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the Scoop Today

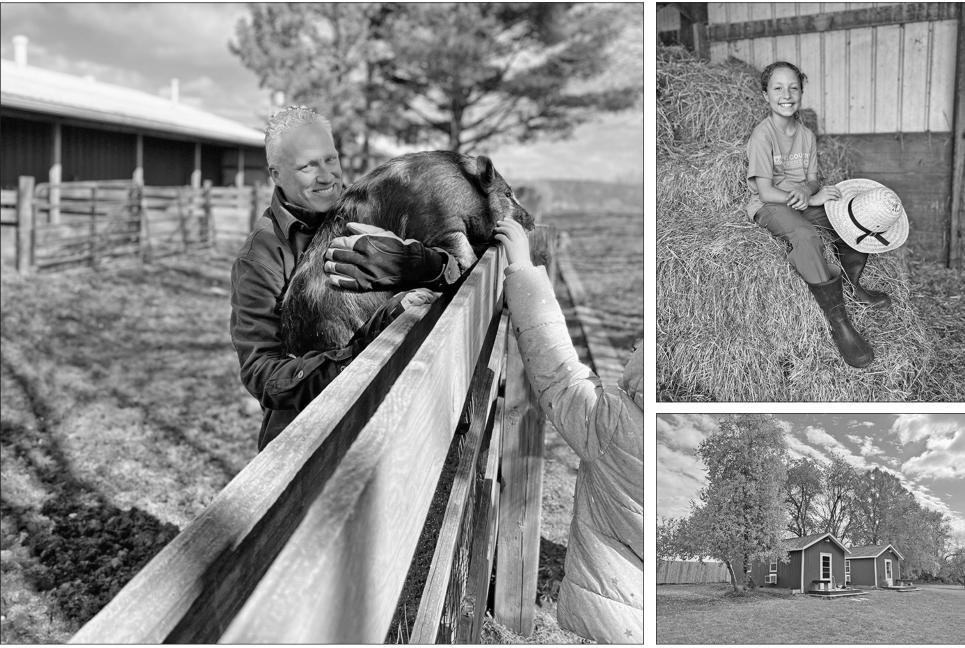




VOL. 91 • NO. 18

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER





SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Breathe fresh air at a family farm

Ed Amstutz (above left) is pictured showing one of the animals at The Country Experience in Elizabeth, III. The business is owned and operated by the Amstutz family and offers school tours, summer camp, farm stays, and hosting of events. Children can come and experience what it's like to take care of a pig or a goat, to feed a chicken and to harvest a ripe tomato out of the garden," said Amstutz. "The farm offers space to explore, time to experience new things, develop friendships, and get out-

Postal Customer **ecrwss

doors and away from electronics and the trappings of our anxious and disconnected lives." Pictured top right is Eloise Turner, a five-year returning camper at Farm Camp. See Page 3 for the story.



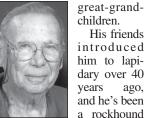
Obituary

ARTHUR DAWSON

Arthur Dawson, of Freeport, IL, and San Benito, TX entered the presence of The Lord peacefully in his sleep in a Texas hospital dreaming of fishing on April 3, 2025, at the age of 91. He was loved by family and friends alike.

He was a retired Air Force Captain, graduate of Bradley University in Peoria, IL, and a mechanical engineer for Microswitch (Honeywell) for over 40 years. He was an active member of the Community Reformed Church, where he served as a deacon for several years. He and his wife Joyce of 69 years attended The Light House Fellowship while in San Benito. He loved the Lord Jesus as his Savior and is now more alive than ever, praising and rejoicing in Him!

Arthur had many hobbies over his lifetime. He was a fisherman since the age of two and could catch fish in any body of water he was on or next to. He enjoyed many annual fishing trips with family and friends and passed that legacy on to his sons and grandsons. He was an avid golfer and participated in different leagues over his lifetime and taught the game to his sons and anyone else that asked. He was a Cubmaster when his sons were young and flew radio-controlled planes for a few years. Pegs & Jokers was his favorite game, and he passed his love for it to family and friends. Some of our favorite memories of Dad are playing the game with grandchildren and



children. His friends introduced him to lapidary over 40 vears ago, and he's been a rockhound ever since.

As a member of the Northwest Illinois Rock Club, he gained an encyclopedic knowledge of semi-precious stones. He used his skills as a lapidarist and silversmith to make jewelry enjoyed and worn by all who saw it, even working stones into stained glass pieces with his wife. If you read this, ask any of his sons about Leaverite. You could always find him searching at a rock pile or landscaping rock around restaurants, gas stations or just about anywhere looking for agates. He shared his love of the hobby with people both at his home workshop in Freeport and at the shop at the Fun-n-Sun Resort which was his winter home in Texas He will be missed by all.

He is survived by his wife Joyce Dawson, his brothers; John Dawson, Ken Dawson (Joyce), his sons; Arthur Dawson Jr. (Norma), Ward Dawson (Becky), Jack Dawson (Linda), five (5) grandchildren and nine (9) great grandchildren.

A celebration of his life will be held on May 3, 2025, at the Evangelical Free Church of Lena at 720 North Freedom Street, Lena, IL, at 11 a.m., with visitation starting at 9:30 a.m.



Music Art and Recreational Society of Stockton is proud to present Meghan Davis in concert on April 25, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the Stockton American Legion Hall located at 128 E. Front Avenue. Davis is an area favorite guitar and vocal performer from Northwest Illinois. Her shows consist of current hits and music from the past 5 decades in-

Music Art and Recreational Society of Stockton welcomes Meghan Davis

cluding classic rock, pop and a little bit of country. Admission is free, but a collection

Music Art and Recreational Society of Stockton (MARSS) is proud to present Meghan Davis in concert on April 25, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the Stockton American Legion Hall located at 128 E. Front Avenue.

for future concerts will be taken.

Davis is an area favorite

er from Northwest Illinois. Her shows consist of current hits and music from the past 5 decades including classic rock, pop and a little bit of country. She features hits from a wide array of artists such as James Taylor, Carly

guitar and vocal perform-

Simon, The Eagles, Simon and Garfunkel, John Denver, Taylor Swift, Jackson Browne, Elton John, REO Speedwagon, Tom Petty, and many more.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Bock Valley Publishing

Admission is free, but a collection for future concerts will be taken.

Freeport police reports Police chase ends in

felony arrest

On April 16, 2025, at 4:30 p.m., Freeport Police Officers attempted to stop a vehicle at Waddell Avenue and Beach Street being driven by 32-year-old Rockford, Illinois resident Alvin Jones. Freeport Police Officers were aware that Jones had an outstanding felony Robbery warrant for his arrest issued by the Rockford Police Department. Jones led Officers on a vehicle chase that eventually ended in the area of Stephenson Street and Brad Mar Drive where Jones exited the vehicle and ran from Officers. Jones was then apprehended after a short foot pursuit.

