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VOL. 85 • NO. 38

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13, 2023

Panthers top Stockton in week 3 matchup

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

Lena-Winslow kept the "Panther Strong" mantra alive in week three. On Friday, Sept. 8, the Panthers hit the road as they traveled to face off with the Stockton Blackhawks in an NUIC matchup. Stockton came into the game with a 1-1 record, while the Panthers were undefeated at 2-0.

It didn't take long for the Panthers to get in the end-

zone. Just over two minutes into the game, Gage Dunker got the party started with a three-yard touchdown run. Dunker capped the drive off with a two-point conversion and the Panthers had a quick 8-0 lead.

The Stockton offense found their own first quarter success, however. On their third drive of the game, the Blackhawks plunged into the endzone from just one yard out. A failed pass on the two-

point conversion left Stockton trailing 8-6 with just over three minutes left in the first.

That was as close as the Blackhawks would get for the rest of the day, however. A big second quarter played the difference in this one as Le-win put up 24 points in a hurry. A blocked punt touchdown for Mason Spidahl opened things up for the Panthers. Nick Tippett scored the two-point conversion, and the Panthers went up 16-

6. That was just the start. Midway through the second quarter, the Panthers went up three scores as Cobryn Lynch ran the ball in from ten yards out. Lynch also scored the two-point conversion, putting Le-Win up by 18 points.

Before the end of the half, Dunker broke free on a 35-yard rushing touchdown, which was one of the bigger plays on the day. Lynch once again tallied the two-point

conversion as Le-Win took a 32-6 lead. That advantage would hold through the half-time break.

In the second half, the Panthers went to work on the clock. Early in the third, Dunker tallied the hat trick as he reached the endzone on a nine-yard rushing touchdown. Just a few minutes later, Lynch scored his second touchdown of the day as he broke free for a 40-yard run.

Dunker had a huge day on the ground, rushing for 184 yards and a trio of scores. Lynch was next up for the Panthers with 87 rushing yards. Tippett finished with 39 yards on the ground as well.

This Friday, Sept. 15 the Panthers return home as they are set to host the Dakota Indians. Dakota is coming off a 47-0 loss to Durand-Pecatonica and are 0-2 on the season.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Extraordinary Stephenson County volunteer honored

The University of Illinois Extension has announced that Julie Miller is the 2023 4-H Hall of Fame Award recipient for Stephenson County. Miller is a 28-year volunteer in Stephenson County and was recently honored by Illinois 4-H for her selfless dedication to the University of Illinois Extension 4-H youth development program.

As a child, Miller grew up in a 4-H family and was a 10-year 4-H member. Her 4-H career began in the Farming Fools 4-H Club of Davis, Illinois, and then moved on to the Davis Rockets 4-H Club. After high school, Miller knew that she wanted to give back to the program that had such a positive effect on shaping who she was, so she stepped into the leadership role of the Davis Rockets 4-H club for 15 years. Julie continues to help as a project leader in the Davis Rockets



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Julie Miller was recently honored for her dedication to 4-H and volunteering to support her community. "We are so fortunate to be able to have our outstanding volunteers recognized at the state level. Julie's long history with 4-H and her love of working with youth has made her a valuable asset to the 4-H program in Stephenson County for many, many years," stated Margaret Larson, Extension Director for Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties.

See VOLUNTEER, Page 6

Coins for kids supports local family

Acting Master Roy Grobe presents a check to Asher Fransen for \$500 at a recent meeting of Lena Masonic Lodge #174. The money is from the "Coins for Kids" fund that helps children with special needs. Grand Lodge of Illinois will match these funds. Masons pictured are Tom Madigan, Richard Rutter, Dennis Bussian, Tom Edler, Bing Wells and Boyd Wingert.

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Obituaries

MARIAM ADEL BLAIR

Mariam Adel Blair, age 96, of Stockton, IL passed away Thursday, Aug. 31, 2023, at Allure of Stockton. She was born in Rural Stockton on April 5, 1927, to the late Leland and Florence (Parker) Pierce. She married Morris Blair on May 15, 1948, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Stockton. Morris passed away on Dec. 16, 2016.

Mariam attended the country schools in the area and graduated from Stockton High School with the class of 1945. She then went on to attend Dekalb Teachers College. Mariam was a very active member of the Unitarian Universalist Church



in Stockton where she taught Sunday School, sang in the Choir, and belonged to the Women's organizations. She was a hardworking, supportive farm wife. She loved needlework, sewing, quilting, reading, and playing the piano. Most importantly, she supported her family with all their sports and activities.

Mariam is survived by her daughter, Beth (John) Mueller; her sons, Curt (Linda) Blair and Brett Blair; her grandchildren, Jeremy (Pat) Blair, Matthew (Rebecca)

Mueller, Jason (Sheila) Evans, Anna (Bobby) Evans, Arnold (Jamie) Evans; and her brother, Max Pierce. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her son, Tad; her granddaughter, Lacey; her sisters, Elizabeth Herring, Edith Bauer and Linda Lloyd; and her brother, Bud Pierce.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, Sept. 15, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Stockton at 11:30 a.m. with a visitation beginning at 10:30 a.m. Interment will take place at Ladies Union Cemetery in Stockton. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

ROBERT (BOB) SCHIESS

Bob, age 94, died on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2023 at Winn Prairie in Freeport, IL. He was born on July 27, 1929, to Jacob and Ellen (Fels) Schiess on the farm in McConnell, IL. He was the youngest of eight children. At age two his parents moved to a farm in rural Gratiot, WI, where he attended and graduated from the old White School. He married Beverly March on Sept. 6, 1953, at St. Ann Church in Warren, IL. They recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Six children were born to them: Scott, Tracy, Janis, Kerry, Todd and Brian.

Bob served in Korea during 1952 and 1953 with the 1169th Combat Engineer Group, reaching the rank of Sgt. He was awarded the Korean Service Medal with three bronze service stars, UN Service medal and the Korean War Service Medal given as thanks from the Korean Government.

Bob loved classic country and polka music and was a great dancer. He and Bev could be found at Turner Hall



in Monroe, WI on Sunday afternoons dancing with their many friends. The barn on the farm was always rocking with polka music. Upon retirement they visited every state in their motor home and bought a small home in Mesa, AZ, spending winters there for many years. He loved to travel; four times to Europe, twice to Alaska and three times to Hawaii.

Bob was a good man, good husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, farmer, and friend. He was always a farmer at heart and loved his farm in Stockton where he lived and worked for 30 years, bringing up his family there. He raised purebred Holsteins and was one of the top milk producers in the area at the time.

