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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024

Missing near half a century, a mystery looks to be solved

By Margaret Downing
REPORTER

On Monday, March 11, after 47 years, the mystery of what happened in 1976 to two missing area men has apparently been resolved.

Thanks to an area fisherman, who, through the use of sonar radar, located a car submerged in the Pecatonica River near E. First and Washington Streets in which were found the remains of what is believed to be Freeporters Clarence Owens and Everett Hawley, 65 and 75, who disappeared along with the 1966 Chevy Impala they were in. The car was located and raised by Fire Protection divers after having been notified through the fisherman.

It was reported that Hawley and Owens were last seen on Feb. 19, 1976 and local authorities are working with a forensic anthropologist to identify the remains in an investigation that is expected to last some time.

After so many years, only bones were left of the men's bodies. Almost half a century later, there can now be closure to the mystery of what happened to them.

The pair were reportedly in attendance at a farm auction near the county line of Winnebago and Ogle Counties before their disappearance.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office cold case database notes that "an intense



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

The 1966 Impala was hoisted from the Pecatonica River by a crane.

multi-agency investigation that involved the Stephenson County Sheriff's Department, Illinois State Police and the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department" were all involved at the time.

According to reports, as of

last week, there were multiple fire protection agencies involved in retrieval, including the Rockford Fire Department, and Boone County Fire Protection District divers, who gathered around 9 a.m. March 11 at the site where

divers and a crane helped with retrieval. Around 2:30 p.m., crews pulled the vehicle out of the water.

Winnebago County Sheriff Gary Caruana explains that this is still an ongoing investigation and is asking the public

who might have any information can contact the department by calling a "tip line" at 815-319-6400.

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Obituaries

PAULINE LUTZ

Pauline (Buss) Lutz, passed away on Wednesday March 13, 2024, at the age of 99. She was born on May 7, 1924, in Lena, the daughter of Allen and Edna (Woodley) Buss. On July 8, 1943, she was united in marriage with Melvin Lutz. After farming for many years near Winslow, they retired to Lena in 1982. Melvin passed away in 1994 and she filled that void by joining several organizations.

Pauline was an active member of Lena Women's Club, Home Extension, Sorority, card clubs and the Lena United Methodist Church. In addition, she was an avid basketball fan of the Le-Win Panthers and the Chicago Bulls. As a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother she always enjoyed the many family activities.

Surviving are her son Craig Lutz of Chicago, and daughter Connie (Bill) Nelsen of Elgin;



three grandchildren: Chad (Adrienne) Nelsen of Iowa, Krisha (Matthew) Yob, and Kendra (Eric) Smentowski

both of Mt Prospect; seven great-grandchildren: Blake and Mason Nelsen, Jacob, Ella, and Taylor Yob, Calla and Sage Smentowski, and sister-in-law Diane Buss. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and brother Duane Buss.

Funeral services and a visitation were held on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at the Lena United Methodist Church. Burial was at Lena Burial Park. Pastor Melwyn Alagodi officiated the services. A memorial has been established in her memory. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

RICK BABER

Rick L. Baber, age 67, of Lena, IL passed away Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at home. He was born in Freeport, IL on April 20, 1956, to the late James and Judith (Downs) Baber.

Rick was a 1974 graduate of Stockton High School. He was a member of United Auto Workers and numerous avian organizations. Rick worked for Kelly Goodyear for 32 years and Titan Tire for 12 years. He enjoyed fishing, turkey and pheasant hunting, and golfing. He was an avid Chicago and U of I sports fan. He also enjoyed Nascar and attended many races. Rick loved his dogs and never went without one.

He is survived by his sister, Sally (Tom) Priola of Rockford; his brothers, Greg (Lynn) of Monmouth, Todd (Kim)



of Lanark, and Andrew (Jodie) of Mt. Horeb; his nieces, Ashley, Natalie (Garen), Margaret (Mark) and Elizabeth; his nephews, Jarret (Brittany), Jacob, Matthew, Wyatt, Kamden and William; his cousin, Deb Huso and numerous other cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and many aunts and uncles.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024, at Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Interment will take place at Ladies Union Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

WIELAND "WILLIE" KAYSER

Wieland "Willie" J. Kayser, 96, of Lena, IL passed away peacefully, with his daughter holding his hand on Sunday, March 10, 2024. Willie was born on April 2, 1927, in Hockenheim German to Wilhelm and Katherina (Auer) Kayser.

At four years old, Willie moved to New York with his parents. While in New York, Willie began his meat cutting career at a local grocery store. At the age of 18, Willie was drafted into the United States Army/ Air Force. In the military, he was able to continue working on his meat cutting. In 1947, Willie married the love of his life, Esther Schaffer, in Lena, Illinois. In 1952,



Willie started his on the farm slaughter service, in 1955 he built the butchering plant, and in 1967, added a major expansion to handle the growing business. Esther and Willie received many awards over the years. In 1993, they retired from Lena Maid Meats.

Willie was very active in his community. He was a volunteer firefighter and a chief for seven years, past president of the Lena Business and Professional Association, Lena Historical Society, and Illinois Association of Meat Processors. Willie was also

a current member of AAMP, IAMP, and WAMP, local Pork Producers Association, and Beef Producers Association. He was a past member of the Advisory Council to local school and co-op programs.

Willie was a current member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. In Willie's earlier years, he was in the church choir, and church council. He was also a past president of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church council.

Willie is survived by his daughter; Kathy Clay, son-in-law; James Clay, grandchildren; Jacob Clay, Elizabeth Clay, Matthew (Sarah) Clay, and Rachel (Nathan) Lott Clay, a great-grandson; Logan Clay, brother; Karl Kayser, brother-in-law Henry Reich-

ardt, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Esther in 2010, son Michael Wesley Kayser in 1978, brother Paul Kayser, and two sisters; Barbara Reichardt, and Erika Prygocki.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lena, IL. A visitation was held on Friday, March 15, 2024, at Leamon Funeral Home in Lena, IL. Burial was at Lena Burial Park in Lena, IL. Pastor Thomas Mosbo officiated the services. A memorial has been established in his memory for the Lena Area Historical Society. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL, on Sunday, March 24, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. for Palm/Passion Sunday. The reading will be from Matthew 14:1-15:47.

On Wednesday, March 27 The Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No quilting experience necessary and all are welcome to join. Come and tie the quilts and make difference in the world.

On March 28, 2024, Good Shepherd will hold Maundy Thursday Service at 7 pm. Holy Communion will be celebrated in this service.

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.

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate Palm Sunday in Lent on Sunday, March 24 at 9 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to come play cards and dominoes on Thursday, March 28 at 1 p.m. and dominoes on Tuesday, April 2 at 9 a.m.

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

The Women's Gathering group will meet on Tuesday, March 19 at 9:45 a.m. for a Bible study. Following that meeting, the Sit and Sew group will meet from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. All are welcome to

attend.

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.

Lenten soup lunches

Join Pearl City Methodist Church for a brief message and a Lenten meal on Wednesday, March 20 at 12 p.m. at Ebenezer/ Salem United Church. A good will offering donation will be taken.

Seasons of Life ladies conference

Cedarville Baptist Church will host Seasons of Life April 26 and 27, 2024. On Friday, April 26 enjoy dinner at 5 p.m. and Christa Mielke at 6 p.m. On Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. you will hear Christa Mielke and Cheryl Stitzinger. Lunch

will be served at 12:30 p.m. and then all are welcome at 2 p.m. to hear Tom Meyer, The Bible Memory Man, recite the book of Revelation.

Registration is \$40 per adult and \$20 per youth. Tickets for Saturday 2 p.m. only are \$10. Call or Email Pastor Pankonin at 507-276-1436 or jdpankonin@gmail.com with any questions.

See CHURCH, Page 5

'Birdie Basics' youth birding 101 program in Elizabeth, IL

Calling all young bird enthusiasts! Join University of Illinois Extension and the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation for an exciting Birding 101 program for kids ages 8 to 18.

Learn the Binocular Basics: Discover how to use binoculars properly. Explore Field Marks and Behaviors: Identify key features and behaviors that help distinguish different bird species. Gain a Confidence Boost: Participants will leave feeling more assured in their birding skills. Embark on an Outdoor Exploration: Reconnect with nature and explore the natural wonders of Jo Daviess County.

The event will be held at Schurmeier Teaching Forest, 147 E. Reusch Rd., Elizabeth, IL on April 20, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. There is no charge to attend. For registration, call 815-858-2273 or visit <https://go.illinois.edu/BirdieBasics-Birding101>. Pre-registration is required. 4-H membership is not required to attend. The deadline to register is April 13. If possible, bring binoculars, but there will be binoculars available for all attendees.

