Serving the communities in Fo Daviess County

the Scoop Today

Special Offer:

Loescher

VOL. 89 • NO. 30

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023

YORK

Stockton Chamber of Commerce news

by! Stockton was filled to the brim for one of our largest events of the year, the 4th of July celebration in the park. It featured local vendors, the legendary Lions Club chicken, and fireworks that went off with a bang. We would like to extend a special thanks to Stockton's fireworks committee and all other volunteer organizations who make this event possible. It was wonderful seeing so many locals and out-of-towners enjoying all that Stockton has to offer.

Local realtor and chamber board director, Tamara Ruter, potential upcoming ribbon kicked off the 4th of July with a customer appreciation event pher and roofing company.

Summer seems to be flying on July 3, with live music out on Highway 20. On July 12, chamber directors Brooke and Sam VenHuizen spoke to the traveling Highland Community College Leadership Development Class at Mud Run about the town of Stockton, annual Chamber events, and ways to get involved. There will also be many exciting new businesses in town that will be celebrated in the upcoming months, and we hope you can join. Anderson Apartments of LSSI will host an open house on July 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., along with cuttings for a local photogra-

Bank awards scholarships to area students

and First Community Bank of Galena recently awarded \$1,000 college scholarships to six area high school graduates. Local recipients are listed below.

River Ridge High School: Heaven Brotherton is the daughter of Duane and Heather Brotherton. Heaven will attend Northeast Iowa Community College and major in nursing.

Mound High Scales School: Sydney Driscoll is the daughter of Mark and Shannon Driscoll. She plans

Apple River State Bank to attend University of Missouri and major in architectur-

al studies and interior design. **Warren High School:** Ava Heidenreich is the daughter of Kurtis and Valerie Heidenreich. Ava will attend either University of Illinois or Illinois State University and major in psychology.

Apple River State Bank is located throughout Jo Daviess County in Apple River, Elizabeth, Hanover, Scales Mound, Warren, Galena (First Community Bank of Galena). and in Darlington and Hazel Green, Wisconsin.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Little Learners Academy - CTE

Preschoolers have explored how to eat ice cream drumsticks, definitely an experience for all!

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PUBLISHING LLC **BOCK VALLEY** DIA9 **JDATZO9 SU GTS TAS A9**

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

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Lake, bird and watching. 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-

MORE INFO TO COME!!

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Crystal tine (Major) Rood, Katie Bak- MARGARET "MARGE" er, 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-inlaw- Nancy Miller; brotherin-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.



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

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-

Misek, and Michaiah Oblak, Veronica Misek, and Ivan Misek; her brother, Robert (Pia)

Sichta; and her sister, Susie (Jim) Ver-Hage. 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 Universitv 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

de, Arianna 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.

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 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

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Warren's county fair tractor

pull day in style.

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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- 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

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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.

Doors open at 11 a.m. -?

83rd Reunion to honor

Elwood & Marjorie (Raab)

Broshous

Where: Stockton Park House

When: Sunday, July, 30

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

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

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

you to the Monroe Clinic Rehab Services Department. Sincerely,

40860

Church news

Lutheran Church

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 fel-

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 partici-

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 worshiping in the beauty of nature.

St. John's Lutheran Church the lower level of the church. a Peacebuilder" - a teachof 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

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, ton Sunday, July 23, 2023, at 10 a.m. The Adult Sunday School will be held prior to service starting at 9 a.m. on odist church is hosting "Be

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 All are invited to worship 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 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 ques-

Be a Peacebuilder" for Kids at Apple River UMC

Apple River United Meth-

Remember

to include

the 5W's:

Who, what

where, when and

why!

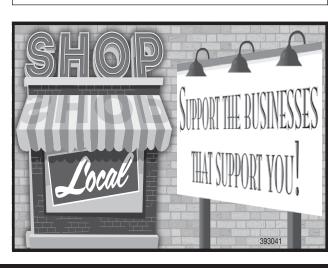
er-designed, creative way for kids to explore peace, and how they can integrate peace into their lives and the lives of others. Each day will be centered around a new peacebuilding theme, with a bible story, kids' literature, innovative art projects and even cooking. Each participant will have their 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 Album 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.





