

Miss Poppy 2024

Liesl Jones, Miss Poppy 2024, is crowned by Brishti Schoonhoven-Hussain, Miss Poppy 2023. Jones will be in the Memorial Day Parade and service representing the Lena American Legion Auxiliary. She will also be distributing poppies May 24 and May 25 in Lena.

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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE **Obituaries**-BRIAN RAAB

Brian "Buzz" Raab, 68, of Stockton, IL passed away Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at UW Madison Hospital. He was born in Freeport, IL on May 27, 1955, to the late Wayne

and Hazel (Bonnell) Raab. Buzz was a 1973 graduate of Stockton High School. He retired from Kelly Springfield after 20 years. He was a member of the Local 745 United Steel Workers Union. Buzz also farmed his whole life. He was an avid Chicago Bears fan and enjoyed playing poker, golfing, telling stories, discussing politics, and driving his "buggy". Most of all, he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Buzz is survived by his son, Ryan (Kristin) Raab of Stockton; his daughter, Meresa (Scott) Kurek of Stockton; his grandchildren, Jamie, Riley, Dustin, Dylan, Co-

CHRIS JENSEN

Chris Jensen, 81, of Lena, IL, passed away on April 27, 2024. He was born on January 25, 1943, in Princeton, IL, to Carl Chris Jensen and Mary Lou Epperly Jensen. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts at Illinois State University. He was married on October 21, 1961, in Brimfield, IL, to Carol Cluskey. He was a member of Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton and Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Survivors include his wife Carol, daughter Rose (Lynne), son Mike (Wendy), grandchildren: Jared Jensen, Dr. Katie (Eric) Lutz, and Kyle Jen-

rey, Kylah, Aiden and Ryker; his great grandchildren, Emma, Wil-Addie lis. Liam; and sisters, his Bonnie

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

(Jim) Kuhse, Rhonda (Tony) Holland, Darla (John) Korth and Tina (Joe) Flynn; and his special friend, Mardi. He is preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Lorraine 'Lorrie" Wurster.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 11, 2024, at Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton. The family would like to thank the lung donor and their family who gave Buzz a second chance at life in 2018. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www. hermannfuneralhome.com.

> sen (Alyssa Tompkins). sister Marv (Jere) Kav Blundy, and nieces nephews. He was preceded in death

by his parents, and his sister Carlene Leffler (Sam).

A Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 7 p.m., at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton, IL, with visitation at 6 p.m. A Celebration of Life was held on Sunday May 5, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Harrison Hall in Brimfield, IL.

Notice

The Scoop and Shoppers Guide office in Lena has been closed. The new mailing address is 1102 Ann Street, Delavan, WI 53115

Our phone number and email remains the same: 815-369-4112, scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com

THE SCOOP TODAY

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NASA launches 'out of this world' partnership with U.S. ag

By Hannah Spangler FARMWEEK

Working with NASA might seem out of this world, but a new program aims to show the public that NASA is in agriculture on Earth, not just in space.

On April 23, farmers, researchers and other stakeholders met at the University of Illinois for the inaugural NASA Acres Symposium.

"When you think about NASA, you think about launching rockets or launching satellites, but one of the biggest NASA programs is Earth Science," said Kaiyu Guan, founder of the Agroecosystem Sustainability Center at U of I.

In March 2023, NASA Acres was established to bridge the gap between space and farms. The program aims to strengthen U.S. agriculture by answering some of the most pressing challenges facing the industry.

NASA Acres works with agriculturalists throughout the U.S. to see how NASA's resources can be used to help farmers.

Guan, who is also the chief scientist for NASA Acres, said the satellite Earth Observation based data can be used to track and predict the impacts of

Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL on Sunday, May 19, 2024. 9:30am. Holy Communion will be celebrated in this service. This week's gospel reading is from the Gospel John 15:16-27; 16:4b-15.

On Wednesday, May 22 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

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

in the world.

Lutheran John's St. Church, Pearl City, will celebrate Pentecost on Sunday,

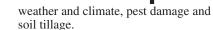
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ROCK VALLEY

The Scoop and Shopper's Guide



NASA satellite data can also be used to monitor nutrient loss and deficiencies and help farmers understand the impacts of practices like planting cover crops.

"We've been extensively working on crop nitrogen concentration," Guan told FarmWeek. "We've started to have confidence that we can sense how much nitrogen has been absorbed by crops."

Guan said that by integrating all available data, farmers can determine optimal management practices for rotation patterns, cover crop adoption and tillage methods. "This can help the whole system reduce nitrogen loss,' he said.

Alyssa Whitcraft, NASA Acres executive director and associate research professor at the University of Maryland, said although NASA has been involved with agriculture since the 1970s, there has been a disconnect between the data and the farmer.

But throughout the past decade, Whitcraft said NASA has focused more on connecting with farmers to find the data that helps them.

Whitcraft said one of the main objectives of the program is to ensure NASA Acres' data can be integrated into some of the tools farmers already use. More than 30 agriculture and research groups, including Illinois Farm Bureau and U of I, are helping the program achieve this goal.

"Whether farmers use a preferred system for visualization when they're inside their combine or their sprayer, we would like our data and our tools to enrich that," Whitcraft said.

The next step is to inform farmers that they can access findings, data and tools and continue to provide their input through NASAacres.org.

'We know that success is predicated on farmer involvement," Whitcraft said. "Our mission, paid for by public dollars, is to support farmers in having a productive, sustainable and resilient system to support their rural communities for decades and generations to come."

This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.

linois, this Sunday, May 19

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

Bunch will meet May 29 at

8 a.m. at Amigo's, 306 North

Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illi-

nois. Everyone is welcome to

church will host a special

Children's Sunday in Lion's

Park. Service will begin at 10 a.m. followed by a potluck

style lunch. Please bring a

dish to pass and dinnerware.

ing in a fun evening of craft-

ing, please join for Crafternoon from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on

the third Wednesday of each

month. During this time there

are snacks, a brief devotional

thought, and plenty of time to

work on crafts individually or

together. This is hosted on the

lower level of Salem United

Church of Christ, and all are

welcome to join. For more

information on any Salem re-

lated items, contact 815-369-

ruth.dake@gmail.

If interested in participat-

On Sunday, June 9 the

The Wednesday Breakfast

10 a.m.

join.

May 19. Graduates will also service led by Pastor Chrisbe honored that day, and the topher Ham at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 Chancel Choir will perform. West Salem Road, Lena, Il-

Everyone is welcome to come to St. John's to play cards and dominoes on Tuesday, May 23 at 1 p.m. and dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, June 4 at 9 a.m.

The May Grace Meal will be on Sunday, May 19. Meals can be picked up between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on May 19. Reservations are due in the church office by Thursday, May 16. The menu will be BBQ, potato chips, green bean casserole, peaches, and cookies. This meal is possible due to donations and a grant from the Foundation of Northwest Illinois.

The Healthy Wolves group will be packing backpacks on Thursday, May 16 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 a com.



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and



Good Deed award

Freeport Immanuel Lutheran School for a Good Deed Award. Students collected school with Judy Shippee representing the American Legion Auxiliary.

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary recently nominated the students at the over \$400 for the Veterans Pantry in Freeport. Pictured are students from the

News briefs

Blackhawk Unit of SCAHCE

The regular monthly meeting of the Blackhawk Unit of SCAHCE will be held on Thursday May 16, 2024, at 1 p.m. at the Pearl City Library. Becky Thomas will give the lesson on "Fair History" with the roll call being a memory from the fair. Joyce Bonnet and Jo Wenzel will

be bringing a raffle item. All Acres Cemetery in Oran-SCAHCE meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend.

Orangeville American Legion and Auxiliary

The Orangeville American Legion will hold a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 27, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Sunset

geville, IL. This event is held annually to remember and honor military veterans. All are welcome to attend.