Pearl City Lions Appreciation Breakfast

Saturday, March 23

8 - 10:30 a.m.

at Pearl City School

100 S. Summit



This is a FREE pancake sausage breakfast as a way to say thank you to everyone who has supported the Pearl City Lions

We will be accepting eyeglasses, hearing aids and sneakers



Our family would like to give our most sincere thanks for the cards, food, flowers, and memorials given in Mary's memory.

Your generosity and loving care during this difficult time has been appreciated. We would also like to give special thanks to FHN Memorial Hospital and FHN Hospice for their kindness and compassionate care.

The Family of Mary Leamon

News briefs

Stockton High School musical

The Stockton High School will be presenting the Musical "Annie" on March 22 and 23 at the High school gym at 7 p.m. each night. The cast is led by Junior Lillian Sikora as Annie, and Senior Karl Hubb as Mr. Warbuck's. Tickets are available at the door. Adults are \$8 and Children are \$5.

Easter cards for active military

The Junior members of the Lena American Legion Auxiliary has made Easter cards to send to active military. If interested in sending someone a card, please give the name and address to jamcps54@yahoo.com or call 815-369-4684.

Salvation Army events in March

The Salvation Army of Freeport will offer several

events in March. Free Food Friday will be held on Friday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Family Night with games and pizza will be held on Saturday, March 23 at 5 p.m. The Spring Clothing Give-Away will be held on Tuesday, March 26 and on Thursday, March 28 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Easter Brunch will be held on Sunday, March 31 at 9:30 a.m. followed by Easter Service at 10:30 a.m.

Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension

The March meeting of the Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 1 p.m. at the Pearl City Library. The lesson "Nuts to You" will be given by Kim Planz who will also give the minor lesson on "When to Plant Spring Seeds". Roll call will be "What is your favorite nut?" Everyone is invited to attend.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS
Rock Valley Publishing



Missing vehicle retrieved from river nearly half a century later

Clarence Owens and Everett Hawley disappeared in 1976, along with the 1966 Chevy Impala they were in. The picture above shows what the vehicle looked like before it went missing.

In loving Memory of ORA Lyons

We do not need a special day to bring you to our minds. The days we do not think of you are very hard to find. Each morning when we awake we know that you are gone. And no one knows the heartache as we try to carry on. Our hearts still ache with sadness and secret tears still flow. What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know. Our thoughts are always with you, your place no one can fill. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still. There will always be a heartache, and often silent tears. But always a precious memory of the days you were here. If tears would make a staircase and heartache make a lane, we'd walk the path to heaven and bring you home again. We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain, to walk with us throughout our lives, until we meet again.

Love, Her Children & Grandchildren

414057

31 years ago on March 14, 1993, a great woman died. That woman was my grandmother **ORA LYONS**. It's amazing how special people can make their way into your heart and memory. I was only 5 years old, but Grandma Lyons shares some of my warmest memories. She left a huge impression on me. Her love & compassion amazed me and set a standard for me. Now at the age of 36 I still think of her and miss her greatly. Her Grandson, Chad Quandt

452786

The missing Chevy Impala was found 47 years later on March 11 in the Pecatonica River. Several agencies assisted in the recovery of the car. This is an ongoing investigation and Winnebago County Sheriff Gary Caruana asks the public to contact the department by calling 815-319-6400 with any information regarding the case.

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OPINION



Slices of life

Northern cold versus southern cold



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

I'm a recent transplant—from a northern state to a southern one. I now spend winters in Florida, but for most of my life, I endured the (harsh, frigid, bitter, unending, Arctic, hyperborean) winters of Minnesota, aka Minnesnowta (cold nose, warm heart).

I like to think it made me stronger. Hell, I know it did. You can't survive and endure 30 degree negative temperatures (with a windchill of unspoken proportions) without cultivating some sort of inner fortitude (not to mention frostbitten fingers).

It's been a cold winter in Florida. By, cold, I mean about May or September in Minnesota terms. The lows have hovered around the 40s and 50s. We've had a night or two in the mid 30s. People cover their plants and wear winter coats to the grocery store. I've even seen gloves and a stocking cap or two, but I haven't yet seen my breath.

People who think it's cold when you can't even see your breath outside don't really understand cold. They've probably never even had their cheeks burn while walking from the car to the front door.

Let's just put this out there: it doesn't get cold in Florida. 50 degrees Fahrenheit is not cold. 40 degrees is not cold. Even 32 degrees, while technically freezing, isn't cold—if you are from Minnesota.

In the north, we wear shorts in 32 degrees—without a second thought. Anything near or above freezing is not cold. We consider it warm.

We do the polar bear plunge into any one of our 10,000 frozen lakes, but before we dive into the cold water, we have to cut a hole through the ice to actually get there.

In the south, people complain when the pool temperature dips below 80 degrees (Fahrenheit).

In the south, it's a blustery day if you have to wear socks. In the north, blustery requires layering two sets of leggings—before you put on your fleece-lined jeans. And that's just for life inside your house.

Yesterday I was listening to the radio and a winter warning came on—for pets.

The overnight low was a predicted 35 degrees and pet owners were advised to be cautious and careful about the hypothermia levels of their beloved's paws.

In the north, humans are a sturdy lot, nearly impervious to the frigid temps. Pets take that one step further. They lie on the snow for a relaxed state of fun.

When it is really cold - like a windchill of negative 30—we let them out and then in again within five minutes or less because, well, that's the smart thing to do. When the weather is 35 degrees (above zero), we let them play outside for as long as they want because fur coats were invented for a reason, and that reason is winter.

Today I got a text message from the HVAC folks who service my unit. They reassured us that they are on call 24/7 during this cold snap, in case someone's heater should stop working, causing an obvious emergency to ensue.

I had to stop myself from laughing. I've slept with an open window (and ceiling fan on) every night during this cold spell. Heat hasn't even been in my vocabulary.

Winter in the north versus south is indeed very different—and I haven't even touched on the subject of snow days. That's probably a column all its own.

But let's get down to the nitty gritty. We live in a very big, very beautiful nation. There is north, south, east and west and there is good in every corner. Some may find it in a white, sandy beach—others in a glistening white snowfall.

And there is beauty in both—and everything in between. Let's all relish in that.

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.

Weekly connection

A little too close to the edge

It sure seems like it's going to be an early spring. When we were kids one of our favorite things to do in the spring was to ride on the back of the grain drill. The oats went in the ground as early as possible each year so they could get an early start.



By **SCOTT CERNEK**
Columnist

They could handle a frost or two, so it was fine to seed them down early. We always used oats as a cover crop for our alfalfa so if there was a chance to get a late cutting of hay that first summer then the earlier the better it was to get the oats in. We kids would sit on the bench on the back of the drill and let our bare feet drag in the freshly worked soil. Dad always drilled with the Farmall M and when we got home from school, we could hear which field he was in by the squeak of the brakes as he turned at the end of each row. If he was turning the steering wheel that way and step hard on the inside brake

and if he was turning right, he cranked the steering wheel to the right and hit the outside brake. The brake would let off a loud high-pitched squeak that could be heard for a mile or two. There was a bench that ran the whole width of the drill in the back where you could stand to fill up the seed boxes and that's what we would ride on. Sometimes we would play games to see who could ride close to the edge with no hands and not fall off. We would come in from the field pretty dirty, but my mom didn't seem to mind. She just threw us in the tub. By the time the last one got their bath the water was pretty black.

Once we were playing that

game to see who could ride on the edge without falling only, we were sitting on the edge of a flatbed hay wagon heading out to the hayfield. Well, my third oldest brother fell off and the empty wagon's rear wheel ran over his leg and snapped his femur bone. It was just us boys bringing out the wagon, so we picked him up and loaded him back on and headed to the house with the wagon bouncing along the gravel drive all the way home. We wondered why my brother was screaming in pain. Later when he got home from the hospital, we found out it was pretty bad. He was in a cast from his belly all the way down to his ankle. He pretty much laid in bed for several weeks and got to eat all his meals there. His teachers came to the farm and tutored him in his lessons. I remember my mom making a lot of blueberry pies and the teachers ranting and raving about how good they were. His leg got pretty

itchy inside that cast, and he would take a long coat hanger that was stretched out and send one end down inside the cast to scratch his leg. When he finally got the cast off his leg was all scrawny from the muscle atrophy. It didn't take him long to get back on his feet.

I love how God has designed our broken bones to heal themselves. Jehovah Rapha means the God who heals. Jeremiah 17:14 says, Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise. Jeremiah 30:17: For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord. We often pray for people in our church to be healed and restored from sickness and disease and it's amazing to see God pour out His power in this way just like when Jesus walked on the earth and healed. We can't demand God to heal, but when can sure ask Him. Until next week, God bless.

