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VOL. 91 • NO. 22

YOUR FREE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## River Ridge FFA hosts Elementary Ag Day

The River Ridge FFA Chapter hosted the Elementary "Ag Day" at River Ridge High School on May 2. Pre-k through fifth grade students went through five different stations which were run by high school FFA members. The purpose of this day is to increase agricultural literacy and awareness for younger students. The high school FFA members enjoyed sharing their knowledge through the Ag Education room, the greenhouse, petting zoo, tractors, as well as the game stations with hobby horses,

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stick horses and ice cream. Pictured is Greenhand Ella Dittmar showing her miniature horses to Macy Potter, Jackson Deininger, and Kamber Rodda.

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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, May 26, 2025, for Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. Good Shepherd will also be honoring the college and high school graduates for 2025 during service. The Gospel will be from Gospel John 14:23-29.

On Wednesday, May 28 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://good-shepherdlena.org/>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/good-shepherdlena.org/>)

book.com/GSLCLenaIL) for information. Please contact the church office at 815-369-5552 with any questions.

## St. John's Lutheran Church

Everyone is welcome to come to St. John's to play cards and dominoes on Thursday, May 22 at 1 p.m. and dominoes in Luther Hall on Tuesday, June 3 at 9 a.m.

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

The social ministry committee will be having a collection for the ELCA Good Gifts project through June 1. If you would like to donate to this project, please contact the church office.

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.

## Salem United Church of Christ

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

The Breakfast Bunch meets every Wednesday at 8 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join, please check the newsletter, Sunday bulletin or Facebook page for location information.

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

For more information on any Salem related items, you can contact 815-369-4511 or [ruth.dake@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.dake@gmail.com).



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## Little Blackhawks

Stockton Elementary students are recognized for following the Blackhawk Way. Great job, everyone!



## Summer Park Ministry Concerts

Located at  
Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park  
Hickory Hills Campground  
Amphitheater  
Saturdays at 6:30 p.m.

- May 24 McConnell Grace Free Methodist
- May 31 Will Mueller
- June 7 Delta II
- June 14 No Worries Band
- June 21 Tyger Johnson
- June 28 Ukulele Express
- July 5 Delta II
- July 12 Beloved Church/Rugged
- July 19 New Vocal Blend
- July 26 Evan. Free Church, Lena
- Aug. 2 Delta II
- Aug. 9 Gone Fishin'
- Aug. 16 Steve Sheffey & Co.
- Aug. 23 Finding Grace
- Aug. 30 Deb Leininger

In case of rain, service will be held in the first shelter-house when entering the park!

[www.lenafreechurch.org](http://www.lenafreechurch.org)



**BIKE BINGO**  
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# Obituaries

## JEFFREY SMITH

Jeffrey C. Smith, Funeral Director, age 70, went home to be with the Lord on May 14, 2025. Jeff was born on Jan. 3, 1955, in Freeport, IL. He was the son of Curtis and Janice (Stocks) Smith. He grew up on a farm north of Eleroy, IL. Jeff attended the Eleroy Elementary School until the sixth grade when the school closed. He transferred to Lena-Winslow and graduated in 1973. In 1972, Jeff and six other students went with English teacher, Marilyn Brown, on a six-week trip to Europe. They visited seven countries, camping and staying at hostels along the way, learning much from that trip and the experiences they shared.

In 1972, Jeff also met his high school sweetheart, Cindy Wichman, and they married on June 5, 1976, at the Berean Baptist Church in Freeport, IL. Jeffrey attended Highland Community College and then transferred to Worsham College of Mortuary Science in Chicago, IL, graduating in 1979. He served his apprenticeship as a Funeral Director and Embalmer at Schwarz Funeral Home, serving families in Freeport, Pearl City, and Lanark for three years. Following this he took a position at Leamon Funeral Home, where he served families in Lena, Warren, Orangeville, and Winslow. He also worked for Leamon Ambulance Service as an EMT-I from 1980 to 1990, as well as a salesman in the furniture store until 1995. In 2020, he retired to spend more time with his family.

Watching grandchildren's volleyball and softball games, track, concerts, and other activities was a highlight of his days. He loved to travel with his family throughout the United States, with some of his favorite places being Alaska and Hawaii. He also enjoyed traveling to England, Scotland, Ireland, and Israel. Jeff's hobbies included collecting rocks, gems, arrowheads, and antiques. He enjoyed studying and researching family genealogy, compiling many books of family history.

Jeff was a member of the Evangelical Free Church in Lena. He and Cindy, as well as their two daughters, served on several medical missions to Honduras and New Orleans. Jeff was a member of the Kishwaukee Sons' of the American Revolution. His third great grandfather, Peter VanSickle, served in the American Revolutionary War. Jeff was also a member of the Freeport Choral Society, The Gideons Ministry, and was a board member of the Eleroy Cemetery Association.

