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VOL. 86 • NO. 6

YOUR **FREE** HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31, 2024



LENA LIONS CLUB FACEBOOK PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Citizen of the Year Awards

The Lena Lions Club presents the Lions Citizens of the Year Awards to Andy and Kevin from the Lena Community Park District. Both Andy and Kevin generously donate their time to supporting the club and the community, and endlessly work to keep the local parks beautiful. The town of Lena is blessed to have them!

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Certified Livestock Training sessions start Feb. 1

By Jenna Braasch
MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATOR

Depending on an operation's size, livestock manager training certification is required for many Illinois production livestock facilities. Having certified individuals on staff strengthens an operation through shared knowledge and building conversations with individuals responsible for livestock care.

University of Illinois Extension and the Illinois Department of Agriculture kicked off the 2024 Certified Livestock Manager Training Workshop schedule on Jan. 30. Several locations around the state, including Freeport, will host training workshops that meet the Illinois Livestock Management Facilities Act training requirements for Illinois livestock managers.

Pre-registration is required to attend an in-person workshop. For complete program details and to register, visit go.illinois.edu/CLMT. Class size is limited in some locations due to space constraints.

The remaining 2024 workshop dates and locations include:

- Thursday, Feb. 1, Morris: University of Illinois Extension Grundy County Office, Kendall-Grundy County Farm Bureau Bldg., 4000 N. Division St., Morris
- Friday, Feb. 2, Freeport: Stephenson County Farm Bureau Bldg., 210 W. Spring St., Freeport
- Tuesday, Feb. 6, Effingham: University of Illinois Extension Effingham County Office, 1209 North Wenthe Dr., Effingham
- Wednesday, Feb. 7, Breese: University of Illinois Extension Clinton County Office, 1163 North 4th St., Breese
- Thursday, Feb. 8, Pitts-

field: University of Illinois Extension Pike County Office, Pike County Farm Bureau Bldg., 1301 E. Washington, Pittsfield

Each workshop location will open at 8:30 a.m., and training will begin at 9 a.m. The training lasts 3.5 hours, and IDOA staff will administer the exam after the training. The Illinois Extension training fee is \$40, and IDOA's certification fee is \$30.

A range of topics related to the operation, management, and utilization of livestock waste and waste facilities will be covered. Additionally, the latest regulations, best management practices, and research for manure-related issues will be discussed. The training manual used will be the "Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship Curriculum." It is available at go.illinois.edu/manual.

The LMFA requires facilities designed for 300 or more animal units to have at least one employee certified in environmentally aware manure management techniques. Facilities designed for 301 to 999 animal units must have at least one employee attend a workshop OR complete the online training. Facilities with more than 1,000 animal units must have a certified livestock manager attend a workshop and pass the IDOA exam OR complete the online training and pass the online test.

For the 2024 season, there will be 50 questions on both paper-based and online tests. The pass rate is 70% or 35 of 50 questions. A Spanish version of the test is now available upon request. Young family members under 18 are welcome to take the training, but they cannot be the only certified managers at the facilities.



PEXELS STOCK PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

University of Illinois Extension and the Illinois Department of Agriculture will kick off the 2024 Certified Livestock Manager Training Workshop schedule on Tuesday, Jan. 30. Seven locations around the state, including Freeport on Feb. 2, will host training workshops that meet the Illinois Livestock Management Facilities Act training requirements for Illinois livestock managers.

Cannot attend a workshop? Online training and testing are available year-round and follow the same format as the in-person workshops. Online training involves nine modules of 10- to 20-minute videos that can be viewed at an individual's own pace. Those who have more than 1,000

animal units may take the test online.

All participants must register and check for weather-related updates at go.illinois.edu/CLMT. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in or have questions about the CLMT program, please contact Uni-

versity of Illinois Extension Educator Stanley Solomon at jssolomo@illinois.edu or by phone at 815-235-4125.

About Illinois Extension

Illinois Extension leads public outreach for University of Illinois by translating research into action plans that

allow Illinois families, businesses, and community leaders to solve problems, make informed decisions, and adapt to changes and opportunities. Illinois Extension is part of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing January winners

The Daily Drawing is a drawing for 366 daily cash prizes from Oct. 1, 2023, to Sept. 30, 2024, to those donating for a ticket. Over \$21,000 is paid out to ticket holders during the drawing year. Cash prizes vary between \$50 and \$250. A ticket may win multiple times as each ticket remains in the drawing each day for the entire year, no matter how often it may be drawn.

Sponsoring organizations from Jo Daviess, Carroll & Stephenson County include: Caring Community of Elizabeth, East Dubuque Music Boosters, Eastland Music Boosters, Galea Key Club, Hanover Alumni Association, Hanover Chamber

of Commerce, Lena-Winslow Education Foundation, Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary Foundation, Pearl City Athletic Boosters, Philanthropic Educational Organization-Chapter OH, River Ridge Drama Club, Scales Mound Travelers, Stewards of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge, Stockton Girls Sports, Warren Athletic Boosters and West Carroll Sports Boosters.

January winners are:
\$150 – Art Sipe

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\$50 – Patty Shillington
\$50 – Cindy Brown
\$50 – Mary Rubel

Highland announces call for entries to District Juried Art Exhibit

Highland Community College announces a call for entries for the 52nd annual District Juried Art Exhibit. Works are due on Thursday, Feb. 1 for the exhibit, which runs Feb. 14 to March 11. Submission directions can be found at highland.edu/juriedart.

The exhibit celebrates area artists and Highland students by displaying their artwork in the Highland Gallery and online.

Submission is open to original two- and three-dimensional works in any medium completed in the last two years and not previously exhibited in the Highland Gallery. Current students and all artists 18 and older residing in the Highland Community College district are welcome to submit pieces.

"Submitting works of art for exhibition consideration is an important aspect for all artists, and this exhibit stands

as a testament to the vitality of the arts in our district," said Highland Art Instructor and Gallery Director Bob Apolloni. "This has become a prevalent tradition acknowledging and celebrating the arts from community and student artists."

To submit work, find the entry form at highland.edu/juriedart or contact Bill Buehler at 815-599-3490 or bill.buehler@highland.edu.

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Conference offers landowners opportunity to learn about forestry, conservation practices

The Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference has an over 25 year tradition of providing great information and resources to forest landowners in the Illinois/Iowa/Wisconsin tri-state area. It has been one of the largest conferences for forest landowners in the Midwest.

The University of Illinois Extension is happy to announce that Tri-State will return to its historic format on Saturday,

March 2, in Freeport at the Highland Community College from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This conference is sponsored by Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin Extension Services.

This year's keynote speaker is Jason Meyer, executive director of the White Oak Initiative. Meyer will discuss the importance of white oak ecologically and economically along with efforts underway to sustain

white oaks on the landscape. Other topics on the agenda include bottomland forest management, timber harvesting, forest taxes, invasive species control, prescribed fire, tree diseases and pathogens, wildlife management, tree physiology, streambank erosion, forest soils, tree identification, and silvopasture.

The day will end with a discussion with experts from each

of the state's Extension professionals on the state of forestry in the tri-state area.

The Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference is designed specifically for forest landowners in the Midwest, but forestry professionals, consultants, volunteers, Master Naturalists, and students are all encouraged to attend. The conference is scheduled to be held at the Highland Community College

Student Conference Center, Building H, Parking Lot A, located at 2998 W. Pearl City Rd. in Freeport. Check-in will be from 8 to 9 a.m. that morning. The conference begins promptly at 9 a.m.

Pre-register online at go.illinois.edu/TriState or by calling the University of Illinois Extension at 815-235-4125. Early registration, including lunch, is \$40 and due by no later than

Friday, Feb. 23. After that date, registration rises to \$50. Early registration is required to ensure seating and lunch.

If a reasonable accommodation is needed to participate in this program, please contact Nikki Keltner, Program Coordinator at the University of Illinois Extension College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, at 815-235-4125.

Arctic Ale and Art Walk offers shopping, local artists, beer tasting on Feb. 24

The Greater Freeport Partnership will host the fifth annual Arctic Ale and Art Walk on Saturday, Feb. 24, from noon to 4 p.m. More than 20 participating businesses will feature a local artist and the opportunity to taste a favorite ale. A tasting cup is \$10 and can be purchased the day of the event.

Start the day at the Partnership office, located at 110 W. Main St. in Freeport, to get a wristband and event tasting cup. A list of participating locations and other event information will be available at the

check-in location and can also be found at greaterfreeport.com/arcticale, or by downloading the Greater Freeport Partnership mobile app.

Artists and artisans in local shops are excited to show their talents with the opportunity to buy their work and take home for anyone's own collection. Artists range in media from paintings, photography, pottery, fiber arts, jewelry, and more.

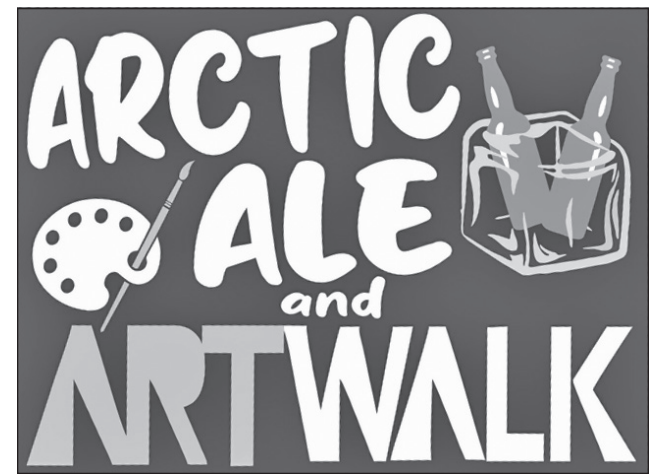
"We are excited for another exciting Arctic Ale and Art Walk in Downtown Free-

port," said Partnership Events and Engagement Manager Katie Gentz. "This event is a favorite to get us through the winter months and encourage residents and visitors to enjoy our local shops, no matter the weather. Shop in our fabulous stores with the added bonus of wonderful artists and ale tasting. Bring the family down, as some of the artists offer hands-on activities, and enjoy all that downtown Freeport has to offer."

