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VOL. 89 • NO. 48

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22, 2023



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Warren's Reese Raisbeck signs letter of intent

On Monday, Nov. 13, 2023, at 7 p.m. in the Warren Ambulance Building (103 W. Main Street, Warren) Reese Raisbeck, a senior at Warren High School, signed a letter of intent to play college volleyball. After receiving offers from various colleges, Raisbeck made her decision official and will be joining the Rockford Regents during their 2024 volleyball season. Rockford University is an NCAA Division III institution.

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Aging farmers have less incentive to invest in cattle expansion

By Tammie Sloup
FARMWEEK

The average age of a farmer and the future of the cattle industry go hand-in-hand.

As contraction of the U.S. cattle herd continues, farmers nearing retirement age are faced with deciding whether to expand again, invest more into infrastructure and whether someone is in line for succession who is willing to take on the responsibility.

Prices might be good now, but what happens if demand decreases?

"If I have infrastructure that's aging, and I have to take on additional debt at these high interest rate levels, does it really make sense as a business decision to expand again?" asked American Farm Bureau Federation Economist Bernt Nelson. "There aren't a ton of incentives right now to overcome these obstacles, ...and there are a lot of individuals considering liquidating or getting out."

The average age of a farmer is 57, which puts many farmers in a difficult position of deciding whether to take on more debt.

The rebuilding timeline for the cattle inventory will largely depend on incentives to farmers and sustained consumer demand through the macro economy as a whole, Nelson said during the Agricultural Bankers Conference in Oklahoma City, adding that likely won't be until the end of 2024 into 2025.

"We're still putting a lot of

heifers through our marketing supply chain," he said. "And as that continues to occur at around the 40 percent level, we're going to see contraction continue."

The Ag Department pegged the inventory of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market as of Oct. 1 at 11.6 million head, up nearly 1 percent from last year. Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.21 million head, 6 percent above a year ago, according to the bearish cattle on feed report released Oct. 20.

Cattle prices are up in 2023, but high market volatility and drought continue to push cattle farmers toward herd liquidation.

"If we have a situation that arises where we have to make an investment to expand again, does this make sense as a business decision?" Nelson asked. "Do we have somebody in the next generation that wants to come back to take over the farm?"

Nelson's presentation focused on the U.S. protein outlook, noting demand and the state of the economy are two giant question marks that play a huge role in the beef, pork and poultry markets.

Production issues persist, and disease issues are floating around, including concerns of African Swine Fever and avian influenza, which made a resurgence in the last month. Nearly 1 million chickens have been culled at a Minnesota egg operation during the

current bird flu outbreak.

"And this has all led to a lot of market volatility," Nelson said.

If consumer spending begins to shift away from beef and toward less expensive substitutes such as chicken or pork, demand for beef will fall, putting downward pressure on cattle prices and making profitability challenging for farmers, Nelson wrote in a recent Market Intel.

Feed

Feed is one of the largest livestock expenses, and with corn prices under \$5 for the first time in about three years, the margin for profitability has improved.

But drought conditions persist, and hay stocks have been beaten up with huge pockets of pastureland dried up.

The top five beef-producing states have experienced severe drought in 2022 and 2023, pushing many cattle farmers to liquidate cattle, which continues to hold the cattle industry in the contraction phase of the cattle cycle.

Pork/hog supply

ASF remains a worry, with many believing it's inevitable the disease will reach the U.S.

"The projection is if that would hit U.S. soil, we would see a 50 percent drop in price of pork overnight," Nelson said. "So that concern is still very real on some producers' minds. And while I don't think the likelihood of that is very strong, it's still there. It's

popping back up in China."

According to Iowa State University, estimated returns from farrow to finish demonstrate the difficulty of profitability in the pork industry throughout the year. The average loss per head for eight consecutive months was \$18-\$25.

"That's a big deal. That can eat into a lot of working capital quickly," Nelson said.

"Looking at futures, we saw things come down quite a bit. There's been a lot of volatility and a lot of confusion in hog futures," Nelson said. "They haven't really chosen a direction. And as we get closer to Jan. 1, I think we'll start to see some of that come alive."

The overall hog population is looking to decline in the next year. The hogs and pigs inventory sits a tad higher than last year, and up 2 percent from June at 74.3 million, according to the USDA's latest quarterly hogs and pigs report. Most of that came from record pigs per litter.

"The nice thing about the hog market is they can expand a little bit faster than the cattle sector," Nelson said. "But we're still going to be looking at a lot of profitability issues going into next year."

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.

Obituaries

TIMOTHY COSTELLO

Timothy James Costello, 55, passed away on Nov. 3, 2023. He was born on April 5, 1968, to James and Waynette (Holland) Costello. Tim received his Associate's Degree from Highland Community College and his Bachelor's Degree from Siena Heights University in Michigan.

He lived in Little Rock, Arkansas the past 12 years. He served as a Deacon at the Little Rock Compassion Center and worked at the thrift store for many years. Tim was most recently employed at the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration. He was loved by all who knew him. He was a hard worker. He enjoyed being in nature and climbing Pinnacle Mountain. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and co-workers.

Tim is survived by his siblings John (Anita) Costello, Gary (Julia) Costello, Cynthia (John) Beasley, and Kathy (Blaine) Streckwald. Nieces Sara Costello Patta, Jennifer (Josh Soto) Bookman, nephew Kyle Bookman, great niece Emma Segalla, and



great nephew Easton Soto. He is also survived by Uncle Haldean Holland, Aunt Mae-Linda Bolen, and many

cousins. Tim was preceded in death by his parents and nephew Patrick Costello.

The Family wishes to thank the Little Rock Compassion Center, the Morgan Nick Foundation, the Arkansas Alliance of Bloodhound Search Specialists, and the Oklahoma Quapaw Tribe Nation K9 Search Team for their compassionate assistance. The family asks that memorial donations be given to the above-listed organizations in memory of Tim.

Visitation was held on Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena. A memorial service followed the visitation. Cremation Rites have been accorded. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

WENDY WILLIAMS

Wendy Lynn Williams, age 55, passed away on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023. She was born on June 18, 1968, to Gordon and Connie (Schneider) Williams. Wendy was a 1986 Pearl City High School graduate where she was captain of the Pom Pom Squad and played many sports. After graduating from Rockford Business School, she worked at several State Farm Claims Offices for many years. Later, she started her own business "Blown Away Art and Framing Destination". She recently worked at Juniors Place where she continued to add to her growing circle of friends.

She married William Dameier in 1998 and together they had three beautiful children. She was a stay-at-home Mom, supporting her children as they grew up throughout the years. She enjoyed roller skating, was a Bullshooter National Dart Champion, loved going for rides on her motorcycle, tending to her gardens, loved to sing, dance, bake, and cook.

She is survived by her three children Hewitt Allen Dameier, Darren Wayne Dameier and Tess Alivia Dameier, Mother Connie Williams, sister: Sherri Ginger (Bobby Mounts) and her children Jacob (Jaymie) Howald, Michaela Howald, Gabriel Gin-



ger, Owen Ginger, Brother Jayson (Kimberly) Williams and their children Ella, Olivia, Sawyer,

Blake, and Tate Williams. Aunts Vickie Lierman and Julie (Dwight) Pickard and their children Andrew (Josephine) Pickard, Ethan (Madie) Pickard, Katelyn Pickard, and close friends Vickie Faletto, Diane Lentz, Laurie Stoll, Monica Faist, Tammy Stich, and Duane Bessert, along with her spoiled and beloved dog Eve. She was preceded by her Grandparents, Richard and Wilma Schneider, her father, Gordon R. Williams, Aunt Phyllis Allaway, Uncles Bill and Harry Williams, and Aunt Joyce Bettendorf.

A visitation was held on Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena, IL. A Funeral Mass was held on Monday, Nov. 20, 2023, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lena, IL. Cremation rites to be accorded. Burial will take place at a later date at the St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery in Lena. A memorial has been established in her memory. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

News briefs

Upcoming class offers winter decorating tips

Join the University of Illinois Extension and the Freeport Park District for "Evergreen Porch Pots" on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the Krape Park Community

Building. In this class, students will learn tips and tricks to turn container gardens into eye-appealing winter decorations. As part of the class, participants will get to make a decorative porch pot to take home with them; all supplies are provided. Registration is required to attend and can be

completed at go.illinois.edu/jsw or by calling the U of I Extension at 815-235-4125. Registration cost is \$30.

Veterans' Pantry in need of items

Items listed below are needed for the Veterans' Pantry in Freeport. The support of the community has been tremendous, and we are grateful for the support.

Shaving Cream

Mouth Wash

Wash cloths

Hand towels

Bath towels

Laundry soap

Dish soap

Paper towels

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
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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

House Minority Leader Tony McCombie and area lawmakers, local Sheriffs, Chiefs and State police met for a discussion on public safety. "I am proud to have great relationships with area law enforcement," said McCombie. "It is vital as a lawmaker to make sure our law enforcement officers know we have their backs in Springfield and keep the conversation going as to how we can continue to support them while improving our state."

McCombie hosts Law Enforcement Event with area lawmakers

House Minority Leader Tony McCombie recently held a successful law enforcement luncheon in her 89th District, which brought together area lawmakers and local Sheriffs, Chiefs and State police to discuss the issues they face in Illinois. The event drew 75 participants for the discussion-based event, which focused on the larger

issue of public safety.

Leader McCombie gave an update to the group about legislative issues that will impact law enforcement and encouraged the participants to reach out to her office should issues come up in the legislature she should be aware of. Law enforcement took this event as an opportunity to bring concerns to the lawmakers

in attendance, which also included State Representatives John Cabello (Machesney Park), Jeff Keicher (Sycamore), Bradley Fritts (Dixon), Joe Sosnowski (Rockford), and State Senator Andrew Chesney (Freeport).

McCombie has been a fierce advocate for public safety in the Illinois House and started the legislative

year by forming a working group focused on improving the state's SAFE-T Act, which was hastily pushed through the legislature and consequently amended four different times. McCombie has worked with House Republicans and the public safety working group to find ways to improve the law while also supporting law enforcement.

FHN Community events

Nov. 27 Community Festival of Trees

Monday, Nov. 27 – Tuesday, Dec. 27
Freeport Public Library, 100 E. Douglas Street

Enjoy holiday trees decorated by local service organizations, clubs, and church groups competing for prizes. Voting is over, but stop by and enjoy the beautiful decorations. Vote for your favorite holiday tree by **December 10**. Hosted by FHN and the Freeport Public Library.

Frosty Family Fun: FHN Community Festival of Trees Kickoff

5:30-7 p.m.
Freeport Public Library, 100 E. Douglas Street

Enjoy an evening of holiday fun for the whole family. Sing Christmas carols, make "Holiday Slime," play "Holiday Bingo," enjoy making a holiday treat, and grownups that bring kids to the event can enter to win a \$100 gift card. Hosted by FHN and the Freeport Public Library.

Living Through Grief

6 p.m.
FHN Memorial Hospital Deaconess Room, 1045 W. Ste-

phenson Street, Freeport

This group helps participants learn more about the grief process, share stories of loss, and regain hope for healing. For more information, contact FHN Hospice 815-599-7240.

Nov. 28

Prenatal Class (Session 3)
5 – 8 p.m.

The FHN/Stephenson County Health Department series of 3 prenatal classes is offered to all regardless of their number of weeks gestation, however, they do correlate a bit with how a pregnancy progresses. Mothers-to-be and spouses/support persons are encouraged to attend these free sessions together. Session 3 focuses on newborn and postpartum care, car seats, STDs, birth control, and

community resources. Register for all three classes online at fhn.org/ob or call 815-599-6221 for more information.

Nov. 29

Caregiver Support Group
2 - 3:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting
Free group for those who

provide care to a family member, friend, or member of the community. Open-forum discussion and a chance to ask questions and share resources. Visit www.fhn.org/caregivers for the secure Zoom link or contact Sean Huguenin at 815-599-6160 for more information.

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Veteran's Pantry in Freeport receives donations

The Catholic Daughters of Americas Court Isabela #572 of Galena donates items to the Footlocker (Veteran's Pantry) in Freeport. Pictured is Joan Padersen of the Catholic Daughters as she drops off items to Karen Sirgany of the American Legion Auxiliary. The Lena American Legion Auxiliary is a drop-off site for the Footlocker. If interested in donating, donations can be dropped off on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the American Legion Home at 316 W. Main St. in Lena or by calling 815-369-4684 to make other arrangements.

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OPINION

Slices of life

Good news and bad news



By
**JILL
PERTLER**
Columnist

In simple terms, life can be summed up as moments of "good news" and "bad news."

