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VOL. 91 • NO. 1

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25, 2024



STOCKTON SERVANT LEADERSHIP FACEBOOK PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Stockton Servant Leaders

The Stockton Servant Leaders bought, wrapped and delivered Christmas gifts to the Student Nutrition Outreach Works (SNOW) families last week. Gifts are always purchased according to each family's wish list. The SNOW program is 100% funded by community donations. Thank you to the student leaders and Stockton community for their continued contribution to this program.

Postal Customer **ecrws

Have a Merry Christmas!



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Obituaries

HARRIET WOKER

Harriet Lee Woker, 73, passed away peacefully on Dec. 16, 2024, at Liberty Village in Illinois after an extended illness. Born on Dec. 2, 1951, in Red Bud, Illinois, she was the beloved daughter of Harry and Bernece Beal (Hill).



as many nieces, nephews, and in-laws. She was preceded in death by her father Harry Beal; step-father Herbert

Hill; sister, Rebecca Long; brothers-in-law Robert Long, Malcolm Townsend, and Theodore Raab; and sister-in-law Cheryl Kline.

A woman of deep faith and devotion to her church community at Calvary Church of Stockton, Harriet found fulfillment in participating in church events and sharing her love for music through singing. Christmas held a special place in Harriet's heart as she celebrated the birth of Jesus with great enthusiasm and delighted in giving gifts to those she loved.

Harriet enjoyed crafting as a creative outlet and treasured attending the events of her grandchildren. She valued time spent with family and friends above all else and was known for her selflessness—always ready to lend a helping hand whenever she could. Her kindness touched countless lives throughout the years.

Harriet's family would like to extend their heartfelt appreciation for the love and support provided by the staff at Liberty Village Manor Court, FHN Memorial Hospital, FHN Hospice, and Mercy Health.

Harriet's legacy is one of love, faith, generosity, and dedication to those around her. May her memory bring comfort to all who knew her.

A visitation was held Thursday, Dec. 19 at Calvary Church of Stockton with a service on Friday, Dec. 20, 2024. Her final resting place will be at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Condolences can be shared with the family at www.walkermortuary.com. A memorial has been designated in her name.

Harriet is also survived by her mother and sisters Carol Chunn, Bonita Townsend, and Carol Anne Raab; step-siblings, Pamela (Robert) Bjerke and Ron (Karen) Hill; as well



GARREN KRUSE

Garren H. Kruse, 80, of Pearl City, IL, passed away on Dec. 14, 2024. He was born on July 12, 1944, in Carroll County, IL, to Charles and Iona (Dinderman) Kruse. He was a farmer all of his life, and a member of Zion Church in Freeport, IL.

Survivors include his brother Dennis Kruse of Freeport, sister Phyllis (Roger) Jacobs of Pearl City, niece Pam Bardell, and nephew Roderick Jacobs. He was preceded

in death by his parents, and 3 nephews: Scott, Randy, and Brad Kruse.

A visitation was held on Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024, at the Schwarz Park Blvd Chapel, 608 S. Park Blvd. in Freeport, IL. A funeral service was held on Friday Dec. 20, 2024, with Wayne Fischer of Zion Church of Pearl City officiating. Interment at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Freeport. A memorial has been established for Malcolm Eaton Enterprises.

Lincoln-Douglas, Open Bible earn Top Community Festival of Trees Honors

A tree from the fourth graders at Lincoln-Douglas School won first place from FHN's panel of judges and second place in People's Choice voting for this year's FHN Community Festival of Trees at the Freeport Public Library. The class will receive \$700 for its "The Best Way to Spread Holiday Cheer is Singing Loud for All to Hear" tree - \$500 for the judges' category and \$200 for People's Choice.

Open Bible Learning Center Elementary School's "Christmas Cheer for All to Hear!" took first place in the People's Choice category and third place from the panel of judges and will receive a \$650 donation. There were 816 votes in this year's People's Choice competition.

The tree from Freeport High School's National Art Honor Society, "Singing Through the Holidays," earned second place from the judges for a \$300 prize. "Blackhawk Elementary's Holiday Cheer World Tour" took third place honors in the People's Choice voting, netting a \$100 prize.

The FHN Community Festival of Trees brings non-profit organizations from across the area to decorate holiday trees, with cash prizes awarded by a panel of judges and the public. The Community Festival of Trees is on display free of charge at the Freeport Public Library (100 E. Douglas Street in Freeport) through Monday, Dec. 30.

Jo Daviess County Association for Home and Community Education's Friendship Day

Over 30 members from across Jo Daviess County attended the annual Home and Community Education's (HCE) Friendship Day celebration at the Warren Community Building this year. Deb Pausz gave an inspiring and educational presentation as First Ladies Edith Wilson, Lou Hoover and Betty Ford. Pausz is a member of "The Women of Commitment and Courage".

HEC members brought their personal and family quilts for display. Six members showcased quilts representing a wide variety of quilting styles. They shared the history and significance of these beautiful quilts to both

Jo Daviess County and to their own families. The Friendship Day activities wrapped up with a delicious Ice Cream Sundaes n' More dessert table.

Be sure to view the HCE Christmas trees on display in the Warren Community Center and in the Stockton Heritage Museum windows this season. These trees celebrate HCE as the heart of home, community, education, family and more.

For more information on Home and Community Education, or to get in contact with someone from a local Unit, please contact Barb James at 815-594-1012 or P. O. Box 285 Apple River, IL 61001.

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. 29 for Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. This week's gospel reading is from the Gospel Luke 2:41-52.

The Peace Corps Quilting group will not be meeting this week. 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 the First Sunday of Christmas at worship on Sunday, Dec. 29 at 9 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to come play dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

All kids in grades K-5 are welcome to come to St. John's in Pearl City on Wednesday, Jan. 15 from 3:15 p.m. to 5 p.m. to be a part of the Kids Klub. Kids Klub is a monthly adventure supported by the Pearl City area churches and offers a safe and supportive environment where children can hear bible stories, do crafts, play games, and enjoy delicious snacks. All children in the Pearl City community are welcome to come. For more information or to register your child, please contact Pastor Roger Bronkema at rbronkema18@gmail.com or call 815-291-6261.

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 7:30 a.m. at the Beltline Restaurant in Freeport.

The Healthy Wolves group will be packing backpacks on Thursday, Jan. 9 at 3:15 p.m. If you are interested in donating to this ministry, reach out to the church office for more information.

St. John's Lutheran Church of Pearl City is an ELCA parish and is located at 229 First St. in Pearl City. We are handicapped accessible. If you need to contact the pastor or church, you may call 815-443-2215 for information.

Calvary Church of Stockton

Anyone in the community is invited to join us each Sunday. Sunday School begins at 8:45 a.m. with the Worship Service starting at 10 a.m. The Youth will be meeting on Saturday, Dec. 21 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Salem United Church of Christ

We invite you to join us for service led by Pastor Christopher Ham at Salem United Church of Christ, 8491 West Salem Road, Lena, IL, every Sunday at 10 a.m. Sunday School for children five years and older is held during church service, and nursery is available for children under five years.

The Wednesday Breakfast Bunch will not be meeting on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

Crafternoon will be held on Jan. 15 from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. in the lower level of the church. This space is handicap accessible, and all are welcome to join. During this event, we enjoy snacks, crafting and good company. There is plenty of space to spread out a large project, or to work on something small.

For more information on any Salem related items, you can contact 815-369-4511 or ruth.dake@gmail.com.

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Stockton man joins the Air Force

Friends and relatives of Logan Breed gathered on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024 at the American Legion hall for a "Send-off" luncheon, in his honor. Breed, a graduate of Stockton High School, has joined the U. S. Air Force. Pictured are grandfather Larry, father Dan, Logan Breed, brother Kellen, mother Janet, and grandmother Anne.

Around the Northern Hills

Happy Holidays from all of us at the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau! I hope you and your families have a wonderful Christmas and New Year. As a reminder, our office will be closed on Dec. 24 and 25th and Jan. 1 to celebrate the holidays.



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

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 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.

Scholarships available

The IAA Foundation just announced the lineup for the 2025 IAA Foundation Scholarships. This includes 120 scholarships totaling \$210,251. We have had several winners from Jo Daviess County in the past, so I would encourage anyone

interested to take advantage of this great opportunity. The link will be live for the IAA Foundation website until Jan. 1.

Nutrient management grant

I'm excited to announce that the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau recently received a nutrient management grant from Illinois Farm Bureau. I look forward to giving you more information on the field days that we will have once the growing season is underway.

Farm Fun Fact

For every Christmas tree harvested, 1-3 seedlings are planted. At the time of this writing, 350 million Christmas trees are growing in the United States.