Jeff is survived by his wife, two daughters, Melissa (Ryan) Goebel and Beth Smith of



Lena, and one son, Benjamin Smith of Monroe, Wisconsin. He is also survived by five grandchildren,

Wil, Rylan, and Violet Smith of Monroe, and Madalyn and Payton Goebel of Lena; as well as his sister, Nadeane (Frank) Reed of Lena, sisters-in-law, Linda (Timothy) Quinn, Vicki (Ron) Watson, Elaine (Wayne) Gift all of Lena, Lynn Wichman of Manchester, Iowa, and brother-in-law, Jerry Fangman of Iowa City, Iowa. Also, special friends Al and Mary Tessoroff and nieces and nephews.

Jeff was preceded in death by his parent, Curtis and Janice Smith, in-laws Clark and Barbara Wichman, his sister, Sue Fangman, and his brother-in-law, Steve Wichman.

He shared the following regarding his life: "I have savored much in this life, and I am thankful to my Heavenly Father who has given me the opportunities to travel throughout this world and witness the handy work of God's creation. And to know God and His son, Jesus Christ, as my personal Savior. His grace covers all my sins my debt has been paid. I know that I am resting in heavenly places." As Zig Ziegler would say, "see you at the top."

The family would like to thank Dr. McFadden and his staff, Drs Shannon and Boschuetz of UW Health and FHN Hospice for their support and kind care. Visitation was held on Sunday, May 18 at the Evangelical Free Church in Lena, Illinois. Services were held on Monday, May 19 at the church. Cremation rites will be accorded and burial will be held at a later date, at the Eleroy Cemetery, in Eleroy, IL.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to FHN Hospice and the Eleroy Cemetery Association. This cemetery is solely funded by those who give donations for the maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery. Shriner Hager Gohlke Funeral Home is assisting the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at: shgfuneralhome.net.

## CURTIS A. DIDDENS

Curtis A. Diddens, age 72, of McConnell, IL passed away at home surrounded by his family on Thursday, May 15, 2025. The son of G. Virgil and Lucille (Leerhoff) Diddens, Curt was born in Freeport, IL on August 24, 1952. He married the love of his life, Susan Watson, on April 26, 1975.

He started welding in 1968 at Wilson's Welding in Lena. He farmed from 1978 to 1993, raising beef and hogs. From 1993-2000 he worked at McConnell Machine and Welding. In 2002 he started his own welding company, Custom Fabrication, in McConnell helping farmers and neighbors with their machinery. He was a proud member of Lena Blackhawk Trailblazer Snowmobile Club, and the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. He enjoyed riding motorcycles and taking trips up north to snowmobile. He liked going to the Family's River Farm with his brothers and friends. Curt loved music and going to concerts to see bands like The Beach Boys, REO Speedwagon, Cheap Trick, and AC/DC. Above all Curt enjoyed spending time in his shop with his family and friends.

Curt is survived by his wife of 50 years Susan; 3 children- Dena (Adam) Price of Lena, Dana (Jolene) Diddens of Lena, Dawn (Chuck) Diffenderfer of Winslow, 8 grandchildren- Lukas Price, Penelope Price, Kenlee Price,



Braden Diddens, Madilyn Diddens, Quinton Preston, Maci Diffenderfer, and Brody Diffenderfer; brothers-

Randy (Marilyn) Diddens of Winslow, Mark (Sandi) Diddens of Lena, Neil (Tina) Diddens of McConnell, and Brian Diddens of Lena; sister- Sharelon (Dave) Smith of Lena, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would also like to thank FHN Hospice for the compassion and care they provided to Curt.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister Laura in 1988.

Visitation will be held from 10:00am until the time of service on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

A Funeral Service will be held at noon on Wednesday, May 28, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Officiating will be Pastor Thomas Masbo.

Burial will take place after the luncheon at Silent Hill Cemetery.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established in his name for the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.leadonfh.com](http://www.leadonfh.com).

## EUGENE MARTIN

Eugene R. Martin, age 91, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Monday, May 12, 2025. The son of Charles and Bertha (Kant) Martin, Eugene was born at home on August 29, 1933, in Kent, IL. He married the love of his life, Ruth Wand, on Dec. 4, 1960, at the Nora Community Church in Nora, IL. Eugene was a lifelong dairy farmer in the Warren area.

Eugene served on the Elmwood Cemetery Board for many years. In the summers, you could find him going to tractor pulls and farm auctions, but in the winter, he wouldn't miss a chance to be on the trails snowmobiling. He also greatly enjoyed going to his grandchildren's sporting events.

