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VOL. 86 • NO. 32

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2024



Lena's Bike and Pet Parade

The second annual Bike and Pet Parade highlighting Diabetes Awareness was held in downtown Lena on July 20. The parade is sponsored by the Lena Lions club to promote health and wellness in addition to family fun. Around 100 people joined in on the activity. After the parade there were games, displays and information in the downtown parking lot along with the Lena Farmers Market.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

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Help save lives now with the Red Cross

Get a \$20 Amazon.com gift card by email for donating blood or platelets in August

The American Red Cross urges donors to give blood or platelets now to reinforce the blood supply as much as possible before the summer winds down. Type O blood donors and those giving platelets are especially needed to help keep hospital shelves stocked through August.

Donors remain critically needed to support the Red Cross delivery of vi-

tal blood products, which are in demand around-the-clock as hospitals work to save lives this summer. When fewer people answer the call to donate, the blood supply can quickly shrink. Help safeguard necessary care for patients – book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor

App. In thanks, those who come to give from Aug. 1-31 will get a \$20 Amazon.com gift card by email. See RedCrossBlood.org/Help for more details.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Stephenson County:

- Lena: Friday, Aug. 2, noon to 5 p.m., Lena American Legion Hall, 316 Main St.

Winnebago County:

- Rockford: Wednesday, Aug. 14, noon to 5 p.m., Kaney Inc., 1300 Capital Drive

How to donate blood

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-

800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass to complete

their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

Amplify your impact – volunteer

Another way to support the lifesaving mission of the Red Cross is to become a volunteer blood donor ambassador at Red Cross blood drives. Blood donor ambassadors help greet, check in and thank blood donors to ensure they have a positive donation experience.

Volunteers can also serve as transportation specialists, playing a vital role in ensuring lifesaving blood products are deliv-

ered to nearby hospitals. For more information and to apply for either position, visit redcross.org/volunteertoday.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or follow us on social media.



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Longspurs compete at National Shoot 2024

The Carroll County Longspurs trapshooting team traveled to Marengo, OH for the SCTP (Scholastic Clay Target Program) national shoot the week of July 18. Over 2,900 trap shooters participated in the largest youth shooting competition in the world. Thirty-one team members, coaches, and families got to see the best shooters for two full days of shooting.

Following their state competition success, the team performed at a high level both days. All squads of five shooters were successful, with the rookie (3rd -5th grade) squad taking sixth in the nation, and the collegiate squad taking fourth in the nation.

Personal bests happened both days. Senior Varsity JV shooter Parker Whiting took first place in the nation with a two-day total of 198/200. Whiting is a student at West Carroll high school and is also an SCTP academic all American. Collegiate athlete Ella Wackerlin took second place in the nation for women shooters. Day one saw her shoot a perfect 100 straight and she followed up with a 98. Wackerli is a Stockton high school graduate and currently furthers her education at UW Platteville.

The Longspurs would like to thank everyone who supports them locally and allows them to compete with the best athletes in the nation.



The Longspurs Team attended the National Shoot 2024 during the week of July 16. The rookie squad took sixth in the nation, and the collegiate squad took fourth.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Stephenson and Carroll County Farm Bureau news

BY VICTORIA HANSEN

What a week it has been! This week the Farm Bureau hosted our annual Farm Fun Zone at the Stephenson County Fair. The Farm Fun Zone included a petting zoo with pigs, a mini donkey, and a calf. In addition to the animals, we had educational activities for children and adults alike to learn about agriculture. We enjoyed seeing some familiar and new faces. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to see us.

We want to thank our many volunteers who assisted in making our tent possible and a big thank you to the Stephenson County Fair Association for putting on another great event. If you have any suggestions for different activities for 2025, please let our office know.

Stephenson County Farm Bureau offering Rawleigh products

The Stephenson County Farm Bureau is excited to announce that we are hosting a Rawleigh product order. Orders can be placed on the phone or in person on or before Aug. 28. Pick up will be the week of Sept. 16.

Products we will be offering include Double Strength Vanilla, Black Pepper, Chocolate Dessert Mix, Coconut Dessert Mix, Lemon Dessert Mix, Steak and Hamburger Signature Blend, Original Antiseptic Salve, Medicated Ointment, Bee Secret, Arnica, and External AP Oil. For prices, please call our office or visit www.stephensoncfb.org. Please call our office at 815-232-3186 for questions.

Carroll County Farm Bureau to host youth events at the Carroll County Fair

Are you interested in getting your kids involved with our

Carroll County Fair events? This year we have two options for you, and both events are free!

On Aug. 10, individuals may compete in our Ninja Farmer event starting at 11 a.m. in front of the Grandstand. Check-in begins at 10:30 a.m. If you would like to partake in this event, dress for a mess as the games may be messy and/or wet. The event is timed, and prizes will be awarded in each age division, determined by the lowest overall completion time.

Age brackets are as follows: ages 7-8 (Division 1), ages 9-10 (Division 2), ages 11-12 (Division 3), and ages 13-14 (Division 4). Every participant in Ninja Farmer will get free ice cream. Pre-registration is encouraged for Ninja Farmer and can be completed through the Carroll County Farm Bureau Office by Thursday, Aug. 8.

If Ninja Farmer doesn't sound like a good fit, check out our Kiddie Tractor Pull! This event is also on Aug. 10 at the Hospitality Tent. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m., and the pull will follow at 1 p.m. This event is open to all boys and girls weighing from 10 to 80 pounds, and participants will be divided into three weight classes once all entries have been received. Trophies are awarded

See FARM, Page 10



Above: Ella Wackerlin places second in Collegiate women during the National competition. Left: National Champion Parker Whiting took first place with a two-day total of 198/200.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

THE SCOOP TODAY

The Scoop Today (USPS #25-737) is published weekly by Rock Valley Publishing, LLC, 7124 Windsor Lake Pkwy., Ste. 4, Loves Park, IL 61111-3802.

Periodical Postage Paid at Rockford, IL.

POSTMASTER: send address changes to

The Scoop Today, 7124 Windsor Lake Pkwy., Ste. 4, Loves Park, IL 61111-3802.

Address for payment, correspondence and any other inquiries: 1102 ANN STREET, DELAVAN, WI 53115

EDITOR: Kathleen Cruger

Advertising Sales: Cyndee Stiefel • lenaads@rvpublishing.com

Telephone: 815-369-4112

Email: News/Letters to the Editor and Classifieds: scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com

Ads: ads@rvpublishing.com • Legals: legals@rvpublishing.com

Billing Office: businessoffice@rvpublishing.com

Available online at: rvpnews.com

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Obituaries

JUDITH BATCHELDER DASCHER

Judith A. Batchelder Dascher, age 85, of Stockton, IL passed away Thursday, July 25, 2024, at FHN Memorial Hospital. She was born on March 17, 1939, to the late Cyrus and Mary (Kappes) Batchelder.