During a search of Alvin Jones' person incident to his Officers recovered arrest. suspected MDMA pills. As a result of this incident, Jones faces additional charges of Possession of a Controlled Substance and Aggravating Fleeing to Elude a Peace Officer. Jones was transported to the Stephenson County Jail where he is being held. The Freeport Police Department would like to thank the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office for their assistance with apprehending Jones.

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.

TWO DAYS...100 MILES...TOTAL FUN **Explore** the Corridor! May 3 May 4 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Take a self-guided tour on Route 66 from Joliet now to Bloomington, IL ILLINOIS ับร Explore 15 communities for 6 antiques, food, outdoor markets, festivals, entertainment, historic museums and more! www.ilroute66redcarpetcorridor.com Red Carpet Corridor • 815-844-5847 Music with **MEGHAN DAVIS** American Legion 128 E. Front Ave. MARSS Stockton, IL Friday,



Brought to you by the Music, Arts and Recreational Society of Stockton

Conservation Foundation kicks off 2025 program series

Join the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) for the program "In the beginning: Behind-the-scenes stories about how JDCF came to own and protect its first three preserves; Schurmeier Forest, Buehler Preserve, and Wapello Land and Water Reserve." This free program

Lu and Marce Rothschadl

will take place at JDCF's stewardship shop located at 230 E Chicago Street, Elizabeth, IL. Doors open at 9:15 a.m. for coffee, doughnuts and self-guided tours of the Shop. The program follows at 10 am. RSVPs required. To reserve a spot contact info@ jdcf.org.

65th Wedding

Anniversary

April 23, 2025

We are celebrating with a

Card Shower.

Send cards to: 576 Quail Drive

Lena, IL 61048

Love, Your Family

After the program, there will be a guided woodland wildflowers tour of Schurmeier Forest, JDCF's first preserve, located just down the road in Elizabeth. JDCF has nine nature preserves open to the public in Jo Daviess County, all of them acquired and maintained in keeping with JDCF's mission to protect land "for the lasting benefit of all people and wildlife." Taken together, they cover more than 1,500 acres. They are open year-round and offer seasonal opportunities for recreation and nature explora-

tion, including hiking, wildflower walks, birding, cross country skiing, and horseback trail riding, along with trailside viewing of protected habitats including woodlands, savannas, prairies and indigenous cultural sites.

JDCF's "Explore our Preserves" series will showcase several preserves in 2025 and more in 2026. The series continues on May 31 when Randy Nyboer, botanist, ecologist and supervisor of natural area surveys will present at one

See SERIES, Page 4



Rural retreats — Meander the fields, help with chores or just breathe the fresh air during a stay at an Illinois farm

Bv Kim Hill ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU PARTNERS

Enjoy sleeping in a grain bin, riding in a combine or gathering eggs from a chicken coop for the freshest omelet you'll ever taste. If these bucolic happenings sound perfect, it's time for an overnight stay at an Illinois farm.

Meet three Illinois farms offering a variety of experiences for a sojourn into the country.

The Country Experience

Ed and Elizabeth Amstutz first developed The Country Experience in Jo Daviess County for summer sleepaway camps.

"Our kids had gone to a farm camp in Ohio and came back smelly, smiley and wanting to do it all over again," Ed Amstutz said.

The Amstutz family's desire to share their ideas for growing their own food with minimal impacts also moved them to purchase The Country Experience. School tours followed the summer camp success, then farm stays soon began, inviting all ages to the farm.

"Children who aren't yet in school or summer campage can come and experience what it's like to take care of a pig or a goat, to feed a chicken and to harvest a ripe tomato out of the garden," said Amstutz, expanding on the decision to offer farm stays.

The 34-acre property includes five cabins, three tents, a century-old barn and a fishing pond. Guests can come for the entire weekend, with most meals included.

"Most people come to us seeking the opportunity to be part of the actual farm work," Amstutz said, noting visitors say their best experiences stem from going inside the fences to feed and interact with the goats, cows, pigs, sheep, donkeys, chickens and rabbits.

Those who venture offsite can explore the historic town of Galena, located 12 miles away. And hiking trails abound at nearby Mississippi Palisades State Park.

"We get so many people who just want to experience rural life," Amstutz said. "We provide the opportunity for people to discover a little bit about who they are and who they can be and, at the same time, getting them closer to realizing what it really takes to raise chickens for a dozen eggs.'

The Country Experience core values We believe in:

*Living beautifully - with a view that makes our heart smile, clean air and fresh waa land and people impact we can be proud of.

*Working intentionally to build something that will last, that aids the growth and development of young people, as we create a sustainable business.

*Preparing an environment where kids can be confident and considering enough to explore who they are, who they want to be, and how they might go about creating that for themselves.

*Having a ton of fun, freedom and space to explore, time to experience new things, develop friendships, and get outdoors and away from electronics and the trappings of our anxious and disconnected lives.

The Has Bin

Mary and Stan Seaman grow corn, soybeans and wheat, raise beef cattle, and preserve fruits and vegetables from their garden on the Vermilion County farm where Stan grew up. They weren't looking for more work, but a few years ago they created The Has Bin Guest House after a neighbor asked Stan to help remove a grain bin from

would do with the bin at the time, but I like to be creative and figure out how old things might be used for something else," Mary said.

Stan moved the grain bin to their farm and converted it into an 18-foot-diameter bed-andbreakfast. The flooring and beams came from an 1800s barn. An antique sewing machine and Victorian-era bowl were repurposed as a sink and washstand. The nonworking stove, circa 1920s, provides a surface for the coffee station. Mary's complimentary breakfast features homemade jam or jelly and eggs from their neighbor's chickens.

"I love people and hosting, and even though we are busy, this just fits," Mary said.

She enjoys treating guests celebrating special occasions with a homemade cake, card or colorful sign. Plus, it's a chance to teach guests about agriculture.

"On the farm, we've had people ride along on the combine who don't know anything about harvesting," Mary said

Those who do venture afield can visit a craft brewery, vineyard or parks for hiking and horseback riding. Nearby Danville has a rich Abraham Lincoln history, as ter, food we can believe in and he practiced law there for 18 years. However, many guests never leave the back deck, enjoying the comforts and peace on the farm.

"I'm busier than I ever imagined," Mary said. "People want to get away from the city out on the farm where it's peaceful."

Grafton Getaway Guesthouses

Brandon Jeffers, a contractor who has traveled to all seven continents, is a native of Winchester, population 1,700. He bought a working farm with the sole intent of hosting people to share this rural oasis.

"These rural roots are ingrained in me," he said.

