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YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27, 2024



RIVER RIDGE CUSD #210 WILDCATS FACEBOOK PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

River Ridge students take a trip

The River Ridge Foods and Nutrition class took a day long trip to explore local pork farm to table businesses. Students traveled to AJ Lena Maid Meats, The Rafters Restaurant and Kepner Farms to learn all about pork production starting with raising the hogs, processing and to the consumer. Thank you to these businesses, family

farms and Illinois pork producers for making this possible!

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Merry Christmas from: Nick Raab & Maya Curtis



447393

Obituaries

DAVID SLOAN

David L. Sloan, age 82, of Lanark, IL passed away Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2024, at Allure of Mt. Carroll. He was born in Muscatine, IA on May 11, 1942, to the late Francis and Violet (Carlson) Sloan. David married Karen Diffenderfer on Aug. 10, 1963, at Cherry Grove Church of the Brethren in Lanark.

He was a 1960 graduate of Lanark High School. David was a member of the Carroll County Mounted Patrol and Lanark Trinity Lutheran Church. He farmed, worked security at Lake Carroll, and retired as supervisor from Rolling Hills after 41 years.



David loved horses, especially the draft horses at local fairs. He also loved yard work, maintaining the apple orchard at Rolling Hills, and traveling to the Amish Community in Indiana with his wife, Karen. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He would travel all over the country watching their sporting events.

David is survived by his wife, Karen Sloan of Lanark;

his daughters, Denise (Jerry) Ihrig of Princeton, IL, Diane (Steven) Scofield of Nekoosa, WI, Dawn (Andrew) Rothschild of Waunakee, WI, and Darci (Brian) Bauman of Appleton, WI; his grandchildren, Emilee, Marlee (Ryan), Logan (Jessica), Christopher, Zachary, Adam, Sophia, and William; and his brothers, Jim (Carol) Sloan of Mims, FL and Murray (Dale) Sloan of Titusville, FL. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

SHANIN SOLT

Shanin James Patrick Solt, age 49, of Pearl City, IL passed away Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2024, at Javon Bae Hospital in Rockford. He was born on Sept. 20, 1975, in Freeport, the son of Wayne and Becky (Mead) Solt.

Shanin was a 1994 graduate of Pearl City High School. He went on to attend Rockford College and gradu-

ated with a bachelor's degree in business. He farmed in the Pearl City area and bartended at Little John's and Slurp and Burp in Loran. He enjoyed golfing, fishing, boating, and watching his daughters' sporting events.

He is survived by his mother, Becky Solt; his daughters, Brynn Solt and Kennedy Solt; his sister, Kelly Lewers; his niece,

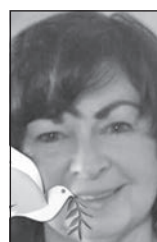
Myla Lewers; and his nephew, Darius Lewers. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, and his father, Wayne.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024, at Hermann Funeral Home in Pearl City. A memorial fund has been established. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

CAROLYN REITZ

Carolyn L. Reitz, 82, passed away at FHN Memorial Hospital on Nov. 22, 2024, after a short illness. She was born on Sept. 22, 1942, to Claude and Juanita (Lee) Nardin. She married Duane Reitz in 1962 at The Little Brown Church. Alongside her husband, Carolyn and Duane raised their daughter Dena.

Carolyn enjoyed listening to country music and Elvis



but her most treasured trip was traveling by train to Oregon to meet her grandson.

Carolyn is survived by her daughter Dena (Rob) Porter;

grandson Tommy Porter; sister Carla Palmer; brother George Dardin; special friends Pat Gates and Bill and Dawn Creighton, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, grandparents, and her husband Duane in 2022.

Per her request, there will be no services. A celebration of life may be held at a later date. Cremation rites have been accorded.

ALICE MARIE SCHWICHTENBERG

Alice Marie (Fischer) Schwichtenberg was born on Nov. 21, 1945, in Owatonna, MN, to Reuben and Luella (Krenke) Fischer. She was the oldest of four daughters. She was baptized as a child at Zion Lutheran Church in rural Ellendale and later confirmed her faith in 1959. She grew up on a dairy farm in rural Ellendale, MN and was a member of the local 4-H club and had a variety of 4-H projects, including raising a pig. She learned to play accordion and played in a combo group with her sisters for a few years and was an honor student as she graduated from Ellendale High School in Minnesota in 1963.

She worked for a year at Federated Insurance in Owatonna, MN, and then enrolled at Mankato State College in Mankato, MN. She graduated cum laude in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in special education and teaching. She married Willis Schwichtenberg on September 2, 1967, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in rural Meridan, Minnesota. Their 57-year marriage was blessed with four children—Jonathan, Jennifer, Jason and Jodee. Alice taught special education for two years in Springfield, Illinois and a year in Danville, Illinois, while her husband was training for pastoral ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary in Springfield, Illinois. He was ordained in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in 1972.

She and Willis lived in Springfield, IL Danville, IL, Sheldon, Wisconsin and Milford, IL before moving to Freeport, IL in 1982 where she and her husband both worked at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Freeport, IL. Their children



all graduated from Immanuel Lutheran School and Alice taught special education at the school for 25 years. At Immanuel Church in Freeport Alice was a member of the Fideles Circle and taught Sunday School and a special needs Sunday School class and was the adult membership instructor for more than 30 years. She also was a part-time teacher for homebound students for the Freeport School District for more than 15 years.

She and Willis became members of the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer in Freeport as he served there as part-time pastor since February of 2020. Alice was a prayer warrior and a committed child of God, and devout worker in the churches they served. Their first date in college was after an evangelism rally at a Lutheran church as they made home visits together and then went to an A & W drive in and fell in love with Willis placing an onion ring on her finger.

Alice's interests included Amish culture, angel figurines, lighthouses, and Christian music. Since the mid-1990's she has been involved in prison ministry and since 1999 has published a monthly 8-page self-published newsletter which is mailed to about 850 incarcerated individuals. The November issue was number 231. She and Willis also enjoyed dozens of trips to various prisons as well as trips to Germany, Florida, Mexico and Cancun, in addition to regular trips to see family and friends in South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Arizona, North Carolina and California.

She passed from this life at the Stephenson Nursing Center (Walnut Acres) two days prior to her 79th birthday on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2024, after about a year of debilitating illness.

Survivors include her husband of 57 years, the Rev. Willis Schwichtenberg, four children, Jonathan (and Roselyn) Schwichtenberg of San Pedro, California, Jennifer Slecht (and Kimberley Greenwood) of Carrollton, Georgia, Jason (and Michelle) Schwichtenberg of Bolingbrook, Illinois, and Jodee (and Matthew) Lewis of Garner, North Carolina. Also surviving are Alice's three sisters, Shirley (and Bobbie) Yocopsis of Phoenix, AZ, Roselyn Imani of Sioux Falls, SD, and Delaine Fischer of Owatonna, MN. Also, surviving are five grandchildren, Daniel Slechta of Buchanan, Georgia, Ethan and Noah Schwichtenberg of San Pedro, California, and Emily and Nathaniel Lewis of Garner, North Carolina, plus other relatives and friends.

Visitation for family and friends will be held Friday, Dec. 6 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Walker Mortuary, 321 West Main, Freeport, IL and from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the church on Saturday, Dec. 7 until the time of the worship service. The funeral/ memorial service will be held Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024, at 11 a.m. at the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 1320 South Blackhawk, Freeport, IL 61032, with the Rev. Rick L. Bader officiating. Committal will be at Oakland Cemetery. A memorial has been established in her memory in the name of Alice Schwichtenberg. Arrangements were made through Walker Mortuary, Freeport, Illinois. Condolences may be shared at www.walkermortuary.com.



SHERIDAN WATSON

Sheridan Marvin Watson, 81 of DeFuniak Springs, Florida, formerly of Winslow, IL, passed away with his family by his side on Friday, Nov. 15, 2024. He was born on Oct. 6, 1943, to Margery Watson in Green County, WI. He graduated from Lena-Winslow and went to work at Spahn and Rose where he meant the love of his life. He married Twyla Grindley on June 15, 1963, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Warren, IL. He then went to work at Kelly Springfield under Goodyear for 30 plus years and retired in 1993 as a tire builder.

After his retirement from Kelly Springfield, they moved to Florida. Sheridan would



spend Saturday nights dancing at Turner Hall in Monroe, WI. He cherished spending time and watching his children and grandchildren play sports and activities over the years. Sheridan loved John Deere Tractors, hobby farming, and spending time with the cows.

He is survived by his wife Twyla of 61 years of DeFuniak Springs, FL; 5 children—Marge (Jeff) Mayer, Marsha (Robert) Ernst, Marvin (Shirley) Watson, Marla (Briggs) and Mark Watson; Grandchildren—Mark (Jes), Matt

(Jen), Amanda, Daniel, Brandi (Mitchell), Charles and Tyler; 13 great grandchildren; one great great grandchild with another one on the way; Cousin- Deb who was more like a sister to Sheridan; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mom, maternal grandparents and sister Vicki.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Warren, IL. Pastor Matt Smith officiated the service. Burial was held at Elmwood Cemetery in Warren, IL. A memorial has been established in his name. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leanonfh.com.

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.
Psalm 107:1

Leamon Funeral Homes
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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Lena American Legion Auxiliary Bake Sale results

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024, a Bake Sale was held at Helm Truck and Equipment on Rt. 20 East, Freeport. The staff that organized this fundraiser would like to thank everyone who donated and/or purchased baked goods. They were overwhelmed with the response. Due to the generosity of the public and the staff at Helm Truck and Equipment, they raised \$3,200 and Helm Truck and Equipment matched it for another \$3,200 which will be given to two very needy families in the community.

Little Blackhawks

Pictured are Stockton Elementary's Little Blackhawks for the week. These students were recognized for following the Blackhawk Way.

The family of Donna Domberger would like to thank everyone for cards, prayers and thoughts during the passing of our mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Family of Roger & Vicki Klopping
Family of Fred & Earlene Domberger

464768

Thank you to all our wonderful family and friends for all the prayers and love given us since Boyd's passing. Also, thank you to the staff and workers at Manor Court for their concern and care during Boyd's stay. We really appreciate all the calls, cards, visits and memorial gifts of money, beautiful flowers and plants. Special thanks to Pastor Keith and Pastor Casey for officiating at the Celebration of Life. Thank you to the Pearl City Legion Veterans and the United States Army for the military honors at the cemetery. May God bless everyone for their help!

Marie Boyer, Jim & Barb Lartz and Family, Keith & Julie Boyer and Family, Randy & Lori Boyer and Family

464722

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for the Village of Lena

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for the Village of Lena, Stephenson County, Lena, Illinois for 2024 will be held on December 9, 2024 at 5:55 pm at the Lena Village Hall, 122 E. Main Street, Lena, Illinois. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Claudia Simpson, Village Clerk, 122 E. Main Street, Lena, Illinois, 815-369-4016.
 - II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2023 were \$486,110.74. The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$559,500.00. This represents a 15.10% increase over the previous year.
 - III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2023 were \$0.00. The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2024 are \$0.00. This represents a 0.00% increase over the previous year.
 - IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2023 were \$486,110.74. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$559,500.00. This represents a 15.10% increase over the previous year.
- Any notice which includes any information not specified and required by this Article shall be an invalid notice. All hearings shall be open to the public. The corporate authority of the taxing district shall explain the reasons for the proposed increase and shall permit persons desiring to be heard an opportunity to present testimony within reasonable time limits as it determines.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Nov. 27, 2024)

OPINION



Slices of life

Thanksgiving has its ups and downs

Thanksgiving is a day of gratitude, but it's also so much more, not the least of which is food.

Oh my goodness, is there food! It is the start of the food season, also known as the holidays, where eating is akin to breathing and a variety of homemade cookies somehow become a staple in everyone's pantry.

"Here, enjoy another spritz tree!"

Thanksgiving used to be the start of the whole holiday season, but we all know that date has been moved up significantly. I'm not one to argue against early celebrations. I think every day should be one. But starting the holidays on July 5 seems a bit like overkill.

Let's at least give back-to-school and Halloween their due process, shall we? I digress.

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. It is honestly one of my favorite holidays, but it does have its upsides and downsides.

An upside: Gratitude. We all need more of it in our lives. Having a day dedicated to simply being thankful is genius.

A downside: You've got to eat the huge meal around noon because that's how Aunt Florence has always done it, and who wants to challenge tradition?

An upside: A traditional green bean casserole. Stuffing. Sweet potatoes. Mashed potatoes and gravy. All without counting calories.

A downside: Turkey contains tryptophan and that makes you sleepy after a big meal

The upside: An afternoon nap never felt so good.

An upside: Thanksgiving day itself is punctuated by football games—or Hallmark movies, depending on the makeup of your household. Either are good because they put you in the mood for holiday festivities.

A downside: You often have to spend the day with extended family and sometimes not everyone enjoys or likes their passive aggressive great-aunt Gertrude or flutulent uncle Frank.