Feb. 24 will also be the first Freeport Festival District date

for the year. On a designated festival district day, patrons can purchase a beverage (as a part of an event or otherwise), and carry it throughout downtown to enjoy the attractions, shopping, and dining in Downtown Freeport from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The Greater Freeport Partnership is a collaboration of business, community, visitor and economic development services with the mission to drive economic growth for Freeport and Stephenson County.



Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL. On Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. for Communion Sunday Worship Service. The service can be joined in person or via Facebook Live. The reading will be from Mark 1:29-39.

On Wednesday, Feb. 7 Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to join, and no quilting experience is necessary. The Peace Corps is also looking for any extra or unused material to be donated to assist in making these quilts.

Pastor Thomas Mosbo will be installed as the new Pastor for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Please join at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024. Pastor Mosbo was ordained at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Rockford, IL. He is looking forward to meeting the community and the pastors in our village of Lena.

All the services will be recorded and be available on church's Facebook page and website. Please visit our website and (<http://goodshepherdlena.org/>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/>)

GSLCLenaIL) for information. Please contact the church office at 815-369-5552 with any questions.

Salem United Church of Christ

Join for a service led by Pastor Christopher Ham at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 West Salem Road, Lena, Illinois, this Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024, at 10 a.m. The Adult Sunday School will be hosted prior to service, starting at 9 a.m. on the lower level of the church. Children's Sunday School is held during church service, at 10 a.m.

The Wednesday Breakfast Bunch will be meeting Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024, at 8 a.m. at Garden View Family Restaurant, 101 South Schuyler Street, Lena, IL. Everyone is welcome to join.

If you would like to participate in a fun evening of crafting, please join us for Crafternoon from 4 to 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. During this time there are snacks, a brief devotional thought, and plenty of time to work on crafts individually or together. This is hosted on the lower level of Salem United Church of Christ, and all are

welcome to join.

For more information on any Salem related items, please contact 815-369-4511 or salemwingsofjoy@yahoo.com.

St. John's Lutheran

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate the fifth Sunday of Epiphany on Sunday, Feb. 4 at 9 a.m.

The February Grace Meal will be on Sunday, Feb. 18. People can pick up a meal between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Reservations are due in the church office by Thursday, Feb. 15. The menu for the February meal will be chili, cornbread, and pudding. This meal is possible due to donations and a grant from the Foundation of Northwest Illinois.

The Healthy Wolves group will be packing backpacks on Thursday, Feb. 1 at 3:15 p.m. If interested in donating to this ministry, reach out to the church office for more information.

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. If you need to contact the pastor or church, you may call 815-443-2215 for information.



THE SCOOP TODAY

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OPINION



Weekly connection

Six very difficult words to say

Why is it so hard to utter those six little words, "I am sorry, please forgive me?" Some believe that if we get in the habit of saying these words, we are showing weakness. Before we can answer the question, we have to probe into what caused the problem in the first place because each situation could hold a variety of different circumstances leading to a variety of different feelings and responses. According to the internet, when a person



By **SCOTT CERNEK**
Columnist

says they are sorry it can be perceived as a threat to their self-image and ego. It also said that to apologize might lead to feelings of shame or a sense of being a "bad" person. Or how about this, if you have a fragile sense

of self-worth, you may not be able to handle the emotions and ill effects that come after apologizing.

Before I checked the internet's answer, I was thinking that not being able to say you are sorry is very definitely tied into a person's ego. By saying the words, "I am sorry" a person is in essence admitting that they did something that was out of line or hurtful and that is too much to stomach. There are millions and millions of people on the earth that are too fragile to handle the emotions that this admission might stir up. People do not want to open themselves up to this type of emotional disruption. It is just too

much for them to step down off one's pedestal and become humble in spirit. Jesus knew what humility was. He emptied Himself completely allowing Himself to be humiliated out of His love for us. He went to the cross for you and me.

We had a neighbor growing up who said that she never apologized to anyone. She was a very hard-shelled person and never really was able to have a relaxed conversation because she was so worried about keeping her ego going strong. I remember when we were kids after having a fight of some kind with

See **CONNECTION**, Page 8

Slices of life

Never have I ever...

I started this column thinking I might write about some of the things I've never yet done, like take an Alaskan cruise, drink ouzo in Greece, taste French bread in France or parent a dachshund.

But I missed out on the most important never ever of all...

Never, have I ever... played pickleball.

There it is. I said it out loud. Please don't unfriend me on Facebook. I'm truly still cool. Or I'm trying to be, despite the vast pickleball oversight.

I've made pickles - from scratch.

I've played ball - as in tennis, croquet, ping-pong and even - most recently - wallyball.

But combining pickles and balls?

Never have I ever.

Turns out I'm in the minority.

Everyone is playing pickleball. Some reports state it as the fastest growing sport in the nation. And not just among those as wrinkled as pickles.

You might be surprised to learn that the start of pickleball had nothing to do with gardening, cucumbers or vinegar. The game's humble beginnings began in someone's backyard and was soon picked up by seniors as a way to play tennis without running or jumping or having to move around too much.

It was ingenious.

So much so that it caught on with younger demographics who likely thought it wasn't fair for all the baby boomers to monopolize the pickle action.

But what is this entity



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

entitled pickleball? Does it involve eating pickles? Swatting them with a paddle? Using them as a paddle? Is an extra large pickle carved into a ball formation? How does a pickle become a ball?

The simple answer: it doesn't.

Pickleball actually has nothing whatever to do with pickles. But I'm no expert. I've yet to play even one game or match or set or whatever the pickleball lingo requires.

Although I've been invited - often.

People who play pickleball (known by the in-crowd as "pickleballers") are so overjoyed and enamored with the sport they can't wait to share it with others and get them hooked as well. It's almost like a new experimental drug, which would explain why the baby boomers, formally known as hippies, like it so much. (Just kidding, boomers! Learn to take a joke already!)

Never mind about that; I wasn't insinuating anything about the Woodstock era and experimental drugs. Just a friendly nod to adrenaline and the feel-good feelings sports-like activities release into the system.

Let's say definitively drugs have no part in pickleball - unless they are of the prescription variety.

See **SLICES**, Page 8

FREELANCE REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED

Rock Valley Publishing is seeking freelance reporters and photographers to produce local news and photos for your hometown newspaper. Weekly stories and photos needed for Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties. Writing and reporting experience a plus. Work from home as an independent contractor with no in-office requirement.

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Warren basketball wrap

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

Both Warren's boys and girls basketball teams found success when they picked up victories in their recent play.

The Warren Warriors boys' basketball team has experienced its fair share of ups and downs throughout the 2023-2024 season. After going through a coaching change and picking up an upset victory over Scales Mound, the Warriors fell back to earth with five consecutive losses.

Warren finally bounced back into the win column on Jan. 20, when they faced off with Easton Valley in this year's Manny's Shootout.

It was a day that saw the Warriors get off to a hot start, which is something they direly needed. More specifically, it was a game that Treyton Pafford simply refused to lose. Pafford practically willed his team to victory as he dominated the game from start to finish.

An early three-pointer got Pafford going in the first quarter, but he began to attack the interior of Easton's defense after that. Pafford put up thirteen points in the first, including a successful and-one opportunity. The Warren

junior handled a majority of the Warriors' production early on as he helped the team take a 17-10 lead into the second quarter.

Pafford's teammates continued to feed him the ball in the second quarter. Pafford went two for two at the line before adding another pair of baskets. Bryce VanRaalte, a sophomore, joined the party with a trio of his own baskets. They provided all of Warren's offense in the second quarter as the Warriors took a 29-14 lead into the break.

Easton didn't have the offense to complete a comeback, but Pafford was going to be sure to put them away. Pafford hit another three-pointer on his way to ten third quarter points. Jordan Kohl added a three of his own as the Warriors combined for seventeen points in the quarter.

Two hot starts defined the day for the Warriors. Seventeen points to begin the first and second halves allowed the Warriors to safely put this one away. Pafford led the way in scoring with a monstrous thirty-four-point performance. VanRaalte was next up with ten, and Kohl added six in the victory.

It was the seventh win of

the season for the Warrior boys, who went on to drop their next game against Oregon. The Warrior boys will be back on the court on Feb. 1, as they play host to West Carroll at 7p.m.

For the Lady Warriors, they have maintained a middle of the road approach to the season. After losing five games to open the season, the Warriors revitalized their year with a four-game win streak. Since then, they've kept things pretty balanced, helping them get off to a 10-12 start.

Their tenth win of the year came on Jan. 22, when they played host to the Potosi Chieftans. Much like the boys, the Warren girls got off to a quick start of their own.

Mayci Mullen got things going by going two for two at the free throw line. Later in the first, Mullen sunk a three-pointer. Meridith Neff had a hot start of her own as an early three-pointer helped her put up five points in the first. Addy Bohnsack matched them with five points of her own as the trio combined for all of Warren's first quarter points.

At the start of the second, the Warriors held a 15-10 advantage. That lead would only continue to grow as Lauren

Williams had an exceptional performance in the second. Williams went two for two at the line and hit a three-point-er on her way to nine second quarter points. Bohnsack added another four points. Averi Sabinson added a three-point-er of her own as the Warriors put up eighteen in the quarter.

Warren outscored Potosi in each of the first three quarters. In the third, Mullen hit her second three-pointer of the night, as did Sabinson. Katie Schneider got on the board with a pair of free throws and a two-point field goal as the Warriors outscored Potosi 15-14 in the third.

Heading into the fourth, Warren held a commanding 48-36 advantage. Potosi couldn't erase the deficit in the fourth as Bohnsack put up eight insurance points in the final quarter.

Bohnsack led the team in scoring with eighteen points, while Mullen finished with fourteen. Williams added nine, all of which came in the second quarter. Neff had seven as Warren won by a score of 59-49.

The Lady Warriors are scheduled to play host to West Carroll on Feb. 2, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Around the Northern Hills



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

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 Rollover

Protection Structure (ROPS). Fifty-five percent of farm tractors in Illinois do not have a cab or ROPS. 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 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.