Grafton Getaway His Guesthouses consist of seven sites, all located within a 15-minute drive of Grafton and each other. The farm sits on 23 acres with picturesque red barns providing the space for chicken coops, wooded trails, a firepit and the giant yard chess board that's a signature Jeffers amenity.

"It's a new adventure to a lot of guests who have never been in a chicken coop and don't know how to fetch his property. eggs," he said. "It's fun to be "I didn't know what I able to offer that kind of exeggs," he said. "It's fun to be perience.'

> At the farm, guests will find sleeping arrangements for 26 people. The venue hosts church groups, yoga retreats, small weddings and family reunions. Amenities include a trampoline, ping pong table, putting green and kids' zone in the barn. Guests can also fish in the pond or sleep in the barn's hayloft.

> Nearby attractions include Pere Marquette State Park, Treehouse Wildlife Center, a waterpark, wineries, a zipline and Eckert's Orchard in Grafton. However, most of Jeffers' guests are seeking the farm stay as their main destination.

"They're coming here specifically, and they may not leave the property," he said. 'We're a place where kids can just run around and be kids."

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





SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Visitors to The Country Experience say their best experiences stem from going inside the fences to feed and interact with the goats, cows, pigs, sheep, donkeys, chickens and rabbits.

THE SCOOP TODAY

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THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE Wednesday, April 23, 2025

River Ridge FFA member Ella Dittmar places first in FFA Public Speaking

Freshman FFA member Ella Dittmar, from the River Ridge FFA Chapter, recently took home first place in the Section One FFA Public Speaking Career Development Event.

At this event, Dittmar memorized the five-paragraph FFA Creed which was written in 1928 by E.M. Tiffany. Students are graded not only on if they have The Creed perfectly memorized but also on their dictation, enunciation, voice quality, gestures and volume. They also have a five-minute period after the recitation where they must answer questions from the judges about the Creed. Dittmar will now move on to the District Competition in Geneseo on May 7 where she will have the opportunity to qualify for State Competition.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Natalie Keleher, Gracie Allen (both competed in Extemporaneous with Keleher finishing Keleher) and Ella Dittmar at the Public Speaking Career Development Event.



who have sent a donation to help underwrite the Scoop Today/Shopper's Guide. For those of you who haven't done so in the past year, but enjoy this newspaper and would like to help us pay for its operation, please send a donation in any amount to:

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Series

(Continued from page 2)

Rutherford Refuge at Twin Bridges, near Warren, IL. For more on the May 31 event and for dates, times and logistics on future events, please check in regularly with at www.jdcf.org, or follow JDCF on Facebook or Instagram.

of JDCF's newest preserves,



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Church news

and Zion Church. The menu

will be ham, mashed pota-

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 infor-

mittee will be having a col-

lection for the ELCA Good Gifts project from April 27 through June 1. Their

goals for this project are one

herd of goats, two groups

of 10 chicks, one rooster

for chicks, seven honeybee

hives, four food packages

for vulnerable and orphaned

children for one month, vac-

cinations for a child, 10 water filters, two piglets, and one mosquito net. If you

would like to donate to this

project, please contact the

Healthy

group will be packing back-

packs on Thursday, April 24

at 3:15 p.m. If you are inter-

ested in donating to this min-

istry, reach out to the church

office for more information.

Church of Pearl City is an

ELCA parish and is located

at 229 First St. in Pearl City.

We are handicapped accessi-

ble. If you need to contact

the pastor or church, you

may call 815-443-2215 for

Calvary Church of Stock-

ton will hold its annual Moth-

er-Daughter-Sister Friend Salad Luncheon on Saturday,

May 3 at 12 p.m. Women are asked to bring a meat, vege-

table, or fruit salad or dessert

to share. The men will serve.

The Program will begin at 1

p.m. featuring the "No Wor-

ries" band of Mary Berryhill,

Terry O'Malley, and Mary

John's

Wolves

Lutheran

church office.

The

St.

information.

of Stockton

Calvary Church

The social ministry com-

mation.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

All are invited to worship toes and gravy, peas and carat Good Shepherd Lutheran rots, applesauce, and cherry Church, 118 E. Mason St. Lena, IL. Join on Sunday, April 27, 2025, to celebrate Second Sunday of Easter Sunrise worship at 9:30 a.m. The Gospel will be from Gospel John 20:19-31.

On Wednesday, April 30 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

John's Lutheran St Church, Pearl City will celebrate the Second Sunday of Easter on April 27 at 9 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to come to St. John's to play cards and dominoes on Tuesday, April 24 at 1 p.m. and play dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, May 6 at 9 a.m. The next Men's Breakfast will be on Wednesday, May 7 at 7:30 a.m. at the Beltline Restaurant in Freeport.

On Sunday, May 4 St. John's members and friends can go out for lunch at the Legends on Route 26 north of Freeport at 12 p.m. Please sign up on the bulletin board. Members and friends are

The April Grace Meal will be on Sunday, April 27. It will be a community meal served by St. John's, Faith United Methodist Church,

> Calvary Church is located 3/4" thick \$3.89 each on the corner of Rush and Maple streets in Stockton, Anich Lumber Co. IL, just south of the schools. 3rd Street • Palmyra www.palsteel.com **Compare our CD Rates**

Jane Hammer.

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Lena American Legion news

July Calendar Raffle

Once again it is time for the Sons of the American Legion in Lena to hold their July Calendar Raffle. The proceeds from this raffle help support The American Legion baseball teams. Tickets will be through July 1 and are \$10 each. No more that 800 tickets will be sold, and every ticket is eligible for each drawing.

Tickets are available at the American Legion Home on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. or can be purchased by calling 815-369-4684. Thank you for your support of these fine young players.

Poppy Poster Contest

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary recently held the annual Poppy Poster Contest. All students in grades fourth through twelve were eligible to participate for a chance to compete at the state level. Mrs. Amendt, LeWin Elementary School art teacher, and Mr. Smith, Le-Win Junior and Senior High Schools art teacher, instructed students at Le-Win. A total of 131 posters were submitted. This year's winners were Penelope Price (fourth grade), Everly Keeffer and Elaina Becker (fifth grade), Brishti Schoonhoven-Hussain (sixth grade), Logan Stocks (seventh grade), Landon Kornfeind (eighth grade), and Ella Kerr (twelfth grade).

Each winner received a Main Street Eats and Treats gift card from the Lena American Legion Auxiliary. Poster winners have been sent to the Department Headquarters of the American Legion Department of Illinois to be judged and awarded cash prizes. Any winners awarded at Department will receive a notification letter mailed directly to them. Thank you so much to all the students, and to Mrs. Amendt and Mr. Smith for making this contest a success.