Judy was a 1957 graduate of Stockton High School. She was a member of Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton. Judy worked at The Lantern and The Cove and retired from Honeywell. She enjoyed visiting with friends and family, driving around sight-seeing, gambling,



animals, and spending time with her great grandchildren. She is survived by her daughter, Mary (Steve) McCloy of Miles, IA; her son, Terry Batchelder of Fort Collins, CO; her grandchildren, Kelsey McCloy, Mercedes (Sawyer) Oglesby, Paige (Ricky Phillips) Dascher, Justus (Sadie) Dascher, and Josie Dascher; her great grandchildren, Kinsley

DONALD HAWES

Donald "Don" Hawes, 86, of Warren, IL passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at the SSM Hospice Home in Monroe, WI. He was born on May 9, 1938, in Freeport, IL to Robert and Mayme (Schliem) Hawes. He was a 1956 graduate of Warren High School. On November 15, 1958, he married his high school sweetheart Carol Busch and together they raised three daughters. Don worked for Micro Switch Honeywell in maintenance for 44 years. His last 24 years he was a Maintenance Supervisor. He was very dedicated and passionate about this job and looked forward to going into work every day.

Don had a great love for cars, owning over 50 throughout his life. Don was an avid NASCAR fan. He attended races and loved watching them at home. He crafted family heirlooms that his family cherishes with his very skilled woodworking abilities. Don



and Carol loved going to garage sales and antique stores to find treasures to restore and refinish. Throughout their life they went camping with their girls. In their later years, they upgraded to an RV to share their love of camping with their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Don is survived by Carol, his wife of 65 years; three daughters, Pam (John Deyo) Davis of Warren, Marcia (Doug) Kaiser of Monroe, WI, and Lana (Steve) Murphy of Lake Mills, WI; six grandchildren, Garrett (Amy) Davis, Kylie (Matt) Davis, Haley (Luke) Neuenschwander, Riley (Courtney Nevinela) Murphy, Bryce (Jasmine Jones) Murphy, and Ian (Julia Carncross) Murphy; six great-grandchildren, Hudson, Adelyn, and Ella Davis,

BEVERLY ANN (MARCH) SCHIESS

Bev Schiess died July 22, 2024, at Winn Prairie in Freeport, IL. She was born on August 16, 1933, in Earlville IA to Marie Whiting March and LeRoy March. She was the first of four children. At age 10, she moved with her family to Warren, IL where she attended school and graduated from WHS in 1950.

Bev enrolled in the St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing, graduating with her RN in 1953. She married Bob Schiess on Sept. 6, 1953, at St. Ann's Church in Warren in the Rev. Clarence Thennes and together they raised six children. They were blessed to spend 70 years together.

Bob was a farmer and they lived most of their working lives on their farm in Stockton, IL. Bev practiced her profession at St. Francis Hospital in Freeport, St. Clare Hospital in Monroe WI, and lastly in the office of Drs. Rauchy and Williams in Stockton. She and Bob were well known in the area;



they loved to dance and spent many Sunday afternoons at Turner Hall in Monroe. They also loved traveling, making four trips to Europe, two to Alaska, and three to Hawaii. Later, they traveled in their motor home, visiting every state and soon bought a home in Mesa AZ, where they spent the winters for 26 years.

Bev was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Her husband and family were everything to her. She is survived by her daughters Tracy Heidenreich of Elizabeth, and Janis (Greg) Thoren of Stockton, her sons Kerry (Cindy) of Byron Center, MI, Todd (Laila) of Concord CA, and Brian (Michele) of Lake Carroll, her grandchildren Aaron (Sara) Heidenreich, Julia (Ben) Blair, Neil Thoren, Kelly Schiess, Jody (Aedan) Gardill, Shannon (Kynady) Schiess, Anna (Quin-

Parker, Felix Phillips and Ezekiel Dascher; and her friend and caregiver, Pauline "PJ" Ebbings. She was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Mark; her brother, James; and family friend, Ed Coppemoll.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024, at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Stockton at 11 a.m. with a visitation beginning at 10 a.m. Interment will take place at Wards Grove Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

Kameron and Kaden Davis, and Wesley Murphy; sister-in-law Mary Hawes; two nieces, Melissa (Joe) Daddio and Mollie Hawes. He was preceded in death by his parents; in-laws Arthur and Alverna Busch; brother Ron Hawes and brother-in-law Karl Busch.

The family will be hosting a Celebration of Life on Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Apple River Event Center in Apple River, IL. A light buffet lunch will be served.

For those of you who knew Don, he loved to share a good story. At 3 p.m. a time of sharing will take place. For those with a good story about Don, the family would love to hear them. For those not comfortable sharing in public, we will also have memory cards available to write down your story for the family to read later, in private. In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established in his memory. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

cy) Bollone, Zachary Schiess, Zoe (Kam) McDonnell, Travis (August) Schiess and Devin Schiess, her great-grandchildren Anna Blair, Brynn and Thomas Heidenreich, Scout Schiess and Weston Bollone, her brother Bob (Trudy) March and sister-in-law Phyllis March many nieces, nephews and friends.

Bev was predeceased by her husband Bob, son Scott, son-in-law Loren Heidenreich, grandson Nathan Heidenreich, sister Mary Akkerman and brother Ron March.

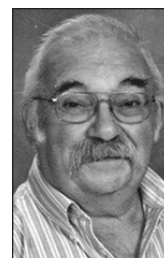
Funeral services were held at Holy Cross Church in Stockton on Saturday, July 27, 2024. A private burial in the church cemetery will be at a later date. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

The family wishes to extend their sincerest thanks to the entire Winn Prairie staff for the excellent care and love given to both Bev and Bob for the last three years, to Sarah Smith CNP from SSM, and Serenity Hospice.

KENNETH NEEBEL

Kenneth "Kenny" A. Neebel, 77 of Pearl City, IL passed away on Sunday, July 21, 2024, at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport. Kenny was born on November 13, 1946, in Freeport, IL to Robert and Vida (Blair) Neebel. He was a graduate of Pearl City High School.

Kenny was a lifelong farmer in rural Pearl City. He also worked at Pearl Valley Eggs. Kenny enjoyed hunting, fishing, going to fairs to watch the cattle shows, watching rodeos, and raising short-horned cat-



He was always a jokester, and he loved horses.

Kenny is survived by his sister Jean Hill of Pearl City, IL, two nephews; Scott (Jean) Hill of Stockton, IL, and Tracey (Angie) Hill of Polo, IL,

two great-nephews; Wyatt Hill and Sam Hill, one great-niece Sophie Watts, numerous cousins, and his beloved dog JJ. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother-in-law Dennis Hill.

Funeral Mass was held on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lena, IL. Father Andrew Hernandez officiated the services. Burial took place at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Freeport, IL. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

GARY SCHREINER

Gary Allen Schreiner, 88, of Lena, IL, passed away peacefully at Lena Living Center on July 15, 2024. He was born on December 16, 1935, in Freeport to Lloyd and Pearl Schreiner of Lanark. He was their only child. Gary married Aileen Kramer Tonini on June 30, 1973, at their home, "Windy Oaks," west of Lena, high on a hill overlooking the farm fields of Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin.