Scholarships program

The Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau Foundation's scholarship program provides scholarships to students who are majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, vocational

See **EGGERS**, Page 15



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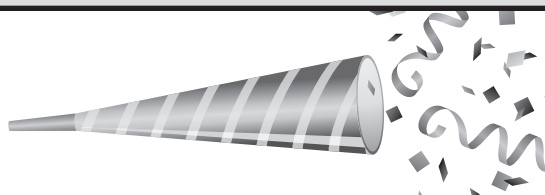
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ECHO GENERAC SCAG

• Slices (Continued from page 4)

Suffice to say the Woodstock generation has matured since their experimental days. They've since graduated to pickleball and they are bringing us all along for the ride.

They want us all to serve and volley - but most of all

to stay out of the kitchen. In pickleball, the kitchen is off limits, which might explain why no teenage boys are drawn to the sport.

I'd like to try it. I think I possess the eye-hand coordination to hit the ball and the stamina to make

it through an extra-long volley, but from what I understand the hardest thing about pickleball is scoring. When you play doubles, each point is called out in three numbers. I don't know about you but this sounds like a game created by an

accountant. Numbers have never been my forte.

I'm all for exercise and recreation but the thinking part has me stymied, which just may be the reason why I haven't tried to pickle with balls just yet. I've been invited by well-meaning

friends many times, but I've yet to make it into the court, much less the kitchen. I did purchase a set of paddles awhile back, in anticipation, but don't tell my friends. I'm not sure I'm ready for the fierce competition.

Not to mention the rigors

of scoring.

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.

• Connection (Continued from page 4)

a brother, my mom always made us apologize to each other. I think it helped me to learn to say the words. It was also good when I witnessed my parents apologize to each other and it usually ended in them kissing and making up. When a person doesn't

ever apologize and ask for forgiveness, they run the risk of becoming filled with self-importance and arrogance that they never do anything wrong. On the contrary, when a person apologizes for everything, it doesn't seem authentic. So, there is

a bit of a fine line there to work through. One thing is for certain, no one is perfect and so we had better all learn to apologize at least occasionally. It's just plain good for the soul.

When a person apologizes and asks for forgiveness,

I think we have a responsibility to say those words, "I forgive you" and mean it. Jesus said in I John 1; that if we confess our sins, then the Lord will be faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. The two

seem to go hand in hand. I guess we better learn to say, "I'm sorry I was wrong and that's okay, I forgive you." If we learned to do this, the world would be a much better place to live and work in. Our churches, our marriages, our parenting or

whatever we are involved in would become loving again and we would probably smile a whole lot more because we weren't so full of ourselves. We should all give it a try.

Until next week, God bless!

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Zen lives in the present. The Whole teaching is: how to be in the present; how to get out of the past which is no more and how not to get involved in the future which is not yet, and just to be rooted, centered, in that which is.

~ Osho



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Little Blackhawks

Pictured are the Stockton Elementary Little Blackhawks of the week. These students have been recognized for doing great work and having excellent behavior.

Congratulations for continuing to do great things at school.



Make your IRA contribution today!

You can still make a contribution to an IRA for the 2023 tax year until April 15, 2024. We'll help you decide what kind of IRA makes the most sense for you.

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If you're changing jobs or about to retire, we can also help you rollover your retirement account and design a savings plan that meets your retirement goals.



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VILLAGE OF ELIZABETH FACEBOOK PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

The Village of Elizabeth welcomes new business to town

The Village of Elizabeth hosted their January board meeting at the newly opened Elizabeth Business Hub, LLC. The Hub is a great place to host meetings as it features a group conference room, small meeting rooms, a kitchenette, and individual workstations in the co-working space. Visit their website at www.elizabethbusinesshub.org for more information.

Jo Daviess County is set to receive \$9,413 through Phase 41

Jo Daviess County has been awarded federal funds made available through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board program Phase 41. The monies awarded to Jo Daviess County are used to supplement existing services that provide emergency food and shelter services in Jo Daviess County.

The selection was made by a National Board which is chaired by FEMA and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army; American Red Cross; United Jewish Communities; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; and United Way Worldwide.

The local board, which is chaired by United Way of Northwest Illinois and is composed of representatives from Jo Daviess County, is now charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas in our communities. The local board is seeking applications from qualified service organizations (please see detailed list of qualifications below) serving Jo Daviess County. Those interested in applying can visit United Way of Northwest Illinois' website or contact our office to receive an application.

Jo Daviess County Emergency Food and Shelter Local

Board has distributed emergency food and shelter funds previously to Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency Senior Citizen Services, Riverview Center, and Caring Neighbors Food Pantry. Areas that are eligible to receive funds include: served meals, other food, mass shelter (on-site), other shelter, and supplies/equipment.

Eligibility to receive funds

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local organizations chosen to receive funds must:

- 1) Be private voluntary nonprofits or units of government (If private voluntary organization, must have a volunteer board) with a UEL, Unique Entity Identifier Number and FEIN Number
- 2) Have an accounting system
- 3) Practice nondiscrimination
- 4) Have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs

How to apply

Public or private voluntary organizations interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program Funds can visit www.uwni.org/efsp or contact the United Way of Northwest Illinois, Inc. at 815-232-5184 for an application. Grant request applications are due at the United Way office, 524 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, Feb. 10, 2024, by 4 p.m.

Highland announces call for entries to District Juried Art Exhibit

Highland Community College announces a call for entries for the 52nd annual District Juried Art Exhibit. Works are due on Thursday, Feb. 1 for the exhibit, which runs Feb. 14 to March 11. Submission directions can be found at highland.edu/juriedart.

The exhibit celebrates area artists and Highland students by displaying their artwork

in the Highland Gallery and online.

Submission is open to original two- and three-dimensional works in any medium completed in the last two years and not previously exhibited in the Highland Gallery. Current students and all artists 18 and older residing in the Highland Community College district are welcome to submit pieces.

"Submitting works of art for exhibition consideration is an important aspect for all artists, and this exhibit stands as a testament to the vitality of the arts in our district," said Highland Art Instructor and Gallery Director Bob Apolloni. "This has become a prevalent tradition acknowledging and celebrating the arts from community and student artists."

To submit work, find the entry form at highland.edu/juriedart or contact Bill Buehler at 815-599-3490 or bill.buehler@highland.edu.

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Tyler's Justice Center for Children to host Family Valentine's Night

Tyler's Justice Center for Children is hosting Family Valentine's Night on Feb. 14, 2024, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the center located at 400 W. Front Street, Stockton, IL, 61085. There will be story time, crafts, and fun activities for the entire family. Hot chocolate and snacks will be provided for everyone.

Please RSVP at www.tylerjusticecenter.org or via Facebook at Tyler's Justice Center for Children or All Our Kids - AOK Network - Stephenson, Carroll and Jo Daviess Counties. On March 12 Tyler's Justice Center for Children will host an Open House from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

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Hornets pull off comeback against River Ridge, capture third consecutive victory

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Scales Mound Hornets went to work on another winning streak after grinding through a rough stretch. After falling to Pecatonica in the Martin Luther King Tournament, the Hornets were just 3-4 over their last seven games played. The Hornets didn't hit the panic button, however, as they strung together three consecutive wins including a comeback victory over the River Ridge Wildcats.

The Wildcats continue to prove they can compete with just about anyone in the 2023-2024 boys basketball season. Despite coming into their Jan. 24 matchup against Scales Mound as the clear underdogs, the Wildcats believe they can win every time they step on the court. Scales Mound was highly ranked at 16-5 on the year, while River Ridge was not all that far behind at 12-7.

From the start, there was no shortage of offense from either side. Max Wienen got the game going with a jumper from the left midrange. Jonah

Driscoll had it working early on. Less than three minutes into the game, Driscoll was three for three, hitting mid-range shots from each side of the basket. The senior quickly gave the Hornets a six-point advantage.

Although Scales Mound sports a daunting offense, the Wildcats proved they could keep pace with them. Coming out of a timeout, Seth Nicholas finally got the Wildcats on the board with a putback shot. Once the Wildcats were on the board, both offenses were firing. Scales Mound and River Ridge went back and forth in a quarter that featured 38 combined points.

Joe Winter got his first basket of the night when Ethan Walters made a quick pass to him in the paint. Shortly after, Damon Dittmar sunk a three-pointer from the left corner. On the next possession, Winter scored his second basket as a shot off the back of the rim fell perfectly off the bounce. Suddenly, River Ridge held their first lead of the day as they went up 9-8.

At the end of one, River

Ridge held a 20-18 lead over the Hornets, but their best performance was yet to come. The Wildcats held Scales Mound to just eight points in the second quarter. Meanwhile, the River Ridge offense was consistent, putting up another 18 points. By the break, the Wildcats held a 38-26 advantage over the ranked Hornets.

Scales Mound is highly touted for a reason. Not only do they have an experienced coach in Erik Krudonowicz, but their offense can fire up at any time. The Hornets quickly went to work on erasing the deficit in the third quarter.

Coming out of an inbound play, Evan Cogan attacked the paint, hitting a short jumper from the middle. Shortly after, another creative inbound play brought the Hornets closer. From the baseline, Kaden Deurr hit Driscoll with a quick pass. Driscoll quickly passed it back to Deurr, while playing interference with Deurr's defender. Deurr sunk a three-pointer, making the score 38-31.

See VICTORY, Page 19



STOCKTON MIDDLE SCHOOL FACEBOOK PHOTO
Rock Valley Publishing



RIVER RIDGE CUSD #210 FACEBOOK PHOTO
Rock Valley Publishing

Shooting hoops

Stockton Middle School's Lilly Jordan has made it to the State competition in the Elks National Free Throw "Hoop Shoot" contest. Jordan will represent Stockton on Feb. 17 in Springfield. She won her local, district and regional rounds. Congratulations, Lilly!

Headed to State!

River Ridge seventh grader Brock Turner recently won the 12 to 13-year-old Division at both the Regional and District Level of the Elks Free Throws Contest. At District last week, Turner made 22 out of 25 free throws to advance and will now shoot at Springfield on Feb 17.