Bake and Rummage Sale Fundraiser

A Bake and Rummage Sale Fundraiser sponsored by Holy Ghost Court #228 of the

1891 Financial Life, formerly National Catholic Society of Foresters, will be held Friday through Monday from May 24 through May 27. It will be

the Holy Ghost Church basement, Dickeyville. the Hearts & Hands program of the Grotto.

held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at up to \$1500. All funds raised to be given to The Friends of Funds the Dickeyville Grotto, Inc. for raised will be matched through their maintenance and upkeep

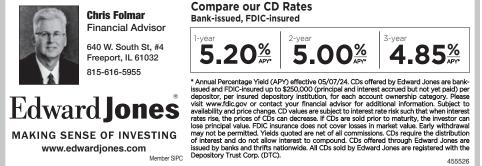


Díd you know the Víllage of Stockton offers two programs to jump start your spríng To-Do líst?

<u>Exterior Beautification Painting Program</u> The Village will reimburse up to \$250.00 for paint used to paint your home or deck as funds are available. (Paint must be purchased in Stockton).

<u>Sídewalk Replacement Program</u> The Village will reimburse the property owner 50% of the lowest estimate (2 estimates required) to replace the sidewalk as funds are available.

Applications are available online or please pick up at the . Village Hall, 155 W. Front Ave., Štockton, IL 61085



PINION

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In my opinion Illinois can lead the way in the fight for a cure for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

By Daniel Flessner I was like a lot of people who were aware of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy but never really thought much about it until about three years ago when my son, Mason, was diagnosed with the disease.

Duchenne is a genetic disorder characterized by the progressive loss of muscle. It is a multi-systemic condition, affecting many

parts of the body, which results in deterioration of the skeletal, heart, and lung muscles. Duchenne is caused by a change in the dystrophin gene. Without dystrophin, muscles are not able to function or repair themselves properly.

Because the dystrophin gene is found on the X-chromosome, it primarily affects males, while females are typically carriers.

COUNTRY

We found out my wife is a carrier, which is why Mason was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and why my youngest son, Dawson, was also diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

Knowing that both of our sons have what is essentially a death sentence was and is devastating.

Every case is different. The average life expectancy for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is 20 to 30 years.

Our kids are very young, so we remain hopeful that with the right research and medical advancements, they will beat the odds.

Gene therapy seems to be helping to mitigate the effects of the disease in our children, but it is far from a cure. More research is needed and to make that happen, we need to create more awareness about the disease in the public.

To that end, I joined other parents like me in conjunction with Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy

(PPMD), a nonprofit organization leading the fight to end Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, for an advocacy day in Springfield. Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy has initiated a pilot project to focus on statespecific advocacy efforts and Illinois has been selected as the inaugural state for this initiative.

The Advocacy Day in Illinois focused on highlighting key legislative measures, including:

• House Resolution 636, which designates Sept. 7 as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Day in Illinois

• Senate Bill 3277, which seeks to implement newborn screening for Duchenne in Illinois.

• SB 3277, which aims to develop mandatory protocols and best practices for providing medical guidance for Duchenne.

See OPINION, Page 5

Keep "family" in family farm



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Letters are limited to 500 words. Authors must include their first and last name, the city or village in which they reside, and a phone number and email address where they can be reached in case of questions.

Send letters to: scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com Letter-writers will be limited to one letter per month except for locally elected officials, or individuals specifically associated with local village governments or entities such as school districts, park districts or library

districts. No letters directed to a third party will be accepted for publication.

We reserve the right to edit a letter for reasons of clarity, space restrictions and libel.

Opinion Xi Jinping has tough economic choices ahead

China likely to pick security over prosperity

By U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi

Xi Jinping, the general party secretary of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), is in a bind.

The economy of the People's Republic of China is facing a once-in-a-generation crisis. The country's real estate market is in free-fall, its population sank by 2 million people in 2023, and its stock markets have lost roughly \$7 trillion since 2021. Numerous countries are cooperating multilaterally to take countermeasures against what they view as the CCP's military and economic aggression. Xi's grip on his rule is secure for the moment, but he is confronting unprecedented challenges to his leadership.

Fundamentally, Xi faces a dilemma over China's future. He and his government must decide whether to continue to prioritize increasing security and centralizing his control over the country, chilling the animal spirits of entrepreneurship in the process, or to loosen his control over the country and reduce aggression toward his neighbors, allowing for greater growth and prosperity. It is highly unlikely that he will choose the latter-and we in the United States must now begin to ready ourselves for potential challenges.

Although the latest official economic statistics show China hitting its growth targets, those figures often reflect CCP narratives more than reality,

China's economic state is precarious at best. Some outside analysts put China's actual GDP growth as low as 1.5 percent in 2023. The country has lost at least \$4.7 trillion in housing wealth since its market peaked in 2021. Other market indicators offer no hope for a rapid recovery, as the housing sector has just reported its worst performance ever recorded for both new and existing housing sales, while new construction has declined by a record 60 percent compared to pre-pandemic levels. After defaulting on more than \$100 billion in international bonds over the past four years, China's largest developers have either collapsed or survive only through government support.

Injections of foreign capital have not helped to close the gap. Foreign direct investment into China is at its lowest point in three decades. China's stock markets are down by nearly 20 percent over the past year. While stocks are relatively unimportant to Chinese household savings, public wealth is overwhelmingly tied up in real estate.

Major players-such as Evergrande, Vanke, and Country Garden—are teetering on the brink of collapse as property prices continue to fall despite the government's best efforts to prop them up.

The situation could grow far worse as the country approaches a potential deflationary crisis following the largest drop in consumer prices in 15 years. All this comes as the country faces the beginning of its demographic free-fall,

Opinion (Continued from page 4)

I urge lawmakers to enact these common-sense bills and help Illinois become a leader in the fight for a cure for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. It is not easy to tell our story, but it is an important one to tell. My family is not the first one to deal with this terrible disease and we certainly won't be the last.

We love our children and we are committed to doing

everything we can to ensure other families do not have to go through this. We are trying to change history and with the help of the Illinois Legislature we can and will get closer to the cure families like mine are fighting for every single day.

Daniel Flessner lives in Roberts with his wife, Lindsey, and their sons, Mason and Dawson.

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and other indicators show that during which an aging Chinese population may decline by as much as 100 million people by 2050.

Since the beginning of former leader Deng Xiaoping's reform and opening, the CCP has sold China's economic growth as a key pillar of its legitimacy. Many in the party still recognize the importance of solving these economic challenges to its legitimacy and control. One important way out is foreign direct investment. Some in the CCP are eager to court U.S. capital and reassure U.S. investors that China remains a hospitable market for doing business. At the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit last November, Xi dined with U.S. business leaders and emphasized that "China is ready to be a partner and friend of the United States, and there is plenty of room for bilateral cooperation."

However, despite Xi's rhetoric, the actions of the Chinese government do not line up with creating a hospitable business environment for U.S. and other foreign companies. China has been steadily tightening its national security and data protection laws at the expense of businesses being able to conduct due diligence, market research, or otherwise normal operations.

Earlier this year, the Chinese government broadened the scope of its state secrets law, making it even more difficult for businesses to provide information for foreign investors and stakeholders. Even more chilling is the detainment of business leaders; in 2023, many top Chinese executives from technology, finance, and real estate companies were detained or went

missing. This threat is not limited to Chinese executives, as foreigners have faced exit bans.

The Chinese military's increasingly aggressive actions in Taiwan also rattle U.S.based and other foreign businesses. The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) has steadily increased incursions into Taiwan's air defense identification zone, and in September 2023, there was a record number of PLA aircraft around Taiwanese airspace in one day.

In the event of an invasion of Taiwan, the United States and other Group of Seven countries would likely impose severe economic sanctions, and estimates of the damage to the global economy are in the trillions of dollars.

Companies do not want to become caught in the crossfire. Yet Xi seems willing to contemplate taking these risks for his ambition of controlling Taiwan.