Gary is survived by Aileen, three children, Lori Logemann, Craig (Lisa) Schreiner and Alan Schreiner; stepson Alan (Kelly) Tonini; grandchildren LeeAnn Meyers, Ashlee (Bernard Cooper) Logemann; Cole Logemann, David (Abby) Jones; Zach (Heidi) Schreiner, Josh Schreiner and four great-grandchildren, Kennedy Cooper and Isabel, Charles and Iris Jones. He was preceded in passing by his parents, a stepson, Mark Tonini, and grandson, Aaron Emmanuel Schreiner.

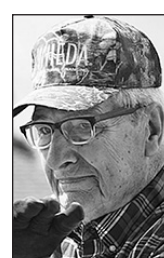
Gary loved agriculture. He worked first as a farmer and later as a farm implement dealer. As a boy in Lanark, Gary was introduced to farming by relatives, the Hoffman family at Forreston and the Schreinners at Chadwick. As Gary was growing up, he spent summers on the farms of uncles and aunts and grandparents.

In the Lena business community, Gary found forward-thinking friends who would support his business ventures for the rest of his life.

Gary's bond with Lena began in 1960 when, on a drive with his dad, he found a farm west of town. On the 220-acre farm, he raised nearly every kind of livestock except dairy cattle. By the 1970's he was renting more land and raising corn and soybeans exclusively. Along with farming, Gary began selling and trucking farm equipment for his friend Richard Wilkening, who owned a Case implement dealership in Lena.

As he continued farming, Gary entered a partnership with Wilkening and their friend Bill Kuhlman, owning and operating the popular Red Cedar Lounge supper club in Freeport for several years.

When Gary married Aileen in 1973, he was starting his



knowledge of farm equipment, Gary earned the trust of his customers. Like them he had farmed, often with the same kinds of machinery he was selling. Gary entered farm implement sales full-time. The small business along highway 20 became a hub of activity with machinery coming and going from across the Midwest. An innovator, Gary even took on a line of new equipment from Germany--air-cooled Deutz tractors. But the used trade was the lifeblood of his business with John Deere, Farmall and Ford tractors, New Idea corn pickers, all brands of combines and much more.

Gary's exceptional ability attracted attention. In an overture to hire Gary, one Allis Chalmers dealer said he was one-of-a-kind. There was no one like him. When he closed the doors at Elroy for the final time, he began selling new equipment in Stockton at a CaseIH dealership owned by Joe Borsdorf. Gary then capped an outstanding career in his own hometown of Lanark with 20 years as sales manager at Curtis and Sons, where he sold John Deere equipment. An award-winning salesman, Gary received honors from the John Deere Corporation including a vacation trip to Australia with Aileen.

Travel became a focus for Gary and Aileen in retirement. They made motor home treks across the U.S. and into Canada, usually accompanied by close friends. At the same time, they opened Stage Coach Trail Storage in Lena to meet the demand for storage units. Every September, they opened the property as a staging area for antique farm tractors in the Lena Fall Festival parade. Tractors gathered beneath the stately oaks and large picnic lunches were served preceding the tractor rides led by Gary after the parade. Gary fed his love of American farming with

own used farm implement business, Elroy Sales Co. at Elroy. With his patient, no-nonsense style and intimate

knowledge of farm equipment, Gary earned the trust of his customers. Like them he had farmed, often with the same kinds of machinery he was selling. Gary entered farm implement sales full-time. The small business along highway 20 became a hub of activity with machinery coming and going from across the Midwest. An innovator, Gary even took on a line of new equipment from Germany--air-cooled Deutz tractors. But the used trade was the lifeblood of his business with John Deere, Farmall and Ford tractors, New Idea corn pickers, all brands of combines and much more.

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his antique tractor and implement collection. In winter, Gary and Aileen became "snowbirds" after discovering Fort Myers, FL in 2000, acquiring property there and building a residence. But Gary's proudest possession remained two farms he and Aileen owned—one near their house on the hill, the other south of Winslow near the Pecatonica River. Whether it was people, crops or farm animals, Gary had an instinct for what they needed to thrive. He was a person of action. Nothing happened on its own. When he was a young farmer and pigs were born, the runts were brought into the basement and bottle-fed near the furnace. In raising corn and soybeans, Gary believed in fertilizer. Lots of it. When people were struggling, Gary was there with his quiet, steady voice. He was a keen observer of people. He possessed intellectual curiosity and was an avid reader of daily and weekly newspapers.

Gary's successes can make it look like he knew how to do everything right. But it's important to remember that he was living in the moment. When he took a risk, no one, himself included, knew how it would turn out. Those decisions were educated guesses. The excitement was in how it might turn out. This is what he leaves us with, along with the lesson that we should love what we do, and then persist. Gary's family wishes to thank the nursing staffs at FHN Hospital in Freeport and Lena Living Center for their skilled, compassionate, healing presence at Gary's bedside. Truly, so many times, they seemed to know how to send just the right person at just the right time. Thanks also to the many friends who have reached out to check on Aileen and all of us. We treasure you. A graveside ceremony for family and open to friends who wish to come will be held at Lena Cemetery in Lena, IL on Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. A celebration of Gary's abundant life will be held at Coach's Golf and Grill, 621 W. Lena St. in Lena, IL from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

Destructive derecho rips through Illinois

By Hannah Spangler
FARMWEEK

Severe weather damage struck close to home for thousands of Illinois residents last week as a powerful derecho tore through the state.

Thunderstorms, which developed over northern Iowa July 15 and tracked into eastern Iowa and northwest Illinois that evening, packed winds exceeding 90 mph, tornadoes and heavy rain, and left behind extensive damage and power outages.

The Storm Prediction Center on July 16 confirmed the storm met the definition of a derecho, which is a swath of wind damage at least 400

miles long and 60 miles wide with winds of at least 58 mph through much of the path and gusts over 75 mph. It marks the second consecutive growing season Illinois took a direct hit from a derecho. "We've got a lot of members that didn't make it through unscathed," Illinois Farm Bureau President Brian Duncan said of the events. "Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with areas impacted by the storms."

The National Weather Service as of July 18 confirmed 29 tornadoes touched down during the derecho, including 22 in the Chicagoland area, two near Kewanee and one each near Alta, Dako-

ta, Taylor Ridge/Andover, Monica/Princeville and East Peoria/Morton.

That follows two confirmed tornadoes the night before near Bronzeville and Englewood in the Chicagoland area and three near Henry July 14.

Just 1.5 miles from Dave Kestel's farm in Will County, NWS confirmed an EF-2 touched down with winds over 120 mph.

"All of my corn and the corn nearby looks fine, but it's crazy to see oak trees snapped off basically across the road," he said.

In western Illinois, areas near Speer reported 100-mph wind gusts. Jennifer Beaver,

co-owner of Tanner's Orchard, said they had some branches and apples down, but no serious damage.

"We were lucky not to get hit with any hail," she told FarmWeek.