I've come to believe it's best to embrace both: the good and the bad because each makes us who we are. Each molds us. Each helps us grow as we are supposed to, during our time here on this earth.

Embrace the positive and negative just as surely as you embrace those who love. (And I hope you do that often.)

The good news: You were born.

The bad news: You will die (or maybe that's good news also; we shall see.)

All the rest is made up of the middle, good and bad.

Today was no different. I struggled with an issue with my car. I am traveling across the country and hoped, believed and wanted my vehicle to run consistently. This morning, 600 miles into the trip, it refused to run at all. I guess that's the bad news. Or at least the first rendition of it.

The good news: I found a mechanic who was willing to do a diagnostic on my car first thing this morning.

The bad news: I had a dead battery that wouldn't hold a charge.

The good news: The mechanic was able to put in a new battery - today.

The bad news: The battery was only the tip of the iceberg. I had another major repair in need of repairing. This involved something called a turbocharger, which I never knew existed—before today.

The good news: New knowledge about the inner workings of my automobile is power.

The bad news: The turbocharger in question is an expensive repair. Ka-ching!

The good news (perhaps the best of the day): The mechanic looked up the specifics about my car and I had three days (only three!) left on the manufacturer's warranty on my vehicle. The turbo expense was covered by warranty. Ka-happy!

The bad news: The nice mechanic wasn't able to replace my turbo-thingy because it had to be done by a certified dealership.

The good news: The nice mechanic told me which dealership to contact.

The bad news: The dealership couldn't fit me in until two days later, extending my travel time.

The good news: I'm not on a tight schedule. I can afford an extra two travel days.

You see how it goes? Good news followed by bad news followed by good news and so forth.

It's a tightrope, a balancing act—and it's all about perspective. It keeps us on our toes because life is not meant to be lived on autopilot. It is supposed to be experienced, every moment of every day—

good and bad—eyes wide open.

We learn to walk. We fall down. We play with friends. They move away. We join the band. We are seated last chair. We flirt with someone in math class. They flirt with our best friend.

We graduate high school with honors. We are denied admittance to our first-choice college. We fall in love. We fall out of love. We find our dream job. Seven years later it's no longer a dream.

We marry. The honeymoon

ends. We have children. They grow up. Grandchildren follow and they provide a renewed purpose we didn't know existed.

Health concerns hit, along with a diagnosis. This is followed by a remission and perhaps even a cure. Things slow down. Yet, we thrive despite not being as young as we once were. We lose friends, family and significant others to this thing called death.

We keep breathing. We mourn. We find yet a new

way to live and laugh. We become more thoughtful. We become more grateful. We become more joyful. We grow wise. We come to understand we've always been wise.

We embrace love, in all its forms and realize it's surrounded us our entire lives, despite our circumstance, status or temperament.

The good news: we are renewed, reborn, as has happened many times, throughout our lifetime.

More good news: this happens again with the entity

we call death. It is but another rebirth. Another life. Another source of good news.

Embrace it as fully as you embrace one another. Because when you do, you will understand there can be no more bad news.

It's all what you make of it. And that's my last piece of good news for the day.

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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Rock Valley Publishing encourages readers to reach out to the community by writing a letter to the editor.

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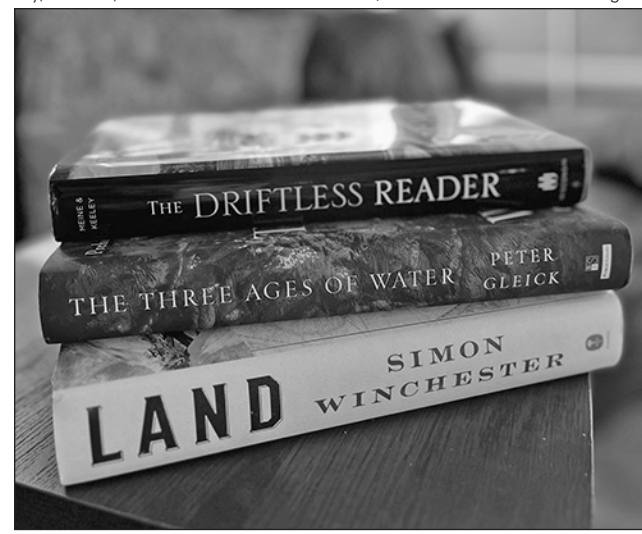
FSA encourages farmers and ranchers to vote in County Committee Elections

The 2023 Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections will begin on Nov. 6, 2023, when ballots are mailed to eligible voters in Local Administrative Area 3. The deadline to return ballots to local FSA offices, or to be postmarked, is Dec. 4, 2023. Eligible voters in Local Administrative Area 3, who do not receive a ballot can obtain one from their local FSA county office. Customers can identify which LAA they or their farming operation is in by using our new GIS locator tool available at fsa.usda.gov/elections. Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2024. The candidates in this year's election are:

Phillip Brown has been nominated to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term.
Number of Years Farming: 11
Active member of the following Agricultural Organizations: Jo Daviess County Beef Association (JDBA), Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau, WI Beef Improvement Association (WBIA).
Crops Produced: Corn, Soybeans and Alfalfa
Livestock Production: Beef
What can you offer USDA as a County Committee member: I am a young, diversified producer.
What would you declare is your primary purpose for seeking a County Committee

Member position?
My purpose is to keep decisions locally.
Donald Kautz has been nominated to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term.
Number of Years Farming: 52
Active member of the following Agricultural Organizations: IL Beef Association (IBA), National Cattleman's Beef Association (NCBA), Jo Daviess Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Jo Daviess County Beef Association (JDBA).
Crops Produced: Corn, Oats, Wheat, Hay, Beans
Livestock Production: 150 HD Cow/Calf and Purebred Charolais breeder.

What can you offer USDA as a County Committee member: To keep Jo Daviess County a leading Ag District in the state. To promote its beauty but keep it financially prosperous!
What would you declare is your primary purpose for seeking a County Committee Member position? Hoping to bring 50+ years of local knowledge on ag topics that would come up for discussion. Also, I am retiring from ag production, and I would like something to keep involved in Ag.
More information on county committees can be found at fsa.usda.gov/elections or by contacting the Jo Daviess County FSA office.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation will host a free book club, *Conservation Conversation*, starting early next year.

Winter reading with JDCF's Conservation Conversation Book Club

The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) invites the community to join their book club, *Conservation Conversation*, for a free series of Zoom discussions starting Jan. 10, 2024. To honor JDCF's mission statement, and in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, the reading and discussion will focus on land, water, and the Driftless Area.
1. "Land: How the Hunger for Ownership Shaped the Modern World," by Simon Winchester. Jan. 10 and Jan. 24
2. "The Three Ages of Wa-

ter: Prehistoric Past, Imperiled Present, and a Hope for the Future," by Peter Gleick. Feb. 7 and Feb. 21.
3. "The Driftless Reader," Curt Meine and Keefe Keeley, editors. Mar. 6 and Mar. 20
Discussion will be facilitated by Andy Townsend and will take place via Zoom on Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:30 p.m. This is a free program and open to all. Join when able, whether it be for one book, all books, or any session. Online registration will open in December at www.jdcf.org/events and is requested so that guests can be informed of updates or additional information.

Around the Northern Hills

Scholarships available
Do you know a graduating senior or college student? The IAA Foundation just announced the lineup for the 2024 IAA Foundation Scholarships. This includes 95 scholarships totaling \$177,001. We have had several winners from Jo Daviess County in the past, so I would encourage anyone interested to mark Jan. 1 on their calendar so they don't miss this great opportunity. The link will be live for the IAA Foundation website until Jan. 1.



By **ANNETTE EGGERS**
Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau

that include two of each of the following: Chicken and Biscuits, Lasagna, Pulled Pork Loaded Potato, Pork Loin with Potato and Veggie, Bacon Ranch Pasta.
Pick up for the meals is set for Dec. 19 from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the main level of the farm bureau building in Elizabeth.

Freezer meals return
If you would like to order freezer meals, visit our website at www.jodavinesscfb.com. You can print an order form and send us a check or pay online using your paypal account. Orders are due to our office Thursday, Nov. 30. These meals are single serving sizes so it would make a great gift for grandparents, college students, and more.
This is a fundraiser for Ag-In-the-Classroom. The cost is \$90 for ten single-serve meals

Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau offering \$250 towards ROPS purchase
The Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau would like to offer funds to reimburse farmers for purchasing Roll-over Protection Structure (ROPS). Fifty-five percent of farm tractors in Illinois do not have a cab or ROPS.
See EGGERS, Page 6



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Little Blackhawks

Pictured are this week's Little Blackhawks. These students have been recognized by their teachers for their great behavior and excellent work. Congratulations for continuing to do great things at school!



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Ms. Scheid's second graders were recognized for having good behavior at the Veterans' Day assembly and the HCC play and received a class Blackhawk. Great job, everyone! Keep up the great work!

Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL for Sunday worship on Nov. 26 at 9:30 a.m. The reading will be from Matthew 25:31-46. Chime practice will be at 10:45 a.m., and choir practice will be at 11 a.m.

On Wednesday, Nov. 29 Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience is

necessary.

The office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23 in observance of Thanksgiving. 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.

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City will celebrate Christ the King Sunday on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 9 a.m. We will decorate the sanctuary after worship for Advent and Christmas.

There will not be a December Grace Meal, but St. John's will be hosting a Community Christmas meal on Dec. 25. Curbside pick-up will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. People may also join us in Luther Hall to enjoy the meal from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Reservations for dine-in or curbside pick-up are needed in the church office by Thursday, Dec. 21. A major source of funds for the meal come from a generous grant from the Foundation of Northwest Illinois.

The Healthy Wolves group will be packing backpacks on Tuesday, Dec. 21 3:15 p.m. If interested in donating to this ministry, reach out to the church office for more information.

The Social Ministry Committee held Harvest Home Collection this past month. Thirty-five bags of groceries were blessed and donated at the Nov. 19 worship service.

There will be cards and dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 1 p.m.

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.



"How do I thank God?"

Psalm 100



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& 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Children's

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Lawmakers approve plan to allow small-scale nuclear development

Governor, who vetoed previous bill, supports new effort

By Andrew Adams
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Lawmakers have approved a proposal that would allow companies to develop new nuclear power generation in Illinois for the first time since 1987.

House Bill 2473 does not entirely lift the 36-year-old moratorium on nuclear construction. Instead, it creates a regulatory structure for the construction of small modular nuclear reactors, or SMRs.

The bill limits the nameplate capacity of such reactors to 300 megawatts, about one-third the size of the smallest of the six existing nuclear power plants in Illinois. It also requires the state to perform a study that will inform rules for regulating SMRs, which will be adopted by regulators at the Illinois Emergency Management Agency by January 2026.

Proponents of the measure say it is a step to make the ongoing transition away from fossil fuels more reliable for customers throughout the state, while opponents warn the unproven technology comes with safety risks and the potential for cost overruns.

The bill passed with bipartisan support in the Senate, 44-7, and the House, 98-8. The opposition came exclusively from Democrats.

Gov. JB Pritzker said in a statement that he would sign the bill. He worked with lawmakers on the new language of the new bill after vetoing a broader measure this summer.

Leadership of the Illinois AFL-CIO umbrella labor organization released a statement, calling the policy an "important for our state's economy and our clean

energy future."

It echoed a release from the Illinois Manufacturers Association, an industry advocacy group that testified in support of the proposal several times, saying that it would allow the state to "continue leading in energy and manufacturing innovation."

The legislation's sponsors, Sen. Sue Rezin, R-Morris, and Rep. Lance Yednock, D-Ottawa, said the bill has the potential to bolster Illinois' electric reliability as intermittent sources like wind and solar begin to make up a larger portion of the state's energy output.

"In order to reach our clean energy goals, we may have to invest in more nuclear generated carbon-free energy," Yednock said. "The policy does not subtract from the growth of wind and solar energy; it could be an enhancement, as a potential use of small modular reactors could be to energize large manufacturers, therefore keeping more traditional new sources of energy for residential, small commercial customers and our future [electric vehicle] needs."

Rezin noted that she is particularly interested in the potential for SMRs to be developed at the sites of former coal plants in Illinois, avoiding the need to build new transmission lines, although that process could take many years.

Because permitting nuclear energy takes many years at the federal level, the earliest a nuclear project could be brought online in Illinois would be in the 2030s.

Environmental, safety issues

Critics of the bill and of nuclear power remain worried about its implications.

David Kraft, an outspoken critic of nuclear energy and head of the Chicago-based advocacy group Nuclear Energy

See DEVELOPMENT, Page 8

This 'n That Stockton Heritage Museum

Another month has flown by, and it was a busy month. The Museum closed on another successful season with over 700 visitors, six programs, visitors from Hong Kong and coast to coast, an antique car club, class reunions and some of our favorite visitors, the Stockton sixth graders! Donation of artifacts to the Museum keep coming. We received precious quilts, with squares in one quilt made by the Stockton High school class of 1940 and a quilt made in 1956 from members of the Greenvale Neighborhood Club (going strong at 107 years!)