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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. Join for fellowship and entertainment. Please call 815-369-4684 or jamcps54@yahoo.com to make reservations or with any questions. Reservations are requested by April 10.

Annual Model Railroad Show and Swap Meet

The Depot Stove Gang Model Railroad Club proudly announces the 34th Annual Model Railroad Show and Swap Meet on March 23 and 24. The show will be held in the Lena-Winslow Elementary, Junior High and High School gymnasiums and cafeterias. This is a great event for kids of all ages. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is available both days in the Elementary Cafeteria.

For further information, please contact Roger Schamberger at 815-238-7888 or Ruthi Duke at 231-769-5866.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

First Community Bank of Galena and Apple River State Bank renews their commitment with United Way of Northwest Illinois for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library warmly welcomes all children aged 0-5, residing in Jo Daviess County. This initiative delivers age-appropriate books directly to their homes on a monthly basis.

Apple River Bank continues to support Dolly Parton Imagination Library

The United Way of Northwest Illinois announces the renewed support of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library by the Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena. The United Way of Northwest Illinois, the local affiliate for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, originally introduced the DPIL initiative in March 2016. Currently, it extends its reach by providing a book each month to 805 children in Jo Daviess County, as well as Darlington and Hazel Green, WI. Furthermore, over 1,208 local children have successfully “graduated” out of the program upon reaching the age of five.

For the eighth consecutive year, Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena have reaffirmed their backing of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library with a \$10,000 sponsorship. The decision to continue their generous support stems from their unwavering dedication to the children in our community and the remarkable impact witnessed from the program.

Joel Holland, Chief Executive Officer of Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena, expressed, “Imagine the possibilities if every child in Jo Daviess County embarked on their educational journey equipped with a passion for learning and reading. We take

immense pride in sponsoring the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to instill a love for reading in children and families.”

Connie Kraft, Executive Director of United Way of Northwest Illinois, remarked, “We are elated to sustain the DPIL in Jo Daviess County for the eighth consecutive year, all thanks to the invaluable sponsorship from partners like Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena. Not all com-

munities have the privilege of offering the Imagination Library, and we are grateful for the bank’s ongoing support enabling us to continue this program.”

Parents can enroll their children by obtaining a registration form at any of the bank’s branches or by accessing the registration online at: <https://www.uwni.org/dolly-parton-imagination-library>, or by contacting the United Way of Northwest Illinois at 815-232-5184.

• Church (Continued from page 2)

“No Worries” to perform at Calvary Church

The “No Worries” band will be at Calvary Church in Stockton for a Palm Sunday Lenten Service on Sunday, March 24. The music will begin at 6 p.m. with refreshments in Fellowship Hall following.

No Worries is a three-member Band who has joined together to share their love of Gospel, Folk, Country, and Bluegrass Music. They love sharing their joy of music with others and spreading God’s word. A freewill offering will be taken. The public is invited to attend.

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Around the Northern Hills



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

The Little Women of River Ridge Middle School

River Ridge Middle School will perform their production of Little Women on March 21 and 22 at 6 p.m. Meet Marmee and her four March daughters—Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy—as they struggle to live in the 1880's with adventures that cause smiles and tears, triumph and tragedy as they grow up during the Civil War. Tickets are available at the door and cost \$7 for general admission and \$5 for students and seniors.

Illinois Farm Bureau® Rural Nurse Practitioner Scholarship Program now accepting applications

The Illinois Farm Bureau® Rural Nurse Practitioner Scholarship Program is now accepting applications for nurse practitioner scholarships. This year, a total of 15 scholarships, each worth \$4,000, will be granted.

This scholarship program, which has been running for 32 years, aims to encourage and develop a strong pool of rural health practitioners to address primary healthcare needs in rural areas of Illinois. Recipients of the scholarships are required to practice for two years in an approved rural area within the state.

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must be Illinois residents and either accepted or enrolled in an accredited Nurse Practitioner Program as Registered Nurses. The funding for this program is provided by the Rural Illinois Medical Student Assistance Program (RIMSAP). Applications can be obtained from county Farm Bureaus® across the state, the Rural Illinois Medical Student Assistance Program website

at RIMSAP.com, or by contacting Donna Gallivan, the Program Manager, at Illinois Farm Bureau, 1701 Towanda Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701. The deadline for applications is May 1.

For further information, please feel free to reach out to Donna Gallivan at 309-557-2350 or via email at dgallivan@ilfb.org.

The Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau, in cooperation with Midwest Medical Center, announces a new mental health program specifically designed for women. The program, called "Mocktails and Mental Health", aims to address the unique mental health challenges that women face and provide them with the support and resources they need to thrive.

Join us for an evening of love and laughs as we find ways to seek joy, speak well, and stress better! Adrienne DeSutter, Mental Health Specialist will help you discover a work/life balance, manage stress, improve communication skills, and shift your perspective.

This program is being held at Midwest Medical Center, 1 Medical Center Drive in Galena on Wednesday, March 27, at 6:30 p.m. This event is free, but space is limited and a RSVP is required. Please call the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau at 815.858.2235 to register.

Cover Crop Field Day

We will be hosting his annual fall field day on Friday, April 5 at 1 p.m. It will be held at the first field entrance south of 4629 IL Route 78 on the east side of 78 (South of Stockton).

Come see the updates on the multi-year cover crop project. Speakers will include Greg Thoren (owner and host), John Musser (Stephenson Service Co.), Art Scheele, AgNetic, UW-Platteville Researchers.

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-



By ANNETTE EGGERS
Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau

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.

Farm toys requested

We need to replenish our farm toys used at Farm Fun Days this summer and thought who better to ask than our members. If you have gently used farm toys that are no longer being used, we would love to put them to good use! We would rather bring new life to old toys than buy new. If you can help us out, please drop them off at our office. Thank you in advance.

Farm Fun Fact

Women make up 36% of the total number of U.S. farm operators; 58% of all farms have at least one female decision-maker.

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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 doing great things at school.

34th Annual Model Railroad Show and Swap Meet coming March 23-24

The Depot Stove Gang Model Railroad Club proudly announces the 34th Annual Model Railroad Show and Swap Meet to be held March 23 and 24. There will be approximately 26,000 square feet of operating displays, railroad memorabilia and model railroad merchandise. The show is held in (3) gymnasiums. The Lena-Winslow Elementary, Junior High and High School gymnasiums and cafeterias. This is a great event for kids of all ages. Show hours are 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Sat-

urday, March 23 and 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 24, 2024. Lunch is available both days in the Elementary Cafeteria.

The Depot Stove Gang Show is rated as one of the nicest and largest shows in the Midwest.

The show and parking are free, but depends upon donations. Free will donations are greatly appreciated at the Elementary entrance. The Depot Stove Gang is an Illinois not-for-profit organization registered with the Illinois Secretary of State.



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Warren-Stockton off to 2-0 start after walkoff victory

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Warren-Stockton Warhawks had an electric start to the 2024 baseball season. The Warhawks jumped right into the thick of things in their season opener as they traveled to take on the Oregon Hawks. With 15 wins last season, the Hawks are expected to return a solid team this season. They proved to be a solid matchup for the Warhawks in game one.

It was a windy day, and that only played in favor of the pitchers. It took more than four innings to get a run

on the board, but it was the Warhawks who took the lead in the top of the fifth. Jared Dvorak scored the first run of the day as Jacob Harbach drove him in with a single up the middle.

Will Stietz had an excellent day as the opening day pitcher for the Warhawks. After five scoreless innings, Stietz had six strikeouts, zero walks, and allowed just three hits. Colby Tucker was dominant in relief, tossing two clean innings, including striking out three of the last four.

The Warhawks didn't score another run until the

top of the seventh, when Wyatt Janecke led the inning off with a single. After stealing second and third, Janecke managed to score on a defensive error by Oregon. The Warhawks didn't need it, but it led to a comfortable bottom half as they picked up a 2-0 win over the Hawks.

A close one in the home opener had the Wolves well prepared for their next game. On March 13 the Wolves played host to the Pearl City Wolves. The Wolves are trying to find their new identity as they look to replace two star players in Nathan Brink-

meier and Tanner Purdue. Still, they proved to be another tough opponent for the Warhawks.

Unlike the season opener, it didn't take long for the Warhawks to get on the board. They jumped on Pearl City's starting pitcher Lexton Endress for three runs in the first. The Wolves had a run in before the Wolves tallied an out. Stietz roped a double into center which allowed Tucker to score the game's first run. With one out, Dvorak singled to the left side and an error at second allowed Stietz to score. By the end

of the first, Warren-Stockton held a 3-0 advantage.