River Ridge business students host annual Santa Store program

By Elaina Doms and Kora Siebert

Many children around the world don't have a chance to get their loved ones a gift for the holiday season. The Santa Store program allows the children at River Ridge to have the opportunity to give their loved ones a gift this December.

From Dec. 9 to Dec. 13, 2024, River Ridge Elementary School students got the opportunity to purchase up to five gifts for the holidays.

Santa Store prices ranged from \$3 to \$5. Around 140 students shopped at Santa Store, with a total of 593 gifts sold.

Started by Kim Thorsen 20 years ago, Santa Store is now run by students in Mrs. Laity's business class at River Ridge High School. This program is made possible by the financial generosity of the Parent Teacher Organization as well as donations from Shean Albrecht, Jocelyn Hayes, Steven Gonzalez, Brandy Stadel,

Karen Steffenson, Ken Thorsen and some River Ridge Craft Fair vendors.

The Santa Store program provides Mrs. Laity's Business class with experience and knowledge on how to run a business. The Santa Store program could not be done without the help of generous community members. The students recognize and thank all supporters for making this program happen, and hope to be able to continue doing this program in the future.



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River Ridge students set up and work at the annual Santa Store hosted by business students in Mrs. Laity's business class. Pictured are students Camden Flack, Eli Eisenberg and Kora Siebert.



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From left to right: Sarah Winter, Gracie Schnitzler, Ava Ketelsen, Berkeley Mensendike, Kaci Patterson, Sam Rife, Sawyer Fry, Sophie Grissinger, Elaina Doms.



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Students shop at the Santa Store.



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Berkeley Mensendike helps Finley Wild shop at Santa Store.

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Highland Community College Foundation names five Distinguished Alumni

Last month, five prominent graduates from Highland Community College received Distinguished Alumni Awards from the Highland Foundation. Tamisha Bonvillain, Matthew Bordner, Delbert Bunker III, Deontae Collier, Sr., and Darrel Wichman were honored at a Freeport Club reception on Nov. 14.

Close to 16,000 students have earned certificates and degrees since the college and its Foundation were each established in 1962. Fewer than 200 have been named as Distinguished Alumni since the Foundation began recognizing outstanding individuals who got their start at the community college.

"These distinguished alumni demonstrate the profound impact education can have on individuals and communities," said Dan Dick, Executive Director of the Highland Community College Foundation. "Their dedication, remarkable accomplishments, and leadership not only define their success but also serve as a powerful inspiration for Highland Community College and Northwest Illinois. They embody the values of innovation,

service, and excellence that Highland strives to instill in every student."

The following people were recognized as 2024 Distinguished Alumni:

Tamisha Bonvillain, Freeport. Nominated by Karla Guiffre and Juliet Moderow.

After graduating from Highland's Nursing program, Tamisha Bonvillain served as a labor and delivery nurse for 16 years. She went on to earn her bachelor's degree from Lewis University in 2013 and master of science in nursing from St. Anthony College of Nursing in 2019. In her current role as family nurse practitioner with FHN, she serves many members of the community, ranging from infants to adults, taking the time to ensure she addresses all of her patients' needs. In her spare time, she is active in the community, through FHN, Freeport School District, Highland Community College, the League of Women Voters and NAACP.

As a speaker for HCC Women+ in Science Club, Tamisha has shared several examples of the resources she utilized at Highland, particularly ac-



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Deontae Collier, Sr. (from left), Matthew Bordner, Tamisha Bonvillain, Darrel Wichman and Delbert Bunker III.

knowledging and praising Project Succeed. She consistently encourages students to take advantage of financial assistance and scholarship opportunities that Highland can provide.

Matthew Bordner, Monroe, Wis. Nominated by Chris Kuberski. Matt Bordner grad-

uated magna cum laude in 2014 with an associate of science and an associate of arts in teaching-mathematics degree. He was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, served on the Student Senate, Student Activities Committee, and as Student Trustee on the HCC Board of Trustees. Matt gave the student keynote address at Highland's 2014 commencement, where he challenged his classmates to, "be proud to be an HCC graduate," and "boast that we came from a community college."

Matt received a B.S. in secondary education and a B.S. in mathematics dual degree from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, and a master of education degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout in 2024. Matt was one of nine outstanding educators in the School District of Monroe to receive the 2021 Colony Brands Foundation Teacher Recognition Awards, and received the Allan B. Holsthopple Crystal Apple Award in 2024.

In addition to teaching math at Monroe High School, he coaches the varsity boys and girls tennis and has been an advisor for video game club, math team, and e-sports team.

Delbert Bunker III, Freeport. Nominated by Haley Kurtz. Delbert Bunker III is proud to have graduated from Highland, and is a Freeport High School graduate as well. He went on to Western Illinois University for a B.S. in Marketing, using his education to establish a successful Freeport business that consistently demonstrates care for both customers and employees.

Delbert sits on the Board of Directors for Union Savings Bank and the Greater Freeport Partnership, and is a member of the National Auto Dealers Association and the Illinois

Auto Dealers Association. He received the United Way of Northwest Illinois' 2024 Small Town Hero Award for his work with various organizations

and having a deep care for his town and a strong desire to give back.

See ALUMNI, Page 15

Lena American Legion



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Junior members of the Lena American Legion Auxiliary decorated Christmas trees for veterans living in the Lena Living Center. Members of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary delivered them to the veterans. Each veteran received a tree to decorate their room.

(Right) Members of the Lena American Legion Auxiliary wrapped approximately 100 gifts to be delivered to Veterans living outside of their homes.



Season's

Greetings

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Letters To Santa

Mrs. Haas's Second Grade Class

Dear Santa,
My name is Achilles and I am 7 years old. What are you doing for Christmas? I have been nice. I will leave chocolate chip cookies could you bring me food, UNO, and a dog
Achilles Johnson

Dear Santa,
my name is Weston and I am 7 years old. My question is how old are you. I have been ok. I will leve cookies. I wont a dirt bike and lots of nerf guns plese.
Weston Lehman

Dear Santa,
My name is Layla and i am 8 years old. How do you get all of the presents delivered in one night. I thik I have been nice but a little naughty thn. I will leave cookies, milk, and candy canes for the reindeer too. Could you bring me a new scooter, new books, and Taylor Swift tickets please.
Layla Moldenauer

Dear Santa,
My name is Everly and I am 7 years old. Dose rodoff's nose achly glowe? I have been most good. I will leave you milk. Could you dring me dorbls, a four players game and a rodo dog please.
Love Everly Honerbaum

Dear Santa,
My name is James and I am 7 years old. How are the elves and riendder. I have been ok. I will give you oreos milk and carrots for the riennder. Can you give me 3 magic tree house books please.
James Frey

Dear Santa,
My name is Parker and I am 7 years old. What do you wont for christmas. Hou old are you. Hou are the reindeer. I have been vary nice sumtimes. I will leave milk, cookies, carrots, candycanes, Santa hat. I would like a fake kitton, candy canes, make up.
Love Parker AuWerter

Dear Santa,
My name is Rose and I am 7 years old. How d the reindeer fly? I have ben a little nice an little naughty. I will leave a glas of milk and a candy canes. I would like a exercise ball, a squshmelo and a steres ball.
Rose Fitzgerald

Dear Santa,
My name is Alexa and I am 8 years old how are the elves doing at the north pole I have been mostly nice I will leave cookies milk carrots magic dust for the randeer could you bring me a golf set please and

a new elf.
Love Alexa Twombly

Dear Santa,
My name is Marley and I am 7 years old. How are the reindeer? I have been nice. I will leave cookies, milk, and some carets for the randeer. COuld you bring me a fake bune that has babys, slim, nad fidgets.
Love Marley Mekeel

Dear Santa,
My name is Wyatt and I am 7 years old. How are the reindeer, how old is Mrs. claus, how are the elves, how old are you. I have been naughty and nice. I will leave you cookies and milk and carrots. could you bring me whatever you bring me and a purple please.
Love Wyatt Niensteadt

Dear Santa,
My name is Brynlee and I am eight years old. How old are you? I have been nice. I will leave cookies, milk, and carrots, I would like a stuf animal dog, watch and markers.
Brynlee Heesen

Dear Santa,
My name is Whitney and i am 7 years old I want a blind-fold for christmas and a I will leave cookies and milk for you and i want a fake phone for christmas and i want fake money and i want a doll and a toy elf and Santa ears and a stih stuffy and stitch toys please.
Love Whitney Laity

Dear Santa,
My name is Urijah and I am seven. How are the raindeers doing. I have ben nice cookies mik and reindeer food. Could you give me a Ipad Pleas and can I have a nintendo switch
Love Urijah South