The village honored our veterans at a program at the high school, school sports continue as some seasons ended and others started, and our FFA program is growing and had two members, Jenna Haas and Joseph Brudi, receive the American FFA degree at the National Convention.

Brewster Cheese Celebrated 25 years in Stockton in October; we are certainly blessed that they are a part of our community. Congratulations

to Brewster Cheese.

And as November draws to a close, the village is preparing for holiday celebrations, such as the lighting of the tree downtown and the Living Windows on Nov. 24, to

the Christmas Walk on Dec. 2, with businesses "dressed up" for the holidays. Church Christmas programs are being prepared and the frenzy of the season is certainly to be felt in school.

As this writer gets more seasoned (not old), finding time to visit with family, friends, and neighbors, enjoying the sights of lights, and

See MUSEUM, Page 7

•Eggers (Continued from page 5)

Only one in five victims will survive a tractor rollover accident. The leading cause of farm related deaths in Illinois is tractor rollover accidents. They account for more than 30% of farm related deaths. ROPS help protect farmers and family members from being crushed in the event of a tractor turnover or rollover.

Safety Chairman, Dan Robbe, states, "Safety is a priority of the farm bureau, and we would like to encourage our members to install ROPS on their tractors".

Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau members who purchase a ROPS could receive a reimbursement of \$250 towards the purchase of a ROPS (there are six rebates

are available). To receive the \$250, members need to bring in their paid invoice to the Farm Bureau office in Elizabeth. Customers are responsible for the cost, freight, and installation which are available through the dealer. If you have been thinking about putting a ROPS on one of your tractors, now is the time! For more information about this program, or to become a member of our organization, contact the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau office at 815-858-2235 or email jdcfbmgr@gmail.com.

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Farm Fun Fact

In 2022, American Farmers produced 210 million turkeys.

Injuries present new opportunities for 2023-2024 Wildcats

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The River Ridge Wildcats found themselves down a player before the 2023-2024 boys basketball season even started. With only one other returning starter from last year, there are plenty of opportunities to go around for some new Wildcats.

"Unfortunately, we are not healthy to start this season," River Ridge head coach Jeremy Knauer said late in the offseason. "Our only All-Conference player from last year, senior George Winter, is most likely going to miss the entire season after shoulder surgery. That's a huge loss for us and we can't replace that with just one per-

son," Knauer explained.

The Wildcats do have a plan of attack, however, and there are plenty of reasons to be excited about this year's squad. First and foremost, the Wildcats return Seth Nicholas, a senior who started last season. Nicholas is one of the players the Wildcats count on to do the dirty work. Last year, Nicholas averaged just over five points and five rebounds per game. This season, River Ridge should expect him to lean further into his leadership role.

Outside of that, the Wildcats will be counting on an exciting group of newcomers. Tyson Heidenreich is the only other senior on the active roster. River Ridge

has a strong class of juniors coming in. Mason Smith, Camden Flack, Nate Haas, and Logan Keleher all expect to see minutes during their junior season. Knauer also expects sophomore Sam Rife and freshman, Kaden Bauer to get opportunities this year.

Knauer recognizes the challenges that lie ahead for the Wildcats. "We have some younger kids that are going to have to collectively step up for us," Knauer said. Often with youth comes growing pains, learning lessons, and all the typical struggles of fighting through a varsity season. It also means potential.

This year, Knauer is hoping the team's potential can

lead to a step in the right direction for the program. "We probably have more upside than the last few years," Knauer shared. Just last season, the Wildcats finished with an overall record of 14-15. That was Knauer's first year as the head coach of the varsity team. Knauer is plenty familiar with his newcomers from previous years, however, and he has faith in their basketball talent. "Our guards have potential to score, and we have some size in our frontline. Last season, we didn't have a player score 20 points in any game. We have several that have that ability on any given night," Knauer added. The Wildcats are going to need that. Win-

ter was the leading scorer from last season and without him, River Ridge lost almost all their offensive production.

Knauer explained that the young Wildcats still have some work to do, but they have the potential to compete with some of the better teams. The River Ridge coach explained that the Wildcats will have to do the little things, like playing defense and taking care of the ball. "The key for us will be on defense and taking care of the ball. We have to cut down on the turnovers. If people can do that and guard the paint and three-point line, we have a chance this year to surprise some people," Knauer said.

Knauer and the Wildcats still recognize the challenge of playing basketball in this area. "This year is very balanced, especially our conference. Scales Mound is still the team to beat," Knauer said. The River Ridge head coach also mentioned, "East Dubuque looked terrific over the summer and Galena and Warren are going to be tough. I also see Eastland and Lena-Winslow being very strong as well."

On Nov. 25 the Wildcats begin regular season play when they travel to face off with the Dakota Indians. A few days later, the Wildcats play their first home game as the Polo Marcos come to town on Nov. 28.

Hornets appear for another impressive basketball season

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

Last year, the Scales Mound Hornets had to replace nearly all of the team that took them to the state tournament in 2022. Scales Mound responded by taking a new group all the way back to the state tournament for a second-place finish in 2023.

This season, the Hornets get the best of both worlds as they return a full group of experienced winners.

Nine players are back from last year's state tournament team as they lost just two starters to graduation. This season the Hornets are led by a deep class of upperclassmen in Thomas Hereau, Jonah Driscoll, Max Wienen, Evan Cogan, Seth Birkett, and Travis Wallin.

Hereau was a First Team All-State player last year, and he's coming off a state championship in his fall golf season. Scales Mound Head Coach Erik Kudronowicz calls Hereau a "strong player with a variety of skills and is an excellent jump shooter." We saw that last year when Hereau averaged nearly 17 points per game. This year, Kudronowicz is expecting Hereau to take an increased role as one of the team's primary guards. Kudronowicz went further in depth on Hereau stating, "He is an instant offense player for the Hornets. Thomas is a great shooter that knocks

down open shots, runs the court, and takes players off of the dribble. Thomas can and will impact a game in a variety of ways." Hereau also set the Scales Mound record for points in a season with 655 last year, and you can bet he has got his eyes on that record again in 2023-2024.

Driscoll also returns off an impressive year. Driscoll is a team captain this year as he enters his fourth season on the varsity squad. Much like Hereau, Driscoll is expected to see an increased roll this year as Kudronowicz said, "Jonah is a very skilled post and perimeter player. He can score in a variety of ways." The Scales Mound coach added that Driscoll is a "tremendous passer with a great feel for the game."

Wienen is the third returning starter for the Hornets. Wienen is a defensive asset for the Hornets and Kudronowicz is hoping to see his offensive game continue to develop this year. "We look for Max to do more this season due to graduation," Kudronowicz shared.

Scales Mound also returns a handful of key players from last year's bench. Evan Cogan was one of their first guys off the bench, and he's expected to join the starting lineup this year. Kudronowicz called Cogan "a tremendous defender

with toughness." There is no doubting that, as Cogan has fought back from two ACL tears in each knee and the Hornets are hoping he can stay healthy this year. "Evan is a tremendous shooter from deep and mid-range. Evan has developed into a tenacious defender that plays with leverage," Kudronowicz shared.

Birkett was another first player off the bench last year. Much like Cogan, Birkett is expected to join the starting lineup in his senior year. Birkett can score from all three areas and the Scales Mound coach said, "Seth does a little bit of everything for us and can play multiple positions. He is a Swiss army knife when it comes to using him on the court."

Scales Mound also return a couple key juniors in Derrick Distler and Connor Ellis. Distler was the leading scorer on last year's JV team and Ellis "will give depth to the back court" according to Kudronowicz. The Hornets also return Kaden Deurr who earned a spot as one of the

varsity reserve players as a freshman. In Deurr's sophomore year, Kudronowicz says he is "a tremendous shooter" who can assume the point guard position and is a high IQ player.

The Hornets are one of the deeper teams around in terms of not only experience, but winning experience. Kudronowicz believes the Hornets may have the best backcourt in the area with Hereau, Cogan, and Distler. On the team as a whole, Kudronowicz said, "This group of Hornets are tireless workers and are very involved with playing basketball outside of the season. The team has been in numerous tournaments and leagues to sharpen their skills."

It is no wonder Kudronowicz mentioned the team's experience when talking about their strengths. Over the last two seasons, this group helped the program earn an overall record of 69-9. They also sport veteran players in key positions, while having a ton of exciting players ready to earn

new roles on the bench. This year, the Hornets will have two sophomores and a freshman who are expected to round out the varsity team. Sophomore Aidan Soppe stands six feet, three inches tall and is well rounded with ball handling, passing, and shooting skills. Kudronowicz has high praise for Soppe, as he compared him to Nikola Jokic of the Denver Nuggets. Freshman Payton Van Lent is also joining the varsity squad and Kudronowicz called him a "very

skilled guard."

After opening their 2023 season in the Scales Mound Turkey Tournament, the Hornets will play against Shullsburg on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at Scales Mound high school. On Saturday, Dec. 2 the Hornets start the new month by facing off with Belleville in the Stateline Shootout, also in Scales Mound. Finally, on Wednesday, Dec. 6 things pick up as the Hornets travel to Pecatonica to face off with the Indians at 7:15 p.m.

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•Museum

(Continued from page 6)

certainly savoring the smell and taste of food are the presents best to receive.

While the Museum is closed in the winter season and we prepare for a new season in 2024, we also thank all the folks who volunteered to help us get through the 2023 year suc-

cessfully. Don't forget to look us up on Facebook and our website, stocktonheritagemuseum.org, has the latest edition of our newsletter Museum Musings which will get you up to date on what is happening at the Museum. Happy Thanksgiving and take care.

•Development (Continued from page 6)

Information Service, urged lawmakers at a Thursday committee meeting to reject the bill.

Kraft said he was concerned about the lack of existing SMR installations and the unproven nature of the technology. While some nuclear reactors of this scale do exist in other countries, no commercial SMRs have ever been built in the United States.

"This isn't an energy policy, it's a Las Vegas craps shoot," he said during the committee hearing.

In a follow-up interview, Kraft said that SMRs bring with them security concerns, as the smaller installations have different staffing requirements than traditional reactors and use a more highly enriched type of uranium. This relative abundance of this uranium, according to Kraft, could incentivize the further proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Some environmentalists also lined up against the bill, worrying that investment in nuclear could take away from investments into renewable energy technology. Sierra Club Illinois chapter director Jack Darin called nuclear energy "at best, a distraction." Sierra Club was one of the main advocacy organizations that sought Pritzker's veto of the previous bill.

While the Sierra Club remained opposed to the updated version of the bill, the Illinois Environmental Council — which co-signed a letter requesting the August veto with the Sierra Club — adopted a neutral position on the new bill before it was approved on Thursday.

Rep. Lilian Jimenez, D-Chicago, was one of the eight House Democrats who voted against the bill. She said that there had not been enough study of the potential drawbacks of SMR development in the state.

"Illinois has plenty of time to assess the risks and costs

before opening the door to these projects," Jimenez said during floor debate. "I believe we should be focusing on that piece before taking this huge leap and this huge step."

Industry issues

Since 2016, five other state legislatures have either repealed or weakened their bans on nuclear construction. Counting Illinois, bans on nuclear construction remain on the books in 11 states.

Several of the states that have lifted their bans in recent years have done so to pave the way for SMR technology. But the biggest player in that industry has seen several upsets in recent weeks.

As lawmakers debated the bill, NuScale Power—the only company with a federally approved SMR design—announced that it was canceling its highly watched "Carbon Free Power Project" in Utah, which would have been the first commercial project with a NuScale reactor.

The project's cancellation comes after months of falling stock prices and criticism from trading firms. Still, its leaders say the company will continue with its other projects, which are at various steps of regulation and planning.

"NuScale will continue with our other domestic and international customers to bring our American SMR technology to market and grow the U.S. nuclear manufacturing base," NuScale CEO John Hopkins said in a Wednesday news release.

Rezin noted that "there's a lot to learn" from NuScale's canceled project, but hopes Illinois' and other states' moves to reverse their construction bans will encourage nuclear energy development in the U.S.

"If we do not build out this technology with companies that are in the United States, there's other companies and countries such as Russia that are looking to sell that technology," she said. "We don't want that."