Pearl City got a run back in the top of the second which cut the lead to two. Harbach started the game on the mound for the Warhawks, where he tossed four innings with six strikeouts and three hits allowed. Brady Stietz tossed just over two innings, allowing two hits and striking out three. The Warhawks used a plethora of pitchers with five different arms coming to the mound. In the end, they needed each and every one of them as this one took extra innings to decide a win-

ner.

The game went into the eighth inning tied at 4-4. After allowing a triple, Brady came through in the clutch with a strikeout to keep the Wolves off the board. In the bottom half, the Warhawks had the bases loaded after Brady singled to the left side. It was Harbach who drove in the game winning run with a ground ball to the left side. With a three-run differential, the Warhawks found themselves off to a 2-0 start.

On March 21, the Warhawks host the Byron Tigers at 4:30 p.m.

Warren-Stockton softball notches first win under new coach

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

After last season's 14-7 finish, the Warren-Stockton Warhawks went through a coaching change as Mike Renz swapped places with new head coach, Joel Fonseca. Despite the change, the Warhawks are operating under the same philosophies in 2024.

Fonseca took on the role of head coach, but Renz is still heavily involved with the program. "Coach Renz will still be involved with the team, and we have similar coaching philosophies. Our goal will always be play to win, but that all starts on the practice field and putting the work in to keep improving," Fonseca shared when asked how different the program would be under his lead.

Even though the coaches changed, the Warhawks biggest turnover may have been in their lineup. Last year, Warren-Stockton graduated a strong senior class including Liv Thrumman, Elaina Martin, Lauren Kehl, Ava Heidenreich, Janel Radaszewski, Morgan Blair, Kylah Kurek, and

Abby Wilkinson.

Early in the new season, the Warhawks have to rely on their two returning starters. Sophomore shortstop Adrienne Baker, and senior center fielder Addy Bohnsack are back from last year. Both were All-Conference players as Baker was First Team and Bohnsack was Second Team. With just two returning starters and a small coaching change, Fonseca thinks it's important to be as consistent as possible. "I think the returning girls really appreciate that nothing has changed with the coaching staff," Fonseca shared as all three coaches returned from last year.

That core will have to lead the way as the Warhawks hope to develop their newcomers. A trio of freshman could see varsity opportunities in pitcher Ireland Mensendike, pitcher Madalynn Perry, and catcher Payton Goswick. That trio could prove crucial as the Warhawks look to replace their top pitcher and starting catcher from last year.

This year, the Warhawks have just three seniors and

three juniors on the roster. Fonseca acknowledged that the team has a young lineup, but he sees potential. "We have a very young team this year, but it is also a team that plays the field well and will backfill for the girls that we lost last year," Fonseca shared.

The Warhawks got off to a bit of a rough start when the 2024 season opened with a game against a strong Morrison squad. Prior to the season, Fonseca mentioned that hitting could be the team's biggest weakness. "We struggled throughout the season with our hitting, and we are pushing hard this year to get some girls crushing the ball," Fonseca said.

Warren-Stockton saw some of those struggles in the season opener, as Morrison shut them out 11-0. Game two didn't get much easier as the Warhawks faced off with the Jefferson J Hawks. Although the offense picked up with nine runs, the Warhawks eventually fell by a score of 11-9.

Game three was the lucky number for the Warhawks. On March 13 Warren-Stock-

ton played host to the Pearl City Wolves. Early on, things didn't appear to be going the Warhawks' way. After three and a half innings of play, the Wolves held a big lead as they were up 7-0. The Warhawks didn't get on the board until the bottom of the fourth. It was a hit to the left side by Mensendike which brought Bohnsack in to score the Warhawks' first run.

Once that first run came across home plate, the Warhawks opened up the floodgates. The bottom of the fifth was a coming to life moment for the Warhawks as they exploded for 14 runs. Lauren Williams and Carissa Hinder-


man opened the inning with a pair of walks. Perry then drove a run in with a double to left. Raiyin Daughin and Maizy Fonseca each followed up with back-to-back singles.

Later in the inning, the Warhawks took their first lead as Perry, Madissen Cook, and Fonseca hit three consecutive singles. Then, they blew the game wide open as Payton Goswick rounded the bases after roping a ball up the middle. With the bases loaded, four runs came in to score and the Warhawks went up 15-8.

Pearl City never recovered from the inning as the Warhawks went on to win by a score of 16-9. Perry had an ex-

cellent day at the plate, going three for four with two runs scored, two runs batted in, and a walk. Fonseca had a multi-hit day, going two for four with two runs scored. Goswick finished with five RBI in the game, and Mensendike was two for four with one RBI. Perry threw all seven innings for the Warhawks, striking out five while allowing 11 hits and seven earned runs.

The Warhawks are set to be back in action on Friday, March 22 when they host Pecatonica. They will return home on Tuesday, March 26 to host Milledgeville. Both games are set for a 4:30 p.m. start time.



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Winter wellness series helps beat the winter blues

Lena Community Park District and Eclectic Kate LLC have been offering a "Winter Wellness" Series at the Lena High School wrestling room the last Thursday of January, February, March and April; from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Kate Frautschy, owner of Eclectic Kate LLC, weaves each monthly experience with group activities, somatic movement, breathwork, and stress reduction techniques. Each month has a theme incorporated that offers opportunities to integrate information and connect with the community.

January and February sessions were well attended, but there is still space for those interested in joining. This class

is geared to be family friendly, accessible to almost all mobility levels, and includes guidance with gentle movement, exploration of breath, and hula hoops.

Lena Community Park District is sponsoring this series to promote community care. Lena Community Park District is offering this series to the community at no charge and has set up a "Pay What You Can or Bring a Can" donation system for those who have the means to contribute. If able, bring a few dollars or a canned good donation to be distributed to the Lena Food Pantry.

Magical of Breath Work will be held on March 28 and Happy "Hoopy" Spring will be held on April 25.

Lena Community Park District has some wonderful summer programs in the

works, including this Community Wellness Series. Summer Community Wellness

Series will be held in June, July, and August. To find out more details about the current

Winter Wellness Series check out www.eclectickate.com/lenaparks

Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation news

Jim and Rickie Rachuy honored with JDCF Conservation Award

The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) is pleased to announce that Jim and Rickie Rachuy have received the 2024 Nancy Hamill Winter Conservation Leadership Award. The award will be presented to the Rachuys during JDCF's annual meeting on April 11.

As staunch advocates for the protection and restoration of prairies and savannas, Jim and Rickie first met through their involvement with the Jo Daviess County Natural Area Guardians, a then subgroup of the Jo Daviess County Soil and Water Conservation District. In 1993, they were two principal founders of the Northwest Illinois Prairie Enthusiasts (NIPE), a local chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE). Jim has served in various roles with NIPE as land manager, executive director, president, and vice president. Rickie has served as secretary

and membership chair since NIPE's beginnings. Through NIPE, the Rachuys have established two preserves now owned by TPE, the 151-acre Hanley Savanna in Hanover, IL and the 3-acre Elmville Prairie in Stockton, IL.

Through the use of conservation easements, the Rachuys have also permanently protected more than 100 acres of forest and prairie habitat that they own themselves right here in Jo Daviess County. They have led efforts to restore over 1500 acres of native prairie and savanna habitat, as well as created innovative native seed and rare plant conservation programs. The endless hours spent in the field, the seed shed, and with NIPE, all on behalf of the natural world, make Jim and Rickie very worthy recipients of this award.

The Nancy Hamill Winter Conservation Leadership Award is named after JDCF's long-time board member and past Board President and Vice President, Nancy Hamill Winter.

Formerly a Stockton resident, Nancy dedicated much of her adult life to the preservation and care of natural habitats and the Native American cultural heritage of northern Illinois.

JDCF to hold annual meeting on April 11

The public is cordially invited to attend the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation's (JDCF) Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 11 from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Woodbine Bend Golf Course and Restaurant. There will be a social hour with heavy appetizers before a short business meeting to elect new Board members and present the 2024 Nancy Hamill Winter Conservation Leadership Award to Jim and Rickie Rachuy. The keynote will be delivered by Curt Meine, a conservation biologist, environmental historian, and writer based in Sauk County, WI. Cost is \$40/person. RSVP to info@jdcf.org by April 1.

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Lady Broncos open season with 2-0 start

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

It's a new softball season, but it didn't take long for the Orangeville-Aquin bats to come to life. After two games, the Broncos held a record of 2-0, putting up double digit runs in each game.

The Broncos opened the season with a home match-up on March 13. The Polo Marcos made the trip to face off with the Broncos in what turned out to be an offensive shootout. In the top of the first inning, Polo jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead. An error at shortstop allowed the runs to come in, which left the Broncos trailing early.