An upside: Dessert. You're too full but you eat it



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

anyway.
A downside: Dessert. You're too full but you eat it anyway.

An upside: Black Friday provides bargain opportunities galore!

A downside: Black Friday takes you away from family—the likes of great-aunt Gertrude, uncle Frank and aunt Florence—and puts your focus on the latest greatest Amazon deals (which none of us really needs anyway).

An upside: Leftovers! It's a week when you feast on turkey on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. By Sunday you're out of green beans, but there's still stuffing. (Does that stuff self-replicate in the fridge?)

A downside: There is no downside to leftovers, unless you count the cranberry sauce, which might last until next July if you can't find a good and creative use for it.

An upside: Thanksgiving is about spending time with people you love eating homemade comfort food.

A downside: The day only comes around once a year.

Thanksgiving originated in 1621 as a way to give thanks for blessings, which included a successful harvest. President Lincoln declared it a national holiday in 1863 to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November.

Why he chose Thursday, I'm not sure. But it does give us one more upside. Thanksgiving becomes the one holiday that falls on a Thursday and is followed each year by three consecutive Sundays. Or at least it feels that way.

Am I the only one? Enjoy. Practice gratitude. Have that extra piece of pie. Gobble, gobble.

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.

Around the Northern Hills

Thanksgiving is a time when Americans come together to celebrate a holiday that connects each and every one of us. During this truly American holiday, we all give thanks for the previous year's blessings and look ahead to the future.

While we may bring our own traditions and flavors to the table, Thanksgiving is a time for all of us to celebrate our country's rich history. This week, when we sit down for Thanksgiving dinner, I hope we all remember to give special thanks for those who produced the ingredients for our delicious



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

meals on Thanksgiving—and throughout the year!

Local young farmers rally to help farmers affected by hurricane

Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau Young Leaders in conjunction with Ogle, Carroll, Stephenson, and Winnebago-Boone County

Farm Bureaus, announce a donation hay drive to benefit farmers affected by Hurricane Helene. Local farmers are asked to donate round bales, large square, and small square of all types of hay. Hay must be good quality. No straw or cornstalks.

Please contact Nathan Koester at 815.291.3858 to donate by Nov. 26. Collection to take place on Nov. 30 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. In addition, monetary donations are being accepted. Funds can be dropped off at the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau office at 212 N Main Street, Elizabeth, IL. For more information

call 815-858-2235 or email jdcfboffice@gmail.com.

FS patronage benefits

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

See **EGGERS**, Page 6

THE SCOOP TODAY

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River Ridge boys basketball tips off 2024-2025 season under new coach

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The River Ridge Wildcats are going to have a new head coach on the sideline for the 2024-2025 boys basketball season. It's a familiar face in Jacob Green who worked with former head coach, Jeremy Knauer. Green has 10 total years of coaching experience under his belt, coaching the junior varsity level at two different schools.

The Wildcats are coming off a season in which they finished 16-15 overall. They return two key players from that 16-win team in senior forward Joe Winter, and senior guard Damon Dittmar.

Despite returning only two starters from last year, the Wildcats have strength in numbers. This year's roster features seven seniors including Winter and Dittmar. Senior guards, Mason Smith, Camden Flack, and David Buck join senior forwards, Nate Haas and Logan Keleher.

A pair of juniors in guard Sam Rife, and forward Aaron Diehl are also expected to be part of the main rotation to start the season. The Wildcats also have five more juniors in guards Ethan Kloss, Eli Eisenberg, and Sawyer Fry, and forwards Jayden Culver, Seth Ries, and Matthew Ransom.

Sophomore guard, Kaden Bauer, is the youngest member of the Wildcats' main rotation. With an overloaded roster of upperclassmen, it could be tough for newcomers to find many opportunities at the varsity level in 2024.

That's a good problem for Green and the Wildcats to have. There is no shortage of leadership or depth on this year's roster, and that is something many teams wish they had. "We have a good nucleus back from last year with solid leadership," Green shared before the season.

Green also believes the team's size will be a strength. When asked to describe himself as a coach, Green spoke about sticking to his roots. "I grew up in a motion offense program, so I'm still deeply rooted in getting post touches and good ball movement," Green explained. That's good news for Winter and the other forwards on the team and should only open things up for the guards.

Winter knows the team has to clean up some of the little things if they want to win more than 16 games this year. "Taking care of the ball" and "consistency over the course of an entire game" were two things Green mentioned when discussing the areas the team needs to improve upon.

At the end of the day, Green is hoping to provide a spark while bringing this team together. "I try to be high-energy, and I set the bar high for the boys. Playing team basketball is a top focus for the program," Green explained, before adding that he "likes to study other teams and the evolution of the game of basketball in general."

The Wildcats got an early test when they opened the 2024-2025 season in a home game against the Galena Pirates on Nov. 26. They will return home on Dec. 6 to play host to the Lena-Winslow Wildcats. That will be the season opener for Le-Win, who also has a first-year head coach this season.

Lady Blackhawks go 1-2 to start Forrester Turkey Tournament

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT

The Stockton Blackhawks faced off with some fierce competition when they opened their 2024-2025 girls basketball season at this year's Forrester Turkey Tournament. Stockton couldn't have asked for a tougher opponent to start this new season. Stillman Valley finished with an impressive 30-5 record last year. That is more than double the amount of wins that the 14-17 Blackhawks finished with. Stillman Valley picked up right where they left off last year as they have gotten off to a 3-0 start at this year's Turkey Tournament.

One of those wins includes a 65-34 victory over Stockton in the season opener. The Blackhawks found themselves trailing by seven after the first quarter. Despite a pair of big three-pointers from Dylann Broshous, Stillman Valley had already jumped out to a 18-11 advantage.

The Blackhawks couldn't keep pace with Stillman Valley, who eventually ran away with a 65-34 victory. Stockton was led by Madalyn Mammoser who finished with 16 points. Broshous added 10 points in the loss. Stillman Valley's leading scorer finished with 34 points.

The Blackhawks bounced back in game two, when they took on the Eastland Cougars on Nov. 22. They came out to another quick start that featured a pair of three-pointers. Kaydra Wright and Katleyn Winters each hit a three in the first, helping the Blackhawks get out to a 12-11 advantage.

The Stockton defense stood out in the second quarter when they held Eastland to just five points. Meanwhile, Emma Eisfeller sunk the third three-pointer of the game for Stockton. They would go on to take a 24-16 lead into the halftime break.

Stockton came out slow in the second half. Two points in the third quarter allowed the Cougars to work their

way right back into the game. By the end of the third quarter, Stockton held just a 26-25 lead over Eastland.

The Blackhawks found their stroke from three-point range in the fourth quarter. Wright, Winters, and Eisfeller each hit big three-point shots to help Stockton secure their first victory of the season 39-29. Mammoser led the Blackhawks with 11 points in the victory. Wright and Eisfeller each finished the day with eight points. Eastland's leading scorer finished with eight points in the loss.

The next day, Stockton found themselves in another situation where they watched a big lead dwindle away. On Nov. 23 the Blackhawks took on the Winnebago Indians. After the first quarter, it looked like the Blackhawks would run away with their second victory of the season. Stockton had jumped out to an early 14-6 advantage thanks to seven quick points from Mammoser.

Stockton's offense hit a

drought after that. Just three points in the second quarter allowed the Indians to hang around. Although Winnebago put up six points of their own, Stockton would take just a 17-12 lead into the break.

Winnebago had a big second half that featured plenty of success from the free throw line. For the game, Winnebago made 13 of their 21 free throw attempts. While Stockton's offense continued to struggle to produce, Winnebago came all the way back for a 33-27 victory.

Stockton was led by Mammoser who put up 14 in the loss. They failed to produce much outside of that, however. Wright was Stockton's next leading scorer with six. They scored 20 of Stockton's 27 points.

Stockton's season really picks up on Dec. 6 when they play host to the Lena-Winslow Panthers for the home opener. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

The Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing November winners

The Northwest Illinois Daily Drawing (a cooperative fundraiser) announces the November winners. The Daily Drawing is a drawing for 365 daily cash prizes from Oct. 1, 2024, to Sept. 30, 2025, to those donating for a ticket. Over \$22,500 is paid out to ticket holders during the drawing year. Cash prizes vary between \$50 and \$500. A ticket may win multiple times as each ticket remains in the drawing each day for the entire year, no matter how often it may be drawn.

Sponsoring organizations from Jo Daviess, Carroll & Stephenson County include: Caring Community of Elizabeth, East Dubuque Music Boosters, Eastland Music Boosters, Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce, Galena Key Club, Hanover Alumni Association, Hanover Chamber of Commerce, Hope Wins, Lena-Winslow Education Foundation, Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary Foundation, Pearl City Athletic Boosters,

Philanthropic Educational Organization-Chapter OH, River Ridge Drama Club, Scales Mound Travelers, Stewards of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge, Stockton Girls Basketball, Warren Athletic Boosters and West Carroll Sports Boosters.

November winners:
\$50 - Layne Bidlingmaier, Winslow
\$50 - Edie Joh, Madison, WI
\$50 - Deb Manninen, Mt Carroll
\$50 - Brodie Dahl, Pearl City
\$50 - EJ Wand, Charleston, SC
\$50 - Matthew Foley, Lena
\$50 - Jeri Cliff, Santa Fe, NM
\$50 - Sharon Smith, Apple River
\$50 - Dixie Beyer, Stockton
\$50 - Amanda Haas, Stockton
\$150 - Brooks Beyer, Elizabeth
\$50 - Kerry Oberbroeckling, East Dubuque

\$50 - Ellen Westemeier, Galena
\$50 - Derrick Allen, Pearl City
\$50 - Aubrie Lehman, Hanover
\$50 - Goldie Foley, Scales Mound
\$50 - Kathleen Miceli, Elizabeth
\$50 - Vicki Wurster, Elizabeth
\$50 - Braelynn Christians, Lanark
\$50 - Sunny Beaulieu, Naples, FL
\$50 - Susette Einsweiler,

Galena
\$50 - William Bennett, Nora
\$50 - Lucas Wurster, Elizabeth
\$50 - Allissa Bruning, German Valley
\$50 - Susan Bookless, Galena
\$50 - Jack Woodard, Galena
\$50 - Laura Connally, Dixon
\$500 - Jean Schultz, Galena
\$50 - Angela Kuehl, Stockton
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Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL on Sunday, Dec. 1. This will be the First Sunday of Advent. Holy Communion will be celebrated in worship. This week's gospel reading is from the Gospel Luke 21:25-36.

On Wednesday, Dec. 4 the Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. On Thursday Dec. 12 Friendship Club will meet at 12:30 p.m. for a Potluck, Fun and Fellowship, entertainment with "Mississippi Man".

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

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church, Pearl City, will celebrate first Sunday of Advent at worship on Sunday, Dec. 1 at 9 a.m. Join on Facebook if you can't make it in person.

Everyone is welcome to come to St. John's to play

dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 9 a.m. and on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 1 p.m. (there is no November date due to Thanksgiving).

The December Grace Meal will be on Sunday, Dec. 15. It will include ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, and a chocolate pudding dessert. Meals can be picked up between 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. on Dec. 15. Reservations are due in the church office by Thursday, Dec. 12. The meal is funded through the generosity of a grant from the Pearl City Lions Club and donations. If you are interested in donating to this ministry, reach out to the church office for more information.

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 7:30 a.m. at the Beltline Restaurant in Freeport.

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.

Calvary Church of Stockton

On Saturday, Nov. 30 the people of Calvary will be decorating for Advent with the "hanging of the greens" starting at 9 a.m. The sanctuary and Fellowship Hall will

be prepared for the Christmas season and the manger scene will be placed in the courtyard.

The next potluck will be on Sunday, Dec. 1, following the 10 a.m. church service. The public is invited to bring a dish and join. The potluck will begin around 11:15 a.m.

On Sunday, Dec. 8 the annual Christmas Cantata will be held at 6 p.m. under the direction of Lana Crandall. This year the title is "This is Christmas" composed by Mary MacDonald. Singers from the area churches have been practicing since October for this excellent program open to the public. Food and fellowship will follow in the Fellowship Hall of Calvary

•Eggers (Continued from page 4)

payment of patronage refunds based on each division's sales and profitability and only pays patronage refunds to Farm Bureau members. If you're not already a member, please contact our office at 815.858.2235 or sign up at www.myifb.org.

Jo Daviess County Plat Books

Do you have a friend or family member that is hard to shop for the holiday season? We have 2024 Jo Daviess County Plat Books available in our office for purchase. The plat books at \$35 for farm bureau members and

Church.

Lena United Methodist Church

The Lena United Methodist Church will host a Christmas Cookie Walk and Baked Potato Bar on Saturday, Dec. 7 in the Fellowship Hall of the church at 118 W. Mason Street from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. (Potato Bar starts at 4 p.m.). This is in conjunction with the annual Lena Hometown Christmas Celebration.