Eugene is survived by his wife of 64 years, Ruth of Warren, IL; 3 children- Deanne (Allan) McNutt, Kevin (Lynette) Martin and Jolene (Bryan) Bohnsack all of Warren, IL; 10 Grandchildren - Jared (Kaitlyn) McNutt, Brandon McNutt, Reed (Maddie Pingel) McNutt, Kyle (Abby) VenHuizen, Kailynn (Jacob Schlosser) Martin, Elaina (Josh Schlosser) Martin, Ariel (Craig) Weatherby, Brynn (Payton) Calow, Brayden (Malloree Peterson) Bohnsack and Adalynn Bohnsack; 8 Great



Grandchildren- Karen and Kam NcNutt, Wyatt, Sawyer and Arya VenHuizen, Mya and Maddox Weatherby

and baby Calow who's on the way; Brother- Virgil (Joanne) Martin of Lena, IL and Twin sister- Eunice Bergum of South Wayne, WI and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Daughter Denise in infancy, brothers- Harold Martin, Delbert (Viola) Martin, Cletus (Phyllis) Martin and Charles (Marvel) Martin Jr; sister Virginia Martin and brother-in-law Laverne Bergum.

The family would like to thank SSM Monroe Hospice for their kindness and compassion they showed during their time of caring for Eugene.

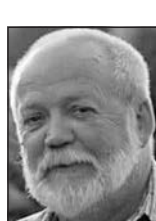
A Funeral Service was held on Sunday, May 18, at the Bartell-Leamon Funeral Home in Warren, IL. Pastor Matt Smith officiated the service. Burial will take place at Elmwood Cemetery in Warren, IL. A memorial has been established in his memory. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.leadonfh.com](http://www.leadonfh.com).

## WAYNE GRONBERG

Wayne Gronberg, age 71, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Sunday May 11, 2025. He was born on Dec. 21, 1953, in Elgin, IL to John and Hilda (Impema) Gronberg. He spent his early childhood in Stillman Valley, IL on the family farm. He married Sharon Burchfield on January 24, 1997, in Rockford, IL. Wayne drove a truck for Foley's transportation.

Wayne enjoyed fishing in the local Illinois and Wisconsin area, field work and farming and helping herd cattle. He also enjoyed landscaping and growing a vegetable garden at his home. Wayne was a very social guy making friends wherever he went.

He is survived by his wife Sharon of Lena, four children:



Chris (Scott Corey) Gronberg, Wendy Kremkoski, Greg (Linda) Kremkoski and Jenny (Dwayne Amundson) Turner. Numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, two brothers; Al (Nancy) Gronberg and John Gronberg Jr. two sisters; Linda Hough and Janet (Vick) Sadewater. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother-in-law Tom Hough.

Per Wayne's request there will be no services held. A memorial has been established in his memory. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.leadonfh.com](http://www.leadonfh.com).

## MARK ALLEN WESSELS


Mark Allen Wessels, 63, of Orangeville, IL, passed away peacefully on Monday, May 12, 2025, at his home. He was a loving brother, son, and friend, and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Born in Freeport, IL on July 28, 1961, to Wesley and Donna (Lehman) Wessels. Mark was known for his offbeat sense of humor, generosity, and his willingness to help others. He was a graduate of Orangeville High School and was self-employed as an independent truck driver.

Mark is predeceased by both parents, Wesley R. Wessels and

Donna M. (Lehman) Wessels. He is survived by his siblings James R. Wessels (Rhonda) of McConnell, Barbara A. Lowe (Dan Long) of New London, WI, and Kathy S. Diffenderfer (Mark) of McConnell and their families.

A memorial service was held at Cramer- Leamon Funeral Home in Orangeville, IL, on Saturday, May 17. Pastor Tim Wauchope officiated the service. Cremation rites have been accorded. Burial will take place at Basswood Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.leadonfh.com](http://www.leadonfh.com).



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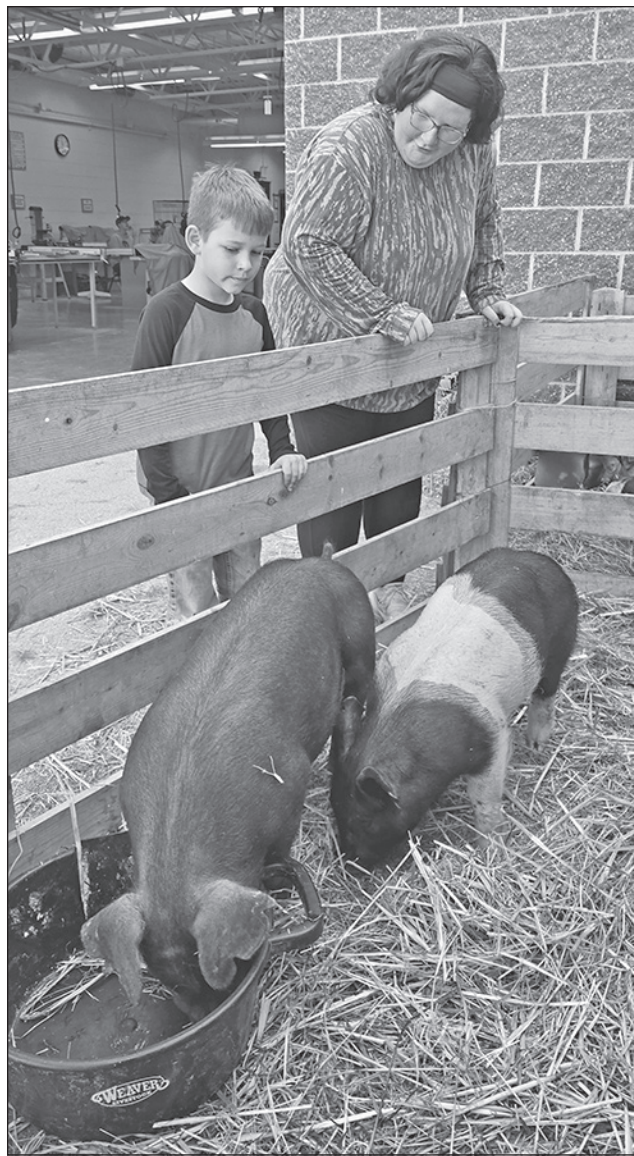