He is survived by his wife, Bev; children, Tracy Heidenreich of Elizabeth, Janis (Greg) Thoren of Stockton, Kerry (Cindy) Schiess

of Byron Center, MI, Todd (Laila) Schiess of Concord, CA, and Brian (Michele) Schiess of Lanark; he was also very proud of, and loved his grandchildren and great grandchildren, Nathan and Aaron (Sara) Heidenreich, Neil and Julia Thoren (Ben) Blair, Kelly, Jody (Aedan) Gardill, Shannon Schiess and Anna (Quincy) Bollone, Zoe (Kam) McDonnell, Zachary Schiess, Travis (August) and Devin Schiess, also great grandchildren, Anna Blair, Brynn and Thomas Heidenreich and Scout Schiess; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his son, Scott in 1972; his parents; 3 brothers; 4 sisters; and son-in-law, Loren Heidenreich.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, Sept. 15, at 11 a.m. at Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton with a visitation beginning at 9 a.m. Interment will take place at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Stockton. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

RANDY A. BOELK

Randy A. Boelk age 46 of Warren, IL passed away peacefully on Monday, Sept. 4, 2023 at UW Madison Hospital after a lengthy illness. He was born to Ron "Specker" Boelk and Lou (Germaine) Deyo on Jan. 10, 1977, in Darlington, WI. He was a 1996 graduate of Warren High School where he participated in Football.

In his spare time, Randy loved watching football, especially the Chicago Bears,



and documentaries. He enjoyed darts, golfing, fishing, and hanging out with his friends and family, especially his nephew Kayden Boelk. You often could find Randy spending time and helping out in the kitchen at Wally's Pizzeria in Warren.

Randy is Survived by his

mother Lou Deyo of Warren, IL. 2 brothers- Mike (Lyndsay) Boelk of Apple River, IL and Brad Boelk of Warren, IL. Niece- Kailey Boelk and her son Kaiser of Apple Canyon Lake. Nephews- Kayden Boelk of Apple River, IL, Austin Toepfer and his daughter Riley of Apple River, IL, Billie Johnston of Missouri and Brady Boelk of Apple River, IL, and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins. Randy is preceded in death by his father Ron "Specker" Boelk, 2 brothers - Daniel Lee and Thomas Richard Boelk, nephew Alex Michael Boelk, both sets of grandparents and stepfather Butch Deyo.

Cremation Rites have been accorded. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. The family would like to say a special thanks to Dr. Mike McFadden, Freeport Memorial and UW Madison Hospitals, all the doctors, nurses and support staff that were involved in his care, and Bartell-Leamon Funeral Home for helping with arrangements. A memorial has been established in his memory.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL on Sunday, Sept. 17 for Sunday Worship Service. The reading will be from Matthew 18:21-25.

On Wednesday, Sept. 20 Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience is necessary.

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

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City will celebrate the sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost on Sept. 17.

The September Grace meal will be on Sunday, Sept. 17 and will include meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, mixed vegetables, Jell-O with fruit, and dessert. Reservations for curbside pick-up are due by Sept. 14. Call the church office to reserve your meal for curbside pick-up. This meal is funded through the generosity of a grant received by The Foundation of Northwest Illinois.

There will be a special Children's Sermon and Sunday School on Sept. 17 that will include the Bible story and craft. The 6th-8th grade Confirmation group will meet after worship on Sept. 17 as well.

The Healthy Wolves group will be packing backpacks on Thursday, Sept. 14 at 3 p.m.

The Women's Gathering group is hosting a bible study and lunch on Tuesday, Sept. 19 at Route 20 Bar & Grill at 9:45 a.m. If interested in attending, sign up in the church lobby or call the church office.

St. John's Lutheran Church of Pearl City is an ELCA parish and is located at 229 First St. in Pearl City. We are handicapped accessible. To contact the pastor or church please call 815-443-2215.

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, Sept. 17, 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, Sept. 20 at 8 a.m. at Garden View Family Restaurant, 101 South Schuyler Street, Lena. Everyone is 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. Craftsmen is held from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. During this time there are snacks, a brief devotional thought, and plenty of time to work on crafts individually or together. All of the events are hosted on the lower level of Salem United Church of Christ, and all are welcome to join. For more information on any of these gatherings, please contact salemwingsofjoy@yahoo.com.

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Dave and Pat Casper receive Craig Wilson Ecological Stewardship Award

Local residents Dave and Pat Casper were recently awarded the Craig Wilson Ecological Stewardship Award by the Foundation for Northwest Illinois in recognition of their vision and contributions to the Casper Bluff Land and Water Reserve in Galena, IL. "This year, the award was presented to Dave and Pat Casper for their enduring contributions to the conservation of farmland, the Native American land heritage, and the native woodland and prairie habitats of the Driftless region. Through their relationship with the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation, their generosity will have an enduring impact on the region," said Michelle DeHaven-Quast, CEO of the Foundation for Northwest Illinois.

Casper Bluff is a 118-acre preserve along the bluffs of the Mississippi River that has become a community treasure of natural open space. Now owned and stewarded by JDCF, it was owned and farmed by the Caspers for many years and Dave and Pat had a plan for it once they retired. "When it became time for us to retire our goal was to have the land cared for and the ancient Native American mounds protected. We spoke with Dr. Phil Millhouse, a local archaeologist, who suggested Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) as a potential buyer. Their goal was to protect and share the land for others and future generations and to have a place for native wildlife. It was a per-

fect fit," said Pat. Originally 80 acres, Casper Bluff has grown to its current size thanks to Dave and Pat selling it to JDCF at a bargain sale price. "When the opportunity to expand Casper Bluff with two additional parcels came up, we knew it would provide a gift not only to JDCF but to others so that they could continue sharing in the beauty of the land," Pat added.

The decision to sell their land for the benefit of people and wildlife is one Dave and Pat have never regretted. "We have made countless memories at Casper Bluff, whether mowing trails and attending workdays, volunteering time at functions such as Camp Casper, owl prowls, bluebird walks, studying the rich archaeological history, or just taking a stroll through the colorful prairies with our family. We feel incredibly blessed to have worked beside so many talented, creative, and knowledgeable individuals throughout the years. One of the greatest gifts given to us from Casper Bluff are the many wonderful friendships that we are enjoying. What a perfect combination, friends, and nature," Pat concluded. JDCF is honored to be entrusted with Dave and Pat's conservation legacy and care for this beautiful place.

Casper Bluff is located at 870 S. Pilot Knob Rd, Galena, IL and is open free of charge daily dawn to dusk unless otherwise posted. Funding for the three acquisitions of Casper Bluff have been made possible by the



THE FOUNDATION FOR NORTHWEST ILLINOIS SUBMITTED PHOTO *Rock Valley Publishing*
Friends Karen and Glen Steffenson and JDCF Executive Director Steve Barg joined Pat and Dave Casper to celebrate receiving the Craig Wilson Award.

Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, Grand Victoria Foundation, Google LLC, the McKnight Foundation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in partnership with Ducks Unlimited, and in-kind gifts from Dave and Pat Casper.

The Craig Wilson Ecological Stewardship Award recognizes an individual or organization that serves the Northwest Illinois community through innovations, education, and awareness

in the fields of agriculture, ecology, and conservation. The mission of the Foundation for Northwest Illinois is to empower non-profits to develop solutions that help northwest Illinois communities thrive. For more information, visit them online at www.fornwil.org.