Orangeville-Aquin made sure to respond in the bottom half. Megan Holder, who had the error in the top half, opened the bottom half with a double to right field. After stealing third, Holder eventually scored on a passed ball. Before the end of the inning, Isabelle Talbert singled up the middle to drive Laney Holland in to score. Polo then made their own defensive error, which allowed Adyson Wheeler to score, giving the Broncos a 3-2 lead.

The Orangeville-Aquin defense settled down from that point. With two outs and runners in scoring position in the top of the second, Hol-

land had a clutch strikeout to halt the opportunity.

In the bottom half, Wheeler sparked another momentum shift as her double to left drove in Holder to score. Meghan Carlisle followed up with a groundout to second, which allowed Wheeler to score again. By the end of two, the Broncos held a 5-2 lead.

Orangeville-Aquin's biggest inning came in the bottom of the third, when they combined for six runs. Talbert opened the inning with a double, and singles by Hanna Broge and a walk by Lily Rodebaugh had the bases loaded with one out. Holder

then ripped a double up the middle, giving her team a 7-2 lead. Later on, Carlisle and Anicka Kraft hit the third and fourth doubles of the inning, putting the Broncos up by nine.

The Broncos tacked on an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth, giving them an 12-3 lead. Polo made a late run with a four-spot in the top of the seventh. It wasn't enough to complete the comeback, as Orangeville-Aquin opened the season with a 12-7 victory.

Holder led the way at the plate, going two for four with three runs scored and two runs batted in. Talbert was

two for four with a run scored and one RBI. Broge also had a multi-hit day, going two for four with one run scored and one RBI. Wheeler, Carlisle, and Kraft each had two RBI in the game. Holland got the win on the mound, tossing four innings while striking out six and allowing zero earned runs.

The Bronco offense remained hot when they took on the Amboy Clippers on March 16. The Broncos racked up 14 hits in a game that saw them win by a score of 10-3. Holland had a perfect day at the plate, going four for four with three runs scored. Wheeler was excel-

lent, going three for four with three runs scored and three RBI. Kraft was right there with them, going three for four with four RBI and one run scored. Talbert also had a pair of RBIs in the game. Holland picked up another win with six innings pitched, allowing two earned runs on seven hits. Holland struck out eight before Wheeler came in to close the game.

The Broncos return home on Wednesday, March 20 when they host AFC. On Thursday, March 21 they remain at home to host the Scales Mound-River Ridge Hornets. Both games are set to start at 4:30 p.m.

Lady Wolves split games to open 2024 softball season

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Pearl City Wolves entered the 2024 softball season with high hopes after returning an experienced squad. Last year, the Wolves finished above 500 with an overall record of 14-13.

A tough 10-0 loss to the Lena-Winslow Panthers in the postseason left the Wolves hungry for more. A 12-win season is nice, but it doesn't meet the standards set by recent Pearl City squads. In 2022, the team went 23-6 and 16-6 the year before that.

After losing just two players from last year's roster, the Wolves are hoping to return to that elite status.

Pearl City head coach Jacey Ensor is in her seventh season leading the program. Ensor returns one of her more experienced teams with nine players returning from last year's team.

Senior Mattie Schauer returns as a versatile weapon for the team. Schauer can line up in the outfield, at second base, and should handle a good chunk of innings from the pitcher's circle. The Wolves

also return a strong group of juniors that are the brass of the team.

Jorja Johnson returns at third base. Kendra Kuhlmeier is back as a first baseman-pitcher. Kylie Campbell can play both spots in the middle infield. Anna Dampman plays right field-first base, and Natalie Lotz handles the dirty work as a catcher-third baseman. Kady Miller returns to the outfield and Taytum Mullen is back as a second baseman. Those seven juniors serve as the core of the team and the Wolves should look

to build around them the next two seasons.

Additionally, Pearl City returned sophomore Kamron Downs to the outfield. A few newcomers are expected to get opportunities in Danica Stager, Scarlett Snyder, and Mackenzie Lotz.

With the season already under way, we have already gotten a peak at what the Wolves are working with in 2024. They had a couple of

tough opponents scheduled to open the season in Rockford Lutheran and Warren-Stockton.

On March 11, the Wolves couldn't have asked for a better start to the year. At home, the Wolves got to put on a show as their offense took it to Lutheran in the season opener. Schauer got the season started with a bang as back-to-back strikeouts quickly handed Lutheran a one-two-three inning

in the opening half. In the bottom of the first, Pearl City went to work with the bats.

It was Schauer who sparked the momentum there as well. Lutheran's pitcher struggled to find the zone as a few walks allowed the Wolves to get on base. A passed ball eventually led to the first run of the year, and the Wolves never looked back.

See **SOFTBALL**, Page 20



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Stephenson and Carroll County Farm Bureau news

By Victoria Hansen

I was recently at a meeting where the speaker asked who in the group listened to podcasts. The answers were mixed. Some were big fans, others didn't care for them, and some had no idea what they were. I fell in the group of "big fans".

For those who may not know, podcasts are digital audio files made available on the internet for downloading to a computer or mobile device, typically available as a series, new installments of which can be received by subscribers automatically according to Oxford Languages. Podcasts come in different varieties. They have comedy, drama, agriculture and much more. Illinois Farm Bureau even has their own line of podcasts. Below I have highlighted a few of the available podcasts.

Taking Stalk: In-depth analysis of today's most important ag issues. In Taking Stalk, Illinois Farm Bureau President Brian Duncan welcomes fellow farmers and leaders to discuss the issues that matter to Illinois Farm Bureau members.

RFD Illinois: Your daily rundown of the issues affecting Illinois farmers. RFD Radio hosts Rita Frazer, DeLoss Jahnke and Jim Taylor are your boots on the ground, keeping you up to date on the news stories, market trends and weather outlooks that could affect your farm.

Vintage Country: Join us for a trip back to yesterday on the farm, on the road and in the barn. Relax and listen as the RFD Radio Network takes you back.

To learn more about these podcasts or to access the link to listen, visit www.ilfb.org and search "podcasts". Additionally, you can search the above title on your favorite podcast platforms such as Spotify or Apple Podcasts.

Thank you for supporting Ag in The Classroom

On behalf of the Carroll, Ogle, and Stephenson County Agriculture in The Classroom programs, thank you to those who recently participated in our Prep, Freeze, Cook and Freezer Meal Fundraisers. Our programs would not be as successful without your sup-

port. Thank you!

Statement From Illinois Farm Bureau regarding the SEC's revised Climate Disclosure Rule

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) voted Wednesday on its final climate disclosure removal and removed the Scope 3 reporting requirement, which would have required public companies, including farmers, to report the greenhouse gas emissions of their supply chain. American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) led the charge for the removal of Scope 3 since the rule was first proposed two years ago. Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) supported these efforts with nearly 1,200 members communicating with their representatives about the rule.

"IFB thanks AFBF for leading the charge and working with SEC Chair Gary Gensler and his staff to research the unintended consequences of the Scope 3 rule," said IFB President Brian Duncan. "The Scope 3 requirement would have imposed additional burdens on our farm-

ers – especially our small, family-owned farms – which could have potentially led to even more consolidation in our industry. "Illinois farmers are dedicated to advancing climate-smart agriculture and putting scientific solutions, technology and innovation to work. We have made great strides in this space and recognize the value in collecting scientifically-sound data to share our efforts, such as collaborating with our partners on the recent Illinois Agriculture Retail Survey, which helps us record nutrient loss reduction progress." Illinois Farm Bureau is a member of the American Farm Bureau

Federation, a national organization of farmers and ranchers. Founded in 1916, IFB is a non-profit, membership organization directed by farmers who join through their county Farm Bureau. IFB has a total membership of more than 364,452 and a farmer membership of 75,959. IFB represents three out of four Illinois farmers.

Shipshewana Amish Country bus trip

Travel with the Stephenson County Farm Bureau to Shipshewana, Indiana the week of June 10-12, 2024. The trip includes transportation and all meals with the exceptions

of lunch and dinner Wednesday, hotel accommodation at Farmstead Inn, and all gratuities. Moderate walking is involved on this trip.

The group will leave the Freeport Walmart at 6:30 a.m. and return roughly at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. The cost of this trip for Farm Bureau members ranges between \$400-\$610 depending on the number of individuals in your hotel room. Non-Farm Bureau member rates are an additional \$50 per person. For additional details visit the "trips" tab at www.stephensoncfb.org or call 815-232-3186. Space is limited, early reservations are encouraged.



Six members of Stephenson County Association for Home and Community Education attended the 100th Annual IAHCE Conference held March 12 through 13, 2024 at the Thelma Keller Convention Center in Effingham, IL. Pictured are (left to right) Lynn Lott, Janice Fryer, Carla Meyer, Ann Runkle, Diana Ethridge, and Becky Thomas.

