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VOL. 87 • NO. 13

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025



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Stephenson County 4-H Public Speaking and Demonstrations Contest

SUBMITTED PHOTO *Rock Valley Publishing*

Lilliana Smith (left) and Shelby Stone (right) proudly display their awards after their outstanding performances at the Stephenson County 4-H Public Speaking and Demonstrations Contest.

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Obituaries

ALETA MAE LAWFER

Aleta Mae Lawfer finished doing God's work on earth on March 9, 2025, at the age of 90. Born on Oct. 7, 1934, to Albert and Martha (Kennedy) Fehrle, she grew up and attended rural schools in Massbach before graduating from Stockton High School. She often spoke of her time on her childhood farm full of friends, family, music and barn dances, a lot of love, and a good deal of work.

She married her love and partner in life I. Donald Lawfer on June 26, 1955. Together they traveled as his duty in the U.S. Air Force required and eventually moved home to the family farm in Kent, IL. There they raised their family while building a dairy farm that taught many life lessons and the importance of agriculture. The farm was always the backdrop for escapades with cousins and friends with Aleta making meals, keeping everyone in line, and tending to each scraped knee. She taught kids and grandkids how to feed calves, sew, play piano, bake, and become the best version of themselves.

Aleta Mae was an involved member of Christ Lutheran Church participating in choir, altar guild, women's circle, WELCA, quilting club, and hosting special events. She was active in the University of Illinois Extension, Farm Bureau Women, 4-H Clubs, and community choirs. She also spent many fun-filled days playing euchre and Rummikub with family and friends.

She showed her family how to serve others, work hard, put family first, trust in the Lord, and give praise for the blessings we have every day. She led by example with joy in each act of service showing that living in this manner was not only a choice, but a priv-



ilege and a way of life. Her greatest accomplishment was building a loving family that spans generations, distance, and interests. Large holiday gatherings were a highlight and always entertaining.

Those who preceded her in entering God's promised kingdom were her mother and father, husband Don, two brothers Raymond and Charles, sister-in-law Sally Fehrle, brother-in-law I. Ronald Lawfer, son-in-law Mark Anderson, and granddaughter LaRena Anderson.

Aleta is survived by her sons Curt (Penny) Lawfer and Karl (Lori) Lawfer, and daughters Luralee Anderson and Peggy (Greg) Harmston; grandchildren Nicole (Cory) Haas, Jenna (Michael) Piche, Takara (Jonathan) Speagle, Kelsey (Seth) Rooker, Alayna Anderson, Jaclyn (Ben) Deig, Ty (Miranda) Harmston, Jacob Lawfer, Jill (Wyatt Hill) Harmston, and Casey Harmston; great grandchildren Elijah and Weston Haas, Owen and Callen Piche, Layla, Miley and Jett Rooker, Lurayna and Anderlee Speagle, Leo Deig, and Ila Mae Harmston; and sister-in-law Pat Lawfer. She also played an important maternal role to nieces, nephews, and many friends.

Visitation will be held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 22 at the Hermann Funeral Home in Stockton, Illinois. The funeral service will be held on Sunday, March 23 at 1 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church in Stockton. Interment will take place at Ladies Union Cemetery in Stockton. Condolences may be shared at www.hermannfuneralhome.com.

ESTHER WAND

Esther Clarene Wand, age 90, of Elizabeth, IL, passed away March 9, 2025, at Winn Prairie Retirement Home, in Freeport, IL. A funeral service was held at 11 a.m., Monday, March 17, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, in Elizabeth. Visitation took place from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., prior to the service. Memorials may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Esther was born Aug. 14, 1934, in Mound City, SD, the daughter of August and Sophia (Wandmacher) Kuehl. She spent much of her childhood in South Dakota, before moving with her family to Stockton, prior to her sophomore year of high school. She graduated from Stockton High School, with the class of 1952.

On March 25, 1956, Esther married John Schlichting. They would go on to have six children and celebrate 42 years of marriage before John's passing in 1998. Esther was a loving mother and devoted wife. For more than 20 years, she worked as a District Sales Manager for Avon Products and built many strong relationships that carried on for years afterwards. One of her most memorable qualities is that of a fiercely competitive card player. Any family get-together included lots of food, laughter, and card-playing.

Esther was a longtime member of St. Paul Lutheran Church. There she participated in the choir, as well as the worship committee. Music was always a love of hers from the time she was young; from singing with her siblings, on to performing at weddings and other events, and throughout her life - including as a senior, becoming a member of the "Joy Singers", performing at local ball games, churches, and banquets.

Esther enjoyed cooking



and baking, especially trying new recipes. She was known to spend a whole day working to put on a feast. As she was blessed with grandchildren and later, great-grandchildren, they became the beneficiaries of much of her love. She attended games, graduations, concerts, and other events as often as she could, and was immensely proud of all of them.

On Nov. 29, 2008, Esther married Wayne Wand. They built a strong and loving later-in-life marriage and greatly enjoyed each other's company and family gatherings.

Esther is survived by her husband, Wayne; son, Todd (Annette) Schlichting, of Pearl City, IL; four daughters, Susan (Dan) Leitzen, of Stockton, Joan (Alan) Feeser, of Groveland, FL, Amy (Jerry) Brunner, of Stockton, and Carol (Mike) Lense, of Union, KY; 16 grandchildren, Matt (Kristy) Leitzen, Amanda (Shawn) Stitch, Dawn Gardner, Jody (Tim) Pauley, Tony (Rachel) Schlichting, Justin Feeser, Alan (Betsy) Feeser, Joanna (Aaron) Clay, Russell Brunner, Erin (Steve) Jordan, Samantha (Steve) Yoder, Jessie (Aaron) Byers, John Lense, Christina Lense, Danielle Lense, and Amber Lense; 26 great-grandchildren; brother, Dean Kuehl, of Stockton; and 7 step-children. Esther is preceded in death by her parents, August and Sophia; first husband, John; daughter Marcy; and eight siblings: Dietrich "Dick", Mina "Dips" Gotham, Elsie Kunz, Walter Kuehl, Dorothy Kolasch, Otto Kuehl, Adela Burk, and Shirley Simcox.

TANA HERMAN

Tana Lee Herman, age 80, passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Sunday March 9, 2025, at the Lena Living Center in Lena, IL. She was born on July 13, 1944, in Freeport, IL to Francis and Betty (Schulz) Raders. Tana married Bob Herman on Oct. 20, 1963, at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, where they were members for many years. She graduated as Valedictorian of her class from Lena Winslow High School and managed JoAnn's Fabrics in Freeport, IL for many years until her retirement.

Tana enjoyed their fishing trips to Castle Rock Lake in Wisconsin. She loved crafting, sewing, painting and reading. She loved listening to Elvis, enjoyed her lunches with her "GGW" (Grandma's Gone Wild) Group and her Thirsty Thursdays with her family at her mother's house.

She is survived by her Daughters; Dawn (Curt Garrison) Hastings of New Lisbon, WI, Deanna (Rich) Drye of Ormond Beach, FL and Stacy (Dan) Knoup of Urbandale,



IA. Son; Lane (Sonia) Herman of Dodgeville, WI. Grandchildren; Brandon and Ryan Hastings, Dustin and Andrew Drye, Morgan and Mackenzie Knoup, Ean Herman and Breanna Busker. Four Great Grandchildren. Sisters; Sharon (Bob) Schlachter of Lena, IL and Jill Lance of Lena, IL. Brother; Mark (Lora) Raders of Bellevue. Sister-in-law; Evelyn Herman of Lena, IL. Several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Bob, grandson Colton Drye, brother Terry Raders, and brother-in-law Tom Lance.

Funeral Services were held on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at the Leamon Funeral Home in Lena. Interment was at the Lena Burial Park. Gary Groezinger officiated the services. A memorial has been established in her name. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.leamonfh.com.

News briefs

Lena American Legion Auxiliary

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary will honor female veterans with a brunch on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at 316 W. Main St., Lena. There will be no charge for this brunch. Please join for fellowship and entertainment. Please call 815-369-4684 or email jamcps54@yahoo.com to make reservation or with any questions. Reservations are due by March 20.

McConnell American Legion Auxiliary

The McConnell American Legion Auxiliary meeting will be held at the McConnell Legion on March 19, 2025, at 3 p.m. Anyone who is interested in the Auxiliary is welcome to attend.

Orangeville High School fundraiser

On April 5, 2025, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Orangeville students will host a soup and sandwich fundraiser to raise money to attend the Royal Highland Show in Europe. Donations will offer financial support to Ashlynn Shultz, Amery Dinderman, and Alaina Dinderman.

Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension

The March meeting of the Blackhawk Unit of Home Extension will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 1 p.m. at the Pearl City Library. Paula Gerke will give the lesson on "Types of Flour". Roll call will be "How many types of flour do you use?". Raffle items

will be furnished by Joyce Bonnet and Ruth Ann Jordan. All are welcome to come and join us.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Lena Park District will host two Easter Egg Hunts on April 12 at Lions Park. Ages 2 to 10 are welcome to attend the event at 5 p.m. Ages 11 to 23 are welcome to attend for flashlight hunt at 7:30 p.m. Both events are free.

McConnell Area Historical Society

Join the McConnell Area Historical Society for a presentation based on the recent publication written by Ken Bartelt on the events which occurred in the early 1900's just north of McConnell at Basswood.

"The Basswood Affair, A True Story of the Destruction of the Basswood Schoolhouse in 1905" will be held on Sunday, March 23 at 1 p.m. The event is free and sponsored by McConnell Area Historical Society located at 211 N. Hulbert Rd in McConnell, IL. Free-will donations are welcome to benefit the museum.

Green County Amateur Radio

Green County Amateur Radio meeting will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at 9 a.m. at Fire Station Number 1, 601 West 17th Street, Monroe, WI. Please use the side door. Licensed amateurs and all interested are welcome. Please call 608-558-0629 with any questions.

THANK YOU

In Spike's own words:

"This past year was a year of great challenges for me at times. As I celebrate a year (Feb. 4th) of healing since I was first treated for cancer, the doctors, nurses and medical technicians certainly deserve applause for their work. I will never forget the healing that came from family, friends and community.

Remember yourselves as a "healing force", family and especially brother, John, handshakes, words of encouragement, smiles, well wishes and PRAYERS! These are all clear signs of God working within us to show love and support for those who are suffering!"

NOW: Spike's family would also like to extend a THANK YOU to everyone who attended his service, Pastor Cernek, ladies of the parish who furnished a delicious meal, those that sent cards (over 100), food, flowers, plants, donations and OSF Hospice. We are overwhelmed at how many lives he had touched! Spike was truly a blessing to many and will be dearly missed by all.

Graciously, the "ENTIRE" Magee family

469399

The Basswood Affair

The True story of the destruction of the Basswood school house in 1905

PRESENTED BY KEN BARTELT

Sunday, March 23 at 1 p.m.

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Partisan politics infiltrating non-partisan local Illinois elections

By Ben Szalinski and Bridgette Fox
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

It's been just four months since the last election concluded, but another election is on the horizon in Illinois: the April 1 elections for school boards and municipal offices.

Though municipal and school board races in Illinois are nonpartisan, voters may see many of the same political themes that were hallmarks of races during the 2024 presidential election cycle. The Democratic Party of Illinois is applying many of the same tactics it uses in partisan elections to this year's local races.

"We as the Democratic Party of Illinois should be defending Democratic values in every single election in nonpartisan and partisan elections alike, because all of these local offices have jurisdiction over super critical controls and we think our party has the best platform for governance," Democratic Party of Illinois Executive Director Ben Hardin said.

The 2025 local elections are the second time that Illinois Democrats are getting involved in nonpartisan races. After recruiting more than 1,000 prospective candidates last year, the state party is supporting 270 candidates for a variety of local offices in all areas of the state.

The party trained the candidates and attached them to "coaches" experienced in run-

ning Democratic campaigns. Candidates will also be supported by a six-figure advertising campaign by DPI in the coming weeks.

"I think our voters welcome the information," Hardin said. "They want to know, and they need to know, who the aligned candidates are."

It's also part of the party's strategy to be more active year-round.

"This is how the party operates now," Hardin said. "We are not going back to closing up shop after an even-year midterm or presidential election, lying dormant for 18 months and then coming alive again for the next even-year general election."

Hardin acknowledged there could be some voter fatigue after November's presidential election, but he stressed that's why the party wants to make Democratic voters aware an election is approaching.

"These local offices, if we allow them to be uncontested, especially with the Trump administration in office, you know with our lack of control of the wheels of power in D.C., we could allow our state to start slipping to the right at the local level," Hardin said.

For example, DPI is getting involved in the mayoral race in Aurora, Illinois' second-largest city, where incumbent Mayor Richard Irvin and Aurora Ald. John Laesch face off. The elec-

tion is the first since Irvin's unsuccessful campaign for governor as a Republican in 2022. Hardin said that's made Irvin an easy target for a partisan campaign.

"We're treating Aurora like the rest of our program across the state," Hardin said. "In Aurora, you've got an executive of the city who is a Republican."

As a candidate for governor, Irvin faced numerous questions about his Republican credentials. He often avoided answering any questions about President Donald Trump or his position on abortion as he faced accusations from opponents that he wasn't conservative enough. Irvin later co-hosted a Black Republicans event at the Republican National Convention last year.

DPI is running a direct mail program this month targeting Irvin. It also plans to reach Democratic voters in Aurora through other mail and digital outreach advertising to let voters know which candidates in the city the party supports.

Irvin's campaign did not respond to a request for comment.

Illinois State Board of Elections records show DPI also used its resources to support Peoria Mayor Rita Ali and Calumet City Mayor Thaddeus Jones, who is also a Democratic state representative, during primary elections in February.

A full accounting of the

party's spending on municipal elections won't be available until mid-April when reports are due to the state election authority.

Conservative influence

Jim Rule, chairman of the Tazewell County Republican Central Committee, said his group doesn't normally get involved in "consolidated-type elections" like the Morton School Board, which has five candidates running for election—but this year is different.

Four of those candidates are affiliated with Republican groups despite school board elections being nonpartisan.

In Illinois, political parties and individuals can still support and endorse any candidates they wish.

Rule said his committee vetted and backs the four Republican-aligned candidates.

"It's important to get the right people in office," Rule said. "Look, we've all heard the phrase 'all good government starts locally,' and this is a classic example of that. School boards are so, so vitally critical to have the right people on them for our kids."

The four GOP candidates are backed by the Citizens for Morton Schools political action committee, which did not reply to a request for comment.

Rep. Bill Hauter, R-Morton, is also involved in the race. He has donated \$1,000 to the

group as of March 5, according to the State Board of Elections, while his campaign has provided \$2,000 worth of consulting.

"I am supportive of four great candidates for Morton School Board in my hometown," Hauter said in a statement. "They are great candidates who each have their own unique qualifications that can help Morton students, parents, teachers and taxpayers. This will be a statement election for our community."

Rule said one of the main goals of Tazewell Republicans this election cycle is defeating Dr. Ashley Fischer, a pediatrician running for the Morton School Board whom Hauter called "too radical for the people and schools of Morton."

Fischer said she's an anti-bullying advocate, which includes respecting all aspects of students' identities like race, gender and sexuality.

"We want to send a message, not only to the residents of Morton, but to the community around us," Rule said. "That this is something that—this woke agenda—is something that we need to rid ourselves of, and it has no place in the school system, especially with young

kids."

Fischer said Republicans are trying to scare voters.

"They're basically stoking hot button topics to get a fear response out of parents, to try to get them to vote against me out of fear," Fischer said. "I have never once brought up any policy to do with transgender children, except that I think no child should be bullied in the school, regardless of their race, orientation, medical conditions, anything. They are in that group. I don't think any child should be bullied. That is my stance."

Fischer also criticized Republicans for their online rhetoric, which she said promotes hate.

Fischer's advocacy has also been scrutinized by Moms for Liberty, a right-wing group that advocates for conservative curricula in schools, such as by opposing LGBTQ lessons.

Virg Cihla, chair of the Tazewell County chapter of Moms for Liberty, said his group does not endorse any candidates.

The Illinois Republican Party did not reply to request for comment about their involvement in any April 1 elections.

Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation upcoming events

Return and the Recovery of the Eastern Bluebird

Bring the entire family and join the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) to celebrate a huge conservation victory. In the mid-1990s, the eastern bluebird population plummeted by nearly 90% in this region and may have vanished all together if not for a group of volunteers who decided to take-action. Calling themselves the Bluebird Recovery Project, their efforts successfully brought the species back from the brink of extinction thirty years ago to one that thrives today. This spring, as bluebirds come back from their annual migration south, we will celebrate both their return to Jo Daviess County and the recovery of their population.

The event will take place at the Elizabeth Community Building on March 29 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Throughout the event will be a silent auction featuring bluebird-themed art and memorabilia, with proceeds going to support JDCF outreach and education. There will also be bluebird boxes for sale for \$35 and several being given away as door prizes. This event is free to attend and

RSVPs are not needed. Visit JDCF.org for more information.

JDCF annual meeting

The public is cordially invited to attend the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation's (JDCF) Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 3 from 4

p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Woodbine Bend Golf Course and Restaurant. There will be a social hour with heavy appetizers before a short business meeting to elect new Board members and present the 2025 Nancy Hamill Winter Conservation Leadership Award to the Illinois

Clean Energy Community Foundation. The keynote will be delivered by Cody Considine, former deputy director of The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Nachusa Grasslands and now head of TNC's Buffalo Restoration Program. Cost is \$40/person. RSVP to info@jdcf.org by March 27.