For more information about JDCF, please visit the office at 126 N Main Street, Elizabeth, IL, or contact them at www.jdcf.org, or info@jdcf.org.

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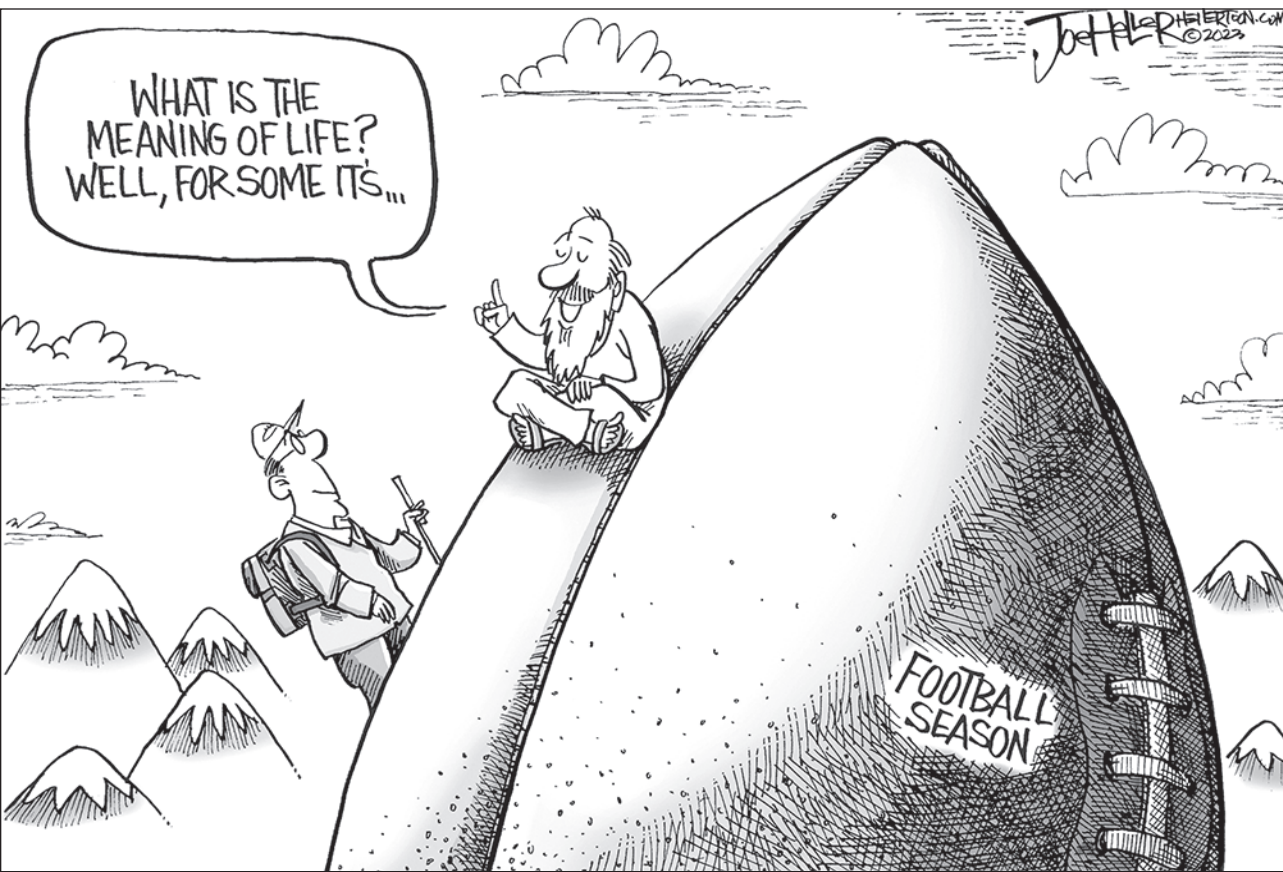
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OPINION



Weekly connection

A trip to the rodeo



By **SCOTT CERNEK**
Columnist

My wife and I took a short get away last Friday night to experience a rodeo and take in a concert. We took off Friday afternoon and drove down along the Mississippi River, crossed over at Burlington, Iowa and arrived at Fort Madison for this exciting event. I find it rather amazing that we only had to travel about two hundred miles south and west of where we live in Wisconsin, and it was as if we had arrived in the wild wild west. I had never been to a rodeo this big in my life. I remember years ago we went to one out in Cody, Wyoming when we were on vacation, but even

in such a great cowboy town that rodeo didn't compare to what we experienced last weekend in Iowa. There was big time bull riding, calf roping, barrel racing, mutton busting and even a man on his dirt bike jumping and doing stunts fifty or sixty feet off the ground.

See **TRIP**, Page 5

Slices of life

Not everyone can be a rose

Roses are often thought of as the epitome of floral perfection. The allure of their blooms is undeniable. They grow on long stems—perfect for vases and display. They are fragrant and come in a variety of colors.

Roses can stand on their own, looking glorious as a single bloom in a bud vase. Their brilliance is multiplied in big bouquets. They are a symbol for love and the favorite floral gift to give by the dozens. They even have

a whole parade named after them. Certainly, all the other flowers must envy the rose for her many, many favorable traits. Perhaps. But I hope not.

Because not every flower can be a rose. There are tulips and marigolds, lilies and peonies, iris and pansies, lilacs and hydrangea, sunflowers and dandelions. Yes, dandelions. Even dandelions.

All grow and bloom, just like the rose. Except they aren't a rose. They never will be. That is the truth of life. But here's another truth. The world needs a variety of blooms. Think how boring it would be if every flower was a rose—if every one of us was a rose.



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

We wouldn't know the fragrance of lilacs or carnations. The spring delight of tulips and daffodils. Seeds eaten from sunflowers and wine made from a flower labeled as a weed commonly known as the dandelion. Not everyone can be a rose. Because that's how it was designed to be. Because we all have important roles to fulfill. Some plants are the stars in the garden. Others are ground cover. Some are tall and provide a backdrop. Some are medicinal or herbal. Some provide food. Others fragrance. There are plants that attract pollinators and end up benefitting other plants and the world. Some grow anywhere and everywhere and are so prolific they are deemed weeds.

amount of sunlight and water and fertilizer and air flow and the correct soil conditions. Roses need to be pruned—in a specific manner—to ensure proper growth and desired long-stemmed blooms. They may be susceptible to disease. In short, roses are high maintenance. Dandelions, on the other hand, grow anywhere and everywhere. Dandelions are the opposite of high maintenance. They grow in the cracks in the sidewalk. They are prolific, and weedy. But dandelions produce pretty, yellow blooms. They can be used to make wine and tea. The entire plant (sans stem) is edible. They have medicinal uses that treat a plethora of skin, infection, liver and digestive problems. They are a great source of nectar for spring pollinators. Dandelions may not have the allure of a rose. They may not be as fancy or fanciful, but they are useful. They are easy. They are non-demanding. They are even pretty, when viewed through the right lens.