Dear Santa,
My name is Layne I am 8 years old. Does Roddph's nose glow? I've been nice. I will leave cookies. I would like a new sled please.
Love Layne Offenheiser

Dear Santa,
My name is Eliza and I am 7 years old. How old are all of your rander. I have been nice. I wil leve cookies milk carrots and pictures. I wad want to have a aphman squooshee.
Eliza Pepple

Mrs. Rillie's Third Grade Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I hope you are enjoying the holiday season. One thing that I would like for Christmas is

a toy car. I like playing with toy cars, and right now, I only have one. Another gift I would like for Christmas is new Legos. I don't have any Legos and I'm working on a big house. Lastly, I would like a coloring book. I don't have any coloring books and I have a lot of colored pencils. Thank you for my friends, especially Lily, Mrs. Rillie, and Mrs. Young.
Love, Bella Camarillo

Dear Santa,
How are you, Mrs.Claus, and your reindeer doing? I've been really good this year! One question; do you like pretzels? Here are some things I really want for Christmas! The first thing I want for Christmas is Robux. I want Robux because it is better for my channel. The second thing I want for Christmas is lip gloss. I want it so I can have makeup for my concert and so I can actually have makeup! The final thing I want is BLACK Adidas socks. I want the socks because I don't really have any comfortable socks. I hope you like the rest of the year at the North Pole!
Bye, Santa!
By Lily Dreyer

Dear Santa,
I was wondering about the reindeer if they are alright? The first thing I want for Christmas is a pet snake. I want a pet snake because the babies are adorable, and they are cool and different. The second thing I want for Christmas is a hamster. I want a hamster because of the different breeds, and amazing animals. The third thing I want for Christmas is a guinea pig. I want a guinea pig because they are cute, interesting, soft, and unique. Thank you Santa Claus for the hard work you and your Elves do for girls and boys and have a happy Christmas.
Love, Sydney Lawfer

Dear Santa,
I hope you're doing well. I am wondering how you and your reindeer are doing? For Christmas can I please have an RC. The reason I would like an RC is because I found an RC Cobra at Walmart, and I also found a spider and lizard. The second thing I would like is a Nintendo Switch. The reason I would like a Nintendo Switch is because it doesn't need any WIFI and you can take it anywhere to play. The last thing I would like is a Pogo Stick. I would like a Pogo Stick is because you can go anywhere with it. Thank you for all of the presents that you have given me each year.
Your Friend, Colt Michel

Dear Santa,
I love and admire what you do. The first thing I want for Christmas is a phone. I want a phone for Christmas because I will listen to music. The second thing I want for Christmas is for Thor to come back. I want him to come back because he was the best. Yes, he was lazy, but I liked that. The last thing I want for Christmas is a pet monkey. I want a pet monkey because they are sweet, cute, and I love them. Santa, I Love you, and thank you for the presents every year.
Love, Avery Smith

Dear Santa,
How are you doing this year? The first thing I want for Christmas is a kitten. The reason I want a kitten because they're cute. The next thing I want for Christmas is slime. The reason I want slime is because it is colorful. Lastly, I want gel pens. The reason I want gel pens is because they are pretty. Stay safe this year and I appreciate the presents.
By Becca Floerke

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer doing? One thing I want is a new water bottle. I can use it for wrestling practice. Another thing I want is an Iphone to use for face timing with my grandpa and grandma. The last thing I want is a Vikings shirt . I like to cheer on Jefferson when he plays. I hope you stay healthy and don't eat too many cookies. I love you, Santa.
Your friend,
Cooper McGivney

Dear Santa,
How is everyone doing? These are my three things I want for Christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is new headphones. My other ones broke. I would like better ones. I want them louder. The second thing I want for Christmas is an NFL football. I want to throw my other one farther. I want to throw the NFL one far. I want to get used to it. The last thing I want for Christmas is a big pokemon. My mom likes them. I like them. I want more.
Love, Andrew Smith

Dear Santa,
How are you, your elves, and your reindeer doing? The first thing I want for Christmas is a toy rifle. I want a rifle because I have no fun guns. The second thing I want for Christmas is Mario VS Donkey Kong. I want Mario VS Donkey Kong because my dad wants it, and I play it on my Nintendo. The last thing I want for Christmas is Robux. I want Robux because other people have it, and the game

tells me too. Thank you for the presents, and your Elves.
Love, Owen Schlafer

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer? The first thing I want for Christmas is legos. I want legos because they're fun. The next thing I want for Christmas is books. I want books to read. The last thing I want for Christmas is video games. I want video games because there is so much stuff to do I like all the work you do for people.
Love, Wyatt Reiland

Dear Santa,
How are you doing and how are your reindeer? Here are 3 things I want for Christmas. The first thing I want is a camera. I want a camera because it can keep memories. The next thing is robux. I want robux because I can get vip indress to impress. The last thing is slime. I want slime because it is fun to play with. I love your hard work and I hope you can make it this Christmas.
Love, Anni Pierce

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs Claus doing? Here are some things I want for christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is a pogo stick. The reason I want a pogo stick is because they sound fun. The next thing I want is a nerf dart zone. The reason why is because they are fun to shoot. The last thing I want is a rc car. The reason is they are fun to drive. I admire your work Santa.
Love, Ashton Nowviocok

Dear Santa,
How are you this holiday season? The first thing I want for Christmas is an air track. The reason why is because it is softer padding for tumbling. The second thing I want for Christmas is a T.V. Nintendo controller. I want it because I have one and another one will be more fun. The last thing I want for Christmas is slime. The reason why is that you can stretch it, and it's fun to play with. Thank you for all my presents and stay healthy.
Love, Addy Downey

Dear Santa,
Do you have warm clothes for your Christmas trip? One thing that I would like for Christmas is a sloth blanket. I love sloths and decorative blankets. Another thing that I would like for Christmas is a sloth pillow. I don't have a sloth pillow yet. Lastly, I would like to have sloth wallpaper. I have a plain white wall and that would look really cool. Take care!
Love, Starla Schmidt

Dear Santa,
Are your reindeer ready to fly? One thing that I would like for Christmas is for my cousin to come over to my house. I never get to see him and it would be a lot of fun. Another thing that I would like for Christmas is new nails. My mom doesn't get those for me and I think they would be pretty. Lastly, I would really like to have a stuffed horse. I never see one of those and it would be fun to snuggle with. I miss you Santa!
Love, Aubrey Lyons

Ms. Bamberg's Second Grade Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Bryce and I am 9 years old. What's your favorite color? Is your favorite color red? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are I helped my mom with my brother. I was nice to my brothers and I have been good in school. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are Power Ranger Dino Charge toys and King Kong vs. Godzilla the New Empire toy. I am very excited about your visit. Merry Christmas! I will never be on the naughty list!
Your Pal, Bryce Larson

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Gabe and I am 7 years old. How do your reindeer fly? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are I helped people, I was kind, and I helped my mom. I have a few special Christmas wishes. I would like a toy monster truck and a toy train. I am very excited about your visit. I wish you a Merry Christmas!
Your Pal, Gabe Alvarez

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Sam and I am 7 years old. How many elves do you have? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are I have been kind, I helped my dad, and I took care of pets. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are a bat and batting gloves. I am very excited about your visit. Merry Christmas! I will never be on the naughty list.
Your Pal, Sam Smith

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Carson and I am 7 years old. How many elves do you have? I have been trying really hard

Letters To Santa

• Letters (Continued from page 6)

to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are I help take care of my cats, I cheer on my teammates, and I share my toys. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are a mini dirt bike and a normal phone with games on it. I am very excited about your visit. I hope you get a new sleigh!

Your Pal, Carson McGivney

Dear Santa,
Hi my name is Josie and I am 7 years old. Are your favorite colors red and green? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are I have taken care of my friends, I have helped people, and I take care of my pets. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are make-up and stick roll bracelets 1,000! I am very excited about your visit. I will not touch your elf!

Your Pal, Josie Coppes

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Presley and I am 7 years old. Who is your favorite reindeer? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are I helped my mom with my baby brother, I was nice to my friends, and I played with my dogs. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are a hoverboard and a pair of pajamas. I am very excited about your visit. I will leave cookies out for you!

Your Pal, Presley Amill

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Bennett and I am 7 years old. How many elves do you have? How do your reindeer fly? I have been trying hard to get on you "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done at I helped people, I took care of my family, and I took care of my pets. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are King Kong vs. Godzilla the New Empire and Twisters the movie. I am very excited about your visit. I will never be on the naughty list!