River Ridge FFA students attend the Section One FFA Agronomy Career Development Event. Members pictured are (back row) Thomas Harms, Ty Spahn, Avery Engle, Jason Lucas, Lily Lucas, Lucas Holland, Sawyer Fry, Hayden Diehl, Bindi Boop, Katie Cobine, Ella Dittmar, Graci Allen, Bronx Gonzalez, (middle row) Wyatt Ritchie, Cora Ritchie, (front row) Izzy Haring, Graci Vanderheyden, Leah Spahn, Allie Karberg, Nick Cobine and Arthur Horn.

River Ridge FFA first in Agronomy CDE

Twenty-two members of the River Ridge FFA Chapter traveled to Lena to compete in the Section One FFA Agronomy Career Development Event (CDE) on Nov. 14 along with 13 other schools from across our section.

In the agronomy, CDE students are tested on their ability to identify insects, weeds, crop seeds, and agriculture machinery/equipment. They were also graded on how they placed classes of soybeans and corn and took a written test that tested their knowledge on production agriculture. This CDE is a great opportunity for students who are interested in gaining employment in production agriculture as well as the opportunity to learn about how their food and fiber is produced.

On the high school team senior Arthur Horn placed first overall as an individual for the second year in a row. Rounding out the varsity team was freshman Nick Cobine, junior Graci Vanderheyden, senior Lucas Holland and junior Katie Cobine. The State competition will be hosted at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign on Dec. 9.

The Jr. High Wildcats also had a good night as they took home first place in their division. Eighth grader Ella Dittmar was the overall winner with Bronx Gonzalez, Wyatt Ritchie and Jason Lucas the other high scorers on the team.



Chapter Secretary Izzy Haring works on the machinery/equipment ID section.



Greenhand Lily Lucas is hard at work during the competition.



River Ridge FFA varsity team members included Nick Cobine, Arthur Horn, Lucas Holland, Natalie Keleher and Graci Vanderheyden.

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Adams	2	1	Jasper	8	5	Pope	12	10
Alexander	4	4	Jefferson	9	10	Pulaski	1	1
Brown	2	2	Jersey	1	0	Randolph	3	5
Calhoun	1	2	Jo Daviess	23	19	Richland	8	5
Carroll	7	4	Johnson	7	11	Rock Island	2	2
Cass	5	6	Knox	7	7	Saline	1	2
Clark	2	8	Lawrence	1	2	Schuyler	1	1
Clay	9	10	Macoupin	3	2	Scott	1	3
Crawford	1	0	Madison	5	1	Stephenson	6	4
Edwards	5	5	Marion	14	12	Union	8	10
Franklin	13	10	Mason	0	8	Wabash	0	1
Fulton	4	0	Massac	2	1	Warren	0	1
Gallatin	5	4	McDonough	3	5	Washington	4	3
Greene	2	5	Menard	0	3	Wayne	10	5
Hamilton	3	8	Mercer	2	1	White	4	2
Hancock	3	1	Monroe	3	2	Whiteside	3	4
Hardin	4	0	Morgan	1	4	Williamson	14	15
Henderson	2	2	Perry	8	1	Winnebago	8	13
Jackson	4	12	Pike	1	2	Total	262	267

Illinois hunters harvest 262 turkeys during 2023 fall firearm season

Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary statewide total of 262 wild turkeys during the 2023 fall firearm turkey season. The season dates were Oct. 21-29.

The 2023 total compares with the statewide turkey harvest of 267 in 2022. The record harvest was set in 2005 when 1,218 birds were harvested.

This year, 1,711 regular fall firearm season permits were sold compared to 1,727 last year. The highest permit sales total on record was in 2007 with 4,968 permits sold.

Fall turkey firearm was open in 56 of Illinois' 102 counties. The top counties for harvest this year were Jo Daviess, 23; Marion, 14; Williamson, 14; Franklin, 13; and Pope, 12. Preliminary data show 55% of the harvest were female birds and 48% were male.

The information below includes the preliminary 2023 county-by-county fall firearm turkey harvest results with comparable totals for 2022.

Freeport Police Department to motorists: Celebrating Thanksgiving? Buckle up and drive sober

This Thanksgiving, the Freeport Police Department is joining the Illinois State Police and local law enforcement to ensure holiday travelers are buckled up and driving sober with a "Click It or Ticket" and "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" enforcement campaign that runs Nov. 17-27.

"Thanksgiving means more vehicles on the road — and an increased risk of crashes," said Chief Shenberg. "No matter how long or short your drive, remember to buckle up and make sure children are in a safe seat. By buckling up and making a plan for a sober ride home, you help everyone have a safe and happy holiday."

The goal of this high-visibility effort is to reduce motor vehicle crashes, injuries, and fatalities. Proper seat-belt use is the most effective way to protect vehicle occupants.

According to IDOT, the statewide seat-belt usage rate has room for improvement at 92.9%.

If you'll be celebrating with alcohol or other impairing substances, please remember to plan for a sober ride home before you go out. Call a taxi, take mass transit or ask a family member to get you home safely. Use your favorite ride-share service, such as Uber or Lyft, or take public transportation. Use your community's designated driver program. If you see a drunk driver, pull over safely and call 911. Make sure everyone in your vehicle wears their seat belt. It is the best defense against an impaired driver.

The Thanksgiving enforcement effort is made possible by federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Highland Music Department holds instrumental Holiday Concert on Dec. 1

The Highland Community College Concert Band and Orchestra will hold their joint Holiday Concert at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1, in the Fine Arts Theatre in the Ferguson Fine Arts Center, located at 2998 W. Pearl City Rd. in Freeport.

The concert band, under the direction of Scott Stich, will be playing many traditional Christmas carols, plus a sentimental homage to Christmas. Alfred Reed's arrangement of "Greensleeves" will be prominently featured, as well as "Angels We Have Heard on High."

"Last year's December concert was fun, and light, and set the mood for the upcoming Christmas season," Stich said. "Come and join us and feel the warmth of the music and spirit of the season."

The orchestra is conducted by Brandon Lamm, featuring the traditional sounds of the holiday season.

Juvenile arrest at Freeport Public Library

On Nov. 14, 2023, a detective with the Freeport Police Department discovered through investigative means a male juvenile posting images and live videos of himself being in possession of a pistol while referencing he was at the "library". Initially, it was unknown to the Detective exactly where the juvenile was located; however, because there were other references made about a school, Officers responded to the Freeport High School library. Once on scene, Officers determined the juvenile was not at the Freeport High School library, but was at the Freeport Public Library.

Officers then quickly converged on the Freeport Public Library. The suspect juvenile was observed inside the library and was taken into custody. Once the juvenile was secured in handcuffs, Officers seized a metal BB gun pistol that resembled a real semiautomatic pistol from the juvenile's coat. The suspect male juvenile was identified as a 15-year-old Freeport resident. The juvenile was taken to the Police Department and released to a parent after being processed.

The Freeport Police Department would like to convey this incident was an isolated incident and citizens should not let this incident deter them from utilizing the services provided by the Freeport Public Library.

IDNR awards \$392,150 in snowmobile trail grants

Seven snowmobile trail projects in Illinois have been awarded \$392,150 for the development, rehabilitation, and maintenance the trails.

The grants come from the Illinois Snowmobile Grant program (SNOW) and the Snowmobile Trail Establishment Fund Grant program (STEF).

SNOW provides financial assistance to eligible local units of government (Section 3010.10 of the Illinois Administrative Code) to assist them in the purchase, construction, maintenance and rehabilitation of public snowmobile areas, trails and facilities in Illinois. The program is funded entirely by snowmobilers through their registration fees (625 ILCS 40/8-1 and 9-1).

STEF provides financial aid to eligible private snowmobile clubs and organizations in Illinois (as noted in Section 3020.10 of the Illinois Administrative Code) for the purpose of assisting them in the construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of snowmobile trails and facilities on public lands, designated roadways, or private land opened to such use. Funds for the program are derived from revenue generated in the state treasurer's Snowmobile Trail Establishment Fund.

Go online at dnr.illinois.gov/grants.html for information about how to apply for the grants.



- SNOW grant recipients are:**
- Freeport Park District – \$39,150 for rehabilitation and maintenance of the trail for snowmobile use.
 - Freeport Park District – \$120,000 for purchase of a tractor to groom snowmobile trails.
 - Lake County Forest Preserve District – \$29,000 for replacement of snowmobiles and trailer for park rangers so they can perform routine patrols.
 - McHenry County Conservation District – \$30,000 for rental of a tractor for maintenance, operation expenses, and trail signage.
 - Rockford Park District – \$40,000 for operational and maintenance expenses, rental tractors, and snowmobile trail equipment
- STEF grant recipients are:**
- Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs – \$76,500 for trail maintenance and operational expenses.
 - Illinois Association of

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8		4			6			
	2			5				
				3		9		
4			8					9
	3	7					8	
	1				3	4		
7			6	2		5		
2					4	7		1
				8				3

Level: Intermediate

			6					
8	4				9		6	1
					9			
	5			1		6		8
	3		5					
	1	9				4		
		2	8					
		4						2
9			1	3				4

Level: Advanced

SUDOKU

Fun by the Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test! **Here's How It Works:** Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

VEGAN LINGO WORD SEARCH

J	U	P	Q	E	S	G	N	N	O	L	A	C	I	H	T	E	D	O	U
N	R	E	U	U	X	P	O	R	S	Q	U	N	A	G	E	V	V	C	R
H	C	E	D	W	U	A	P	C	K	T	Y	A	F	C	C	M	W	K	G
L	Q	M	R	P	A	A	R	M	C	N	E	L	O	D	P	S	J	C	F
E	M	G	Y	O	F	W	O	U	A	O	E	N	L	C	F	A	R	C	K
G	T	G	R	I	D	C	D	I	I	N	S	N	P	I	C	U	W	A	E
U	T	E	T	E	K	O	R	U	I	U	X	O	N	K	I	E	P	S	Q
M	W	L	J	M	R	A	J	L	M	G	I	Y	F	B	L	M	A	E	O
E	J	F	E	P	T	D	D	P	K	M	F	R	V	F	W	E	R	I	C
S	I	A	Y	I	V	R	T	I	K	T	U	W	A	O	O	C	E	N	A
S	T	B	X	C	A	I	B	W	L	I	S	R	X	B	B	J	V	J	R
M	Q	E	V	H	O	H	B	S	T	L	E	G	F	I	A	E	E	A	O
C	L	E	V	N	U	E	D	A	N	I	M	A	L	B	H	W	X	Q	B
F	V	H	H	F	U	P	N	I	T	A	L	E	G	K	D	K	G	U	C
Y	Q	T	P	N	D	M	C	G	A	J	W	J	V	E	D	G	V	A	S
H	S	R	P	W	G	E	C	E	H	F	J	N	K	V	U	O	U	F	L
Q	K	A	X	A	Y	T	E	X	A	A	Q	L	Y	Q	B	B	P	A	P
K	C	J	U	R	Y	X	E	H	G	T	S	E	I	T	A	N	N	B	A
J	N	U	T	R	I	T	I	O	N	A	L	Y	E	A	S	T	A	A	P
S	I	H	E	A	L	T	H	G	H	G	L	Y	V	D	A	S	M	R	P

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

- ANIMAL
- AQUAFABA
- BUDDHA BOWL
- BYPRODUCT
- CAROB
- CASEIN
- CONSUMPTION
- ETHICAL
- FAUX
- FLEGG
- FLEXITARIAN
- GELATIN
- HARDLINE
- HEALTH
- JACKFRUIT
- LEGUMES
- MOCKMEAT
- NUTRITIONAL YEAST
- PAREVE
- RAW
- SEITAN
- TEMPEH
- VEGAN
- WELFARE

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Beats per minute
- 4. Hindu deity
- 10. Polynesian garland of flowers
- 11. Not chained to
- 12. Metric ton
- 14. Tall, rounded vase
- 15. Musical composition
- 16. St. Francis of ___
- 18. Discover the location of
- 22. Compact group of mountains
- 23. Mend
- 24. Not current
- 26. Atomic #64
- 27. Young hawk
- 28. Or ___
- 30. Pouches
- 31. Southern Thailand isthmus
- 34. Mends with yarn
- 36. Downwinds
- 37. One of two equal parts of a divisible whole
- 39. Italian archaeological site
- 40. Cold appetizer
- 41. Yes
- 42. Peninsula
- 48. Of that
- 50. A way to divide
- 51. Relating to the physical senses
- 52. One who makes money
- 53. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 54. Inconvenience (abbr.)
- 55. South Dakota
- 56. Snow sport
- 58. The products of human creativity
- 59. Change mind
- 60. Born of

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Similar to the color of a clear unclouded sky
- 2. Former name of Iran
- 3. Made smaller
- 4. Type of meter

			1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9							
							10				11								
12	13			14						15									
16		17								18					19	20	21		
22										23									
24								25		26				27					
							28		29					30					
31	32	33					34				35				36				
37				38				39											
40							41				42		43	44	45	46	47		
48							49						50						
51													52						
							53						54				55		
							56				57		58						
							59						60						