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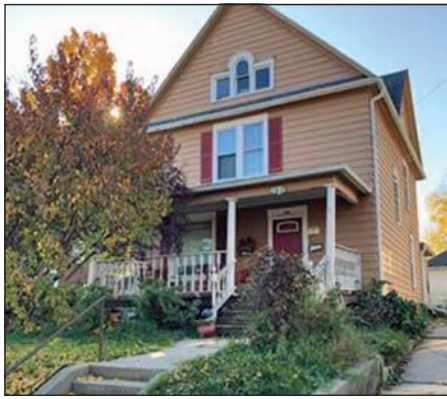
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Listings



Freeport • \$68,500

Covered front porch welcomes you to this 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home. Inside you will find hardwood floors, beautiful trim and railing on the stairs going up to the second level, 3 sets of pocket doors. The main floor has a living room, family room, dining room, kitchen, half bath and enclosed back porch. The kitchen has a pantry closet, a door to enclosed side porch and door to the basement and back yard which is fenced in. Upstairs you will find the primary bedroom with walk in closet, three additional bedrooms and the full bath.



Freeport • \$82,900

This duplex feature 2 bedroom 1 bath units with separate utilities. The lower unit has enclosed front porch where you then enter into the small entry with living room. Off the living room you will find 2 bedrooms. To the back is the eat in kitchen with the full bath and laundry off and back door to small deck and yard. The upper unit take the steps up into the eat in kitchen area with laundry with washer and dryer and full bath off. There is also a back door to deck. Off the living room are the 2 bedrooms. Tenant occupied, need 24 hrs notice to show.



Freeport • \$124,900

Welcome to this 3 bedroom, 1 bath home set back off the street with large front yard. When entering find the mudroom with washer and dryer. Into the kitchen we go with an open area for a table or island. The full bath can be found off the kitchen with additional access to the main floor bedroom. Rounding out the main floor is the dining room with access to

the covered side porch which was just redone and the living room with front door to the large yard. Upstairs you will find the additional 2 bedrooms. Outside features a fenced in backyard with walk in door to the 2 stall semi-attached garage.



Freeport • \$75,900

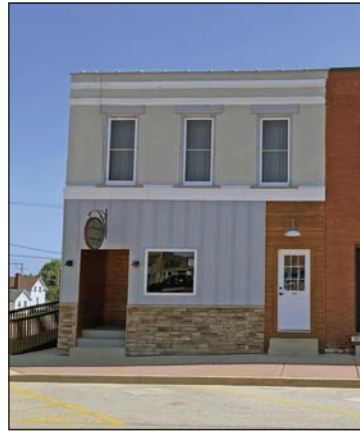
Walk up and enter into the large living room with hardwood floors throughout. You can choose to head upstairs or go into the dining room. Off the dining room you will find the kitchen with door to the stairs, back door to covered porch, and door to the basement. Upstairs you will find the primary bedroom with walk in closet with door to the bathroom and door to outside deck area. Additionally upstairs you will find another bedroom with access to the attic via the closet, the third bedroom, full bath and a built-in in the hallway. The home also features a 1 stall detached garage.



Freeport • \$88,000

This home features main floor living. Walk into the living room with two entry closets. Down the hallway you will find the bathroom and 3 bedrooms. The first bedroom has the washer and dryer in it which can easily be moved back to the basement. To the back of the home you will find the eat in kitchen with plenty of storage and counter

space. There is access to the one stall attached garage and basement from the kitchen. In the basement you will find plenty of work benches and storage space as well as a finished room with closet. Large back yard with rear fence to the neighboring property.



Lena • \$119,900

Mixed use building in downtown Lena. The main floor has two good size office/retail spaces (16'6 x 19'1 & 13'11 x 15'3), storage room (7'11 x 8'0), half bath and back room (8'6 x 14'10) with entrance off of alley. There is a one bedroom apartment on the second level which can be accessed from the street and also from the back room entrance on the main level. The apartment has a spacious living room (20'8 x 14'5), dining room (7'9 x 13'1), kitchen (7'9 x 10'1), bedroom (11'11 x 9'8), full bath and back storage/laundry room (9'7 x 14'8). There is a ramp to the side door of the building.



Lake Summerset • \$162,000

Bi-level home features 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, living room, dining room, office (no closet), kitchen with pantry, patio door to enclosed porch with gas wood stove, door to back yard and workshop. The spacious master bedroom has a patio door to the covered porch with lake views, through the trees right now. Sit on either of the porches or on the deck. Garage has storage space and a gas heater.



Pearl City • \$495,000

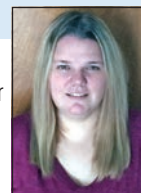
Seclusion, seclusion. Hunters take note! While driving down its winding lane, you'll notice how beautifully laid out this painstakingly maintained (nearly 25 Acre) recreational property, with home, pole building, & 16' above ground swimming pool actually is! 20 acres of heavy timber has provided exceptional hunting (huge bucks harvested from) property, with 2.5 miles of recreational trails (for walking, dirt bikes, ATVs, etc.) throughout & 1/2 half acre pond, to boot! Private, 1,000' ft driveway, with 2 composite steel & concrete bridges (each rated at 40,000 lbs. capacity) atop natural running creek; continuing on, driveway includes expansive, circular area in front of buildings, for large vehicle turnarounds. 30' x 30' pole building includes insulated ceiling & walls, concrete floor, electric, 8' x 16' overhead door, plus attached 12' x 24' shed roof on side. Single family home accommodates 26 ga. metal roof (standing seam - concealed fasteners), 26 ga metal siding (standing rib 12" O.C.), attached 2.5 car garage with automatic garage doors, concrete floor, shop-work area, water, heat & floor drain. Also this lower level sports a spacious foyer with garage access, half bath, mechanical room (washer/dryer, large sink, furnace, water conditioner & water heater), hunting gear room (previously used as 3rd bedroom w/out egress window) & spacious 2nd living area (currently used as 2nd bedroom) which nurtures ample room for transitioning into yet a 4th bedroom by dividing into 2 separate rooms for "cot sleeping" during hunting season! Upper level contains kitchen & dining areas, bedroom, full bath, & living room area with beautiful westward views through those extended picture windows! 16' x 16' wood deck, with steel supports & railings, lies just on the other side of those sliding glass doors! This a wonderful opportunity for anyone who loves the great outdoors & plans to utilize what nature already provides & seller has already put his heart & soul into. Sunset views, through those picture windows, are most delightful, no matter the season!



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Broncos defeat Pearl City in NUIC matchup

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The first year of the Orangeville-Aquin boys basketball co-op hasn't exactly been a walk in the park. The Broncos recently struggled through an eight-game losing streak, which dropped their overall record to 3-13 on the year. That stretch included a pair of losses by four points or less, and two more losses within 10 points.

When the Broncos can learn how to win those close games, they will sit in a much better position. Fortunately for them, they recently picked up a pair of tough wins over LaMoille and Pearl City.

On Jan. 20, the Broncos hit the road as they took on the LaMoille Lions. Prior to

their matchup, the Lions held an overall record of 7-13. Albeit below five hundred, the Lions still looked like the early favorite over Orangeville-Aquin.

The Broncos had a massive first quarter that set the tone for the rest of the game. After Orangeville-Aquin's Junior Varsity team picked up a commanding 30-16 victory, the Varsity squad picked up right where they left off to start their game.

The Broncos' big three of Brant Carlson, Miklo Webb, and Cody Wirth led the way offensively. The trio found success from the field, but also at the free throw line, where they made a major difference. Wirth was four for four, Webb was three for four, and Carl-

son was five for six at the line on the day. Ben Briggs was also solid, hitting three of his four free throw attempts.

By the halftime break, the Broncos held a commanding 31-23 advantage over LaMoille. The Broncos maintained their lead up until the final buzzer, when they went home with a 72-62 victory. Wirth led the team with 20 points, but Webb was right behind him with 19. Carlson finished the day with 15 points. Briggs was nearly the fourth Bronco in double figures as he finished with nine points.

A few days later, the Broncos had a back-to-back as they faced the Dakota Indians on Jan. 24, and the Pearl City Wolves on Jan. 25. Oran-

geville-Aquin knew they were in for a tough matchup against Dakota. Just a few weeks prior, Dakota beat the Broncos 61-47 in the last game of 2023. This time around the Broncos put up a much better fight, but ultimately fell just short to the Indians.

This game was essentially decided in one quarter. The Broncos tied the Indians 9-9 in the first, 11-11 in the third, and nearly matched them 10-11 in the fourth. Dakota outscored the Broncos 16-6 in the second quarter, however, and that wound up playing a crucial role in the final outcome.

Webb and Carlson led the team in scoring with 11 points each, while Wirth was next up with six. It certainly wasn't the offensive performance the

Broncos saw against LaMoille, and they eventually fell by a score of 47-36.

Orangeville didn't have to wait long to bounce back with the Pearl City Wolves on the schedule for the very next day. Not only were the Broncos in need of a win, but they had the advantage of being on their home court to host the Wolves.

Pearl City has seen their fair share of struggle this season, but they have been known to surprise a few teams. The Wolves gave the Broncos a tough fight in a game that came down to the wire.

The Wolves held a slight advantage in the first half. After outscoring the Broncos 15-13 in the first, the Wolves

maintained their two-point lead all the way up to the half-time buzzer. Orangeville had an impressive third quarter that would swing the momentum.

Once again, Carlson and Webb had excellent days, but it was Briggs who stepped things up for the Broncos. Briggs helped the Broncos outscore the Wolves 20-11 in the third which gave the Broncos the final lead change of the day.

Briggs wound up leading the team in scoring with 16 points. Both Webb and Carlson finished with 12 points. Webb did his damage from deep with a pair of three-pointers. Wirth added nine as the Broncos beat the Wolves 59-55.

Lena-Winslow boys battle through tough week on the schedule

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

Last week, the Lena-Winslow Panthers faced one of the most challenging parts of their 2023-2024 boys basketball schedule. With three games scheduled in five days, the Panthers faced off with the Pecatonica Indians, the Durand Bulldogs, and the Eastland Cougars. By the end of the week, those three opponents had a combined record of 48-16. The string of tough opponents would provide a good litmus test for the Panthers as they prepare for the final stretch of the regular season.

On Saturday, Jan. 20 the Panthers faced one of the top opponents in all of this year's schedule. The Pecatonica Indians have consistently been ranked amongst the top teams in all of Illinois 1A basketball.

Despite being outranked and on the road, the Panthers gave the Indians a run for their money.