Stockton Town Garage Sales
June 13th & 14th
Mark Your Calendar!!!
Registration form in this issue.
Deadline to register is Monday, May 26th
REGISTER EARLY!!!!

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

32 years ago on March 14, 1993, a great woman died. That woman was my grandmother **ORA LYONS**. It's amazing how special people can make their way into your heart and memory. I was only 5 years old, but Grandma Lyons shares some of my warmest memories. She left a huge impression on me. Her love & compassion amazed me and set a standard for me. Now at the age of 37 I still think of her and miss her greatly. Her Grandson, Chad Quandt

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OPINION



Weekly connection

A happy 90th birthday

I have to say a big thank you to all who wished my mom a happy 90th birthday this week. She was delighted to get so many cards from so many of you. She is quite the sweet lady who has touched so many lives over her years on this earth. I remember as a little boy playing with my toy trucks on the kitchen floor while she worked at making meals which included the daily routine of making rolls and pies. I was the youngest of her first six boys and I was with her a great deal of the time. She did a lot of singing



By **SCOTT CERNEK**
Columnist

while she worked around the house cleaning, folding or ironing and I would kind of follow her around from room to room with my toys soaking it all in. She loved singing the old hymns the best and I would hum along as I played. I'm sure that's the reason that

I love the old hymns so much today. Mom grew up with eight siblings of her own in a small Indiana town. She was number seven in the family of six boys and three girls. She still has two brothers who are alive today. One is ninety-two and the other one is eighty-eight. They were a very poor family, but my grandpa did all he could to keep them in clothes, shoes and food on the table. He worked in the steel mills near Gary, Indiana, and it took a toll on him. He and grandma

both died very young. I think all of my uncles ended up working there too. The steel mills were the main industry in northwest Indiana where they lived. My mom was a tomboy who did everything her brothers did from riding horses and motorcycles to playing baseball and football with the boys. Her brothers adored her, and they loved our family too. We loved all of her brothers and sisters. I remember my uncles and aunts as being extremely

See **BIRTHDAY**, Page 5

Slices of life

A berry by any other name ... lots of names

What's in a name? Well apparently a lot. Or, apparently nothing. When it comes to berries, it depends on which berry to which you refer.

Recently I unexpectedly dove down a rabbit hole—a berry, berry big rabbit hole. I was researching topics for another column and somehow berries crept into my periphery. A cavernous hole opened up and like a seed ready to be planted, down I went.

And during my descent, my berry reality, as I knew it, changed in an instant.

Here's a simple request for you: Name a berry.

I played this game myself. My first choice was the very obvious strawberry.

Strawberries are berries. It's in their name, isn't that right? Well no, and yes.

Strawberries are called berries, but apparently they are only masquerading as such. They are actually aggregate fruits—which in simple terms means a lot of little fruits grouped together to form one large entity.

A fruit—yes, but a berry—no.

A strawberry, by definition, is not a berry.

Wipe me up from the floor right now.

It makes one wonder: what else in this world isn't what it seems?



By **JILL PERTLER**
Columnist

But I digress from the much more important topic of berries.

As with too many things in this life, it all comes down to reproductive organs. In this case, the organs in question are ovaries.

Berries, by definition, come from one ovary on the plant; aggregate fruits come from multiple ovaries on a single flower. Strawberry plants contain an overly ambitious number of ovaries, making them decidedly aggregate.

Now you know.

Don't worry if you're not a botanist. I don't think many of us are.

Along with strawberries, other berry imposters include raspberries and blackberries. I like to think of them as cluster-fruits. I'm not sure anyone will get that joke, but I know my late husband would, so I have to include it.

It's not known how all these non-berries ever became berries (in name only) but at this point I

See **BERRY**, Page 5

FREELANCE REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED

Rock Valley Publishing is seeking freelance reporters and photographers to produce local news and photos for your hometown newspaper. Weekly stories and photos needed for Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties. Writing and reporting experience a plus. Work from home as an independent contractor with no in-office requirement.

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Regional Transportation Committee meeting notice

The next Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Regional Transportation Committee meeting for Region 1 (Boone, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties) will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 10 a.m. at Jo Daviess County Transit – 710 S West St., Galena, IL 61036. Human service organizations with an interest in public transportation are strongly encouraged to attend, as well as anyone interested in public transit.

For further information, please contact

hstp@ncicg.org or call 815-433-5830. Reserved time slots are available for public comment via Zoom for anyone not able to attend the meeting in person between 10:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

HSTP identifies transportation needs and develops solutions to improve transportation services for the general public. An emphasis is placed on seniors, people with disabilities, individuals with lower incomes, and veterans. For more information about NCICG, HSTP, or if special accommodations are needed, please contact Connor Schwinn at 815-433-5830.

• Birthday (Continued from page 4)

loving and joyful people. They all had wonderful laughs and to great joy in teasing all of us cousins.

Just before I hit my teen years my mom had a couple more kids and I got to see her in action trying to manage six teenage boys and two babies at the same time. She had her hands full but still managed us all with a firm yet tender touch. Not only did she take good care of her family, but mom also taught Sunday School, led neighborhood Bible

studies and was active in the Christian Women's Clubs in the area. Whenever fall rolled around the neighborhood farmers worked together to pick the Dekalb seed corn that they all grew. The wives all got together and prepared a feast for the working men. Mom always made the pies, and they were amazing and still are. A couple days ago I dropped in on her and sure enough there was a big apple pie cooling by the window. It was going to the lady's Bible study that afternoon, so I

didn't get a piece.

Mom has a desk in the kitchen with a glass top on it and under that glass are pictures of all her great grand kids. I think there are over seventy with a bunch more on the way this year. I think it's safe to say that her greatest legacy is how much she loves Jesus and how she and dad passed that on to each one of us kids. I'm so thankful for the 90 years I have known and loved her. God is good! Until next week, God bless.

• Berry (Continued from page 4)

wouldn't feel comfortable calling them something more botanically correct like strawberry, raspfruit or blackfruit. Despite the wrongness in terms, they'll always be berries to me.

To further confuse the already confused (like me) despite the straw, blue and rasp imposters, other fruits with berries in their names are actual berries. Blueberries and cranberries fall into this category. They are what they claim to be, and I appreciate that.

I haven't even touched on the weirdest of the weird in this berry fiasco. Buckle up because here we go.

Blueberries fit nicely in your curled palm. They are an anomaly. Some berries you can't even hold in one hand.

Take melons, for example – water, musk and honeydew. All berries! And exceedingly difficult to lose

after purchase at the grocery store.

Let's take this fruity circus one step further. Pumpkins. Squash. Cucumbers.

Berries.

Bell peppers. Poblano papers. Jalapeños—berries. Tomatoes--berries. Bananas—also berries.

Oranges, grapes, pineapple and kiwi – all berries.

It almost makes you wonder which fruits (and even some fruits also known as vegetables) aren't berries. Well, besides strawberries.

And it almost makes you wonder if it matters whether strawberries call themselves berries, but don't qualify, by definition.

I'm sure it matters on some level—in botany terms or something like that.

But in the bigger picture, it doesn't really matter what we call something, or label

someone, or name it.

All my life, I've loved strawberries. And in that time, I've believed and thought them to be berries. Now I know the truth.

Strawberries (damned liars) are not berries. But you know what? They aren't made of straw, either. In that they are double liars, which in essence is a double negative, which in essence makes a positive.

So maybe they are strawberries after all.

Or maybe not. Or maybe it doesn't matter what we call them.

They are still sweet. They are still good. And I still like to eat them.

I think I'll leave it at that.

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

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Church news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL. Join on Sunday, March 23, 2025, for Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. This week will be the Third Sunday during Lent. This week's gospel reading is from the Gospel Luke 13:1-9.

On Wednesday, March 26 the Peace Corps Quilting group will meet from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to join and no quilting experience necessary.

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 third Sunday in Lent on Sunday, March 23 at 9 a.m. The No Worries Band will be providing special music at this service.

Everyone is welcome to come to St. John's to play dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, April 1 at 9 a.m. and to play cards and dominoes on Thursday, March 27 at 1 p.m.

The Women's Gathering group will be meeting for refreshments and a bible study on Tuesday, March 18 at 9:45 a.m. The Sit and Sew group will be working on quilts at

11 a.m. Chili and cornbread will be served after the bible study. All are invited to attend. The next Men's Breakfast will be on Wednesday, April 2 at 7:30 a.m. at the Beltline Restaurant in Freeport.