- 5. Revolt
- 6. Killed with rocks
- 7. Gregory ___, US dancer
- 8. Nullifies
- 9. Home to the Flyers
- 12. Female parent
- 13. Pre-1917 Russian emperor
- 17. Outsourcing (abbr.)
- 19. Regal
- 20. Line
- 21. Hermann ___, author of "Siddhartha"
- 25. Clearing up
- 29. No seats available
- 31. Leaves of an Arabian shrub
- 32. Groove in organ or tissue
- 33. Not of this world
- 35. Cooking device
- 38. Forget
- 41. Operational flight
- 43. Actress Danes
- 44. Poke holes in
- 45. A way to discolor
- 46. Shouts of welcome or farewell
- 47. Pharrell's group
- 49. Red fluorescent dye
- 56. Jr.'s dad
- 57. Electronics firm

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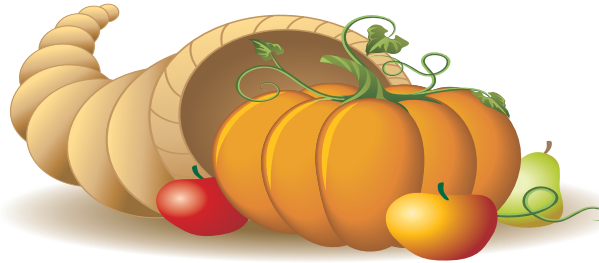
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Orangeville-Aquin boys looking to get back on track in 2023-2024 season

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

Things looked promising for the Orangeville-Aquin Broncos during the first two seasons of Josh Fahs' tenure as head coach. After two seasons, Fahs and the Broncos held an overall record of 20-16 as the program appeared to be heading in the

right direction. After a 3-27 2022-2023 season, Fahs and the program took a step back. This year, the Broncos are hoping to restore their status as a competitive team.

Fahs is entering his fourth season at the helm of the program and, after the three-win season last year, his overall record at Orangeville

dropped to 23-43. The personal record doesn't necessarily matter to Fahs, but it is an indication of the direction of the program. Fahs has hopes of bouncing back after the down year, as he said he plans to "get [the] program back to the hard-working, defensive-minded team we were in [his] first two years

at Orangeville."

Year four is a little different for everyone, however. This year, the Broncos begin their co-op play with Aquin High School joining the fight. Despite Fahs and the program building together over the last few years, it's almost like everyone gets another fresh start. Fahs wants to hit the ground running as the Orangeville-Aquin coach hopes to "create a successful co-op with Aquin for [their] first year together."

Orangeville-Aquin is already seeing the benefits of their co-op in practice. "The first two weeks of practice have been competitive so far, with the team realizing a co-op and more players means much more competition for varsity roster spots, starting spots, and playing time,"

Fahs shared.

Last year, Aquin finished with an overall record of just 4-26. Although neither team posted a flashy record, the hope is that Aquin and Orangeville can combine their returning experience and turn the page in the 2023-2024 season.

Cody Wirth (guard), Brock Tyrrell (forward), Ben Briggs (center), Boden Gustafson (center), Jaxon Grillot (guard), Paxton Bastian (forward), Miklo Webb (forward), and Blake Folgate (forward) all return with varsity experience under their belts. With so many returning athletes, the Broncos should see improvement this season. Fahs acknowledged the program has "much more experience than last year, good depth inside and outside, and a lot of offensive potential."

Scoring is flashy, but the Orangeville-Aquin head coach believes they will have to improve defensively if they want things to turn around. When asked about the team's needs for improvement, Fahs mentioned their defense and rebounding.

For now, the Broncos are keeping things simple in the

first year of their co-op. They are alleviating the pressure focusing on the little things with hopes of being competitive. At the end of the day, Fahs and the Broncos want to compete. When asked about the team's goal for this year, Fahs said, "Be competitive and give ourselves a chance to win every game."

The Broncos will also need a handful of newcomers to step things up if they want to see improvement. Brant Carlson (forward), Anthony Garcia (guard), Joe Isenberg (guard), and Film Pimsen (guard), are all expected to get opportunities at the varsity level this season. With so much competition for playing time, these newcomers have a great opportunity to work their way into the mix.

The Broncos opened their 2023-2024 by competing in the Scales Mound Turkey Tournament. On Nov. 21 they faced off with the River Ridge Wildcats. On Saturday, Nov. 25 the Broncos get another tough matchup as they battle the Scales Mound Hornets at 3:15 p.m. Then, on Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m., the Broncos play host to the Stockton Blackhawks for their first home game of the season.



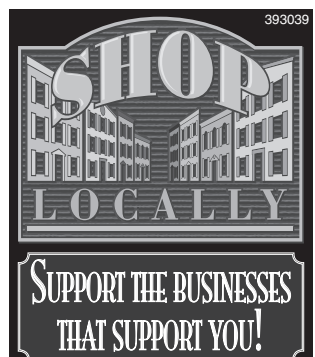
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Stephenson County Farm Bureau news

VICTORIA HANSEN

With Thanksgiving this week, we wanted to share how thankful we are for our members, our volunteers and the community who supports the Farm Bureau. We wouldn't be as successful as we are without your support. From our Farm Bureau Family to yours we would like to wish you a happy and safe Thanksgiving. Our Carroll County office will be closed Nov. 23-24 and reopen Monday, Nov. 27. Our Stephenson County office will close at 12 p.m. on Nov. 22 and remain closed until Monday, Nov. 27.

Save this holiday season

Check out our membership benefit platform. There is sure to be something just right for you, or that special someone you are holiday shopping for. Sign into your Abenity account and check out all the ways to start saving today! Visit <http://ilfb.abenity.com>

University of Illinois senior named Illinois Farm Bureau Collegiate Discussion Meeting winner

Emma Kuhns, of Mason, recently took first place in Illinois Farm Bureau's Collegiate Discussion Meet, held on Friday, Oct. 27. The competition tests participants' ability to manage small group discussions and exchange ideas and information to solve a problem. Kuhns, a senior at University of Illinois, is a member of the Effingham County Farm Bureau and University of Illinois Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter. She will go on to represent Illinois in the national Collegiate Discussion Meet at the American Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmer & Ranchers Leadership Conference March 8-11 in Omaha, Ne-

braska. In addition to a \$200 cash prize, Kuhns will receive an expense-paid trip to the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Leadership Conference and the IAA Annual Meeting in December, and a \$1500 scholarship courtesy of GROWMARK, Inc.

The IFB Collegiate Discussion Meet is an opportunity for students to exhibit open-mindedness and knowledge while retaining a flexible position. Participants exchange facts and insights on a pre-determined topic while practicing teamwork and brainstorming logical solutions for difficult problems in the agriculture industry. The event consists of three parts: opening statements, open discussion and closing statements. Participants are scored by judges based on their problem solving and implementation, analysis of the topic, cooperative attitude and delivery. In total, 10 students competed in the meet at IFB's home office in Bloomington. Final four participants included second place Haley Bode, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, Monroe County, third place: Keely Wixted, Joliet Junior College, DuPage County, fourth place: Emma Smith, Illinois State University, Kendall-Grundy County.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Troop 27 team work

Troop 27 Scouts and leaders assist Logan for the installation of the drop box. Pictured are (left to right) Carlito Ramos, Oliver Allen, Xander Krolow, Ryan Potter, Desmond Moore, Rusty Block, and Rob Knoup.

Free community-wide Thanksgiving dinner

This holiday season Orangeville United Methodist Church would like to invite everyone in the community to enjoy a dinner with friends and family. On Thursday, Nov. 23 there will be a community-wide Thanksgiving dinner from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Orangeville United Methodist Church at 111 South East Street in Oran-

geville. There is no charge for this dinner, and it will be open to the public. If unable to attend, dinner can also be delivered. Please call 789-3170 to schedule a time for meal delivery.

Free transportation will

also be provided to and from the church if needed. Volunteers will pick up and bring home anyone who needs a ride in the Orangeville Community. The goal is for everyone in the community to enjoy a good meal and celebrate the

many wonderful things this community has to offer.

If interested in joining, please call the Orangeville United Methodist Church office at 815-789-3170 to arrange transportation or to schedule meal delivery.

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Veteran's Pantry in Freeport receives donations

The Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary Foundation started decorating the 2023 Tree of Love on Nov. 14. Participants included (first row from left) Sue Droessler, Pam McK-insey, Donna Ferry, Gloria Christ, Lenora Miller, Betsy Eaton, Lil Lyons, Sharon West-enfelder, Bernadette Spurr, Judy Henze, (second row from left) Margie Dugan, Jane Yoder, Judy Jackson, Connie Weinen, Lori Prantner, Peg Kirschner, and Jamie Girot.

The tree will be on display through Jan. 1. A tree lighting ceremony will be held Dec. 13 at 6:30 pm. The Tree of Love is an annual fundraiser for the Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary. Proceeds will benefit a project at Midwest Senior Care. Sponsor an ornament to help decorate the tree and honor someone special at MMCGalena.org/MMCtreeoflove.

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150+ CONSTRUCTION TOYS, NORSCOT, JOAL (95% NIB) 1/50, 1/32, 1/64: CAT: D10 Dozer, 140 Grader, 980G Loader, Skidder, 773 Truck, 825, Challenger, Combo, 5080 Shovel, 623, 345, Dealer Truck, 580, 725D, D350, 950, 12 Grader, 777 Truck, 360B, 534D, 308C, 992G, 24H, 980G Fire, 365B, 777D, D8R, 924G, 657G, 3380 Backhoe; 2 Volvo BM170; Volvo BM6300; Volvo FH16 Lowboy; Komatsu WA900; Komatsu Airport Grader; Komatsu HM400; Terex AC500 Crane; JD 850C; JD Fire Machine; JD 450LC; Case CX210 Exc; PPM 530 Terex Crane; IH TD-25 B Mack; IH 175 Loader; IH TD 24 Pipelayer. **RARE 25+ BOXED PLASTIC MODEL KITS, AMT, ERTL, ETC. (NIB) OF TRUCKS & TRAILERS: Kenworth; Diamond Reo; Peterbilt; Logger Trailer; Lowboy; Wreckers; Cab-over; Mack; IHC Scout; White; Auto Car; Firetrucks; Cement Mixer; Cattle Haulers; Plus more. **25+ ASSORT. TRUCK & ANIMAL BOOKS:** 1940 Fairy Tales; 1940 Children's Books; Western's; 1920 Hans Brinker; Many old School Books. **TRUCKS, CARS, FARM TOYS, MISC.:** Assort. Farm Tractors; Old Farm Toys; Old Games with Boxes; Pin Ball Game; Mickey Mouse Train; Marx "Mortimer Snerd"; Tin Toys; Wood Barn with Animals; Marbles; C.I. Bank; Erector Set; Structo Jeep; Structo Car Semi with Trucks; Plastic Trucks & Cars; 1/64 Plastic Trucks & Cars; Old Coca Cola Trucks; Texaco Truck; 1/64 Nascar Big Rig Truck; Route 66 Trucks; Construction Semi Truck with lowboy; Mobil, Gulf Trucks; 30+ 1/64 Semi Trucks NIB; Kent Feed Truck; Mack Snow Plow Truck; 200+ Assort. Trucks NIB, all types & sizes; Wreckers; 1/64 Big Bud 16V-747; Big Roy. **NOTE:** A very large, unique auction of trucks, Construction and old memorabilia items. 35+ totes yet to unpack. Rich was an avid toy collector, and collected for 50+ years. Many items in orig. old boxes! Auction held inside with seating, lunch, and restrooms. **TERMS:** Cash or check with picture ID.**

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447289

PUBLIC FARMLAND AUCTION

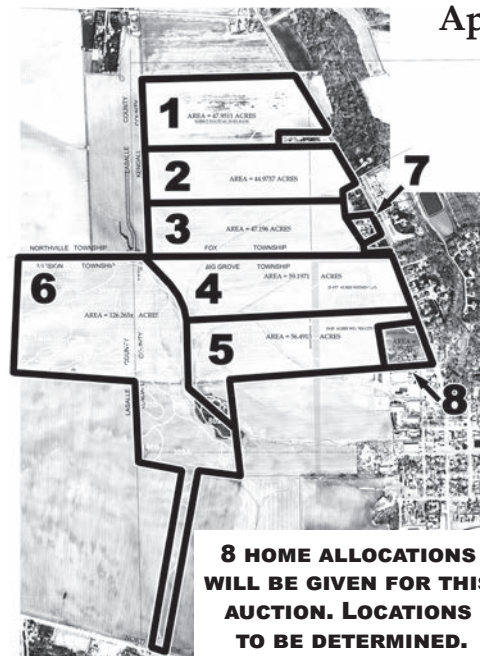
AT THE KENDALL COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

**SATURDAY, DEC. 9th, 2023
9 A.M. START**

11889 FOX RIVER DR. (JOHNSON ST.), NEWARK, IL 60541

Approximately 392.5082* acres.