However, residents near Kewanee and Wyoming weren't as fortunate. The storm flattened crops and downed power lines, leaving thousands without power.

Local residents Vicki and Steve Goerks were informed by Ameren power restoration could take up to two days. As of July 18, Ameren reported fewer than ten customers were still without power in the area.

Rainfall totals varied, with

several areas receiving more than 5 inches. While July rains are typically beneficial, Duncan suggested to RFD Radio Network that this might be an instance of "too much of a good thing."

Previous severe weather July 13-14 added to the stress.

Illinois Farm Bureau District 1 Director Mark Tuttle said storms caused downed power lines and branches and dropped 3 to 5 inches of rain in the Leland area. Rockford also faced heavy rainfall totals from 4 to 6.5 inches while a microburst caused damage in Joliet.

"This is really the heaviest rain we've gotten (recently), so the ground is dry enough it has absorbed it well," Tuttle said of the July 14 rains. However, he added that more storms and more rain were not needed.

"Some of the younger corn that's probably about a week away from tasseling got tipped over pretty good," Tuttle said. "I think a lot of it will stand back up. But there is probably some green snap out in the fields."

Meanwhile, a 3.4 magnitude earthquake was detected in Somonauk early in the morning July 14.

Tuttle said the earthquake was centered underneath one of his farms just down the road from his house in DeKalb County, but the overnight tremor did not wake him. There were no damage reports because of the quake.

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

Church news

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate the eleventh Sunday after Pentecost on Sunday, Aug. 4. It will be an outdoor service at the Pearl City Park District shelter. Refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. and the service will begin at 10 a.m. There will not be a Facebook Livestream of the service this week. Dan Brinkmeier and the Garage Gang band will be performing at the service.

Everyone is welcome to come to St. John's to play dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, Aug. 6 at 9 a.m.

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at 7:30 a.m. at the Garden View Restaurant in Lena.

The Social Ministry group is collecting school supplies for students at Pearl City School through Aug. 11. Items needed include markers, crayons, pencils, colored pencils, glue bottles, rulers, erasers, wireless computer mice, and earbuds. Monetary donations are also accepted and encouraged.

The August Grace Meal

will be on Sunday, Aug. 18. Meals can be picked up between 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. on Aug. 18. Reservations are due in the church office by Thursday, Aug. 15. The menu for the August meal will be shaved pulled pork, coleslaw, chips, and a chocolate brownie dessert. This meal is possible due to donations and a grant from the Foundation of Northwest Illinois. 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.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL on Sunday, Aug. 4 for Communion Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. This week's gospel reading is from the Gospel John 6:24-35.

On Wednesday, Aug. 6 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.

Good Shepherd's Outdoor Service will take place on Aug. 11 at 10:30 am. Please take note of the time change for the service.

All the services will be recorded and be available on church's Facebook page and website. Please visit our website and (goodshepherdlena.org) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/GSL-CLenaIL) for information. Please contact the church office at 815-369-5552 with any questions.

Salem United Church of Christ

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

The Wednesday Break-

fast Bunch will meet Aug. 7 at 8 a.m. at Beltline Café, 325 West South Street, Freeport, IL.

If interested in participating in a fun evening of crafting, 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 related items, contact 815-369-4511 or ruth.dake@gmail.com.

Calvary Church of Stockton

Calvary Church of Stockton is sponsoring a special night of music on Saturday, Aug. 10. "No Worries," "Pleasant Hope," and "Finding Grace" will perform music for all to enjoy. There will be a message by Pastor Scott Hess of Calvary and a blessing of athletes, all ages and all sports. Please bring a lawn chair and join for the music and fellowship.

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St. John's LUTHERAN CHURCH

In case of rain, the event will be held in the Fellowship Hall

458128

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459227

AUCTION

459263

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See advance saleblis, possible color photos on our website at auctionzip.com-Public auction service or LennyBrysonAuctioneer.com

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2024

REAL ESTATE (SOLD AT 10:00 AM)

218 East Badger Street, Shannon, IL (east end of town north Rt 72, on Stanton, west on Badger) The lot 120'x120' has a 70'x30' shop with attached living quarters (no basement). Zoned Commercial. Tax ID 01-06-13-303-016. Shop is partially heated, 2 overhead doors with openers and metal siding & roof. Living quarters has a living room, kitchen including refrigerator & stove, 2 bedrooms with closets, full bath and laundry room with washer, dryer & shower. There is a 200 amp electric service, natural gas heat, central air (1 yr old), gas hot water heater, city water and septic system, wood & metal siding. For viewing contact Lenny at 815-946-4120

Will start with Live Auction at 11:00 AM and with online bidding for machinery at 11:30 AM.

Online Bidding available through EquipmentFacts www.EquipmentFacts.com

For registration questions, please contact EquipmentFacts at 908-788-2025.

Online Buyer Premium 4.5% charged. Live Simulcast bidding day of sale and prebidding available ahead of auction.

Live Auction will sell immediately after Real Estate at lot west across from 18 East Badger, Shannon, IL

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2013 Mahindra 5010 FWA, hydro, diesel, CAH, 870 hrs (50HCE300239) w/155 quick tach loader; C-IH 7140 power shift, CAH, FWA, wghts, 3pt, 6222 hrs (500 hrs on new engine); IH 5088 diesel, CAH, 540-1000 PTO, DH, 18.4x38 duals, 7596 hrs (2540002V004356); IH 574 gas, 3pt, PTO, w/IH 2050 loader, 7' bucket, 3410 hrs (231-0063V103802); IH SMTA gas, NF, PS (H78755); 2006 C-IH 2377 combine, Cummins eng, AFX rotor, stone trap, chopper, 20-20 display, Mauer bin ext, 2613 eng hrs, 1839 separator hrs (HAJ296706); IH 963 corn head 6-30" metal snouts (0730135V005766); C-IH 1020 platform 20'w/3" cut (58212); IH 944 for parts; Cub Cadet 1170 lawn tractor, hydro, gas, 17.5 hp eng w/42" deck; Cub Cadet LTX 1040, hydro, Kohler 19 hp eng w/42" deck; 2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500, 4x4 ext cab, 5.3 gas eng, DMI bumper, 158,500 miles; 2020 Equinox LT all whl dr, 4 dr, 61,400 miles; tandem bumper hitch trailer 6 1/2 x 12' w/tulle.

MACHINERY

C-IH 530B Ecolo-Tiger chisel plow, 5 shk, hyd disk blades w/leveler (20018); C-IH 4200 soil finisher 30' w/5 bar drag; IH 490 disk 20' w/7 1/2" spacings, hyd fold; DMI 3100 Nh3 applicator, 9 knife, pull type; Noble drag cart 24' w/hyd lift; C-IH 955 planter, 12-30", front fold, row cleaners, monitor; IH 800 planter 6-30", front fold, corn & bean drums; pile of Yetter row cleaners; Behlen 3pt rotary seeder (new); wagon, gear & IH endgate seeder; IH 300 rotary hoe, 3pt, 30', endpull; Hardi sprayer NAV 1000, monitor, navigator 60' booms; Taylor-Way 330 batwing 15' mower, 540 PTO, chains & stump jumper; Woods 84 rotary mower 3pt; 2 Unverferth 530 gravity wagons, rear brakes & lights; Brent 300 bu gravity wagon; Brent 250 bu gravity box on Kewanee gear; F&F 250 gravity box on Kory Gear; Killbros center dump gravity wagon; Kewanee auger 8"x28" PTO; 3pt bale mover; Homemade items—tractor dolly, head mover, 3pt sprayer, flatbed trailer 5'x8'; Nh3 bar; 40' storage trailer.