On Sunday, April 6 St. John's members and friends can go out for lunch at Lake Carroll (Candlelight Inn) at 11:30 a.m. Please sign up on the bulletin board. Also on this date, we will be showing the DVD "Jesus", a Branson Sight and Sound Production, at 1:30 p.m. upstairs at St. John's. Members and friends are welcome to attend.

The April Grace Meal will be on Sunday, April 27 instead of April 20. It will be a community meal served by St. John's, Faith United Methodist Church, and Zion Church. The menu will be ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas and carrots, ap-

plesauce, and cherry cobbler. Reservations are due in the church office by Thursday, April 24. Meals can be picked up at the church on April 27 between 11 a.m. and 12 p.m., or you can choose to dine in Luther Hall at St. John's between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. If you are interested in donating to this ministry, reach out to the church office for more information.

The Healthy Wolves group will be packing backpacks on Thursday, March 20 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.

Evangelical Free Church of Lena

Join each Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the Evangelical Free Church of Lena to celebrate the Lenten season with music.

The schedule includes:
 March 19: Deb Leininger
 March 26: Freeport Sacred Youth Choir
 April 2: Will Mueller
 April 9: Gone Fishin'
 April 16: DELTA II

Upcoming Lent services

Three local churches are hosting food and music services in the anticipation of Easter morning. These events are free, fun and everyone is welcome.

Sunday, March 30
 Bolton Community Church
 3582 S Bolton Rd, Freeport
 5:30 p.m. Refreshments
 6 p.m. Service (Hymn Sing)
Sunday, April 6
 Willow Valley Church
 6522 S Willow Rd, Stock-

ton
 5pm Soup & Sandwich Dinner
 6 p.m. Music by Christ's Country Choir
Sunday, April 13
 Calvary Church of Stockton
 315 W Maple Ave
 6pm Music (Finding Grace Praise Band)
 7 p.m. Snacks

Christ Lutheran Church

On Monday, March 24 Christ Lutheran Church will host a Soup Supper from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The meal will include a choice of chili, potato soup, or beef and noodles. Each is served with a sandwich, vegetable cup, and dessert. Carry outs are available. Proceeds will benefit the Church Elevator Fund. Christ Lutheran Church is located at 600 S. Main St., Stockton, IL and is handicapped accessible.



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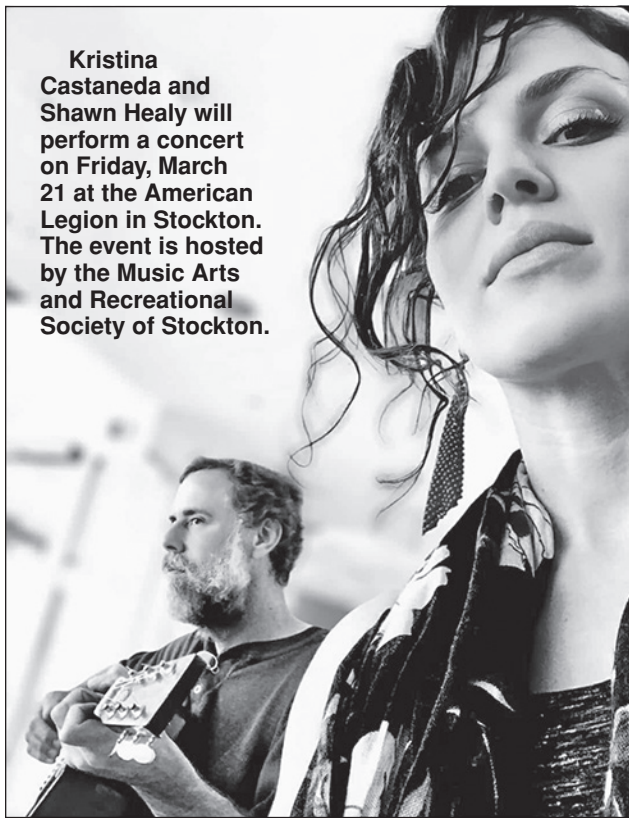
Springtime concert in Stockton

The Music Arts and Recreational Society of Stockton (MARSS) invites all to attend a spring concert on Friday, March 21 at the American Legion, 128 E. Front Ave., in Stockton, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. MARSS welcomes Kristina Castaneda and Shawn Healy, who dole out tight harmonies through jazz, folk, blues, Motown, rock and contemporary pop.

Castaneda and Healy tease out new textures, layers, and interpretations of some fan favorite music that spans over the last 100 years. They have performed for nearly three decades with an array of other musicians and have shared the stage together for 10 years.

Donations will happily be accepted that evening to continue providing music for the Stockton area community. If interested in learning more, visit www.marss-stockton.org. Find more events on Facebook.

Kristina Castaneda and Shawn Healy will perform a concert on Friday, March 21 at the American Legion in Stockton. The event is hosted by the Music Arts and Recreational Society of Stockton.



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Lena Historical Museum will host a program on Lena's first log school Sunday, March 30, 2025.

Lena Historical Society events

The Lena Historical Museum will present a program about Lena's first log school on Sunday, March 30 at 2 p.m. The school was dismantled and moved to the museum site and reconstructed in 1987 by volunteers. It is furnished as it probably was when it was built by Samuel F. Dodd in his orchard. The pro-

gram, presented by Bill Engel and Karen Dammann, will tell the history of the schoolhouse and how it is used today to teach local history. The Lena Historical Museum is located at 427 Grove Street, Lena, Illinois

On April 24 the Historical Society will host their annual dinner fundraiser at the Lena

Community Center. The event will feature a catered dinner, silent auction and 50/50 raffle. A program will be given on the early history of Lake Le-Aqua-Na. Alan Wenzel, a well-known local speaker, will present the program.

See EVENTS, Page 20

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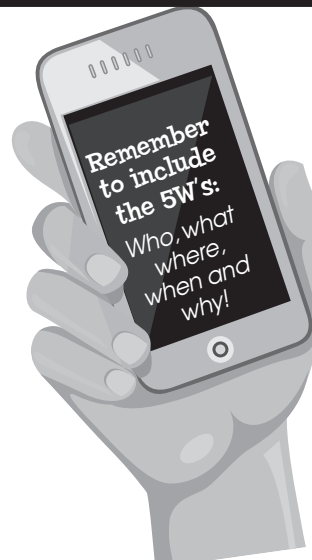
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392951

Stephenson and Carroll County Farm Bureau news

If you stop by the office on a Friday, especially in March, you will often find me sporting my favorite Big Ten Men's Basketball team gear. If there is a game on you may also hear it planning in the background of my office. March is my favorite months for sports and the reason is simple "March Madness". It all begins with the Big Ten tournament and then just rolls into the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament.

Did you know that the Tournament isn't just fun in games? It's actually a way for the Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leader Committee to raise money for the Harvest for All program. Each year they host a bracket contest, Hoops for Hunger. If you would like to participate and help raise money for reduce food insecurity across Illinois,

please visit the Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leader's Facebook page.

Spring Rawleigh product order

Kick off spring by ordering Rawleigh Products. The Stephenson County Farm Bureau is now accepting orders for Rawleigh products. Orders will be accepted until Monday, April 21 at 12 p.m. with an estimated delivery of May 7 just in time for Mother's Day. To make this program even sweeter, all proceeds from his order will be donated to the Stephenson County Farm Bureau Foundation to fund Agriculture in the Classroom and scholarships. Order forms are available on our website www.stephensoncfb.org or by calling 815-232-3186.

Trip Feature Fair Oaks Farm

The Stephenson and Carroll County Farm Bureaus are excited to announce we will be traveling to Fair Oaks, IN to explore their Dairy, Pig and Crop Adventure. We will enjoy a guided tour then have time for you to explore on your own. This trip will take place on Friday, June 20.

Days agenda:

- 6:30 a.m.: Depart Carroll County Farm Bureau
- 7 a.m.: Depart Freeport Walmart
- 10:30 a.m.: Arrive at Fair Oaks Dairy Farm
- 4 p.m.: Depart for Home
- 6 p.m. Dinner on the way home
- 8 p.m.: Tentatively arrive at Freeport Walmart
- 8:30 p.m.: Tentatively arrive at Carroll County Farm

Bureau

Trip cost includes tour admissions, transportation, all tips and gratuities, water on the bus. Dinner and lunch are at your own expense. Farm at bureau member price is \$85 and non-member price \$105. To register please call the Farm Bureau where you would like to be picked up at Carroll 815-244-3001 and Stephenson 815-232-3186.

Farm Bureau members save on facility rentals

It might seem early to think about graduations, but they will be here before we know it. Don't wait to book your event at the Carroll or Stephenson County Farm Bureau buildings. Rooms start as low as \$100. Call the Farm Bureau of your choice for availability and to learn more about the rental process. Carroll County Farm Bureau 815-244-3001 or Stephenson County Farm Bureau at 815-232-3186.