Posters not sent to Department Headquarters will be hung up in local Lena business windows during the Month of May to commemorate Memorial Day. Please contact the Lena American Legion Auxiliary on Facebook with any questions or to learn more about the significance of the poppy for Memorial Day.

Memorial Day Breakfast

A breakfast will be held on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2025, at the Lena American Legion Home, 316 W. Main St., Lena, IL, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. It will be served from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and will include scrambled eggs, French toast, biscuits and gravy, sausage, ham, coffee cake, fresh fruit, juice, milk and coffee. The price is \$10, or \$5 for children 10 and under. Carryout is available.



Lena-Winslow Elementary School Poppy Poster Contest winners (left to right) Elaina Becker, Everly Keeffer, and Penelope Price.



Rock Valley Publishing Lena-Winslow High School winner, Ella Kerr.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing Eighth grade winner, Landon Kornfeind.



Rock Valley Publishing Seventh grade winner, Logan Stocks.



Fifth grade winner, Brishti Schoonhoven Hussain.



· ·	

Deadline to sign up is Monday, May 26! Please Sign Up EARLY. Early Registration is Appreciated!!

THE SCOOP TODAY Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Warhawks route West Carroll for eighth victory of 2025 softball season game off with a double, in-

By Trenten Scheidegger CORRESPONDENT

The Warren-Stockton Warhawks have had a rollercoaster of a ride to start the 2025 softball season. They have already experienced a fourgame winning streak, while also having dropped back-toback games on two separate occasions.

When the Warhawks hit

Loescher

the road to take on the West Carroll Thunder on Tuesday, April 15, they brought an overall record of 7-5 with them. They were fresh off a 2-6 loss to the Galena Pirates, and they were hoping to avoid losing back-to-back games for the third time.

The Warhawks got things off to a quick start. It was Payton Goswick who led the

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stantly putting her team in a position to score. After an error, a walk, and a wild pitch, the Warhawks had jumped out to a quick 2-0 advantage.

The Thunder would respond in the bottom half. Madalynn Perry was welcomed into the game as Warren-Stockton's starting pitcher when the Thunder ripped a leadoff double of their own. A pair of singles would allow the Thunder to tie the game

2-2 before the end of the first. West Carroll's defensive struggles continued in the second inning. After an er-

ror allowed Merideth Hesselbacher to reach safely, Raiyn Dauphin singled to the left side. Goswick followed that up with her second extra base hit of the evening as she hit an RBI triple to restore the Warhawks' lead. Later in the inning, Adrianne Baker would single to left, driving in Maizy Fonseca and giving Warren-Stockton a 5-2 advantage.

The Thunder bats were unable to keep pace with Warren-Stockton's efforts. West Carroll continued to make things harder on themselves as defensive miscues allowed the Warhawks to run up the

score. West Carroll finished the game with six errors in just six innings as the Warhawks picked up a 15-4 victory.

Warren-Stockton combined for 12 hits in the victory. Goswick was excellent in the leadoff spot. In four at bats, Goswick had three hits, one walk, four runs scored, and three RBI. Dauphin was next up, going two for three with a walk, two runs scored, and two RBI. Fonseca finished the day going one for four with a walk, four runs scored, and two RBI. Baker was also two for four with a

run scored and one RBI. Ireland Mensendike finished the day with two hits, a run scored, and one RBI.

Perry wound up pitching all six innings for the Warhawks. Perry collected the win as she allowed six hits, one walk, and four earned runs, while striking out six.

With the win, the Warhawks improved to 8-5 on the year. They also avoided the dreaded consecutive loss. This Thursday, April 24, the Warhawks return home to play against the East Dubuque Warriors. That game is set to begin at 4:30 p.m.

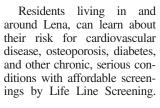
Affordable Health Screenings coming to Lena

Providing Commercial & Residential HVAC Services The Single Source. The Right Choice

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LoescherHVAC.com



Lena Community Center will host this community event on May 13, 2025. The site is located at 497 Lions Dr. in Lena.

Screenings can check for: the level of plaque buildup in your arteries, related to risk for car-

diovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health, HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels, diabetes risk, kidney and thyroid function, and more. Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available.

Let us take the worry out of having your car repaired.

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Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will create a package based on age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit www. lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

301 Dodds Drive

Lena, IL 61048 815-369-4148 M-Th 7:30 - 5:00

Friday 7:30 - 4:00

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Email:	Signature:

Mail to: The Scoop Today, c/o Rock Valley Publishing, 1102 Ann St., Delavan, WI 53115 OR send by email to: scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com For out of county subscription rates call 815-369-4112

Members who attend the meeting will receive MPC1 Revenue Protocion Winter Winter Grange Coverage Induces

one \$10 bill credit per membership. Please RSVP by May 12 so we have an accurate food and drink count-go to jcecoop.com/annual-meeting

or scan the QR code.





2025 **Annual Meeting** of Members Please join us!

Wednesday May 28, 2025 **East Dubuque High School** 200 Parklane East Dubuque, IL 61025

4:30 p.m. **Member registration**

> 6:00 p.m. Meeting

7:00 p.m. **Pulled pork** sandwich dinner from **The Other Side**

Activities for kids ages 5-12 during the meeting.

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Panthers win fifth in a row with huge victory over Clippers

By Trenten Scheidegger CORRESPONDENT

The Lena-Winslow Panthers won their fifth consecutive baseball game when they picked up a big 12-1 victory over the Amboy Clippers last weekend. It's already the second time this season that the Panthers have won at least four games in a row. Their lattheir record to 11-3-1 in the 2025 season.

On Monday, April 14 the Panthers went on the road and picked up a statement victory over the River Ridge-Scales Mound Wildcats. It was a game that featured 21 hits, 12 of which came from Le-Win bats. A big sixth inning helped

Stephenson County Restaurant Week

The Greater Freeport Partnership is excited to announce the return of Stephenson County Restaurant Week from April 25 through May 4. During this 10-day event, patrons are encouraged to seek out dining options from area restaurants that are offering featured dishes.

Freeport and Stephenson County are home to more than 90 restaurants, cafés, bars, lounges, and delis, each with a unique flavor or environment. The Stephenson County Restaurant Guide can be found online and in participating restaurants in the county and includes featured specials from restaurants as well as a complete contact listing. The online guide can be found at greaterfreeport.com/restaurantweek.

Don't forget to enter to win! Restaurant Week participants can take photos of the specials they enjoy and post on social media with the hashtag #Steph-CoEats. On May 6, a winner will be chosen from those who used the hashtag and awarded \$100 in Partnership Cash!

"Stephenson County filled with great restaurants

815-235-4125

with a wide variety of dishes and delights. We are happy to highlight the many options that are available locally and hope that residents and visitors will make an extra effort to support restaurants during this special time and throughout the season," said Bill Clow, business engagement director of the Greater Freeport Partnership.