Your Pal, Bennett Johnson

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Ellie and I am 7 years old. What's your favorite color? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are helped people, I helped my mom and my sister. I have a few special Christmas wishes. The are an iPad and slime. I am very excited about your visit. Merry

Christmas!
Your Pal, Ellie Kleckner

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Scotty and I am 7 years old. How many elves do you have? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are being kind to people, I took care of my mom, and I have been kind to my dad. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are an iPhone 16 pro and 100 million Roblox. I am very excited about your visit. I will never be on the "bad" list.

Your Pal, Scotty Rea

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Brooklyn and I am 7 years old. What's your favorite elf? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are being kind, I helped my mom and I took care of my brother. I have a few Christmas wishes. They are a skateboard and a phone. I am very excited about your visit. I wish you get everything you want in the world!

Your Pal, Brooklyn Bonnett

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Grayson and I am 7 years old. Are your favorite colors red and green? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are I helped my mom and dad, I have been kind, and I have been nice to my brothers. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are a real dog and a real phone. I am very excited about your visit. I will give you a gift.

Your Pal, Grayson Raab

Dear Santa
Hi! My name is Maddox and I am 7 years old. How many elves do you have? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are; I say please and thank you, I help clean, and I help my family. I have a few special Christmas wishes. They are a hotwheels track and WWE toys. I am very excited about your visit. I will take care of the elf pets.

Your Pal, Maddox Schubert

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Lyla and I am 7 years old. How do your reindeer fly? I have been trying really hard to get on your "nice" list this year. Some of the wonderful things I have done are being kind to people, being awesome to people, and being good to people. I have a

few special Christmas wishes. They are going to the library and the new Twisters movie. I am very excited about your visit. I will never be on the naughty list!

Your Pal, Lyla Herold

Ms. Pinney's 3rd Grade Class

Dear Santa
How are you doing? How is Miss. Claus, how was your summer? I want a ps5, an xbox and a bunk bed. The first thing I would like for Christmas is an xbox. I would like this because they are cool to play games on. The second thing I would like you to bring me is a bunk bed. I would like it with a good railing to keep me safe. I would also have more room to have friends to spend the night. The third thing I want for Christmas is a ps5. I want this because they are fun to play. I want to know how the reindeer are doing? You're the best!

Love Carson Bonnet

Dear Santa,
I hope you have the best time passing out presents this year. How has passing out presents over to every house each year? May I get Call of Duty, new shoes, and an all black ps5 controller for christmas. The first thing I would like for Christmas is Call of Duty Black Ops 6 or just Call of Duty. I would like this because I can play online, it is fun and I can talk to people. The second thing I would like is an all black Nike pair of shoes. I need this because my shoes are peeling, mine are getting really dirty, and mine are getting small. The third thing I would really want is an all black ps5 controller. I want this because it would be cleaner, it has a joystick lock, and it would be better playing. I want to know how the reindeer are doing? How is being in the air flying around then landing with no scratches at all? I love how you deliver presents every year.

From: Zach Davis

Dear Santa,
How is Ms Claus? How are you? I would like an Iphone, a new headset, and V-Bucks. The first thing I want for Christmas is an Iphone 16 because it is cool. I can text and I can call. The second thing is a new headset because I can talk to my friends. It is cool and I can hear my friends. The third thing I want is V-Bucks to buy the battle pass to get skins and cars. Thanks for the presents. Merry Christmas!

Love Brigson Decker

Dear Santa,
How are you and the reindeer doing? I hope you had a great summer. For Christmas I would like a Nintendo Switch, a reindeer stuffy, and a baby doll set. The first thing I would like is a reindeer stuffy because I need more Holiday stuffies. The second thing I would like is a Nintendo Switch because I love to play on my friend's. The last thing I would like for Christmas is a baby doll set because I need more things for my baby dolls. Thank you so much for the gifts. Merry Christmas.

Love Addison Haas

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus? I hope you had a good summer and how are the reindeer? The first thing I would like is a Nerf gun, a Mochi and a stuffy. I would like a Nerf gun for christmas because I can 1v1 my friends, play fortnite, and work on skill. The second thing I would like for Christmas is a Mochi. I collect them, they are portable and squishy. The last thing I would like for Christmas is a stuffed animal. I would like this because it is soft, fluffy, and cute.

Love, Olivia Howe

Dear Santa,
I hope you had a good summer. These are the things I want for Christmas: a golden remote for the ps5, a headset, and a college football game for the ps5. I want the golden remote because I want more remotes. I want the headset because I want it to feel real life. I really want the college disk because I really like college football and I want to play for Penn state. I love college football! Penn State is my favorite team. I would like more remotes because I could play with my friends when they stay at my house. Thank you Santa for all the presents every year.

Love Austin Kline

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How is Ms. Claus? Can I please have a bean bag, stuffy, and chapter books. The first thing I would like is a bean bag. I would like this because it's comfy, soft, and it gives me a place to sit. The second thing I would like you to bring me is a stuffie. I would like this because they are cute, soft, and comfy. The last thing I would like is chapter books. I would like this because it's good, fun, and helpful. Have a Merry Christmas. I love christmas!

Love, Makayla Marcure

Dear Santa,
I would like just 3 things for Christmas this year. First, I would like a watch. The watch I have is broken. I would also like a puppy. I would like a puppy because I don't have one. Finally, I would really like a new chromebook. I have been using my moms. I hope you get my gifts and Merry Christmas.

Thank you, Jazzy Mercer

Dear Santa,
How are you doing in the North Pole? How is Mrs. Claus? I want an Iphone, 20 squish mellovs, and a puppy. The first thing I want for Christmas is 20 squish mellovs. I would like this for Christmas because they are squishy, sweet, and comfortable. You can fill your bed with them. The second thing I would like you to bring me is a puppy. I want a puppy because it is soft, cute, and cuddles. The puppy is so nice. The last thing I would like for Christmas is an Iphone. I want an Iphone because I can talk to my mom without going downstairs. You can take photos, talk, and message people. I love Christmas so much. I hope you have a nice Christmas. Thank you for the presents.

Love, Cora Nolan

Dear Santa,
I would like 3 main gifts for Christmas this year. One thing I would like is a ps5 controller. So my brother and I can play together. Another thing I would like to receive is a blue remote controller race car. I would like this because I really like my friends. The last gift I would like is Far Cry 6 the video game. I would like this because it is a challenging and fun game. These are the 3 main gifts I would really like to get.

From Corey Pieper

Dear Santa,
These are things I want for Christmas. I want an Iphone because I can call text and watch it. I want something stuffy because it's cute and fun. I want a controller because a cooler one is not a sticky one and not gooey. Thank you for bringing my presents. I hope you have a good Christmas.

From Ian Rivera-Rubio

Dear Santa,
How are you doing this Christmas? How is Ms Claus doing too? I need to ask you a question. I was wondering if you could get me new Uggs, skin care, and stuffed animals. The first thing I want for Christmas is new Uggs. I

want new Uggs because they can look better than my other Uggs, they look better with certain outfits, and they are comfy. Next I want skincare. I want skincare because it gives you better hygiene, it is good for your skin, and it gives you healthy skin. Lastly, I want stuffed animals. I want stuffed animals because they're fluffy, cute, and squishy. Thank you for understanding Santa

From Grace Runkle

Dear Santa,
How are you doing this Christmas? How is Mrs. Claus doing? I want these things for Christmas. I want "Owl Diary" books, "My Weird School" books and an xbox. The first thing I want for Christmas is "Owl Diary" books. I want these books because I like books that have a lot of AR points and I like reading. The second thing I want for Christmas is "My Weird School" books. I want these books because it makes me smart, it's funny and there are different books. The last thing I want for Christmas is an xbox. I want this game because it is fun. There are many games and there are mullet players. Thank you for giving me presents all my life and thank you for giving us all joy across the world.

From Emmett Staver

Dear Santa,
I hope you're doing great. I would like Ramen, an Oculus, and an electric scooter. The first thing I want for Christmas is spicy Ramen because it's spicy. I love Ramen, it's good! Second, I want an Oculus because I love VR, I have never had one, they're cool. Lastly, I want an electric scooter because I always wanted one, I don't have to push on the scooter. It's fast. Merry Christmas Santa. Feed the reindeer.

From Skyler Trombatore

Dear Santa,
I would like just 3 things for Christmas this year. First, I would like a bubble blaster. My bubble blaster is broken. The second thing is a baby kitten. I would like a kitten because they are cute. The last thing I want is LED lights. I would like to have lights for my room. You are sweet and I hope you have a good Christmas too.

From Alizabeth Wilson

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Letters To Santa

Mrs. Dobernecker's First Grade Class

Dear Santa,
My name is Keeva, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a Hello Kitty phone. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want Hello Kitty toys and a stiche Brbe home. The things I need are close and socs. Gifts I would wear are trkee slips in size 1. Finally, I would like to read pichoo books (all of them). I can't wait for you to visit!