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Ethan Kloss is pictured during River Ridge FFA Elementary "Ag Day."



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Gracie Allen shows her pigs to elementary student Owen Offenheiser.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## River Ridge FFA hosts Elementary Ag Day

Sophomore member Natalie Keleher with one of the rabbits.



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## Scales Mound UMC 'Young at Heart' features Senior Mental Wellness discussion

Scales Mound United Methodist Church is pleased to present an interactive discussion on Mental Wellness, with a special focus on seniors at its next "Young at Heart" community gathering on Tuesday, May 27 at 1:30 p.m., in partnership with Midwest Medical Center. The speakers will be Amanda Kriebs, who is a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner at MMC and Katie Meusel, RN and the clinical manager at MMC, both of whom have practiced for many years in the area. Kriebs, Meusel and MMC

share a passion to provide our area with excellent mental health resources and are eager to serve the community in hopes of breaking down barriers and reducing the stigma associated with mental health. The topics will include depression, anxiety, elder abuse, addiction, mental health interventions and local resources, with plenty of time for discussion and questions. Please consider attending if

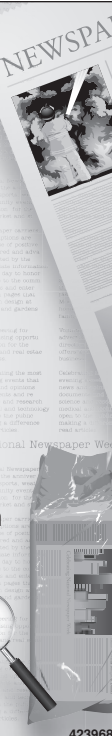
you or your loved ones have any questions about mental wellness. Scales Mound UMC is located at 319 Mason St., and holds Young at Heart gatherings on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome to join. There is no charge for this event. Please contact Pastor Libby Rutherford at [rutherford.libby@gmail.com](mailto:rutherford.libby@gmail.com) or 815-990-1428 with any questions.

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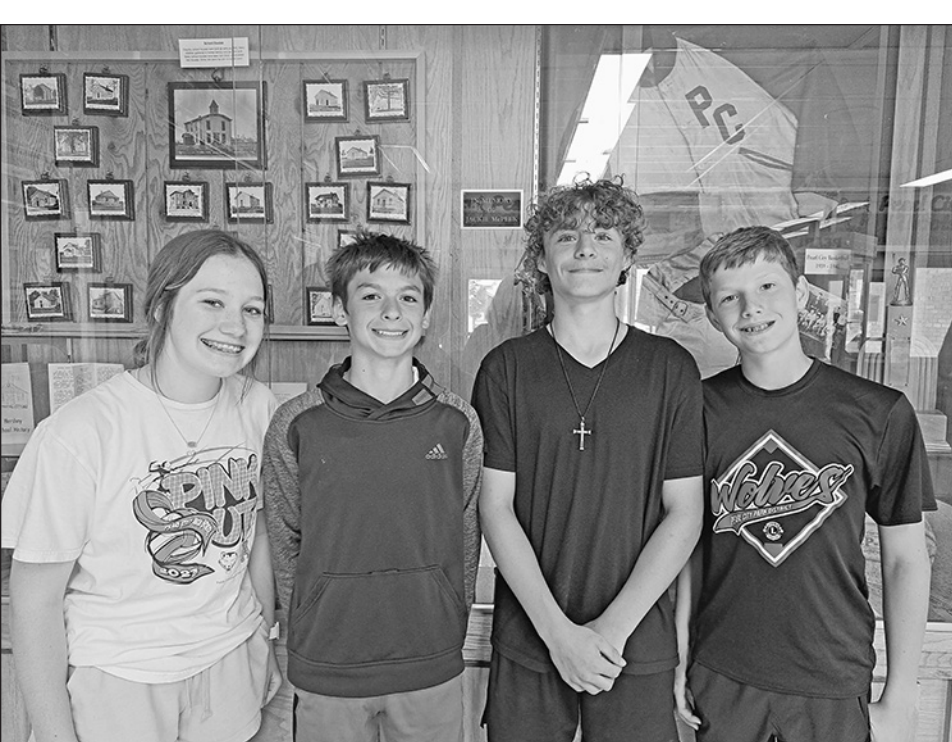
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## Contest to name the newly constructed Pearl City Museum

The seventh and eighth graders of Pearl City Junior High were asked to help name the new museum and to give a reason why they chose this name. Aubrey Allen, Dylan Lower, Mason Pauley, and Cayden Medina all chose the winning museum name, which is "The Pearl City Historical Museum." Each winning contestant received a \$50 prize. All 21 contest participants will be featured in a display book in The Pearl City Historical Museum.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## American Legion Auxiliary Illini Girls State Program

Seven young ladies who will be in their senior year of high school this fall met at the Lena American Legion Home for an orientation on the American Legion Auxiliary Illini Girls State Program. This program is held in every state in the Union and this is the 84th session. The event will be held June 15 through June 21. It is held at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. This is a great leadership program and is only for young ladies who have just finished their junior year of high school. There is no charge to attend, and transportation is provided. If interested in more information, please call 815-369-4684.