Xi now faces a fundamental dilemma in balancing his country's prosperity and his party's level of control. Despite the importance of maintaining economic growth for his popular support, Xi has consistently prioritized control ahead of his people's prosperity.

As Xi wrestles with this choice, we and others-including the Chinese peoplemust hope for the best while continuing to prepare for the worst.

Raja Krishnamoorthi represents the 8th Congressional District of Illinois. He is the ranking member of the House Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party.

Warhawks upset Panthers in late season matchup

By Trenten Scheidegger CORRESPONDENT

The Warren-Stockton Warhawks picked up their fourth consecutive victory when they beat a 16-win Lena-Winslow team on May 6. To close the prior week, the Warhawks earned three straight wins over River Ridge-Scales Mound (RR-SM), Fulton, and Polo. The victory over RR-SM had to feel especially nice having dropped their previous matchup 5-2 just two days earlier. That sparked some late season momentum for the Warhawks as they went on a momentum building run.

The Warhawks faced one of the toughest tests of their 2024 baseball season when they played host to the Lena-Winslow Panthers. At the time, both teams were riding three-game winning streaks. The Warhawks were 13-7, while the Panthers were 15-5. It was the first time these teams faced off this year.

Warren-Stockton came ready to play in front of their home crowd. They made a statement when they took a commanding lead in the very first inning. Will Stietz was on the mound to open the game for the Warhawks. A groundout and a strikeout helped Will rattle off a quick one, two, three inning to start the game.

The Warren-Stockton bats responded in the bottom half. Treyton Pafford gave them the first lead of the day when he singled to left, driving in Wyatt Janecke and Colby Tucker. Will and Pafford both went on to score on wild pitches. Before the end of the inning, Brady Stietz scored on a defensive error by the Panthers, giving the Warhawks a 5-0 lead.

The Warhawks never looked back. Will went on to get the win from the mound. In five and two third innings, Will struck out 10, while allowing three earned runs off six hits. Jordan Kohl was impressive in relief. In one and one third innings, Kohl struck out one, walked one, and allowed zero hits.

At the plate, the Warhawks combined for just seven hits. Le-Ŵin's defense had four errors in the game, while their pitchers issued four walks. That led to some extended opportunities for the Warhawks, and they made Le-Win pay.

Heading into the bottom of the sixth, the Warhawks held a 5-3 lead. They tacked on an insurance run when Tucker singled up the middle, driving in Kohl to score. After scoring that run, Kohl went in and finished the game on the mound, helping the Warhawks capture the 6-3 victory.

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Lena

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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Vallev Publishing

Evelyn Walters of River Ridge High School receives the \$1,500 Northwest Illinois Economic Development John D. Cooke, III Memorial Entrepreneurial Scholarship.

Northwest Illinois Economic Development Awards

Development nomic (NWILED) has announced the presentation of the organization's John D. Cooke, III Memorial Entrepreneurial Scholarship for 2024 to three area high school students

Abby Ehler from Galena High School was awarded a \$2,000 first place. Ehler's goal is to open a brick-andmotor location for her family's "Merry for a Cause"

Northwest Illinois Eco- business that helps fund and promote various health awareness issues by making and selling handmade items online. She will be enrolling in a Business Administration degree program this fall at the University of Arizona Online.

> \$1,500 each were given to Jack Ries of Galena High School and Evelvn Walters of River Ridge High School. "Through the Cooke schol-

You ought to be in pictures

This is

arship, NWILED hopes to enrich the lives of deserving students in our service area that are on entrepreneurial career paths with our scholarship awards," said David Schmit, NWILED Regional Director. "The competition was very exciting this year Runner up awards of and the decision was very challenging for the scholarship review team.'

NWILED typically offers three scholarships to graduating high school seniors

residing in Carroll or Jo Daviess counties who are entrepreneurial and want to start a business or pursue a career in business. Recipients have to be full-time students in good academic standing in the qualifying school year. Scholarships can be used for start-up costs related to launching a business and or advancing a career in business through education and or training. 11 students submitted applications from Eastland High, Galena High School, River Ridge High School, East Dubuque High School, Scales Mound High School, and West Carroll High School.

information For more about Entrepreneurial Scholarships for 2025, go to www. nwiled.org "Resources" tab. Applications are available online or contact David Schmit at dshmit@nwiled. org or 815-297-7361.



39265

IAA Foundation announces Driving **Agriculture Forward** scholarship recipients

financial support to enroll in truck driver training classes thanks to the Driving Agriculture Forward Scholarship program, funded by Illinois Farm Bureau and administered by the IAA Foundation. The charitable arm of the Illinois Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation, is awarding \$20,000 in scholarships this vear to offset the cost of commercial truck driver training and ensure more well-trained, safer drivers are available.

The first round of recipients for this year includes James Adkins of Morgan County, Joseph Dahmm of Logan County, Wesley Lusietto of Bureau County, Ryan McGinn of Whiteside Couty, Luke Nelson of Knox County and Jason Niemann of Jo Daviess County. "Investing in individuals who keep agriculture products moving is a pleasure, they represent the strength and diversity of our industry," said Jennifer Smith, Development Manager, IAA Foundation.

Six individuals are getting are available year-round with consideration deadlines occurring quarterly. The next application deadline is June 30, which correlates to drivers who intend to enroll in a commercial driver training program at an Illinois community college between July 1 and Sept. 30. Five \$1,000 scholarships

are awarded every three months and are based on the Illinois Farm Bureau region where the applicant resides. All applicants must be Illinois residents and provide proof of enrollment during their corresponding award cycle. An endorsement from a farmer, County Farm Bureau leader, agribusiness, or food process business is required.

Eligibility guidelines and applications are available through the IAA Foundation website at www.iaafoundation.org. For more information, contact your county Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation at 309-557-2232, or email Jennifer Smith at jsmith@ilfb.org.

Scholarship applications

Jo Daviess County Health **Department Sharps Disposal Program**

The Jo Daviess County Health Department is providing a safe way to dispose of medical needles and syringes. County residents may pick up a free 1.5 qt sharps container from Jo Daviess County Health Department, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This container will fit in the sharps disposal kiosk. If disposing a different sealed sharps container, please note the opening is 12.8" x 6.53". If the container is too large to fit in the kiosk, please drop it off inside during business hours. Staff will only accept properly secured sharps containers for disposal.

Sharps disposal kiosk locations include the Jo Daviess County Health Department, Jo Daviess County Highway Department, and Scales Mound Village Hall. Please call 815-777-0263 with any questions. Funding for this program is provided by Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

• Warhawks

Pafford led the way offensively, going two for three with one run scored and two runs batted in. Tucker went one for three with a walk, one run scored, and one RBI. Janecke was one for three with a run scored in the victory. With the win, the Warhawks not only extended their win streak to four games, but they improved to

(Continued from page 5)

14-7 on the season.

The Warhawks made the trip to face off with Sterling Newman in the final game of the regular season on May 9. No game was played, as the weather struck again. With that, the Warhawks finished the 2024 regular season with a record of 14-7 before beginning postseason play on Wednesday, May 15.

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Stephenson County Farm Bureau news

By Victoria Hansen

Some of the people closest to me are involved in the agriculture industry. When my husband and I got married, over half of our bridal party was involved in the agriculture industry. That might explain why we got married in December. It is simple to say that many of the people that are near and dear to me are involved in agriculture in one way or the other. This means I worry about them during planting and harvesting season, when they are putting in longer hours and are moving from field to field. But I also worry about the stress of farming.

The American Farm Bureau Federation Farm State of Mind explains, "Farming is a stressful occupation that is associated with increased levels of anxiety and depression. Multiple studies show that farmer suicide rates are 2-5x higher than the national average. Experiences such as natural disasters, extreme weather events, financial uncertainty, fluctuating markets, labor shortages, trade disruptions and other factors all contribute to extreme stress for farmers and ranchers."