It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a book and a clook. The things I need are boots and snow pants. Gifts I would wear are new earrings and blue pajamas. Finally, I would like to read dinosalur books. I can't wait for you to visit!

Love, Stella

Dear Santa,

My name is Victor, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a taplit. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a monstr trok plushy and a biskl. The things I need are soks and a now fone. Gifts I would wear are glovs and pants. Finally, I would like to read big books with pichrs. I

can't wait for you to visit!
From, Victor

Dear Santa,

My name is Sterling, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a monster truck. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a Santa squishy and hot weels. The things I need are sox and gloves. Gifts I would wear are a Pikachu shrt and Pika-chu pants. Finally, I would like to read a Ryan book and a school book. I can't wait for you to visit!

Love, Sterling

Dear Santa,

My name is Jupiter, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would

really like a new dress that's for winter. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a guiantic dino stuffy and a cute puppy plushy. The things I need are more socks and one or two fluffy sweaters for winter. Gifts I would wear are a maching cow shirt and a new pair of barbie socks. Finally, I would like to read Junie B Jones and nachter books. I can't wait for you to visit!

Love, Jupiter

Dear Santa,

My name is Evelyn, and I am 7 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a furby. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a Talor Swift paino and a sprinker. The things I need are gloves and boots. Gifts I would wear are earings and socks (like fun socks). Finally, I would like to read chaper books learing about anmils. I can't wait for you to visit!

Love, Evelyn

Dear Santa,

My name is Xander, and

I am 7 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a crocodile hoverboard. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a transformer and a Sonic toy. The things I need are new socks and a new phone. Gifts I would wear are jeans and a Wisconsin Badgers hat. Finally, I would like to read dinosaur books and Blippi books. I can't wait for you to visit!

Dear Santa,

My name is Addelyn, and I am 7 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a now Brbe hos and a Brbe car. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a tablit with a magic pen. I also wot hihels. The things I need are sox with horts on the sids and I reele need now shoz. Finally, I would like to read Talr Swift and junie b jones books. I can't wait for you to visit!

Love, Addelyn

Dear Santa,

My name is Levi, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like the transformers toys. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want Deadpool toys and Sonic toys. The things I need are a transformer thootbrus and Bubbllbee pajamas. Gifts I would wear are a traformers cotome and a Deadpool back pack. Finally, I would like to read Deadpool books and Sonic books. I can't wait for you to visit!

From, Levi

Dear Santa,

My name is Victoria, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a Barbie doll. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a plushe. The things I need are glavs and socs. Gifts I would wear are a sprcly dres and sprcly boots. Finally, I would like to read annul boocs and famle boocs. I can't wait for you to visit!

Love, Victoria

Dear Santa,

My name is Kaine, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like an electric car. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a momster truck and gloofs. The things I need are a new hat and snow pants. Gifts I would wear are Pacers hats and a Pacers shirt. Finally, I would like to read Pacers books. I can't wait for you to visit!

From, Kaine

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Letters To Santa

Dear Santa,
My name is Thomas, and I am 7 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a Sonic toy that talks. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a Hot Wheels car. The things I need are boots and snow pants. Gifts I would wear are a Sonic shirt and pants. Finally, I would like to read bug books. I can't wait for you to visit!
From, Thomas

I am 6 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a big nerf gun. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want soccer cleats and a Ronaldo shirt. The things I need are new socks and new pencils. Gifts I would wear are a red shirt and red pants. Finally, I would like to read Junie B. Jones books. I can't wait for you to visit!
Love, Kaison

Dear Santa,
My name is Tanner, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a spinning top. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a blue whale and a green frog. The things I need are gloves and snow pants. Gifts I would wear are a noow hat and boots. Finally, I would like to read a Spiderman book. I can't wait for you to visit!
Your friend, Tanner

Dear Santa,
My name is Jackson, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a John Deer combine. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a Minecraft person and a big dump truck. The things I need are comfy pajamas and sweatshirts. Gifts I would wear are a t-shirt and shoes. Finally, I would like to read Minecraft books and Junie B. Jones books! I can't wait for you to visit!
From, Jackson

Dear Santa,
My name is Hadley, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like an American Girl doll. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a bag of slime and a black and white puppy. The things I need are boots and a new hat. Gifts I would wear are earrings and s'mores slippers. Finally, I would like to read princess books. I can't wait for you to visit!
Love, Hadley

Dear Santa,
My name is Elizabeth, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very good. This year for Christmas I would really like a Barbie with blonde hair. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a toy car that is pink and that

has blue stripes. One thing I need is a pair of gloves. Gifts I would wear are a Mickey Mouse headband and a sparkley dress. Finally, I would like to read Junie B. Jones books. I can't wait for you to visit!
Love, Elizabeth

Dear Santa,
My name is Charly, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a Rapunzel doll and a phone. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course,

I do have a few more things on my list. I also want an Elsa Lego set and a Rapunzel night light. The things I need are colorful hats and pink snow pants. Gifts I would wear are wizard of oz pajamas and a Tin man headband. Finally, I would like to read princess books and pig books. I can't wait for you to visit!
From, Charly

Dear Santa,
My name is Jahnessa, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This

year for Christmas I would really like a Santa stuffiez. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a unicorn stuffiez and a unicorn shirt. The things I need are a toothbrush and boots. Gifts I would wear are a turkey shirt and Bears pajamas. Finally, I would like to read Junie B. Jones books. I can't wait for you to visit!
Love, Jahnessa

Dear Santa,

My name is Brody, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like an apple watch but all black. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a big nerf gun and a Packers shirt. The things I need are q-tips and highlighters. Gifts I would wear are pjs and Bears pjs. Finally, I would like to read Junie B. Jones books. I can't wait for you to visit!
Love, Brody

Mrs. Janecke's First Grade Class

Dear Santa,
My name is Isabelle, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a Bluey watch. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a Bluey camera and a Bluey shirt and a Bluey watch. The things I need are Bluey snowpants and a Bluey scarf. Gifts I would wear are a tinkerbelle costume and a Bluey costume. Finally, I would like to read a Bluey book and a tinkerbelle book. I can't wait for you to visit!
From, Izzy

Dear Santa,
My name is Huxley, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been mostly nice. This year for Christmas I would really like Junie B Jones books that are Thanksgiving themed. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a white plain shirt with nothing on it and an Encanto watch. The things I need are new shoes that light up and Encanto themed with the hole family on it. Gifts I would wear are an Encanto dress and Encanto pj's. Finally, I would like to read Encanto books. I can't wait for you to visit!
Love, Huxley

Dear Santa,
My name is Lisa, and I am 6 years old. This year I have been very nice. This year for Christmas I would really like a Bluey play house. It is what I want more than anything else. Of course, I do have a few more things on my list. I also want a Bluey play book and a Barby play house. The things I need are snow boots. Gifts I would wear are fuzzy pajamas. Finally, I would like to read a piggie pie book and a Junie B. Jones book. I can't wait for you to visit!
Love, Lisa

Dear Santa,
My name is Kaison, and

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Letters To Santa

Mrs. Janecke's 2nd Grade class

Dear Santa,
My name is Harry. I am 8 years old. I live in Warren. I have been good. What I would MOST like for Christmas is to go to Disney so we could go to the Boardwalk, because they have very cool secret beds. If your elves are not too busy I would also like 100 jumbo rare Pokemon cards, a trampoline, and a pack of Posca Markers. Is it really cold in the North Pole? I will leave cookies, milk, and a special card for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Your buddy, Harry

Dear Santa,
My name is Dawson. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. I have been good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is a Ghostbuster car with doors that open, because I have never had a Ghostbuster car. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a piano and a Ghostbuster house, and a remote control two wheel tractor. Do you know where I live? I will leave milk and cookies for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, Dawson

Dear Santa,
My name is Ezra. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. I have been good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is one of those re-cars that goes on walls because I want to annoy my brother. If your elves are not too busy I would also like one of those mini guns from Nerf and one baseball. How many elves do you have? I will leave a cookie and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, Ezra

Dear Santa,
My name is Adilyn. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. I have been very good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is a Scooby Doo Fall Fright book because I like Scooby Doo books. If your elves are not too busy I would also like some candy that is good for me. What do you do in the North Pole? I will leave cookies, milk, and reindeer food for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, Adilyn

Dear Santa,
My name is Charlie. I am 8 years old. I live in Warren. I have been very good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is a very big Lego set because I like to build with Legos. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a very big toy sniper rifle with a scope. What do your reindeer enjoy eating? I will leave chocolate and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Your Friend, Charlie