Separated into 8 parcels.



**8 HOME ALLOCATIONS
WILL BE GIVEN FOR THIS
AUCTION. LOCATIONS
TO BE DETERMINED.**

PARCEL 1	PARCEL 2
47.9551 acres	44.9737 acres
PARCEL 3	PARCEL 4
47.196 acres	59.1971 acres 21.427 acres within city
PARCEL 5	PARCEL 6
56.4913 acres 19.45 acres within city	26.265± acres
PARCEL 7	PARCEL 8
2.48± acres	7.95 acres 19.45 acres within city next to Grain Elevator

Owner(s): NGH Farms LLC

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OR Fax to: 815-369-9093 OR send by email to: scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com
The Scoop Today and Shopper's Guide phone: 815-369-4112

Local students offer community service in honor of Veteran's Day

On Sunday, Nov. 5 Lena-Winslow High School National Honor Society members raked leaves for Veterans in honor of Veteran's Day. Participants included (pictured left to right) Eden Dietz, Avery Baldauf, Jacob Schumacher, Rachael Setterstrom, Hannah Pecoraro, Maia Benson, Maddy Chiles, Piper Schultz, Shayleigh Albright, Molly Amendt, Ava Fiedler, Odin Stabenow, Natalie McNutt, Alyssa Daughenbaugh, Grace Groezinger, and Chloe Wild.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

A Veteran's Day celebration

Veterans enjoy fresh cinnamon rolls and coffee at the Lena American Legion home on Friday, Nov. 10. The Junior American Legion Auxiliary members helped with serving.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC, PLAINTIFF, VS.

JOSE NEVARES; LISA C NEVARES; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.

NO. 2022FC48
2 NORTH HARLEM AVENUE

FREEPORT, IL 61032
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE

FORECLOSURE ACT PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on September 12, 2023, Sheriff of Stephenson County will on 01/02/2024, in Stephenson County Courthouse 15 N. Galena Ave (West Door), Freeport, IL 61032, at 09:30 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

Lot 3 in a Subdivision of Farwell's Addition to West Freeport, situated in the City of Freeport, Stephenson County, Illinois, according to the Plat thereof recorded May 24, 1901 in Book C of Plats, Page 1. EXCEPTING the North 55.4 feet of said Lot 3. ALSO EXCEPTING that part of the following described premises lying within said Lot 3; Part of Lots 3 and 4 in a Subdivision of Farwell's Addition to West Freeport described as follows: Beginning at a point 55.4 feet South of the North line and 48.85

feet West of the East line of Lot 3 of a Subdivision of Farwell's Addition to the Village of West Freeport and running thence West parallel with the North line of Lots 3 and 4 of said Subdivision 49.38 feet to a stake set at the Northeast corner of land hereto-

fore Deeded to William J. Smith by Deed recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Stephenson County, Illinois, in Book 115 of Deeds, Page 329; thence Southerly along the line of said last mentioned lands 146 feet to the Northerly line of Stephenson Street at a point 98.9 feet Southwesterly from the Southeast corner of said Lot 3; thence Northeasterly along the Northerly line of Stephenson Street 50 feet; thence Northerly in a straight line 141.6 feet to the place of beginning. AND ALSO EXCEPTING and reserving the right of way over and across the North 10 feet of the property herein described. All situated in Stephenson County and the State of Illinois.

TAX NO. 18-13-36-253-016

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2 North Harlem Avenue Freeport, IL 61032

Description of Improvements: The property is a single family home.

The Judgment amount was \$120,981.88.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

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

For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 22-09223IL

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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

I3229618
(Published in The Shopper's Guide Nov. 22, 29 & Dec. 6, 2023) 446731

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC, PLAINTIFF, VS.

AMBER M VAUGHAN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.

NO. 23 FC 43
201 AND 201 1/2 WEST BROADWAY STREET FREEPORT, IL 61032
JUDGE PRESIDING
JUDGE

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on October 26, 2023, Sheriff of Stephenson County will on 1/2/2024, in Stephenson County Courthouse 15 N. Galena Ave (West Door), Freeport, IL 61032, at 9:30am, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

PART OF LOT ONE (1) IN BLOCK THIRTY (30) OF KNOWLTON'S SECOND ADDITION TO THE TOWN (NOW CITY) OF FREEPORT, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 4, 1850 IN DEED BOOK I, PAGE 122 DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT ONE (1); RUNNING THENCE SOUTH ON AND ALONG THE LINE BETWEEN SAID LOT AND SOUTH OAK AVENUE TO A POINT, SAID POINT BEING 154 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT THENCE WEST PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT TO THE WEST LINE THEREOF; THENCE NORTH ON AND ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT TO THE SOUTH LINE OF WEST BROADWAY STREET THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ON AND ALONG THE LINE BETWEEN SAID LOT AND WEST BROADWAY STREET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT COMMENCING AT A POINT ON THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT ONE (1), 154 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT RUNNING THENCE NORTH ON THE SAID LAST LINE 4 FEET THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY IN A STRAIGHT LINE TO A POINT ON THE WEST

LINE OF SAID LOT ONE (1), 154 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT THENCE EAST A DISTANCE OF 76.4 FEET, MORE OR LESS PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT ONE (1) TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.; SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FREEPORT, COUNTY OF STEPHENSON AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

TAX NO. 18-14-31-408-036
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 201 and 201 1/2 West Broadway Street Freeport, IL 61032

Description of Improvements: The property is a two unit apartment. The property has a two car garage. The garage is detached. The exterior is wood siding. The color is white. I am unable to verify that the gas is on or off. I am unable to verify that the water is on or off. The property does not have a fence. The property is vacant.

The Judgment amount was \$53,300.22.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium unit, the pur-

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

For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 23-15624IL

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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

I3232112
(Published in The Shopper's Guide Nov. 22, 29 & Dec. 6, 2023) 446729

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - 15 NORTH GALENA AVENUE, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF Terry Brady, DECEASED.

23 PR 69

Notice is given to creditors of the death of the above named decedent. Letters of office were issued to Terry J. Brady, 4412 65th Street, Urbandale, Iowa 50322, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney of record is Louis T. Wierenga, Law Office of Louis T. Wieren-

Continued on next page

LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from previous page
ga, LLC, 3 North Grant
Street, Suite 402, Hinsdale,
Illinois 60521.

The estate will be ad-
ministered without court
supervision, unless under
section 5/28-4 of the Pro-
bate Act Ill. Compiled Stat.
1992, Ch. 755, par. 5/28-
4) any interested person
terminates independent
administration at any time
by mailing or delivering a
petition to terminate to the
clerk.

Claims against the estate
may be filed with the clerk
or with the representative,
or both, on or before May
15, 2024, or, if mailing or
delivery of a notice from
the representative is re-
quired by section 5/18-3
of the Probate Act, the date
stated in that notice. Any

claim not filed on or before
that date is barred. Copies
of a claim filed with the
clerk must be mailed or
delivered by the claimant
to the representative and to
the attorney within 10 days
after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandato-
ry for documents in civil
cases with limited exemp-
tions. To e-file, you must
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an e-filing service provid-
er. Visit <http://efile.illinois-courts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and
to select a service provider.
If you need additional help
or have trouble e-filing,
visit <http://www.illinois-courts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.

Louis T. Wierenga
Law Office of Louis T.

Wierenga, LLC (6297947)
3 North Grant Street,
Suite 402
Hinsdale, Illinois 60521
(708)288-8978
I3232596

(Published in
The Shopper's Guide
Nov. 15, 22 & 29, 2023)
446849

IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE 15th
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON
COUNTY, ILLINOIS - IN
PROBATE

In the Matter of the Estate
of
TERRANCE F. GROVES,
Deceased.

Case No. 23 PR 70

NOTICE FOR

PUBLICATION - WILL
AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of
the death of Terrance F.
Groves. Letters of Office
were issued on November
17, 2023, to Merialyce G.
Groves, who is the legal
representative of the estate.
The attorney for the estate
is Attorney Nathan J. No-
ble, P.C., 504 North State
Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate
may be filed on or before
May 23, 2024, that date be-
ing at least six (6) months
from the date of first pub-
lication, or within three (3)
months from the date of
mailing or delivery of No-
tice to creditors, if mailing
or delivery is required by
755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichev-

er date is later. Any claim
not filed by the requisite
date stated above shall be
barred.

Claims against the estate
may be filed in the office
of the Stephenson County
Circuit Clerk, 15 North
Galena Ave., Freeport, IL
60132, or with the estate
legal representative, or
both.

Copies of claims filed with
the Circuit Clerk's Office-
Probate Division, must be
mailed or delivered to the
estate legal representative
and to his attorney within
ten days after it has been
filed.

Date: 11/16/23

Nathan J. Noble

Attorney for Estate

Nathan J. Noble, P.C.
Attorney Nathan J. Noble
504 North State Street
Belvidere, IL 61008
815.547.7700

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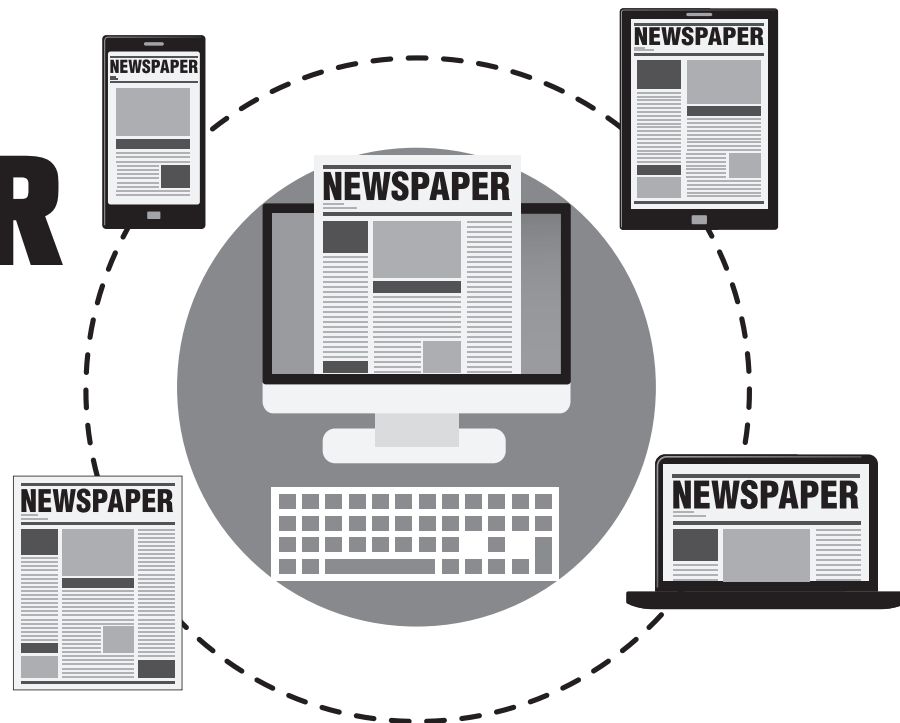
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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

November has finally caught up with us. The beautiful sixty-degree days are probably behind us, and we will be wearing more clothes. Thanksgiving weekend will usher in all of the Christmas sales and trees will be going up. The recipes this week will work for the entire holiday season. Have a great week cooking!

Party Cheese Ball

This recipe makes two cheese balls. It is great to feed a crowd. You can make them

several days ahead also if you need to start early to get everything done.

- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 2 C. shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 jar (5 oz.) sharp American cheese spread
- 1 jar (5 oz.) pimiento spread
- 3 T. finely chopped onion
- 1 t. lemon juice
- 1 t. Worcestershire sauce
- Dash garlic salt
- ½ C. minced fresh parsley
- ½ C. chopped pecans, toasted

Crackers for serving

In a large bowl, beat the first 8 ingredients until blended. Cover and refrigerate until easily handled, about 45 minutes. Shape into 2 balls; roll in parsley and pecans. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Remove from the refrigerator 15 minutes before serving.

Cranberry Delight

Enjoy a cranberry salad for the holidays. You can use this for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. It is easy because it isn't molded and is beautiful in a glass bowl for serving.

