Serving the communities in Fo Daviess County

the Scoop Today



VOL. 90 • NO. 9

YOUR **FREE** HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21, 2024



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishi

Highland Community College announces 2023 Excellence Award winners

Pictured are (left to right) Mike Gunderson, Monica Pierce and Rachel Stewart as they stand with their 2023 Excellence Awards from Highland Community College.

Postal Customer **ecrwss



YOUR LOCAL, STATE-LINE SOLAR EXPERTS!

THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024





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News briefs

Female veterans brunch

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary will honor female veterans with a brunch on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. This will be held at the Lena American Legion Home at 316 W. Main St., Lena. There will be no charge for this brunch. Please join for fellowship and entertainment. Please call 815-369-4684 or email jamcps54@yahoo.com with any questions or to make reservations. Reservations are requested by April 10.

Stephenson County Veterans Pantry

The current needs for the pantry are:

- Conditioner
- Mouthwash Dish soap
- Sanitizing wipes
- Laundry detergent
- Non-white wash cloths
- Men's size 26 jeans
- Men's size 32 jeans
- Men's size 34 jeans

Donations can be brought to the Lena American Legion Home on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at 316 W. Main St., Lena. Donations are greatly appreciated. Please call 815-369-4684 with any auestions.

Your source for on-line news: RVPNEWS.COM



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Obituaries

Alison May Miche, of Lanark, IL, passed away Sunday, Feb. 11, at Pinecrest Community in Mt. Morris, IL. A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 16, at Lanark United Methodist Church. Visitation was from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday at the church, as well as one hour

prior to the service. Burial was

in Sabin Church Cemetery.

Alison was born on Nov. 30, 1964, to Lila and Lester Miche and made the world a better place for all who knew her. She was fortunate to participate in a variety of early childhood programs, which enriched her ability to learn. She then attended Elroy Open Door Pre-School for two

22, 1951, in Freeport, IL to

Margery Watson. She grew up

in the Lena Winslow and War-

ren area with her grandpar-

ents. Vicki married Stephen

Schoville on April 30, 1976,

and together they raised a fam-

at Kelly Springfield in Free-

port, holding various positions

with her final position being

a final finish tire inspector.

After retirement, she pursued

Cathy Burmeister. Brandon

attended Warren Jr. Sr. High

School, and went on to work

at Monroe Truck Equipment, Stagecoach Trails Limestone,

and most recently the Jo Da-

viess County Highway De-

partment. On Sept. 1, 2007,

Brandon married the love of his

life, Ashley Dagle in Apple Riv-

Brandon enjoyed hunting,

especially with his daughter

Kaylee, camping, side by side

riding, snowmobiling, and

making sure his yard was per-

fectly mowed. He also enjoyed

er, IL.

Vicki retired after 30 years



attending Southside Special Ed school as part of Freeport Public Schools and guidwas ed by many

teachers who continued to push her to reach her poten-

After graduation, she started a 40-year career at Rolling Hills Progress Center in Lanark. As Gordon Jones Assisting Living Center was being constructed, she became excited about having a new home in Lanark. She was the second resident there. During her 37 years in residence there, she

years before continued participating in a farm magnified her love for MICHAEL A. STROHECKER Special Olympics track and field events, swimming, snow shoeing, basketball, bowling, and softball. She remained talented and competitive most of her life. Alison was a member of the Lightning Bugs 4-H club which allowed her to participate in the Carroll County Fair for seven years. She remained a fan of the Chicago White Sox and the Dallas Cowboys.

She loved her church life and was a member of the Lanark United Methodist Church, and loved to sing hymns, especially the choruses. She never let the fact that she had Down Syndrome stand in her way of living life to the fullest. Growing up on

her tablet. Vicki was an avid

collector of Native American

antiques. She loved gardening,

going for long rides, but most

of all, loved spending time

with her family, friends, and

husband Stephen, five chil-

dren; Michelle (Benny) Zeci-

ri, Cheri (Shane) Story, Todd

Busch, and Chad Schoville,

Sydney, Chaz, Troy, Bri-

ana, Xander, and Zaidin; 16

great-grandchildren; two great

Debbie (Fritz) Balles; broth-

er Sheridan (Twyla) Watson;

beloved dog Chloe; and many

nieces, nephews, cousins, and

Samantha,

(Merl)

Brandon.

Shelby,

sister

Schoville, Brandi

great-grandchildren;

grandchildren:

Vicki is survived by her

animals, especially cats, dogs and cattle.

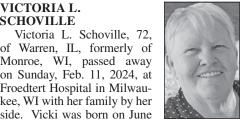
Alison will be dearly missed by her mother, Lila Miche; two brothers, Richard Miche, and Leland (Linda) Miche; one niece, Kendall (Sergio); two nephews, Spencer (Megan) and Hunter; one grandnephew, Mateo; one uncle, Colin (Marie) Kingham; two aunts, June Goodwin, and Cheryl Bullock; one aunt inlaw, Gwen Kingham; and 11 cousins, Nigel Rowen, Lloyd, Aaron, Michael, Bridget, Helen, Peter, Nicholas, Michelle, and Richard. Alison is preceded in death by her father, Lester; her uncle, Stan; her uncle in-law, Ken; and her nephew, Patrick.

family friends.

She was preceded in death by her mother, her grandparents George and Dolly Watson, a great-granddaughter Emmrie; and her three beloved dogs, Yukon, Cody Bear, and Baby Girl.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024, at the Bartell-Leamon Funeral Home in Warren, IL. A visitation was held on Friday, Feb. 16, 2024, at the Bartell-Leamon Funeral Home in Warren, IL. Jack Stites, a close family member, will be officiated the services. Burial was at Elmwood Cemetery in Warren, IL. A memorial has been established in her memory. Condolences may be sent to the fam-

ily at www.leamonfh.com. held from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. on March 2, 2024, at the Apple River Event Center. Per Brandon's request, cremation rites were accorded. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for his daughters, Kaylee and Kennedy Hartzell. Condolences may be sent to the family



her passion of caring for elderly people, working at Aster Assisted Living in Monroe, WI. She also helped

pets.

Sara,

at the Country Store on Highway 69 S in Monroe for many years.

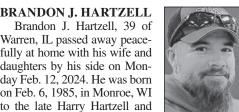
In Vicki's younger years, she spent numerous summers on the Ross and Ione Bonjour farm. She loved going on family vacations, especially to Estes Park, CO and Branson, MO. Vicki loved going to the casino, especially Ho Chunk in Madison, and Windcreek in Alabama. She enjoyed coloring and playing games on

> especially Brian (Renee) Van-Raalte and their family.

> Brandon was preceded in death by his father Harry Hartzell in 2011, and his paternal grandparents Nathan and Jean Hartzell, maternal grandparents Kenneth and Annabel Wilberding, and Uncle Keith Farrey.