Dear Santa,
My Name is Burrkleah. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been good. What I most like for Christmas this year are new markers and a big coloring book because I don't have my own coloring book yet. If your elves are not too busy, I would also like socks because I need them. I will leave some sugar cookies as well as some reindeer food for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas.
From your Pal, Burrkleah

Dear Santa,
My name is Chloe. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been very good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is

a dream Barbie house because I am bored when my brothers watch TV. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a big doll, a baking sert, and pjs like last year. Is Rudolph real? I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Your Friend, Chloe

Dear Santa,
My name is Armani. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been good. What I would Most like for Christmas this year is a dirt bike because I can do tricks. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a skateboard, a little robot, and PS5. Are your elves working hard? I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Your Pal, Armani

Dear Santa,
My name is Harper. I am 8 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is a drum-set because I like to play music. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a skateboard and Dog Man books. What kind of cookies do you like? I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From, Harper

Dear Santa,
My name is Rylan. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been very good. What I would Most like for Christmas is a controller switch because I want to play it on my tv. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a Dog Man book and football cards. What is it like there? I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Love, Rylan

Dear Santa
My name is Braeden. I am 8 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been very good. What I would most like for Christmas this year is a Batman plane because I love Batman. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a Batman ship that can move. How many elves do you have? I will leave a cookie for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Your Pal, Braeden

Dear Santa,
My name is Everett. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been very good. What I would most like for Christmas this year is Black Panther stuff because I love black panther stuff. If your elves are not too busy I would also like more Batman stuff! How many elves do you have? I will leave a cookie and some milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From your Pal, Everett

Mrs. Wolff's 2nd Grade Class

Dear Santa,
My name is Kaylin. I am 7 years old. I live in the country near Warren. This year I have been very good. What I most like for Christmas this year is makeup from Sephora because I can put it on for fun. If your elves are not too busy, I would also like a pink Stanley. Do you get cold there? I will leave some cookies for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Love, Kaylin

Dear Santa,
My name is Eleanor. I am 8 years old. I live in Nora. This year I have been very good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is a violet camera like my aunt's camera because I think it is fun to take photos. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a tablet, a water bottle, a phone, and a watch. How many elves do you have? I will leave some cookies, milk, and I might leave some carrot cake for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Love, Eleanor

Dear Santa,
My name is Holden. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been very good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is Dog Man Book because I like dogs and I like books. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a Nintendo, a bird, and a four wheeler. Santa, how old are you? I will leave some milk and cookies for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From, Holden

Dear Santa,
My name is Coriana. I am 7 years old. I live in Monroe. This year I have been very good. What I would most like for Christmas this year is a ferret because I've been begging for one. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a Nintendo switch because my brother has one. How cold is it there? I will leave some cookies for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, Coriana

Dear Santa,
My name is Isabella. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is a lot of Barbie things because I love to play with Barbies. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a tablet, a computer, a notebook, and pens. Is it very cold there? I will leave some stuff for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, Isabella

Dear Santa,
My name is Hannah. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren and Apple River. This year I have been very good. What I would Most like for Christmas this year is a LOL doll because I will name the LOL doll Anna and I will be happy because I love LOL dolls. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a princess computer because I want to learn to do it on my own. What are your elves' names? I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Love, Hannah

Dear Santa,
My name is Leo. I am 7 years old. I live in Winslow. This year I have been a bit bad. What I would most like for Christmas this year is a nerf gun set because I love nerf guns! If your elves are not too busy I would also like a stuffed minecraft creeper, more arrows for my bow, and a toy lightsaber. I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, Leo

Dear Santa,
My name is Will. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been good. What I would Most like for Christmas this year is an Xbox because I have an old Xbox but it's broken, so I want a new one. If your elves are not too busy I would like an electric scooter and I want it to be blue. What do you like to do when you are handing out presents? I will leave some cookies for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Love, Will

Dear Santa
My name is Conner. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been a bit bad. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is a dog because I only have 1 dog because my 2 dogs died. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a PS5, a TV, and a Nintendo. How many elves do you have? I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, Conner

Dear Santa
My name is Jai'Hiem. I am 8 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been very good. What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is a LankyBox toy named fox because I love to watch LankyBox. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a LankyBox action figure. How is the weather over there? I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, JaiHiem

Dear Santa,
My name is Nataley. I am 8 years old. I live in Warren. This year I have been a bit bad. What I would MOST like for Christmas is a makeup vanity with a chair with it because I have a lot of makeup. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a hoverboard because my other one broke. Is Rudolph real? I will leave some cookies and white milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Love, Nataley

Dear Santa,
My name is Abraham. I am 7 years old. I live near Apple River. This year I have been very good. What I would MOST like for Christmas is a mini dirt bike. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a blue Apple computer so Hazel could play games on my phone. How old are you? I will leave some cookies for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
Your pal, Abraham

Dear Santa,
My name is Archer. I am 7 years old. I live in Warren out in the country. This year I have been very good. What I MOST want for Christmas this year is a PS5 because I could play Madden 25 and College Football 25. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a gaming chair, a dirt bike, a Roku TV, a DJ Moore jersey, and some V-bucks. Do you like the snow? I will leave some cookies and milk for you on Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas!
From Your Friend, Archer

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FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

Snowy Raspberry Gelatin Mold

This salad is beautiful on a holiday table. I have said it before that holidays in my past have always had a Jell-O salad. They are now deemed "retro" and aren't really popular. You can make them the day before, and they dress up the table.

- 1 envelope unflavored gelatin
- ½ C. cold water
- 1 C. half-and-half cream
- ½ C. sugar
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 t. vanilla
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) raspberry Jell-O
- 1 C. boiling water
- 1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen sweetened raspberries, thawed
- Fresh raspberries for garnish.

In a small bowl, sprinkle unflavored gelatin over cold water; let stand for 1 minute. In a small saucepan, combine half-and-half and sugar. Cook and stir just until mixture comes to a simmer. Remove from the heat; stir into gelatin until dissolved. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth. Fold in gelatin mixture. Stir in vanilla. Pour into a mold coated with cooking spray. Refrigerate until set but not firm, about 45 minutes.

In a small bowl, dissolve raspberry Jell-O in boiling water. Stir in raspberries until blended. Carefully spoon over cream cheese layer. Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours or overnight. Unmold onto a serving plate; garnish with fresh raspberries.

Christmas Fruit Salad

If you aren't into molded salads, this fruit salad would make a great side to any holiday meal. You do have to plan ahead because it needs to be refrigerated 24 hours before serving. It is easy and pretty in a glass bowl.

- 3 large egg yolks, beaten
- 3 T. water
- 3 T. white vinegar
- 2/3 t. salt
- 2 C. heavy whipping cream, whipped
- 3 C. miniature marshmallows
- 2 C. halved green grapes
- 1 can (20 oz.) pineapple tidbits, drained
- 1 can (11 oz.) mandarin oranges, drained
- 1 jar (20 oz.) red maraschino cherries, drained and sliced
- 1 C. chopped pecans
- 3 T. lemon juice

In a large saucepan, combine the egg yolks, water, vinegar, and salt. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens and reaches 160. Remove from the heat and cool; fold

in whipped cream. In a large bowl, combine remaining ingredients. Add dressing; toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for 24 hours. Garnish with halved grapes and cherries before serving.

Triple Cranberry Sauce

If you are having a traditional meal and want a traditional side, this cranberry sauce is an easy one to put on the table.

- 1 pkg. (12 oz.) fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1 C. thawed cranberry juice concentrate
- ½ C. dried cranberries
- 1/3 C. sugar
- 3 T. orange juice
- 3 T. orange marmalade
- 2 t. grated orange zest
- ¼ t. ground allspice

In a small saucepan, combine the cranberries, cranberry juice concentrate, dried cranberries and sugar. Cook over medium heat until the berries pop, about 15 minutes. Remove from the heat; stir in the orange juice, marmalade, orange zest and allspice. Transfer to a small bowl; refrigerate until chilled.

Baked Cornish Hens

I heard that many people are not having a traditional Christmas dinner this year. They are having tacos, soup, lasagna, or appetizers. Also, because it is in the middle of the week, there isn't a large crowd coming. I love to make Cornish hens. They are a great way to have a festive dinner with a minimum of work. This recipe has a vegetable stuffing to give it flavor. Most of the time you can split the hen in two to feed two people.