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. At the Farm Bureau, we know that farmers are tough and self-reliant, but talking about emotions or pressures can be challenging. It's a stressful job-physically demanding, uncontrollable weather, economic woes, and a personal responsibility for land. There are many resources available for mental health services such as the Crisis Text Line (text TALK to 741-741), the

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration National Helpline (1-800-662-HELP), and the Farm Aid Farmer Hotline (1-800-FARM-AID). A complete resource list can be found on the Illinois Department of Agriculture website.

Top-Performing Illinois agriculture youth recognized during Premier 20 Leadership Conference

Top-performing and innovative FFA Section Presidents and 4-Hers cultivated necessary leadership and professional skills during the Youth Education in Agriculture Committee's recently held Premier 20 Leadership Conference.

The Premier 20 Leadership Conference, held April 29-30 in Bloomington, is an elite youth leadership and professional development opportunity uniting 20 exemplary youth in agriculture from 4-H and FFA. Participants were also recognized for achievements during the 2023-24 academic year.

Illinois Farm Bureau Family of Companies through the YEA Committee sponsors the conference each year. Attendees invited to attend are the Top 10 FFA Section Presidents and the Illinois 4-H Sustaining the Future Award recipients.

Attendees participated in a series of sessions allowing them to take a deeper dive into what it means to be a leader and make a positive difference while building necessary communication and cooperative skills. The sessions are intended to help the sum of their time and dedica-

young professionals develop themselves as leaders.

Outstanding Leadership Awards: In addition to participating in leadership workshops, attendees were recognized as top-performing agricultural youth. Ten Illinois 4-H members, ages 17-19, who exemplified outstanding leadership within the agricultural industry and demonstrate a desire to remain engaged, were recognized as 2023-24 Illinois Sustaining the Future Award recipients. Award winners are:

• Alexis Nall, Mason County

• Andrea Schaffnit, Adams County

• Drew Mickey, Christian County

· Elaan Bader, Montgomery County

• Emily West, Knox County • Emma Whitaker, Hancock County

• Janella Neary, Monroe County

• Kaylee Blackford, Vermilion County

· Lauren Nall, Mason County

 Saralynn Joiner, Macoupin County.

Ten individuals were also recognized as 2023-24 Illinois FFA Top 10 Section Presidents. This award recognizes FFA members who excelled in their role as an Illinois FFA Section President over the past year. Section FFA Presidents assist at various state career development events and overall serve as important leaders in the eyes of students and industry professionals. Students serving as a Section FFA President dedicate a large

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tion to the FFA Organization and those they serve. They truly embody the FFA's motto of "Living to Serve." Award

winners are: • Owen Trone, Joe Daviess County, Section 1

• Taylor Snook, Henry County, Section 3

• Sidney Stiers, Knox County, Section 4 • Brianna Gibson, DeKalb

County, Section 7 • Abby Clapp, McLean

County, Section 9 • Maggie Bland, Greene

County, Section 13 • Michael Matesa, Madison

County, Section 15 • Brody Will, Effingham

County, Section 20

• Kylee Wesselmann, Clin-

ton County, Section 21 • Trenton Payne, Richland County, Section 23

Farm Bureau members save on facility rentals

With graduation right around the corner, don't wait to book your event at the Carroll or Stephenson County Farm Bureau buildings. Rooms start as low as \$100. Summer Saturdays and Sundays are limited. Call the Farm Bureau of your choice for availability and to learn more about the rental process. Carroll County Farm Bureau 815-244-3001 or Stephenson County Farm Bureau at 815-232-3186.

Custom Culinary Pork Barbeque Spice for sale

Carroll and Stephenson County Farm Bureau offices sell Custom Culinary Pork Barbeque Spice. This is a favorite of Farm Bureau members across the state. The cost for these items is \$13 per 12-ounce shaker bottle, \$93 per 10-pound pail, \$156 per case of 12, 12-ounce shaker bottles.

To guarantee large quantities please contact your county Farm Bureau. Carroll County members should call 815-244-3001 and Stephenson County should call 815-232-3186.

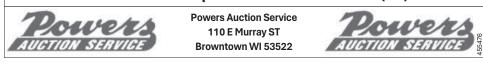
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SPECIAL: Restored 1955 Willys Jeep, excellent cond.!

MISC. FARM & HOUSEHOLD ANTIQUES: Sleepy Eye Pitcher; Shawnee Pottery; Arcade Toys; Oak Cottage Pump Organ; Cream Separator; Platform Scale; Crocks; Butcher Kettle; Hay Trolley; McDeering 1R. HD Cultivator; Other old History Books; 1880 Stephenson Co. History Book; Plus much more. 3-4 wagons full of assorted Farm Antiques.

NOTE: Very large auction of superb, clean, rare items collected all over the U.S.! Too many to list. Be sure to see website for listing of tin corn signs and cast iron seats from all over the country. An unusual collection of corn items - quite a rare treat, so don't miss out! Call auctioneer with questions. TERMS: Cash or check with picture ID.



Check website for many pictures: proauctionsllc.com RICK GARNHART, AUCTIONEER • German Valley, IL IL Lic: 440000901 • WI Lic. #2844-52 • 815-238-3044



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CONGRATS PEARL CITY 2024 GRADUATES



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Alvaro Sanchez

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Logan

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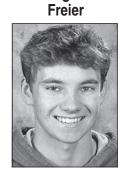


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Graduates- Stockton Auto Supply

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Downing



Jaryn Fonseca



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Teagan Sabinson



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Katie Schneider



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Apple Canyon Lake P.O.A. & Apple Canyon Lake Golf Course Congratulations to ALL Area Graduates! 315694	B&R Plumbing <i>Warren • 815-541-8031</i>	Congratulations from Stock Holders Saloon
Spinhirne Transfer 815-275-4215	Deb Brown (815)369-2881 437472	Bauer & Fonseca, P.C. Stockton • 815-947-4594
B&R Grain Handling & Electric	Woodbine Bend Golf Course & Restaurant Congratulations Graduates!	Saunders Oil Co. Inc. Warren • 815-745-2267
Congratulations to all area graduates! 815-369-5549	Freeport • 815-235-7400	Congratulations to ALL Area Graduates- Stockton Auto Supply
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Barker Performance Automotive Warren • 815-745-2698	Stateline Insurance Services, Inc. Warren • 815-745-2148	Hartzell's IGA Warren • 815-745-3311
Good Luck to All Area Graduates! Main Street —Realty—Realty—Realty—Realty—Realty—Realty—Realty—Realty—Realty—Realty	Good Luck Area Graduates!! COMMUNITY YOUR LIFE. YOUR BANK LENA · WARREN · WINSLOW · ORANGEVILLE WWW.COMMUNITYBANK.COM	So JCE CO-OP Electric · Gas · Fiber Your Touchstone Energy* Cooperative

SHOPPER'S GUIDE Wednesday, May

Lena American Legion Poppy Poster winners

Auxiliary recently held the annual Poppy Poster Contest. twelfth grade were eligible to participate for a chance

The Lena American Legion to compete at the state level. Lena-Winslow art teachers Mrs. Amendt and Mr. Smith All students in fourth through helped their students with this project. A total of 138 posters were submitted.

This year's winners

are: Fourth grade:

Asher Allcorn, Kylie Coulthard, Kinzley Schulz, Lavla Taft

> Not only do we stand behind our windows,

we stand on them! Local Owner Scott Williamson



Bentley Kessel, Brynn Kuhlmeyer, Violet Dietz, Asher Fransen

Sixth grade: Sophie Wirtz and Gracelyn Miller

Fifth grade:

Seventh grade:

Grace Artman and Serenity Bouvia

Eighth grade:

Harper Hastings and Evelyn Gabel Éleventh grade:

Ella Kerr

Each winner received a gift made at Sweetie Me from the Lena American Legion Auxiliary. Poster winners have been sent to the Department

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Headquarters of the American Legion Department of Illinois to be judged and awarded cash prizes. Any winners awarded at Department will receive a notification letter mailed directly to them. Thank you so much to all the students, and to Mrs. Amendt and Mr. Smith for making this contest a success.