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Craftsman 5hp air compressor, 22 gal tank; McCullough generator battery charger (FG5700AK); Delta 12" wood lathe plus knives; Delta planner; Delta table saw; Milwaukee miter saw; Ryobi 9" band saw; Cal-Hawk drill press; Dremel 16" 2sp drill press; elec chain saw; lots of hand and wood working tools & other misc.

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SATURDAY, AUG. 10 • 10 A.M.

JIM CORRISTON

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SKIDLOADER: Gehl 4635SX skidloader, 2775 hours, bucket, pallet forks, bale spear.

OUTDOOR ITEMS: Kawasaki 360 ATV, 4x2; Cub Cadet LTX1050 lawn mower, 290 hours; Ohio steel lawn cart; steel fence posts; farm pipe gates; wood posts; wood feed bunk; wood ladders; aluminum ladders; fiberglass ladders; plastic & wood pallets; drag section, 3' & 5'; misc. lumber; chicken supplies; (9) 3x4 rubber mats; horse supplies; trailer with antique wheels; Master kerosene 80,000 btu heater like new; Dirt Devil shop vacuum; 2-new garden fountains; 2-new rolls garden fence; shop lights; 5-wagon wheels; new sand bags; extension cords; new garden hose; 3 gallon backpack sprayer; Harley Davidson motorcycle parts; 4-small dog kennels; Stihl FS91R weed eater; Stihl 021 chain saws; Yard Master push mower; tool bins; Stihl 56C leaf blower; new Milwaukee shop site radio; campsite flooring; skulls & horns; small Honda tiller; 2-chain link kennels; infrared heater; Craftsman 3 stack tool box, nice; hand tools; wrenches; small Honda generator; storage cabinets; Echo leaf blower; Earth Quake auger; live trap; vise; bench grinder; new 10x20 car canopy; 14x12 screen house, new; hand saws; outdoor swing; wheel barrow; picnic table; 3-dog houses; Kent wood burning stove; lots of Christmas decorations.

ANTIQUES: German cuckoo clock; antique clock; 2-trunks; pocket knife collection with bigger knives; copper boiler; copper coal bucket; pot belly stove.

HOUSEHOLD: portable dishwasher; 10 & 45 gallon aquariums; twin log bed with frame; log wagon wheel bench; log reclining chair; leather horse couch; Western hall tree; lots of western decor; Christmas villages; lanterns; Plastic shelving units; conference table with chairs; Rustic corner hutch; gun safe.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Many nice items. Plan to attend this auction! Check www.filerauction.com for photos and full listing.

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Saturday, Aug. 10

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2024 Jo Daviess County Fair

Wednesday, July 31st

3pm - Ag Building opens for exhibit drop-offs
 7pm - Exhibit drop-offs close

Thursday, August 1st

9am - Judging: Textiles & Fine Arts, Hobbies
 10am - Judging: Culinary & Floriculture
 11am - Judging: Agricultural Goods
 12pm - Judging Complete
 4pm - GATES OPEN
 5:30 - 9:30pm - Carnival Opens Unlimited Wrist Bands
 6:30pm - Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant
 8pm - Entertainment Tent Opens

Friday, August 2nd

8am - Gates Open
 9am - Judging: Open Beef Show
 11am - 1pm - Free Business Lunch
 11am - Entertainment Tent Opens
 1pm - Judging: Open Goat Show
 2pm - Judging: Open Meat Goat Show
 4pm - Elizabeth Dance Performance - Welcome Tent
 4pm - 5:30pm - Kids Karaoke - Entertainment Tent
 4pm - Carnival Opens - Tickets
 6pm - Judging: Open Rabbit Show
 6pm - Power Wheels Kids Derby - Grandstands
 7pm - Demo Derby
 9pm - 12am - TEN GALLON HAT - Entertainment Tent

ENTERTAINMENT TENT

HAPPY HOUR

4pm - 6pm
 Thursday and Friday
 2 Drinks Per ticket!

LIVE MUSIC

Friday Night
Ten Gallon Hat
 Saturday Night
Meatplow

Saturday, August 3rd

8am - Gates Open
 8am - Warren FFA Alumni Tractor Show Begins
 9am - Judging: Open Dairy Show
 10am - Judging: JR Beef Show
 10am - 5pm Craft Fair - Poultry Building
 10am - Youth Mud Volleyball & Tug o' War
 10am - ATV/Garden Tractor Pull
 11am - 1pm - Free Business Lunch
 1am - Entertainment Tent Opens
 1pm - Tractor Show - Judging
 1pm - Judging: Open Sheep Show
 2pm - Aunt Beez - Class
 3pm - Pedal Tractor Pull - Behind Grandstands
 4pm - Carnival Opens - Tickets
 6pm - Queens Auction - Grandstands
 7pm - Saunders Oil & Propane Badger State Tractor Pull
 9pm - 12am - MEATPLOW - Entertainment Tent

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 Pit Pass: \$15 Additional

SATURDAY

Child Ages 0-6: FREE // Ages 7-17: \$5
 ADULTS 18 & UP: \$15
 Pit Pass: \$15 Additional

SUNDAY

Child Ages 0-17: FREE
 ADULTS 18 & UP: \$5 VETERANS FREE
 Pit Pass: \$10 Additional

Sunday, August 4th

Apple River State Bank & Thriving Thistle Family Fun Day

8am - Gates Open
 9am - Adult Mud Volleyball
 10am - Lawn Mower Races
 10am - Riverview Center Jo Jeep Jam - Grandstands
 11am - Entertainment Tent Opens - Tea with the Queen
 1am - Kids Day - Community Bank Bike Giveaway
 12pm - 4pm - Carnival Opens Unlimited Wrist Bands
 1pm - 3pm - ATV/UTV Races - Grandstands
 3pm - 6pm - Liliana Asta - Entertainment Tent
 4pm - Elizabeth Dance Performance - Welcome Tent

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459234

•Farm (Continued from page 3)

to the top three Pedal Pull participants who pull the longest distance in each of the categories.

If you have questions about either of these events please contact Victoria Hansen, Manager at the Carroll County Farm

Bureau, 815-244-3001 or by email at carrollcfb.org.