Apple River State Bank continues leading support since 2016

United Way of Northwest Illinois proudly serves as the official affiliate for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a transformative early childhood literacy program that provides free books to children from birth to age five. With steadfast financial support from Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena since 2016, the program continues to make a significant impact on young readers across the region.

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library mails a high quality, age-appropriate book each month to registered children, fostering a love of reading and preparing them for success in school. United Way of Northwest Illinois has helped thousands of local children build home libraries and develop essential literacy skills.

"Early childhood literacy

is the foundation for lifelong learning, and we are proud to bring the Imagination Library to families in Northwest Illinois," said Connie Kraft, Executive Director of United Way of Northwest Illinois. "We are especially grateful to Apple River State Bank and First Community Bank of Galena for their unwavering support, which has allowed us to sustain and grow this vital program for nearly a decade."

Since the partnership began, Apple River State Bank has played the leading role in funding book distribution, ensuring that children in Darlington, Hazel Green, and Jo Daviess County have access to this life-changing program.

Families in Northwest Illinois are encouraged to enroll their children in the Imagination Library and experience the joy of reading together. For more information or to register, visit uwni.org.

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Stephenson County 4-H youth showcase public speaking skills

On Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at Parkland College in Champaign, IL. Stephenson County 4-H families gathered on the Highland Community College campus for the annual Stephenson County 4-H Public Speaking and Demonstrations Contest. This event gave 4-H youth, ages 8 to 18, the opportunity to showcase their communication skills and compete for a chance to advance to the State 4-H Public Speaking Contest, scheduled for Saturday, April

26, at Parkland College in Champaign, IL. This year's contest featured presentations by Lilliana Smith, a member of the Pearl Valley Rangers 4-H Club, and Shelby Stone, a member of the Snappy Snazzers 4-H Club. Both youth participated in the Formal Speech event for ages 8-13. Lilliana delivered a compelling speech on pet adoption, while Shelby shared her experience as the

National Petite Miss Agriculture USA. Both received blue ribbons and earned spots to compete at the State contest on April 26. Shelby was also awarded the Champion trophy for Public Speaking, sponsored by Pat and Denny Dietmeier. In addition to her speech, Lilliana also participated in the Oral Interpretation division, where she read "The Hill We Climb" by Amanda

Gorman. Her performance earned her a blue ribbon and the Reserve Champion ribbon for Public Speaking. The judge for the event, Sarah Harbach of Warren, IL, provided necessary feedback to the participants, offering valuable insights to help them refine their public speaking skills and further develop their presentation abilities. Lilliana will also be presented with a portfolio, generously

donated by the Stephenson County Farm Bureau, in recognition of her participation in a Public Speaking Workshop held in Rockford on Feb. 4. We congratulate all the participants and look forward to seeing these talented youth represent Stephenson County at the State 4-H Public Speaking Contest. For more information about 4-H and upcoming events, visit our

website at: go.illinois.edu/jsw or call the Stephenson County Extension office at 815-235-4125.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Public Presentations Judge Sarah Harbach provides valuable feedback to 4-H participants, helping them refine their public speaking skills during the Stephenson County 4-H Public Speaking and Demonstrations Contest.

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451338

FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

If you are Irish, you are probably celebrating this week. You may have eaten the traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage by either making it yourself or going out to any of our great restaurants. This week we are using some of those leftovers from St. Patrick's Day. Have a great week cooking.

Caramelized Onion Dip

2 large onions, finely chopped
2 T. olive oil
3/4 C. sour cream
3/4 C. plain yogurt
3 t. onion powder
1/2 t. salt

In a large skillet, sauté onions in oil until softened. Reduce heat to medium and cook, stirring for 30 minutes or until deep golden brown. Cool completely. In a small bowl, combine the sour cream, yogurt, onion powder and salt; stir in two-thirds of the onions. Transfer to a serving bowl; top with remaining onions. Serve with chips and vegetables.

Green Flop Jell-O

This salad is great for the spring. It is easy to make and looks great in a trifle bowl. It would be a great salad for Easter too.

2 C. lemon-lime soda
2 pkg. (3 oz. each) lime Jell-O

6 oz. cream cheese, softened

2 C. lemon-lime soda, chilled

1 carton (12 oz.) Cool Whip, thawed

Microwave 2 C. soda on high until hot. Place hot soda in a blender along with lime Jell-O; cover and process Jell-O until it is dissolved. Add cream cheese; process until blended. Transfer to a large bowl; stir in chilled soda. Whisk in Cool whip. Pour into a trifle bowl. Refrigerate, covered until firm, about 4 hours.

Irish Beef Stew

For the luck of the Irish, this stew will be a great week-night meal. It takes a little time and can be made on the weekend to use during the week. It has the vegetables, meat, and great broth. If you want to add Stout beer for a cup of the beef broth, you will get a lot of flavor.

8 slices bacon, diced
1/3 C. flour

1 t. salt
1/2 t. pepper
3 lbs. beef stew meat, cut into 1-inch cubes
1 lb. whole mushrooms, quartered
3 medium green onions, white portion only, chopped
2 medium carrots, chopped
1/4 C. chopped celery
1 T. canola oil
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 T. tomato paste
5 C. beef broth
2 bay leaves
1 t. dried thyme
1 t. dried parsley flakes
1 t. dried rosemary, crushed
2 lbs. Yukon gold potatoes, cut into 1-inch cubes
2 T. cornstarch
2 T. water
1 C. frozen peas

In a stockpot, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp. Remove to a paper towel to drain. In a large shallow dish, combine flour, salt and pepper. Add beef and turn to coat. Brown beef in bacon drippings. Remove and set aside. In the same pot, sauté the mushrooms, onions, carrots, and celery in oil until tender. Add garlic; cook for 1 minute longer. Stir in tomato paste until blended. Add the broth, bay leaves, thyme, parsley, and rosemary. Add beef and bacon to pot. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer until beef is tender, about 2 hours. Add potatoes. Return to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer until potatoes are tender, about 1 hour longer. Combine the cornstarch and water until smooth; stir into stew. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until thickened, about 1 minute. Add peas; heat through. Discard bay leaves.

Corned Beef Casserole

The next two recipes are for Corned Beef casseroles are using that leftover corned beef. One is really simple, the other more has more of the traditional flavors of corned beef and cabbage dinners. Choose which one fits your family better.

1/2 C. diced cooked corned beef
1 can cream of chicken soup
8 oz. shredded cheddar cheese, cubed
1 pkg. (7 oz.) small shell pasta, cooked and drained
1 C. milk
1/2 C. chopped onion
2 slices rye bread, cubed
2 T. butter melted

In a large bowl, combine the corned beef, soup, cheese, pasta, milk and onion in a 2 qt. greased baking dish. Toss bread cubes with butter; sprinkle over top. Bake, uncovered at 350 for 30 minutes. Cover and bake 15 minutes longer or until golden brown. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving.

Rueben Casserole

6 slices rye bread, cubed
1 can (16 oz.) sauerkraut, drained and rinsed
2 C. corned beef cut into pieces
3/4 C. Russian salad dressing
2 C. shredded Swiss cheese
Preheat the oven to 400, spray a 9 x 13 pan with cooking spray. Spray one sheet of aluminum foil with cooking spray. Spread bread cubes in the bottom of the baking dish. Layer bread cubes with sauerkraut and corned beef; pour dressing over top. Cov-

er with the aluminum foil, sprayed side down. Bake for 20 minutes. Remove and discard foil; sprinkle Swiss cheese over casserole. Continue baking until cheese is melted and bubbly, about 10 minutes.

Tuna Noodle Casserole

Our Lenten recipe this week is for the traditional tuna noodle casserole. It may not be the only one during Lent because people are always looking for making tuna and noodles. This one is creamy and easy.

5 C. uncooked egg noodles
1 C. frozen peas
1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 C. sour cream
2/3 C. grated Parmesan cheese
1/2 C. 2% milk
1/4 t. salt
2 cans (5 oz. each) tuna in water, drained and flaked
1/4 C. finely chopped onion
1/4 C. finely chopped green pepper
Topping
1/2 C. breadcrumbs
1 T. butter melted
Preheat the oven to 350.

Cook noodles according to package directions for al dente, adding peas at the last minute of cooking; drain. In a large bowl, combine the soup, sour cream, cheese, milk and salt. Stir in tuna, onion and green pepper. Add noodles and peas and toss to combine. Transfer to a 3 qt. baking dish coated with cooking spray. In a small bowl, combine breadcrumbs and melted butter. Spread the breadcrumbs over the top. Bake uncovered 25 to 30 minutes or until bubbly.

See KITCHEN, Page 17

The Scoop Today & Shopper's Guide

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff vs. JACK D. BREIT; LERISA D. LEIF; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant

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, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, Georgia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 24-213628

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I3262068

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

March 12, 19, 26, 2025)

468800

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC., PLAINTIFF

vs.