- 2 Cornish game hens
- ½ C. melted butter
- ½ onion, chopped
- ½ stalk celery, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, finely chopped
- 1 can (4.5 oz.) mushrooms, drained and chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 T. dried basil
- 1 t. dried oregano
- 1 T. chopped fresh parsley
- ¼ C. melted butter

Preheat the oven to 325. Combine ½ C. melted butter, onion, celery, bell pepper, mushrooms, garlic, basil, oregano and parsley in a small bowl. Season the inside and out of the hens with salt and pepper. Stuff each hen with equal amounts of vegetable mixture. Place stuffed hens in a 9 x 13 baking dish which has been sprayed with cooking spray. Brush with melted butter. Cover dish and bake for 1½ hours. Remove cover and brown at 500 degrees for 5 minutes.

Rustic Nut Bars

These bars are great on a cookie tray. You can use mixed nuts instead of the individual cups of nuts.

- 1 T. plus ¾ C. cold butter, divided
- 2 1/3 C. flour
- ½ C. sugar
- ½ t. baking powder
- ½ t. salt
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- Topping:
- 2/3 C. honey
- ½ C. packed brown sugar
- ¼ t. salt
- 6 T. butter, cubed
- 2 T. heavy whipping cream
- 2 C. chopped hazelnuts, toasted
- 1 C. salted cashews
- 1 C. pistachios
- 1 C. salted roasted almonds

Preheat oven to 375. Line a 9 x 13 baking pan with foil, letting ends extend over by an inch. Grease foil with 1 T. butter. In a large bowl, whisk flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Cut in the remaining butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in egg

until blended. Mixture will be dry. Press firmly onto bottom of prepared pan. Bake 18 to 20 minutes until edges are golden brown. Cool on a wire rack.

In a large, heavy saucepan, combine the honey, brown sugar and salt. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring frequently to dissolve sugar. Boil 2 minutes without stirring. Stir in butter and cream; return to a boil. Cook and stir 1 minute or until smooth. Remove from heat; stir in nuts. Spread over crust. Bake 15 to 20 minutes until topping is bubbly. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack. Lifting with foil, remove from pan. Discard foil and cut into bars.

Peppermint Sugar Cookie Bars

These bars are a great and a cool addition to a cookie tray. They don't take a lot of extra effort; the hardest part is unwrapping the peppermint candy and smashing them to

bits. Putting them in a Ziploc bag to do this is easy and not messy.

Cookies

- 2 sticks salted butter, room temperature plus more for the pan
- 3 C. flour
- ½ t. salt
- 1 pkg. (8 oz) cream cheese, softened
- 1½ C. sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 t. vanilla

Frosting:

- 8 T. salted butter, room temperature
- 2½ C. powdered sugar
- 3 T. milk
- ½ t. peppermint extract
- ¼ C. roughly chopped peppermint candies

Cookies: Preheat the oven to 350. Lightly butter a 9-inch square baking pan. Line the pan with parchment paper, leaving an overhang on all sides. Whisk the flour and salt in a medium bowl; set aside. Beat the butter and

See KITCHEN, Page 13

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS
Carrington Mortgage Services LLC
 Plaintiff
 vs.
Kerri Lynn Gerke; et. al.
 Defendant

must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527. (630) 794-5300. 14-23-07033 IJSC
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(Published in
 The Shopper's Guide
 Dec. 11, 18 & 25, 2024)

465305

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS
Plaintiff
 vs.
Deborah L. Roush; et. al.
 Defendant

24 FC 25
 CALENDAR
 NOTICE OF SALE
 PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on January 15, 2025, at the hour 1:30 p.m., Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

LOT 13 OF HOLSTE'S SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTH HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AS SURVEYED AND PLATTED BY W.H. BUTTERFIELD, PUBLIC SURVEYOR, AUGUST 17, 1896, SITUATED IN LANCASTER TOWNSHIP, STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING 16 CHAINS NORTH AND 33 FEET EAST OF THE WEST QUARTER

of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

SECTION CORNER OF SECTION 29, IN TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, OF RANGE 8 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AND RUNNING THENCE NORTH 92 LINKS; THENCE EAST 10 CHAINS 90 LINKS TO THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF THE CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILWAY COMPANY; THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY 1 CHAIN 3 LINKS; THENCE WEST 10 CHAINS 43 LINKS TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.
 P.I.N. 07-14-29-100-003.
 Commonly known as 593 North Henderson Road, Freeport, IL 61032.

The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527. (630) 794-5300. 14-24-03263 IJSC
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465308

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY-IN PROBATE
 In Re the Matter of the Estate of:
ALVIN J. KERR,
 Deceased.

No. 24-PR-81
 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of Alvin J. Kerr of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 3, 2024, to:

Steven P. Kerr
 6902 Spruce St.
 Finleyville, PA 15332
 as independent Administrator of the Estate of Alvin J. Kerr, 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 (755ILCS 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 June 13, 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: 12/3/24
 Steven P. Kerr,
 Administrator
 By: *Anthony V. Coon*
 Attorney 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
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 Dec. 11, 18 & 25, 2024)

465350

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON PROBATE DIVISION
 In the Matter of the Estate of:
GEORGE CHARLES LERCH,
 Deceased.

No. 2024-PR-47
 CLAIM NOTICE
 NOTICE is given of

the death of **GEORGE CHARLES LERCH**; Letters of Office were issued on August 26, 2024 to Charles Dawson who is the legal representative of the Estate. The attorney for the Estate is Thomas G. Ruud, 318 N. 1st St., Rockford, IL 61107.

Claims against the Estate may be filed on or before July 19, 2025, that date being at least Six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date as stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Stephenson County Circuit Clerk - Probate Division at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 5 N. Galena Ave. 2nd Floor Freeport, Illinois 61032. Copies of claims filed with the Stephenson County Circuit Clerk's Office - Probate Division must be mailed or delivered to the Estate's attorney within ten (10) days after the date of filing.

Dated: December 9, 2024
 /s/ Charles Dawson,
 Executor

Prepared by:
 Thomas G. Ruud #6188190
 Thomas G. Ruud & Associates, P.C.
 Attorney for the Estate
 318 N. 1st St.
 Rockford, IL 61107
 (815) 961-9100
 Tom@TRuudlaw.com
 (Published in
 The Shopper's Guide
 Dec. 18, 25, 2024
 & Jan. 1, 2025)

465676

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
 Mortgage Assets Management, LLC
 f/k/a Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc.
 PLAINTIFF

Vs.
Judith Eikstadt; et. al.
 DEFENDANTS
 No. 2022FC73
 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of

Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 03/21/2023, the Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois will on January 23, 2025 at the hour of 9:30 AM at Stephenson County Courthouse 15 North Galena Avenue 1st Floor, West door of courthouse Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOTS 160 AND 161 OF SAXBY HEIGHTS ADDITION TO THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AUGUST 16, 1910, IN BOOK C OF PLATS ON PAGE 47; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF STEPHENSON AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

PIN 18-13-36-310-010
 Improved with Single Family Home
 COMMONLY KNOWN AS:

1331 W Logan Street
 Freeport, IL 61032
 Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

If the property is located

•Kitchen (Continued from page 11)

cream cheese together in a large bowl with a mixer on medium speed until smooth and fluffy. Add the sugar and beat until smooth. Add the egg and vanilla and mix until fully incorporated, scrapping down the bowl as necessary. Reduce the mixer speed to low and slowly beat in the flour mixture until combined. Transfer the dough to the prepared pan and gently

press into an even layer with your fingers. Bake until the edges are lightly golden, about 15 minutes. Let cool completely in the pan, then lift the bars out of the pan using the parchment overhang.

Frosting: Combine the butter, powdered sugar and milk in a large bowl and beat with a mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Beat in the peppermint ex-

tract. Spread the frosting over the cooled bars and sprinkle with the crushed candies. Cut into pieces.

Final Thoughts

Last minute shopping, getting ready to go to church, and cooking seems to be in the cards for this week of Christmas. Because it is in the middle of the week, families are celebrating on the

weekends and into the New Year's Holiday. As we close this season out, I end with my traditional Christmas message: Remember that "Every time a hand reaches out to help another...that is Christmas. Every time someone puts anger aside and strives for understanding...that is Christmas. Every time people forget their differences and realize their

love for each other...that is Christmas. May this Christmas bring us closer to the spirit of human understanding, closer to the blessing of peace." May the blessings of Christmas be on all of you as we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child and the promise of eternal life. Have a great Christmas.

We are searching for recipes for the new year, so send

some favorites our way. We also will be looking for some party 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.

LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

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

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-22-08449. 13257236

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Dec. 18, 24, 2024

& Jan. 1, 2025) 465715

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS Nationstar Mortgage LLC Plaintiff

vs. Krystle L. Schulz; Jeffry S. Schulz; Unknown Owners and NonRecord Claimants Defendant

24 FC 24

CALENDAR NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on January 29, 2025, at the hour 1:30 p.m., Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

LOTS THREE (3), FIVE (5), SIX (6) AND SEVEN (7) IN BLOCK THIRTY (30) IN THE VILLAGE OF DAKOTA, STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. EXCEPT THAT PART THAT LIES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE RAILROAD. SITUATED IN STEPHENSON COUNTY IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

P.I.N. 14-09-36-136-003. Commonly known as 110 West South Street, Dakota, IL 61018.

The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified

funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group LLC, 33 West Monroe Street, Suite 1540, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W24-0212 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3257633

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Dec. 25, 2024, Jan. 1 & 8, 2025) 465921

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON WISCONSIN BANK & TRUST, a Division of HTLF Bank, Plaintiff,

vs. DYLAN SEVERSON a/k/a DYLAN THOMAS SEVERSON; BRITTNEY AUKOFER a/k/a BRITTANY AUKOFER a/k/a BRITTANY MICHELLE AUKOFER; UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

Case No. 2024 FC 20 **NOTICE OF SALE**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above-cause on August 16, 2024, an agent of the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office will at **9:30 a.m. on January 16, 2025**, at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following

described real estate:

Part of the Northeast Quarter (1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (1/4) of Section 28, Township 29 North, Range 8 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point on the East line of the Southeast Quarter (1/4) of said Section 28, said point being North 00 degrees 37 minutes 30 seconds East, a distance of 1592.78 feet from a Railroad Spike at the Southeast corner thereof; thence North 89 degrees 06 minutes 19 seconds West, a distance of 361.48 feet to an iron rod; thence North 00 degrees 42 minutes 04 seconds West, a distance of 349.73 feet to an iron rod; thence North 89 degrees 53 minutes 13 seconds East, a distance of 215.12 feet to an iron rod; thence North 02 degrees 05 minutes 33 seconds East, a distance of 77.67 feet to an iron rod; thence North 89 degrees 32 minutes 12 seconds East, a distance of 152.51 feet to the East line of the Southeast Quarter (1/4) of Section 28; thence South 00 degrees 37 minutes 30 seconds West, along said East line, a distance of 434.65 feet to the Point of Beginning; situated in the Township of Oneco, County of Stephenson and State of Illinois.

Commonly known as: 12382 North Afolkey Road, Orangeville, Illinois 61060 Permanent Index Number: Part of 16-04-28-400-003 (New tax code for 2023: 16-04-28-400-005)

The property is residential property.

The judgment amount was \$159,879.90 together with interest thereon at the statutory rate plus additional costs, including publication costs, court costs, attorneys' fees and expenses of sale.

Sale Terms: 25% down of the highest bid by cer-

tified funds at the close of the auction; the balance, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representations as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file

to verify all information. Persons wishing information regarding the real estate may contact:

Jamie Rommelfaenger Heartland Financial USA, Inc. 655 S. Taylor Drive Sheboygan, WI 53081 (920) 208-4883

Dated this 16th day of December, 2024.

RENO & ZAHM LLP

By: /s/ Ryan T. Straw Ryan T. Straw, Attorney for Wisconsin Bank & Trust, a Division of HTLF Bank, Plaintiff

RENO & ZAHM LLP Ryan T. Straw (#6297723) 2902 McFarland Road, Suite 400 Rockford, IL 61107 (815) 987-4050

rts@renozahm.com (Published in The Shopper's Guide Dec. 25, 2024, Jan. 1 & 8, 2025) 465929

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

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THANK YOU LENA LIONS Club and all the people of the community of Lena for the wonderful gift basket!!!! God Bless you, Joyce Rackow



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real estate

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

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Alumni (Continued from page 5)

Deontae Collier, Sr., Freeport. Nominated by ShaNeka Collier. Deontae Collier Sr. is a father, coach, mentor, and pastor. A graduate of Freeport School District 145, he became a father at a young age and did not think that college would be in his future, but with encouragement he decided to attend Highland and graduated in 2019. He went on to obtain his bachelor's de-

gree in Educational Studies. While earning this degree he had two open-heart surgeries, yet he achieved his goal. Deontae obtained his master's degree in Special Education from Grand Canyon University. This year he achieved his long-term goal of becoming Dean of Students for Freeport High School for the Lead Academy. Deontae is also a Pastor whose ministry

supports several local organizations, and has been there for many families in the community that have lost loved ones to gun violence and more. Deontae and his wife ShaNeka were both awarded the United Way's Small Town Hero Award in 2019.

Darrel Wichman, Champaign, IL. Nominated by Timothy Brooks. After grad-

uating from HCC with an associate of science degree, Darrel Wichman went on to University of Illinois to earn B.S. and M.S. degrees in mechanical engineering. He joined The Boeing Company, working in engineering on several of the F-series fighters.

As he progressed through his career, he took on various roles related to those air-

craft, becoming a leader in the field with expertise in mission systems, systems engineering, international programs, systems development and integration, systems integration, weapons integration, software development and integration, and International Traffic in Arms Regulation (ITAR).

Retiring from Boeing in 2023, he is now actively

working as a consultant for Dayton Aerospace providing support to government and industry customers in the areas of weapon interface development and assessment and weapon systems engineering. During his career, Darrel did not forget his farming roots and has restored antique farm equipment, continuing that hobby into retirement.

REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS Carrington Mortgage Services LLC Plaintiff vs. Kerri Lynn Gerke; et. al. Defendant

en that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on January 15, 2025, at the hour 1:30 p.m., Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Stephenson and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate: PIN 18-13-36-310-010 Improved with Single Family Home COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1331 W Logan Street Freeport, IL 61032

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

SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13257633

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Dec. 25, 2024, Jan. 1 & 8, 2025) 465922

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF STEPHENSON WISCONSIN BANK & TRUST, a Division of HTLF Bank, Plaintiff,

vs. DYLAN SEVERSON a/k/a DYLAN THOMAS SEVERSON; BRITNEY AUKOFER a/k/a BRITTANY MICHELLE AUKOFER; UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

Case No. 2024 FC 20 NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above-cause on August 16, 2024, an agent of the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office will at 9:30 a.m. on January 16, 2025, at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as: 12382 North Afolkey Road, Orangeville, Illinois 61060

Permanent Index Number: Part of 16-04-28-400-003 (New tax code for 2023: 16-04-28-400-005)

The property is residential property.

The judgment amount was \$159,879.90 together with interest thereon at the statutory rate plus additional costs, including publication costs, court costs, attorneys' fees and expenses of sale.

Sale Terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; the balance, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representations as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

Persons wishing information regarding the real estate may contact:

Jamie Rommelfaenger Heartland Financial USA, Inc. 655 S. Taylor Drive Sheboygan, WI 53081 (920) 208-4883

Dated this 16th day of December, 2024.

RENO & ZAHM LLP By: /s/ Ryan T. Straw Ryan T. Straw, Attorney for Wisconsin Bank & Trust, a Division of HTLF Bank, Plaintiff

RENO & ZAHM LLP Ryan T. Straw (#6297723) 2902 McFarland Road, Suite 400 Rockford, IL 61107 (815) 987-4050 rts@renozahm.com

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Dec. 25, 2024, Jan. 1 & 8, 2025) 465936

23 FC 60 CALENDAR NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on January 15, 2025, at the hour 1:30 p.m., Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Commonly known as 593 North Henderson Road, Freeport, IL 61032. The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-22-08449. 13257236

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Dec. 18, 25, 2024 & Jan. 1, 2025) 465716

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS

Nationstar Mortgage LLC Plaintiff vs. Krystle L. Schulz; Jeffrey S. Schulz; Unknown Owners and NonRecord Claimants Defendant

24 FC 24 CALENDAR NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on January 29, 2025, at the hour 1:30 p.m., Security First Title Company, 205 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, IL 61032, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.I.N. 14-09-36-136-003. Commonly known as 110 West South Street, Dakota, IL 61018.

The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group LLC, 33 West Monroe Street, Suite 1540, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W24-0212 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-5300. 14-24-03263 IJSC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13256826

(Published in The Shopper's Guide Dec. 11, 18 & 25, 2024) 465309

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

Mortgage Assets Management, LLC f/k/a Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. PLAINTIFF Vs. Judith Eikstadt; et. al. DEFENDANTS

No. 2022FC73 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 03/21/2023, the Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois will on January 23, 2025 at the hour of 9:30 AM at Stephenson County Courthouse 15 North Galena Avenue 1st Floor, West door of courthouse Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS Fifth Third Bank N.A. Plaintiff vs. Deborah L. Roush; et. al. Defendant

24 FC 25 CALENDAR NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given



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