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# Stephenson County 4-H youth pledge hands to larger service on National Day of Service

On Saturday, April 26, Stephenson County 4-H youth and volunteers came together to celebrate 4-H's National Day of Service by giving back to their environment and community. As part of a larger statewide initiative, 4-H members partnered with the Jane Addamsland Park Foundation and the Stephenson County Soil and Water Conservation District to plant 25 native oak seedlings at the Butterfly Farm just outside Orangeville, Illinois.

The event was a part of the Illinois 4-H Green Communities Tree Program, a statewide collaboration between Illinois 4-H and Soil and Water Conservation Districts to rebuild Illinois' native ecosystems — one tree at a time. Did you know that Illinois once had 14 million acres of trees, but now only has only 5 million due to modern development? This spring, dozens of counties

across Illinois, including Stephenson County, are working to reverse that trend by planting fire-resistant, native oak species in public spaces for communities to enjoy.

The 25-tree oak savanna planted by 4-H members and volunteers will help restore a unique and vital ecosystem — rebuilding  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an acre at a time. These trees will not only enhance local parks and green spaces, but also provide essential wildlife habitat, stabilize erodible soils, and support the fight against climate change. Volunteers included 4-H member parents as well as representatives from: University of Illinois Extension, Jane Addamsland Park Foundation, Northwest Illinois Forestry, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service for Stephenson County, Stephenson County Soil and Water Conservation District, Northwest Illinois Bird and



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

**Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Conservationist Abby Mielke helps Raelynn Yeager and Aliyah Maccroon plant an oak tree.**

Nature Alliance, and Illinois Pheasants Forever.

"This project allowed our 4-H members to put their pledge into action — using their hands for larger service,"

said Stephenson County 4-H and Youth Development Program Coordinator Jen Schultz. "They gained knowledge, made a real environmental impact, and helped create an



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

**Stephenson County 4-H members learn about various spring woodland flowers from Richard Benning, Northwest Illinois Bird and Nature Alliance board member and Jane Addamsland Park Foundation board member.**

oak savanna for future generations to enjoy."

For more information about Stephenson County 4-H or how to get involved in future service projects,

please contact Jen Schultz at the University of Illinois Extension — Stephenson County office by phone at 815-235-4125 or by email at js80@illinois.edu.

## Stockton Town Garage Sales

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## Teacher Appreciation Week

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary presented cookies to the Lena-Winslow teachers and staff in recognition of Teacher Appreciation Week. Pictured is unit member Marsha Tessendorf delivering cookies to Mr. Kuehl, Katie Vlasin, and Deb Winning. Thank you to all of the teachers for all that you do!



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# Stephenson and Carroll County Farm Bureau news

By Victoria Hansen

One of my favorite things to do is to explore new places. I love playing tourist in my own town, county and state. Illinois Farm Bureau is offering a unique opportunity for our members to explore agriculture and within our state.

On Saturday, June 7 members can participate in a Summer Ag Tour hosted in Menard County. During this day full of tours members will experience: Tours of Hodgsons Produce in Kilbourne where they raise popcorn, peas, green beans and more, lunch at The Main Room in Havanna. After lunch there will be a Tugboat Tour, cruise on the Illinois River, this will feature seeing grain transportation from a different perspective. The day will conclude with Dinner at the Hanse of Fate Brewing Company in Petersburg.

This event is exclusive to Illinois Farm Bureau members and costs \$50. Registration is limited to 50 total participants and reservations must be made by May 23. To register or for ques-

tions please call your county Farm Bureau, Carroll, 815-244-3001 and Stephenson, 815-232-3186.

## Top-performing Illinois agricultural youth recognized during premier 20 leadership conference

Top-performing and innovative FFA Section Presidents and 4-H members cultivated necessary leadership and professional skills during the Youth Education in Agriculture Committee's recently held Premier 20 Leadership Conference. The Premier 20 Leadership Conference, held April 28-29 in Bloomington, is an elite youth leadership and professional development opportunity uniting 20 exemplary youth in agriculture from 4-H and FFA. Participants were also recognized for achievements during the 2024-25 academic year.

Illinois Farm Bureau Family of Companies through the YEA Committee sponsors the conference each year. Attendees invited to attend are the Top 10 FFA Section Presidents and

the Illinois 4-H Sustaining the Future Award recipients. Attendees participated in a series of sessions allowing them to take a deeper dive into what it means to be a leader and make a positive difference while building necessary communication and cooperative skills. The sessions are intended to help the young professionals develop themselves as leaders.