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:

**Scoop Today Shopper's Guide

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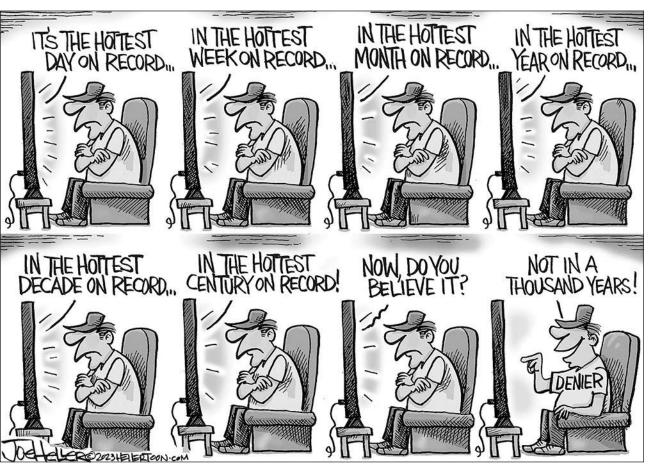
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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE Wednesday, Ju

OPINION



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.

441114

Slices of life

The eye of the storm

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 allencompassing. 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.



JILL PERTLER

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

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It's time for VBS

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



SCOTT **CERNEK**

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 hav.

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.

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

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.

Homecoming Service H

Sunday,

July 23

10 a.m.

Please join

us for a time



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,

- 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
- 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 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.

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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.



Illinois hotels report record revenues for fiscal year 2023

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 significantaffecting peoples' travel

"Tourism means more jobs for hotel and hospitality and workers-good recreation 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,

toward recovery.

ing 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 sig-

in the past few years, including the \$30.3 million "Middle of "We look forward to return- 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 nificant investments in tourism million visitors and generated

restaurants, small businesses, and attractions, according to campaign recently launched a comes naturally, and getting to news release.

that feature the television star.

"Being able to share my the state's tourism office. The passion for all things Illinois is an honor," Lynch said in a

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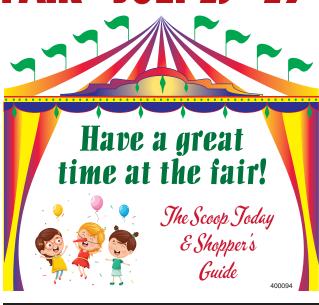
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Bank awards scholarships



Heaven Brotherton, a graduate from River Ridge High School, was one recipient of the Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena college scholarship.



Recent Scales Mound High School graduate Sydney Driscoll was one of this year's Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena college scholarship recipients.



Ava Heidenreich is one of six recent graduates to receive the Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena college scholarship.

Hog farmers plan to trim the fat amid market losses

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.

production numbers as we move into 2024," Tyler Cozzens, ag economist with the tween now and the end of 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 liq-

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uidate a portion of the herd. "I think we'll see lower He projects there could be only two months of profitability in the industry be-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 Prop-

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osition 12, which regulates sales of pork, veal and eggs from livestock whose housing 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

"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 pro- past three years. "The big

duction 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

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.

See PLAN, Page 9



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Around the Northern Hills



for ice cream (especially during July since it is National Ice Cream Month)! It is the perfect excuse to eat more ice cream. Here are a few interesting facts about our favorite frozen treat:

The average American consumes approximately 12 pounds of ice cream each year. California is the largest ice cream consumer in the country with 4,263 ice cream parlors across the state.

Nearly 23 states chose chocolate as their favorite ice cream. The top five ice cream flavors in Illinois are chocolate, cookie dough, rocky road, Neapolitan, and

Cover Crop Field Day

We will again be holding a field day at Greg Thoren's farm on Friday, July 21 at 11:30 a.m. It will be held at the first field entrance south of 4629 IL Route 78 on the east side of 78 (south of Stockton). Come see the updates on the multi-year cover crop project. Speakers will include Greg Thoren, owner and host, John Musser, Stephenson Service Co., Art Scheele, AgNetic, UW-Platteville Researchers.

Elizabeth County Fair

Come out to the Elizabeth Community Fair the weekend of July 21 through 23. The Young Leaders will be at the fair on Saturday holding the Kiddie Tractor Pull at 1 p.m. and hosting the petting zoo bus all afternoon.

Become a member

Did you know that you don't need to be a farmer to be a farm bureau member? Give me a call at the office and I can tell you how to become a member. You will be able to take advantage of the many membership benefits that Illinois Farm Bureau and Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau has to offer!

Local member benefits

Don't forget to take advantage of member-only benefits for Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau members. We have businesses around the County who have partnered with us to offer member discounts. Make sure to have your farm bureau membership card handy when asking for those discounts. For a full listing of the local benefits, go to our website www.jodaviesscfb.com and click on membership, then local discounts.