A celebration of life will be

at www.leamonfh.com.



watching his girls participate in sportevents. ing Brandon will always he remembered for his loyalty and witty sense of hu-

mor. He mostly enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

Brandon is survived by his wife Ashley and his daughters Kaylee and Kennedy Hartzell, Mother Cathy (Dick) Burmeister, Sister Kari (Nick) Coffey, and Brother Jason Hartzell, Mother-in-law Melody (Chaz) Hammer, Father-In-Law Eric (Kathy) Dagle, Brother-In- Law Chris Watson, several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins, and many special friends,





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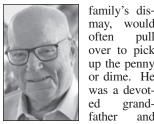
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Michael A. Strohecker, age 76 of Pearl City, IL, passed away at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford on Monday, Feb. 12, 2024, surrounded by his family. He was born May 15, 1947, in Freeport, IL; the son of Harry and Nadine (Bussian) Strohecker. He was a 1965 graduate of Pearl City High School. Mike married Karen Werkheiser on Sept. 23,

He retired after 33 years

with the Illinois Department of Transportation Highway Maintenance. After retiring he was a school bus driver for Pearl City School District for 15 years and enjoyed his bus route kids. Mike was a member of New Vine Community Church of Lena, IL, and the Pearl City Lions Club. He also served on the Pearl City School Board. He loved whitetail deer and turkey hunting with his son and grandson and special friend, Brad McWorthy. He loved fishing and spending time in the Wisconsin Northwoods, and recently took annual summer fishing trips to Canada. He loved playing cards with friends, scratch-off lottery tickets and spending time mowing lawns in the summer on his prized John Deere. He loved going to breakfast and playing a round of golf with "the guys" and going on drives with his Corvette Club friends. He has been a life-long Chicago Cubs and Green Bay Packer fan and especially enjoyed the Lambeau Field tour with his family a few years ago. Mike had a keen eye for spotting a coin on the roadway and much to his



was a devotgrandfather and he enjoyed

pull

spending time with them and special granddog, Scout.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Karen Strohecker of Pearl City; his mother, Nadine Strohecker of Freeport, IL; son, Daniel (Ann) of Freeport; daughter, Amy (Jeff) Johnson of Pearl City; 4 grandchildren, Drew (Taylor) Strohecker of Freeport, Alyssa (Jacob Pittner) Johnson of Rochester, MN, Delanie (Nick) Anderson of Cedar Rapids, IA, Hailey (Jacob VenHuizen) Johnson of Normal, IL; brother, Mark (Andrea) Strohecker of Hayward, CA; and special sister and brother-in-law, Jake & Connie Geerts, as well as nieces, many cousins and close friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Harry Jr. and mother-in-law, Ruth Ashpole, and nephew Brian Markel.

A visitation was held on Friday, Feb. 16, 2024, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Zion Community Church in Pearl City. The funeral service was held on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024, at 11 a.m. also at the church, with a visitation from 10 a.m. until the time of the service. Pastor Doug Carroll officiated. Interment will take place at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Freeport. A memorial fund has been established. www. hermannfuneralhome.com.

THE SCOOP TODAY

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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Isaac Rife celebrates earning a full Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship to Marquette University.

Isaac Rife receives NROTC scholarship to Marquette University

On Feb. 14, Chief Anthony received the award for writing nois and Iowa received a full Blansett of the US Navy visited River Ridge to award school counselor Marie Brzezinski and math teacher Susan Miles with the Impact Influencer

recommendations that helped NROTC scholarship, making senior Isaac Rife earn a full Nathis a huge honor. Rife plans on val Reserve Officers Training studying mechanical engineer-Corps (NROTC) scholarship to Marquette University. Only Award. These staff members four students across all of Illi- complishment!

ing in college. Congratulations, Isaac on this phenomenal ac-



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.

Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL. On Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday Worship Service. This will be the Second Sunday of Lent. Services may be joined in-person or via Facebook Live. The reading will be from Mark 8:31-38.

On Wednesday, Feb. 28, The Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to join, and no experience is needed.

All the services will be recorded and be available on church's Facebook page and website. Please visit the church 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.

McConnell Community Church

McConnell Community

Church, 211 N. Hulbert Rd., McConnell, IL, will be hosting their Annual Soup and Sandwich Lunch on Sunday, March 3 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the church located at 211 N. Hulbert Rd. in McConnell. The menu will include all-you-can-eat chili, vegetable beef soup, cheese sandwiches, celery/carrot sticks, dessert, and beverage. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 5-12 yrs old.

St. John's Lutheran Church

Lutheran John's Church, Pearl City, will celebrate the second Sunday in

Lent on Sunday, Feb. 25 at 9

Everyone is welcome to come to St. John's to play dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, March 5 at 9 a.m.

The Women's Gathering will be meeting for a bible study on Feb. 20 at 9:45 a.m. and then at 11 a.m. The Sit & Sew group will meet to work on prayer shawls.

The Healthy Wolves group will be packing backpacks on Thursday, Feb. 22 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.

Salem United Church of Christ

All are welcome to join us for a service led by Pastor Christopher Ham at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 West Salem Road, Lena, Illinois, this Sunday, Feb. 25, 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, March 6, 2024, at 8 a.m. at Amigo's, 306 North Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois. Everyone is welcome to

If interested in participating in a fun evening of crafting, please join for Crafternoon from 4 to 7 p.m. on United Church

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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, contact 815-369-4511 or salemwingsofjoy@ yahoo.com.

Lenten soup **lunches**

Join Pearl City Methodist Church for a brief message and a Lenten meal on Wednesdays at 12 p.m. Various area churches will sponsor the meal. A good will offering donation will be taken.

February 21: Pearl City United Methodist Church

February 28th - St. John's Lutheran Church

March 6: Yellow Creek Church of the Brethren

March 13: Zion Communi-

tv Church

March 20: Ebenezer/ Salem

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TAX TIME IS HERE! ** file



Around the Northern Hills

the-road seminar. Trucking regulations got you scratching your head? Hearing conflicting explanations? To sort truth from conjecture and fact from rumor, come join us at 10 a.m. on March 19 for a virtual Rules of the Road seminar.

This two-hour seminar focuses on trucking laws for farmers both new and wellworn. It will take a special look at the latest "Covered Farm Vehicle" exemptions, and you will have the chance to ask trucking questions that you can't seem to find the answers for anywhere else.

We will cover those recent changes and some of the more established but still misunderstood rules too, such as the USDOT Number, UCR registrations, and driver's license classifications. Presenting the seminar will be Rodney Knittel who has specialized in farm transportation issues for the Illinois Farm Bureau®.

The seminar is free for Farm Bureau members, but advance registration is required. Please call 815.858.2235 to reserve your place at the On-the-Road Virtual Seminar.

Family Farm Signs

As it starts inching closer to spring, we are all thinking of planting and sprucing things up around the farm. Why not add a "This is a Family Farm" sign to



ANNETTE EGGERS Jo Daviess County Farm

your landscape? The signs are 17.5" X 23" and cost \$30.

Scholarship deadline approaching

The scholarship deadline is coming up soon. The Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau scholarships are live. We offer two scholarships; one strictly for Highland Community College students and the other for any school. Students or their parents need to be JDCFB members and majoring in agriculture or an ag-related field. A copy of the application can be found at www. jodaviesscfb.com. Click on the Foundation tab, then the red scholarship button.

Young Leaders Committee

The Young Leaders Committee will have their next meeting on Sunday, Feb. 25 at 6 p.m. here at the farm bureau office in Elizabeth. Anyone between the ages of 18 and 35 and has an interest in agriculture is welcome to attend.

Farm Fun Fact:

One acre of soybeans can produce 82,368 crayons.

Tyler's Justice Center for **Children Open House**

Children will host an Open beautiful facility, learn more House on March 12, 2024, about the services provided, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The and understand what the cencenter is located at 400 W. Front Avenue, Stockton, Il ty. Light refreshments will be 61085. All are invited to served.