CAROLYN S. GRAHAM; VILLAGE OF CEDARVILLE; DEFENDANTS

NO. 2024FC46

Judge Olson

Address: 140 E. Walnut Cedarville, IL 61013

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 January 14, 2025, I, Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois, will on April 17, 2025 at the hour of 9:30 AM at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena, Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT 316 IN THE VILLAGE OF CEDARVILLE, SITUATED IN THE VILLAGE OF CEDARVILLE, COUNTY OF STEPHENSON AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

COMMON ADDRESS: 140 E. Walnut, Cedarville, IL 61013

P.I.N.: 07-14-06-102-014

The real estate is improved with a single family

residence.

THE JUDGMENT AMOUNT WAS: \$59,087.64

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds; the balance, by certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to 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.

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

Pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512, the amounts of any surplus bid will be held by the sheriff until a party obtains a Court Order for its distribution, or for 60 days following the date of the entry of the order confirming sale, at which time, in the absence of an order directing payment of the surplus, it may be automatically forfeited to the State without further notice.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

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: Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC, 30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 3650, Chicago,

IL 60602, telephone 312-541-9710. Please refer to file number IL 24 1073.

Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois

Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC

30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 3650

Chicago, Illinois 60602

Email: ilpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com

Ph. 312-541-9710 / Fax 312-541-9711

JB&A # IL 24 1073

I3262545

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

March 19, 26, April 2, 2025)

469141

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC Plaintiff vs. GLORIA MENDOZA; U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION ND; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant

24 FC 1

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 April 23, 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:

PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT 521.75 FEET WEST OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 12 ON THE SOUTH SECTION LINE, AND RUNNING THENCE 544.15 FEET WEST ON SOUTH SECTION LINE; THENCE NORTH 1476.42 FEET PARALLEL WITH THE HALF SECTION LINE; THENCE EAST 544.15 FEET, PARALLEL WITH SOUTH SECTION LINE; THENCE SOUTH 1476.42

FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT THE SOUTH 66 FEET THEREOF. SITUATED IN HARLEM TOWNSHIP. STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. P.I.N. 08-13-12-300-004.

Commonly known as 1616 W. WINNESHIEK RD., 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, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, Georgia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 23-157822 IJSC

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

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I3262535

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

March 19, 26, April 2, 2025)

469143

LORAN TOWNSHIP NOTICE FOR BID

Public Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of Loran Township, Stephenson County, Illinois will receive bids for mowing and trimming at Babbs Grove Cemetery, Grace ME Cemetery, Lieboldt Union Cemetery, and our Township buildings. All bids are to be received on or before April 1, 2025. Requirements consist of mowing, trimming, and cleaning all monuments only on an as needed basis, and before holidays like Memorial Day. Each bid should include the amount for the 3 cemeteries and the amount for the Township Building grounds separately. Use of chemicals is prohibited. Proof of insur-

ance will need to be included. The Board of Trustees will open bids at the April 8, 2025 meeting. Notice will only be given to the accepted bidder. Payment will be monthly and only when an invoice is provided to the Loran Township office at 215 E. South St., Pearl City, IL 61062 or calling (815) 443-2880. Loran Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

March 19, 2025)

469260

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWN AND ROAD AND BRIDGE BUDGETS

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Township of Loran in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026. It will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 215 E. South Street, Pearl City. It is available from and after May 12, 2025. Please call ahead at 815-443-2880.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said budgets and appropriation ordinance will be held at 6:00 p.m. on June 9, 2025 at 215 E. South Street, Pearl City and final action will be taken by the Board of Trustees at this meeting.

Deb Sweeney

Loran Township Clerk

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

March 19, 2025)

469261

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LORAN TOWNSHIP OF STEPHENSON COUNTY

For the Fiscal year of 2025 - 2026 Loran Township's regular board meetings will be held the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the following location: Loran Township Building, 215 E. South Street, Pearl City, IL.

Deviations from this schedule will be posted per Township requirements.

Deb Sweeney

Township Clerk

(Published in

The Shopper's Guide

March 19, 2025)

469262

•Kitchen (Continued from page 15)

Leprechaun Bait

Last year someone sent this recipe to me, and I managed to keep it in the files until this year. I think it would be great for March or could easily be used at Easter too.

- 2 C. Rice Chex
- 2 C. Lucky Charms cereal
- 1 1/2 C. miniature pretzels
- 1/2 C. milk chocolate M&M's
- 1/2 C. mini marshmallows
- 12 oz. white chocolate chips
- 1/2 t. green sugar

1/2 t. gold sugar

In a large bowl, combine the cereals, pretzels, candy and marshmallows. Set aside. Place white chocolate chips in a microwave safe bowl; microwave 1 minute at 50%; stir and microwave in 15 to 30 second intervals, stirring in between until chocolate is completely melted. Add chocolate to dry ingredients; stir to thoroughly combine. Spread mixture into a layer on a baking sheet lined with parch-

ment paper. Sprinkle with sugars. Break apart to serve.

Poor Man's Cookies

This week both the dessert recipes don't use eggs. I am giving your pocket book a rest. The Irish had to make do with a lot of things because they were poor; they were poor when they came to America too. These cookies use basics of shortening, sugar, flour, and oats. Try them because they are good dunking cookies.

- 1 C. shortening
- 1 C. packed brown sugar
- 1/2 C. sugar
- 1/4 C. water
- 1 t. vanilla
- 1 C. flour
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1/4 t. salt
- 2 C. rolled oats

In a large bowl, cream shortening and sugars until light and fluffy. Beat in water and vanilla. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking soda, and salt;

gradually add to cream mixture and mix well. Fold in oats. Drop dough by tablespoonfuls onto greased baking sheets. Bake at 350 for 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown. Allow to stand 2 minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool.

Final Thoughts

The weather once again has been going up and down. Welcome to Spring! The basketball finals are shaping up for March

Madness. Track baseball and softball have started, so welcome to spring sports. I hope you all had a great "green day" and are looking forward to some spring cooking.

We are looking for some Easter recipes. If you find some recipes to share, you can contact us by email 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.

Annual Town Meeting Notice is Hereby Given

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

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

at
Loran Township Building Located at 215 E. South St. Pearl City IL.

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

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Election of Moderator
3. Comments
4. Clerk's Report - 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes
5. Supervisor's Report - 2024 - 2025 Financial Report
6. Transfer of Funds - Cemetery, IMRF, and Road and Bridge
7. Financial Requests

8. Sale of Surplus Property Listing Resolutions Presented

9. 2026 Annual Town Meeting date and time

10. Adjournment

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 19, 2025)

469263

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

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

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

at
Loran Township Building Located at 215 E. South St. Pearl City IL.

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

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
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4. Clerk's Report - 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes
5. Supervisor's Report - 2024 - 2025 Financial Report
6. Transfer of Funds - Cemetery, IMRF, and Road and Bridge
7. Financial Requests

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Election of Moderator
3. Comments
4. Clerk's Report - 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes
5. Supervisor's Report - 2024 - 2025 Financial Report
6. Transfer of Funds - Cemetery, IMRF, and Road and Bridge
7. Financial Requests
- 8 Sale of Surplus Property Listing Resolutions Presented
9. 2026 Annual Town Meeting date and time
10. Adjournment

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 19, 2025)

469314

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LORAN TOWNSHIP OF STEPHENSON COUNTY

For the Fiscal year of 2025 - 2026 Loran Township's regular board meetings will be held the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the following location: Loran Township Building, 215 E. South Street, Pearl City, IL.

Deviations from this schedule will be posted per Township requirements.

Deb Sweeney
Township Clerk

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 19, 2025)

469315

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWN AND ROAD AND BRIDGE BUDGETS

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Township of Loran in the County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, for the fis-

cal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026. It will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 215 E. South Street, Pearl City. It is available from and after May 12, 2025. Please call ahead at 815-443-2880.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said budgets and appropriation ordinance will be held at 6:00 p.m. on June 9, 2025 at 215 E. South Street, Pearl City and final action will be taken by the Board of Trustees at this meeting.