In the closing minutes, Le-Win had themselves within three as they trailed Pecatonica 54-51. Ultimately, the Indians did just enough to defend their home court as the Panthers fell by a score of 58-51. Although the Panthers fell just short, they had something they could build off. It was their first matchup with Pecatonica this season with another scheduled for Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. in Lena.

One reason the Panthers have had continued success this year is how they handle their losses. Le-Win is yet to drop consecutive games this season, and that remained true when the Panthers faced off with the Durand Bulldogs on Jan. 22.

This was a highly anticipated matchup. Earlier this season, the Panthers beat Durand 62-55 in an overtime thriller. Many expected another similar matchup this time around. That was Le-Win's first game of the season, however, and the Panthers proved they are much better now than they were back in early December.

Jaylen Rakowska, who led the way in the Panthers' comeback victory over Durand earlier this year, wasted little time in picking up where he left off. Rakowska hit a pair of first quarter three-pointers to help get Le-Win going. Cohen Goeke added a first quarter basket of his own.

All night long, Le-Win's best play came on the defensive end. After holding the Bulldogs to just four points in the first quarter, they held

Durand to just seven in the second. That allowed for the Le-Win offense to build a substantial lead as their offense continued firing.

Early in the second, Rakowska hit his third three-pointer of the night. Mason Spidahl had a solid quarter, getting to the line and putting up four points. Michael Mowery converted a successful and-one opportunity in the quarter as well. By halftime, the Panthers already held a 31-11 lead.

Durand's offense was never going to erase that deficit, especially with how the Panthers were shooting. Miles Mahon had a big third quarter with a three-pointer and six total points. Spidahl and Mowery each added three of their own. Cobryn Lynch, Gage Dunker, and Rakowska also had baskets as six different Panthers

scored in the quarter.

It was a night where Le-Win dominated both sides of the ball as the Panthers picked up a 57-30 victory over the Bulldogs. Rakowska led the team in scoring with 20 points, while Mahon finished with nine. Spidahl added seven and Mowery had six in the victory.

After their battle with Durand, the Panthers faced another obstacle as they hit the road to play against the Eastland Cougars on Jan. 24.

Early on, the Panthers had the offense to match the Cougars. Rakowska had a solid first half with eight points. Lynch hit a big three-pointer. Mowery had a couple of nice baskets and Mahon found success at the line with a trio of free throws. By the break, Le-Win sat tied with Eastland at 24-24.

The Cougars took over the second half. Eastland's defense held the Panthers to just six points in the third quarter and nine in the fourth. Rakowska provided most of that offense with a three-pointer in each quarter.

It wasn't enough to keep pace with the Cougars in the end as the Panthers fell by a score of 44-39. Rakowska led the team in scoring with 14 points, while Mowery was the only other Panther in double figures with 10. Mahon had five in the loss.

Despite going 1-2 through the three-game stretch, the Panthers can feel good about the way they competed against those teams. Le-Win has another big game scheduled for Feb. 3 when they play host to the River Ridge Wildcats at noon.

Stephenson County set to receive \$23,146 through Phase 41

Stephenson County has been awarded federal funds made available through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Food and Shelter national board program. The monies awarded to Stephenson County are used to supplement existing services that provide emergency food and shelter services in Stephenson County.

The selection was made by a National Board which is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from United Way of America, The Salvation Army; American Red Cross; United Jewish Communities; Catholic Charities, USA; and National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

The local board, which is comprised of representatives from Stephenson County,

is now charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas in our communities. The local board is seeking applications from qualified service organizations (please see list of qualifications below) serving Stephenson County. Those interested in applying can visit United Way of Northwest Illinois' website or contact our office to receive an application.

Stephenson County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously to Freeport Area Church Cooperative, Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency Senior Citizen Services, Hearts That Care, VOICES of Stephenson County, Lena Ministerial Food Services and many others. Areas that are eligible to receive funds include organizations with existing programs: served meals, other

food, mass shelter (on-site), other shelter, supplies/equipment, and utilities assistance.

Eligibility to receive funds

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local organizations chosen to receive funds must:

- 1) Be private voluntary non-profits or units of government (If private voluntary organization, must have a volunteer board) with a UEI, Unique Entity Identifier Number & FEIN Number
- 2) Have an accounting system
- 3) Practice nondiscrimination
- 4) Have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs

How to apply:

Public or private voluntary organizations interested

in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program Funds can visit www.uwni.org/efsp or contact the United Way of Northwest Illinois, Inc. at 815-232-5184 for an application. Grant request applications are due at the United Way office, 524 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, Feb. 10, 2024, by 4 p.m.

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Gary Wedig: (608) 732-0237 – Mike Powers (608) 214-5761

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John Deere 9500 Combine: Lots Of Work Done To Unit, But Has Bad Hydro	John Deere 643 Corn Head: Poly, Knife Rolls
19' Kuhn VB3190 Round Baler: Crop Cutter, Net Wrap, Extra Kives9,100 Bales	Agco 3312 Discbine: Center Swing, Metal Rolls
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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

After 20 years in business, Larry Maedge has sold Lena Sign shop to Payden Lingle. Lingle will take over the shop as he continues to offer the same great services with additional offerings as well.

Lena Sign Shop sold after twenty years in business

Twenty years ago, Larry Maedge opened Lena Sign Shop, a full-service sign shop offering custom signs, apparel, and more. After two decades in business, Maedge has sold the shop and business to Payden Lingle.

The sale didn't go without careful consideration from Maedge. In addition to being involved full-time in the sign business for more than three years, Lingle worked alongside Maedge for several weeks to get to fully know the services provided and offered by Lena Sign Shop. Regarding the sale Maedge stated, "I want to thank all my customers who have trusted me with their signage needs these many years and wish Lingle

great success in continuing to do the same."

In addition to providing all the services that Lena Sign Shop has offered over the past 20 years, he intends to provide additional services as well. "I plan to add vehicle decals, full vehicle wraps, side-by-side, ATV and dirt bike graphic kits to name a few," stated Lingle.

Lingle is enthusiastic about the future of the business saying, "I am excited and grateful for this opportunity and am looking forward to making more permanent roots in the community where I grew up."

For more information about Lena Sign Shop, please contact Payden Lingle at 815-990-9565 or paydenlingle@gmail.com.

Stephenson and Carroll County Farm Bureau news

By Victoria Hansen

In less than 10 weeks, the Stephenson County Farm Bureau Young Leader's Committee will host the 7th Annual Bruce Johnson Memorial Farm to Farm 5K/10K Race on April 6, 2024. All proceeds from this event will go to supporting Agriculture in the Classroom efforts in Stephenson County. The entry fee includes race shirt, refreshments, prizes, finisher medals and a swag bag. Shirts and finisher medals cannot be guaranteed after March 22, 2024.

The out-and-back course starts and ends at Kent Farms (12662 N. Christian Hollow Road, Winslow, IL). The course runs south on gently rolling Christian Hollow Road to a turn-around and will feature farm equipment displays, diverse farmsteads, scenic country landscape and information signage highlighting Stephenson County agriculture all along the route. All who finish the race receive a finisher's medal and age group winners (male and female) will receive \$10 gift certificates. The overall male and female winners will receive a farm-themed award.

Age groups are 13 & under, 14-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, and 70-plus. After the race, enjoy "Breakfast Sausage on a Stick", fresh fruit, cookies, cold water, chocolate milk and more. Weather permitting, there will be a petting zoo and kids' ac-

tivities. Registration forms are now available at the Farm Bureau, 210 West Spring Street or to print at www.stephensoncfb.org or register online at www.runsignup.com and search Bruce Johnson Memorial Farm to Farm 5K/10K Race. For more information call 815-232-3186 or email manager@stephensoncfb.org.

Carroll County Farm Bureau hosts Lifeline Screening

There is a simple, convenient way for you to get preventive health screenings and learn your risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions. These painless screenings go beyond your regular checkup to identify dangerous plaque buildup or blockage, a major risk factor for stroke and heart disease. The screenings are accurate, affordable and will give you valuable information about your health that you can share with your doctor.

We are pleased to host Lifeline Screening, who will be on site on Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024, at Carroll County Farm Bureau to conduct these valuable screenings. These four vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <https://ilsa.social/HC>

IFB launches Urban Growers Cohort

Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB)

is hoping to connect urban producers with the agricultural community across the state by creating an Urban Growers Cohort and investing \$1.2 million in community gardens. IFB will be entering into a three-year partnership with USDA and Natural Resources Conservation Service to build connections and prevent growers from being "siloed." "There's programs everywhere, there's nonprofits that are doing all sorts of things, but people didn't feel like everyone knew how to connect, not just within Chicago but across the entire state," said Raghela Scavuzzo, IFB associate director of food systems development. Over the next three years, six community gardens will be identified throughout the state, and those gardens will receive between \$50,000 and \$75,000 for infrastructure based on a needs assessment.

The funding is not a grant and Scavuzzo said it is to create a long-term partnership meant to be a "true resource" for growers. "At the end of the day this is going to be what you as growers need," she said. Ben Skipor, ag science teacher and student garden coordinator at Freeport High School, said he sees this partnership as a way to excite young people who have not been a part of agriculture. "When I talk to my students about agriculture, a lot of them don't see opportunities because they don't come from a family that has a farm or they aren't the traditional farmer, so I think opening up those opportunities to them is really important so they can see themselves in the industry," Skipor said.

Scavuzzo said NRCS defines community gardens as anything that has either education to the community or food access components, which many urban farms provide. She also noted the definition of an urban community is broad and the goal of the program is to reach multiple geographically diverse communities. Joseph Bridges, urban conservationist for USDA, said this program is important to make sure that urban and smaller scale size operations are "in touch" with available technical and

financial assistance. "Every particular area is unique to its own demographic, what kind of produce they have, what is going on at the sites," Bridges told FarmWeek. "Bridging the gap and addressing things like the food deserts and addressing things like the general educational informational side of, how do we feed ourselves five to 10 years from now." Bridges said he believes everyone has a role in agriculture and that the Urban Growers Cohort will allow a systematic approach to "put all the pieces together" between traditional growers and specialty growers.