Carroll County Farm Bureau member exclusive bus trip

Carroll County Farm Bureau is traveling to Marquis

Energy in Hennepin, IL on Thursday, Aug. 22. Marquis operates the largest dry-mill ethanol facility in the world and produces markets-carbon feed and fuel solutions while continually innovating. This trip is exclusive to Carroll County Farm

Bureau members. The trip will leave from the Carroll County Farm Bureau at 7:30 a.m. and return around 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 which includes transportation, gratuities, lunch and refreshments on the bus. To register call 815-244-3001

or stop by our office Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Space is limited.

Deadline extended to register for Wisconsin State Fair bus trip

Carroll and Stephenson

County Farm Bureaus are traveling to the Wisconsin State Fair on Aug. 8, 2024. This great trip has pickups in both Carroll County and Stephenson. The first pickup will be at 7 a.m. at the Carroll County Farm Bureau office with the next stop at the Freeport Walmart at 7:30 a.m. We will arrive at the Wisconsin State Fair around 10 a.m. and depart for home at 4 p.m. We will return to Freeport Walmart at about 6 p.m. and the Carroll County Farm Bureau around 6:30 p.m.

This trip is open to anyone, but Illinois Farm Bureau members can join us for \$60 and non-members are \$75. Trip cost includes transportation, all gratuities and water on the bus. Fair admission is not included. Reserve your spot by calling your county Farm Bureau. Carroll County Farm Bureau 815-244-3001 or Stephenson County Farm Bureau 815-232-3186. This is a great bus trip for those of all ages.



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Around the Northern Hills



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

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 and more.

Elizabeth Community Fair a huge success

We had a beautiful day at the Elizabeth Community Fair for the kiddie tractor pull. Thanks to all the kids that participated! In all there were just under 50 kids that tried out their skills in the tractor pull.

The winners for the day are as follows:

Age Four and Under

- Boys class:
 1- Khalil Austin, Hanover
 2- Landon Offenheiser, Elizabeth
- Girls class:
 1- Alaya Raifa, Elizabeth
 2- Parker June Harbach, Elburn
 3- Nova Austin, Hanover

Ages Five and Six

- Boys class:
 1- Laken Wiene, Galena
 2- Cole Williams, Scales Mound
 3- Everett Sproule
- Girls class:

- 1- Brooklyn Koser, Forreston
 2- Bella Miller, Elizabeth
 3- Indigo Wiley, Hanover

Ages Seven and Eight

- Boys class:
 1- Douglas Howard, Elizabeth
 2- Nathan Steele, Elizabeth
 3- Nolan Williams, Scales Mound

Girls class:

- 1- Sarah Gerbick, Lena
 2- Josie Coppes, Stockton
 3- Siddaly McQuillen, Dubuque, IA

Ages Nine and Ten

- Boys class:

- 1-Luke Muesel, Scales Mound
 2- Aiden Miller, Elizabeth
 3- Ethan Anderson, Scales Mound
- Girls class:
 1- Sidney Meusel, Scales Mound
 2- Maddy Redfearn, Scales Mound
 3- Elsie Coppes, Stockton

Member discounts

Don't forget to take advantage of the member discounts from local businesses. Just show your membership card at the business to claim your discount. For a full listing of local benefits, visit our website at jodaviesscfb.com.

Go to membership, then local discounts.

Family Farm signs

As we are nearing the end of summer, we all start thinking of back to school and the fall weather coming soon. There's still time to do some work around the farm and spruce things up a bit. Why not add a "This is a Family Farm" sign to your landscape? The signs are 17.5" X 23" and cost \$30. Stop by our office and pick one up.

Farm Fun Fact

Illinois has approximately 1500 different soil types.

Cover Crop Field Day

We will again be holding a field day at Greg Thoren's farm on Friday, Aug. 2 at 11:30 a.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

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS U.S. Bank National Association Plaintiff, vs. David Brubacher; et. al. Defendants,

23 FC 50

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

LOTS 7, 8, 9, 10 AND 11 IN BLOCK ONE (1) IN EBY'S SECOND ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE OF PEARL CITY; AND THAT PART OF THE VACATED ALLEY LYING SOUTH OF AND ADJACENT TO AFORESAID LOTS AS VACATED BY ORDINANCE RECORDED SEPTEMBER 5, 1975 IN BOOK P-219 ON PAGE 680 AS DOCUMENT NO. 90-8335; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF STEPHENSON AND STATE OF ILLINOIS. P.I.N. 02-17-08-280-009. Commonly known as 309 W. South St., Pearl City, IL 61062.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay

the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

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

For information call Sale Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527. (630) 794-5300. 14-23-04721 IJSC ADC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3247865

(Published in The Shopper's Guide July 17, 24, 31, 2024) 458355

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - IN PROBATE

In Re the Matter of the Estate of: WILLIAM D. GUMS Deceased.

No. 24-PR-50

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Notice is given of the death of William D. Gums, of Freeport, Illinois. An Order was entered July 3, 2024, admitting the Will of the decedent dated March 16, 2003, issuing Letters of Office as described herein. Letters of Office were issued on July 3, 2024, to: **Marjorie M. Bower** 836 S. 15th Ave. Freeport, IL 61032 as independent Executor of the Estate of William D. Gums, whose attorney is:

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 July 3, 2024, admitting the Will to probate. That on or before August 26, 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 January 21, 2025.

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 January 21, 2025, and any claim not filed on or before said date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date: July 8, 2024.
Marjorie M. Bower, Executor
By: **Anthony V. Coon** Anthony V. Coon, Attorney At Law Anthony V. Coon, #6289568

Attorney at Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210 Freeport, IL 61032 815-235-2215 Fax 815-232-5500 tonycoonlaw@aol.com

(Published in The Shopper's Guide July 17, 24, 31, 2024) 458375

"THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE" 42463

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Nationstar Mortgage LLC; Plaintiff,

vs. Krystle L. Schulz; Jeffry S. Schulz; Unknown Owners and Non Record Claimants; Defendants.

Case No. 24 FC 24 Judge Presiding NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you:

-Jeffry S. Schulz
-Unknown Owners and Non Record Claimants that Plaintiff has commenced this case in the Circuit Court of Stephenson County against you and other defendants, for foreclosure of a certain Mortgage lien recorded against the premises described as follows: LOTS THREE (3), FIVE (5), SIX (6) AND SEVEN (7) IN BLOCK THIRTY (30) IN THE VILLAGE OF DAKOTA, STEPHEN-

SON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

EXCEPT THAT PART THAT LIES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE RAILROAD.

SITUATED IN STEPHENSON COUNTY IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

C/K/A: 110 West South Street, Dakota, IL 61018

PIN: 14-09-36-136-003

said Mortgage was given by Krystle L. Schulz and Jeffry S. Schulz, Mortgagee, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., acting solely as nominee for Vision Mortgage Group, Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Stephenson County, Illinois, as Document No. 201000109815 Book 176 Page 2369-2381.

E-Filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinois-courts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinois-courts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

UNLESS YOU file your appearance or otherwise file your answer in this case in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Stephenson County, Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena Avenue, Freeport IL 61032 on or before August 30, 2024, A JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE OR DECREE BY DEFAULT AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED FOR IN THE PLAIN-

TIFF'S COMPLAINT.

