: 614-220-5613
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I3224870

(Published in The Shopper's Guide July 19, 26 & Aug. 2, 2023)

441048

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT ILLINOIS

Fifth Third Bank, National Association Plaintiff,

vs.

Susan E. Feuerborn; Fifth Third Bank, N.A. FKA Fifth Third Bank (Chicago); Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants

Defendants.

Case No. 2022FC31

510 West Washington, Cedarville, IL 61013

Judge David M. Olson
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause on March 7, 2023, Steven M. Stovall will on August 17, 2023, at the hour of 9:30AM at the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office, Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Commonly known as 510 West Washington, Cedarville, IL 61013
Parcel Number(s): 13-08-36-452-016

The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence.

Sale terms: Bidders must present, at the time of sale, a cashier's or certified check for 10% of the successful bid amount. The balance of the successful bid shall be paid within 24 hours, by similar funds. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

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

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

For information call Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski LLC, One East Wacker, Suite 1250, Chicago, IL 60601. Phone number: 312-651-6700. Attorney file number: 22-008301.

Zachariah L. Manchester
MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
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Telephone: 312-651-6700
Fax: 614-220-5613
Attorney. No.: 6303885
Email:
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(Published in The Shopper's Guide July 19, 26 & Aug. 2, 2023)

441050

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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Yard of the month

Brad and Diane Kempel's yard has been chosen as The Yard of the Month by the Lena Beautification Committee. The Kempel's love to entertain in their backyard, and it is easy to see why. They have added a cooking area combined with a fire pit and several seating arrangements. Diane said she has received many of her plants from family, friends, and neighbors. The backyard has many perennials complimented by colorful annuals. Brad and Diane work together to keep their yard attractive. He is the mower and Diane takes care of the flowers. Congratulations to the Kempel's on creating a beautiful setting.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Doug Block, center, holds his ICCTA Ray Harstein award as he is flanked by board members Jim Endress, left, and Shawn Boldt at a recent board meeting of the Highland Community College Board of Trustees at Highland in Freeport.

Highland trustee Doug Block receives statewide ICCTA award

Highland Community College Trustee Doug Block of Pearl City received the 2023 Ray Harstein Trustee Achievement Award from the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) at a banquet held in June in Bloomington, Ill. The award recognizes exemplary service by a currently serving community college board member. Block has previously served as chair for the Highland Board of Trustees.

Block said he is proud of his work serving on the Highland board for the past 18 years, adding: "Community colleges play an integral role in educating future leaders, whether that is high school students, traditional students, nontraditional students, or lifelong learners. Making sure students receive a quality education is one of the many reasons why I ran for the Highland Community College Board and have served since

2005."

Block has a long history of commitment to the community. He currently serves on the Midwest Dairy Association – Illinois Division board and the Highland Community College Foundation board. He also has held several key officer positions on both his church and local cemetery boards.

He is a well-respected leader in his industry, having served on several agriculture-related boards, including the Illinois Milk Producers, Illinois Farm Bureau Young Farmers Committee, and the State Representative Ag Advisory Committee. In addition, Block previously was a member of the Pearl City School District board for 12 years, served on the Stephenson County-based economic development board of the Northwest Illinois Development Alliance for four years, and was a Pearl City Hornets 4-H Club Project leader for six

years.

Block has been an active leader in Board decisions that support HCC's mission: "Highland Community College is committed to shaping the future of our communities by providing quality education and learning opportunities through programs and services that encourage the personal and professional growth of the people of northwestern Illinois."

He has participated on various committees which support these initiatives. A "walking billboard" for two-year post-secondary education, Block often speaks about the important role of community colleges at other meetings and functions he attends. He hosts several high school and Highland classes at his farm, as well as Ag in the Classroom, and Career Day for local eighth graders.

Block was nominated in February for the award by the Highland Board of Trustees. His letter of support was written by Board Chair Jim Endress.

"Doug Block continues to serve the Highland Community College Board of Trustees with distinction," Endress said. "He shares a deep commitment to providing an exceptional experience to our students while exhibiting a steadfast concern for our stakeholders. Congratulations, Doug, on being named the ICCTA's recipient of the Ray Harstein Trustee Achievement Award."

The Ray Harstein Trustee Achievement Award was established in 1992 by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association. The award is named for Ray Harstein, who was the founding chair of Oakton Community College. ICCTA is an organization that provides legislative advocacy and educational opportunities for community college boards.

Plan (Continued from page 8)

David Newman, senior vice president of market growth at NPB, believes pork still has "great opportunities" for demand growth despite the recent pullback. NPB is focused on promoting underutilized cuts, such as loins, and doubling down

on boosting sales of ground pork and sausage the second half of the year. NPB is working with about 8,000 retail stores and 600 food service programs to promote pork. "We know pork demand is challenging at the present time," Newman said.

"But it isn't slowing down our growth strategy."

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

Don't Forget!

School exams are required for students entering kindergarten, 2nd, 6th and 9th grades

\$25.00 school exams and x-rays

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