Tyler's Justice Center for come and take a tour of the ter's role is in the communi-

Keep "family" in family farm



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0820-519HC 28988-10/9/2023

Freeport police

controlled substance and unlawful use of a weapon arrest

On Feb. 12, 2024, Freeport Police Officers were called to a residence in the 500 block of E. Jefferson Street regarding an individual who was inside of the residence threatening others with a firearm. When Officers arrived, they made contact with the victim and 32-year-old Oscar Ortez. Officers recovered a .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol with live ammunition loaded in the magazine in Ortez's

waistband. No injuries were reported during the course of the investigation.

During a search of Ortez, Officers also recovered an amount of a substance that was suspected to be cocaine. A felony charge of Possession of a Controlled Substance and a misdemeanor charge of Unlawful Use of a Weapon were approved for Ortez by the Stephenson County State's Attorney. Ortez was arrested and transported to the Stephenson County Jail where he is being held pending the outcome of a detention hearing.

the defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial, at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable

Unlawful Use of a Weapon by a Felon arrest

On Feb. 13, 2024, Freeport Police Officers were called to a residence in the 300 block of N. Foley Avenue regarding two suspicious males who had been at the front door of a residence. While Officers were

The public is reminded that en route, dispatch advised a citizen had one of the males detained in the 400 block of N. West Avenue. When Officers arrived, the suspect male was secured and eventually identified as 28-year-old Freeport resident, Milan Hughes.

Officers located a loaded semi-automatic 9mm pistol next to where the citizen had Hughes detained. Officers later learned the pistol had been reported stolen from a residence in Freeport in 2020. Felony charges of Aggravated

See POLICE, Page 8



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STONE CREEK LADY 453-1101 AAA 20138672

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 +50
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 +120
 +7.4
 +11.1
 +9
 +51

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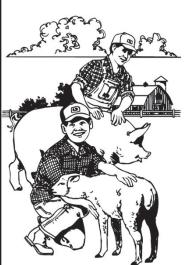
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Tragically, family farms are lost

for various reasons including unpredictable weather. To commemorate FFA Week, give special appreciation to the young people who will carry on this vital profession.

The Scoop Today & The Shopper's Guide

THE SCOOP TODAY

Warren hosts regional matchups

The Warren Warriors had the privilege of hosting one of this year's IHSA regional girls basketball playoffs. Their hosting began on Feb. 10 when the Warriors faced off with the Forreston Cardinals. Then on Monday, Feb. 12 they played host to the powerhouse that is the Galena Pirates. The next day, East Dubuque took on the Stockton Blackhawks in a semifinal matchup. Finally, Warren hosted their regional championship on Feb. 16 when Galena and East Dubuque battled it out.

The Warriors wanted to put on a show in their home playoff appearances. Their game against Forreston lived up to the hype as a dominant performance from Addy Bohnsack willed the Warriors into the next round. Warren scored just 38 points against the Cardinals. Twenty-nine of that came from Bohnsack, who outscored the Cardinals all on her own. It didn't matter what the Forreston defense tried, Bohnsack was going to get hers. Either she was scoring on the interior of the defense, or she was getting fouled and sent to the line. Bohnsack made her free throws count, hitting 10 of her 14 attempts on the night. A three-pointer and eight two-point field goals helped her put up 29 on the night.

For perspective, Forreston shot just six free throws as a team. Bohnsack had more than double their attempts at the line. In total scoring, Bohnsack had six more points than the entire Cardinals team as Forreston put up just 23. Mayci Mullen provided the rest of Warren's offense as her nine points helped seal the victory. The duo of Bohnsack and Mullen scored all of Warren's points on the night.

The victory had the Warriors facing an even bigger challenge. The Galena Pirates are nearing another 30-win season, and they would pose a problem for the Warriors in their semifinal matchup. The Warriors found themselves trailing early on. Galena got off to a quick start as they worked up a double-digit lead in the opening quarter. Warren put up just two points in the second quarter, which left them trailing 32-8 at the

It was a deficit the Warriors were unable to erase as they eventually fell by a final score of 54-28. Meridyth Neff led the team in scoring with eight points. Bohnsack and Lauren Williams each finished with seven, while Katie Schneider had six in the loss.

Galena would go on to beat East Dubuque 66-41 in the regional championship.

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River Ridge-Scales Mound brings home West Carroll Regional Championship

CORRESPONDENT

The River Ridge-Scales Mound Wildcats took their excellent regular season and kept things rolling as they entered the 2024 girls basketball postseason. After finishing the regular season with a record of 22-7, the Wildcats looked like one of the top teams entering the postseason. Participating in this year's West Carroll regional, the Wildcats would have to prove it all once again. Three victories later, the Wildcats went home with another regional championship trophy to add to the

The Wildcats began postseason play on Feb. 10 when they took on the Milledgeville Missiles. Earlier in the regular season, the Wildcats picked up a dominant 40-12 victory over the Missiles. RR-SM would prove that game was no fluke in their postseason matchup with Milledgeville.

Thanks to some excellent shooting from Emily Wiederholt, it didn't take much for the Wildcats to put Milledgeville away. Wiederholt had 19 points, hitting eight of her

18 attempts and leading the the team in scoring with 18 way in scoring. Wiederholt also led the team in steals with six. The freshman Campbell Hereau was next up with eight points. Gwen Miller added six and led the team in rebounds with seven in the victory. Kaci Patterson led the team with four assists as RR-SM won by a score of 58-33.

Two days later, the Wildcats brought that same energy. They found themselves in another familiar matchup as they took on the Polo Marcos in the semifinals. They also knew it would be a tough matchup. Back in December, the Marcos and Wildcats went down to the wire as RR-SM beat Polo 55-47.

The Wildcats were much more locked in with a postseason environment this time around. With a healthy Laiken Haas returning to the lineup, the Wildcats merely added to their stash of weapons. Laiken immediately made an impact in her return, racking up 12 points, five rebounds, and a team-leading seven assists and five steals.

Addison Albrecht also had a great outing, leading points. Albrecht added five rebounds and three steals to her stat line. Wiederholt matched Haas's effort with five steals, and that's where the Wildcats made a living in this one. Twenty-three total steals led the way for a 58-33 victory over Polo. As the playoffs do, things

got even more challenging as the Wildcats entered the regional championship. There, they were set to take on the Eastland Cougars in a Feb. 16 matchup. Once again, it was a matchup of familiar teams. Only this time the Wildcats found themselves in the other shoe. Back in December, Eastland picked up a controlling 53-35 victory over RR-SM. On paper, the Cougars should have had all the confidence coming into this championship game.

RR-SM looked like a different team this time around. Their offense came out firing as the Wildcats quickly put up 20 points in the opening quarter. After outscoring Eastland 20-15, the Wildcats took a five-point advantage into the

swing there, however. The Cougars controlled the entire quarter from start to finish as they outscored RR-SM 11-2. It was such an impressive showing that Eastland managed to take a 26-22 lead into the break.

Facing a slim deficit, the Wildcats came out ready for another hot start. Not only did they lock in for another impressive offensive showing, but they brought the effort on the defensive end. The Wildcats played complimentary basketball as they outscored Eastland 15-3 in a quarter that would ultimately decide the regional championship.

In the end, the Wildcats maintained their lead as they won by a score of 48-39 to capture the regional trophy. RR-SM had two players in double figures as Wiederholt and Albrecht each led the team in scoring with 12. Haas added nine, while Abigail Frank had eight in the victory.

With the win, the Wildcats improved to 25-7 on the year. That set them up to face off with Rockford Lutheran in Sectional play on Feb. 20.