Posters not sent to Department Headquarters will be hung up in local Lena business windows during the Month of May to commemorate Memorial Day. To learn more about the significance of the poppy for Memorial Day, please visit the Lena American Legion Auxiliary Facebook page.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Asher Allcorn, Kylie Coulthard, Kinzley Schulz, Layla Taft are the fourth-grade winners from the annual Poppy Poster Contest.



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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GL

FHN offering Summer Healthcare Camp

terested in a career in healthcare are invited to apply for the week-long FHN Healthcare Camp 2024. FHN Healthcare Camp, designed to give students ages 14 to 18 a first-hand look into the world of healthcare, will be held July 8 through July 12

High school students in- at FHN Memorial Hospital and registration is required in Freeport. Each day will by include presentations, tours Healthcare Camp enrollment and activities, and at the is \$25. Financial assistance end of camp, recipients will is available for eligible stu-receive an FHN Healthcare dents: Please call 815-599-Camp scrub top and a certificate of completion.

for this educational course, summercamp.

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Thursday, June 20. 6707 for more information. For more information and to Limited space is available register, visit www.fhn.org/

2024 Annual Meeting of Members-Please join us!

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4:30 p.m. Member registration

4:30-5:30 p.m. Geothermal Power Hour presentation with John Scott

6:00 p.m. Meeting

7:00 p.m. Pork chop sandwich dinner

Activities for kids ages 5-12 during the meeting.



Members who attend the meeting will receive one \$10 bill credit per membership. RSVP by May 27-go to jcecoop.com/annual-meeting or to check for updates.





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Kristian Adleman



Junior Diaz-Pedraza



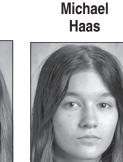
Seth Guerrero



DeeDee Larson



Lincoln Legal



Adriana

Leitzen



Wesley Logemann



Brooklyn Balsiger



Robert Ernst



Alicia Howell



Anthony Bilich



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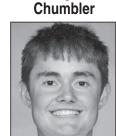
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Congratulations

These local businesses would like to wish all 2024 graduates good luck in their future endeavors



Wednesday, May 15, 2024 THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE Page 13 Lena-Winslow baseball bounces back against West Carroll

By Trenten Scheidegger CORRESPONDENT

Coming into last week, the Lena-Winslow Panthers held an overall record of 15-5. They were riding a threegame winning streak that included an impressive 8-7 victory over the Pearl City Wolves to close the prior week.

That victory over the Wolves was also the second consecutive road game for Le-Win. On Monday, May 6 the Panthers hit the road for the third consecutive game as they took on the Warren-Stockton Warhawks.

Warren-Stockton is another impressive area team and they would prove to be a tough test for the Panthers. The Warhawks brought a record of 14-7 into the game, and they were riding a three-

own.

The Warhawks couldn't have asked for a better start to this one. With the Panthers on the road, Le-Win was up to bat first. It was a quick one, two, three inning after Luke Madigan was caught stealing second base. In the bottom half, War-

ren-Stockton had a handful of quality at bats that led to an early lead. Le-Win had Madigan on the mound, and he took some time to settle in. Madigan allowed four hits and three walks in the bottom of the first. Five plate, which left his team trailing early.

The Panthers struggled to get anything going offen-

game winning streak of their a score of 5-0. Madigan had the sixth. The Panthers went It was also the fourth concalmed things down on the mound, but the bats weren't responding.

Le-Win finally cracked the scoreboard in the top of the fifth. It was Cohen Weegens who led the inning off with a double to center. Landon Grindey followed up with a single to left before Lucas Fye was hit by a pitch. With the bases loaded, Cobryn Lynch took a walk to bring in their first run of the day. Miles Mahon eventually singled, driving in a run. Before the end of the inning, Aiden Wild hit into a fielder's earned runs came across the choice, which allowed Fye to score, bringing the Panthers within two.

That was as close as Le-Win could get. Warsively. After four innings of ren-Stockton tacked on an inplay, Le-Win still trailed by surance run in the bottom of on the West Carroll Thunder.

on to fall by a score of 6-3.

Madigan took the loss on the mound. In seven innings, Madigan allowed six earned runs off seven hits, while striking out six. If you removed his wild first inning, Madigan pitched great. In the final six innings, he allowed one earned run off three hits and five strikeouts.

At the plate, Le-Win had just six hits. Grindey was the only Panther with a multi-hit day, going two for three with one run scored. Wild was one for three with one RBI in the loss.

Le-win had to wait all week before getting an opportunity to bounce back. On Friday, May 10 that opportunity finally came when the Panthers traveled to take

secutive away game as the Panthers have yet to play at hits on the day as they went home in the month of May.

Le-Win didn't take so long to get on the scoreboard in this one. In the top of the first, Wild and Weegens both hit RBI singles to give the Panthers an early lead.

Le-Win had Maverick Cass on the mound to start the game. Cass had a great start, minus one pitch. With two outs in the bottom of the first, the first pitch to the third batter got sent over the left field fence. Cass responded by quickly striking out the next batter to end the inning.

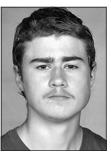
In the second, Le-Win added to their lead when Mahon singled to left, driving in Grindey for a run. Wild followed up with an RBI single of his own as the Panthers

went up 5-1. Le-Ŵin combined for 10 on to beat West Carroll 13-1. Wild led the way at the plate, going a perfect four for four with three runs scored and four RBI. Mahon was two for three with a run scored and two RBI. Weegens went two for three with three RBI

as well. Cass got the win on the mound. In two innings, Cass struck out three batters while allowing one run on one hit. Weegens pitched three innings of dominant relief, striking out seven and allowing one hit.

The Panthers improved to 16-6 with the win. They finished the regular season with another away game as they took on Newman Central Catholic on May 13.

STOCKTON CONGRATS ÍRADUA





Leah

Warner





Peterson



William Westaby



Williams

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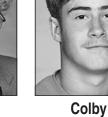


Maecee

Mavrick Winters



Lydia





Schuldt Turner

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Not pictured - Jerret Gillen



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By Trenten Scheidegger CORRESPONDENT

The Lena-Winslow Panthers have battled their way through the late parts of the 2024 softball season. Prior to last week, the Panthers suffered a pair of losses to LeRoy and Dakota. Those losses dropped Le-Win's overall record to 9-9 on the year.

The Panthers dropped their third consecutive game when they fell to Dakota 13-7 to open last week. From that, they also fell below five hundred with a record of 9-10.

The Panthers didn't fall to Dakota due to any shortage of offense. Le-Win combined for 10 hits in the game, which was just one less than Dakota had. The Panthers allowed eight walks while their defense had four errors, and that proved fatal in the end.

loss was Cierra Hatelak going two for three with three runs batted in. Maddy Chiles also had a multi-hit day, going two for four with two runs scored. It wasn't enough for the Panthers to keep pace with the Indians.

Le-Win finally snapped their three-game skid when they played host to the Scales Mound-River Ridge Hornets on Tuesday, May 7. That evening, the Panthers earned their tenth win of the season as they played one of their most complete games of the year.

Defensively, what stood out for the Panthers was their one error in the game. For a team that has struggled to play full games of clean defense, one error is a great performance. It came at the right time as the Panthers were looking to end

One bright spot from the their late season losing streak. With clean defense comes other things, like confident pitching and hot bats. Le-Win's pitchers knew they could trust the defense behind them. Clean defense means quick outs and little time between at bats for the offense.

With the bats in rhythm, the Panthers combined for 13 runs in a much-needed victory. Le-Win immediately jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the bottom of the first. In the second, they blew the game wide open. Chiles singled to left, driving in B Fye and giving Le-Win a 5-0 lead. Rachael Setterstrom scored on a wild pitch. Hatelak hit an RBI double to center, putting the Panthers up 7-0.