Illinois Association for Home and Community Education Conference a success

The 100th Illinois Association for Home and Community Education Conference was held March 12 through March 14, 2024, at the Thelma Keller Convention Center, Effingham, IL. Home and Community Education members from throughout the state, including six Stephenson County HCE members, attended the confer-

ence. Some of the conference speaker highlights were Richard Guebert, Past President of Illinois Farm Bureau Federation, who addressed the audience at the opening luncheon. Special guest Magdie de Kock, World President of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW), travelled

from her home in South Africa to speak at the conference. She spoke on the work of ACWW, as well as her family and life on a beef cattle ranch.

The Illinois Association for Home and Community Education has had several name changes over the years. It was first known as Home Bureau, then Homemaker Extension Association (1962-1993), Family and Community Education Association (1993-1996), and Association for Home and Community Education (1996 to present day). Stephenson County Home Bureau was organized on July 27, 1923.

Units of Home and Community Education are located throughout Stephenson County. Please contact the Extension Office 815-235-4125, Carla Meyer 815-291-5963, or Diana Ethridge 815-275-0680 with questions or for more information.



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- Tuesday, March 26, 6:00 pm** Co-sponsor Citizens State Bank at Elizabeth Business Hub, 131 N. Main St, Elizabeth
- Tuesday, April 2, 1:30 pm** Co-sponsor Apple River State Bank & First Community Bank of Galena at Apple River Stagecoach Event Center, 446 E. Hickory St, Apple River
- Tuesday, April 2, 6:00 pm** Co-sponsor Citizens State Bank at Lena Public Library, 300 W. Mason St, Lena
- Wednesday, April 3, 5:00 pm** Co-sponsor First State Bank Shannon Polo Lake Carroll, 1 S. Linn, Shannon
- Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 pm** Co-sponsor Solutions Bank, 996 W. Fairview Rd, Freeport
- Monday, April 8, 2:00 pm** Co-sponsor Solutions Bank, Forreston at Forreston Public Library, 204 1st Ave, Forreston
- Tuesday, April 9, 2:00 pm** Co-sponsor Citizens State Bank at Freeport Public Library, 100 E. Douglas St, Freeport
- Wednesday, April 17, 1:30 pm** Co-sponsor Apple River State Bank & First Community Bank of Galena at Apple River Stagecoach Event Center, 446 E. Hickory St, Apple River
- Wednesday, April 24, 6:00 pm** Freeport Public Library, 100 E. Douglas St, Freeport
- Wednesday, May 1, 2:00 pm** Co-sponsor First State Bank Shannon Polo Lake Carroll, at Davis Community Center, 631 S. East St, Mt. Carroll
- Thursday, May 9, 2:00 pm** Co-sponsor WinnPrairie, 1545 S. Forest Rd, Freeport
- Wednesday, June 26, 2:00 pm** Co-sponsor Community Bank, 401 S. Church St, Orangeville
- Friday, June 28, 3:00 pm** Co-sponsor Keller Williams Realty Signature, 802 Spring St, Galena
- Tuesday, September 10, 11:00 am** Co-sponsor Prairie View Assisted Living Community, 500 E. McNair Rd, Winnebago

FREE Admission. Reservations required. Call 815.235.1212 or 800.373.4109 or pkbrs@plager-law.com

LEGAL NOTICES

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

In the Matter of: IRVIN M. KOWALSKI, Deceased.

2024-PR-2 CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of IRVIN M. KOWALSKI of Davis, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on February 26, 2024 to GLORIA KAESE, as Independent Executor whose attorneys are WILLIAMS McCARTHY LLP, 120 W. State St., P.O. Box 219, Rockford, IL 61105.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Suite 2, 2nd floor, Freeport, IL 61032 or with the representative, or both, on or before September 6, 2024, or within 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery of notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

GLORIA KAESE Independent Executor (Published in The Shopper's Guide March 6, 13 & 20, 2024) 451745

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS Illinois Housing Development Authority

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PLAINTIFF Vs.

Nichole Jones; et. al. DEFENDANTS

No. 2023FC33

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 11/14/2023, the Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois will on April 18, 2024 at the hour of 9:30 AM at Stephenson County Courthouse 15 North Galena Avenue 1st Floor, West door of courthouse Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

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If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

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

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

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-23-03758. 13239260

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 6, 13 & 20, 2024) 451881

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is Hereby Given To the legal voters, residents of the Township of Loran in the County of Stephenson in the State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Township will take place on:

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at Loran Township Building Located at 215 E. South St. Pearl City IL.

For the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said township; and after a Moderator has been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures, as may, in the pursuance of law, come before the meeting; and especially to consider and decide the following:

- 1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Election of Moderator
3. Comments
4. Clerk's Report - 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes
5. Supervisor's Report - 2023 - 2024 Financial Report
6. Transfer of Funds - Cemetery and Road and Bridge
7. Financial Requests
8. Sale of Surplus Property Listing Resolutions Presented
9. 2024 Annual Town Meeting date and time
10. Adjournment

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 20, 2024) 452678

LORAN TOWNSHIP NOTICE FOR BID

Public Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of Loran Township, Stephenson County, Illinois will receive bids for mowing and trimming at Babbs Grove Cemetery, Grace ME Cemetery, Lieboldt Union Cemetery, and our Township buildings. All bids are to be received on or before April 1, 2024. Requirements consist of mowing, trimming, and cleaning all monuments only on an as needed basis, and before holidays like Memorial Day. Each bid should include the amount for the 3 cemeteries and the amount for the Township Building grounds separately. Use of chemicals is prohibited. Proof of insurance will need to be included. The Board of Trustees will open bids at the April 9, 2024 meeting. Notice will only be given to the accepted bidder. Payment will be monthly and only when an invoice is provided to the Loran Township office at 215 E. South St., Pearl City, IL 61062 or calling (815) 443-2880. Loran Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 20, 2024) 452679

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWN AND ROAD AND BRIDGE BUDGETS

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Township of Loran in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025. It will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 215 E. South Street, Pearl City. It is available from and after May 13, 2024. Please call ahead at 815-443-2880.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said budgets and appropriation ordinance will be held at 6:00 p.m. on June 10, 2024 at 215 E. South Street, Pearl City and final action will be taken by the Board of Trustees at this meeting.

Deb Foust Loran Township Clerk (Published in The Shopper's Guide March 20, 2024) 452680

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LORAN TOWNSHIP OF STEPHENSON COUNTY

For the Fiscal year of 2024 - 2025 Loran Township's regular board meetings will be held the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the following location: Loran Township Building, 215 E. South Street, Pearl City, IL.

Deviations from this schedule will be posted per Township requirements.

Deb Foust Loran Township Clerk (Published in The Shopper's Guide March 20, 2024) 452681

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

To the legal residents of the Town of West Point in the County of Stephenson and State of Illinois, that the ANNUAL MEETING of said Town will take place on TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024 being the second Tuesday of said month. The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 6:30 o'clock P.M. on said day at West Point Township Building, 6890 N. Five Corners Rd., Lena, and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting.

- AGENDA:
1. Call to order
2. Election of Moderator
3. Minutes of 2023 Annual Meeting
4. Annual Financial Reports
5. Authorize Transfer of Funds
6. Donations
7. Open Forum
8. Adjournment
Dated at Lena, this 15th day of March, 2024.

BILL STATON CLERK (Published in The Shopper's Guide March 20, 2024) 452817

World Oral Health Day 2024

World Oral Health Day is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 20 to raise world awareness of the complex link between oral health and general health and promote public education to prevent oral disease. It was formally established by the Federation Dentaire International (FDI) World Dental Federation in 2013. The FDI World Dental Federation is comprised of approximately 200 national dental associations, including the ADA, from more than 130 countries. The FDI is an international body that was first established in 1900, to set dental practice standards and promote research advancements in oral and dental hygiene. Today the FDI World Dental Federation is the voice of over one million dentists worldwide, who are working together to promote global oral health.

March 20 is not just some random date. It was chosen to remind the world's population that healthy children should possess 20 baby teeth and adults should possess 32 teeth and ideally 0 cavities, which can be expressed as 3/20.

Oral diseases are a major health concern for many countries and negatively impact people throughout their lives. Oral diseases lead to pain and discomfort to maintain proper nutrition and loss of self-confidence. Poor oral health is often linked to serious health issues. World Oral Health Day (WOHD) helps to spread the word that this pain and damage can be avoided. Most oral health conditions are largely preventable. One of the best ways to achieve this is through preventative care education. When oral disease is present, early detection and treatment will reduce the chances of it impacting your overall health. World Oral Health Day aims to empower people



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

with the knowledge, tools, and confidence to achieve and maintain good oral health.