Stockton FFA Chapter news

Section One Meat Evaluation CDE

On Feb. 3, the Stockton FFA Chapter competed in the Section One Meat Evaluation CDE where students were tasked with identifying retail cuts of meat, quality grading beef carcasses, yield grading beef carcasses, and placing classes. The team placed first overall. Individually, Ashlyn Schubert placed first, Cyrus Kilburg placed fourth, Ethan Steien placed fifth, and

Landon Warner placed sev-

Section One Poultry Evaluation CDE

On Jan. 29, Stockton High School and Middle School students competed in the Section One Poultry Evaluation Career Development Event (CDE). At this contest, students must grade eggs, judge laying hens, grade chicken carcasses, and more.

The high school team placed second overall. Individually, Arya Scott placed second, Wes Drane placed fourth, Kendra Robledo placed ninth, and Kaylynn Brunner placed tenth.

The middle school team

placed first overall. Individually, Mason Kloepping placed first, Aftyn Mager placed second, Jacob Craft placed fourth, Leah Chumbler placed fifth, and Trinity Bertucci placed eighth.

● **Police** (Continued from page 5)

Unlawful Use of a Weap- he is being held pending the on and Unlawful Use of a outcome of a detention hear-Weapon by a Felon and a ing. misdemeanor charge of Obstructing Identification were that the defendant is preapproved for Hughes by the sumed innocent and is enti-Stephenson County State's tled to a fair trial, at which Attorney. Hughes was arrested and transported to the Ste-

The public is reminded the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a phenson County Jail where reasonable doubt.







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Stockton FFA places first in Section One Poultry Evaluation CDE

The Stockton FFA middle school team placed first at the Section One Poultry Evaluation Career Development Event (CDE). Middle School Poultry participants include (back row left to right) Trinity Bertucci, Hannah Groezinger, Brynn Wackerlin, Lilly Jordan, Izaak Kurth, Jason Robinson, Blake Bennett, and Alex Jordan; Middle Row Left to Right: Leah Chumbler, Jackson Martin, Mason Kloepping, Breyen Mercer, (front row left to right) Alannah Edwards, Katelynn Kline, Yansieliz Rosario-Hernandez, Olivia Wellman, Emily Kleckner, Aftyn Mager, Jeremy Salazar, Jacob Craft, and Ben Mor-



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishin

The Stockton FFA high school poultry participants include (back row left to right) Kaylynn Brunner, Olivia Ernst, Wes Drane, Asher Haas, lan Eisfeller, Kallan Virtue, Robert Ernst, (front row left to right) Cullen Schubert, Logan Dreyer, Arya Scott, Ken-



The Stockton FFA Meat Evaluation Team includes (back row left to right) Cyrus Kilburg, Eli Haas, Landon Warner, Ethan Steien, Eve Moore, Katelyn Winters, Ashlyn Schubert, (front row left to right) Jackson Martin, Kendra Robledo, James Wickler, and Shirley Cook

The SpongeBob Musical to be performed by Lena-Winslow Schools March 8, 9

School Theatre Program is proud to present Nickelodeon's The Spongebob Musical. Performances are Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 9 at 1 p.m. and 7

SpongeBob (Jacob Schumacher) and all of Bikini Bottom face catastrophe until a most unexpected hero rises to take center stage. This bold, original musical celebrates friendship, cooperation, and the power of unity. Can a simple sponge full of optimism really save the

The cast is composed of

The Lena-Winslow High talented high school stu- director Clara Solverson, vodents as well as some junior high students who have been working tirelessly to create this wonderful celebration of live music and theater. You will see familiar faces such as, Natalie McNutt (Sandy), Ava Fiedler (Pearl), Josiah Randecker (Plankton), Madi Schierloh (Squidward), and Will Dorsey (Mr. Krabs), and Ellie Bardell (Karen), as well as some new to the musical stage or returning after a break, such as Odin Stabenow (Patrick) and Emily Engel (Larry the Lobster).

The show is directed by Renee Schultz with assistant cal music director Matthew Butler, and Jacob Snook as set and sound designer. Tillie Coomber is the costume designer, and Megan Borchardt is the choreographer.

The musical will take place in the Lena-Winslow Fine Arts Center and attendees should plan to park in the Panther Den parking lot. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Children three and under are free. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for the 7 p.m. performances and 12:30 p.m. for the 1 p.m. performance.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishi

The Lena-Winslow High School Theatre Program practices for their upcoming performance of Nickelodeon's The Spongebob Musical. Performances will be held Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 9 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.



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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE

Stephenson and Carroll County Farm Bureau news on the Orient Express by the viding 10 prepared and fro-

By Victoria Hansen

This past week has included finalizing details for two upcoming programs. The first program is "Supporting Farmers During Stressful Seasons". This program will take place on Tuesday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau office. The presentation, "Supporting Farmers During Stressful Seasons" by Josie Rudolphi, Assistant Professor at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will cover what is being seen among farmers in terms of stress and mental health, resources, and signs to watch for and what to do next. Registration is required and space is limited. To register for this event please call 815-232-3186.The second program that details were finalized for is a program cohosted by the Carroll and Whiteside County Farm Bureaus. This program is a "Wind Energy Landowner Informational Meeting" which will take place on Monday, March 11 at 9 a.m. at the Carroll County

Farm Bureau office. During this program attendees will learn about their rights, contract implications and negotiating options. Guest speakers include Bill Bodien, Director of Business and Regulatory Affairs with Illinois Farm Bureau and Garrett Thalgott, Assistant General Counsel with Illinois Farm Bureau.

This program is a member only program. Registration is required and is due on or before Feb. 29 at 12 p.m. Please call 815-244-3001 or email carrollcfb.org with any questions or to reserve a spot. We hope you'll be able to join us for one or both programs.

Murder on the Orient Express Bus Trip

Thank you to those who attended our Murder on the Orient Express Bus Trip. On Sunday, Feb. 18 we hosted our first bus trip of the new year. Members from Carroll and Stephenson counties traveled to the quad cities to enjoy a delicious meal and an even better production of Murder

talented performers of Circa 21. Our next trip is in June to Shipshewana Âmish Country, June 10 through 12. Full details can be found on the Stephenson County website at www.stephensoncfb.org.

Stephenson County offers Prep, Freeze, Cook fundraiser

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 prozen meals for five person or two person quantities. Each individual who orders will receive 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 13 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 at www.stephensoncfb.org under "news" tab.

See NEWS, Page 15



ion of the Year

The Lena Lions Club awarded LuAnn Jordan the Lion of the Year award. Lion LuAnn is always ready to pitch in and help wherever there is a need. She was instrumental in planning the Pet Parade/Diabetes Awareness Day last summer and continues to support the club and community in many ways.

The Scoop Today & The Shopper's Guide





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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE

North, Range 2 East of the

Fourth Principal meridi-

an, Guilford Township, Jo

Daviess County, Illinois;

(According to the Plat

thereof recorded Septem-

ber 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 North-

east 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

TAX NO. 08-408-101-00

COMMONLY KNOWN

Description of Improve-

ments: The property is a

townhouse. The property

has no garage. The exterior

is wood siding. The color

is gray. I am unable to ver-

ify that the gas is on or off.

The water is off. The prop-

erty does not have a fence.

The vacancy is unknown

The Judgment amount

Sale Terms: This is an

"AS IS" sale for "CASH".

The successful bidder must

deposit 10% down by cer-

tified funds; balance, by

certified funds, within 24

The subject property

is subject to general real

estate taxes, special as-

sessments or special taxes

levied against said real es-

tate, water bills, etc., and

is offered for sale without

any representation as to

quality or quantity of title

and without recourse to

plaintiff. The sale is further

subject to confirmation by

Upon payment in full of

the bid amount, the pur-

chaser shall receive a Cer-

tificate of Sale, which will

entitle the purchaser to a

Deed to the real estate after

The property will NOT

be open for inspection.