And some plants produce flowers that are simply fragrant, long-stemmed and beautiful. Roses have a certain charm—a certain status—that many other flowers don't have. But roses need a specific

See **ROSE**, Page 5

Thank You

The Pearl City Boulevard Bash Committee would like to thank our event sponsors, our volunteers, and all of those who attended this year's event. Because of your help and generosity a total of \$23,200 was presented to our 7 charitable causes (Stephenson Co. Ag in the Classroom, Pearl City Friday Pride Day Fund, Pearl City Schools Bash Book Program, Pearl City Food Pantry, Pearl City Daucare Ag Fieldtrips, Pearl City Teachers Classroom Supplies, Pearl City Schools Book Vending Machine.)

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Homicide investigation

On Sept. 3, at approximately 12:20 a.m., Freeport Police Department officers responded to the 300 block of E. Pleasant Street in reference to reports of multiple gun shots fired. Upon investigating, officers discovered four victims who sustained gunshot wounds.

The victims who sustained non-life-threatening injuries were two males aged 19, and one male aged 23, all of Freeport. A fourth male, aged 22 of Freeport, later

died from his injuries at a Rockford-area hospital. This victim's name is not yet being released.

This incident is being investigated by the Freeport Police Department. Anyone who has information is asked to contact the Freeport Police Department at 815-235-8222 or submit an anonymous tip through the Stateline Area Crime Stoppers at 866-TIPSNOW or through texting at Tip411.

News briefs

Youth Mental Health First Aid

SSM Health Monroe in partnership with Barbershop Transformation and Wellness Center is hosting a Youth Mental Health First Aid certification at the Freeport Public Library on Oct. 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. This course required 2.5 hours of prework. SSM Health will be covering the cost for participants. If interested in the training, please email pamwerntz@gmail.com or call 815-821-4653.

The McConnell American Legion Auxiliary

The McConnell American Legion Auxiliary's regular meeting will be held on Sept. 20, at the legion. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. with social time beginning at 6 p.m. Anyone interested in joining the Auxiliary is welcome to attend.

Making Stars for Veterans

The McConnell American Legion Auxiliary members will also be making stars for area Veterans on Sept. 19, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at the le-

gion. Anyone wanting to help should bring scissors and paper glue.

Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension

The September meeting of the Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension will be held Thursday, Sept. 21, at 1 p.m. at the Pearl City Library. The lesson on "Check it Out-Libraries" will be given by Pennie Miller-the librarian at the Pearl City Library. Jo Wenzel will bring a raffle item. Anyone interested in learning what is available at the library is invited to join us.

Stephenson County HCE is celebrating its 100th anniversary with an open house on Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Farm Bureau Office from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. All current and former members are invited to attend. Please enter through the west door near Walnut Street.

Stockton Police K9 Golf Outing

A golf outing fundraiser will be held on Sept. 24 at Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa. The cost is \$125 per person

or \$500 per foursome. Lunch is provided, prizes will be awarded, and it will include a 50/50 raffle in addition to course games. Registration is at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. Register with Kay Offenheiser at koffenheiser@eagleridge.com or call 815-776-5228.

Concerned Women for America

The Concerned Women for America (CWA), Stockton Group, will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 2 p.m. at Calvary Church in Stockton. The CWA is a group of concerned Christian women who meet to be informed, to pray and act. Any interested woman is welcome to join us. Please contact Carol Rowe at 815-947-2122 or Pam Hess at 815-291-6241 with questions or if in need of a ride.

A Prayer Drive is also held on the first Monday of each month starting at 2 p.m. in Stockton. Those interested meet at the village parking lot by the ambulance building on Queen Street and carpool around town, covering the town in roughly 60 minutes.

• Trip (Continued from page 4)

The whole get away ensued because something had come up and I was unable to take my wife to the Wisconsin State Fair in August to see the band Alabama. We have always loved the music of this group from way back in the 80's and 90's when they were at their peak. Since we missed their concert at the state fair, my wife started looking for a place where we could go and see them. She found that they were going to be in Fort Madison on September 8th at the rodeo and so she asked me what I thought about making the trip. I told her that would be fine as I love a good adventure. I had no idea we were going to have such a good time at the rodeo.

First, I love how these rodeos open up the festivities with a hearty prayer to God that He would watch over our country, protect us from those who would destroy our Judeo/Christian heritage, and preserve this nation. The man who prays closes his prayer by asking all these things in the powerful and mighty name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen. There were probably some eight to ten thousand people there and every one of them, it seemed, had removed their hats and bowed their heads. It was unbelievable. It reminded me of the scripture in the New Testament book of Philippians 2:10-11 that reads, that at the name of Jesus every knee should

bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

When the prayer was completed just above our heads was a man landing in the arena with his red, white, and blue parachute holding a great big flag of the United States of America. Out in the arena six strong young men were there to make sure that flag didn't touch the

ground. The stadium lifted up their heads and cheered boisterously for Old Glory. Then the action began. By the time the rodeo was over, and the concert began, we had already experienced a great night of patriotic celebration and wonderful fun. It did our hearts good to know that there are still people who understand what it means to love our country and appreciate the hard work of the ranchers and farmers out there. Until next week, God bless!

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.

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The Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing returns for another year

Daily cash prizes from \$50-\$250 will be awarded from Oct. 1, 2023, through Sept. 30, 2024, with a total payout over \$21,000. A ticket must be purchased to be eligible for these daily cash prizes. A single ticket is available for a \$25 donation or with a \$100 donation you receive a book of five tickets. Tickets can win multiple times as all tickets remain in the drawing each day for the entire year, no matter how often the ticket is drawn.

During the Oct. 1, 2023,

through Sep. 30, 2024, calendar year there are 366 days. Within this time frame a \$250 payout is awarded on five days: Oct. 1, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, Easter Sunday, and Independence Day. A \$150 payout is awarded for 23 days: Columbus Day, Halloween, Veterans Day, Christmas Eve Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day, Leap Day, St. Patrick's Day, March

Madness (March 19), April Fools' Day, Tax Day (April 15), Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Father's Day, Juneteenth, Back-to-School Day (August 19), Labor Day and Patriot Day (9/11). A \$50 payout is awarded for the remaining 338 days.

Prize winnings will be mailed to winners on the 15th and last day of each month. A complete list of winners is posted online twice monthly at: www.facebook.com/northwestillinoisdailydrawing.

• Rose

(Continued from page 4)

As a bonus, once it goes to seed, the dandelion is a source of wishes fulfilled.

Not everyone can be a rose.

Some of us are born daisies, dahlias, delphiniums, daffodils, dianthus and even dandelions. And, while perhaps not as flashy as a rose, dandelions grow where roses never could. Dandelions make tea and wine. They are prolific in ways a rose could never hope to be. Dandelions and simple and upfront. They are unassuming and humble. They give more than they take.

Not everyone can be a rose.