Before the end of the inning, the Panthers would bat around as Setterstrom came then singled up the middle to cap off a nine-run second inning for Le-win.

With the Panthers up 13-0 early on, it was only a matter of time before this one was over. In the end, Le-Win gathered a 13-1 victory to improve to 10-10 on the season. Setterstrom got the win from the pitcher's circle. In three innings, Setterstrom struck out five while allowing just one run off two hits. Chiles pitched two shutout innings with five strikeouts as well.

The hope for the Panthers was that the victory would spark some late season momentum. They had another big test when they traveled to take on the Durand Bulldogs on Friday, May 10. Durand is one of the more impressive teams in the area and they

back to the plate. Setterstrom came into the game with a went on to rally for four runs 12-7 record.

Midway through the game, the Panthers found themselves in a good position. By the middle of the fourth, Le-Win had the game tied 1-1. Chiles was in the middle of another all-out pitching effort for her Panthers. She gave her team just enough time to take the lead late in the game.

Fye led the top of the fifth off with a walk. Setterstrom then singled to left. With two runners on, Chiles helped herself by driving in Fye with a single to right. Kaidynce Lynch drove in a run when she hit into a fielder's choice. Before the end of the inning, the Panthers took a 4-2 lead when Chiles scored on a wild pitch.

The Bulldogs are a resilient team, however. Durand refused to go away and they

in the bottom of the sixth. Three extra-base hits came in a game changing inning for the Bulldogs.

After losing the lead, the Panthers came to the plate trailing 6-4 in the seventh. With one last at bat, Setterstrom gave her team hope with a leadoff double. Eventually, Hatelak drove Setterstrom in, making it a one-run game. The Panthers were unable to do anything else as they fell by a score of 6-5.

Chiles took the loss. In six innings, Chiles allowed five earned runs, while striking out four. Four of those earned runs came in the big sixth inning. At the plate, Chiles was two for four with one run scored and one RBI.

See SPLIT, Page 17

CONGRATS ORANGEVILLE 2024 GRADUATES



Grant Anderson



Madyson Rhodes





Benjamin

Briggs



Folgate

Veronica

Sciaraffa





Lanev Holland



Adam





Setterstrom



Whitney Sullivan



Elizabeth

Brock Tyrrell





Landon Oracki



Miklo

Webb



These local bysinesses would like to wish all 2024 graduates good luck in their future endeavors



IN*CI*DENTAL*LY Root canal treatment facts vs. fiction

Inside your tooth, beneath the enamel and a hard layer called dentin, is soft tissue called the pulp. The pulp contains blood vessels, nerves, and connective tissues. When decay nears the pulp of the tooth it can become inflamed, infected, or abscessed, and die. Trauma from a sports injury, car accidents, and other impact injuries can also crack or fracture teeth and damage or destroy the pulp. Your dentist will typically treat a damaged pulp with a root canal procedure.

The thought of having a root canal may make you



fearful if you are not familiar with this treatment protocol or if you have heard one of the myths that continue to be spread about this common dental procedure.

The most persistent myth is that they are extremely painful. While that may have been true decades ago, modern technology,

antibiotics, and anesthetics minimize discomfort. Other myths include that root canal treatments involve the removal of the roots of a tooth (not true), that they cause illness (actually the opposite as they are performed to remove infected and necrotic tissue so infection does not spread), that root canals are only performed when the infection/abscess causes extreme pain (there are situations where a root canal is required, even in the absence of pain), and that it's better to just pull a tooth (it is always better to save your

natural dentition if possible). Root canal treatment

is performed to eliminate bacteria from the infected pulp, prevent reinfection of the tooth and save the natural tooth. When one undergoes a root canal, the inflamed or infected pulp is removed and the inside of the tooth is carefully cleaned and disinfected, then filled and sealed. A tooth can survive without the pulp because it continues to be nourished by the tissues surrounding it.

Although you may be numb for two to four hours following the procedure, most patients are able to return to school or work directly following a root canal. However, you should refrain from eating until the numbness is completely gone.

While the actual root canal treatment itself may be completed in as little as one session, your dentist will need to place a crown or other restoration on the tooth to protect and restore it to full function. Saving the natural tooth with root canal treatment has many advantages, including restoring normal biting force and sensation and protecting other teeth from excessive

wear, strain, or drifting. Some of the symptoms that indicate you may have an abscess and require root canal treatment are severe pain while chewing or biting, pimples on the gums, a chipped or cracked tooth, lingering sensitivity to hot or cold, swollen, or tender gums, severe decay, or a discolored tooth. Do not let fear keep you from getting treatment for an infected and dying pulp. The longer you postpone treatment the more you risk the opportunity to save your tooth and avoid further damage or sepsis.

CONGRATS SCALES MOUND 2024 GRADUATES



FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinnv cook

The lilacs are blooming in my neighbor's yard. They are beautiful and smell great too. I always think this event is finally the true end of winter and beginning of summer. Putting winter to bed is a great feeling. This week features some recipes for spring and summer. They will be easy for you to prepare and fun to eat. Have a great week cooking.

Blooming Onions

Just in time for Vidalia onions, this appetizer is a take on the deep-fried blooming onions. It is easier on the waistline than deep frying the onion and is also really

The Scoop Today

815-291-6449

good. You can use low-fat Bake leaving foil open, until sour cream and mayonnaise for less calories. 2 large Vidalia onions 1 T. butter melted 2 t. Dijon mustard 3 T. dry breadcrumbs 1⁄4 t. salt

- 1/4 t. pepper
- Sauce:
- 1/4 C. sour cream 1/4 C. mayonnaise
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ t. dried minced onion
- 1/4 t. garlic powder
- ¹/₄ t. dried dill

Preheat oven to 425. With a sharp knife, slice 1/2 inch off the top of each onion; peel onions. Cut each into 16 wedges to within 1/2 inch of rood end. Place each onion on a double thickness of heavy-duty foil, about 12 inches square. Fold foil around onions and seal tightly. Place in an ungreased 11 x 7 baking dish. Bake for 20 minutes.

In a small bowl, combine butter and mustard. Open foil. Brush butter mixture over onions; sprinkle with breadcrumbs, salt and pepper.

Service

crisp-tender, 18-22 minutes. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine sauce ingredients. Serve with onions.

Broccoli Slaw

Instead of serving coleslaw, try this broccoli slaw. It has great additions of red cabbage, cranberries, and red onion. It would make a great picnic salad dish that will keep in any weather.

2/3 C. dried cranberries ¹/₄ C. apple cider vinegar

- 1 T. honey
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ¹/₂ C. olive oil

1 large head of broccoli 1/4 Small head of red cabbage

¹/₂ C. toasted sliced almonds 1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced

1/2 C. chopped fresh flat leaf parsley, chopped

Place the cranberries in a medium bowl and cover with boiling water. Let sit until soft and plump, about 5 minutes. Drain and set aside.

Mix the vinegar, honey, 1/2 t. salt, and 1/4 t. pepper in a large bowl. Drizzle in the olive oil, whisking constantly until completely combined. Shred the broccoli florets and stems and red cabbage using the shredding disc of a food processor. Add to the bowl with the dressing and fold in the cranberries, almonds, onions, parsley, $\frac{3}{4}$ t. salt and $\frac{1}{2}$ t. pepper. Transfer to a serving bowl and garnish with more parsley.

Creamy Skillet

Noodles with Peas

great one to pair with the oven

Swiss steak. The ingredients

are in most people's pantry, so

it is quick to make at the last

5 C. uncooked fine egg

1/4 C. butter, cubed

2¹/₂ C. frozen peas

1 C. half-and-half

2¹/₂ C. chicken broth

2 T. canola oil

minute.

noodles

This easy side dish is a

TORO

½ t. salt 1/4 t. pepper In a large skillet, heat butter and oil over medium heat. Add noodles, cook, and stir 2 to 3 minutes or until lightly browned. Stir in peas, broth, cream, salt, and pepper. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, covered 10 to 12 minutes or until noodles are tender,

Oven Swiss Steak

stirring occasionally.