Prospective bidders are

admonished to check the

court file to verify all infor-

confirmation of the sale.

the court.

hours. NO REFUNDS.

for this residency. None

was \$116,798.85.

AS: 101 Plum Cove Drive

Galena, IL 61036

State of Illinois.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT** JO DAVIESS COUNTY, **ILLINOIS**

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, PLAINTIFF,

VS. DENNIS C CLIFFORD A/K/A DENNIS

CHRISTY CLIFFORD; SUSAN M CLIFFORD A/K/A SUSAN MARIE CLIFFORD; JOHN LYDON, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE

A CLIFFORD, DECEASED; THE GALENA TERRITORY ASSOCIATION,

OF ROSEMARY

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, **DEFENDANTS** NO. 22 FC 11

101 PLUM COVE DRIVE GALENA, IL 61036

NOTICE OF SALE **PURSUANT TO**

JUDGMENT OF **FORECLOSURE** UNDER ILLINOIS **MORTGAGE** FORECLOSURE ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on November 20, 2023, will on March 27, 2024, in the

Galena Primary School, 219 Kelly Lane, Galena, IL 61036, at 10:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the follow-

ing described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Jo Daviess, State of

Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

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 Ouarter of the Southwest Quarter and the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Ouarter of Section 19, Township 28

LEGAL NOTICES

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. If this property is a con-

dominium 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 IF YOU ARE THE

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

For Information: Visit our website at http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com. Between 3 p.m. and 5

p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 21-07158IL PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLEC-

TION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S AT-TORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLEC-TOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND **ANY INFORMATION** WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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

I3238119

(Published in The Scoop Today Feb. 14, 21 & 28, 2024)

IN THE CIRCUIT **COURT OF THE 15TH** JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY FREEPORT, ILLINOIS ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC., **PLAINTIFF**

SCOTT ENGELKENS; **DEFENDANT** NO. 2023FC46 Judge

Address: 1717 N. Henderson Road Freeport, IL 61032 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE PUBLIC NOTICE IS **HEREBY GIVEN** pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 3, 2023, I, Sheriff of Stephenson County, Il-

linois, will on March 21, 2024 at the hour of 9:30 AM at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena, Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

A TRACT OF LAND

LOCATED IN A PART

OF THE NORTHWEST

TION 20, TOWNSHIP 27

SEC-

QUAR-

NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRIN-CIPAL MERIDIAN, LAN-CASTER TOWNSHIP. STEPHENSON COUNTY. ILLINOIS, THE BOUND-ARY OF SAID TRACT

QUARTER OF

BEING MORE PARTICU-LARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: **COMMENCING WEST** TER OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST OF THE PRINCIPAL FOURTH

MERIDIAN; **THENCE** NORTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE **NORTHWEST OUAR-**TER OF SAID SECTION 20, A DISTANCE OF 858.80 FEET TO THE

MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID LINE, A DIS-TANCE OF 469.98 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 89 **DEGREES 22 MINUTES**

POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE CONTINUING

NORTH 00 DEGREES 00

SECONDS EAST, 469.94 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 40 SECONDS 470.95 FEET, THENCE NORTH 89 DE-GREES 15 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST, 468.76 FEET TO THE POINT OF

TO ANY AND ALL

RECORDED

TOWNSHIP,

BEGINNING, SUBJECT EASE-MENTS AND RIGHT-OF-WAYS, ALL BEING SIT-UATED IN LANCASTER

STEPHENSON COUN-TY. ILLINOIS.

COMMON ADDRESS:

1717 N. Henderson Road, ine the court file or contact Freeport, IL 61032 P.I.N.: 07-14-20-100-007

The real estate is improved with single-family residence.

JUDGMENT THE AMOUNT WAS: \$139,197.39

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds; the balance, by certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessjohnsonblumberg.com ments or special taxes lev-Ph. 312-541-9710 / ied against said real estate Fax 312-541-9711 and is offered for sale with-JB&A # IL 23 0451 out any representation as to I3237991 quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" con-

dition. The sale is further

subject to confirmation by

the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes

no representations as to

the condition of the prop-

erty. Prospective bidders

are admonished to check

the Court file to verify all

information.

Pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512, the amounts of any surplus bid will be held by the sheriff until a party obtains a Court Order for its distribution, or for 60 days following the date of the entry of the order confirming sale, at which time, in the absence of an order directing payment of the surplus, it may be automatically forfeited to the State

without further notice. 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).

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

son, Blumberg & Associates, LLC, 30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 3650, Chicago, IL 60602, telephone 312-541-9710. Please refer to file number IL 23 0451. Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC 30 N. LaSalle St., **Suite 3650** Chicago, Illinois 60602 Email: ilpleadings@

Plaintiff's attorney: John-

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Feb. 14, 21 & 28, 2024)

Village of Lena Notice of Public Hearing Re-Zoning Request 419 E. Lena Street,

Lena, IL

A Public Hearing will be

held by the Zoning Committee of the Village Board of Trustees of Lena, IL on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at the Village Hall, 122 E. Main St., Lena, IL.

The

Public shall be for the purpose of Re-Zoning parcel #11-07-33-451-05 also known as 419 E. Lena Street, Lots 3 & 4 of Pickard's Addition from Residential to Commercial Zoning.

Hearing

Anyone wishing to appear and be heard on the issue of allowing this request should appear at that time. You are also invited to send letters on this issue to the Village Hall, 122 E. Main St., P.O. Box 607, Lena, IL

61048. (Published in The Shopper's Guide Feb. 21, 2024)

LORAN TOWNSHIP **ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA**

Notice is given that March 1, 2024, is the last day for any 15 or more registered voters in Loran Township to request an agenda item for consideration by the electors at the annual meeting. This is done by giving written notice to: Deb Foust

Township Clerk 215 E. South Street Pearl City, IL 61062 (Published in The Shopper's Guide Feb, 21, 2024)

451218

Lady Broncos finish thirty-win season

The Orangeville Broncos saw the end of an illustrious career as Whitney Sullivan played her last game as a Bronco last week. It wasn't just the end for Sullivan, however. After defeating Alden-Hebron in their first game of the postseason, the Broncos were stunned by a red-hot Rockford Lutheran team. With that, an excellent Orangeville squad finished their season going 30-3.

Despite the postseason run being shorter than they would have liked, the Broncos still have plenty to be proud of from the 2023-2024 season. First and foremost, Sullivan cemented her name as perhaps the best basketball player to come through Orangeville. This year, Sullivan went well over 1000 career points and helped the Broncos

was also named the NUIC-North's Most Valuable Player with a unanimous First Team All-Conference selection. Joining Sullivan on the

First Team was Junior guard Laney Cahoon and sophomore guard Nadalee Dovle. Although losing Sullivan to graduation will be hard to replace, the duo of Cahoon and Nadalee present a promising future for the Broncos yet again. Not only do they return two key players from their recent success, but their head coach Jay Doyle has proven himself in leading the program. In Jay's first couple seasons, he began rebuilding a struggling program. After going just 16-46 through three years, Jay's program began to turn. Since then, the Broncos have gone 85-13. That includes three consecutive conference championships and a record setting thirtieth victory on Feb. 13 when they took on the Alden-Hebron Green Giants in the Rockford Lutheran Regional. This year, Alden-Hebron finished with 22 wins and looked to be a promising opponent for the Broncos. They had no answers for the trio of Sullivan, Cahoon, and Doyle. Sullivan carried the load in the opening quarter with 10 quick points.