Farm Fun Fact

76% of Illinois land is farmland.

Plan (Continued from page 8)

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 re-

David Newman, senior vice tail 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.

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

Highland trustee Doug Block receives statewide ICCTA award

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 Ad-



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.

visory 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 twoyear postsecondary 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 conscientious concern for our stakeholders. Congratulations, Doug, on being named the ICCTA's recipient of the Ray Hartstein 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.

Open House and Hiring Event

Anderson Apartments for Adults with **Developmental Disabilities** 200 E. King Avenue, Stockton, IL Friday, July 21, 11 a.m to 2 p.m. Light Refreshments will be served along

with giveaways and door prizes.



Lutheran Social

Services of Illinois

Join Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) for an Open House and Hiring Event at Anderson Apartments, 200 E. King Avenue, Stockton. Come tour our apartments for adults with developmental disabilities to hear about this important community resource. We'll also have information about employment opportunities with LSSI.

Anderson Apartments is an 8-unit apartment building where adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities live in their own individual apartments. LSSI provides wrap-around support services for our tenants to help them be as independent as possible.



services, and job opportunities, scan this QR code, or visit LSSI.org

SSM Health Monroe Hospital announces new residency program sponsorship

pital is excited to announce the change of accreditation sponsorship of their Family Medicine Residency Program

Public Health.

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

(UW) School of Medicine and 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-

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 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

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

ago. To date the hospital has 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

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

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

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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

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 issuedon 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 ad-

ministered 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

has been filed. Date: June 27, 2023. Thomas M. Bradbury, Administrator By: Anthony V. Coon Anthony V. Coon Attorney At Law

within ten (10) days after it

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, Angela M. Figueroa Defendants.

Case No. 2022FC1 708 North Hunt Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032 Judge David M. Olson

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

NOTICE OF SALE

9:30AM at the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office, Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest

17, 2023, at the hour of

bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged July 19, 26 & Aug. 2, 2023) real estate: Lots 10, 11 and 12 in

Block 7 in Johnson Wheel

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North Hunt Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032 Parcel Number(s): 18-13-

25-331-009 The real estate is improved with a Single Fami-

ly 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

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

THE RIGHT TO REMAIN cipal Meridian, running IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POS-SESSION, IN ACCOR-DANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE IL-**MORTGAGE** LINOIS FORECLOSURE LAW. information call For 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 Attorney. No.: 6308109 Email: StateEFiling@ manleydeas.com

(Published in The Shopper's Guide

I3224870

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT ILLINOIS Fifth Third Bank, National Association

Plaintiff, 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 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:

Beginning at the Southwest Corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 36, Township 28 North, Range 7 East of the Fourth Prin-

thence East along the Section 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 Stephenson County, State of Illinois, at page 28; Except

Part of Lots 10 and 11 in the Subdivision of the West Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 36, Township 28 North, Range 7 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, described as

Beginning at the South-

west Corner of said Southeast 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 Northerly 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-

darville, in the County of Stephenson, and State of Illinois. Commonly known as 510 West Washington, Cedar-

ated in the Village of Ce-

ville, 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 confir-

mation by the Court. The

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 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. information For 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 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

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT **COUNTY OF** JO DAVIESS - GALENA, **ILLINOIS** LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,

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

Plaintiff,

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, Il-

property will NOT be open linois 61036, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: LOT 14 IN VALLEY

> VIEW ESTATES SUB-LOCATED DIVISION, SECTION SEVEN 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, 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)

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



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

½ C. chopped celery

- 1 C. chopped broccoli
- ½ 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.

Zucchni and Squash Cakes

LOCAL NEWS ON-LINE

rvpnews.

com

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

1 large zucchini 2 small yellow squash 1 C. toasted plain bread-

1 C. shredded Parmesan

tasty side instead of potatoes.

1/3 C. minced Vidalia on-

2 eggs, lightly beaten 11/2 t. dried Italian season-

½ t. salt

½ t. pepper

½ 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

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

½ C. Panko breadcrumbs

1 bunch spinach, stemmed

1 C. frozen peas, thawed

1 lb. cheese ravioli

1 garlic clove, minced

1 t. chopped rosemary ½ C. heavy cream

½ 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

from the garden. They make a and peas in a medium bowl. heat. Wipe out the skillet.

Add the ravioli to the boiling water and cook as the label directs. Reserve ½ 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, 11/2 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

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

2 T. dry mustard

1 T. salt

1 T. chili powder

2 t. onion powder

2 t. ground paprika

1 t. garlic powder

½ 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 ½ 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

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 on-

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!