Deb Sweeney
Loran Township Clerk

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 19, 2025)

469316

LORAN TOWNSHIP NOTICE FOR BID

Public Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of Loran Township, Stephenson County, Illinois will receive bids for mowing and trimming at Babbs Grove Cemetery, Grace ME Cemetery, Lieboldt Union Cemetery, and our Township buildings. All bids are to be received on or before April 1, 2025. Requirements consist of mowing, trimming, and cleaning all monuments only on an as needed basis, and before holidays like Memorial Day. Each bid should include the amount for the 3 cemeteries and the amount for the Township Building grounds separately. Use of chemicals is prohibited. Proof of insurance will need to be included. The Board of Trustees will open bids at the April 8, 2025 meeting. Notice will only be given to the accepted bidder. Payment will be monthly and only

when an invoice is provided to the Loran Township office at 215 E. South St., Pearl City, IL 61062 or calling (815) 443-2880. Loran Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

(Published in The Shopper's Guide March 19, 2025)

469317

PUBLIC NOTICE Rush Township Fuel Bid

Rush Township is soliciting fuel bids for the period of June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026. Conditions of the bid:

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

Bids are due at 3882 N Canyon Park Road, Stockton, IL 61085 by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

Ben Wooden
Township Clerk

(Published in The Scoop Today March 19, 2025)

469256

PUBLIC NOTICE Rush Township Mowing Bid

Rush Township is soliciting mowing bids for the 2025 mowing season. Grounds to be mowed include Puckett Cemetery, Townsend Cemetery, Robinson Cemetery, and the Rush Township Hall location. Please contact Supervisor Garrett Toay at 515.710.9055 for more information. Bids are due at 3882 N Canyon Park

Road, Stockton, IL 61085 by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

Ben Wooden
Township Clerk

(Published in The Scoop Today March 19, 2025)

469255

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RUSH TOWNSHIP, JODAVIESS COUNTY

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters and residents of the Township of Rush in the County of JodavieSS and the State of Illinois that the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025, being the second Tuesday of the month, at the hour of 7:30 pm., at the Rush Town Hall, 2999 North Canyon Park Rd., Stockton IL., for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of said Township. After a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in the pursuance of the law, come before the meeting, and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Agenda**
1. Elect a moderator
 2. Set the moderator's salary
 3. Approve the minutes from the 2024 Annual Town Meeting
 4. Report of Officers- Financial reports & statements
 5. Authorize transfer of funds
 6. Set time for the 2026 Annual Town Meeting
 7. Open forum
 8. Adjournment

Ben Wooden,
Rush Township Clerk

(Published in The Scoop Today March 19, 2025)

469257

— PUBLIC NOTICE —

NOTICE - ACCEPTING MOWING BIDS

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

Bids should be per mowing.

Deadline to submit bids is March 28, 2025.

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

Submit bids to: Candis Albrecht,
313 Orange St., Elizabeth, IL 61028
(Liability Insurance is required)

469395

Classifieds

AD DEADLINE:
Friday
at 4 pm

Call
815.369.4112
to place your ad

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The Scoop Today Shopper's Guide

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422795

real estate

Other Real Estate

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

estate sales

BIG APPLE CANYON LAKE ESTATE SALE - ATV'S, Tools, Kitchenware, DVD's (100's), LP's, CD's, Books and Much More! March 28, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., March 29, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., March 30, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. View photos on estatesales.net search zip code 61001. 14A23 Marina View Dr., Apple River.

9/269P

for sale

Announcements

CLASSIFIED IN-COLUMN ADS cannot be credited or refunded after the ad has been placed. Ads canceled before deadline will be removed from the paper as a service to our customers, but no credit or refund will be issued to your account.

DISCLAIMER NOTICE This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

Burial Needs

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



transportation

Automobiles

2001 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE Blk on Brn, 90K miles, new tires, new brakes, mechanically sound throughout, minor scratches on body, leather seats, V-6 engine, premium sound system and ice-cold A/C and hot heat. \$6000. call 262-496-5739.

Automobiles Wanted

CASH FOR YOUR FULL SIZE JUNK TRUCKS & SUV's. HAUL AWAY 7 DAYS A WEEK! CALL 262-758-1807.

Boats

2003 ALUMACRAFT 175 TROPHY W/ Trailer. 90 HP, 9.9HP & equip. 815-389-2480.

Campers and RVs

2016 FLEETWOOD TERRA 34B MOTOR HOME 35' 27,000 Miles 3 Slideouts 2 New WI-FI TV's 5.5k Generator. \$79,000 262-206-4164.

2021 JAYCO JAYFLIGHT SLX 264 Bunk house. In new condition. Loaded. NO SLIDE. Price to sell \$18,500. Call 815-494-8309

Trucks & Trailers

1955 CHEVY PICK UP Peacock Blue, dry, New Mexico truck. Runs great. Stored in my heated Elkhorn garage. \$19,975. (262) 949-6997.

business & service

Landscaping/ Lawn/Garden

LAWN - GRAVEL CLEAN UP Will do Gravel Clean up \$60. and up per lawn/household. Call or text Isaac at 815-291-2076.

Auction Deadline is Noon Friday!

Contact Rhonda at rmarsall@rvpublishing.com for information on advertising.

The Wheel Deal

Place your car, truck, motorcycle, boat or RV for one price and it runs for up to 16 weeks.

\$19⁹⁵

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17 Papers

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Deadlines vary.

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815-877-4044



422785

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Help Wanted Section...
Call (815) 369-4112

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Rock Valley Publishing, FREE Ad,
1102 Ann. St., Delavan, WI 53115

Write your ad below, One Word Per Box, be sure to include your price

Ads will not be accepted without the following information. Only one free ad per month.

YOUR NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

454287

IN*CI*DENTAL*LY

Something to smile about

Congratulations fellow Illinois residents! For the second year in a row, the research team at WalletHub has ranked our state number one for the best dental health in the U.S.

The methodology to create this annual report consists of collecting data about dental habits and oral health from the U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Healthy Grid, American Dental Association, Health Resources & Services Administration, United Health Foundation, Free Dental Care, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Association of



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

State & Territorial Dental Directors and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The research team then compares these statistics using 25 metrics (performance category measures), with varying points on a 100-point scale. A score of 100 would describe the most ideal conditions for dental health.

Under the first category, Dental Habits & Care, each state can earn up to 50 points. Some examples of the metrics compared in this category included: the number of adults and adolescents who visited a dentist each year, dentists and dental professionals (dental hygienists, laboratory technicians and assistants), presence of school-based dental sealant programs, percentage of tobacco usage, share of people who receive fluoridated water through public water systems, sugar-sweetened beverage consumption among

adolescents, the number of free or low-cost dental clinics and oral health knowledge.

Each state can earn up to 50 points under the second category, Oral Health. Some examples of the metrics compared in this category included: share of elderly population with no natural teeth, reduced life satisfaction due to oral condition, sleeping problems due to oral condition, pain due to oral condition, work absence due to oral condition, reduced social participation due to oral condition, reduced life satisfaction due to oral condition, and

sleeping problems due to oral condition.

The good news is that Illinois ranked number one. But with a top score of 74.93 out of 100 that means that every state still has considerable room for improvement. Dental health is an important part of your overall health and these annual reports help remind the public that brushing and flossing for two minutes twice a day and getting an annual checkup are critical, there are other factors that can impact your oral health. This data provides clear evidence of the positive

impact on oral health that access to fluoridated public water provides. It also tells the negative impact on the oral health of our citizens who do not have access to fluoridated water.

States with school-based dental sealant programs, dental benefits through Medicaid, oral health education, free or low-cost dental clinics and a higher percentage of children who see a dentist annually, demonstrate higher levels of oral health than those who do not. Illinois dentists continue to fight for improvements in all these categories.

Freeport police

Felony narcotics arrest

On March 7, 2025, at 4:35 p.m., Freeport Police Officers conducted a search warrant at a residence located in the 100 block of N. West Avenue in Freeport. During a search of the residence, Officers seized 56 grams of suspected methamphetamine, 98 grams of suspected cannabis, and a loaded semi-automatic pistol.

As a result of the investigation, the resident, 44-year-old Rickie Raisbeck, was arrested and charged with felony Possession with the Intent to Deliver Methamphetamine, felony Possession with the Intent to Deliver Cannabis, and Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon. The felony charges were approved by the Stephenson County State's Attorney. Raisbeck was transported to the Stephenson County Jail where he is being held pending the outcome of a detention hearing.

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial, at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Shots fired incidents

March 7, 2025

Officers of the Freeport Police Department are investigating a shots fired incident that occurred over the weekend. On March 7, 2025, at 5:13 p.m., Officers responded to a Sound Thinking alert of one gunshot fired in the alley north of the 500 block of W. Galena Avenue.

Upon arrival, Officers discovered one fired shell casing in the alley where the alert was generated. A witness reported seeing a black male in his teens wearing a light colored jacket with a black hood and gray sweatpants holding a black firearm and then running west through the alley after the gun-

shot was heard. There were no reports of property damage or any victims.

March 9, 2025

On March 9, 2025, at 12:06 a.m., a Freeport Police Officer heard gunshots west of their location at Empire Street and Carroll Avenue. This was followed up by a Sound Thinking alert which showed a location at a driveway of a residence in the 300 block of W. Empire Street. Officers were unable to locate any physical evidence during the course of the investigation. There were no reports of property damage or any victims.