The Baked Potato Bar will include a beverage of either hot cocoa or coffee and costs \$10. Kids Meal will have macaroni and cheese and hot cocoa and cost \$5. The price of the candy and cookies is \$7 per pound.

\$55 for non-members. Stop in to pick yours up today.

Pops tabs

Everyone must be doing some early winter cleaning! We have had quite a few members bring in pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Remember, you can drop off tabs any time Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They go towards a good cause!

Farm Fun Fact

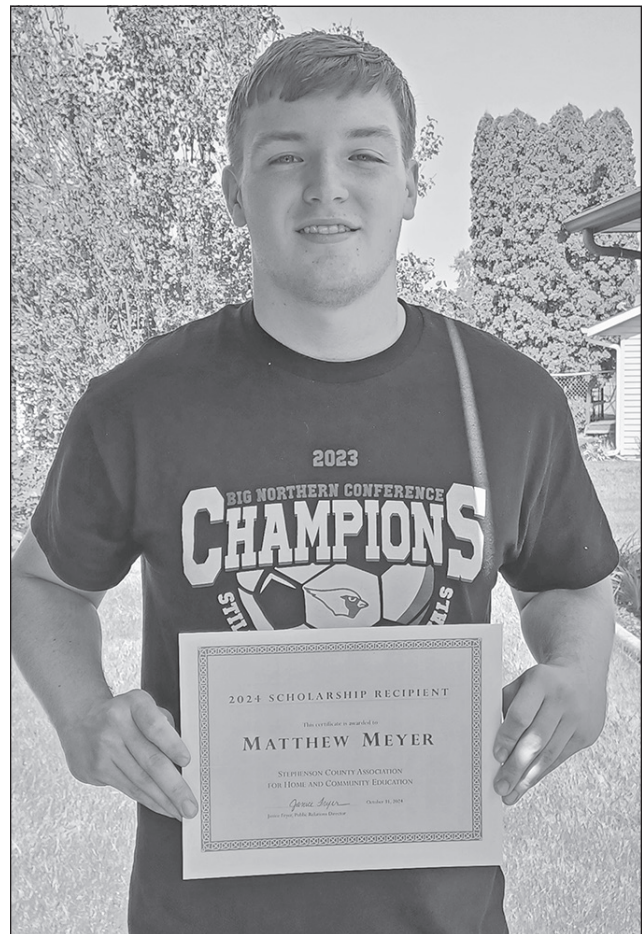
It is estimated that nearly 46 million turkeys will be consumed in America on Thanksgiving Day.



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Scholarship recipients

Stephenson County Association for Home and Community Education was pleased to announce the names of two scholarship recipients at their 100th Annual Meeting held on Oct. 31, at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau in Freeport. Two brothers from Stillman Valley were the 2024 winners. Lucas Meyer, a graduate of Stillman Valley High School, is a second-year student at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, studying sports management. This is the second time Lucas received this scholarship.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Stephenson County Association for Home and Community Education recently awarded Matthew Meyer, a graduate of Stillman Valley High School and a freshman at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, with a scholarship. He is studying data analytics.

Lena United Methodist Church
Christmas Cookie Walk & Potato Bar
Saturday, Dec. 7
in the Fellowship Hall, 118 W. Mason Street, Lena
From 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Potato Bar starts at 4:00 p.m.
This is in conjunction with the annual Lena Hometown Christmas

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Le-Win Music Boosters' second Christmas Variety Showcase

The Le-Win Music Boosters' inaugural Christmas Variety Showcase was such a smashing success in 2023, those musical Panthers are returning to the Panther Den stage on Dec. 15 to serve up a fresh helping of holiday cheer. The student-led showcase directly funds their music trip, which has been a source of precious memories for generations of Le-Win band and choir students.

Last winter's event helped offset the cost of the students' 2024 Orlando trip by raising \$4,500 with 100% of proceeds directly benefiting the Le-Win Music Boosters' trip fund. Now, the Boosters have their eyes on fundraising for the 2026 trip. "With trav-

el and transportation costs at record highs, the music trip now represents a significant investment for families whose budgets are already stretched to the limit," said Bekah Randecker, Le-Win Music Booster President. "The Music Boosters want to make sure this trip is financially accessible for all our students, but making up that difference has become a bigger challenge in recent years."

Enter the Christmas Variety Showcase—an event where students raise funds for their trip by doing what they do best—sharing their musical gifts. "It's so fun because the kids are really in the driver's seat, and they share their talent in creative and memo-

orable ways," said Randecker.

Become a Sponsor

Randecker said last year, community members and business came through with sponsorships in a big way, and she hopes they do again. There are two levels: St. Nick Sponsor for \$225 (which includes table of six and special mentions on the stage) and Elf Sponsor (any size donation, including cash, gift cards and prizes). All sponsors will be recognized on the table displays and on social media.

Attend the showcase

Taking place Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024, at 3 p.m., table seating will feature drinks and a decadent dessert tray.

The cost is for a table of 6 is \$125, a single table seat is \$25 and bleacher seating with a goodie bag is \$5 per person. Table tickets and sponsorships will be sold through Dec. 5. Bleacher seating will be available at the door. For more details or to reserve your sponsorship or seat, call or text Bekah Randecker at 815-238-5807. For further updates and details, follow "Le-Win Music Boosters" on Facebook.

After a successful music trip fundraiser last December, Le-Win music students are returning to the Panther Den stage on Dec. 15, 2024, to serve up a fresh helping of holiday cheer! Contact Music Boosters President Bekah Randecker at 815-238-5807 by Dec. 5 to reserve sponsorships and table seating for the 2nd Christmas Variety Showcase. Bleacher seating available at the door.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Stephenson County Farm Bureau news

By Victoria Hansen

One word sums up this week and that word is "thankful". I am blessed with many things to be grateful for this week. On Monday, Nov. 19 the Stephenson County Farm Bureau hosted our 2024 annual meeting. We reminisced on a successful year and highlighted many exciting activities for this upcoming year. We also thanked our retiring board member, Dan Scheider. Dan has served Stephenson County Farm Bureau for over 10 years and has recently served as our Vice President. A big thank you goes out to Dan for his commitment to agriculture in our county.

During our meeting we elected Kathey Brenner, Steve Fricke, Earl Klingler and Greg Miller to three-year terms and Ryan Stodden as the new Young Leader Committee Representative. I am thankful for our entire board and the many volunteers it takes to make our organization as successful as it is. Thank you to all our members who were able to attend.

In addition to the many wonderful volunteers I have in my life, I am blessed with a wonderful and supportive family, and I am appreciative of them every day, but especially around the Thanksgiving holiday. I hope you all have had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are enjoying a weekend of good food, family and friends. Happy Thanksgiving from me and my family to yours.

of the first to know please visit our Facebook page, Bruce Johnson Memorial Farm to Farm 5K/10K Run.

McNess sale continues

Stephenson County Farm Bureau will continue to have a whole host of products until our office closes for the Christmas holiday on Dec. 23 at 4:30 p.m. If you have questions about what items are available, please contact our office at 815-232-3186.

Sprout the Ag in the Classroom Elf will be back this holiday season

The ag-themed Elf on the Shelf resource booklet has been revamped this year with updated resources and five NEW elf scenes sure to entertain the littles in your life. View the new booklet at iaitc.co/elf and follow along on our social media every school day from Thanksgiving until Christmas to see what Sprout is up to here at the IAITC office. For more information visit the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Facebook page.

Carroll County Farm Bureau annual meeting

Save the Date for the Carroll County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 19 at 11 a.m. at our office in Mt. Carroll. A light lunch will be provided. If you have questions or are planning on coming, please call 815-244-3001.

Annual Bruce Johnson Memorial Farm to Farm 5K/10K Run

The Young Leader Committee is excited to announce the date for the 8th Annual Bruce Johnson Memorial Farm to Farm 5K/10K Run for Saturday April 5, 2025. To be one

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Panthers punch their ticket to state

By Trenten Scheidegger
CORRESPONDENT
The Lena-Winslow Panthers are headed to the Illinois High School Football State Championship for the fifth consecutive season. They will take on the undefeated Althoff Catholic Crusaders on Friday, Nov. 25, at 10 a.m. This year's state games are held at Hancock Stadium at Illinois State University in Normal, IL.

It's a long-awaited matchup between the top two teams in all of Illinois 1A football. Althoff didn't have an easy trip to state, but they made it look that way. The Crusaders beat last year's 1A champion, the Camp Point Central (CPC) Panthers, 58-19 last week. CPC had been to the state game two years in a row.

Lena-Winslow has done their fair share of dominating in the postseason too. In round four, the Panthers beat an undefeated LeRoy squad 42-13. In all four postseason games combined, Le-Win outscored their opponents by one hundred thir-

ty points. Althoff comes out of their side of the 1A bracket as the one seed. The Panthers came out of their side as the one seed, after dominating the gridiron against their one seed. Twenty-six combined wins and zero losses will be on the field when the Crusaders and Panthers face off Friday morning. Something has to give in the title game as only one team will go home undefeated.

Le-Win's physical front has led them this far, and the expectation should be the same in the title game. On offense or defense, the Panthers win by controlling the line of scrimmage. They put on a clinic in doing so against the LeRoy Panthers in round four.

Le-Win went with a heavy dose of Aiden Wild in this one. It didn't take long for him to get going. On just his third carry of the game, Wild took it 41 yards to paydirt. Wild also tallied the two-point conversion, giving the Panthers an 8-0 lead

with over six minutes left in the first.

Their lead held until early in the second quarter, when LeRoy responded with a 46-yard passing touchdown. That made it a one-score game as LeRoy cut the score to 8-7.

Le-Win's offense went almost 17 minutes of game time without scoring. It was Alec Schlichting who finally put the Panthers back in the endzone when he broke free for a 74-yard rushing score.

The touchdown flipped the momentum back into Le-Win's hands heading into halftime. After going scoreless for so long and allowing LeRoy to complete a big passing touchdown, it could have been a very different game heading into the break. Instead, Schlichting gave his team a 16-7 advantage.

Le-Win couldn't have asked for a better start to the second half. Wild came out ready to go in the third quarter, where he quickly broke free for another

touchdown run of over 40 yards.

That is where Ric Arand's Panthers really took control of the game. On LeRoy's ensuing drive, they threw for another score, only it was to Le-Win's Jaylen Rakowska, who returned his interception 57 yards for a pick-six. That gave Le-Win a 28-7 lead midway through the third quarter.

By the end of the game,

Le-Win made it look like it was never really a close game. They picked up a 42-13 victory over LeRoy, punching their ticket to the title game. After LeRoy made it a one-point game in the second quarter, Le-Win outscored them 34-6 in the remaining thirty minutes of play.

Wild racked up nearly two hundred rushing yards in the victory. With 22 carries, Wild

ran for 193 yards and three scores. He also converted a pair of two-point conversions, had two tackles for loss, two sacks, and punted the ball three times for 99 yards. Truly, a jack of all trades for the Panthers.

Schlichting finished the day with one 133 yards and a touchdown of his own. The Panthers rushed for 382 yards as a team.

FHN, Freeport Public Library team up for holiday family fun

FHN's Community Festival of Trees is on display at Freeport Public Library Nov. 25 through Dec. 30, and FHN and the library have some free fun in store for visiting families.

FHN Frosty Family Fun Night is 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2 at the library, 100 E. Douglas Street in Freeport. Families are invited for an evening including slime-making, bingo playing, and holiday treats. Grown-ups who bring kids to this event can also enter to win a \$50 or

\$100 gift card.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit the library twice this year for Holiday Storytelling at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5 and again at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. Listen to a holiday story or two in Santa's visiting area.

FHN is again collecting Letters to Santa from area youngsters. Forms are available at the library and FHN's Freeport locations or online at www.fhn.org/festival-of-trees.asp.

Letters may be returned to Santa mailboxes at the Freeport Public Library children's desk or the lobbies of FHN Family Healthcare Center - Burchard Hills, FHN Family Healthcare Center - Highland View Drive, or FHN Memorial Hospital, all in Freeport. Letters must be received by Monday, Dec. 16 to allow time for Santa to respond.

Letters also may be mailed to Santa at: The North Pole, 524 W. Stephenson Street, Suite 100, Freeport IL, 61032.

FHN Community Festival of Trees begins Nov. 25

The public is invited to take some time this holiday season to view the FHN Community Festival of Trees entrants at the Freeport Public Library, and vote for People's Choice favorite through Saturday, Dec. 14.

The FHN Community Festival of Trees brings organizations from across the area to decorate holiday trees, with cash prizes awarded by a panel of judges and the public. This year's FHN Festival of Trees theme is from the 2003 movie *Elf*: "The best way to

spread holiday cheer is singing loud for all to hear!"

The Community Festival of Trees is on display free at the Freeport Public Library from Monday, Nov. 25 through Monday, Dec. 30. The Freeport Public Library is located at 100 E. Douglas Street in Freeport.