Everyone deserves access to quality oral health care and the knowledge needed to maintain a healthy mouth. WOHD encourages oral health professionals and the wider healthcare community to educate governments and policymakers about the benefits of better oral health for all their citizens.

This year's WOHD marks the beginning of a three-year campaign to promote global oral health education and inspire policymakers and the public to embark on a journey towards healthier and happier lives for everyone. The 2024-2026 World Oral Health Day theme is "A Happy Mouth is a Happy Body". The FDI stresses that this is not merely a slogan; it's a way of life. A healthy mouth and a healthy body go hand in hand.

To be successfully carried through to adulthood, healthy habits need to be established and maintained throughout every stage of a child's life. To help establish healthy oral habits that will promote a lifetime of healthy smiles, the FDI's mascot and ambassador of the 2024 campaign, Toothie Beaver, is now in the limelight on social media with the launch of his Instagram channel: @ToothieBeaver. <https://www.instagram.com/toothiebeaver> Your child can also watch his video and participate in his #BrushandBoogie challenge at <http://www.worldoralhealthday.org/brushandboogie>.

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, February 29, 2024, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Jo Daviess County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons, owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: **The Willow Boutique**, located at **7449 S. Bethel Rd., Stockton, IL 61085**.

Dated this 29 day of February, 2024
No. A2024-003

ANGELA KAISER
County Clerk
JAMIE ROWE
Deputy

(Published in The Scoop Today March 6, 13 & 20, 2024)
451953

PUBLIC NOTICE

The regular monthly business meetings for the Township of Rush for the fiscal year 2024 – 2025 will be held at 7:00pm at the Rush Town Hall, 2999 North Canyon Park Rd., Stockton IL, on the following dates:

- April 9, 2024
- May 14, 2024
- June 11, 2024
- July 9, 2024
- August 13, 2024
- September 10, 2024
- October 8, 2024
- November 12, 2024
- December 10, 2024
- January 14, 2025
- February 11, 2025
- March 11, 2025

Ben Wooden,
Rush Township Clerk
(Published in The Scoop Today March 20, 2024)
452666

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RUSH TOWNSHIP, JODAVIESS COUNTY

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters and residents of the Township of Rush in the County of Jo Daviess and the State of Illinois that the **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, being the second Tuesday of the month, at the hour of 7:30 pm., at the Rush Town Hall, 2999 North Canyon Park Rd., Stockton IL., for the transacting of the miscellaneous business of said Township. After a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports

of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in the pursuance of the law, come before the meeting, and especially to consider and decide the following;

Agenda

1. Elect a moderator
2. Set the moderator's salary
3. Approve the minutes from the 2023 Annual Town Meeting
4. Report of Officers- Financial reports & statements
5. Authorize transfer of funds
6. Set time for the 2025 Annual Town Meeting
7. Open forum
8. Adjournment

Ben Wooden,
Rush Township Clerk
(Published in The Scoop Today March 20, 2024)
452665

PUBLIC NOTICE Rush Township Mowing Bid

Rush Township is soliciting mowing bids for the 2024 mowing season. Grounds to be mowed include Puckett Cemetery, Townsend Cemetery, Robinson Cemetery, and the Rush Township Hall location. Please contact Supervisor Garrett Toay at 515.710.9055 for more information. Bids are due at 3882 N Canyon Park Road, Stockton, IL 61085 by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

Ben Wooden
Township Clerk
(Published in The Scoop Today March 20, 2024)
452667

PUBLIC NOTICE Rush Township Fuel Bid

Rush Township is soliciting fuel bids for the period of July 1, 2024 – May 31, 2025. Conditions of the bid:

- 1) The bidder will supply diesel fuel and gasoline to Rush Township.
- 2) The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularity in any of the bids received whenever such rejection or waiver is in the best interest of the Township.
- 3) Bid specifications may be obtained by calling Garrett Toay at 515.710.9055.

Bids are due at 3882 N Canyon Park Road, Stockton, IL 61085 by 10:00

a.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

Ben Wooden
Township Clerk
(Published in The Scoop Today March 20, 2024)
452668

DOCUMENT 001116 - INVITATION TO BID

1.1 PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Notice to Bidders: Qualified bidders are invited to submit bids for Project as described in this Document according to the Instructions to Bidders.

B. Project Identification: Summer 2024 Roofing Restoration Projects, Lena-Winslow School District #202, Lena, Illinois

C. Owner: Lena-Winslow School District #202, 401 Fremont Street, Lena, IL 61048

D. Project Description: Project consists of roofing restoration.

E. Construction Contract: Bids will be received for the following Work:
1. Lump Sum Contract (all trades).

1.2 BID SUBMITTAL AND OPENING

A. Owner will receive sealed bids until the bid time and date at the location indicated below. Owner will consider bids prepared in compliance with the Instructions to Bidders issued by Owner, and delivered as follows:

1. Bid Date: March 22, 2024.
2. Bid Time: 10:30 a.m., local time.
3. Location: Administration Office, with social distancing in place, 401 Fremont Street, Lena, IL 61048
4. Address bid package as follows:
Lena-Winslow School District #202
Attn: Dr. Tom Chiles - Superintendent
"Bid for Summer 2024 Roofing Restoration Projects".

B. Bids will be thereafter publicly opened and read aloud.

1.3 BID SECURITY

A. Bid security shall be submitted with each bid in the amount of 10 percent of the bid amount. No bids may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days after opening of bids. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities and irregularities.

1.4 PREBID CONFERENCE

A. A pre-bid conference for all bidders will be held, with social distancing in place, at 401 Fremont Street, Lena, IL 61048 on March 14, 2024 at 9:30 a.m., local time. Prospective bidders are requested to attend.

1.5 DOCUMENTS

A. Bid Documents: Bidders may obtain access to PDF copies of the Drawings and Project Manual after 3:00 p.m. on March 4, 2024 by contacting Larson & Darby at 815-484-0739. Request them from the front desk personnel.

B. Documents will be provided to prime bidders only.

C. Only complete sets of documents will be issued.

1.6 TIME OF COMPLETION

A. Bidders shall begin the Work on receipt of the Notice to Proceed and shall complete the Work within the Contract Time.

1.7 BIDDER'S QUALIFICATIONS

A. Bidders must be properly licensed under the laws governing their respective trades and be able to obtain insurance and bonds required for the Work. A Performance Bond, a separate Labor and Material Payment Bond, and Insurance in a form acceptable to Owner will be required of the successful Bidder.

1. Bidder shall be in good standing as a vendor for the Lena-Winslow School District 202, including a minimum of five solid references for projects of similar scope and size over the past five years.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 13 & 20, 2024)

— PUBLIC NOTICE —

NOTICE - ACCEPTING MOWING BIDS

We are now accepting bids for mowing the Elizabeth Cemetery & Old Log Church.

Bids should be per mowing.

Deadline to submit bids is March 29, 2024.

Any questions call Jeff Spoerl - (815) 858-4045.

Submit bids to: Candis Albrecht,
313 Orange St., Elizabeth, IL 61028

(Liability Insurance is required)

Kitchen (Continued from page 15)

and opaque, 2 to 3 minutes longer. Drain, reserving 1 C. cooking liquid. Place seafood in a large bowl and add crab.

In a saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Stir in flour until blended; gradually stir in cream and reserved cooking liquid. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until thickened and bubbly, about 2 minutes. Reduce heat. Stir in cream cheese, dill, and seasonings until smooth. Stir into seafood mixture. Pour over rice mixture. Toss bread-crumbs with melted butter. Sprinkle over the top. Bake, uncovered, 50 to 55 minutes or until golden brown. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Baked Rigatoni

You can make this easy casserole with or without the hamburger for a meatless dish. It is easy with the jarred pasta sauce. I like Prego, but many of my friends prefer Ragu. It is great to have these jarred sauces for a quick meal.

1 medium onion, chopped finely

2 stalks celery, finely sliced
2 T. butter
2 3/4 uncooked rigatoni pasta (8 oz.)

1 lb. ground beef
1 large jar spaghetti sauce with basil
3 C. shredded mozzarella cheese
1/2 C. grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350. Spray a 9 x 13 baking dish with cooking spray. In a skillet, place onions and celery in butter and cook until tender. Add ground beef and cook until thoroughly cooked, about 5 to 7 minutes. In a large pot of boiling water, cook pasta according to package directions; drain and return to pot. Add the hamburger mixture to pasta pot and mix together with the pasta sauce and 1 C. of mozzarella cheese. Pour into baking dish. Sprinkle with remaining cup of mozzarella cheese and Parmesan cheese. Cover with foil; bake 25 to 30 minutes or until casserole is at least 165 in the center. Garnish with fresh basil.

Carrot Cake Cookies

These cookies take all the good parts of carrot cake and put them in a large cookie. You could make them smaller and have more. The large cookie with some ice cream makes for a beautiful dessert after a big meal for a small group.