This recipe is a good use of round steak which is a cut of meat that is inexpensive but sometimes not too tender. It needs some love by slow cooking a long time to make it a wonderfully tasty main course.

8 bacon strips

- 2 lbs. round steak, 3/4 inch thick
- 2 C. sliced mushrooms 1 can (141/2 oz.) diced toma-
- toes, undrained
 - 1/2 C. chopped onion
 - 1¹/₂ t. dried tarragon
 - 2 T. cornstarch
 - 2 T. water

1 C. heavy whipping cream Minced fresh parsley

In a large cast-iron or ovenproof skillet, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp. Remove to paper towels to drain, reserving 1/4 C. drippings. Crumble the bacon and set aside. Trim beef and cut into serving size pieces. Brown beef on both sides in drippings. Top meat with mushrooms, tomatoes, and onion. Sprinkle with tarragon and bacon. Cover and bake at 325 for $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours until meat is tender basting twice with juices.

Remove meat onto a serving platter and tent it to keep it warm. Combine the cornstarch and water until smooth; add to skillet. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until thickened. about 2 minutes. Reduce heat; stir in cream. Simmer, uncovered, until heated through, 3 to 4 minutes. Return meat to skillet and turn to coat with sauce. Place on serving platter and garnish with parsley.

Monte Cristo Melts

If you are looking for a great sandwich that is easy to prep and can have ready in about 35 minutes, this sandwich will make weeknight dinners fast.

- 1¹/₂ C. shredded Monterey Jack or Provolone cheese
- 1¹⁄₄ C. finely chopped cooked ham (about 6 oz.)
 - 1/3 C. mayonnaise 1 box refrigerated pie

crusts, softened as directed on box

- 1 egg yolk
- 1 t. water
- 2 t. paprika

Preheat oven to 425. In a medium bowl, stir together cheese, ham, and mayo. Set

aside. On a lightly floured surface, roll each pie crust into 14-inch rounds. Using a 6-inch round plate, cut 3 rounds from each crust. Reroll remaining dough and cut 2 more 6-inch rounds. Spoon about 1/4 C. cheese mixture onto half each round to within 1/4 inch from edge. Moisten edge of each round with water. Fold untopped dough over filling; press edges with fork to seal. Place sandwiches about 2 inches apart on 2 ungreased large cookie sheets. Beat egg yolk, water and paprika with fork. Brush top of each sandwich with egg mixture; cut small slit in top to allow steam to escape. Bake 12 to 16 minutes or until golden brown.

Rhubarb Dream Bars

Try these easy and tasty rhubarb bars. The shortbread crust makes a great bottom for the rhubarb, nuts, and coconut topping. The recipe calls for different amounts of sugar. If you like your rhubarb tart, use the lesser amount.

- 1¹/₄ C. flour, divided
- 1/3 C. powdered sugar
- ¹/₂ C. cold butter, cubed 11/4 to 11/2 C. sugar

2 eggs 2 C. diced fresh or frozen rhubarb

¹/₂ C. chopped pecans

 $\frac{1}{2}$ C. sweetened shredded coconut

In a large bowl, combine C. flour and the powdered Cut in butter until sugar. crumbly. Pat into a lightly greased 9 x 13 baking dish. Bake at 350 for 13 to 15 minutes or until edges are lightly browned.

In a large bowl, combine the sugar and remaining flour. Add eggs. Stir in the rhubarb, nuts and coconut; pour over crust. Bake 30 to 35 minutes longer or until set. Cool on a wire rack. Cut into bars.

Rhubarb Upside **Down Cake**

I have lots of requests for rhubarb recipes this time of year. If you didn't know that you can keep on cutting rhubarb all summer long, you do now. You just can't let it go to seed. As long as you keep cutting it, it will keep growing. Cut it up into pieces and put however many cups you will use in a recipe in a zip lock bag. Seal it well and place it flat in your freezer. I know people who make rhubarb pies all winter long and quick breads too. This recipe is a different one than a pie, bread, or bar. Try it for a dessert that you haven't served a traditional rhubarb recipe. 3 C. sliced fresh or frozen

rhubarb

See KITCHEN, Page 17

& Shopper's Guide Corner REPAIR Your local Toro Dealer & Master Service Center Power Walk Mowers, Residential, G & H PAINTING Heavy Duty Residential and Commercial Zeroturns **Interior & Exterior** Painting & Staining LENA, IL Fully Insured Brent Geilenfeldt 815-369-5368 · Cell 815-275-1069 10240 N. Old Mill Rd. • McConnell, IL 61050 815-541-3348 • heidrepair@yahoo.com Adam Heimann 815-275-6450 111032 Bob's Residential and Commercial **Power Washing** Handyman Gutter Cleaning Window Washing Service Holiday Lighting R Nick Judge • 815-990-8937 (Formerly Wybourn Construction) Fully insured www.sixpointservices.com Lena, IL \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times Cell: 608-558-1095 **PEARL CITY SEAMLESS** bobwybourn@gmail.com **GUTTERS INC.** 5" & 6" Seamless • Windows • Doors • Kitchens Gutters & Gutter Guards Available. Multi-color, Color Match. Bathrooms
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Wednesday, May 15, 2024 THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE

American Legion Auxiliary to host ALA Girls State

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) will host the 83rd Session of ALA Girls State in Charleston, IL at Eastern Illinois University on June 16 through June 22. Illinois residents who will be a senior in high school this fall are eligible to attend.

This program is a held in every state and is not just about politics. If interested or to learn more about the program, please Julia Moore, 815-369-4684, jamcps54@ yahoo.com.

• Split (Continued from page 14)

Setterstrom had a massive day offensively, going three for three with three runs scored. Hatelak was one for three with two RBI in the loss. The trio of Chiles, Setterstrom, and Hatelak provided all six of Le-Win's hits in game.

The Panthers got things back on track when they closed the week with a big win over the Galena Pirates. On Saturday, May 11 Le-Win beat Galena by a score of 9-2. Setterstrom got the win from the circle. In a complete game, Setterstrom struck out 12 while allowing two earned runs on four hits.

At the plate, Setterstrom was equally impressive. She went three for three with four runs scored, a walk, and one RBI. Hatelak was two for three with two runs scored and three RBI. Faith Offerman also had two hits in the win.

With the victory, the Panthers ended their 2024 regular season with an overall record of 11-11.

• Kitchen (Continued from page 16)

C. sugar
 T. flour
 4 t. nutmeg
 4 C. butter, melted
 Batter
 4 C. butter melted
 4 C. sugar
 egg, room temperature
 1½ C. flour
 t. baking powder
 ½ t. nutmeg
 ¼ t. salt
 2/3 C. milk

Sweetened whip cream Preheat the oven to 350. Place rhubarb in a greased 10inch cast iron or other heavy ovenproof skillet. Combine sugar, flour, and nutmeg. Sprinkle over rhubarb. Drizzle with butter.

To make batter: In a large mixing bowl, beat butter and sugar until blended. Beat in the egg. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, nutmeg, and salt. Gradually add to egg mixture alternating with milk, beating well after each addition. Spread over rhubarb mixture. Bake at 350 until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, about 35 minutes. Loosen edges immediately and invert onto a serving dish; serve with whipped cream.

Final Thoughts

Boy we have had some interesting storms this past week. Hopefully the tornadoes are not going to be a problem. Late the other afternoon it poured rain, and then I heard the hail. It only lasted for several minutes, but I was glad the car was inside, and the flowers survived

Mother's Day has come and gone, and we are halfway through May. There are plenty of May activities left. Track meets are having Sectionals as are baseball and softball. At least one graduation has been celebrated, and many more are scheduled in the next two weeks.