The public is encouraged to vote for the People's Choice Award winner through Saturday, Dec. 14. The top vote-getter for People's Choice will take home \$500. The second-place award

for People's Choice is \$200 and the third-place People's Choice award is \$100. Ballots are available at the library and votes will be taken through the end of the library's operating hours (10 a.m. - 3 p.m.) on Saturday, Dec. 14.

The formal panel of judges will award three prizes, as well: First prize is \$500, second prize is \$300 and third prize is \$150. For more information on the Community Festival of Trees or any of the FHN Festival of Trees events, visit www.fhn.org.

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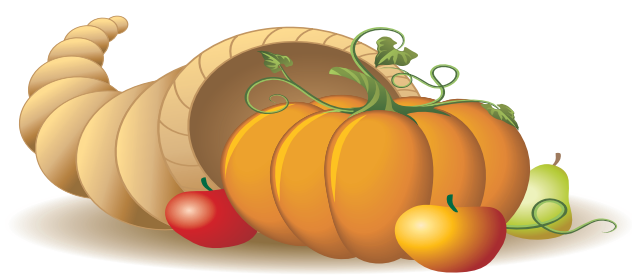
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State Democrats brace for second Trump administration amid return to Springfield

Leaders ponder options ahead of Jan. 20 inauguration

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

During Donald Trump's first term as president, Gov. JB Pritzker and Democrats in the Illinois General Assembly spent much of their time enacting laws and policies in direct opposition to the conservative agenda they saw coming from the White House.

Those included the 2019 Reproductive Health Act that declared abortion access to be a "fundamental right" under

state law, which lawmakers passed in anticipation that a conservative Supreme Court would eventually overturn Roe v. Wade.

It also included numerous head-to-head confrontations with the Trump administration during the COVID-19 pandemic, when Pritzker was ordering public health measures aimed at preventing the spread of the disease while openly criticizing Trump for refusing to do the same.

Now, as Trump prepares to take office again, Pritzker and Democratic leaders are bracing themselves for another round of conflict with the White House while planning for legislation and policies to blunt the potential impact of a second Trump administration.

"Over the years ahead, we'll do more than just protect against the possible reversion to an agenda that threatens to take us backward," Pritzker said at a Nov. 7 post-election news conference. "We will continue to advance a positive, productive and inclusive agenda of our own, one that brings opportunity to Illinois and helps uplift the nation as a whole."

Recently, Pritzker and Colorado Gov. Jared Polis, also a Democrat, announced the formation of Governors Safeguarding Democracy, a coalition they say will focus on protecting against "the dangers of authoritarianism and the undermining" of state-level institutions.

That announcement came as lawmakers were convening at

the Statehouse for the start of their scheduled two-week fall veto session.

Speaking with reporters, Pritzker said he does not yet have a list of specific measures he wants lawmakers to consider immediately, but that some sort of action could come as early as January, before Trump is sworn into office.

"I haven't heard anything that has to be addressed right now during this veto session," he said. "Having said that there is time to be able to do that before the Jan. 20 inauguration."

Likewise, House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, D-Hillside, said Tuesday, the opening day of the veto session, that it was still too early to know exactly what Trump plans to do in his first few days or how the state should respond. But he said Trump's record during his first term in office, as well as statements he made during the campaign, offer clues about some of the issues that will be important in Illinois.

"We have to be prepared to

continue to defend our values as Illinoisans and do the things that we know how to do to protect workers, protect women, protect LGBTQ-plus communities, immigrant communities," Welch said.

Welch also pointed to some of the early moves Trump has made since winning the election as signals about the issues Illinois lawmakers will confront. Those include promises to launch mass deportations of immigrants, suggestions from advisors about eliminating federal employee labor unions, and the naming of former Republican Rep. Lee Zeldin to head the Environmental Protection Agency.

"He appointed a former congressman to be head of the EPA who has a 14% record on good environmental legislation," Welch said. "We have to be concerned about immigration. This country was made and built on immigration. ... We have to be concerned with workers' rights."

Legislative Republicans,

meanwhile, argued that Trump won the election because voters were more concerned about bread-and-butter issues like inflation and the economy.

Citing a recent report showing the state facing a potential \$3.2 billion budget deficit in the upcoming fiscal year, GOP leaders said Illinois would be better served if Democrats who control the General Assembly focused more on the state's own financial condition and less on drawing battle lines with the Trump administration.

"Voters throughout this country have sent a clear message in the last election that they want elected officials to focus on making life more affordable for American families," Senate Republican Leader John Curran, of Downers Grove, said during a news conference.

He said the task will be more challenging in Illinois due to the impending deficit.

"This budget deficit really is a product of Gov. Pritzker and his allies', year over year, gluttonous appetite for more spending," Curran said.

While Democrats have said they are prepared to tackle the deficit, they didn't give specifics. Sen. Elgie Sims, D-Chicago, who spearheads the budget process in the Senate, told Capitol News Illinois this week there haven't been any discussions of raising taxes.

Welch acknowledged that Trump will come into office in January with more of a mandate than he had after the 2016 election, when he won a majority of electoral votes but lost the popular vote to Democrat Hillary Clinton.

"The American people did speak, and if you believe in democracy, you have to accept the results of the election," he said. "But we didn't elect a dictator. We elected a president of the United States who has to follow the Constitution of the United States. ... That Constitution respects people's fundamental freedoms. That Constitution protects individual rights. That Constitution protects everyone across this country, not just some people, and we have to make sure that he doesn't go too far."

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First Quarter 2024-2025 Pearl City Junior High and High School Honor Roll Awards

Highest Honor Roll

Seniors: Anna Dampman, Natalie Greene, Brinkley Knoup, Sylvia Schnoor, Isabella Smith

Freshmen: Kassidy Dorthy, Porter Krolow, Sandra Martens, Camdyn Smith
8th Grade: Ty Gerber, Kolton Kampmeier

High Honor Roll

Seniors: Ayden Bratley, Jackson Corbin, Myles Freedlund, Edgar Hidalgo, Paige Hille, Marley Joseph, Kendra Kuhlemeier, Zinia Larson, Kaydence Miller, Alonna Posey, Madison Roach, Jacob Runkle, Jared Runkle, Talia Stewart, Lucas Tichler, Jakari Wool

Juniors: William Birchen, Kameron Downs, Tana Gravert, Makenzie Ihus, Oscar Ugalde-Sanchez

Sophomores: Eli Baker, Eli Bremmer, Tristan Ertmer, Tanner Hiester, Mackenzie Lotz, Brynlee McPeek, Leo Petta, Scarlett Snyder, Danica Stager, Nataleigh Todd

Freshmen: Jayden Bremmer, Lucas Bremmer, Nathan Buss, Morgan Campbell, Brodie Dahl, Hannah Dinderman, Conner Gentz, Colton Gronewold, Deaken Hofmaster, Brogan Keltner, Dustin Martens, Marlee McPeek, Nola Milam, Jayelle Spahr, Easton Turrell, Elley Voss

8th Grade: Aleeah Bratley, Abigail Ditsworth, Jonathan Ehlers, Ayden Hayes, Aubrianna Mefford, Mason Pauley

7th Grade: Cara Brinkmeier, Jace Forth, Sarah McPeek, Chloe Jean Schmidt

Honor Roll

Seniors: Brady Boyer, Ethan Bremmer, Kadyne Brennan, Kylie Campbell, Kaitlyn Christensen, Joely Christiansen, Tyler Clark, Elizabeth Dinderman, Fallyn Endress, Megan Fischer, Jorja Johnson, Jaxsyn Kempel, Natalie Lotz, Sydny Lower, Paige McClaran, Taytum Mullen, Adeline Smith, Alex

Juniors: Maya Boyer, Morgann Britton, Gracie Ditsworth, Maxton Freier, Daniel Garcia, Brandon Hille, Lane Kempel, Kip Martens, Jayce Reed, Kenadee Schreck, Kyri Strope, Brody Voegeli

Sophomores: Parker Allen, Brian Ayala, Donna Baker, Clayton Downs, Keira Ellis, Brissia Garcia, Lila Gerber, Braxton Kubatzke, Jocelynn Kubatzke, Braylon Liebenstein, Camden Miller, Mya Miller, Nevaeh Stultz, Brycen Voegeli, Lincoln Voss, Sawyer Williams

Freshmen: Braylen Bingham, Baylee Boeke, Brianna Boettner, Brianna Christiansen, Carson Downey, Samuel Howe, Colt Kempel

8th Grade: Tyler Adams, Aubrey Allen, Sophia Boyer, Nathan Crase, Maxx Dampman, Reid Daves, La'Maya Davis, Hendrix Feld, Evangeline Lowe, Miles Milam, Dylan Sanchez, Joshua Stephan, Brynlee Voegeli,

Lucy Voss

7th Grade: Lacie Allen, Jared Dinderman, Khloe

Dorthy, Diem Gronewold, Dylan Lower, Parker Marsh, Benjamin Michalsen, Jose

Guadalupe Navarrete Benitez, Ethan Otte, Jaxson Strohecker



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<p>GROUND FRESH DAILY</p> <p>Sullivan's Signature FRESH BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST Family Pack 1.99 lb</p> <p>US Grade A BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST Family Pack 1.99 lb</p>	<p>DELI</p> <p>Deli AMERICAN CHEESE 2.49 lb</p> <p>Kretschmar Brand HAM OFF THE BONE 4.99 lb</p>	<p>LIQUOR</p> <p>Bush or Bush Light BEER 30 pk/ 12 oz cans 18.99</p> <p>Titio's HAND MADE VODKA 1.75 L 29.99</p> <p>Captain Morgan SPICED RUM 1.75 L 23.99</p>
<p>CUT INTO STEAKS FOR FREE!</p> <p>US Gov't Insp BONE-IN RIB HALF PORK LOIN 1.59 lb</p> <p>US Gov't Insp BONE-IN LOIN HALF PORK LOIN 1.79 lb</p>	<p>PRODUCE</p> <p>Hot House TOMATOES 1.49 lb</p> <p>Fresh Express SALAD Solid Varieties 2/\$4</p> <p>AVOCADOS 4/\$3</p> <p>SEEDLESS CUCUMBERS 99¢ ea</p> <p>Gotcha NAVEL ORANGES 1 lb bag 2.99</p>	<p>Fresh Express COLESLAW 1 lb ct 2/\$3</p> <p>OLD FASHIONED COLESLAW 1 lb ct 2/\$3</p>

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LEGAL NOTICES

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS SUMMARY FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

The summary must be published in the local newspaper.

Copies of the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

will be available for public inspection in the school district/joint agreement administrative office by November 30 annually.

Individuals wanting to review this form should contact:

River Ridge CUSD 210 School District/Joint Agreement Name	4141 IL Route 84 S Hanover, IL 61041 9631 Address	815-858-9005 Telephone	8 AM TO 3 PM Office Hours
---	---	----------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Also by January 15 annually the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

will be posted on the Illinois State Board of Education's website at www.isbe.net.

SUMMARY: The following is the Annual Statement of Affairs Summary that is required to be published by the school district/joint agreement for the past fiscal year.

Statement of Operations as of June 30, 2024

		Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Debt Services	Transportation	Municipal Retirement/Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention & Safety
Local Sources	1000	6,646,627	1,088,357	0	533,599	493,572	450,973	0	115,563	1,840
Flow-Through Receipts/Revenues from One District to Another District	2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Sources	3000	653,064	0	0	344,789	0	50,000	0	0	0
Federal Sources	4000	1,011,414	108,000	0	2,083	18,859	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Receipts/Revenues		8,311,105	1,196,357	0	880,471	512,431	500,973	0	115,563	1,840
Total Direct Disbursements/Expenditures		8,013,403	1,058,824	0	565,870	338,738	759,632		119,294	0
Other Sources/Uses of Funds		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Fund Balances without Student Activity Funds - July 1, 2023		6,323,440	4,374,895	0	2,710,215	196,214	1,385,323	0	292,826	59,683
Other Changes in Fund Balances		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balances without Student Activity Funds - June 30, 2024		6,621,142	4,512,428	0	3,024,816	369,907	1,126,664	0	289,095	61,523
Ending Fund Balances (all sources) with Student Activity Funds - June 30, 2024		7,380,578	4,512,428	0	3,024,816	369,907	1,126,664	0	289,095	61,523

GROSS PAYMENT FOR CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000 Baltz, Cindia L; Baxa, Kathryn V; Bennorth, Trudy L; Berlage, Jared K; Brooks, Kelli A; Bussan, Ellen A; Crandall, Richard W; Decker, Michael D; Diestelmeier, Tracy M; Enright, Kaitlin L; Hendren, Allen F; Howard, Linda J; Howell, Darlene A; Jakel, Brenda L; LaS-cala, Andrew D; Mensendike, Julie A; Parry, Kent R; Peters, Tara L; Potter, Brenda A; Roberts, Sue A; Thorsen, Kimberly V; Watts, Pamela K; Wiegel, David L **Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999** Bingham, Kate L; Brzezinski, Marie K; Dickerson, Jay E; Dickman, Jacob R; Diederich, Nicole E H; Havens, Cole R; Sinagra, Brittany L; Smith, Kylie A; Taylor, Thomas S **Salary Range: 60,000 - \$89,999** Benson, Guinevere J; Bochniak, Ann M; Green, Jacob W; Haas, Michelle A; Hanson, Sarah M; Ketelsen, Tara M; Kuzniar, Laura A; Lehman, Stephanie; Leitzen, Kristy M; Richmond, Sara J; Schafer, Linda K; Steele, Mary A; Stewart, Candace S; Walters, Cory J; Winders, Emily E; Wright-Holcomb, Carmen C **Salary Range: \$90,000 and Over** Albrecht, Corey K; Albrecht, Shean M; Ditsworth, Tamara L; Dittmar, Michael E; Downs, Dennis D; Ebensberger, Deborah Ann; Einsweiler, April J; Foltz, Jack M; Fry, Brett W; Fry, Krista A; Holland-Fox, Colleen A; Kelzer, Michelle L; Klippert, Alaina M; Knauer, Jeremy J; Laity, Jennie A; Mauro, Stephanie L; Mc Govern-Mensendike, Molly A; Miles, Susan M; Nicholas, Karla B; Ransom, Rhonda L; Reese, Debra C; Smith, Tamera K; Tippett, Judy A; Trone, Margaret L; Vandigo, Douglas H; Walters, Lara S; Wurster, Brian L

and Over Basten, Robert A; Haas, Lisa M; Nicholas, Douglas C; Randecker, Sharon L; Schleicher, Gloria J

Payments over \$2,500, excluding wages and salaries.