The investigations into these incidents are ongoing at this time. The Freeport Police Department is asking anyone who may have information about these incidents to contact either the Freeport Police Department at 815-235-8222, Stataline Area Crime Stoppers at 866-TIPSNOW, or through texting at Tip411.

March 13, 2025

Officers of the Freeport Police Department are investigating a shots fired incident that occurred in the 1100 block of S. Chicago Avenue. On March 13, 2025, at 9:55 p.m., Freeport Police Officers were dispatched to a residence in the 1100 block of S. Chicago Avenue regarding a 29-year-old male who was struck by gunfire.

During the course of the investigation, Officers learned that a fight occurred between multiple individuals in the area of Frank Street and Chicago Avenue. After the fight was over, an unknown suspect fired one round which travelled into the residence and struck the victim in the leg. The victim was transported to FHN Hospital where he was treated and later released.

See **POLICE**, Page 20

REAL ESTATE NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff
vs.
JACK D. BREIT; LERISA D. LEIF; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant

24 FC 30

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 April 16, 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. 05-20-32-127-010.
Commonly known as 20 ACAD-EMY STREET, GERMAN VALLEY, IL 61039.

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, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, Georgia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 24-213628 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3262068
(Published in The Shopper's Guide

March 12, 19, 26, 2025)
468803

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY - FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC
F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC
F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC., PLAINTIFF
vs.
CAROLYN S. GRAHAM; VIL-LAGE OF CEDARVILLE ;
DEFENDANTS

NO. 2024FC46

Judge Olson
Address: 140 E. Walnut
Cedarville, IL 61013

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 January 14, 2025, I, Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois, will on April 17, 2025 at the hour of 9:30 AM at the Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 North Galena, Freeport, IL 61032, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stephenson, State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

COMMON ADDRESS: 140 E. Walnut, Cedarville, IL 61013
P.I.N.: 07-14-06-102-014

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

THE JUDGMENT AMOUNT WAS: \$59,087.64

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds; the balance, by certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to 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.

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

Pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512, the amounts of any surplus bid will be held by the sheriff until a party obtains a Court Order for its distribution, or for 60 days following the date of the entry of the order confirming sale, at which time, in the absence of an order directing payment of the surplus, it may be automatically forfeited to the State without further notice.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

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: Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC, 30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 3650, Chicago, IL 60602, telephone 312-541-9710. Please refer to file number IL 24 1073. Sheriff of Stephenson County, Illinois

Johnson, Blumberg & Associates, LLC
30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 3650
Chicago, Illinois 60602
Email: ilpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com
Ph. 312-541-9710 /
Fax 312-541-9711
JB&A # IL 24 1073
I3262545

(Published in The Shopper's Guide
March 19, 26, April 2, 2025)
469142

THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Stephenson - Freeport, ILLINOIS
SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVING, INC
Plaintiff
vs.
GLORIA MENDOZA; U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION ND; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant

24 FC 1

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 April 23, 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. 08-13-12-300-004.
Commonly known as 1616 W. WINNESHIEK RD., 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, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, Georgia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 23-157822 IJSC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3262535
(Published in The Shopper's Guide
March 19, 26, April 2, 2025)

469144

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

•Events (Continued from page 8)

Reservations are required and may be purchased at Engel's Repair and The Lena Mercantile. Tickets for the dinner and pro-

gram are \$40 a person. Doors will open at 6 p.m. with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. The Lena Community Center is located

at 497 Lions Drive, Lena, IL. For more information, please call Cindy Drye at 815-369-4030.

•Police (Continued from page 19)

The investigation into this incident is ongoing at this time. The Freeport Police Department is asking anyone who may have information about this incident to contact either the Freeport Police Department at 815-235-8222, Stateline Area Crime Stoppers at 866-TIPSNOW, Stephenson County Crime Stop, or through texting at Tip411.

Felony firearm and narcotics arrest

On March 13, 2025, at 8:31 p.m., Freeport Police Officers were called to a residence in the 600 block of W. Pleasant Street regarding a male who was hiding in the caller's yard. While Officers were on scene, they spotted the male and attempted to make contact with him. The male then ran from Officers, but was apprehended after a short foot pursuit. The male was identified as 20-year-old Zachary Schaney.

Schaney had multiple warrants for his arrest from pending felony cases in Stephenson County. During a search of Schaney and the immediate area

where he was taken into custody, Officers recovered a loaded pistol and an assortment of prescription medication; suspected codeine and prescription pain medication.

Schaney was arrested for the outstanding warrants. The Stephenson County State's Attorney approved additional felony charges of Armed Violence, Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, and Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance. Schaney was transported to the Stephenson County Jail where he was processed and is currently being held pending the outcome of a detention hearing.

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial, at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Felony burglary arrest

On March 13, 2025, Rickie Raisbeck, a 44-year-old resident of Freeport, was served with a felony warrant and complaint for Burglary, Retail Theft Over \$300.00, Retail Theft with a

Prior Conviction, and Theft Over \$500.00 stemming from an extensive investigation into a burglary that occurred at a liquor store in Freeport on July 28, 2024.

On that date, the Freeport Police Department handled a call for service regarding a burglary to a liquor store in the 600 block of N. West Avenue that occurred at approximately 1:40 A.M. Forced entry was gained into the store by two suspect males and over \$500.00 of merchandise and cash were stolen. During the course of the investigation, Rickie Raisbeck was identified as one of the suspect males.

Rickie Raisbeck was already in custody at the Stephenson County Jail on an unrelated case. Raisbeck was served copies of the warrant and complaint at the jail where he will be held pending the outcome of a detention hearing.

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial, at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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Prices Effective: Wednesday, March 19 thru Tuesday, March 25, 2025

DELI FRESH Easter

ORDER YOUR PRE COOKED REHEAT 'N EAT EASTER DINNER BY APR. 16TH

- EASTER DINNER FOR 2-4: \$46.99
- EASTER DINNER FOR 5-7: \$89.99
- FAMILY EASTER DINNER FOR 9-12: \$159.99

PEANUT BUTTER BITES 2.59
Bakery Fresh SOUR DOUGH LOAF 2.59
Deli Fresh DEVILED EGG POTATO SALAD 4.99/lb
CHEESE TORTELLINI SALAD 4.99/lb

Lenten Seafood Specials

- WHOLEY Frozen POLLOCK FILLETS** 1 lb pkg **3/\$9**
- WHOLEY Frozen RAW EZ PEEL SHRIMP** 16/20 ct 1 lb pkg **6.99**
- WHOLEY Frozen NORWEGIAN SALMON FILLETS** **8.99/lb**

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3 DAY SALE

FRI • MARCH 21ST
SAT • MARCH 22ND
SUN • MARCH 23RD

- Sullivan's Signature BRATS & SAUSAGES** Select Varieties **3.99/lb**
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- US Grade A CHICKEN HIND QUARTERS** Sold In 10 lb bag **69¢/lb**
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- Panera BREAD SOUP BOWLS** 2 ct **3.99**
- Deli Fresh EGG ROLLS** Select Varieties 4 ct **3.99**
- Extra Large GREEN GRAPES** **1.89/lb**
- Tombstone or Digiorno CLASSIC CRUST PIZZA** Select Varieties 12 in **3.99**
- Niagara PURIFIED WATER** Select Varieties 8 - 16.9 oz / 24 pk **2.99**
- Blue Bunny PREMIUM ICE CREAM** Select Varieties 46 - 48 oz **2/\$7**
- Dot's PRETZELS** Select Varieties 9.5 oz **3.99**

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EVERY FRIDAY THROUGH LENT

- RED RIPE STRAWBERRIES** 1 lb **3.49**
- MANGOS** **1.49 ea**
- B-Size RED POTATOES** **1.49/lb**
- US Govt Insp CENTER CUT BONELESS PORK LOIN ROAST** **2.68/lb**
- US Grade A, Fresh CHICKEN THIGHS** Family Pack **1.49/lb**

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- BREADED FRIED SHRIMP BUCKET** 16 count **15.99**
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- CATFISH NUGGET BUCKET** **5.99**
- ONE PIECE COD SANDWICH** 1 piece Atlantic Cod, Cole Slaw, & Potato Salad **6.99**
- ONE PIECE COD MEAL** 1 piece Atlantic Cod, Cole Slaw, & Potato Salad **5.99**
- TWO PIECE COD MEAL** 2 pieces Atlantic Cod, Cole Slaw, & Potato Salad **10.99**

www.sullivansfoods.net

Sullivan's Foods | 103 W North Ave, Stockton | 815.947.3318
Sullivan's Foods | 201 Dodds Dr, Lena | 815.369.2311
Sullivan's Foods | 703 N Elida St, Winnebago | 815.335.1501
OPEN 6AM TO 9PM 7 DAYS A WEEK