1¾ C. toasted pecans 1½ t. salt

1 can (14 oz.) sweetened condensed milk

11/2 C. unsweetened finely shredded coconut

1 pkg. (3.4 oz.) instant butterscotch pudding

½ C. sugar

58 pecan halves, toasted

Place 13/4 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

½ Č. 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

½ 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**

Take notice that on July 5,

To: Brian F. Sherrer:

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

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

Respondent declared a dis-

abled adult under that Act.

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 July 19, 26 & Aug. 2, 2023)

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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

Rock Valley Publishing

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This FT position is 2nd shift, starting pay \$15.25 per hour and has great benefits and perks!
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information and find out why Lutheran Social Services was ranked one of the top companies to work for!

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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



Auction Deadline is Noon Friday!

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



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

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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

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.

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 cau-tioned 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. Lo-cated at Roselawn Memory Gardens 3045 WI-67, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. This is a private sale. Contact Randy, the seller at randy@slpublishers.com.

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

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

Boats

1973 25' CHRISCRAFT 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.

2020 BAYLINER 160 ELEMENT 16 ft' 75 HP Merc EFI Outboard, swing tongue trailer. \$19,900. Call or text 224-725-0926.

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.

Parts & **Accessories**

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

Sports/Classic Cars

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 CANAM 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-

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 2:30 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 Mercyhealth REACT helicopter and the MD1 response vehicle in the parking lot from



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

ed with museum admission licious lunch option.

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

Kona Ice and Cantina All activities are includ- Taco will be onsite as a de-

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REAL ESTATE NOTICES

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

Plaintiff,

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:

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INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13224209

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT**

STEPHENSON COUNTY -FREEPORT ILLINOIS

AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC

Plaintiff,

Angela M. Figueroa Defendants.

Case No. 2022FC1 708 North Hunt Avenue,

Freeport, IL 61032 Judge David M. Olson NOTICE OF SALE

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

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

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OR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POS-SESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POS-SESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAĞÉ 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 Attorney. No.: 6308109 Email:

StateEFiling@manleydeas.com 13224870

(Published in The Shopper's Guide

July 19, 26 & Aug. 2, 2023)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT**

STEPHENSON COUNTY -FREEPORT ILLINOIS Fifth Third Bank, National

Association Plaintiff,

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

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(1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAG OR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POS-SESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POS-SESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C)

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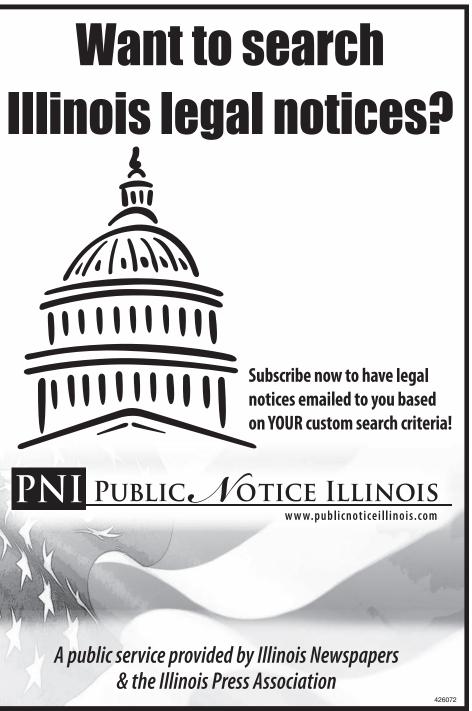
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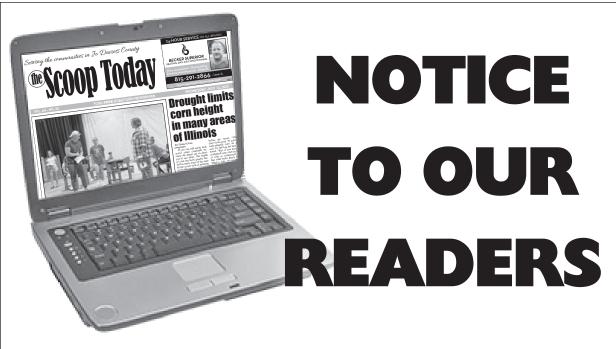


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IDOT unveils 6-year, \$41 billion plan for infrastructure projects

By Peter Hancock CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

The Illinois Department of Transportation unveiled a plan on July 7nfor 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

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 run-way 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.

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