Restaurants have selected menu items that highlight their best options and fit the tone of their establishment. "Make it your goal during Restaurant Week to try at least three new places you haven't had before. We all get into the habit of ordering from the same places and miss so much! Restaurant Week is the extra invitation to exit your comfort zone and support local dining," said Brand Director Nicole Haas.

Dine-in, delivery and carry-out options are available at various locations. Follow the Greater Freeport Partnership and ALL IN Stephenson County social media channels for more information, restaurant videos and daily specials throughout restaurant week.

est winning streak improved the Panthers run away with an 11-3 victory.

Khayne Albright got the win on the mound. Albright threw six and one third innings with seven strikeouts, zero walks, and five hits allowed. He didn't allow a run in his outing.

At the plate, the Panthers were led by Landon Grindey, who proved to be a tough out. Grindey went three for three with two runs batted in and a walk in the victory. Jaden Schubert also had a big day offensively. Schubert went two for two with two RBI, one run scored, and one walk. Luke Madigan went two for four with two runs scored. Cohen Weegens was two for five with

two runs scored. Aiden Wild went one for three with three runs scored, two RBI, and a walk in the victory.

The very next day, the Panthers returned home to play host to the Forreston Cardinals. Coming into the game with a record of 14-2, Forreston was one of the toughest tests the Panthers would face in the early half of the 2025 season.

Both offenses were firing at the start. Four total runs were scored in the first inning, and the Panthers already held a 6-2 advantage at the end of the second

Madigan put in a long day's work on the mound for Le-Win. In six and one third in-

nings, Madigan allowed seven earned runs off eight hits and three walks. Madigan also had 11 strikeouts. Madigan nearly made it through a complete game performance. In the seventh inning, Le-Win held a 7-4 lead over the Cardinals. A single and back-to-back walks had the Le-Win starter in trouble to start the inning. Two at bats later, Forreston had tied the game at 7-7.

Weegens came in to settle things down from there. After hitting the first batter he faced, Weegens proceeded to get two quick outs, sending the game into the bottom half still tied. Le-Win was unable to walk it off in regulation, but Weegens was warmed up and

ready for an extra-inning performance. Despite allowing a double, Weegens picked up a pair of eighth inning strikeouts to send the Le-Win bats to the plate with some momentum.

After two quick outs, it looked like the Panthers were going to need another inning from Weegens on the mound. That's when Maverick Cass took a five-pitch walk to give the Panthers life. Brody Cox came in to pinch run for Cass, and he wound up being the game's winning run. Wild had the hit of the game as his line drive to center allowed Cox to round the bases and walk the game off for an 8-7 victory.

See WIN, Page 9



extending knowledge, changing lives

During National Volunteer Week, we proudly celebrate the incredible volunteers who help bring the mission of 4-H and Extension to life. Your time, passion, and dedication make a lasting impact-thank you for all you do!



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From Lena's Kitchen



The not so skinny cook

Another Easter is behind us, and our weather is get-We ting more spring-like. are all praying that we don't get storms that bring destruction. I read that the outlook is not good. We are hoping the Waddams Hill helps us keep out of their paths. This week we are featuring leftovers from Easter and suggestions for Mother's Day. Enjoy the week cooking.

Pickled Eggs and Beets

These eggs and beets can be added to a salad, eaten whole, or make the eggs into deviled eggs. They make a great appetizer for Easter.

2 cans (15 oz. each) whole beets

- 12 hard-boiled eggs, peeled 1 C. sugar
- 1 C. water
- 1 C. cider vinegar

Drain beets, reserving 1 C. juice; discard remaining juice or save for another use. Be careful because the juice

stains. Place beets and eggs overnight. in a 2-quart jar. In a small saucepan bring the sugar, water, vinegar and reserved beet juice to a boil. Pour over the beets and eggs in the jar; cool. Cover tightly and refrigerate for at least 24 hours before serving. Cut the beets into slices; cut the eggs in half or let them whole.

Carrot Cake Cheese Ball

This cheese ball is a dessert treat. All the flavors of a carrot cake are melded into this tasty treat.

1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened

³/₄ C. grated carrots, divided 1/2 C. well-drained crushed pineapple

1/3 C. golden raisins

2 T. honey

1 t. vanilla

¹/₂ t. cinnamon

 $\frac{1}{4}$ t. salt 1/4 C. unsweetened coconut

flakes, lightly toasted 1/4 C. toasted, chopped pe-

cans Cinnamon graham crack-

ers, vanilla wafers and apple slices

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth. Stir in $\frac{1}{2}$ c. carrots, pineapple, raisins, honey, vanilla, cinnamon, and salt. Shape cheese mixture into a ball (mixture will be soft). Wrap and refrigerate

Just before serving, roll cheese ball in coconut and pecans and remaining 1/4 C. carrots. Serve with graham crackers, vanilla wafers, and apple slices.

Radish Cucumber Salad

In a lot of cooking magazines and on the cooking shows, radishes as a salad are a big hit. The combination of radishes and cucumber makes for a great looking salad that is perfect for spring.

¹/₂ medium cucumber, halved and sliced

- 2 radishes, sliced
- 2 T. chopped red onion
- 1 T. olive oil 1¹/₂ t. lemon juice
- ¹/₄ t. garlic salt
- 1/8 t. lemon-pepper season-

ing

In a serving bowl, combine the cucumber, radishes and onion. In a second bowl, combine the olive oil, lemon juice and seasonings. Pour over vegetables and toss to coat. Serve immediately.

Ham and Veggie Casserole

you have leftover Do Easter ham? Do you need a brunch dish for Mother's Day? This casserole is a perfect for both.

coli florets

1 pkg. (16 oz.) frozen cauliflower 2 t. plus 2 T. butter, divided

 $\frac{1}{4}$ C. seasoned breadcrumbs

2 T. flour

11/2 C. 2% milk 3/4 C. shredded sharp ched-

dar cheese ¹/₂ C. grated Parmesan cheese

1¹/₂ C. cubed fully cooked ham

1/4 t. pepper

Preheat the oven to 425. Cook broccoli and cauliflower according to package directions, drain. In a small skillet, melt 2 t. butter; add

breadcrumbs. Cook and stir over medium heat until lightly toasted, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove from heat and set aside.

In a large saucepan, melt remaining butter over medium heat. Stir in flour until smooth, gradually whisking in milk. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly; cook and stir until thickened, 1 to 2 minutes. Remove from heat; stir in cheeses until blended. Stir in ham, pepper and vegetables. Transfer to a greased 8-inch square baking dish. Sprinkle with toasted crumbs. Bake, uncovered, until heated through 10 to 15 minutes. If you have leftover broccoli and cauliflower from your relish tray, use 2 C. each fresh broccoli and cauliflower, cooking until

1 pkg. (16 oz.) frozen broc- crisp tender and plunging in and parchment paper and set cold water; drain well.