I, for one, am happy to be a dandelion. Wish on that, please do.

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.

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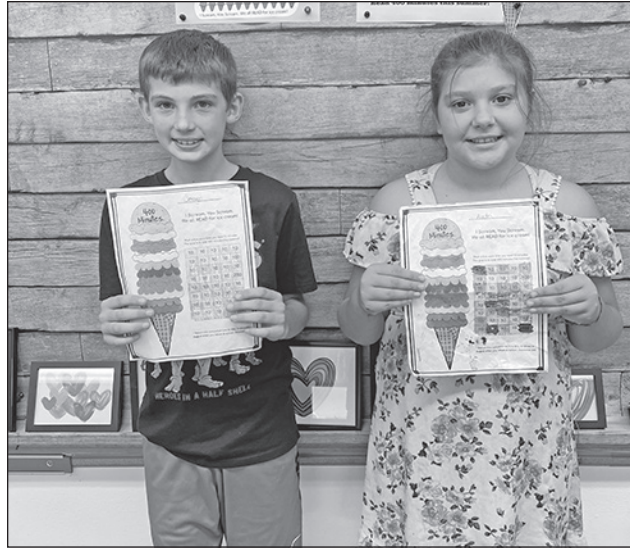
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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pearl City eighth graders practice making soil ribbons while learning about soil composition. Pictured are Maliani Munoz and Kylee Ihus with a sample of soil from their yard.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

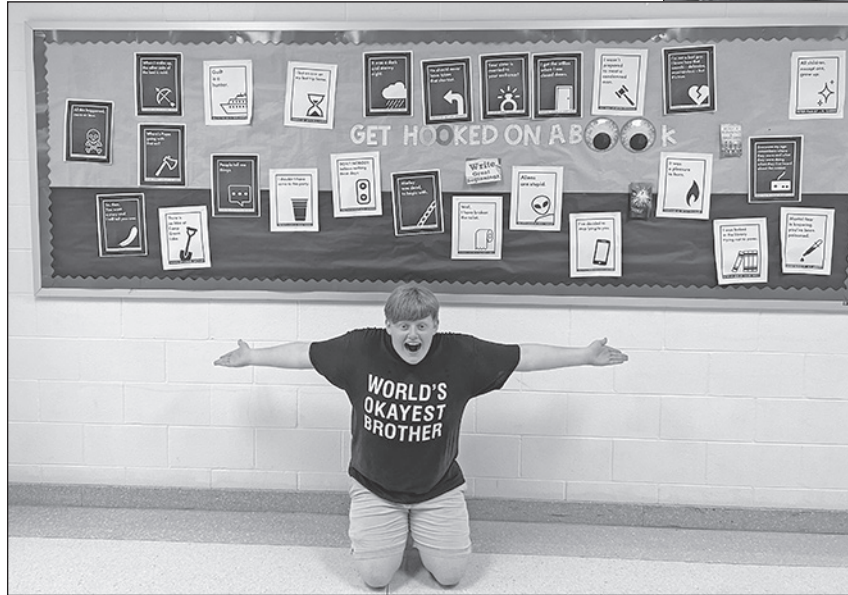
I scream, you scream, we all READ for ice cream! Jaxsyn Hayes and Audrianna Peterson showcase their awards for reading over 400 minutes this summer.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Back to school!

Pearl City fourth graders learn how to make batteries out of coins, paper, and washers. They used the batteries to power an LED. Priscilla Hernandez and Blair Priscilla are lighting up the world with their creations.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pearl City eighth grader, Nathan Buss, helps to create a new bulletin board for the Junior High Hallway.

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• Volunteer

(Continued from front page)

club today, along with being the Stephenson County Extension Office Support Assistant. Miller and her husband John have raised 3 children in the 4-H program and now enjoy watching their grandchildren participate in the Davis Rockets 4-H Club events and Stephenson County 4-H shows.

"Julie loves to share her knowledge of animal science in both dairy and goats with youth along with her passion for the outdoors and our natural resources," says Brenda Heimann, Stephenson County Program Coordinator. "In the office, Julie is always willing to help get materials ready for programs, events, and especially the 4-H shows. Julie is always willing to help wherever she is needed and her attention to detail is remarkable!"

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Week one goes to plan for Orangeville Broncos

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Orangeville Broncos have been looking to return to their winning ways on the football field. After last year's 2-8 finish, the Broncos were eager to get back out there and prove themselves on the gridiron in 2023. This year Orangeville is doing so under new head coach, Scott Jones. Ahead of the season, Jones preached his mentality of building the team's confidence. "First off, we have to make sure we can convince the team and the players that they can win. A lot of them were hanging their heads from last season. So, we have to build that up first. That's kind of the main focal point. These kids have to know they can win. We can coach all we want, but unless they want to do it, they are not going to do it," Jones explained.

Jones will have to continue building the team up before he gets them where he wants them to be. "This is not my team. This team belongs to the players, and I'm just here to help guide them. I run a fairly tight ship, I like a little self-leadership, and their hearts need a little uplifting from last year," Jones stated.

At 44 years old, Jones is hoping the team can return to the physical ways of the old days stating, "When I was in high school, I heard about Orangeville's 'tough football.' I was about 50 miles away, so the reputation for Orangeville hard-nose football precedes itself from miles away. So, I just want to make sure we bring that back."

It was all just talk for Jones and the Broncos ahead of the 2023 season, but they finally got a shot to put that on display in their week one matchup last Saturday. On Aug. 26 the Broncos kicked off their season with a home opener against Ash-

ton-Franklin Center. To start the game, the Broncos found themselves trailing as AFC put up the only points in the first quarter. A failed conversion left the Broncos trailing by six, however.

Although the Broncos didn't put up any points in the first quarter, it didn't take them long to get going in the second. Blake Folgate was the team's leading rusher last year, and he punched in the first points of 2023 with a three-yard plunge. A successful two-point conversion gave Orangeville a two-point lead, and they didn't look back.

Later, Cody Wirth broke free on a 20-yard touchdown run, which helped the Broncos go up by 10 points. Before the end of the first half, Folgate ran in another score and Wirth caught a six-yard passing touchdown from Ben Briggs. After trailing to end the first, Orangeville took a 30-6 lead into the second half.

In the second half, the Broncos went to work on the clock. Folgate tallied another 25-yard rushing touchdown, while Miklo Webb caught a 42-yard passing touchdown from Wirth.

With the game under control, the Broncos were able to run down the clock on a 46-12 victory in week one. It was just the performance Jones and the Broncos hoped to see. Orangeville got physical with nearly 200 rushing yards. They put up another 97 yards through the air.

Folgate led the team in rushing with 135 yards and three scores on the ground. Wirth put up another 35 rushing yards to go with his 97 passing yards and two scores through the air. All in all, Wirth had three total scores in the game.

On Friday, Sept. 8 the Broncos have a classic matchup as they travel to face off with the River Ridge Wildcats.