The program will do one site in the first year, two sites in the second year and three sites in the third, with additional funds, supplies and materials each year. "This is going to be a true grassroots opportunity where we're working with local government, local leadership, we aren't coming in to control anything. We are here help others build those relationships in the community," Scavuzzo said. She said they also want to ensure grant programs and other funding is used to its full potential. To provide feedback on UGC visit bit.ly/UGCohort or contact Liz Repplinger, Urban Agriculture program manager, at lrepplinger@iflb.org.

Prep, Freeze, Cook back by popular demand

The Stephenson County Farm Bureau and Agriculture in The Classroom program wants to help make your life easier with our Prep, Freeze, Cook fundraiser. Proceeds of this fundraiser help support the Agriculture in The Classroom program in Stephenson County. Agriculture in The Classroom teaches students about where their food comes from and the importance of agriculture. So far this year students have learned about apples, pumpkins, turkeys, cranberries, and pigs.

This program is free to all classrooms in our county. Prep, Freeze, Cook makes family mealtime easy, by providing 10 prepared and frozen meals for five person or two person quantities. Each individual who orders will receive

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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Lena American Legion prized pies

The American Legion Auxiliary held their annual Pie Judging and Soup Tasting at the Lena American Legion Home. Eleven pies were entered for judging. The winners included Linda Albrecht (first place) of Winslow for her walnut pie, Donna Otte (second place) of Freeport for her cranberry pie, and Linda Albrecht (third place) of Winslow for her apple pie. The pie judges were Shirley Fox, Pete Brown, and Bill Dameier of Lena. There were 22 soups and the ones selected by those attending were Hearty Cauliflower (first place) made by Carol Buss of Lena, and Big Mac (second) made by Lillian Seffrood of Warren. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Lena-Winslow FFA to host Chili Supper

The Lena-Winslow FFA will be hosting a Chili Supper on Feb. 9 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Lena-Winslow Elementary Cafetorium. They will be serving bean and meat chili and ham/turkey sandwiches, and dessert. A portion of the proceeds will also be going to

the Farm Rescue Charity which provides equipment and volunteers to farmers in times of personal need. It is requested that tickets are pre-ordered in the Le-Win High School office. If there are any questions, please contact Jacob Snook at 815-668-0787.

Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference offers landowners opportunity to learn about forestry and conservation

The Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference has a 25+ year tradition of providing great information and resources to forest landowners in the Illinois/Iowa/Wisconsin tri-state area. It has been one of the largest conferences for forest landowners in the Midwest.

The Tri-State will return to its historic format on March 2, 2024, in northwestern Illinois (Freeport) from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This conference is sponsored by Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin Extension Services. This year's keynote speaker is Jason Meyer, executive

director of the White Oak Initiative. Jason will discuss the importance of white oak ecologically and economically along with efforts underway to sustain white oaks on the landscape. Other topics on the agenda include bottomland forest management, timber harvesting, forest taxes, invasive species control, prescribed fire, tree diseases and pathogens, wildlife management, tree

physiology, streambank erosion, forest soils, tree identification, and silvopasture.

The day will end with a discussion with experts from each of the state's Extension professionals on the state of forestry in the tri-state area. The Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference is designed specifically for forest landowners in the Midwest, but forestry professionals, consultants,

volunteers, Master Naturalists, and students are all encouraged to attend. The conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2024, and will be held at the Highland Community College Student Conference Center (Building H, Parking Lot A), 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL. Check in will be from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. that morning. The conference begins promptly at 9 a.m.

Pre-register online at <https://go.illinois.edu/Tri-State> or by calling the University of Illinois Extension at (815) 235-4125. Registration, including lunch, is \$40 by Feb. 23 and \$50 afterwards. Early registration is required to ensure seating and lunch. If in need of reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact Nikki Keltner at 815-235-4125.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Sarah Salazar is shown in a patient room at FHN. Highland Community College and FHN have partnered to host an Open House for the Certified Nursing Assistant program from 2 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21 in the Ray and Betty Stamm Health Science Nursing Wing of the Natural Science and Health Center (building N) on Highland's campus.

Highland partners with FHN for the CNA Open House on Feb. 21

Highland Community College and FHN have partnered to host an Open House for the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program from 2 to 5 p.m. on Feb. 21 in the Ray and Betty Stamm Health Science Nursing Wing of the Natural Science and Health Center (building N) on campus.

This is a great time to visit with instructors and students from Highland Nursing and Allied Health—and also speak with staff representatives from FHN about entering the field of nursing through the gateway of becoming a CNA. Student Services staff will be available to help with financial aid, placement testing and any paperwork attendees need to get started as a Highland student. The event offers a one-stop shop to register for the CNA program and start learning on a new career path.

Alumna Sarah Salazar credits her academic achievements from Highland Nursing and Allied Health with helping her secure a job she loves at FHN. "Highland's CNA program prepared me very well for the real-world work of a CNA. The hands-on training helped me to be able to begin working confidently and to quickly become successful at FHN," she said. "I'm already considering going back to Highland for my nursing degree and then on to complete a BSN."

Interested new students could start at Highland as soon as March 11. Cassie Mekeel, RN, Basic Nursing Assistant Coordinator and Nursing and Allied Health Instructor, will be promoting Highland's spring semester second eight-week class, along with courses in the summer and beyond.

Contact cassie.mekeel@highland.edu or 815-599-3685 to learn more about the CNA Open House.

•Eggers (Continued from page 5)

or an agriculture related course of study. The scholarships are awarded on the basis of exceptional scholastic ability.

All applicants must meet these eligibility guidelines:

1. Must be a Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau member, spouse of member or member's child.
2. Must be accepted for enrollment or be enrolled at an accredited college, university, community college or vocational/ technical school.
3. Must be majoring in agriculture or an ag-related study.
4. Must exhibit potential for successful completion of study.

General scholarship applications must have successfully completed 12 college credits and be enrolled as a full-time student (up to two \$500 scholarships will be awarded). Highland

Community College applicants do not have to have any college credits completed to apply for the scholarship (up to two \$500 scholarships will be awarded). A copy of the application can be found at www.jodaviesscfb.com. Click on the foundation tab to find the link to the application.

FS patronage benefits

Did you know that if you are a Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau member and a customer of Stephenson Service Company that you may be eligible for FS patronage benefits? Qualified purchases you make from FS gives you the potential to become an owner of the company, thereby giving you a voice in its governance. Each year, the FS Board of Directors considers the payment of patronage refunds based on each

division's sales and profitability and only pays patronage refunds to Farm Bureau members. If you're not already a member, please contact our office at 815-858-2235 or sign

up at www.myifb.org.

Farm Fun Fact

Illinois ranks #1 in the production of soybeans, pumpkins, and horseradish.

Savanna Community Blood Drive

House Minority Leader Tony McCombie is hosting an upcoming blood drive event with the City of Savanna and the Savanna Fire Department. The Savanna Community Blood Drive will be held on Friday, Feb. 9 from 10 a.m. 2 p.m. at the Savanna Fire Department Truck Bay, 101 Main Street, Savanna.

Leader McCombie is encouraging anyone able to consider donating blood. "We have an ongoing blood shortage in Illinois, which makes any donation a valuable step in helping save lives," said

McCombie. "This is a community-based event that has had tremendous success in the past, and I hope this year will be no different."

Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. To make an appointment to donate, please call the Red Cross at 815-632-7384 or go to redcross.org. To streamline the donation and save up to 15 minutes, visit RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete a pre-donation reading and questionnaire on the day of the appointment.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v.- JOSHUA MCCLELLAN, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant

2023 FC 11
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 8, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on February 15, 2024, at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Ave. (West Door), FREEPORT, IL, 61032, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE TRACT OF LAND IN THE CITY OF FREEPORT, LYING EAST OF FOLEY STREET AND NORTH OF LOT TWENTY-SIX (26) OF POWELL AND WADDELL' SUBDIVISION IN THE EAST HALF (1/2) OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, CONVEYED BY CONRAD EDLER AND MINNIE, HIS WIFE, TO FRED EDLER, BY WARRANTY DEED, DATED MAY 4, 1895, AND RECORDED MAY 4, 1895, IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, IN BOOK "93" OF DEEDS, PAGE 387, REFERENCE TO WHICH DEED IS HEREBY MADE; RUNNING THENCE NORTH ALONG THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID FOLEY STREET, 42 FEET, THENCE EASTERLY ALONG A LINE AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID FOLEY STREET TO THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF LOT THIRTY-ONE (31) IN SAID POWELL AND WADDELL'S SUBDIVISION;

THENCE EASTERLY ALONG THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT THIRTY-ONE (31) TO A POINT 50 FEET NORTH OF THE NORTHEASTERLY CORNER OF SAID TRACT OF LAND SO CONVEYED TO SAID FRED EDLER; THENCE SOUTH 50 FEET TO SAID NORTHEAST CORNER, THENCE WESTERLY ALONG THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SAID TRACT SO CONVEYED TO SAID FRED EDLER, TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FREEPORT, COUNTY OF STEPHENSON AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 249 N FOLEY AVE, FREEPORT, IL 61032

Property Index No. 18-13-36-229-001

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$61,853.00.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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 Con-

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

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

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

For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 23-095397.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

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

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

CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810 CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901

E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 23-095397 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439

Case Number: 2023 FC 11 TJSC#: 43-3285

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Prac-

tices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Case # 2023 FC 11 13236601

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Jan. 17, 24 & 31, 2024) 449885

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS U.S. Bank National Association PLAINTIFF

Vs. David Brubacher; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Jake Brubacher; Kathy Brubacher; Cheyanne Brubacher; Roberta Jean Brubacher; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Kipp Meyers, as Special Representative for Jake Brubacher (deceased)

DEFENDANTS No. 2023FC50

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Jake Brubacher Roberta Jean Brubacher Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit: COMMONLY KNOWN AS:

309 W. South St Pearl City, IL 61062 and which said Mortgage was made by:

Jake Brubacher the Mortgagor(s), to U.S. Bank National Association, as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Stephenson County, Illinois, as Document No. 202000175263; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.