Ham Potpie

This recipe is great for leftover ham. It will feed your family during the week or on the weekend. You can cut up leftover Easter ham into 2-cup portions and place in a zip lock bag in the freezer. Most casseroles and soups call for the 2-cup portion. You can use your own pie crust, but Pillsbury makes a good prepared one. 1 prepared 2 crust pie crust,

softened

- 21/2 C. cubed cooked ham
- 2 C. frozen peas 2 medium potatoes, peeled
- and cubed

3 medium carrots, thinly sliced

- 2 celery ribs, finely chopped
- 1/4 C. finely chopped onion
- 3 T. butter
- 3 T. flour
- 1¹/₂ t. dried tarragon
- ¹∕₂ t. salt
- 1/4 t. pepper
- 1 C. 2% milk ¹/₂ C. chicken broth

Preheat oven to 375. Place bottom crust into a 2 ¹/₂ qt. baking dish and bring up the sides. Prick the bottom with a fork all over. Place parchment paper in bottom and fill bottom with beans or pie weights. Bake for 15 min-Remove pie weights utes.

aside.

In a large bowl, combine the ham, peas, potatoes, carrots, celery and onion; set aside. In a large saucepan, melt butter. Stir in flour, tarragon, salt, and pepper until smooth. Gradually stir in milk and broth. Bring to a boil. Cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Stir into ham mixture and spoon into crust. Place top crust to fit top of pie. Place some slits in the top crust. Trim and seal crust with a fluted edge. Brush additional milk over pastry. Bake until crust is golden brown, and filling is bubbly, 50 to 60 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Orange Jell-O Pretzel Dessert

Some people call this a salad, but I think it is a great springtime dessert. It would be great on a Mother's Day Brunch table. It is often made with strawberries.

³/₄ C. butter, melted

- 1 T. plus 3/4 C. sugar, divid-
- 2 C. finely crushed pretzels
- 2 C. boiling water
- 2 pkg. (3 oz. each) orange

Jell-O

2 cans (8 oz. each) crushed

See KITCHEN, Page 10

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Wednesday, April 23, 2025 THE SCOOP TODAY / SHOPPER'S GUIDE

(Continued from page 7)

the Clippers for a weekend matchup, they were sure to give themselves some more separation. With five runs in the bottom of the second, the Panthers jumped out to an early 7-0 lead. They never looked back as they went on to claim a 12-1 victory over Amboy.

Cass collected the win on

When the Panthers took on the mound in this one. Cass threw four innings of fivehit ball with zero earned runs and three strikeouts. At the plate, Wild was perfect on the day, going three for three with one run scored and three RBI. Madigan went one for three with one run scored and two RBI. Cass was one for two with two RBI and a walk.

Koby Kearns was one for three with one run scored and one RBI as well.

This Thursday, April 24 the Panthers play host to the Orangeville Broncos. That game is set to begin at 4:30 p.m. On Monday, April 28 the Panthers will have to hit the road and go take on the Forreston Cardinals once again.

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To know more, read public notices in today's newspaper or go to

PublicNoticeIllinois.com

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SATURDAY, APRIL 26, at 9 A.M. **SCHRADERS' SPRING CONSIGNMENT AUCTION** 5995 IL 75 E, DAKOTA, IL

Sale order: Tools & small items, fencing, lumber, auto, hay, field equip.

EARLY LISTINGS: Nice Farmall Super H; Case 970 with cab; McCormick 64 pull type combine; Ford 5' brush mower; Ford 6' blade; 4 bottom plow; Vermeer rd baler; Glencoe 7 sk soil saver; 10 wheel rake; IH 45 12' Vibra-Shank field cult with new shovels & new hyd hose; Ford 3 pt 7' rotary mower; Sears barge wagon with new tires & gd paint; 16' hay wagon with back; bale cage wagon; 1,500 gal. poly water tank; MTM pressure washer, hot water; 600 gal. steel cylinder water tank; transfer fuel tank; 4 cf huts; new roll 48" woven wire; farm gates; deluxe hoof trimming chute with double belly straps; feed buckets; rubber mats; cattle grooming chute; 6' x 16' stock trailer; Stainless steel 3 bay sink; Duck hunting equip; decoys; 4 hunting blinds; box of duck calls; 2 dog cages; 3 cyclone gate cylinders; Shimano alum mountain bike; Honda CRV; brand new DMI bumper; tools & lawn equip.; Cub Cadet 1450, 50" deck, hydrostat; Ford 105A 3 pt 5' tiller; JD 425 with ft loader; MTD 22" snow blower, never used; hay & straw.

> List subject to change. Always more by sale day. NO guns or household goods. Not responsible for accidents. 815-449-2215 • 440000453 441001020

The Estate of Scott Lutz

Online Only Auction

Soft Closing starts at 7:00 pm on Wednesday April 30, 2025 Pick up will be at: 8293 Church Rd., Rock City, IL 61070 Saturday May 3, from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Auctioneer Note: Scott was a do-it-yourself person. This auction has lots of tools. All items must be picked up on pick up date. Scott also played music, he has PEAVY amps Electric keyboard, Sound equipment, Stereo Components. 500 plus lots!!

Bad Boy Outlaw XP 993cc zero turn 61" deck 36hp Briggs & Stratton, Massey Ferguson M85 gas w/Loader, tractor chains 69x30 tires: Die cast NASCAR Cars, Die cast cars and trucks, SAFARI Gun safe, GENERAC GP5500 gas Generator, Large asst of hand tools, Carpenter tools, Nuts, Bolts, Nails, Wire, Lumber, Ladders, Coleman Caboose motorcycle trailer, Teske 8ft trailer, 33ft Antenna tower, old windmill and tower, Fiberglass Canoe, Asst old License plates, Yard Machine 10hp 28" 2 stage snow Blower w/Electric Start, Old Case Riding mower project, Fishing Rods and Tackle, Raider Fiberglass Truck Topper, Portable Metal Cabinets w/Electric, Fire Escape Ladder, Old Metal Register Grate 35.5"x35.5", 16ft Fiberglass Extension Ladder, Yardworks Sweeper, Old Millstone Light, FENDER Speakers & other FENDER Equipment.

NOTE: Must bring help and proper tools to dismantle your purchases (if needed) along with packing material and cartons. All items sold "AS IS", All sales are final. You bid, You buy, You own. No sad stories. Visit our website: https://advancedauctions.hibid.com for more information and to be able to register and bid on this auction. A 18% Buyers Premium will be charged. Buyers, please bring tools and help to load your items.