- 4 C. cranberries
- 1½ C. sugar
- ¾ C. water
- 1 envelope unflavored gelatin
- ¼ C. lemon juice
- 2 T. orange juice
- 1½ C. heavy whipping cream
- 3 T. powdered sugar
- 1 t. vanilla

In a saucepan, bring the cranberries, sugar, and water to a boil. Reduce heat and cook until cranberries burst. Strain through a sieve into a large glass serving bowl. Stir in the gelatin, lemon juice and orange juice. Cool until mixture coats the back of a spoon. In a small cold bowl, whip

cream until soft peaks form. Add powdered sugar and vanilla. Gently fold in cranberry mixture. Chill until set.

Chubby Sweet Potatoes

If you want an easy way to make sweet potatoes, this recipe is for you. You can make the sweet potatoes the day before and assemble them quickly before serving the meal.

- 8 sweet potatoes (about 4 cups)
- ½ C. packed brown sugar
- ½ t. cinnamon
- ½ t. ground nutmeg
- ¼ t. ginger
- 8 T. unsalted butter at room temperature
- ½ C. boiling water
- Pecans for garnish

Heat oven to 325. Grease a 9 x 13 baking dish. In a pot of salted water, cover po-

tatoes completely and cook until tender about 25 minutes. Drain and rinse in cold water. Peel and slice potatoes into ¾ inch slices. Combine the sugars, chopped, pecans, and spices. Layer 1/3 of potatoes in baking dish; sprinkle with 1/3 of the sugar mixture over the potatoes. Repeat layering twice. Pour boiling water around potatoes. Bake until potatoes are tender, basting several times (about 45 minutes.) Sprinkle more pecans for garnish.

Scrumptious Green Beans

If you want a lighter alternative to the traditional green bean casserole, this vegetable is easy to make and tasty too. If your crowd is not a pepper fan, leave them out.

- 2 T. olive oil
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 lb. green beans, trimmed and cut into 2-inch pieces
- ¼ t. Lawry's seasoned salt
- ¼ t. pepper
- Finely chopped red pepper

In a nonstick skillet, heat olive oil over medium heat. Add onion and garlic; cook, stirring until softened, about 3 minutes. Add beans, salt and pepper; cover. Cook stirring occasionally until beans are crisp tender, about 6 minutes. Transfer to a platter and top with red pepper.

Turkey Tetrazzini

If you have some leftover turkey, this dish is a good one because it is simple and easy. It has a creamy and cheesy sauce with meat and vegetables. You can also freeze turkey to use later.

- 1 pkg dry spaghetti
- 3 T. olive oil, divided
- 1 C. onion, finely chopped
- 1 lb. mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 2 T. garlic, minced
- 2 t. salt
- ½ t. pepper
- ¼ C. flour
- 2 ½ C. chicken broth
- 1 T. lemon juice
- 2 C. heavy cream
- 2 C. baby spinach
- 3 C/ chopped turkey
- ½ C. shredded mozzarella
- 1 t. fresh parsley, finely chopped

Preheat the oven to 350. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil over medium high heat. Add spaghetti and 1 T. olive oil. Cook until al dente, about 10 minutes. Drain the spaghetti in a colander and rinse under cold water. Set aside in pot.

Heat remaining 2 T. olive oil in a large saucepan for 2 minutes over medium high heat until the oil sizzles. Add mushrooms and sauté until

golden brown, about 4 minutes. Stir in onion and garlic and sauté until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Add salt, pepper, and flour. Stir well to combine, about 1 minute. Pour in chicken broth and lemon juice and whisk until the sauce is smooth. Whisk in heavy cream and bring the sauce to a simmer over medium heat; let simmer and stir until thickened, about 5 to 8 minutes. The sauce should be the consistency of gravy. Remove from heat and stir in spinach until wilted, about 1 minute. Add cooked spaghetti and turkey. Toss well until fully combined and coated.

Transfer to a greased 9 x 13 pan and evenly top with mozzarella cheese. Lightly grease a piece of aluminum foil with cooking spray and place over casserole to prevent the mozzarella from burning. Bake covered for 25 minutes. Remove the foil and bake uncovered another 15 minutes until the melted cheese turns golden and bubbly. Let the casserole rest for 10 minutes before serving. Garnish with chopped parsley.

Pumpkin Spice Cake

This cake is known as a "Thanksgiving Cake" because it is a tasty alternative to pie, but it can be eaten any time in the winter. It is easy because it uses a cake mix and pudding. Place it on a cake stand, and it is a beautiful dessert.

- 1 pkg. spice cake mix
- 3 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 C. canned pumpkin
- ½ C. water
- ½ C. canola oil
- 1 pkg. (3.4 oz.) instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1 t. cinnamon
- ½ C. chopped pecans
- Cream Cheese Frosting
- 4 oz. of cream cheese softened
- ½ stick unsalted butter
- 2 ½ C. powdered sugar
- 1 t. vanilla

Milk to make a pour able consistency

Preheat the oven to 350. Grease and flour a 10-inch fluted tube pan. In a large bowl, combine the dry cake mix, eggs, pumpkin, water, oil, pudding mix and cinnamon. Beat at medium speed for 5 minutes. Stir in pecans. Pour into prepared pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 45 to 50 minutes. Cool 10 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack to cool completely.

Frosting: In a mixer, combine the cream cheese and butter until fluffy. Add powdered sugar and vanilla and

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Rock Valley Publishing Classifieds

AD DEADLINE:
Friday
at 4 pm

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help wanted

Village of Lena – Police Department

The Village of Lena will be accepting applications for Illinois Certified full-time and part-time police officers. Our current list of eligible police officers has expired, and we will be creating a new list for any future full-time or part-time job openings.

Full-time positions are open to certified officers who are currently employed as a police officer and have completed an Illinois approved academy. A background check and an oral interview will be given prior to consideration for employment with the Village of Lena. All applicants must be able to perform normal police duties daily. You will not be considered for employment if you have had any felony convictions, DUI or any domestic battery or similar offenses. Full-time officers must reside within 25 miles of the Village of Lena within 18 months of being hired full-time. Full-time positions require 12-hour shifts. Full-time pay is determined by union contract. **Part-time police officers will be paid \$30.00 per hour.** Eligible applicants will be notified to schedule an in-person interview.

The Village of Lena offers paid vacation, holiday pay, personal time, sick time, health insurance and participates in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund for full time employees. E.O.E.

Applications can be picked up at Village Hall in Lena (122 E Main St, Lena, IL). To have an application emailed, please call 815-369-4016.

447341

Village of Lena – Street Department

The Village of Lena, Illinois is seeking a qualified full-time Street Maintenance employee. Applications are now being accepted at Village Hall, 122 E. Main St., P.O. Box 607, 815-369-4016, during normal business hours until December 4.

Qualifications required: CDL, able to operate equipment, assist with brush/leaf pickup, mowing, maintenance of equipment, heavy lifting and other manual tasks. Experience plowing snow is a must. All resumes must accompany a formal application. An oral interview and reference check may be required. E.O.E.

447340

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Rock Valley Publishing is looking for a Part-Time Advertising Sales Executive. Approximately 20 hours per week.

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For immediate consideration send resume/job history to:
Vicki Vanderwerff, Director of Advertising
Email: vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com
Fax: (262) 725-6844

444841

transportation

Automobiles

2004 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE 40th Anniv. Auto. V6 Grey/Black top 92K mi. \$4,000 Call 262-534-6658.

2008 JEEP LIBERTY 195K, 4x4 new tires, new exhaust, new AC compressor, new front axles. Will run 50K mi. with routine oil changes. \$2,500 Firm. text or call 262-716-6180.

2011 BUICK REGAL Dark blue, mint cond., 111,000 miles. \$7,000 262-203-3243.

2013 TOYOTA CAMARY SE Silver 4 dr sedan, 188k mi., upgraded radio, runs great. \$9,000. OBO. Call or text 414-303-4088.

Boats

1982 EVINRUDE BOAT MOTOR/TRAILER. 25 HP. \$900 OBO 414-659-0711.

Farm Machinery

REAR TRACTOR TIRES 12.4x38. \$500. OBO. Call 847-212-9039.

Trucks & Trailers

CARGO TRAILER 5x8 Enclosed, needs cosmetic work. Elkhorn location \$395. 262-949-6997.

for sale

Announcements

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

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

Burial Needs

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

Agriculture

BELVIDERE AREA FARMERS Losing soybean yield to white mold? We can help. Call Jeff 1-309-278-2446.

ROUND ALFALFA hay bales for sale. Excellent quality. Stored inside, no rain. Reasonable. 815-291-2382

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for rent

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real estate

Farms



FARMS FOR SALE Peoples Company

MCHENRY COUNTY, IL

New Listing - 248.202 Acres MOL, with 235 acres in row crop production carrying an impressive 130 productivity index. Farm is located in a prime location just South of Hebron Illinois.

DOUGLAS YEGGE - 563-320-9900

ALAN MCNEIL - 563-321-1125

700 6th Ave., DeWitt, IA 52742

Peoplescompany.com

446611

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No Charge!

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Just fill out the coupon below and drop off or mail to:
Rock Valley Publishing, FREE Ad,
240 W Main St Suite B, Lena IL 61048

Write your ad below, One Word Per Box, be sure to include your price

Ads will not be accepted without the following information. Only one free ad per month.

YOUR NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____

388159

REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON COUNTY,
ILLINOIS
ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC
F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC,
PLAINTIFF,
VS.
AMBER M VAUGHAN;
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
DEFENDANTS.

NO. 23 FC 43

201 AND 201 1/2 WEST
BROADWAY STREET
FREEPORT, IL 61032 JUDGE
PRESIDING JUDGE
JUDGE

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT
TO JUDGMENT OF
FORECLOSURE
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HERE-

BY GIVEN that pursuant to a
Judgment of Foreclosure and
Sale entered by the Court in the
above entitled cause on October
26, 2023, Sheriff of Stephenson
County will on 1/2/2024, in Ste-
phenson County Courthouse 15
N. Galena Ave (West Door), Free-
port, IL 61032, at 9:30am, sell at
public auction and sale to the
highest bidder for cash, all and
singular, the following described
real estate mentioned in said
Judgment, situated in the County
of Stephenson, State of Illinois, or
so much thereof as shall be suffi-
cient to satisfy said Judgment:

TAX NO. 18-14-31-408-036
COMMONLY KNOWN AS:
201 and 201 1/2 West Broadway
Street Freeport, IL 61032

Description of Improvements:
The property is a two unit apart-
ment. The property has a two car
garage. The garage is detached.

The exterior is wood siding. The
color is white. I am unable to veri-
fy that the gas is on or off. I am un-
able to verify that the water is on
or off. The property does not have
a fence. The property is vacant.

The Judgment amount was
\$53,300.22.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS"
sale for "CASH". The successful
bidder must deposit 10% down by
certified funds; balance, by cer-
tified funds, within 24 hours. NO
REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject
to general real estate taxes, spe-
cial assessments or special taxes
levied against said real estate,
water bills, etc., and is offered for
sale without any representation
as to quality or quantity of title and
without recourse to plaintiff. The
sale is further subject to confirma-
tion by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid
amount, the purchaser shall re-
ceive a Certificate of Sale, which
will entitle the purchaser to a
Deed to the real estate after con-
firmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open
for inspection. Prospective bid-
ders are admonished to check the

court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has
the sole responsibility/expense of
evicting any tenants or other indi-
viduals presently in possession of
the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium
unit, the purchaser of the unit at
the foreclosure sale, other than a
mortgagee shall pay the assess-
ments and the legal fees required
by The Condominium Property
Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(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)
OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our web-
site at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>. Between 3 p.m. and
5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer
Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's At-
torneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite
1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No.
(312) 346-9088. Please refer to
file# 23-15624IL

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR
DEBT COLLECTION PRACTIC-
ES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S AT-
TORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A
DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPT-
ING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND
ANY INFORMATION WILL BE
USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required
to provide additional information
other than that set forth in this no-
tice of sale.

I3232112

(Published in The Shopper's
Guide

Nov. 22, 29 & Dec. 6, 2023)
446730

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
STEPHENSON COUNTY,
ILLINOIS

SPECIALIZED LOAN
SERVICING LLC,
PLAINTIFF,
VS.

JOSE NEVARES; LISA C
NEVARES; UNKNOWN
OWNERS AND NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS,
DEFENDANTS.

NO. 2022FC48

2 NORTH HARLEM AVENUE
FREEPORT, IL 61032

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT
TO JUDGMENT OF
FORECLOSURE
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that pursuant to a Judg-
ment of Foreclosure and Sale
entered by the Court in the above
entitled cause on September
12, 2023, Sheriff of Stephenson
County will on 01/02/2024, in Ste-
phenson County Courthouse 15
N. Galena Ave (West Door), Free-
port, IL 61032, at 09:30 AM, sell at
public auction and sale to the

highest bidder for cash, all and
singular, the following described
real estate mentioned in said
Judgment, situated in the County
of Stephenson, State of Illinois, or
so much thereof as shall be suffi-
cient to satisfy said Judgment:

TAX NO. 18-13-36-253-016

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2
North Harlem Avenue Freeport,
IL 61032

Description of Improvements:
The property is a single family
home.