Person, Firm, or Corporation	Aggregate Amount
AFLAC WORLDWIDE HEADQRTS	\$7,427.20
AHERN CO, JF	\$21,062.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$23,519.10
AMERICAN FUNDS SERVICE CO	\$9,120.00
AMPLIFY EDUCATION INC	\$9,897.94
APPLE RIVER STATE BANK	\$21,765.80
APPTTEGY, INC	\$7,450.00
ATHLETIC FIELD SERVICES	\$108,000.00
BENNING GROUP LLC	\$19,750.00
BLUE CROSS-BLUE SHIELD OF IL	\$21,118.77
BRIAN FELTES & ASSOC INC	\$3,074.00
CERTASITE LLC	\$5,673.01
CHILED A INSTITUTE INC	\$573,575.06
CITIZENS BANK & TRUST	\$7,802.52
CONSERV FS	\$4,516.34
COUNTRY LIFE INS CO	\$3,320.00
DEARBORN LIFE INS CO	\$4,739.62
DEERE & COMPANY	\$15,640.43
DUBUQUE GLASS CO	\$8,587.79
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION	\$34,499.00
ELECTROCOAT	\$7,637.85
ELIZABETH GARAGE INC	\$11,685.81
ELIZABETH ST BANK-FED TAX	\$540,813.12
ELIZABETH ST BANK-FICA	\$203,553.64
ELIZABETH ST BANK-MEDICAR	\$122,827.22
EMS LINQ INC	\$5,177.50
EQUITRUST LIFE INS CO	\$5,850.00
FREEMPORT INDUSTRIAL ROOF	\$5,502.50
FRONTIER	\$14,070.35
GENESIS POWER LLC	\$9,221.57
HELM MECHANICAL/HELM SERV INC	\$233,050.53
HM FLEX-DAYCARE	\$2,624.94
HODG LOIZ EISENH ROD KOHN	\$9,023.25
Holland-Fox, Colleen A	\$2,713.55
HOME DEPOT PRO	\$27,847.18
HOR MN-FLEX MEDICAL CARE	\$42,284.30
HORACE MANN LIFE INS CO	\$5,498.85
HORACE MANN-LIFE & ANN	\$132,099.29
HOSKINS BUILDING CENTER	\$2,616.10
IA STATE TAX	\$10,918.42
IFIBER	\$8,400.00
IL ASSOC OF SCHOOL BOARDS	\$4,615.00
IL CO RISK MANAGMNT TRUST	\$57,395.00
IL DEPT OF REVENUE	\$249,995.06
IL SCHL VISUALLY IMPAIRED	\$4,059.00
IL SCHOLASTIC COOPERATIVE	\$934,342.61
IL SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENCY	\$7,075.00
ILL MUN RET FUND-IMRF	\$250,234.67

IMPREST FUND	\$33,793.40
ISCORP	\$2,592.00
IXL LEARNING INC	\$6,863.00
JCE CO-OP	\$303,359.30
JO DAVIESS-CARROLL CTEA	\$93,300.00
JOHNSTONE SUPPLY	\$2,530.48
LARSON & LARSON BUILDERS INC	\$608,511.95
LIFELINE AUDIO VIDEO TECH	\$13,140.00
LIMINEX INC	\$14,220.00
LOCKSMITH EXPRESS	\$7,252.00
M & N SPOULE CONSTRUCTN	\$9,450.00
MATH LEARNING CENTER	\$3,674.16
MIDWEST MEDICAL CENTER	\$11,715.00
MIDWEST TRANSIT EQUIP INC	\$190,729.73
MONTGOMERY TRUCKING INC	\$4,466.00
MONTICELLO SPORTS INC	\$9,451.00
NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE SOLTN	\$15,733.64
NEURO RESTORATIVE	\$8,895.20
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ORANGEVILLE SCHOOL DIST	\$26,191.89
OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY	\$3,545.00
PAPER 101	\$3,440.75
PERMA-BOUND INC	\$3,185.13
PRAIRIE FARMS DAIRY INC	\$29,234.27
PROJECT LEAD THE WAY INC	\$3,200.00
QUILL CORPORATION	\$3,915.54
REGIONAL OFF OF EDUCATION	\$7,690.00
RENAISSANCE LEARNING INC	\$10,928.90
REVTRAK	\$3,530.86
RICHARD L JOHNSON	\$11,080.33
SAUNDERS OIL CO INC	\$56,995.38
SCHOOL LUNCH SOLUTIONS	\$4,093.70
SCHOOL SPECIALTY LLC	\$7,646.87
SIGMA ATHLETICS LLC	\$9,182.00
SKYWARD INC	\$7,449.00
STEPHENSON SERV CO	\$5,189.67
STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCT	\$4,871.00
SYSCO FOODS OF BARABOO	\$113,552.10
T.H.I.S.	\$76,615.28
TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTE	\$455,295.91
TEAM REIL INC	\$22,725.25
TEAMSTERS LOCAL #120	\$3,150.00
TEST INC	\$2,923.95
TRI-CITY FIRE PROTECTION INC	\$8,794.97
TRS-NEC .58%	\$28,304.16
VETERANS FLOORS INC	\$3,395.00
VISTA LEARNING NFP	\$2,535.60
WARD'S SCIENCE	\$3,224.72
WASHINGTON NATL INS CO	\$11,900.40
WORKERS' COMPENSATION	\$49,738.00

(Published in The Scoop Today Nov. 27, 2024)

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LEGAL NOTICES

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS SUMMARY FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

The summary must be published in the local newspaper.

Copies of the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

will be available for public inspection in the school district/joint agreement administrative office by November 30 annually.

Individuals wanting to review this form should contact:

Stockton CUSD 206	540 N Rush St Stockton, IL 61085 1033	815-947-3391	8:00am - 3:30pm
<i>School District/Joint Agreement Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>Office Hours</i>

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SUMMARY: The following is the Annual Statement of Affairs Summary that is required to be published by the school district/joint agreement for the past fiscal year.

Statement of Operations as of June 30, 2024

	Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Debt Services	Transportation	Municipal Retirement/Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention & Safety
Local Sources	1000 4,674,145	1,021,132	0	204,717	114,367	543,683	47,509	172,872	73,387
Flow-Through Receipts/Revenues from One District to Another District	2000 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Sources	3000 1,435,738	5,000	0	180,645	3,097	50,000	0	0	0
Federal Sources	4000 703,042	24,772	0	0	5,794	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Receipts/Revenues	6,812,925	1,050,904	0	385,362	123,258	593,683	47,509	172,872	73,387
Total Direct Disbursements/Expenditures	6,506,629	1,160,947	320,656	317,397	186,257	975,115		160,531	16,473
Other Sources/Uses of Funds	-36,965	156,781	320,656	0	0	-272,450	0	0	0
Beginning Fund Balances without Student Activity Funds - July 1, 2023									
	3,817,090	1,468,070	0	309,227	157,090	1,667,974	361,698	47,379	116,995
Other Changes in Fund Balances	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balances without Student Activity Funds - June 30, 2024	4,086,421	1,514,808	0	377,192	94,091	1,014,092	409,207	59,720	173,909
Ending Fund Balances (all sources) with Student Activity Funds - June 30, 2024	4,255,135	1,514,808	0	377,192	94,091	1,014,092	409,207	59,720	173,909

GROSS PAYMENT FOR CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000 ARNOLD, DARCY W.; ASCHKE, RILEY J; BEHLKE, BRANDON J; BUSSAN, ELLEN A; CASSENS, KIMBERLY J; CRANDALL, RICHARD W; ENRIGHT, KAITLIN L; HARBACH, MELISSA L; HUSO, DEBRA A; JANECKE, ANDREW N; JOGERST, NANCY; MENSENDIKE, JULIE A; ROBERTS, SUE ANN; SARGENT, JENNA E; SHAW, JOY R **Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999** HERMANN, JARED W; NEWCOMER, BRIDGET **Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999** BAMBERG, HEIDI L; BAUGHN, TINA; BROGE, KENNETH; BRUDI, HANNAH; BUSCH, RENEE L; CLOUGH, CANDY; CRANDALL, LANA M; DUERR, LINDSEY L; HAWLEY, AMY ELIZABETH; LAWFER, SAMANTHA J; OFFENHEISER, KALLI A; THOMPSON, BRIAN; WADE, THOMAS **Salary Range: \$60,000 - \$89,999** ADLEMAN, PATRICIA J; ALT, KIMBERLY A; BUSKE, TINA M; CURTISS, STEPHANIE J; DOWNEY, SEAN M; HAMMANN, JOHNATHON D; HEIDENREICH, KRISTINE M.; HUPPERICH, JOSEPHINE R; JURKOVIC, ELIZABETH; KENNA, CASEY S; KRYWARUCZENKO, NIKOLAS J; KURTH, ANGELA; LEITZEN, MATTHEW LEE; LEVERTON, GENA L; LIBBERTON, KATIE JO; MALONE, SHARON R; MILLER, SUSANNE M; OFFENHEISER, DONNA M; OFFENHEISER, TRACY A.; PEARCE, JENI LYNN; PFEIFER, RONALD E; PINNEY, SUSAN K.; PLATT, CYNTHIA M; POLHILL, KAITLYN A; POSEY, KRISTLE R; RAMEY, DOROTHY A.; RICHARDSON, BRETT M.; RILLIE, ELISA L.; SCHUBERT, TIFFANY L; SLAGLEY, CHARLES; SMITH, TINA M; THOMPSON, AMANDA B; VOLK, JASON E **Salary Range: \$90,000 and Over** BUNTING, JAMES A; DOWNEY, CASEY J

GROSS PAYMENT FOR NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000 ALBRECHT, DENISE K; BERGEMAN, JARED; BEST, RORY; BORLEY, DEBORAH L; BOURLAND, NIKKI D; BOWER, MELANIE; BROSHOUS, DERYL L; COOK, KRISTINE M.; CROWLEY, DAWN; DITTMAR, MARGARET E; DRANE, NICOLETTE L; DROUGANIS, STYLIANOS; DUCHOW, PENNY M; EDEN, ELIZABETH; FELTMEYER, PAULA; FINLEY, CYNTHIA L; FONSECA, JOEL A; GARBER, EMILY; GERBODE, JOY E; GRONOWOLD, CHRISTIAN; HAAS, ANDREW W; HAAS, CAROLINE; HAAS, DEBRA; HART JR., WILLIAM A; HEIDENREICH, MARK H.; HEIMERDINGER-BAAKE, GRACE A; HERMANN, JASON R; HESSELBACHER, MALLORY N; HOEFER, COLLEEN; HOLLAND, DOMINIQUE V; HOMER, D' ANNE; HUBB, LEISA; JOHNSON, JARRETT D; KEARBAY, THOMAS R; KOESTER, JASON J; LARSON, HEATHER; LEITZEN, DANIEL A.; LEITZEN, SUSAN J; LUNING, DONNA K; MALONE, JUSTIN S; MC GIVNEY, HILARY A; MCPEEK, PERRY L; MOLITOR, MEGAN M; MONTALVO, LORI ANN; MOSCATO, JAMES C; NARDIN, SYDNEY; NEWMAN, JODY L; NEWMAN, KASSIDY; NOLLER, SCOTT; OOSTHUIZEN, NICOLE T; OPPOLD, DANIEL J; PEPIN, JILL; PIEFER, RYAN; PONTIUS, MADALYN; RAAB, JERRY; RANDECKER, ALYSSA; REUSCH, WENDY S; RICHARDS, EULALIA; ROBERTS, GARY L; SALSER, CHRISTINE S; SCHOENHARD, LISA D; SIKORA, ELIZABETH M; SKUTT, EUGENE; SMITH, SHARON K; STAVER, KATELIN J; STAVER, LOGAN K; TOWNSEND, GARY E; TOWNSEND, LILLIAN H; WACHTER, KATHLEEN L; WEIPERT, JENNIFER; WESTABY, DEBRA K; WESTABY, KIMBERLY A; WILKINSON, TREESA M; WINTER, WESLEY; WINTERS, KIERSTEN; WIN-

TERS, LINDY; WISKERCHEN, STEVEN J; WITZ, AMY E; WITZ, KENNETH; WOOLCOCK, APRIL M **Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999** BLAIR, TERESA M; BRUNNER, JAMES E; ENRIGHT, BRENDA L; GRABBE, ERICA R; ISBELL, ERIKA L; LOGEMANN, MICHELE; LUNA, MALLORIE M; SCHULTZ, BARBARA J; STARR, KATHI A; STEFFES, DANYEL; SULLIVAN, DEBORAH R; WRIGHT, LORIE A **Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999** COPPES, MICAH; EDEN, VICKI L **Salary Range: \$60,000 and Over** JOHNSON, ANGELA J; LYONS, CARL W.