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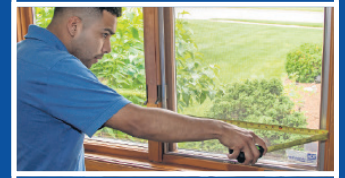
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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JO DAVIESS COUNTY - GALENA, ILLINOIS GREENSTATE CREDIT UNIONS

Plaintiff, -v.- KAREN DICK A/K/A KAREN L. DICK et al Defendant

2023 FC 5

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 10, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:30 PM on October 10, 2023, at the office of Vincent Roth Toepfer & Leinen PC, 11406 U.S. Route 20 W, Galena, IL, 61036, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION TWELVE (12) IN TOWNSHIP TWENTY-SEVEN (27) NORTH, RANGE FOUR (4) EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT WHICH IS THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE EASTLINE OF SIMMONS STREET WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF EAST HIGH STREET, IN THE VILLAGE OF STOCKTON, JO DAVIESS COUNTY, IL, AS EXTENDED EASTERLY; THENCE SOUTHERLY ON THE SAID EAST LINE OF SIMMONS STREET, 130.67 FEET; THENCE EAST PERPENDICULAR TO THE SAID EAST LINE OF SIMMONS STREET, 159.85 FEET; THENCE NORTHERLY PARALLEL WITH THE SAID EAST LINE OF SIMMONS STREET, 124.33 FEET TO THE POINT OF INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF EAST HIGH STREET AS EXTENDED EASTERLY; THENCE WESTERLY ON THE SAID EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH LINE OF EAST HIGH STREET, 160 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; SITUATED IN THE VILLAGE OF STOCKTON, JO DAVIESS COUNTY, IL.

Commonly known as 237 N. SIMMONS ST, STOCKTON, IL 61085 Property Index No. 43-17-002-159-03

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and 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.

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

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

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.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-23-02362 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002

Case Number: 2023 FC 5 TJSC#: 43-3494

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Case # 2023 FC 5 I3228921

(Published in The Scoop Today Sept. 13, 20 & 27, 2023) 443759

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETINGS OF POLICYHOLDERS TO VOTE ON PROPOSED MERGER

TO THE POLICYHOLDERS OF WEST POINT MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY AND FRONTIER-MT CARROLL MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

Notice is hereby given that at a special meeting

of the Board of Directors of **West Point Mutual Insurance Company** ("West Point Mutual") held on August 16, 2023, and at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of **Frontier-Mt Carroll Mutual Insurance Company** ("Frontier-Mt Carroll Mutual") held on August 2, 2023, it was determined by each said Board that a merger of West Point Mutual, an Illinois farm mutual insurance company of Lena, Illinois, and Frontier-Mt Carroll Mutual, an Illinois domestic mutual insurance company of Mt Carroll, Illinois, is desirable, and the said Boards further determined to submit to a vote of policyholders of each company the question of such merger in accordance with the terms approved and recommended by the Boards, the Board of West Point Mutual by resolution authorizing the President to call a special meeting of the policyholders of the company which will be held on the 23rd day of October, 2023, at the hour of 7:00 p.m. at West Point Mutual's office, 240 W. Main Street, Lena, Illinois, and the Board of Frontier-Mt Carroll Mutual authorizing the President to call a special meeting of the policyholders of the company which will be held on the 23rd day of October, 2023, at the hour of 2:00 p.m. at 312 N. Main Street, Mt Carroll, Illinois, to consider and vote on the proposed terms of merger approved and recommended by the Boards as aforesaid and further to consider and act on any and all matters that may be brought before said meetings.

THEREFORE, pursuant to such actions and orders, notice is hereby given of such special meetings of policyholders to be held at the times and places aforesaid to consider and vote on the question of merger of said companies and the terms thereof. A Summary of the Proposed Agreement and Plan of Merger is as follows:

Under the terms of the proposed Agreement and Plan of Merger between West Point Mutual Insurance Company and Frontier-Mt Carroll Mutual Insurance Company, the former company will merge with and into the

latter company, which shall be the surviving company, the Agreement and Plan of Merger further providing for transfer by the former company to the latter company and acceptance by the latter company of all policies and contracts of insurance issued by the former and all assets and books and records and contracts of the former, for the assumption by the latter of all liabilities of the former, for the protection of rights of creditors and policyholders by the inclusion of a provision that such rights shall not be impaired by such merger, for the retention by any policyholder of the former company of rights under Section 168 of the Illinois Insurance Code, for the effectiveness of the Agreement only after approval thereof by the Board of Directors of each company, said approval having been given by the Board of Directors of West Point County Mutual Insurance Company at a special meeting of the Board of Directors held August 16, 2023, and by the Board of Directors of Frontier-Mt Carroll Illinois Mutual Insurance Company at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on August 2, 2023, and only after the approval of the policyholders of the former company and the policyholders of the latter company and the Director of Insurance of the State of Illinois, and for such other provisions as are appropriate to the effectuation of said merger.

Said vote on the merger of said companies and the terms thereof may, at the election of any policyholder not represented in person at the aforesaid special meetings of policyholders, be effected by proxy, in due form submitted by said policyholder and subject to proof of authenticity by the company.

Dated this 1st day of September, 2023.

West Point Mutual Insurance Company
By: /s/ Alan Wenzel,
President

Frontier-Mt Carroll Mutual Insurance Company
By: /s/Brian Woessner,

President (Published in The Shopper's Guide Sept. 6, 13 & 20, 2023) 443436

Estate Notice

Notice is given to creditors of the death of: Helen M. Deckler 3359 W. Stephenson St. Rd. Freeport, IL 61032

Claims against the Estate must be filed in the office of the clerk of the court at Stephenson County Courthouse, Freeport, IL. before December 22, 2023. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred.

Dated: August 25, 2023 Mark G. Deckler - Executor

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Aug. 30 and Sept. 6 & 13, 2023) 443078

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS NORTONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC; Plaintiff,

vs. TODD J. HEILMAN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,

22 FC 29

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, October 18, 2023, at the hour of 2:00 p.m. in the office of Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, SITUATED IN THE CITY OF FREEPORT, STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT A POINT 80 FEET WEST OF THE NORTH-

FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Hasn't the cool weather been wonderful? I know we hope daily for rain, but it is a whole lot easier to take milder temperatures. I broke down and bought some mums. Now I have to keep them hydrated because they have lots of buds on them. I roasted my first acorn squash, and boy was it tasty. This week we continue to feature some fall recipes. Have a good week cooking!

Cucumber Coleslaw

The name for this salad is misleading because it contains lettuce; the cucumbers are julienned to look like coleslaw. The use of sparkling wine instead of vinegar is also different. Try this unusual salad and use some of those cucumbers that are plentiful this time of year. You can substitute jalapeño peppers for the serrano pepper if you can't find them or if you have a bumper crop of jalapeños this year.