Any questions or private showing please contact O.D. Holley at Advanced Auction & Appraisal at 815-218-0705





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SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025 - 8:30 AM SHARP

TO CONSIGN TIL SALE DAY CALL: PAT 815-238-0843 or PHIL 815-821-2544. HELD RAIN OR SHINE—Lunch by Firemen's Fabulous Foods. Brats, pies, & more.. Restrooms and portables. ALL COMMISIONS GO TO PURCHASE & UPDATE ORANGEVILLE FIRE DEPT. EQUIPMENT.

Over 1,100 registered buyers averaged last 4 sales. Registration starts at 7:15 am - Sale last all day!!! **********Ön-line Early Buyer Pre-registration Available *********

E-mail us at orangevillefire3300@gmail.com with your name, address, phone number prior to sale day. Present Photo ID sale day to pick-up your number.

WE STRONGLY URGE THIS PRACTICE TO AVOID THE LONGER LINES. HELP US SPEED UP YOUR REGISTRATION!

Consigned items can be brought in on Friday April 25nth, 8 am till 6 pm, Sat April 26th, 7 am. to 6pm. NOTHING AFTER 6 PM-DOORS CLOSED, GATE CLOSED AT 6PM!!!! NO CONSIGNMENTS SALE DAY. NO BUY BACK FEE!! All titled items must be accompanied by title or proof of title, and \$25 non-refundable doc fee. WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, FURNITURE OR APPLIANCES! Firemen reserve the right to refuse consignments due to saleable condition or usefulness. Not responsible for consigned items that do not show up sale day. Call to be sure it's here! Always lots more not advertised. FARM: '71 JD 1520 Gas w/loader 3,440 hours new carb and manifolds; JD 3pt rotary mower; Farm Fans AB500 Corn Dryer, newer timers; Kuhn Hay Tedder; McHale V660 Chopping Round Baler 8,500 Bales, Very Nice; 2 NH 256 Rake 1 Std, 1 Dolly; Tandem Hitch cart for NH rakes; Frontier 12 Wheel Rake; NH Windrow Turner; New Idea 7333 3x3 Square Baler w/ Auto Acid: NH BR780 Round Baler: 6 Row Down Corn Reel w/ carry gear: Great Plains 15 ft Drill w/ Center pivot hitch and Yetter Markers; JD 10' Grain Drill w/grass box; 4x15 auger; 15' single chain elevator; 16"x10' roller conveyor; 8x16 Bale cage on Gehl Gear; 6x12 wagon w/ sides; Killbros GB w/extensions w/Meyer gear; J&M GB w/extensions w/J&M gear; Parker 4800 GB; JD Horse Drawn 2 Row Corn Planter; 8x16 flat rack; 2 NH 185 Manure Spreader,1 has Newer Apron and Beaters; H&S 235 Manure Spreader w/ Hydraulic gate; NH 155 Manure Spreader, Newer Beaters; 25 KW PTO Generator on cart; 300 Gal Gravity Fuel Barrel. loader mount; 3 pt Woods Finish mower; NH tub spreader; Single acting hydraulic cylinder. LIVESTOCK: Pax Hog Feeder; Brand New HerdPro Creep Feeder; Wooden Feed Bunks; Hay Feeder Bunk for calves; Small Round bale feeder; 16' Livestock Trailer; Lots of Horse Tack; Horse Drawn Carts; Rabbit Cages; 50+ foot traps; Fur stretchers; Good 6x6 Square Wood Posts.

AUTO/POWERSPORTS: '09 Harley Davidson XL883L Sportster 23k miles, lots of work done, new tires, brakes, bearings; '06 Honda Foreman TRX500 Electric Shift, new tires 8.8k miles, no 5th gear; 2015 Ford Escape 2.5L 140k miles; 2013 Ford Escape; '91 Wellcraft 18' boat w/ 4.3 Merc Cruiser w/trailer; Shasta Utility Trailer; 16' Phantom Ski Boat; '89 SeaRay 18' 4.3 MercCruiser w/Shorelander Trailer; 3Hp Boat motor.

LAWN & GARDEN: JD GX345 54" 688 hours; AgriFab Lawn Roller; AgriFab Lawn Cart; Troybilt Rotortiller; Simplicity Conquest 50" w/18HP Vanguard; Electric B&D 16" Hedge Trimmer; Bicycles; Yard Décor/Whirligiggers.

SHOP: ACE Hardware Inventory Surplus/Reduction; DeWalt Radial Arm Saw; Briggs 2800psi Pressure washer; 3 solid wood pocket doors; Engine Stand; Engine Hoist; 3/4"x12"x18' Barn Board siding.

COMMISION RATES: 0-\$9.99 = Donation; \$10.01-\$200 = 20%; \$200.01- \$500 = 12%; \$500.01 and up = 8%. Max. commission charge per item \$800. Commissions charged on per item basis.

TERMS: CASH, CHECK, OR VISA/MASTER CARD W/4% CONVENIENCE FEE. All items to be paid for before removal. Number system used. NO BUYERS **PREMIUM**. Go to orangevillefire3300@gmail.com to pre-register and pick up your buyer number with positive ID presentation sale day. Sales tax applied to all lawn and garden. Not responsible for accidents or lost items after they are sold. All announcements sale day take precedence over prior printed material. All items sold without warranty, "as is-where is".

AUCTION STAFF: Phil Barker - 815-821-2544 and Pat Widolff - 815-238-0843.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STEPHENSON COUNTY-IN PROBATE In Re the Matter of the Estate of: MICHELLE A. KAVRAN, Deceased.

No. 25-PR-34 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION -**CLAIMS**

Notice is given of the death of Michelle A. Kavran, of Freeport, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on April 11, 2025, to:

Michael A. Kavran 2336 E. Maize Rd. Freeport, IL 61032 as independent Administrator of the Estate of Michelle A. Kavran, 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 (7551LCS 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 October 23, 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: April 14, 2025 Michael A. Kavran, Administrator by: Anthony V. Coon Anthony V. Coon, Attorney At Law Anthony V. Coon, #6269568 Attorney at Law 10 N. Galena Ave., Ste. 210 Freeport, IL 61032 815-235-2212 Fax 815-232-5500 tonycoonlaw@aol.com (Published in The Shopper's Guide April 23, 20, May 7, 2025) 470585

Wisdom teeth being used to bring closure for families of fallen soldiers American Service Members, most from World War ton 1 11, remain missing. When remains are found, identification can be difficult. But thanks to an ambitious and ongoing project to

IN*CI*DENTAL*LY

honor our fallen soldiers by bringing closure to their grieving families, researchers at the University of Utah are strengthening the field of forensic investigation. Teeth contain a wealth of

historical information about

• Kitchen (Continued from page 8)

pineapple, drained 1 can (11 oz.) mandarin oranges, drained

2 pkg. (8 oz.) each cream

cheese, softened 2 C. Cool Whip

Additional Cool whip and mandarin oranges for decoration

Preheat oven to 350. Mix melted butter and 1 T. sugar; stir in pretzels. Press onto bottom of an ungreased 9x13 baking dish. Bake 10 minutes. Cool completely on a wire rack.