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

Clerk of this Court, Shanelle Bardell Clerk of the Circuit Court 15 North Galena Freeport, IL 61032 on or before February 16, 2024, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 DuPage # 15170 Winnebago # 531 Our File No. 14-23-04721 NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector. 13236545

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Jan. 17, 24 & 31, 2024) 449851

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JO DAVIESS COUNTY - GALENA, ILLINOIS PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC Plaintiff,

-v.- DENNIS C CLIFFORD A/K/A DENNIS CHRISTY CLIFFORD, SUSAN M CLIFFORD A/K/A SUSAN MARIE CLIFFORD, JOHN LYDON, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF ROSEMARY A CLIFFORD, DECEASED, THE GALENA TERRITORY ASSOCIATION, INC., EAGLE RIDGE TOWNHOUSE ASSOCIATION, INC., UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF ROSEMARY A CLIFFORD, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, KATHLEEN BAILEY, FRANK CLIFFORD, PAULA HERRMANN, KAREN DENNIS Defendant

22 FC 11
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 20, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at

1:30 PM on February 22, 2024, at the office of Vincent Roth Toepfer & Leinen PC, 11406 U.S. Route 20 W, Galena, IL, 61036, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Eagle Ridge Townhouse Unit 101, being part of Lot 1 of "Branigar's Plat of Eagle Ridge Unit "B", of the Galena Territory" A subdivision located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 19, Township 28 North, Range 2 East of the Fourth Principal meridian, Guilford Township, Jo Daviess County, Illinois; (According to the Plat thereof recorded September 18, 1981 as Document No. 160560, in Plat Book 14, Pages 124 and 125 and now located in plan hold B of Plats, No. 83, A&B; said part being bounded by a line described as follows;) Beginning at a point in said Lot 1, which is South 89 Degrees 50' 00", West 57.52 feet from the Northeast Corner of said Lot 1; thence South 65 degrees 36' 38" East, 26.08 feet; Thence South 24 degrees 23' 22" West 50.00 feet; Thence North 65°36'38" West, 26.08 feet, thence North 24 Degrees 23'22" East, 50.00 Feet to the Point of Beginning, in the County of Jo Daviess and State of Illinois.

Commonly known as 101 PLUM COVE DRIVE, GALENA, IL 61036

Property Index No. 08-408-101-00

The real estate is improved with a townhouse no garage.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is fur-

Continued on next page

National Children's Dental Health Month

This February marks the 42nd anniversary of National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM). The theme for this year's celebration is "Healthy Habits for Healthy smiles!"

Preventative dental care includes not only early and regular dental visits, toothbrushing and flossing, but preventative education. Throughout the entire month of February, healthcare professionals across the nation will be



By
DR. STEPHEN PETRAS
Illinois Licensed General Dentist

promoting the benefits of oral health education and its role in establishing healthy habits throughout each developmental stage of a child's life. Oral education plays a key

role in helping to establish and maintain habits that optimize your child's health from before conception, throughout pregnancy and throughout their lives. Parents, caregivers, teachers, and children all benefit from understanding what causes dental disease, the positive or negative ways our diet can affect our oral and overall health, the benefits of fluoridation, recognition and early intervention in craniofacial developmental

issues, disease, injury and trauma prevention, and the impact of oral health on overall health.

Establishing habits requires consistency. If you do not make oral care a priority, your child will not. The more parents learn about the benefits of oral health and the habits that promote it, the more likely they will be to develop and retain these healthy habits throughout their lifetime. When children see their parents model these

habits and are taught the important roles that their teeth serve, how and when to floss and brush their teeth, why they should visit the dentist, and the role that good nutrition plays in both oral and overall health, the more likely they are to value and carry those habits into adulthood.

Manual dexterity varies between children, so when it comes to teaching your child how to brush and floss, some children may need more assistance and for a more prolonged time. Do not

assume if one child could brush and floss well by a certain age, that all children should be able to. As always, ask your dentist and hygienist if your child is brushing well and what you can do to support their efforts.

To honor the efforts of NCDHM to improve the health of our nation's children, this column will focus on tips to help you understand and establish preventative care habits from pre-pregnancy through adolescence throughout the month of February.

Highland Fall 2023 Dean's list

Highland Community College proudly announces the dean's list for the Fall 2023 semester. Students who have completed 12 credit hours or more during the semester and have a minimum 3.25 grade point average (GPA), based on a 4.0 scale, are included on the dean's list. The Highest Honors are awarded to students with a perfect 4.0 GPA. High Honors are given to students with a 3.50 to 3.99 GPA, and Honors students have earned a GPA between 3.25 and 3.49.

Highest Honors

Apple River: Blake Heller, Hayden Moon, Abigail Winters
Baileyville: Bryn Greenfield, Mya Greenfield, Alexa Lancaster
Cedarville: Emily Aeling, Eric Armstrong, Dakota Baker, Zachary VanHorn
Davis: Mason Dixon, Ashlee Fisher, Mitchell McIntosh, Mekenna Montgomery, Ivan Wenger
Dominican Republic: Emanuel Lantigua Paulino
Donaldsonville, LA: Troy Cole
Durand: Kristen Janssen
Forreston: Cole Becker, Brooke Boettner, Samantha Cederholm, Carter Daws

Freeport: Lelawa Al abadi, Grayce Busker, Clay Cardoza, Genesis Cole, Allison Coon, Amanda Evon, Katelyn Filipowicz, Kirsten Frautschy, Christian Gasmund, James Giuffre, Hailey Golackson, Heidi Heck, Alyssa Hunziker, Kenton Johnson, Jacob Joseph, Andrew Levertson, Maya Logronio McDougal, Thalia Eden McDougal, Anna Morgan, Bayley Pierce, Michael Roberson, Leeann Spangler, Brianna Stager, Amelia Wenzel, Natalie Yeoman
Galena: Evan Ettleman
Leaf River: Alexander Milnes, Cassie Pals
Lena: Stefany Areola, Brady Eilders, Leah Goebel, Pacey Martin, William Ortmeier

Monroe, WI: Sloane Ambrose, Elaina Jordan
Montenegro: Boris Perucica
Mount Carroll: Bethany Hunter
Netherlands: Marie-Louis de Jong
Orangeville: Daniel Creuzer
Oregon: Nathan Dray, Wesley Immel
Pearl City: Madilyn Didens, Blane Foulker
Rock City: Ellah Dorn, Marilyn Hillman, Luke Taylor
Savanna: Madison Eppenstein, Izaiah Morris
Shannon: Abbey Hammer
Stillman Valley: Blakelynn Swanson
Stockton: Ashton Davis

High Honors

Apple River: Jason Niemann, Janel Radaszewski
Baileyville: Breanna Kloster
Belize: Jaheim Ciego
Brodhead, WI: Kassandra Ilgen
Browntown, WI: Aletha Broge, Emma Stricker
Byron: Zachary Janovsky
Cedarville: John Helms
Chadwick: Michelle Hinkle
Chicago: Matthew Somerville
Dakota: Hannah Bowers, Noah Wenzel
Davis: Cassie Boyer, Jenna Kneubuehl, Azlynn Olson, Soren Rieman, Samantha Rote, Joshua Schemel
Dixon: Ethan Pratt
Durand: Miranda Balentyne, Raina Johnson, Colin Sheridan
Elizabeth: Amber Hupperich
Esmond: Sara Johnson
Forreston: Dylan Lewis
Frankfort: Markwan Adams
Freeport: Clara Bartels, Eli Barthel, Kiley Cardoza, Hannah Deal, Isaiah Field, Sarah Foster, Ryan Grebener, Andrea Guevara, Lily Johnson, Sara Johnson, Owen Joseph, Nadine Kauffman, Elias Lassandro, Kerar Malik, Raven McGee, Kaitlyn Meyerhofer, Franklin Munda,

Omar Ndiaye, Carly Neubaue, Lane Pierson, Nicholas Polizzi, Carson Price, Olivia Schroeder, Alexandria Shepard, Noah Summers, Anna Tempel, Emily Tempel, Zayvion Thomas, Alexa Tran, Qianyi Wei, Isaac Wilcox, Olivia Wilhelms, Paige Winkelmann, Angelina Wolford
Galena: Alyssa Anderson
German Valley: Trenton Schlukebir
Kent: Kayden Schubert
Lanark: Madie Gallentine, Jaxon Sturtevant
Leaf River: Samuel Cesaerek
Lehi, UT: Noe Davila
Lena: Evan Peterson, Sarah Plapp, Ava Randecker, Taylor Robinson, Xavier I Sheppard, Jaydon Stouffer, Hannah Visel
McConnell: Madelyn Stadfield
Milledgeville: Lydia Faulkner
Monroe Center: Madison Simms
Monroe, WI: Gabriel Blum, Cheyenne Mapes
Montenegro: Natalija Obradovic
Mount Carroll: Kendall Asay
Mt. Morris: Shefkije Ismaili
Muscatine, IA: Alicia Garcia
Oregon: Abigayle Miller
Panama: Lucas Reyes Castillo
Pearl City: Conor DeZell, Jonathan Dinderman, Emily Janssen, Hunter Vick
Ridott: Josslynn Dauphin, Emma Manus, Morgan Wyss
Rock City: Chelsey Mashaw, Maison Sinkiawic, Mary Zettle
Savanna: Ashlyn Foster, Abbey Skiles, Mason Thomas
Shannon: Tatum Christians, Lillian Greenfield-Siegner, Hudson Groezinger, Kayden Homan, Curtis Hulke, Ashleigh Ifert, Kaitlynn Smith
Stockton: Lily Broshous, Joseph Brudi, Emma Cahill, Avri Miller, Robledo Ryder, Dana Spoerl, Tyler VenHuizen, Kacy Wright