Dressing:

- 1/3 C. olive oil
 - 1/4 C. sparkling or dry white wine
 - 1 T. minced fresh basil
 - 1 T. lime juice
 - 1 Serrano pepper, seeded and minced
 - 1 1/2 t. minced fresh mint
 - 1 1/2 t. molasses
 - 1 t. sugar
 - 1 garlic clove, minced
 - 3/4 t. salt
 - 2/3 t. grated lime zest
 - 1/2 t. pepper
- Coleslaw:
- 3 cucumbers, julienned
 - 2 C. fresh Arugula or baby spinach, coarsely chopped
 - 1 C. snow peas, cut into 1/2 inch pieces
 - 1/2 C. almonds, toasted
 - 1 C. dried cranberries

In a small bowl, combine the dressing ingredients. In a large bowl, combine the cucumbers, arugula, peas, almonds, and cranberries. Just before serving, pour dressing over salad and toss to coat.

Watermelon Tomato Salad

- Watermelons and tomatoes are plentiful this time of year. This recipe incorporates both in a refreshing salad.
- 4 tomatoes
 - 1 seedless cucumber
 - 2 T. olive oil
 - 1 T. red wine vinegar
 - 1/4 t. salt
 - 6 C. seedless watermelon
 - 1/3 C. sliced red onion
 - 1/2 C. crumbled feta, about 2 oz.
 - 1/3 C. fresh basil leaves

Halve the tomatoes; cut into 3/4 inch wedges. Slice cucumber into half-moons. In bowl, whisk oil, vinegar, and salt. Add watermelon, onion, tomatoes, feta, and cucumber. Toss until combined. Transfer to a serving bowl. Top with feta and basil. Variation: Omit watermelon, cucumber, and onion. Sub in cantaloupe for watermelon and mozzarella balls for feta. Top with chopped bacon and basil. Add dressing.

Inside-Out Stuffed Peppers

For those who aren't into traditional stuffed peppers, this recipe might help you like ground beef, peppers, and rice. It makes a casserole that can be served any time.

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 C. chopped onion
- 1 can (14 1/2 oz.) stewed tomatoes, chopped
- 1 large green pepper, chopped
- 1/2 C. uncooked long grain rice
- 1/2 C. water
- 2 t. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 t. salt
- 1/4 t. pepper
- 1 C. shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 350. In a large skillet, cook beef over medium heat until no longer pink; drain. Transfer to a greased 2 qt. casserole; add the rest of the ingredients except cheese. Cover and bake until rice is tender, about 1 hour. Uncover and sprinkle with cheese; bake for 5 minutes or until cheese is

melted. Let stand for 5 minutes before serving.

Chicken Bacon Ranch Bubble Up Bake

If you are looking for an easy and quick weeknight dinner, this chicken dish will be just the ticket for something the whole family will like.

- 1 1/2 lb. boneless skinless chicken cut into cubes
- 8 oz. cooked bacon, crumbled
- 1 1/4 C. ranch dressing
- Pepper to taste
- 1 can (16.3 oz.) Grands Biscuits
- 1 C. shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 350. In a 10 or 12-inch skillet cook cubed chicken breasts until browned and no longer pink in center. In an ungreased 9 x 13 baking dish, place cooked chicken, crumbled bacon, and ranch dressing. Stir until chicken and bacon are evenly coated with dressing. Sprinkle with pepper to taste. Separate dough into 8 biscuits. Cut each biscuit into 8 pieces. Evenly spread biscuit pieces over chicken mixture in dish. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until biscuit pieces are puffed and no longer doughy. Sprinkle shredded cheese over the top; bake 5 minutes longer or until cheese is melted. Cut into squares to serve.

Apple Cinnamon Bread

This bread is moist and delicious. It uses applesauce to help sweeten the bread. Use whatever nuts you like to cook

with. This bread will freeze well also.

- 3 C. flour
- 1 1/2 C. sugar
- 1 t. baking powder
- 1 t. salt
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1 t. cinnamon
- 2 eggs, room temperature
- 1/2 C. unsweetened applesauce
- 1/3 C. canola oil
- 1 t. vanilla
- 3 C. chopped peeled tart apples

Topping

- 1/2 C. flour
- 1/2 C. sugar
- 2 T. chopped nuts
- 1/3 C. cold butter

Preheat the oven to 350. In a large bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, baking soda and cinnamon. Set aside. In a large bowl, whisk eggs, applesauce, oil, and vanilla. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened. Fold in apples. Transfer to 2 greased 8 x 4-inch loaf pans. Topping: Combine flour, sugar, and nuts. Add butter until crumbly. Sprinkle over batter. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 45 to 55 minutes. Cool 10 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks.

Berry Cake Bars

You will enjoy the many berries these bars use. You can use strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, or blackberries. You still need to cut up the strawberries if you use them. Enjoy this great and easy dessert.

- 1 1/4 C. flour
- 1 t. baking powder
- 1/8 t. salt
- 1/2 C. butter, softened
- 1/2 C. sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 t. grated lemon zest
- 1/2 C. milk
- 1 1/2 C. assorted berries
- 6 oz. cream cheese, room temperature
- 3/4 C. powdered sugar
- 1 1/2 C. heavy cream

Preheat oven to 350. Line a 9 x 13 pan with foil; grease foil. In bowl, mix flour, baking powder and salt. On medium in mixer bowl, beat butter and sugar until fluffy. Beat in eggs and zest. On low, alternately beat in flour mixture and milk; fold in 1 1/2 C. berries. Spread in pan. Bake until set, 15 to 20 minutes. Cool cake. On medium, beat cream cheese and powdered sugar. On low gradually beat in cream. Increase speed to medium high; beat until stiff. Spread over cake. Top with additional berries.

Final Thoughts

Fall Festival is over and Fall is officially (at least in Lena) on its way. Football games are coming up fast and furious and Homecomings will begin popping up all over the place. Congratulations to Pastor Rick Bader on being our Grand Marshall this year. He retires after many years of service to his church, St. John's Lutheran, and his service to our Lena community. The parade was wonderful, and the weather wasn't beastly hot. I didn't win anything, but my

money went to a good cause. I know lots of kids had fun on the Main Street. There were lots of opportunities for food and fun. Thank you to the Lions and all the other groups who help make our celebration possible. We are fortunate to live in an area where our communities support each other. Many good things happen as a result of these small-town celebrations!

See KITCHEN, Page 11

LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from previous page
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Legel aces par three

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Stockton golf team has been on a tear through the 2023 season. Even at the Junior Varsity level, a Stockton golfer has done something most golfers can only dream of. The River Ridge-Scales Mound team has a couple of excellent golfers who have been putting on a show as well. All in all, things are heating up in the local golf game.

All the way back on Aug. 29, the RR-SM golfers put on an impressive display as they faced off with Aquin. Despite Aquin having just three golfers individually, RR-SM beat them on every level. Colton Beruchi led Aquin with a 49, while Brant Carlson shot a 56 and Anthony Garcia hit a 59. The RR-SM golfers were led by Thomas Herear who was fantastic as he shot a 36. Camden Flack came in just three strokes behind him with a 39. George Winter shot a 42, while Isaac Rife hit a 46, Joseph Winter hit a 47, and Ty Spahn finished with a 56. If you took just the top three scores, RR-SM beat Aquin 117-164.