PAYMENTS TO PERSON, FIRM, OR CORPORATION OVER \$2,500 EXCLUDING WAGES AND SALARIES

Person, Firm, or Corporation	Aggregate Amount
ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING	\$18,736.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$16,796.30
AMERICAN FUNDS SERVICE	\$4,550.00
APPLE INC	\$11,338.50
B & J CONSTRUCTION	\$43,745.13
BAUER AGENCY	\$4,727.00
BENNING GROUP LLC	\$20,700.00
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD IL	\$1,095,116.99
BROGE, KENNETH	\$2,700.00
CDW.G GOVERNMENT INC	\$14,467.20
CENTRAL STATES BUS SALES, COMED	\$6,986.72
COMMON GOAL SYSTEMS INC	\$110,775.84
CONNECTION FINANCIAL SERV	\$14,609.84
CONNOR CO	\$4,895.14
CONTROL TECHNOLOGY & SOLUTIONS LLC	\$11,138.02
CORDOGAN CLARK	\$221,753.23
DE LAGE LANDEN FINANCIAL SERVICES INC	\$35,091.60
DEARBORN NATIONAL	\$26,526.06
DEARBORN NATL LIFE INS CO	\$9,597.19
DECKER EQUIPMENT	\$2,866.47
DELTA DENTAL - RISK	\$7,445.02
DUBUQUE FIRE EQUIPMENT	\$49,305.98
DUBUQUE GLASS & ALUMINUM	\$2,661.90
EDUCATION LANE LLC	\$7,650.00
EMS LINQ	\$2,655.94
E-RATE FIRST LLC	\$6,386.31
FINANCIAL FIRST LLC	\$4,459.35
FIT/US DEPT OF TREASURY	\$192,205.20
FREEPORT INDUSTRIAL FRONTIER	\$364,863.79
GEMINI COMPUTER SYSTEMS	\$189,900.00
GILL'S FREEPORT DISPOSAL	\$6,686.75
GLOBALCOM TECHNOLOGIES	\$7,200.00
GORDON FOOD SERVICE INC	\$22,523.76
GOVCONNECTION INC	\$5,838.75
HARTZ INC	\$130,693.67
HD SUPPLY	\$15,425.81
HELM MECHANICAL/HELM SERVICE	\$9,754.36
HILLE, LORI J	\$17,517.17
HULSCHER FENCING INC	\$37,214.37
IDEAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENGIN	\$5,200.00
IL MUNICIPAL RETIRE FUND	\$10,740.00
ILLINOIS ASSOC OF SCHOOL BOARDS	\$6,475.00
ILLINOIS COUNTIES RISK MANAGEMENT TRUST	\$106,081.99
ILLINOIS DEPT.OF REVENUE	\$9,240.50
ILLINOIS DIRECTOR OF	\$86,312.01
ILLINOIS EDUC. ASSOC.	\$206,282.61
	\$5,740.00
	\$32,732.52

ILLINOIS STATE DISBURSEMENT UNIT	\$10,400.77
IXL LEARNING	\$3,220.00
JO DAVIESS-CARROLL CTE ACADEMY	\$64,014.21
JOHNSON CONTROLS FIRE PRO	\$13,064.28
LENA-WINSLOW CUSD #202	\$10,105.66
M & M CONCRETE INC	\$5,850.00
MCGRAW-HILL LLC	\$89,395.42
MEDICARE-EFTPS	\$91,146.19
MENARDS	\$2,844.68
MIDLAND PAPER	\$5,041.87
MIKE'S PLUMBING SOLUTIONS	\$3,121.88
N2Y	\$3,284.97
NAVITAS CREDIT CORP.	\$11,800.02
NICOR GAS	\$12,771.04
NORTHWEST SPECIAL	\$236,593.38
NWEA	\$6,300.00
OPENING SPECIALISTS INC	\$2,583.77
OPPOLD BACKHOE SERV. INC.	\$63,044.75
OVERHEAD DOOR CO OF DUBUQ	\$7,902.00
PIERCE ELECTRIC, INC	\$26,524.38
PLD CUSTOMS LLC	\$5,326.00
POMPS TIRE SERVICE INC	\$5,159.64
PRAIRIE FARMS DAIRY INC	\$23,222.10
REGIONAL OFFICE OF ED #08	\$22,622.73
RENAISSANCE	\$12,316.00
REVOLVING FUND	\$32,482.42
RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN	\$10,272.96
ROBBINS SCHWARTZ NICHOLAS	\$22,781.01
SAUNDERS OIL COMPANY INC	\$4,842.19
SCALES MOUND SCHOOL	\$46,191.33
SCHOOLLOCKERS.COM	\$2,636.84
SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP	\$2,799.05
SPAHN & ROSE LUMBER CO.	\$5,552.03
SPEAK UP THERAPY SOLUTIONS PLLC	\$108,740.00
SPECTRUM VOIP	\$3,695.36
SSM HEALTH MEDICAL GROUP	\$5,645.00
STAPLES	\$3,482.90
STEPHENSON SERVICE CO	\$27,106.44
STOCKTON AUTO SUPPLY	\$8,502.72
STOCKTON HARDWARE	\$6,630.38
STOCKTON PARK DISTRICT	\$3,500.00
STOCKTON TRAVEL CENTER	\$13,195.54
STOCKTON WATER DEPT	\$12,039.43
SYMMETRY ENERGY SOLUTIONS LLC	\$19,485.62
THE HARTFORD	\$27,924.00
TOP SHOT	\$2,912.00
TRS 9%	\$329,843.96
TRS.58	\$21,256.52
TRSTHIS	\$57,537.67
TSR CONCRETE COATINGS	\$5,709.00
US CELLULAR	\$3,636.83
VALOR TECHNOLOGIES INC	\$21,385.00
VANDERHEYDEN FURNITURE	\$7,844.40
VEREGY CENTRAL LLC	\$596,416.16
VISA	\$34,053.61
WALMART	\$5,680.25
WEBSTAIRANT STORE	\$25,670.16
WESTBAY CONCRETE	\$5,825.00
WINTER CONSTRUCTION	\$227,000.00
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT	\$6,951.20
ZIONS BANK	\$272,900.00
ZUMMALLEN, ROBERT	\$4,485.00

(Published in The Scoop Today Nov. 27, 2024)



LEGAL NOTICES

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS SUMMARY FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

The summary must be published in the local newspaper.

Copies of the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024
Individuals wanting to review this form should contact:

will be available for public inspection in the school district/joint agreement administrative office by November 30 annually.

Pearl City CUSD 200 <i>School District/Joint Agreement Name</i>	100 S Summit Pearl City, IL 61062 0009 <i>Address</i>	815-443-2715 <i>Telephone</i>	7:00 am - 4:00 pm <i>Office Hours</i>
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Also by January 15 annually the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

will be posted on the Illinois State Board of Education's website at www.isbe.net.

SUMMARY: The following is the Annual Statement of Affairs Summary that is required to be published by the school district/joint agreement for the past fiscal year.

Statement of Operations as of June 30, 2024

		Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Debt Services	Transportation	Municipal Retirement/Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention & Safety
Local Sources	1000	2,685,804	327,414	107,898	171,852	179,584	1,481	36,276	103,665	41,740
Flow-Through Receipts/Revenues from One District to Another District	2000	0	0		0	0				
State Sources	3000	2,042,554	50,000	0	178,063	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Sources	4000	471,333	49,725	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Receipts/Revenues		5,199,691	427,139	107,898	349,915	179,584	1,481	36,276	103,665	41,740
Total Direct Disbursements/Expenditures		5,446,297	481,977	116,971	597,226	169,296	0		94,281	224,049
Other Sources/Uses of Funds		36,827	24,748	21,961	228,232	0	0	-24,748	0	0
Beginning Fund Balances without Student Activity Funds - July 1, 2023		424,822	37,330	2,299	23,796	215,373	0	608,029	62,864	412,363
Other Changes in Fund Balances		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balances without Student Activity Funds - June 30, 2024		215,043	7,240	15,187	4,717	225,661	1,481	619,557	72,248	230,054
Ending Fund Balances (all sources) with Student Activity Funds - June 30, 2024		422,523	7,240	15,187	4,717	225,661	1,481	619,557	72,248	230,054

GROSS PAYMENT FOR CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000 BEST, RORY; BLAKE HUMMERMEIER, SHERI; BOURLAND, NIKKI; BUTSON, MARSHA; COATS, J. MICHAEL; DINDERMAN, BRIAN; DORTY, CLARENE; FALK, JAMES; GALLAGHER, KRISTEN; GOEKE, DAVID; GRUENDLER, JESSICA; GULLICKSON, DALE; HEIMERDINGER-BAAKE, GRACE; HILLMER, KATHERINE; HUBB, LEISA; HUBER, LYNN; JEFFREY, JOANNE; JOGERST, NANCY; JOHNSON, WILLIAM; KEMPEL, DANIELLE; KIESELHORST, BRITNEY; KUTZ, BRUCE; LAWSON, KENNETH; LOGEMANN, WILLIAM; MAURER, JULIE; MCPEEK, PERRY; MENSEDIKE, JULIE; MOEST, BARBARA; OOSTHUIZEN, NICOLE; PETERS, BONITA; PIEFER, RYAN; PRESTON, DREW; SCOTT, DONALD; SERVIN, DEVIN; SLEEZER, KATHLEEN; STAMM, MORGAN; UNGER, DAVID; URISH, CHRISTEEN; VISEL, BARBI; WARD, VALERIE; WINTER, WESLEY **Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999** HAYES, ASHLEY; JARRARD-LAMEYER, DANA; KEMPEL, KYLIE; VENHUIZEN, HEATHER; WINKER, MORIAH **Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999** ALLEN, KIMBERLY; ALONGI, SARAH; BOYER, SARAH; BROUHARD, ALLISON; COLLINS, ALEXANDRA; GABEL, DALE; GRAF, JAMIE; HAMILTON, DEBRA; HAVERLAND, BRIGHTON; KREISER, CRAIG; LAWLER, KELLY; LORIG, KIMBERLEY; MAURER, ALEXANDER; MAURER, HANNAH; MCWORTHY, KARLY; MERBOTH, NICOLE; MILAM, MATTHEW; MOORE, ASHLEY; PAULEY, JODY; PITTS, JENNIFER; RAUCH, JANET; SARENAC-TESKE, MILENA; SCOTT, SANDRA; SMITH, COURTNEY; WILLIAMS, KIMBERLY **Salary Range: 60,000 - \$89,999** ALLEN, DERRICK; ASCHE, BENJAMIN; BUNKER, JODEEN; CHRISMAN, BRENT; EHLERS, TAMMY; ENDRESS, SHAUNA; FRANSEN, KRISTI; HAWKINSON, STEVEN; KOSTALLARI, ADRIAN; MARTENS, DEVIN; ROBINSON, JUDY; SPAHR, MEGAN; TIMMER, SHANON; WOODLEY, SCOTT **Salary Range: \$90,000 and Over** SCHIFFMAN, MICHAEL

GROSS PAYMENT FOR NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000 ALBRECHT, KATHY; BARKER, HEATHER; BOYER, LORI; DAMPMAN, AIDEN; DAMPMAN, KRISTY; DIETMEIER, LAVONNE; DIETMEIER, TODD; DRANE, CONNIE; EDLUND, MEGAN; ELLIOTT, JENNIFER; ENSOR, JACEY; FALK, TAMMY; FREESE, JAMES; GORHAM, ALAYNA; GRONWOLD, ANDREW; HENRY, DIANE; HERSHBERGER, HANNAH; HOFMASTER, THOMAS; KAMPAS, JULIE; KEMPEL, JOEL; KEMPEL, LINDA; KEMPEL, TESSA; KNOUP, KATINA; KONING, KEVIN; KROGULL, NICHOLAS; KUBERSKI, DEBBIE; LEITZEN, MATTHEW; LITTLE, HANNAH; LOTT, EDWARD; LOTT, MARSHA; MANTHEI, NICOLE; MCPEEK, JORDANNA; MILLER, STEVEN; MOORE, MARANDA; MOTT, MATTHEW; MUSSER, BROCK; MYSLIWIEC, JOSEPH; ONLEY, BENELLI; PETTA, JENNIFER; PICKARD, JOSEPHINE; PICKARD, NATHAN; PLAGER, RYNE; PONZINI, CHELSEA; RADFORD, LINDA; REINING, DORAL; REUSCH, KYLEIGH; SCHLICHTING, RACHEL; SCHUBERT, BAILEY; SCHUBERT, SIERRA; SHAW, JOY; SHEFFEY, SCOTT; SHIPPY, JEROME; SIEBER, ANNE; SIEBER, PHILLIP;

SMITH, BRENT; SMITH, MICHAEL; STEPHAN, TAMMY; STURTEVANT, MICHELE; TILLIS, CHELSEA; VOEGELI, MELISSA; VOSS, ANGELA; VOSS, DEANNE; WILIAMS, ELLA **Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999** FORTH, BRENDA; HUENEFELD, LONNIE; HUENEFELD, TAMMY; KOEHN, SUSAN; LARAK, WENDY; POTTER, REBECCA; STONER, NATALIE **Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999** SHEFFEY, JANIS; STEPHAN, LINDSA **Salary Range: \$60,000 and Over** KELTNER, JOHN

Payments over \$2,500, excluding wages and salaries.