Russell C. Wirbicki (6186310)

Christopher J. Irk (6300084)

Cory J. Harris (6319221)

Tracey M. Coons (6311050)

The Wirbicki Law Group LLC

Attorney for Plaintiff 33 W. Monroe St., Suite 1540

Chicago, IL 60603

Phone: 312-360-9455

W24-0212

pleadings.il@wirbickilaw.com

I3249015

(Published in The Shopper's Guide July 31, Aug. 7 & 14, 2024)

459262

Village of Lena Notice of Public Hearing Re-Zoning Request Property ID #101204126004

A Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Committee of the Village Board of Trustees of Lena, IL on August 14th at 6 pm at the Village Hall, 122 E. Main St., Lena, IL. The Public Hearing shall be for the purpose of Re-Zoning Property ID #101204126004 from Residential to Commercial Zoning. Anyone wishing to appear and be heard on the issue of allowing this request should appear at that time. You are also invited to send letters on this issue to the Village Hall, 122 E. Main St., P.O. Box 607, Lena, IL 61048.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide July 31, 2024)

459280



OPINION

JOE HELLER © 2024 HELLERTEON.COM



Slices of life

What if



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

When my kids were little, they often came to me with "what ifs."

What if the school bus starts to fly?

What if we ate dessert first?

What if God never invented rabbits? Or ice cream? Or trees? Or bikes? Or the rain?

What if my hair turned into spaghetti noodles?

What if all the grass turned purple?

What if broccoli tasted like candy and candy tasted like broccoli?

What if the person we see in the mirror isn't the same as the person everyone else sees?

Attending to these what ifs often proved difficult because they were, for the most part, unanswerable and not based in reality. Spaghetti noodle hair? Purple grass? A mirror that reflects the real you?

I still hadn't figured out what to make for supper or how I was going to make it to parent-teacher conferences by 7:30.

Those were the what ifs on my mind at the time.

Still I did my best to attend to my kids' questions, while (if I am honest) sometimes admonishing them that mommy didn't have time for what ifs right now.

As much as I loved their creativity and free-thinking, all their what ifs, while imaginative and even sometimes fun, were a challenge for a busy mom.

Until now. Listen closely while I contradict all I tried to teach my kids over the years with my very own set of what ifs.

Because you know what I've learned over the years? Maybe the questions we ask ourselves, even if they are silly or a drain on time, sometimes lead to bigger thoughts and bigger things than we ever thought possible.

What if what ifs aren't necessarily unnecessary, but beneficial? What if they can provide a whole new perspective on things?

Let's start there. And then: What if every mistake we make is an opportunity to learn something new?

What if every detour we encounter provides the chance to explore new scenery?

What if every goodbye opened the door for a new

hello?

What if you understood that your past doesn't need to define your future?

What if all the bumps in the road helped you to hone your maneuverability?

What if a setback was seen as simply a chance to regroup, rethink and realign?

What if you completely failed at half of everything you did? And what if you choose to focus the other 50 percent?

What if failure was necessary to bring you to the doorway for what was next?

What if failure was only a word, and didn't impact your hopes for the future at all?

What if failure could only lead to something better?

What if every sunset came with the promise of a sunrise?

What if death was merely a rebirth?

What if everything really did happen for a reason?

What if we had complete trust in the universe?

What if we had complete trust in ourselves?

What if we dared eat dessert first?

What if we looked in the mirror and knew, for sure, that the person looking back was the face that other people see?

What if none of this is true?

What if all of it is?

My kids used to posit me with what ifs and I felt I was a bit above that stage in life. How silly I was. How much I have learned from them over the years.

When we are children, we have most of it figured out, and then most of us listen to the grownups and forget the truth of what it really means to question and to explore. If you've forgotten, do your best to remember. Pursue the what ifs.

Keep asking. Keep thinking. Keep wondering. What if?

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

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459131

Stockton Blackhawks to host Tailgate Throwdown

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

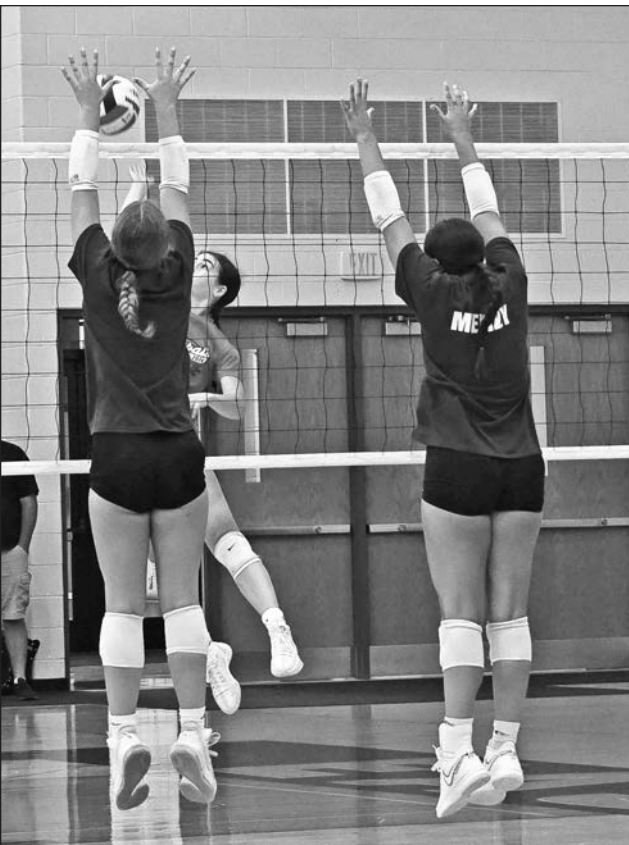
The Stockton Blackhawks made a couple of big changes to their fall sports in recent years. In the fall of 2023, Sean Downey and Madalyn Dower took over as Stockton's new football and volleyball coaches.

Both fall teams found a great way to kick off their respective seasons when they combined for the Tailgate Throwdown in 2023. This year, Stockton is set to throw down again when they host the Tailgate Throwdown on Friday, Aug. 23.

The Throwdown is loaded

with plenty of athletic entertainment and food to go around. The event officially kicks off at 4:30 p.m. with the 39ers Football Scrimmage. Shortly after, the Volleyball scrimmage tips off at 5 p.m. The Tailgate Dinner is set to take place from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Brats, pork chops, drinks, dessert, and chips will be available for the cost of a donation to benefit the Stockton High School volleyball and football programs. The football scrimmage closes out the night as they kickoff at

See THROWDOWN, Page 15



BILLIE JO EISEFELLER PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Stockton players go up for a block in the Eastland Tournament.



BILLIE JO EISEFELLER PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Stockton's JV Volleyball team brought home a second-place finish from the Eastland Tournament on July 20.

LENA-WINSLOW ALL SCHOOL REGISTRATION

ONLINE OR IN-PERSON THIS YEAR!

ALL FAMILIES WILL NEED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY TO REGISTER

Online Registration for all returning students in the Lena-Winslow District will start on August 1 and must be completed by August 14 at midnight.