I need to get some flowerpots ready for the cemetery and the lawn furniture carried out of the basement (my great helper will do that, not me!). I have two chairs out that have been great to sit on in the sun. I just haven't gotten the deck furniture out until the deck is power washed. All these traditional things that get us ready for summer are happening

ing. The Lena Drive Inn is open and busy. The Saturday Farmer's Market has also begun. There were about a dozen vendors last week and more are showing up each week. The Lena Park Ministry Concerts will begin on Saturday, May 25 at Lake Le-Aqua-Na. Summer baseball and softball kicks off and the pool activities are starting. Have a good week of working on spring and summer.

We have had some great spring recipes and summer ones too! We are looking for rhubarb, asparagus, and strawberry recipes, so send some favorites our way. If you find some recipes to share, you can contact us by email at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com.

or by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, *The Shopper's* Guide at Rock Valley Publishing, 1102 Ann St., Delavan, WI 53115. Have a great week.

Stolen vehicle leads to juvenile arrests

On May 10, 2024, Freeport Police Officers were dispatched to a residence in the 800 block of S. Ottawa Avenue in reference to a blue GMC Terrain that had just been stolen from the victim. The suspect was reported to

be a female juvenile family vated. The GMC sped away member. at a high rate of speed and

Officers later received a report stating the GMC was in the downtown area of Freeport. Officers located the GMC and attempted to stop it with lights and sirens acti-

vated. The GMC sped away at a high rate of speed and Officers initially lost sight of it. The GMC was eventually located in the area of S. Chicago Avenue and E. Frank Street and had minor damage. The suspect 13-year-old

female juvenile family member and a 13-year-old male juvenile were taken into custody. The juveniles were transported to the Police Department where they were processed and released to an adult.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

The following self-storage Cube contents containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Asset Management, LLL as Agent for Owner #4409, 555 W. South Street, Freeport, Illinois 61032 to satisfy a lien on May 23,2024 at approx 1:00 PM at www.storagetreasures.com Cube 1487 Nada Jones

(Published in The Shopper's Guide May 8 & 15, 2024) 454610

NOTICE OF PUBLIC **HEARING KENT/ERIN MULTI** TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Town of Kent/Erin Multi in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning 1 April, 2024, and ending 31 March, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 8100 W. Dublin Rd., Pearl City from and after 9 o'clock A.M., 6th day, May, 2024.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said budget and



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appropriation will be held at 6:30 o'clock P.M., 3rd day, June, 2024, at 2699 N. Unity Rd., Lena in this Town and that final action on this ordinance will be taken by the Board of Town Trustees at the meeting to be held at 6:30 o'clock P.M., on the 3rd day of June, 2024.

Dated this 6th day of May, 2024.

Marcia Hammer, Supervisor Ryan Pickard, Clerk (Published in The Shopper's Guide May 15, 2024) 455420

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING **ON TOWNSHIP** BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Town of Erin in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning 1 April, 2024, and ending 31 March, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 8100 W. Dublin Rd., Pearl City from and after In Re the Matter of 9 o'clock A.M., 6th day, May, 2024.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will

be held at 7 o'clock P.M., on the 3rd day of June, 2024, at 2699 N. Unity Rd., Lena, IL in this Town and that final action on this ordinance will be taken by the Board of Town Trustees at the meeting to be held at 7 o'clock P.M., on 3rd day of June, 2024..

Dated this 6th day of May, 2024.

Andrew Lobdell, Supervisor as Ryan Pickard, Clerk (Published in The Shopper's Guide May 15, 2024)

455423

is:

NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING ON ROAD & BRIDGE BUDGET AND TOWNSHIP BUDGET**

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Town of West Point and Ordinance for Road Purposes of the West Point Township, in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, for

LEGAL NOTICES

ordinance the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024, and ending March 31, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the home of the Town Clerk, Bill Staton, from and after 8 o'clock a.m., on May 14, 2024.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinances will be held at 7 o'clock p.m., on June 11, 2024, in the West Point Township Building, 6890 N. Five Corners Rd., Lena, IL. Final hearing and action on this ordinance will be taken at this meeting.

Karen Peight, Supervisor Bill Staton, Clerk (Published in The Shopper's Guide May 15, 2024)

455455

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT **COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL** CIRCUIT **STEPHENSON COUNTY - IN PROBATE** the Estate of: ANNE V. BUSHELLE Deceased.

> No. 24-PR-35 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Notice is given of the death of Anne V. Bushelle, of Freeport, Illinois. An Order was entered May 7, 2024, admitting the Will of the decedent and dated July 19, 1993, issuing Letters of Office as described herein. Letters of Office were issued on May 7, 2024, to:

Victoria A. Bushelle 600 SW 37th St. Moore, OK 73160

independent Executor of the Estate of Anne V. Bushelle, whose attorney

> Anthony V. Coon Attorney At Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210

Freeport, Illinois 61032 Notice is given to persons who are heirs or legatees in the above proceeding to probate a Will whose name or address is not stated in the Petition to Admit the Will to Probate. That an Order was entered by the Court on May 7, 2024, admitting the Will to probate.

That on or before July 5, 2024, you may file a petition with the Court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open Court or other evidence as provided in Section 5/6-21 of the Probate Act of 1975. (755 ILCS 5/6-21).

You also have the right under Section 5/8-1 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the Will by filing a Petition with the Court on or before November 25, 2024.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032, or with the representative, or both, on or before November 25, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before said date

filed with the Clerk must Assessment Review Combe mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Anthony V. Coon, #6269568 Attorney at Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste 210 Freeport, IL 61032 815/235-2212 Fax 815-232-5500

tonycoonlaw@aol.com (Published in The Shopper's Guide

May 15, 22 & 29, 2024) 455534

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Under Section 10-120 of the Illinois Property Tax Code, as amended, the Jo is barred. Copies of a claim Daviess County Farmland

mittee shall hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday. May 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. This hearing will be held at the Jo Daviess County Administrative Building/Board Room at 219 Kelly Lane, Galena, IL. The primary objective of the meeting will be to certify the 2025 farmland values that the committee has received from the Illinois Department of Revenue.

Laura Edmonds, CIAO Chief County Assessment Officer

> (Published in The Scoop Today May 15, 2024) 455185



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Community appreciation

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary staff delivers to Leamons EMT's to thank them for all that they do. Pictured are (left to right) Louise Lameyer, Marsha Tessendorf, Justin Wobler, Kathy Pignato, and Jeff Johnson. The Lena-Winslow School staff also received a delivery of treats.

Page 19



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737-3512 in Lena.



Freeport Memorial Alumni Nursing Scholarship applications open

Applications are now open for the 2024-2025 Freeport Memorial Alumni Nursing Scholarship. The Freeport Memorial School of Nursing Alumni organization is offering \$500 to \$1,000 scholarships to help nursing students and nurses pursuing advanced education.

The organization's selection committee determines scholarship recipients based on educational and vocational goals, extracurricular and community activities including organizational, civic, or volunteer work and honors, awards or recognition applicants have received. Applicants must be accepted in a nursing program or pursuing advanced nursing education. To apply, complete the application form at www. fhn.org/docs/2024-MemorialNursingScholarship-Application.pdf. Deadline for applications is Saturday, June 1. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the annual banquet Saturday, June 8. Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the recipients' school in their name.

For more information on the scholarship, contact Marilyn Thoren at 815-789-4707. Freeport Memorial Alumni Nursing scholarships are funded by donations, gifts, and memorials. If interested in contributing, please contact Cheryl Schofield at 815-541-9657.



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Ullivan's Foods has hired a company called Flecheck to process all checks written at our stores. Flecheck has set guidelines in place for processing checks.
ck has a \$300 limit for check writing with purchases. If you have an order larger than \$300, you may need to pay any remaining balance by cash, credit, or debit card.

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