Person, Firm, or Corporation	Aggregate Amount
AERO GROUP, INC.	3,171.48
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	26,806.24
ARTHUR J GALLAGHER RMS INC	7,210.00
AUDIO ENGINEERING	2,798.00
B & T AUTOMOTIVE INC	4,155.34
BENNING GROUP, LLC	23,300.00
BITCO INSURANCE COMPANIES	21,232.00
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF ILLINOIS	596,893.21
BOOMBAH	4,755.18
BRIGHTMONT ACADEMY	74,617.01
BRIGHTON HAVERLAND	2,917.98
BRINKMEIER'S PLUMBING	3,228.83
BSN SPORTS, LLC	7,313.74
BUNKER CORPORATE LEASING, INC	3,824.26
CareerTEC	85,671.50
CARPETS BY KUNIEJ LTD	2,927.50
CDW-GOVERNMENT	11,415.58
COMMONWEALTH EDISON	79,202.54
CONSERV FS, INC.	3,137.72
DAVIS BUS LINES	60,700.00
DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE	5,073.10
DIVERSIFIED BENEFIT SERVICES, INC.	7,509.46
EASTERSEALS	4,629.12
EASTLAND COMM. SCHOOLS	2,797.00
ECAPITAL COMMERCIAL FINANCE CORP.	2,950.00
ELLIOTT GRAPHIX	5,535.00
FIDELITY SECURITY LIFE INSURANCE	
FSL/EYEMED PREMIUMS	3,334.97
GFD, INC.	10,655.22
GORDON FOOD SERVICE	54,012.79
GOURMET'S DELIGHT, INC	4,161.50
GREAT MINDS PBC	4,299.26
GSF USA, INC.	44,928.17
HD SUPPLY	10,589.45
HEAD2TOE	5,949.31
HEIDY WITH A WHY, INC.	3,800.00
HELM SERVICE	15,344.39
HEMISPHERE EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL	4,700.00
HORACE MANN	17,290.00
HUDL	6,104.76
IASB	3,919.00
IDEAL ENVIRONMENTAL	3,389.68
ILL. DEPT. OF REVENUE	164,760.54
ILL. MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	110,108.53
ILLINOIS FIBER RESOURCES GROUP, NFP	8,400.00
IMPREST FUND	23,632.92
INSTITUTE MULTI-SENSORY EDUC	8,325.76
INTRADO INTERACTIVE SERVICES CORP	5,778.40
IT STARTS WITH THE TURF	23,300.00
IXL LEARNING, INC.	4,276.00

JANIS SHEFFEY	3,525.25
JENNIFER PETTA	116,913.37
JOSTEN'S	6,626.95
K LOG	6,167.41
LENA STATE BANK	5,165.60
LENA-WINSLOW DIST. #202	14,222.02
LIGHTSPEED TECHNOLOGIES, INC	3,356.00
LINDSAY STEPHAN	7,056.87
LITTLE CAESAR'S	3,002.00
LOESCHER HEATING	290,263.11
MARCO	11,739.31
MCGRW HILL LLC	5,195.43
MENARDS	5,606.89
MG TRUST PCS RETIREMENT-ASPIRE	
FINANCIAL SER	17,700.00
MOLLY HAWKINS' HOUSE	2,739.85
MONTICELLO SPORTS	11,313.00
N.W. SPECIAL EDUC. DIST.	343,974.41
NEWPORT TRUST COMPANY	3,600.00
NICOR GAS	11,128.98
NORTHWEST EVALUATION ASSOCIATION	
HMH PUBLISHING COMPANY	2,755.00
NOTABLE, INC. (KAM)	2,592.00
NOTHING BUNDT CAKES	6,706.00
P.C.F.T.	22,540.00
PEARL CITY ELEVATOR	41,853.80
PEARL CITY PARK DISTRICT	9,000.00
PEARL CITY PTO	4,000.00
PEARL CITY SCHOOLS	33,923.72
PEARL CITY WATER & SEWER	4,921.36
PEPSI (WP BEVERAGES, LLC)	8,637.64
PITNEY BOWES PURCHASE POW	4,024.00
POLO HIGH SCHOOL FFA	2,548.42
PRAIRIE FARMS DAIRY, INC	25,927.66
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE CO	12,821.77
RALLY ATHLETICS	3,510.00
RANDEE'S MUSIC CENTER	7,490.00
RBS ACTIVEWEAR	4,528.84
REALITYWORKS	4,471.55
REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION #8	8,070.00
RENAISSANCE	3,209.40
RHYME BUSINESS PRODUCTS	13,109.65
RICHARD JOHNSON ASSOC.INC	8,355.00
RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN SPORTS CORP	15,032.16
ROBBINS SCHWARTZ ATTN: ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	14,626.31
ROCKET INDUSTRIAL, INC.	4,377.75
ROCKFORD STEAM BOILER	27,691.00
ROGERS ATHLETICS	7,800.00
RYNE PLAGER	8,170.21
SANTANDER BANK, N.A.	115,598.00
SARAH BOYER	5,194.41
SAVVAS LEARNING COMPANY LLC	14,620.21
SCHUMACHER ELEVATOR CO.	3,772.28
SCOTT STICHTER	19,747.00
SECURLY	14,334.65
SELECTIVE	69,068.00
SKATE TIME SCHOOL PROGRAMS	2,625.00
SKYWARD ACCOUNTING DEPT	8,413.00
SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES	12,505.27

FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

We have finally received our fall weather. The temperature is very November, and the leaves are almost off the trees. This week we celebrate Thanksgiving. Our recipes will feature some you could use for the big day, or you could use them to cook the many leftovers that are part of the holiday. Enjoy cooking this week.

Cranberry Salsa

This tart and spicy salsa is different than a lot of salsas. If you have an extra bag of cranberries, try this recipe for an unusual appetizer. It will keep in the refrigerator for several weeks.

- 1 (12 oz.) bag cranberries
 - 3/4 C. sugar
 - 1 bunch cilantro, chopped
 - 1 bunch green onions, cut into 3-inch lengths
 - 1 medium jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
 - 2 medium limes, juiced
 - 1 pinch of salt
- Combine the cranberries, sugar, cilantro, green onions, pepper, and lime juice in a food processor; process to medium consistency. Add a dash of salt. Serve over softened cream cheese.

Cranberry Jell-O Salad

This Jell-O salad uses the jellied cranberry sauce instead of whole cranberries. The combination of the cranberries and pineapple makes for a great salad side. It also looks pretty in the serving dish.

- 2 C. boiling water
 - 2 pkg. (3 oz.) cherry flavored Jell-O
 - 1 can (16 oz.) jellied cranberry sauce
 - 1 (20 oz.) can crushed pineapple, drained
 - 1/2 C. chopped pecans
- Combine boiling water and Jell-O in a bowl until Jell-O is dissolved. Stir in cranberry sauce and crushed pineapple. Transfer to a large glass serving dish. Sprinkle with pecans on top. Chill overnight.

Broccoli Cranberry Salad

You can use up any of the broccoli leftover from your veggie tray for Thanksgiving with this different broccoli salad. It has oil and vinegar dressing rather than the traditional mayo dressing for broccoli salad. The sunflower kernels give it a little crunch with the traditional bacon.

- 8 C. fresh broccoli florets
 - 1 bunch green onions, thinly sliced
 - 1/2 C. dried cranberries
 - 3 T. canola oil
 - 3 T. rice vinegar
 - 2 T. sugar
 - 1/4 C. sunflower kernels
 - 3 bacon strips cooked and crumbled
- In a large bowl, combine

the broccoli, onions and cranberries. In a small bowl, whisk oil, vinegar and sugar until blended; drizzle over broccoli mixture and toss to coat. Refrigerate at least one hour. Sprinkle with sunflower kernels and bacon before serving.

Cauliflower and Broccoli Casserole

If you have any leftover cauliflower or broccoli from the big dinner, or you want a good casserole, try this easy cheesy casserole.

- 4 T. butter
- 1 t. salt
- 5 C. cauliflower florets
- 5 C. broccoli florets
- 2 C. crushed Ritz crackers
- 1/2 t. paprika
- 6 slices bacon
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 3 T. flour
- 1 t. ground mustard
- 1 t. lemon zest
- 1/4 t. pepper
- 2 1/2 C. milk
- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 2 C. mild shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 375. Butter a 9x13 baking dish. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add the cauliflower and cook 2 minutes; add broccoli and cook until both vegetables are crisp tender, about 3 minutes. Drain and let cool. Melt 2 T. butter in a skillet. Combine the crackers and paprika in a small bowl; add the melted butter and set aside.

Cook the bacon in a large

Dutch oven until crisp. Remove to paper towels to drain. Pour out bacon fat and reserve in a separate bowl. Wipe the pot clean. Return 1 T. bacon fat to pot and add remaining 2 T. butter. Add the garlic and cook for 30 seconds. Whisk in flour, 1 t. salt, ground mustard, lemon zest, and pepper. Add the milk, stirring constantly until thickened about 3 minutes. Remove from heat; whisk in cream cheese and cheddar until melted and smooth. Crumble the bacon; add the broccoli, cauliflower, and bacon to the cheese mixture. Transfer to the prepared baking dish. Sprinkle with cracker crumbs. Bake until golden, 20 to 25 minutes.

Creamy Turkey Noodle Soup

If you have some leftover turkey, this turkey soup is an easy way to make a tasty dinner. The cream and the noodles make it extra tasty.

- 1/3 C. butter, cubed
- 1 medium carrot, shredded
- 1 celery rib, finely chopped
- 1/3 C. flour
- 1 carton (32 oz.) chicken broth
- 1/2 C. half-and-half cream
- 1/2 C. 2% milk
- 1 C. uncooked egg noodles
- 2 C. cubed cooked turkey
- 1/2 C. shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/4 t. salt
- 1/4 t. pepper

In a large saucepan, heat butter over medium-high heat; sauté carrot and celery until tender, 3 to 5 minutes.

Stir in flour until blended; gradually add broth, cream, and milk, whisking continually. Bring to a boil, continue stirring constantly and cook and stir until thickened., 1 to 2 minutes. Stir in noodles. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered until noodles are al dente, stirring occasionally. Add turkey, cheese, salt and pepper; cook and stir until turkey is heated through and cheese is melted.

Turkey Stuffing Casserole

Another use for leftovers is this interesting casserole. It uses all of the traditional leftovers from your turkey dinner in one casserole dish. Serve it with a side of cranberries or cranberry salad, and you have everything used again.

- 4 C. leftover stuffing
- 4 C. chopped skinless turkey
- 1 1/2 C. coarsely chopped leftover green beans
- 1 1/2 C. leftover gravy
- 3 C. leftover mashed potatoes
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 C. shredded Monterey Jack cheese

Position a rack in the lower third of the oven and preheat to 425. Butter the bottom and sides of a 9x13 baking dish. Crumble the stuffing into the baking dish and pat to make an even crust on the bottom. Scatter the turkey and green beans over the stuffing layer. Pour the gravy over. Combine the potatoes and egg yolk in a separate bowl and mix until smooth. Spread

the mashed potato mixture over the turkey layer. Sprinkle with the grated cheese. Cover with foil and bake until heated through, about 20 minutes. Uncover and bake until the top is golden brown and crusty, 20 to 25 more minutes. Remove from oven and let cool about 10 minutes before serving. Serve with a dollop of cranberry sauce on the side.