In the second quarter Cahoon took over. teen points, including a big three-pointer, helped the Broncos expand their lead. By halftime, the Broncos already held a 47-10 advantage. Doyle helped to expand the offense as her three-point shooting really opened the floor up. Doyle hit a trio of three-pointers on the night as she finished with 16 points. That was enough to match Sullivan's 16 points for the

right behind them with 15 points of her own.

It was a double-double performance by Doyle as she finished the game with 10 steals. The Orangeville defense was dominant allaround as they held the Green Giants to minimal production in each quarter. By the final buzzer, the Broncos picked up a 72-32 victory.

Things couldn't have looked much better for Orangeville as they entered the just routed a 22-win team and appeared poised for a deep postseason run. Sometimes things don't go your way, and that was the sad lesson the Broncos learned against Rockford Lutheran. Perhaps Lutheran's home court advantage gave them the edge, but the Broncos aren't one for excuses. "We played hard until the end, but just wasn't our night," Jay said at the conclusion of the season.

Most teams haven't been 3.

Orangeville's defense. All year, the Broncos allowed an average of just 31 points per game. Lutheran already had that total by halftime as they took a 31-19 lead into the

The Broncos never recovered as they eventually fell by a score of 57-42. Cahoon had 21 points, while Sullivan had 10 and Doyle had nine. The Broncos finished the year with an overall record of 30-

set three consecutive single regional championship. Lady Panthers reach Regional Championship

CORRESPONDENT

The Lena-Winslow Panthers wrapped up another excellent girls basketball season last week. finishing the regular season with a record of 20-9, the Panthers began their playoff run with a 53-28 victory over South Beloit.

Things didn't get any easier after that. On Feb. 13 the Panthers faced off with an extremely familiar team in the Pecatonica Indians. Not only were the Indians highly ranked as one of the top teams in Illinois 1A, but they had the formula for beating the Panthers. During the regular season, Pecatonica beat Le-Win on three different occasions. In the sports world, a lot of people know the saying, 'It's hard to beat a team three times.' Well, The Indians would need to beat the Panthers a fourth time if they wanted to keep their exceptional season go-

ing.

Not only did Le-Win prove they were on the same level as Pec, but they showed why those regular season games didn't tell the whole story. In each of their three prior matchups, Le-Win held a 10-point advantage at one point or another.

The same could be said about their playoff matchup. Le-Win got off to a hot start when Grace Groezinger and Molly Amendt used their size to their advantage. They combined for eight

ter to get things going. Ava Valsin added a first quarter three-pointer, which was a sign of things to come.

In the second quarter, Le-Win was doing most of their damage at the free throw line. Rachael Setterstrom was three for four in the quarter alone. In the end, the Panthers combined for six free throws in the second. Alyssa Daughenbaugh added a three-pointer of her own and the Panthers took a 24-23 lead into the break.

Coming out of halftime, the Panthers turned things up a notch as they looked to their leading scorer. Groezinger began to attack the defense heavily, to which Pec had no answer. Groezinger had 13 points in the quarter, including a successful andone opportunity. Vlasin hit her second three of the night as the duo helped the Panthers put up sixteen in the

It was the Le-Win defense that stood out in the fourth quarter. Late in the game, the Indians managed to tie the game 42-42. With under 20 seconds left to play, Vlasin hit her third three-pointer of the night. That wound up being the shot of the game as she gave her Panthers the final lead change of the day. In the closing seconds, Setterstrom stole the ball to secure the victory.

On paper, it was an upset win for the Panthers, but it's not likely they saw

points in the opening quar- it that way. Groezinger led the way in scoring with 20, while Vlasin added nine. Amendt had seven as the Panthers earned the 45-42 victory. That propelled them into the regional championship, where they faced off with an impressive Aquin Bulldogs team. During the regular season, the Panthers and bulldogs split a pair of matches. In their most recent game, Le-Win beat Aquin by a score of 66-60.

Things couldn't have been more even in the first half. Both teams put up 11 points in each of the first two quarters. By the break, the game sat tied 22-22.

In the third quarter, Vlasin tried to give the team a spark with a trio of three-pointers. She also went two for two in a trip to the line. That was all of Le-Win's offense in the quarter. That allowed the Bulldogs to jump out to a slim advantage entering the final quarter.

In the end, Aguin's leading scorer Peyton London took over the game. London racked up 16 points in the fourth quarter as she outscored the Panthers all on her own. Eventually, Le-Win fell by a final score of 51-43, ending their season.

Vlasin had 16 in the game, while Amendt added 10 of her own. Groezinger added nine in the final game. The Panthers will have a tough time replacing their excellent senior class next year.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT **COUNTY OF** STEPHENSON -FREEPORT, ILLINOIS Bankers' Bank;

Plaintiff,

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Daniel J. de Waard a/k/a Daniel De Waard; David De Waard; Sietze De Waard, III; John De Waard; Kay De Waard; Karen O`Keefe; Gretchen Stastny; William Butcher, as Special Representative for Daniel J. de Waard a/k/a Daniel De Waard; Unknown Owners and Non Record Claimants Defendants,

23 FC 30

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. in the office of Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real es-

IN WINTER HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, A SUB-DIVISION IN THE **SOUTHWEST QUARTER** (1/4) OF THE SOUTH-WEST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 25 AND **NORTHWEST** QUARTER (1/4) OF THE NORTHWEST OUAR-TER (1/4) OF SECTION 36, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE

LOT THIRTY-ONE (31)

PLAT THEREOF RE-CORDED SEPTEMBER

16, 1954 IN BOOK "F" OF PLATS, PAGE 5; SIT-UATED IN THE TOWN-SHIP OF FREEPORT, COUNTY OF STEPHEN-SON AND STATE OF IL-LINOIS. P.I.N. 18-13-36-

Commonly known as 1450 Winter Drive, Freeport, IL 61032.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

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

For information call Law

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

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Feb. 14, 21 & 28, 2024)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS - IN PROBATE In the Matter of the Estate of BENJAMIN P. MAHONEY, Deceased.

Case No. 24 PR 15

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - WILL AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Benjamin P. Mahoney. Letters of Office were issued on February 14, 2024, to Susan Ward, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Nathan J. Noble, P.C., 504 North State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the es-

tate may be filed on or be-

fore August 22, 2024, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

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

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

Nathan J. Noble Attorney for Estate Nathan J. Noble, P.C. Attorney Nathan J. Noble 504 North State Street Belvidere, IL 61008 815.547.7700 (Published in The Shopper's Guide

Feb. 21, 28 & March 6, 2024)

's KITCHEN FROM LENA



It is hard to believe that February is half over. Lent has started, and St. Patrick's Day is less than a month away. There will be some meatless recipes for Lent for the next couple of weeks. Red recipes will be featured again this week. Enjoy cooking some interesting recipes this week!

Million Dollar Dip

This tasty dip has three great cheeses and a little kick. Use it on vegetables, bagel chips, or crackers.

1 pkg. (8 oz.) softened cream cheese

³/₄ C. mayonnaise

½ C. slivered almonds, toasted

1 C. shredded sharp cheddar cheese

1 C. shredded Swiss cheese ¹/₄ C. blue cheese crumbles

8 slices bacon, cooked until crisp and finely chopped

4 green onions, sliced, green and white parts

1/4 t. pepper

1/4 t. garlic powder

1/8 t. cayenne pepper

With a mixer, mix cream cheese and mayo together. Add the three cheeses and bacon and mix together; mix in the toasted almonds. Add the green onions saving a few for garnish. Mix in the salt,

pepper, garlic powder, and

cayenne pepper. Serve with

butter crackers, pretzels, ba-

gel chips, and veggies.