1 C. pecan halves
1 1/2 C. flour
3/4 C. old-fashioned rolled oats
1 t. baking soda
1 t. cinnamon
1/2 t. baking soda
1 t. salt
1/4 t. ground nutmeg
1 1/2 sticks unsalted butter, room temperature
1/2 C. packed brown sugar
1/2 C. granulated sugar
1 T. vanilla extract
1 egg
3/4 C. grated carrots

Frosting:

12 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 C. powdered sugar
4 T. unsalted butter, room temperature
1 T. heavy whipping cream
1 t. vanilla

1/2 t. salt

Position racks in the upper and lower thirds of the oven; preheat oven to 350. Put the pecans on a baking sheet and bake until toasted and brown in spots, 8 to 10 minutes. Finely chop the pecans and set aside.

Whisk the flour, oats, baking powder, cinnamon, baking soda, salt, and nutmeg in a large bowl; set aside. In a mixer, beat on medium speed the butter, brown sugar, and granulated sugar until light and fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the vanilla and egg and mix until just combined. Add the carrots and pecans and mix until combined. Divide the dough into eight 3-oz. balls (1/3 C. each); roll them until smooth and divide between 2 baking sheets. Refrigerate until chilled, at least 30 minutes and up to overnight.

Bake the cookies, rotating the baking sheets from front to back and top to bottom halfway through, until the edges are just turning golden brown and the middles are set, about 22 to 24 minutes.

Let cool on baking sheets for 10 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely, about 1 hour.

Frosting: Add the cream cheese, powdered sugar, and butter to an electric mixer. Beat on medium speed until smooth and combined, 2 to 3 minutes. Reduce speed to low and add the heavy cream, vanilla, and salt and mix until just combined. Top each cookie with about 2 T. frosting. Dip a small spoon in hot water for 10 seconds and then wipe dry. Spread frosting with hot spoon until it comes to the edges and makes a swirl in the middle; dust with cinnamon.

Easter Cake

Many of you know that I am very particular about cake. If I had my choice, I would probably choose pie. However, there are a few cakes I like. I am partial to German Chocolate, hickory nut, and carrot. I also love a good poke cake. This Easter cake is a green poke cake that would match the Jell-O salad on a Brunch

table or for a dinner. It is easy and can be made the day before.

1 white cake mix, regular size
2 pkg. (3 oz. each) lime gelatin
1 C. boiling water
1/2 C. cold water
Topping:
1 C. cold milk
1 pkg. 3.4 oz) instant vanilla pudding mix
1 carton (8 oz.) Cool Whip, thawed

Green sugar sprinkles
Prepare and bake cake according to package directions using a 9 x 13 greased baking dish. Cool on a wire rack 1 hour. In a small bowl, dissolve Jell-O in boiling water; stir in cold water and set aside. With a wooden skewer, poke holes about 2 inches apart into cooled cake. Slowly pour gelatin over cake. Cover and refrigerate. Topping: In a large bowl, whisk milk and pudding mix 2 minutes; mixture will be thick. Fold in Cool Whip. Spread over cake. Garnish

See KITCHEN, Page 19

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real estate

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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.



transportation

Automobiles

1990 CADILLAC FLEETWOOD Coral. Florida car no rust. 1 owner. 45k miles. \$20,000. 262-379-4161.

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To place an ad in our
**Help Wanted
Section**
Call (815) 369-4112

•Kitchen (Continued from page 18)

with tinted green sweetened coconut and M & M chocolate eggs. Sprinkle with green sugar. Refrigerate until using and any leftovers.

1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20 with Steve Sheffey. Last week I mistakenly reported that they served lunch. I apologize for my error.

Final Thoughts

Two more Sundays and Easter will be here. We will then jump into April. My lawn crew came this week and cleaned up winter all around the house. When you don't have trees, you don't have many leaves to get rid of. Although with the wind any dead leaves usually end up in the garage. There will be some Easter egg hunts coming up, and Easter lilies will be everywhere. There is still time to go to the Lenten Wednesday Services. Pearl City Ministerial Group sponsors Lenten luncheons at the Pearl City Methodist Church. Soup and sandwiches are served at 12: p.m. with devotions following. Lena Evangelical Free has a Lenten Musical Service at the church at

I am sad this week because my good friend and former landlord, Wieland Kayser, passed away. He was a wonderful and dedicated servant to his family, his friends, his business community, his church, and Lena in general. I had the pleasure of turning his notes into a book that he wrote about his journey to Lena. It was quite a learning experience. Rest in Peace Willie, a faithful servant to all of us.

We are looking for spring recipes. It is time for rhubarb and strawberry recipes, 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@rvpublishing.com.

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REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
Illinois Housing Development Authority
PLAINTIFF
Vs.
Nichole Jones; et al.
DEFENDANTS

No. 2023FC33
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 11/14/2023, the Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois will on April 18, 2024 at the hour of 9:30 AM at Stephenson County Courthouse 15 North Galena Avenue 1st Floor, West door of courthouse Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

PIN 18-19-06-129-019
Improved with Residential COMMONLY KNOWN AS:
1418 South Walnut Avenue Freeport, IL 61032

Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, 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.

If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place

after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

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

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

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-23-03758. 13239260

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Rock Valley Publishing LLC

The Scoop and Shopper's Guide

423962

Stephenson County Association for • Softball

(Continued from page 11)

Home and Community Education to host historical program

Stephenson County Association for Home and Community Education will be sponsoring the program "History of the Stephenson County Fair" on Saturday, April 20. The event will begin at 1 p.m. and will be held at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau, 210 W. Spring

Street, Freeport, IL in the Lincoln-Douglas Room (use west door off Walnut Street).

The event speaker will be Susie Dvorak, Fair Historian. Dvorak has conducted research on the Stephenson County Fair and will share information on how the fair began, what groups

were involved, and the different locations the fair has been held. Dvorak will also share memorabilia she has collected over the years. In 2024, the Stephenson County Fair will be celebrating 170 years.

No registration is required. The event is free and open to the public.

It was Johnson who busted the game wide open as she roped a triple into center field with the bases loaded. Before the end of the first inning, the Wolves already held a 4-0 advantage. Lutheran responded with a pair of runs in the second, but they were the only runs Pearl City would allow on the day. Pearl City provided enough offense for entertainment on their own.

It only took four and a half innings to bring an end to this one as the Wolves picked up a 15-2 victory. Campbell had a solid day at the plate, going two for three with two runs

scored and a walk. Dampman had a pair of runs batted in as she went two for four with a pair of runs scored. Kuhlmeier was excellent, going two for three with two runs scored, one RBI, and a walk. Stager had a great first appearance, going one for one with a walk, a run scored, and one RBI. Schauer was also one for two with a pair of runs scored at the plate.

After opening the season on a high note, the Wolves found themselves in an offensive shootout against Warren-Stockton. Pearl City's offense continued to produce,

but it wasn't enough to keep them out of the loss column. Warren-Stockton outlit the Wolves 13-11 and a few errors to go along allowed Warren-Stockton to win 16-9. Schauer was two for four with a run scored and a walk. Dampman was three for five, and Natalie Lotz was three for five with a run scored.

After a 1-1 start, the Wolves are still shaking off the rust in the field. Their plate appearances have been great, and that should continue through the season. The Wolves are set to host the Polo Marcos on Wednesday, March 20, at 4:30 p.m. On March 21, the Wolves return home to host the Forrester Cardinals also at 4:30 p.m.

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Cook's SHANK PORTION BONE-IN SMOKED HAM
1.49 lb

Stockton's Own Locally Made Meat BONELESS SMOKED HALF HAM
3.99 lb

Cook's BUTT PORTION BONE-IN SMOKED HAM
1.79 lb

Cook's WHOLE BONE-IN SMOKED HAM
2.29 lb

Frick's Premium SMOKED BONE-IN HAM BUTT PORTION
2.19 lb

Frick's Premium SHANK PORTION BONE-IN SMOKED HAM
1.99 lb

MEAT MASTERS ILLINOIS STATE CHAMPIONS

Sullivan's Signature POTATO OR MACARONI SALAD
3.99 lb

Deli Hot & Fresh MACARONI & CHEESE
3.59 lb

Deli Made DEVILED EGGS
6 ct
3.59

TIED TOGETHER

Sullivan's Signature HOLIDAY ROAST
Certified Angus Beef® brand
EYE OF ROUND ROAST
and
CENTER CUT BONELESS PORK LOIN ROAST
4.99 lb

AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

US Grade A Norbest FROZEN TURKEYS AVAILABLE
While Supplies Last



Certified Angus Beef® brand BONELESS RUMP ROAST
4.99 lb