In a large bowl, add boiling water to Jell-O and stir for 2 minutes to completely dissolve the Jell-O. Stir in fruit. Refrigerate until partially set, about 30 minutes. In a bowl, beat cream cheese and remaining sugar until smooth. Fold in Cool Whip and spread over crust. Gently spoon Jell-O mixture over top of cream cheese mixture. Refrigerate covered until firm, 2 to 4 hours. To serve, cut into squares. If desired, top with additional Cool Whip and oranges.

We are interested!



individuals. Everything from the tooth's shape to the thickness and chemical composition of its enamel tells researchers something about the human whose mouth the tooth once

Orange Vanilla Sheet Cake

Sticking with the orange theme, this sheet cake is easy and tasty. It also will feed a crowd. Ree Drummond, the Pioneer Woman, loves sheet cakes. As you know, so do I!

21/2 C. flour 2 t. baking powder

2 C. sugar 1 T. grated orange zest

2 sticks unsalted butter,

softened 3 eggs, room temperature

2 t. vanilla ³⁄₄ C. orange soda, room

temperature

Glaze:

24 oz. white chocolate, chopped (about 4 cups) 2 t. vanilla

1 C. heavy whipping cream 3 to 4 drops each red and yellow food coloring

Preheat the oven to 350. Spray a 13x18 rimmed baking sheet with cooking spray. Whisk together in a medium bowl, the flour and baking powder. Combine the sugar and orange zest in a stand mixing bowl and work the zest into the sugar with your fingers. Add the butter and beat on medium until creamy, 3 to 4 minutes. Beat in the eggs, one at a time; add the vanilla and combine. Scrape down the bottom and sides of the bowl. With the mixer on low, gradually beat in the flour mixture, alternation with the orange soda, mixing well after each addition. Transfer the batter to the prepared pan. Bake until a toothpick comes out clean, 16 to 18 minutes, rotating the pan halfway through the baking time. Let cool completely in the pan on rack for at least an hour.

inhabited: what they ate,

where they lived and

practices.

what diseases they had.

Thanks to modern

technology, such as laser

technique to study tooth

enamel than traditional

ablation (a far less invasive

drilling), scientists are able

to detect various carbon and

Anthropologists study teeth

to determine such things as

dietary history, migration of

populations across continents,

adaptation, and ancient dental

Glaze: Combine the white chocolate and vanilla in a medium bowl. Put the heavy cream in a microwave safe liquid measuring cup and microwave until steaming, 1 to 2 minutes (do not boil). Pour the hot cream over the white chocolate and let sit for 2 minutes; stir until it is smooth. Remove 1/2 cup of the glaze to a medium bowl.

oxygen isotopes in tooth enamel which can help us to identify human remains.

This research project involves a collaboration between geography and dentistry researchers, to gather and share information in order to match a person's remains to the region where they grew up, based on slight differences in the oxygen isotopes found in tooth enamel. The amount of heavy oxygen in groundwater changes between regions of

Stir in the food coloring to

make a deep orange color.

Pour the white glaze over the

cake, spreading with an off-

set spatula to cover the cake.

Drizzle the orange glaze over

the top and swirl across the

top of the cake. Let glaze

set at least 45 minutes before

We finally are getting some

much-needed rain. My tulips

are popping up, so I am hop-

ing we are done with freezing

weather. The trees will soon

be leafing out, and allergies

have started up. The seasons

are changing. Our family had

a wonderful reunion with our

Iowa cousins a week ago.

My cousin suffered a mas-

sive stroke three years ago,

and she has been rehabbing

since that time. They told her

she would never talk or eat

again. We had a great lunch

at Coach's with her eating

and talking. She is a mira-

cle, and we were so grateful

to be together. Coach's has a

serving.

Final Thoughts

the country. Since oxygen in our tooth enamel gets into our body through the water that we drink and the food that we eat, the amount and type of oxygen isotopes found in tooth enamel will vary from person to person and helps reveal where they were living when their teeth formed.

While the geologists are measuring and mapping out the heavy oxygen in the groundwaters of the

See CLOSURE, Page 12

us who are physically challenged. We are lucky to have eating places that accommodate people like my cousin and myself.

I give the spring athletes a lot of credit for competing in the adverse weather conditions. The rain and cold must have some physical challenges. I can't believe there haven't been more injuries or illnesses. Good job, kids for keeping things going; good job parents, relatives, and friends who sit in the stands and encourage them! Easter has flown by, and even though it was later, we didn't have a lot warmer weather. We will soon be looking at the first weeks of May and lots more activity.

We are looking for some May 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.

wonderful ramp for those of Have a great week. NEWSPAI FREELANCE REPORTERS **AND PHOTOGRAPHERS** NEEDED

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Wednesday, April 23, 202





Rockford man sentenced to eight and a half years in prison for illegally possessing firearms

sentenced to eight and a half years in prison for illegally possessing firearms. Joseph Garza, 40, pleaded guilty late last year to two counts of possession of a firearm by a prohibited person. On Monday, U.S. District Judge Iain D. Johnston sentenced Garza to 102 months in prison. Garza will also serve 3 years of supervised release following his prison sentence. Garza admitted in a plea

agreement that between November 2017 and January 2018, he possessed and sold

• Closure (Continued from page 10)

nation, people from all over the country have been donating their wisdom teeth so the dental researchers can analyze and compare the enamel composition to the co-defendants as brokers for the sales. Garza set the price for the firearm sales and delivered the firearms to the two co-defendants, who then conducted the sales with the buyer (who was working as a confidential informant for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives).

The sentence was announced by Andrew S. Boutros, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, and Christopher Amon, Special Agent-in-

groundwater data.

While the initial goal of the project is to honor our lost Service members, the research team hopes to strengthen forensics in general by offering a new

A Rockford man has been seven firearms, utilizing two Charge of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives. The government was represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert S. Ladd. Holding illegal firearm possessors accountable through federal prosecution is a centerpiece of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). In the Northern District of Illinois, the U.S. Attorney's

Office and law enforcement partners have deployed the PSN program to attack a broad range of violent crime issues facing the district, particularly firearm offenses.

identification tool for crime and accident victims, cold cases, humanitarian crises, or any situation where they can offer closure to families by identifying the remains of their loved one.