Radish and Cucumber Salad

Tired of the plain old lettuce salad? This radish and

great side that has a sweet and sour dressing

1/4 C. olive oil

½ t. lemon zest

2 T. fresh lemon juice

2 T. white wine vinegar

2 T. honey

1 t. salt 1 bunch radishes, thinly

1 English cucumber, thinly sliced

1 medium shallot, thinly sliced

¹/₄ C. chopped fresh basil

In a medium bowl, whisk together oil, lemon zest and juice, vinegar, honey, and salt. Fold in radish, cucumber, and shallot. Refrigerate for

serving, stir in chopped basil. **Tuna Filled Shells**

at least one hour. Just before

This Lenten dish is different than a tuna and noodle casserole. It is pretty enough to serve to company. The dill adds a great flavor to tuna. Lenten season.

12 jumbo pasta shells

5 t. flour

2 C. 2% milk

1 t. dill weed

½ t. salt

1 celery rib, diced

1 small onion, diced

1 T. canola oil

2 slices white bread, crum-

1 can (12 oz.) water packed tuna, drained and flaked

½ C. ranch salad dressing

½ C. shredded mozzarella

Cook pasta shells according to package directions. Meanwhile in a saucepan, combine the flour, milk, dill, and salt until smooth. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until thickened, about two minutes. Pour 1¼ C. sauce into a 2 qt. baking dish which has been sprayed with cooking spray; set aside. In a nonstick skillet, sauté celery and onion in oil until tender. Add bread.

Enjoy the beginning of the Stir in the tuna, salad dressing and cheese: mix well. Drain shells, stuff with tuna mixture. Place over sauce. Drizzle with remaining sauce. Cover and bake at 350 until bubbly and heated through, 25 to 30

Chicken Broccoli Casserole

This simple casserole is one that can be put together in no time at all. Use a rotisserie chicken, and you are good to go. If you want to substitute breadcrumbs for the cubes, that will work too. 3 C. broccoli florets

2 C. cubed cooked chicken

or turkey 1 can cream of chicken

soup

½ C. mayonnaise ½ C. grated Parmesan

cheese ½ t. curry powder

1 C. cubed bread

2 T. melted butter

Preheat oven to 350. In a

small saucepan cook broccoli in water until crisp-tender; drain. Place in a greased 11 x 7 baking dish and set aside. Combine the chicken, soup, mayonnaise, cheese and curry powder; spoon over broccoli. Top with bread cubes and butter. Bake, uncovered, until heated through, 25 to 30 min-

Cherry Bars

February is red month, so we have a red dessert. It is easy to make because you use a cherry pie filling. Be sure you buy the pie filling with the extra cherries. If you don't, you will have a lot of filling and very few cherries.

1 C. butter, softened 2 C. sugar

1 t. salt

4 eggs, room temperature

1 t. vanilla

1/4 t. almond extract

3 C. flour

See KITCHEN, Page 16

Call to place your ad

Rock Valley Publishing ISSITIC



SERVING NORTHERN ILLINOIS AND SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

employment









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help wanted

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

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

We publish newspapers, shoppers, and niche publications throughout the stateline. You have the opportunity to sell into all Rock Valley Publishing. L.L.C. publications, making your paycheck much larger!

For immediate consideration send resume/job history to: Vicki Vanderwerff, Director of Advertising Email: vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com

Fax: (262) 725-6844

444841

Help Wanted

CONTRACTOR OPENING TO DELIVER NEWSPAPERS IN BYRON, WINNEBAGO, PECA-TONICA, ETC. 1 DAY PER WEEK. WEEKLY PAY USING YOUR OWN VEHICLE. CALL TO INQUIRE 815-877-4044 ASK FOR LINDY



real estate

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familiar/ status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-900-669-9777. The toll-free tele phone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. EQUAL HOUSING OP-PORTUNITY





Announcements

for sale

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

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

Burial Needs

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

Furniture

WHITE brand sewing machine-Deluxe ZigZag, Model STD-270. \$90 cash. 815-541-

transportation

Automobiles

2001 PONTIAC AZTEK 117K mi., starts & runs great, gd. brakes & tires. Clean body, \$2500 OBO. 262-215-3182

2010 TOYOTA COROLLA LE Good brakes, good tires, new battery. No rust. 183500 miles. Good running car! \$5,150. Call 815-520-1094.

FIND YOUR NEXT RIDE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

Automobiles Wanted

TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR FULL SIZE JUNK TRUCKS & SUV's. Haul away 7 days a week.

Trucks & Trailers

CARGO TRAILER 5x8 Enclosed, needs cosmetic work Elkhorn location \$295. 262-949-

Pollinator program

Stephenson County Association for Home and Community Education (HCE) is sponsoring a program on Pollinators on Saturday, March 9, 2024, 1 p.m. at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau Building, 210 W. Spring Street, in Freeport. This program will provide an opportunity to learn what can be done to assist in creating a pollinator habitat in a yard or garden.

Jim Ritterbusch, who was employed by USDA before his retirement, will be the speaker. Ritterbusch was part of the Natural Resources Conservation Service and a District Conservationist who served Stephenson County. This free event is open to the public. Pre-registration is not required, but is appreciated by contacting Carla Meyer at 815-291-5963 (phone or text) or by email at carlameyer8@ gmail.com.

Scholarship offered

Stephenson County Association for Home and Community Education is offering a scholarship of \$300 to a student seeking higher education. This scholarship is open to a student of any age, sex, or race, who has a high school diploma or GED certificate.

The recipient of an SCAHCE Scholarship must be a current resident of Illinois, regardless of whether they attend a vocational institution or institution of higher learning working toward a vocational certification, undergraduate degree, or graduate degree.

The applicant must be a full-time student, majoring in a family related program, such as food management, textiles, diet, nutrition, childcare, marketing, agriculture communications, business management, nursing or social service, or a person returning to the work force or needs to be retrained in another field. If not a full-time student, scholarship will be prorated and shared with another part-time student.

The scholarship recipient must be an HCE member or related to an HCE member. Applications must be postmarked by April 15, 2024.

For more information and an application, contact the University of Illinois Extension Office at 815-235-4125. They will email the rules and application or pick up a copy at the office located on the Highland Community College campus at 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Bldg. R. Freeport,

• News (Continued from page 11)

If you would like to support the Agriculture in the Classroom program but are not 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@stephensoncfb.org.

Carroll County Farm Bureau accepting orders for Freezer Meals

The Ogle Carroll Agriculture Partnership Foundation is excited to announce we are now accepting orders for our spring freezer meal program. Each menu item serves about five people.

The menu includes Hickory Smoked Pulled Pork, Hickory Smoked Pork Loin, Smoked Sausage with Peppers and Onions, Chicken Teriyaki, Pork Fritters with Mixed Veg, Ham Steak with Mashed Tators, Sweet Chili Meatballs, Mostaccioli with Meat Sauce, Chicken Cavatappi and Pulled Pork Mac and

The meal sets are \$185 if you pay with check/cash and \$190 if you pay with credit card. Orders forms can be printed from our website www.carrollcfb.org or online using the link on our website. Order pick-ups will take place on Friday, March 22 from 12p.m. to 4 p.m. If you have questions, please call our office at 815-244-3001.