Pumpkin Torte

Try this dessert instead of pumpkin pie. It uses pumpkin pie filling instead of canned pumpkin. In case you bought a can of the wrong pumpkin, this recipe will help you use it!

- 1 2/3 C. graham cracker crumbs
- 1/3 C. sugar
- 1/2 C. butter, melted
- Cream Cheese Filling:
 - 2 pkg. (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened
 - 3/4 C. sugar
 - 2 eggs
- Pumpkin Filling:
 - 2 envelopes unflavored gelatin
 - 1/2 C. cold water
 - 1 can (30 oz.) pumpkin pie filling

1 can (15 1/2 oz.) evaporated milk

- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
 - Topping:
 - 1 carton Cool Whip, thawed
- Preheat the oven to 350. In a small bowl, combine the crumbs, sugar and butter. Press onto the bottom of an ungreased 9x13 baking dish; set aside. In a large bowl,

See KITCHEN, Page 17

LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from previous page

STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	6,881.00
STATE BANK OF PEARL CITY	480,097.24
SYSCO BARABOO, LLC	70,815.71
TAMMY EHLERS	6,085.90
TAMMY STEPHAN	5,651.55
TEACHER HEALTH INS. SEC.	44,071.85
THE ATLANTA NATIONAL BANK	104,737.50

THE RICHARDSON SCHOOL	52,640.44
THRIVENT FINANCIAL	7,200.00
TIMBER-LEE	13,908.00
TRS-PAYROLL	274,586.31
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC	8,069.56
VANGUARD ENERGY SERVICES,	9,975.34
VARSITY SPIRIT FASHIONS ATTN: ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	2,819.62

VICTORY CHEER UNIFORMS	5,197.74
VISA	19,044.31
WINDSTAR LINES, INC	3,447.00
WISC. DEPT. OF REVENUE	3,936.09
XCITIUM	6,143.83

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Nov. 27, 2024)

464662

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT STEPHENSON
COUNTY-IN PROBATE
In Re the Matter of the
Estate of:
ORA MAE BASTIAN,
Deceased.

No. 24-PR-76

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of Ora Mae Bastian, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 6, 2024, to:

Joseph E. Bastian
536 Timber Hills Dr.
Freeport, IL 61032

as independent Executor of the Estate of Ora Mae Bastian, whose attorney is **Anthony V. Coon Attorney At law** 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210

Freeport, Illinois 61032

The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless, under Section 28.4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4), any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a Petition To Terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court

at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032, or with the representative, or both, on or before May 16, 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: November 7, 2024.

Joseph E. Bastian
Executor

By: **Anthony V. Coon**
Anthony V. Coon,
Attorney At Law
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
Nov. 13, 20 & 27, 2024)
464190

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that German-American State Bank, 100 Church Street, German Valley, Illinois 61039, has submitted an application (the "Application") to the Federal

Deposit Insurance Corporation for permission to relocate its main office to 809 Cannel Puri Drive, Winnebago, Illinois 61088 and redesignate its current main office as a branch office.

Any person wishing to comment on the Application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at its Regional Office located at 300 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60606, or via email to CHIMailroom@fdic.gov with the subject of "Public Comment to Ger-

man-American State Bank, German Valley, Illinois, Relocation Application". Any comments should be submitted no later than December 12, 2024. The non-confidential portions of the Application are on file in the regional office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the Application files will be made available upon request.

(Published in
The Shopper's Guide
Nov. 20 & 27, 2024)

464578

IN*CI*DENTAL*LY

Gratitude for those who serve



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

During the month of November we remember, honor, and show our gratitude for both those who serve and those who have served our country. As we go about our daily lives, we generally give little thought to the varied ways members of the armed forces work to protect us. Today I would like to share with you how the *Air Force International Health Specialist Program (IHS)* utilizes global healthcare engagement as a way to strengthen partnerships with our allies, while gaining knowledge that leads to better healthcare protocols for both our military and civilian health care professionals.

The IHS utilizes Air Force Enlisted Medical Specialists, including, but not limited to, medical and oral physicians, mental health, optometry, physical therapy, radiology, pharmacy, surgical and emergency care healthcare providers, medical administration, aeromedical evacuation, and medical logistics experts and laboratory sciences providers, to work with our allies to share knowledge with their health experts

and improve the health infrastructure in our partner nations.

Global Health Engagement (GHE) programs create trusted partnerships with both our allies' military and civilian population. These critical relationships strengthen the ability of our military personnel to connect, communicate, and operate in conjunction with our allies in a coordinated, and therefore, more efficient manner. International security cooperation is critical in developing nuclear, chemical, and biological defense programs and providing effective humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. It also fosters open communication and coordinated efforts in the fight against global terrorist networks.

IHS activities not only promote military medical and dental readiness through achieving and maintaining

oral and overall health, but they study, evaluate and impact how the military trains their members to stay safe for prolong periods of time in resource-limited environments. This includes training to both evaluate available resources and medical assets and how to utilize them to their greatest effect, setting up rural medical care clinics or field hospitals, patient care education, including triage(assessing

patients to determine the urgency and nature of treatment required), injury care, disease outbreak response, mass casualty and aeromedical evacuation exercises and training in forensic dentistry to identify victims of mass casualty events.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this week, I am thankful for all that the IHS program members do to protect the security and health of our nation.

Master Gardener Training in Stephenson County

The University of Illinois Extension is excited to announce the upcoming Master Gardener Training in Stephenson County, starting in February. Interested individuals can register now by calling 815-235-4125 or visiting go.illinois.edu/jsw.

The training consists of eight sessions with two op-

tional field trips, scheduled on select Thursday evenings from Feb. 27 to June 5. The program follows a flipped classroom format, with pre-meeting reading assignments and videos, followed by in-person discussions from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., which will be held at the Highland Community College Student Conference Center, 2998

W. Pearl City Road, Freeport. Course topics include soils and fertility, woody ornamentals/pruning, organic gardening, vegetables, houseplants, fruits, insect identification and control, weed management, composting, and University of Illinois resources.

Upon completing the training, participants will join the

Master Gardener volunteers, contributing to the community by answering gardening questions, teaching children, planning workshops, creating display gardens, and collaborating with local organizations. Pre-registration is required. The registration fee is \$200. Contact Nikki Keltner at 815-235-4125 for more details.

•Kitchen (Continued from page 16)

beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Add eggs; beat on low just until combined. Pour over crust. Bake until center is almost set, 25 to 30 minutes. In a small bowl, sprinkle gelatin over cold water; let stand for 1 minute. In a large saucepan, combine the pumpkin and evaporated milk. Bring to a boil. Add gelatin; stir until dissolved. Whisk a small amount of hot mixture into the eggs. Return all to the pan, whisking constantly. Cook and stir over low heat until mixture is thickened and coats the back of a spoon. Cool for 10 minutes. Spread over cream cheese layer. Spread whipped topping over the top. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

batter among liners. Bake until set in centers, 18 to 20 minutes. Let cool 10 minutes. Transfer from pans to racks to cool.

On medium, beat butter and cream cheese until smooth. On low, beat in powdered sugar and vanilla. On medium high, heat until fluffy, 2 minutes. Transfer to pastry bag fitted with a star tip. Pipe over cakes. Garnish with candy corn or candy pumpkins.

Final Thoughts

The high school girls basketball games have started as well as junior high boys basketball. Time is marching on. A reminder that the Saturday after Thanksgiving is Small Business Saturday. Support our wonderful small businesses in downtown Lena. We have a little something for a lot of people. Small businesses are the backbone of our community, and we are so lucky to have them. The Lena Hometown Christmas is also coming up the next week on Dec. 7. There will be games, food, a parade, and lots of shopping. Be sure to mark your calendars for the Christmas Tree Lighting, the Parade with Santa coming to town, and lots of great activities.

It is time to think about Christmas cookies and candies, so send some favorites our way. We also will be looking for some holiday recipes as well as some soup recipes. 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.

Apple-Pumpkin Cupcakes

This easy dessert makes use of a spice cake as a base and adds apple and pumpkin for flavor. The cream cheese frosting makes it delicious. It is almost as good as a traditional pumpkin bar but adds apples!

- 1 apple, peeled, cored, chopped
 - 1 pkg. (15.25 oz.) spice cake mix
 - 1 can (15 oz.) pumpkin
 - 2 eggs
 - 1/3 C. oil
 - 2 C. butter, softened
 - 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
 - 4 C. powdered sugar
 - 2 t. vanilla
- Preheat oven to 350. Line 24 muffin cups with liners. Toss apple with 2 T. cake mix. On low speed, beat remaining cake mix with pumpkin, eggs and oil, 30 seconds on low and then 2 minutes on medium. Stir in apple. Divide

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State-funded electric vehicle chargers open in Joliet, thousands more to come

Growth of chargers lags rate of EV adoption; overall EV registrations slow in 2024

By Andrew Adams
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

With nearly half a million dollars of state funding, a new electric vehicle charging station opened in Joliet on Monday. It is the first of hundreds of charging stations set to be installed over the next 18 months as part of a state-funded grant program.

That growth in chargers is important as Illinois aims to rapidly transition toward having more electric vehicle drivers. There are about 120,000 EVs on Illinois roads, while the state's goal is to have 1 million on the road by 2030.

So far, over \$25 million in state infrastructure funding has been awarded to gas stations, hotels, governments and other organizations to fund new EV charging. Another funding round of up to \$44 million is in the process of being awarded now, with more grants expected in the future.

This round of funding would add about 2,000 new ports—the electric equivalent of gas pumps. That would represent a roughly 47 percent increase in the number of charging ports around the state, according to data from the U.S. Department of Energy. Gov. JB Pritzker said that there will be a charging station “along every highway, every 50 miles.”

The Joliet chargers, built by Veterans Energy Team in partnership with the Joliet Park District, are the first chargers to open after being funded by as part of the state's Rebuild Illinois capital funding and authorized by the 2021 Climate and Equitable Jobs Act.

“Reducing air pollution from transportation is vital to a healthy future for our children and our planet,” Pritzker said in a news release. “Today, you see the product of that vision in the first deployment of a CEJA-funded electric vehicle charging port, thanks to support from our federal partners and utility companies.”

Veterans Energy Team received a \$480,000 grant to install 12 charging ports across two locations in the city, with four more added using other funding.

Proponents of the EV charging grant program say it is not only a way to meet clean energy policy goals but also a route to create more jobs and opportunities.

“Illinois is full of what? Great union workers, great private sector workers who can install these things,” CEJA chief sponsor Rep. Marcus Evans, D-Chicago, said at a news conference announcing the charging sta-

tion. “We’re going to install these chargers all over, in every community, so that when you’re driving your electric car, you ain’t gotta get it towed.”

CEJA codified the state’s goal of transitioning away from fossil fuels entirely by 2050 and to boost the growth of the electric vehicle market, leading to a need to rapidly expand charging infrastructure.

“To achieve those goals, we know we will need to accelerate the build out of a widespread network of public chargers,” Gil Quinones, CEO of electric utility Commonwealth Edison, said at the Monday news conference.

ComEd provides electric service for most of northern Illinois, a region that is home to about 90 percent of EVs in the state.

The company also provided funds for the Joliet project through its rebate program for EV chargers. That program is part of the company’s “beneficial electrification plan”—a CEJA-mandated outline of how the utility will support the state’s clean energy goals.

While ComEd did not say how large the Joliet project’s rebate was, EV charging projects are eligible for up to \$500,000 in rebates. Earlier this year, ComEd announced \$90 million in available rebates related to electric vehicles through its beneficial electrification programs, according to ComEd spokesperson Lauren Huffman.

In addition to CEJA funding, there are other sources of grant money for charging stations that the state distributes, such as money from a legal settlement with Volkswagen over emission standards and federal grant programs.

a higher 26 cars-per-port ratio, mostly due to home charging being more popular in the country, according to a 2024 report from the International Energy Agency.

In Illinois, a Capitol News Illinois analysis of federal and state data found that there are about 31 EVs per charging port, including both light duty and

larger vehicles like buses. That’s higher than 2017, when there were 15 vehicles per port. This means that more vehicles are competing for charging spots, even as more stations have opened.

The number of charging stations has grown slightly slower than the number of ports as stations increasingly offer multiple

ports, but both lag overall EV adoption.

While the state hurriedly works to keep up the pace of charging port installations, another trend has emerged in Illinois: The number of new EV registrations has slowed, mirroring a broader slowdown of the EV market across the country.

The net increase in EV registrations over the past 12 months fell about 9.1 percent. While that may seem small, prior to this year, the state was just barely on track to meet its million EV goal by 2030. If the current year-over-year pace continues, the state would fall short by almost 200,000 vehicle registrations.

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