IN-PERSON registration will be August 6 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and August 7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please remember:

1. All families must provide PROOF OF RESIDENCY (3 documents in total) which includes but is not limited to recent property tax bill, mortgage papers, driver's license, vehicle registration, voter registration, etc. Two documents will be required if a Category II document. A more complete list can be found on the le-win.net webpage.

2. All students entering Pre-K, JK or Kindergarten, Sixth, and Ninth grades, and any student entering from out-of-state must present a completed physical examination form by the first day of school. Completed dental exams for JK or Kindergarten, Second and Sixth grades are also required. Local doctors and dentists have these forms in their offices or they can be found under the registration tab at le-win.net.

Fees and lunch money: Fees and lunch money can be paid online through the family access or in-person at any of the building offices. You may also send a check to the District Office, 401 Fremont St., Lena, IL, 61048. Please call Darcy Schierloh at 815-668-0800 if you have any questions.

The first day of school will be Monday, August 19, 2024. Dismissal time will be 1 p.m. for the first day.

If you have questions, please call one of the building secretaries at the phone numbers listed below:
Elementary building secretaries: 815-668-0809 or 815-668-0810
Junior High building secretary: 815-668-0818
High School building secretaries: 815-668-0822 or 815-668-0821

REAL ESTATE NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

U.S. Bank National Association Plaintiff,

vs. David Brubacher, et. al. Defendants,

23 FC 50

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.I.N. 02-17-08-280-009. Commonly known as 309 W. South St., Pearl City, IL 61062. The improvement on the prop-

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

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

For information call Sale Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527. (630) 794-5300. 14-23-04721 IJSC ADC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13247865

(Published in The Shopper's Guide July 17, 24, 31, 2024)

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real estate

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for sale

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• Throwdown

(Continued from page 13)

7 p.m. There will be a 50-50 raffle, with the winner announced during halftime of the football scrimmage.

Dower and the Blackhawks have been having an excellent summer as they prepare for the 2024 volleyball season. Recently, both the Varsity and Junior Varsity teams went to compete in the Eastland Summer Tournament. Both teams put on solid performances with each bringing home second-place finishes.

Dower took the time to talk about the excitement for the upcoming Tailgate

Throwdown. "The team is looking forward to the Tailgate Throwdown to showcase their talents and the hard work they have put in this offseason to the community. Another thing we love about the tailgate is how it brings the community together, while supporting the football and volleyball programs. It's our second year doing this together with the football programs, and last year we saw a huge turnout, which was great to see. We also couldn't do this without our local sponsors," Dower exclaimed.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Take me out to the ball game

The SONS of the American Legion in Lena once again took veterans to a Chicago Cubs game. The eight veterans were treated to lunch, the game, a Cubs shirt, a cap from their branch of service, and a drink at the park.



BILLIE JO EISEFELLER PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Stockton's varsity volleyball team looks to make a play at the Eastland Tournament.

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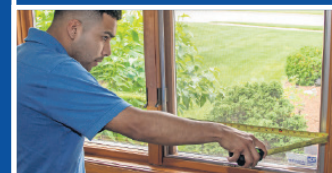
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Friday, August 2
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

By appointment only



Dr. Stephen Petras

Stockton Dental Center
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Licensed Illinois General Dentist

457965

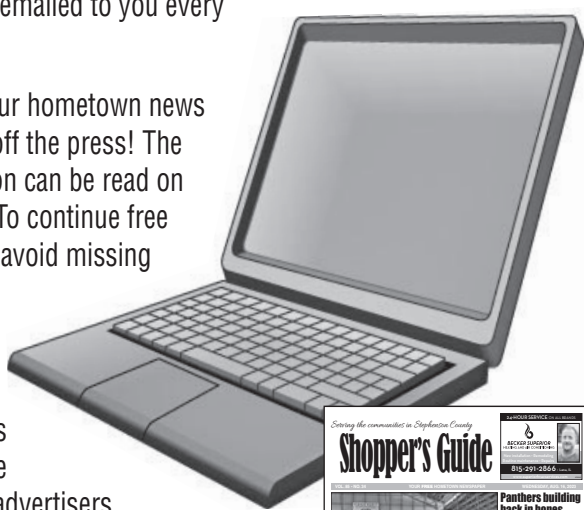
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For subscription rates outside of Lena, IL please call 815-369-4112

458572

SOS+ Aug. 8 program to feature musical group 'No Worries'

The musical group "No Worries" will perform for the Senior Outreach of Stockton plus Surrounding Areas (SOS+) on Thursday, Aug. 8, at Calvary Church of Stockton's Fellowship Hall.

No Worries is a local bluegrass gospel band that was formed in 2019. They specialize in playing for churches, festivals, local celebrations, parties and nursing homes. They play many genres of music, including gospel, old time country favorites, folk, pop and old-time rock n roll. The three members of the band love to share their joy of music with others and spread God's word. A seasoned musician and Stockton resident, Terry O'Malley, plays various instruments including banjo, guitar, mandolin and bass. The band's lead vocalist, Mary Jean Hammer, accompanies herself on the mandolin or guitar. Her heartfelt passion and sweet voice brings a solid foundation to the group. She resides near Apple River where she and her husband own a family business. Also from Stockton, Mary Berryhill brings the



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Musical group No Worries will perform for the SOS+ on Aug. 8, 2024. No Worries is a local bluegrass gospel band that was formed in 2019.

bass beat and adds some exciting vocal leads as well as some very tight harmonies, which perfectly rounds out the group. Mary is also the booking agent and business manager.

SOS+ is always looking for volunteers to help reach out to local seniors. If interested

in joining the planning committee team of volunteers, or sharing talents or suggestions, please call Mary Feltmeyer 815-297-5425, Nancy Rice 815-275-0303 or Shirley Toepfer 815-947-3639. If in need of a ride to any of the programs, please call to arrange transportation.

Village of Lena happenings

This year's National Night Out will be Aug. 13 from 5 p.m. to 8pm in the downtown municipal parking lot. Come pack the squad with school supply donations. Every person who makes a school supply donation will be entered to win a TV donated by Advanced Technologies. Hot dogs and water will be provided by the LBPA, chips

by the Lena Mercantile and ice cream by Café 217. Hope to see you there.

Please visit www.villageoflena.com under the About tab>Village Information to view street improvement updates.

As a reminder to residents, please do not blow grass clippings into the street. This can

plug storm drains and cause excess flooding during large rain events. Grass clippings can be dumped at the Streets Department in the designated area any time.

The first day of school is Monday, Aug. 19. Please be cautious in the mornings and afternoons with increased traffic and pedestrians going to and from school.

Village Hall will be closed on Monday, Sept. 2 in observance of Labor Day. Any payments, permits or other paperwork can be left in the dropbox at Village Hall.

The Village Board meets at Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend to see what is happening within the Village of Lena. If you have a topic that you would like to discuss, please call Village Hall at 815-369-4016 to be put on the agenda for Public Participation.

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