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The Scoop Today • The Shopper's Guide

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REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY -FREEPORT, ILLINOIS ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC., PLAINTIFF

SCOTT ENGELKENS; DEFENDANT

NO. 2023FC46 Judge Address: 1717 N. Henderson Road Freeport, IL 61032 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

OF REAL ESTATE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HERE-BY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 3, 2023, I, Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois, will on March 21, 2024 at the hour of 9:30 AM at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena, Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

COMMON ADDRESS: 1717 N. Henderson Road, Freeport, IL 61032

P.I.N.: 07-14-20-100-007

The real estate is improved with single-family residence.

THE JUDGMENT AMOUNT WAS: \$139,197.39

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds; the balance, by certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to 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

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale. which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representations as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all informa-

Pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512, the amounts of any surplus bid will be held by the sheriff until a party obtains a Court Order for its distribution, or for 60 days following the date of the entry of the order confirming sale, at which time, in the absence of an order directing payment of the surplus, it may be automatically forfeited to the State without further notice.

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)

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

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAĞÉ FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC, 30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 3650, Chicago, IL 60602, telephone 312-541-9710. Please refer to file number IL 23 0451. Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC 30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois 60602 Email: ilpleadings@ johnsonblumberg.com , Ph. 312-541-9710 /

(Published in The Shopper's Guide

Fax 312-541-9711

JB&A # IL 23 0451

13237991

Feb. 14, 21 & 28, 2024)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT** JO DAVIESS COUNTY, **ILLINOIS** PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES,

HC. PLAINTIFF.

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 I FGATEES OF ROSEMARY A CLIFFORD: UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; KATHLEEN BAILEY; FRANK CLIFFORD PAULA HERRMANN; KAREN DENNIS.

DEFENDANTS.

NO. 22 FC 11 101 PLUM COVE DRIVE GALENA, IL 61036 NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF **FORECLOSURE** UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE **FORECLOSURE ACT**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on November 20, 2023, will on March 27, 2024, in the Galena Primary School, 219 Kelly Lane, Galena, IL 61036, at 10:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Jo Daviess, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said

TĂX NO. 08-408-101-00 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 101 Plum Cove Drive

Galena, IL 61036

Description of Improvements: The property is a townhouse. The property has no garage. The exterior is wood siding. The color is gray. I am unable to verify that

the gas is on or off. The water is off. The property does not have a fence. The vacancy is unknown for this residency. None

The Judgment amount was \$116,798,85.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAG-OR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POS-SESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POS-SESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

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

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 21-07158IL

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

Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale. 13238119

(Published in The Scoop Today Feb. 14, 21 & 28, 2024)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON -FREEPORT, ILLINOIS Bankers` Bank:

Plaintiff.

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Daniel J. de Waard a/k/a Daniel De Waard; David De Waard;

Sietze De Waard, III; John De Waard; Kay De Waard; Karen O'Keefe; Gretchen Stastny; William Butcher, as Special Representative for Daniel J. de Waard a/k/a Daniel De Waard: Unknown Owners and Non **Record Claimants** Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. in the office of Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street. Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real

P.I.N. 18-13-36-104-012. Commonly known as 1450 Win-

ter Drive, Freeport, IL 61032.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

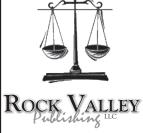
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. . For information call Law Clerk

at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455 **INTÉRCOUNTY JUDICIAL** SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com

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Today!

THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024

• Kitchen (Continued from page 14)

pie filling

Glaze

1 C. powdered sugar ½ t. vanilla ½ t. almond extract

2 to 3 t. 2% milk

Preheat the oven to 350. In a large bowl, cream butter, sugar, and salt until light and fluffy, five to seven minutes. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in vanilla and almond

extracts. Gradually add flour. Spread 3 C. dough into a greased 15 x 10 x 1 baking pan. Spread with pie filling. Drop remaining dough by teaspoonfuls over filling. Bake 35 to 40 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack. In a small bowl, mix powdered sugar, extracts, and enough milk to reach drizzling consistency. Drizzle over bars. Cut into squares.

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2 cans (21 oz. each) cherry Strawberry Streusel Bars Final Thoughts

1½ C. flour

1 C. quick-cooking oats

1 C. sliced almonds ½ t. baking soda

³/₄ C. unsalted butter, melted

½ C. firmly packed brown

1 t. salt

13/4 C. fresh strawberries, trimmed and chopped

1½ C. strawberry jam

Preheat oven to 350. Line an 8-inch square pan with parchment paper sprayed with baking spray with flour. In a medium bowl, stir together flour, oats, almonds, and baking soda. Add melted butter, brown sugar, and salt, stirring until mixture is crumbly. Press 2/3 of mixture into bottom of prepared pan. Sprinkle with strawberries and cover with jam. Sprinkle remaining crumble mixture on top. Bake until golden brown and bubbly, 55 minutes to 1 hour. Let cool on a wire rack for 20 minutes. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before slicing into rvpublishing.com.

Presidents' Day has come and gone. When I was teaching, this holiday was the last day off until Spring Break. It was a long winter from here on out. Winter sports are winding down at the high schools with regionals and sectionals. The state wrestling meet was this past weekend. Musicals are beginning to be ready for production, and the musicians are practicing for Solo and Ensemble Contest. Sullivans is gearing up for corn beef sales. Time marches on. If we can keep away from snow and cold weather, it won't be so unbearable.

We are looking for St. Patrick's Day recipes. Easter is really early this year, so send some favorites our way. If you find some recipes to share, you can contact us in person, by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, The Shopper's Guide at 240 W. Main St. or email us at scoopshopper@

Pearly City student wins Regional Spelling Bee

The 42ndAnnual Carroll, Jo Daviess, and Stephenson County Regional Spelling Bee was held Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Highland Community College. Twenty-two students in grades four through eight competed in the Spelling Bee coordinated by the Regional Office of Education #8. The participants of the Regional Spelling Bee are the first and second-place winners from their local school district spelling bee contests

The 2024 Regional Spelling Bee Champion was Hendrix Feld, a 7th-grade student from Pearl City School District. Mason Coulthard, a 7th-grade student from Lena-Winslow School District, earned 2nd

place. The two finalists competed back and forth for several rounds before Mason misspelled "deprivation" at the beginning of round 13 and Hendrix spelled "asylum" correctly at the end of round 13. Hendrix then spelled "tantrum" correctly to win the next round and became the 42nd Regional Spelling Bee Champion.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee will occur May 26 through June 1, 2024, in Washington, D.C. The all-expense paid trip for the Regional Office of Education #8 Regional Spelling Bee Champion and one parent/guardian is made possible by the generous donations of many individuals and businesses throughout the region.

Prairie Wind' magazine submissions are now open

Submissions are now being accepted for the 14th annual "Prairie Wind" art and literary magazine. "Prairie Wind" is a diverse collection of original poetry, prose, visual art, and recorded music contributed by Highland Community College students, staff, alumni, and members of the public. The submission deadline is on Friday, March 8. Drop submissions off in the Ferguson Fine

Arts Center, Building F, 2998 students and volunteer commu-West Pearl City Road, Freeport, nity members guided by a team

The magazine has been published annually since 1992 under the auspices of Highland. It is a cooperative project of the Humanities, Graphic Design, Art, and Music departments in the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences. Submissions are reviewed and each issue is created by an editorial board of

of faculty advisors.

The views expressed in the publication do not necessarily reflect the views or its employees. More information, along with the Entry Form, can be found at highland.edu/finearts/ prairie-wind/. The electronic submission form and guidelines are available at highland. edu/prairiewind.