On Thursday, Aug. 31 RR-SM were back on their home course. This time, the Wildcats met up with a formidable opponent in Fulton. Although the RR-SM golfers remained consistent, they fell just short of beating Fulton. Hereau and Fleck both shot a 41 on the day. George finished right behind them with a 40, while Sam Rife shot a 42 and Joseph shot a 44. Isaac finished the day with a 50 on his scorecard. Even with RR-SM's top performers, they still lost a close one by a score of 161-164.

Over in Stockton, the Blackhawks recently improved to 8-2 overall when they played host to the Polo Marcos on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Bennett Graves blew his competition away as he finished as the medalist with a 40 on his final scorecard. Blake Zink was the runner-up with a 43 and Jared Dvorak shot a 44. Javier Montalvo hit a 53 for Stockton. Polo's top golfer, Aiden Messer, shot a 51, while Jackson Willis hit a 53. Ultimately, Stockton beat Polo by a score of 180-235.

While Stockton's varsity team continues to find success, it was junior varsity golfer, Lincoln Legel who stole the show on Sept. 5. Legel, a first-year golfer, drained a hole in one on a 134-yard par three. Legel conquered the fifteenth hole at Woodbine Bend, doing something some most golfers could only wish to accomplish.

The River Ridge-Scales Mound Lady Golfers put on

an impressive outing as they dominated the competition at Sandburr Run on Sept. 5. Rory Dissler led the way as the outing's medalist, shooting a 49. Sara Winter was right behind her with a 50, which was good enough to be the runner-up. Brooke Bradbury shot a 53, while Millie

Boden hit a 55, and Ally Karberg hit a 77.

Altogether, the RR-SM ladies combined for a score of 207, which cleared their competition by a longshot. West Carroll finished with a score of 259, while Dakota's lack of golfers left them with a final score of 653.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Lincoln Legel (right) poses with Sam Stoddard, owner and general manager (left) at Woodbine Bend, after Legel's Hole in One on the fifteenth hole Par 3.

•Kitchen (Continued from page 9)

I mentioned last week that we continue to see fruits and vegetables of the season coming in as bumper crops. Zucchini and summer squash are still producing by the bushel baskets. Fall squash

and apples are beginning to appear. There are good eats out there, and we better enjoy them while we can. Send any recipes for the great fruits and vegetables of the season. If you have some recipes you

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.



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REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JO DAVIESS COUNTY - GALENA, ILLINOIS GREENSTATE CREDIT UNIONS Plaintiff, -v.- KAREN DICK A/K/A KAREN L. DICK et al Defendant

2023 FC 5

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 10, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:30 PM on October 10, 2023, at the office of Vincent Roth Toepfer & Leinen PC, 11406 U.S. Route 20 W, Galena, IL, 61036, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 237 N. SIMMONS ST, STOCKTON, IL 61085

Property Index No. 43-17-002-159-03

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and 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.

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

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

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For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

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E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-23-02362 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Case Number: 2023 FC 5 TJSC#: 43-3494

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Case # 2023 FC 5

I3228921

(Published in The Scoop Today Sept. 13, 20 & 27, 2023) 443761

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC; Plaintiff, vs.

TODD J. HEILMAN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,

22 FC 29

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, October 18, 2023, at the hour of 2:00 p.m. in the office of Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.I.N. 18-19-06-404-024. Commonly known as 7 West South Street, Freeport, IL 61032.

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 Law Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455.

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Lady Panthers place fifth at Oregon Tournament

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Lena-Winslow Panthers faced off with some tough competition when they participated in the Oregon Volleyball Tournament last weekend. The Panthers found themselves in a tough spot when they began pool play in the Oregon Tournament. While the Panthers are widely regarded as one of the more competitive teams in all of Illinois 1A volleyball, they were scheduled to square off with Genoa Kingston, the defending 2A State Champs, to begin pool play.

Drawing such a tough opponent was both an opportunity and a disadvantage for the Panthers. While they got the chance to see how they stack up against the former 2A champs, it also had an impact on which bracket they wound up being placed in.

Ultimately, the Panthers went on to lose their opening match against Genoa Kingston 0-2. The Panthers lost both sets by scores of 25-13 and 25-18. Despite the loss to open the tournament, Le-Win went on to go undefeated the rest of the way.

The Panthers closed out pool play with matchups against West Carroll and Forreston. Le-Win bounced back in a big way, beating West Carroll 25-8 and 25-17. Kaidynce Lynch, Molly Amendt, and Mia Diffenderfer led the way as they combined for 21 kills in the matchup.

Le-Win kept it rolling in their third and final match of pool play. The Panthers picked up another sweep, beating Forreston 25-19 and 25-16. Amendt was dominant around the net, putting up 12 kills in the match. Grace Groezinger was next up with six kills and a block.

At the end of pool play, Le-Win held a 2-1 record in the tournament which placed them in the silver bracket. Le-Win went the rest of the way as if they had a point to prove.

Bracket play began with a matchup against the Dakota Indians. Once again, Amendt was too much to handle for

the Panthers' opponents. The senior put up 10 kills as the Panthers beat the Indians 25-15 and 25-12. Alyssa Daughenbaugh kept giving Amendt chances and it paid off as she racked up 18 assists in the matchup. Daughenbaugh also led the way defensively with 11 digs. Both Rachael Setterstrom and Isabelle Paulsen had seven digs as well.

At this point, the Panthers had won three consecutive games and were preparing for another tough matchup with the Orangeville Broncos. The Broncos went on a similar path, dropping one of their pool play games and taking a 2-1 record into bracket play.

Le-Win held all the momentum in the first set as they went on to win 25-11. The Broncos are a scrappy team, however, and they bounced back in the second set. While the Panthers were close to another sweep, Orangeville managed to come out on top of set two with a 25-23 victory. Le-Win shut things down in the third and final set, winning 15-8.

Amendt put up double digit kills again as she led the team with 10. Lynch followed up with seven kills, and Groezinger had five. Amendt also



The Lena-Winslow Volleyball team recently placed fifth in the Oregon Volleyball Tournament and have a record of 8-1 to begin the season.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

had two blocks on the defensive side.

Genoa Kingston, the only team Le-Win lost to, went on to go undefeated, winning the tournament. Despite going 4-1 through the weekend and only losing to the champs, the Panthers finished in fifth

place. Amendt was named to the All-Tournament Team for her play during the weekend.

Following the tournament, Le-Win went on to face off with Dakota once again. Only this time it was a regular season matchup in Lena. The Panthers picked up another

sweep, winning by scores of 25-8 and 25-22. Paulsen had seven digs and three aces in the victory. Maddy Chiles, Setterstrom, and Daughenbaugh each had four digs, as well. The victory improved Le-Win's record to 8-1 on the year.



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