## Summer Teacher Workshop, Trucks, Trains, and Transportation:

The Summer Teacher Workshop will be held on June 16 and June 17, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This workshop is perfect for those who want to learn about agriculture and want new hands-on activities for your students.

This workshop includes a fun learning experience while touring farms and ag businesses with special presentations by Illinois Ag in the Classroom. Teachers can register for one or both days. To learn more or to register visit <https://tinyurl.com/SAI-2025-Registration>.



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## Miss Poppy 2025

Kairi Schulz was crowned Miss Poppy for the Lena American Legion Auxiliary for 2025. Schulz is a fourth grader at Lena-Winslow Elementary School. She will be distributing poppies along with others of The American Legion Family on Friday, May 23 and Saturday, May 24 and will be participating in the Memorial Day Services. Crowning Miss Poppy was Liesl Jones, Miss Poppy from 2024.

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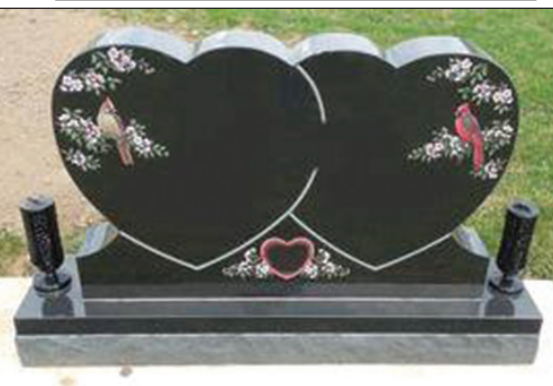
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# Shots fired investigation leads to an arrest

On May 12, at 12:13 a.m., Freeport Police Officers responded to the 1200 block of S. Carroll Avenue in response to a Sound Thinking alert for one gunshot being fired. When Officers arrived, they located one shell casing in the street. Officers also encountered Demetrius Henry, a 41- year-old resident of University Park, Illinois, lying down in the back seat of a Buick that was parked in close proximity to where the gunshot was fired.

During the course of the investigation into the incident, Officers were able to determine that Demetrius Henry fired one shot towards a white SUV that was driving south in the 1200 block of S. Carroll Avenue. It appeared that Henry and an occupant of the white SUV were engaged in a verbal altercation before and after the gunshot

was fired. A search warrant was executed on the Buick that was previously occupied by Henry. During the search of the Buick, Officers located a loaded 9mm handgun in the area where Henry was seated.

The Stephenson County State's Attorney approved felony charges for Demetrius Henry; Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, Reckless Discharge of a Firearm, and Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm. Henry is currently in custody at the Stephenson County Jail where he will remain until 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.

# Warhawks outlast Comets

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT

The Warren-Stockton Warhawks were not playing their best ball as the end of the 2025 regular season approached. After taking back-to-back losses to Oregon and Fulton, the Warhawks found themselves going just 1-3 through their last four games played. They had one last opportunity to end the regular season on a high note when they played host to the Newman Central Catholic (NCC) Comets on Thursday, May 15. While Warren-Stockton came into the season finale at 13-11, the Comets were just 9-17.

If you are a fan of offense, then the Comets and Warhawks put on one of the most exciting displays of softball in 2025. Both teams combined for nearly 50 runs in what became a wild shootout. Thirty-nine hits, 18 errors, 19 walks, and 10 stolen bases helped to fill up the scoreboard. This year's season finale had a little bit of everything.

Both teams had the scoreboard in action in the first inning. After NCC scored four runs in the top half, the Warhawks had no option but to respond in the bottom half, or the Comets would quickly run away with things. With two outs, the Warhawks rallied. A single by Ireland Mensendike helped

keep the inning alive. Two defensive errors would allow the Warhawks to bring themselves within one as they trailed 3-4 at the end of the first.

The second inning featured seven more runs. This time, it was Warren-Stockton who outscored the Comets 4-3. Shortly after a leadoff double by Madalynn Perry, Merideth Hesselbacher singled to left, driving in a run. The Warhawks then showed off their keen eyes as three consecutive walks to Mensendike, Emma Janecke, and Raiyn Dauphin allowed Warren-Stockton to tie the game at 7-7.

Even through all the chaos, these teams appeared perfectly matched for each other. For every run scored in the top half, Warren-Stockton had an answer in the bottom. It wasn't until the bottom of the third that the Warhawks took their first lead. After NCC put up five runs in the top of the third, Warren-Stockton responded with six in the bottom half. Through just three innings of play, both teams had already combined for 25 runs.

There wasn't a single inning that featured zero runs. Home plate took a beating as the scoreboard continued to fill up. In the sixth inning, the Comets and Warhawks combined for another 10 runs. That set things

up for an exciting finish as the game went into the final inning with Warren-Stockton leading 24-23.