The Judgment amount was
\$120,981.88.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS"
sale for "CASH". The successful
bidder must deposit 10% down by
certified funds; balance, by cer-
tified funds, within 24 hours. NO
REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject
to general real estate taxes, spe-
cial assessments or special taxes
levied against said real estate,
water bills, etc., and is offered for
sale without any representation
as to quality or quantity of title and
without recourse to plaintiff. The
sale is further subject to confirma-
tion by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid
amount, the purchaser shall re-
ceive a Certificate of Sale, which
will entitle the purchaser to a
Deed to the real estate after con-
firmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open
for inspection. Prospective bid-
ders are admonished to check the
court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has
the sole responsibility/expense of
evicting any tenants or other indi-
viduals presently in possession of
the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium
unit, the purchaser of the unit at
the foreclosure sale, other than a
mortgagee shall pay the assess-
ments and the legal fees required
by The Condominium Property
Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(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)
OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our web-
site at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.
only - McCalla Raymer Leibert
Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys,
1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200,
Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312)
346-9088. Please refer to file# 22-
09223IL

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR
DEBT COLLECTION PRACTIC-
ES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S AT-
TORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A
DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPT-
ING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND
ANY INFORMATION WILL BE
USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not re-
quired to provide additional infor-
mation other than that set forth in
this notice of sale.

I3229618
(Published in The Shopper's
Guide

Nov. 22, 29 & Dec. 6, 2023)
446732

IN*CI*DENTAL*LY

Time to give thanks

Thanksgiving is the
perfect time to feel gratitude
for your teeth and gums
because they do so much
for us every single day. A
healthy mouth helps you
speak and communicate
clearly and chew the types of
crunchy fruits and vegetables
necessary to keep you
healthy.

But that is not the only
reason to be grateful for your
oral health. An attractive,
healthy smile can help to
give you the fresh breath
and confidence you need to
smile as you interact with
your co-workers, family,
and friends. Healthy teeth
and good breath allow you
to smile, speak, kiss, and eat
with comfort as you gather
for your family feasts. During
the holiday season, show
your gratitude for your oral
health that contributes to your
overall health by taking the
time to brush and floss twice
a day. This is the best way
to celebrate and keep your
picture-perfect smile.

Prevention of disease is
always best, for both your



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

health and your wallet.
When oral care is neglected
and oral disease is left
unchecked, your oral tissues
will deteriorate. Once the
enamel is compromised,
damage from decay and
inflammation accelerates.
Repairing the damage may
require a root canal, dental
restoration, extraction,
periodontal surgery, or
other expensive procedures.
Routine checkups and
cleanings serve to help avoid
costly treatment. They help
to spot areas of concern early
when intervention can avoid
or mitigate oral disease. That
is why both dental insurance
and our office membership
plan encourages and pays for
your routine dental cleanings
and checkups. Be sure to
take advantage of all your

benefits before the end of the
year. Remember, if you don't
use it, you lose it! Give you
and your family the gift of a
healthy and beautiful smile
all year round.

Thanksgiving serves as
a perfect occasion to voice
my appreciation for the
dedication of my dental team.
I am profoundly grateful
for my dental hygienists,
assistants and office staff who
are committed to meeting
your oral health care needs
in a warm, friendly, and
caring environment. Their
actions demonstrate a shared
dedication to life-long
education and positively
impacting our community's
oral health and well-being.
Now that's something to
smile about!

Finally, I would like
to thank all of you whose
curiosity and desire to learn
how to give your children
better oral health than you
had inspired me to write
this column. Your questions,
comments and topic ideas
are always welcomed and
appreciated.

•Bill (Continued from page 17)

those awaiting license re-
newal. The measure cleared
the General Assembly unani-
mously and needs only a sig-
nature from the governor to
become law.

State Rep. Bob Morgan,
D-Deerfield, who sponsored
the bill in the House, said with
legislative approval, IDFPR
would be able to batch-re-
new licenses for those who've
been waiting "not days, not
weeks, but months—up to six
to eight months."

House Bill 2394 also calls
for IDFPR to contract with a
technology vendor to build a
new computer software sys-
tem within three months of
Gov. JB Pritzker's signature
on the bill, and to have that
system up and running three
months after that.

In a September hearing, ID-
FPR Secretary Mario Treto Jr.
told lawmakers his agency is
hamstrung by 1990s-era tech-
nology that doesn't allow the
agency to add new types of
licenses to its online system,
even as more types of profes-

sional licensure have come
under the agency's purview.

As a result, IDFPR has
seen "an onslaught of paper
applications," Treto said,
contributing to "historic wait
times." A sizeable number of
the 104,000 total applications
the agency received last year
were submitted on paper via
snail mail.

Earlier this year, the agency
had been in talks with an exist-
ing state vendor that's already
under a "master contract,"
which would have sped up
the often-slow process of con-
tracting with a new company.
But in the September hearing,
Treto revealed the agency had
walked away from those talks
once IDFPR leaders realized
the vendor wouldn't have
been able to meet the agency's
specific needs.

"And candidly we were
quite disappointed with the
news," Treto said.

In that same hearing, lead-
ers of industry groups aired
their frustrations with IDF-
PR's licensing delays.

Daniel Stasi, a consul-
tant with the Illinois Mental
Health Counselors Associa-
tion, noted he's been the point
person for licensing-related
issues for 24 years.

"Very little has changed,"
Stasi said in September. "The
wait is actually longer."

Illinois State Medical So-
ciety executive senior vice
president David Porter told
lawmakers that the most con-
cerning aspect of IDFPR's
current licensing system is the
"lack of transparency" from
the agency.

"Applicants tell us that
there's no real way for them
to obtain status updates on
their applications or renew-
als, and there's virtually no
chance to be able to connect
with someone at the depart-
ment by phone or email who
can provide such updates,"
Porter said. "Most frustrating
to new applicants is that they
are rarely notified when their
applications are deemed to be
insufficient or incomplete,
which adds days or weeks to
when they can expect to ob-
tain a license."

Treto assured lawmakers
he's been speaking with his
counterparts in other states
to get ideas about how to im-
prove IDFPR's systems—and
said Illinois isn't alone in fac-
ing licensure issues. But, he
said, some states seem to have
figured it out. Oklahoma, for
example, has reduced its call
volume by 95 percent.

Dilpreet Raju contributed
to this report.

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393041



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447298

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204 Samuelson Dr. Orangeville, IL 815-789-3366

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Shop Small Business Saturday for Holiday Gifts
Saturday, Nov. 25

1013 16th Avenue Monroe, WI 608-325-4464
Hours: M-T 10-5; F 10-6, Sat 10-4

447290

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Christmas Items

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Clothing
And so much, much more!

New items put out daily!

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408371

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Small Business Saturday Specials

View our weekly ads on our website: hartzellsigawarren.com

408387

Brandon's Hardware & Rental

Shop Small Business Saturday

145 W. Railroad St. • Lena 815-369-5542

408402

Stock Holders Saloon

Apple River 815-594-2244

447404

SMALL TOWN SALOON

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111 North Main St. • Elizabeth 815-858-9111

447399

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Winter Fashions

Jackets • Sweaters
Dresses • Coordinates
Outerwear • Vests

Winter Coats 30% OFF

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JoAnne's Dress Shop

1618 11th St, Monroe WI • 608.325.3900
www.joannesdressshop.com
HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 9-5; Sat 9-4; Sun 12-4

447400

Down on the Farm Toys & More WEEKEND SALES

Black Friday, Nov. 24 • 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 25 & Sun., Nov. 26 • 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SALES THROUGHOUT THE STORE!!!
20% off all Bruder Toys, games & clothes/hats
Select Farm Toys on Sale!
Receive a FREE item with Barbie purchase AND MUCH MUCH MORE!!!

502 S. Schuyler St., Lena (Route 73) • 815-369-4444
Holiday Hours: M-F 10am - 6pm • Sa/Su 10am - 4pm

447402

Shop Local

Join us for Small Business Saturday November 25 • 8:30 a.m. - noon

Door prizes with minimum purchase
Holiday Discounts

Specials on Select items throughout the store

DeVoe Floral

216 W. Main St. • Lena, IL 815-369-5549
Devoefloral@yahoo.com

446935

•Kitchen

(Continued from page 20)

mix well. Add milk to make it thin enough to cover the cake and run down the sides.

Pumpkin Shortbread Dessert

This dessert feeds a crowd of people and again is easier than making pies. Enjoy this nontraditional dessert for the turkey day.

1¾ C. sugar, divided
1½ C. flour
½ C. butter
4 large eggs, lightly beaten
1 can (29 oz.) solid pack pumpkin
1 t. salt
1 t. cinnamon
1 t. ground ginger
½ t. ground cloves
2 cans (12 oz. each) evaporated milk
Whipped cream with cinnamon for garnish

Preheat the oven to 425. In a bowl, combine ¼ C. sugar and flour; cut in butter until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Press into an ungreased 9 x 13 baking pan. In a separate bowl, combine the eggs, pumpkin, salt, spices, and remaining sugar. Stir in milk. Pour over crust. Bake for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 350; bake for 50 to 55 minutes longer until filling is set. Cool on a wire rack.

Cover and refrigerate overnight. Cut into 15 squares. Top with whipped cream sprinkled with cinnamon.

Final thoughts

I write this column before I know if we will be playing football on the Thanksgiving weekend. Hopefully a lot of people will be eating their holiday dinner on Saturday or Sunday.

The Saturday after Thanksgiving is always Small Business Saturday. I hope you will all check out the many wonderful businesses we have in Lena. You can get cheese, meat, clothes, gifts, wine, candy, toys, furniture, beer, small appliances, flowers, Christmas decorations, and then stop at one of our great eating establishments. Support your local business so that we can keep them in town.

We continue the quest for Christmas cookie recipes. If you have some favorites, we would like to publish them. If you have some other Christmas 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.

Answers

J U P Q E S G N N O L A C I H T E D O U
N R E U U X P O R S Q U N A G E V V C R
H C E D W U A P C K T Y A F C C M W K G
L Q M R P A A R M C N E L O D P S J C F
E M G Y O F W O U A C O E N L C F A R C K
G T G R I D C D I I N S N P I C U W A E
U T E T E K O R U I X O N K I E P S Q
M W L J M R A J L M G I Y F B L M A E O
E J F E P T D D P K M F R V F W E R I C
S I A Y I V R T I K T U W A O O C E N A
S T B X C A I B W L I S R X B B J V J R
M Q E V H O H B S T L E G F I A E E A O
C L E V N U E D A N I M A L B H W X Q B
F V H H F U P N I T A L E G K D K G U C
Y Q T P N D M C G A J W J V E D G V A
H S R P W G E C E H F J N K V U O U F L
Q K A X A Y T E X A A Q L Y Q B B P A P
K C J U R Y X E H G T S E I T A N B A
J N U T R I T I O N A L Y E A S T A A P
S I H E A L T H G H G L Y V D A S M R P

PUZZLE 1

8	9	4	1	7	6	3	5	2
3	2	1	4	5	9	8	7	6
5	7	6	2	3	8	9	1	4
4	5	2	8	1	7	6	3	9
6	3	7	9	4	2	1	8	5
9	1	8	5	6	3	4	2	7
7	4	3	6	2	1	5	9	8
2	8	5	3	9	4	7	6	1
1	6	9	7	8	5	2	4	3

PUZZLE 2

7	9	1	6	8	3	2	4	5
8	4	3	2	5	9	7	6	1
5	2	6	4	7	1	9	8	3
2	5	7	9	1	4	6	3	8
4	3	8	5	6	7	1	2	9
6	1	9	3	2	8	4	5	7
1	7	2	8	4	5	3	9	6
3	8	4	7	9	6	5	1	2
9	6	5	1	3	2	8	7	4

CROSSWORD

	B	P	M		V	I	S	H	N	U	
		L	E	I		U	N	T	I	E	D
M	T		U	R	N		S	O	N	G	
A	S	S	I	S	I		U	N	E	A	R
M	A	S	S	I	F		R	E	S	T	O
A	R	C	H	A	I	C		G	D	E	Y
						E	L	S	E		S
K	R	A				D	A	R	N	S	L
							R	O	C	A	
A	P	I	O		S	I		Y	U	C	A
T	H	E	R	E	O	F			C	L	E
S	E	N	S	O	R	Y			E	A	R
					A	S	T	I		P	I
					S	K	I	N	G		A
					R	E	N	E	G		E