South Wayne, WI: Raylin Peterson
Warren: Christian Eaton

Honors

Cedarville: Makayla Aeling, Kelsey Kruse
Chadwick: Mikkayla Hinkle
Chicago: Ramean Hinton
Chili: Benjamin Sprenger Rojas
Dakota: Logan Hanson, Cole Knox, Kooper Meier, Reese Reeter, Ava Sutherland
Davis: Kalli Kaskovich, Savannah Peterson, Kelsey Shenberger, Ethan Shippy, Sabrina Snyder, Madilyn Wirsing, Greenly Woker
Dominican Republic: Jorge Pena Romero, Felixander Severino
Freeport: Coretta Cole, Daniel Deng, Kalli Halverson, Teksha Herron, Naomi Jackson, Rainn James, Joshua Janicke, Abigail Manson, Maria Ortiz, Bansi Panchal, Raniyah Shirley, D'Lylah Therman, Elena Wheeler, Elizabeth Wuebbels
Israel: Monem Abboud
Kent: Belle Jordan, Emma Marvin
Lanark: Jocelyn Green, Jonathan Spoerlein
Lena: Connor Karnatz
McConnell: Ava Dietz
Mount Carroll: Samuel Hunter, AnnBrielle Young
Mt. Morris: Shkumbin Ismaili
Orangeville: Thomas Creuzer
Pearl City: Kenner Brinkmeier, Cade Monks, Gary Wagner
Polo: Monica Miller
Rock City: Chloe Flack, Hannah Simmer
Scales Mound: Thomas Winter
Shannon: Sarah Kempel, Kylee Potempa, Talena Rogers
Spain: Gonzalo Basterrechea
Stockton: Matthew Cook
Venezuela: Diego Yopez Sosa
Warren: Abigail Mulholland

LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from previous page
ther subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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

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

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.)

in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC
Plaintiff's Attorneys,
One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602.
Tel No. (312) 346-9088.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650
(312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC
One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago IL, 60602
312-346-9088
E-Mail:

pleadings@mccalla.com
Attorney File No. 21-07158IL_784827
Case Number: 22 FC 11
TJSC#: 43-4400
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 22 FC 11
I3236250

(Published in
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Jan. 17, 24, & 31, 2024)

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real estate

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422785

Farm Forward: Turning Last Season's Challenges into Next Season's Triumphs

Join University of Illinois Extension Crop Sciences Educator Kathryn Seebuck for the first year of her series "Farm Forward: Turning Last Season's Challenges into Next Season's Triumphs". This monthly series aims to address the needs of row crop producers and will be rotated between Jo Daviess and Stephenson counties.

"No two growing seasons are the same; however, lessons learned from previous seasons can be applied in those that follow. This series aims to facilitate discussion of last season's challenges, uncertainties, and successes, and how those insights can be applied in the upcoming growing season," states Seebuck.

The second session, "What 2023 Taught us About Fertility", will be held on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 10 a.m. at the Jo Daviess County Extension Office located at 204 N. Vine St. Elizabeth, IL 61028. This

series is being offered free of charge, but pre-registration is requested by the day before each program. To register or for more information please contact the Jo Daviess County Extension Office at 815-858-2273 or visit us online at go.illinois.edu/jsv.

The results of this past year's harvest were a mixed bag that contained a lot of surprises, many of which demonstrated the effects of soil type and moisture availability. This session will cover some of these lessons and how they may affect this year's nutrient management decisions. The final session "Planting for a Strong Start" will be held on March 14 at the Stephenson County Extension Office.

If in need of a reasonable accommodation to attend this program, please contact the Jo Daviess County Extension Office at 815-858-2273. Early requests are strongly encouraged.

• Victory (Continued from page 11)

Winter answered for the Wildcats on the other end. After a tough layup in which Winter was fouled, he sunk the and-one opportunity, restoring the Wildcats 10-point lead. It took merely seconds for Scales Mound to respond as Cogan hit Wienn for an assist down low.

Ultimately, Scales Mound held a slight advantage in the third quarter, outscoring the Wildcats 17-13. By the start of the fourth, the Hornets trailed by a score of 51-43.

The Hornets would dominate the fourth quarter on both sides of the ball. After being outdone by the Wildcats through three quarters, Scales Mound looked like a new team when the game was on the line.

Derrick Distler got the quarter started with a three-pointer from the right side with Thomas Hereau finding him on the assist. Shortly after, Hereau took a deep three of his own from the middle. The shot rattled around before falling, bringing the Hornets within four. It also caused River Ridge to call a timeout as their lead dwindled.

That was the story of the fourth quarter. The Hornets were letting it fly from deep and it was working. With just over three minutes left to play, the Hornets took their first lead since late in the first quarter. Deurr sunk his own

three-pointer from the right side, putting Scales Mound up 58-57.

With the game tied 58-58, Hereau hit went two for two at the line in a clutch situation. The Hornets would hold the lead the rest of the way, with Cogan hitting a couple more big free throws. In the end, Scales Mound pulled off the comeback for a 66-60 victory over the Wildcats.

Scales Mound was led in scoring by Hereau, who finished with 15. Cogan was next up with 14, and Duerr had 10. Cogan also led the team with six assists. Wienn had a near double-double with eight points and nine rebounds.

River Ridge was led by Winter, who racked up 26 points on the night. Dittmar was next up with 14, and Nicholas had 10 in the loss. It was a double-double performance for Nicholas, who led the team with 14 rebounds. Winter nearly had one himself with nine rebounds.

The Wildcats fell to 12-8 on the year, while the Hornets improved to 17-5. Both teams are set to face off again as they wrap up the regular season on Feb. 15.



• News (Continued from page 14)

one of the following meals: Three Cheese Lasagna, Gravy Pork Roast, Root Beer Pulled Pork, Chicken and Broccoli Mac n Cheese, Bacon Caesar Chicken Casserole, Ham Breakfast Burritos, Honey BBQ Chicken, Cheddar Bacon BBQ Burgers, Taco Casserole, and Chicken Pot Pie

Soup.

Five-person meals are \$175 and the two-person meals are \$90. We are accepting orders now through Feb. 28 at 4:30 p.m. Orders will be ready for curbside pickup on Wednesday, March 8 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau. Orders

can be placed over the phone at 815-232-3186, in person at 210 west Spring Street, Freeport, IL, or by printing and mailing the order form off our website: www.stephensoncnfb.org under "news" tab.

If you would like to support the Agriculture in The Classroom program but aren't

interested in meals, donations can be made to the Stephenson County Farm Bureau Foundation by mailing/dropping off donations to 210 West Spring Street, Freeport, IL. If you have questions, please contact our office at 815-232-3186 or by emailing office@stephensoncnfb.org.

REAL ESTATE NOTICES

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

U.S. BANK NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,

-v.-
JOSHUA MCCLELLAN,
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant

2023 FC 11

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 8, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on February 15, 2024, at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Ave. (West Door), FREEPORT, IL, 61032, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 249 N FOLEY AVE, FREEPORT, IL 61032
Property Index No. 18-13-36-229-001

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$61,853.00.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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

unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

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

For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 23-095397. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

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

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

CHAD LEWIS
ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ
SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC
205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810
CHICAGO IL, 60601
561-241-6901
E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM
Attorney File No. 23-095397
Attorney ARDC No. 6306439
Case Number: 2023 FC 11
TJSC#: 43-3285

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2023 FC 11
13236601

(Published in The Shopper's Guide
Jan. 17, 24 & Feb. 1, 2024)
449886

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE 15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JO DAVIESS COUNTY -
GALENA, ILLINOIS
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC

Plaintiff,
-v.-
DENNIS C CLIFFORD A/K/A
DENNIS CHRISTY CLIFFORD,
SUSAN M CLIFFORD A/K/A
SUSAN MARIE CLIFFORD,
JOHN LYDON, SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE OF
ROSEMARY A CLIFFORD,
DECEASED, THE GALENA
TERRITORY ASSOCIATION,
INC., EAGLE RIDGE
TOWNHOUSE ASSOCIATION,
INC., UNKNOWN HEIRS AND
LEGATEES OF ROSEMARY
A CLIFFORD, UNKNOWN
OWNERS AND NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS, KATHLEEN
BAILEY, FRANK CLIFFORD,
PAULA HERRMANN, KAREN
DENNIS
Defendant

22 FC 11

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 20, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:30 PM on February 22, 2024, at the office of Vincent Roth Toepfer & Leinen PC, 11406 U.S. Route 20 W, Galena, IL, 61036, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 101 PLUM COVE DRIVE, GALENA, IL 61036

Property Index No. 08-408-101-00

The real estate is improved with a townhouse no garage.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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

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

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

MCCALLA RAYMER
LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC
Plaintiff's Attorneys,
One North Dearborn Street,
Suite 1200,
Chicago, IL, 60602.

Tel No. (312) 346-9088.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

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

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

MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC
One North Dearborn Street,
Suite 1200
Chicago IL, 60602
312-346-9088
E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com
Attorney File No. 21-071581L_784827
Case Number: 22 FC 11
TJSC#: 43-4400

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 22 FC 11
13236250

(Published in
The Scoop Today
Jan. 17, 24, & 31, 2024)
449646

Join us!

Midwest Medical Center UPCOMING EVENTS

**JAN 31, 6:00 PM registration/
7:00 PM auction**

Midwest Medical Auxiliary 25-Cent Event Fundraiser

@ Turner Hall

115 South Bench St., GALENA

RESERVE YOUR SPOT: 815-541-9540 or

tcbn@sbcglobal.net

MMCGalena.org/25

FEB 1, 9:00 AM

Galena Chamber Ribbon Cutting | New General Store at Midwest Senior Care Community

(Nursing Home)

@ Midwest Senior Care Community

215 Summit St., GALENA

MAR 18, 2:30-5:30 PM

ImpactLife

Blood Drive / Donor Bus

@ Midwest Medical Center

1 Medical Center Dr., GALENA

MASKS OPTIONAL / APPOINTMENTS ENCOURAGED:

800-747-5401 | bloodcenter.org

Group Code 2116

Facebook.com/MMCGalena



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by

**Becker's Hospital Review
2023**

**based on survey data collected
from hospital patients*

July 2021 - December 2022



Welcome to the team!

Dr. Greg Dammann ORTHOPEDICS

“My areas of specialty are hip and knee replacement, and sports medicine surgery. I am excited to join Midwest Medical Center to continue to serve the community of northwestern Illinois where my wife and I grew up. I am committed to providing the highest quality care to the patients served by Midwest Medical Center.”



midwest

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Kenneth Schiffman, MD
ORTHOPEDICS

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William Farrell, MD
ORTHOPEDICS

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Greg Dammann, MD
ORTHOPEDICS

SPECIALIZING IN

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Visit our website to view the Physician Specialty Calendar