To no one's surprise, NCC would score in the top of the seventh. Although, the seventh wasn't as high scoring as all the other innings. In fact, it was the lowest-scoring inning of the game. Despite that, it was the most exciting as the Comets and Warhawks went down to the wire.

NCC tied the game up in a big way. Heading into the last inning facing a one-run deficit, the Comets crushed a leadoff home run over the center field fence. Perry managed to pitch her way out of the inning after that, keeping the game tied 24-24.


After Perry kept the game tied, she immediately went to work at the plate in the bottom half. Perry led off the bottom of the seventh with a double to left, which set the Warhawks up. Eventually, it was Payton Goswick who hit the walk off single that allowed Perry to score the game's winning run. The Warhawks came out on top of an exhausting matchup 25-24.

The Warhawks combined for 19 hits in the victory. Goswick was nearly perfect in the leadoff spot, going five for seven with five runs scored and two RBI. Adrienne Baker remained consistent, going two for six with three RBI and one run scored. Perry had a big day at the plate, going three for six with two runs scored and one RBI. Sadie Johnson also went three for four with four runs scored in the victory.

With the win, the Warhawks finished the regular season with a record of 14-11. That had them set up to face off with the Scales Mound-River Ridge Hornets in the opening round of regional play on Monday, May 19.

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# Lena-Winslow baseball falls to Warren-Stockton

By Trenten Scheidegger  
CORRESPONDENT

The Lena-Winslow Panthers and the Warren-Stockton Warhawks faced off in an excellent, late-season baseball game on Tuesday, May 13. Le-Win came into the game with an overall record of 18-6-1, while Warren-Stockton was 13-11.

The Warhawks took the first lead of the day. Will and Brady Stietz hit back-to-back singles in the first inning. Will advanced to third base on Brady's single, and he eventually caught the Panther defense sleeping. An error allowed Will to score the game's first run as the Warhawks went up 1-0.

The Panthers took control of the game in the bottom of the second inning. After Maverick Cass led the inning off with a single to left, Koby Kearns took a one-out walk to put Cass in scoring position. Brody Cox finally put the Panthers on the board when he singled up

the middle, bringing two runs into score. A sacrifice fly from Miles Mahon and a run scoring double from Luke Madigan put Le-Win up 4-1.

The Warhawks got a run back in the top of the fourth. Will hit an RBI double to right field, bringing Jordan Kohl into score. That brought them within two, but the Panthers would answer in the bottom half.

After the Warhawks cut into the lead, the Panthers not only got that run back, but extended their lead in the bottom half. Despite registering just one hit in the inning, the Panthers managed to score two runs. An error allowed Cox to reach safely. A single and a stolen base by Cohen Weegens had runners on second and third. Eventually, Aidan Wild hit into a fielder's choice, which allowed both Cox and Ryder Schulz to score.

At the start of the sixth

inning, Le-Win held a comfortable 6-2 advantage. With just two innings left to play, the Panthers were nearing their nineteenth victory of the 2025 season. The sixth inning couldn't have gone much worse for Le-Win, however. After giving up a leadoff walk, Weegens allowed three consecutive singles to Kohl, Will, and Brady. Treyton Pafford then drove a run in with a sacrifice fly to center. Bryce VanRaalte followed up with a single to right, driving in another run and bringing the Warhawks within one.

Le-Win tried to stop the bleeding with a pitching change. After A Gerber went to work on the mound, the Warhawk bats remained hot. Bryce Long singled to left, bringing in VanRaalte and giving the Warhawks a late 7-6 lead. Beau Podnar scored on a passed ball before Le-Win could get out of the inning.

The Warhawks main-

tained the lead for the final two innings. The Panthers got one run back in the seventh, but it wasn't enough as Warren-Stockton held on for a 9-7 victory. Weegens took the loss on the mound for Le-Win. Pafford collected the win after coming in for relief for the Warhawks.

Le-Win combined for eight hits at the plate. Cass was a bright spot in the lineup as he went three for four with one run scored and one run batted in. Cox was one for three with two runs scored and two RBI. Wild went one for four with one run scored and two RBI in the loss.

The Warhawks combined for 14 hits at the plate. Kohl was hot in the leadoff spot, going three for four with three runs scored. Will led the way offensively, going four for five with two runs scored and one RBI. Brady was next up, going three for four with one RBI. Those three alone combined for

10 of Warren-Stockton's 14 hits.

The Warhawks went on to win their next game in a 13-12 extra-inning victory over Sterling Newman. Warren-Stockton found themselves on the opposite side of a late comeback as Sterling Newman put up five runs in the seventh, forcing extra-innings. Not to worry, as Long managed to walk the game off in the bottom

of the eighth, securing Warren-Stockton's fifteenth win of the year.

Le-Win bounced back with a pair of big victories. A 15-0 shutout over Argyle [Wisconsin] and an exciting 7-6 victory over Milledgeville allowed the Panthers to reach twenty victories in the 2025 regular season. The Panthers open post-season play against Warren on Wednesday, May 21.



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# FROM LENA'S KITCHEN



The not so skinny cook

It was summer this past week. We really had some very warm weather; we might have even broken a record. Flowers and gardens are still in need of rain. The crops are coming up, and I know the vegetable plants are coming along. I haven't heard anyone say their green beans,

lettuce, or radishes are really doing well. This week we have some good recipes for summer. Have a good week cooking them!

## Deviled Egg Dip

This dip uses the standard deviled eggs and puts them in dip form. I heard eggs are supposed to be going down in price, so maybe we can go back to making some egg dishes. This recipe uses either dill or regular relish. Use the dill if you like your eggs to be a little bit on the tart side and use the sweet relish for a sweeter taste.

8 eggs  
3 T. mayonnaise

2 T. finely chopped fresh dill  
2 T. finely chopped fresh parsley  
1 T. Dijon mustard  
1 T. dill or regular relish  
1 T. sour cream  
¼ t. paprika  
Dash of salt  
Dash of pepper  
Crackers or assorted veggies for dipping

Bring eggs to a boil for 8 minutes; remove from heat and cover for 8 minutes. Run cold water over eggs and place ice cubes in cold water for 10 minutes. Peel eggs and rinse. Pat dry. Chop eggs into a large bowl; add mayo, dill, parsley, mustard, relish,

sour cream, paprika, salt and pepper. Place in a bowl and refrigerate for an hour. Garnish with dill weed and parsley. Sprinkle with paprika. Serve with assorted crackers and veggies.

## Four Berry Spinach Salad

This salad has a rather unique dressing. It has the traditional oil and vinegar but uses a citrus orange juice along with lemon for some tang. It also adds some cinnamon and allspice to the dressing. What can be bad about spinach and berries?

1 T. canola oil

1 T. orange juice  
1 T. red wine vinegar  
1 T. water  
2 t. lemon juice  
½ t. sugar  
½ t. poppy seeds  
1/8 t. ground allspice  
Dash of cinnamon  
4 C. baby spinach greens  
½ C. raspberries  
½ C. blueberries  
½ C. blackberries  
½ C. sliced strawberries  
2 t. chopped pecans or walnuts

In a small bowl, whisk the oil, orange juice, vinegar, water, lemon juice, sugar, poppy seeds, allspice and cinnamon. In a glass salad bowl, combine the spinach and berries. Drizzle with dressing and sprinkle with nuts. Toss to coat.

## Olive Burgers

One of my friends always orders an olive burger when we go out to eat. She is a lover of olives and can make her own with this recipe. You can leave off the feta cheese if you are not a fan. Enjoy a different kind of burger for your cookout over Memorial Day.

1 lb. ground beef  
2 t. soy sauce  
2 t. Worcestershire sauce  
¼ t. garlic powder  
¼ t. onion powder  
1 T. butter  
½ C. slice green olives with pimientos, drained  
¼ C. Miracle Whip  
1 T. stone-ground mustard  
4 hamburger buns, toasted  
¼ C. feta cheese, crumbled  
Bibb lettuce leaves

In a bowl, combine beef, soy sauce, Worcestershire sauce, garlic powder, and onion powder, mixing only until combined. Do not over mix. Shape into 4½ inch thick patties; indent the center, slightly. Melt butter in a large nonstick skillet; cook burgers over medium heat until a meat thermometer reads 160, about 4 to 6 minutes on each side.

In a small bowl, combine olives, Miracle Whip, and mustard. Serve burgers with olive dressing and feta on toasted buns with lettuce leaves.

## Cheesy Chicken and Broccoli Crescent Bake

I have several recipes that use the Pillsbury crescent rolls, and they are all great. Rotisserie chicken is a great short cut, and pretty economical. If you get to Sullivans or Cub Foods right around noon, you get the best chickens. The jarred Alfredo sauce makes this an easy casserole for a week-night meal.

8 slices bacon, chopped  
1 box (9 oz.) frozen broccoli cuts  
½ C. fresh mushrooms, sliced

2 C. chopped cooked chicken

1 jar (15 oz.) four cheeses Alfredo pasta sauce

1 C. shredded Italian cheese blend

¼ t. pepper

1 can (8 oz.) refrigerated crescent rolls

Preheat oven to 375. Spray a 2 qt. glass baking dish with cooking spray. In a 12-inch skillet, cook chopped bacon until crisp; drain on paper towels. Reserve 1 T. bacon drippings.

Microwave the broccoli as directed on the box and set aside. In the skillet, heat 1 T. bacon drippings. Add mushrooms; cook over medium-high heat 3 to 5 minutes, stirring frequently until tender. Stir in bacon, broccoli, chicken, Alfredo sauce, cheese and pepper until well blended. Spoon to baking dish. Separate dough into 8 triangles, starting at short side of triangle, roll each triangle up halfway. Arrange over top of hot filling, alternating triangles to fit in baking dish. Bake 22 to 26 minutes until crust is deep golden brown. Cover with foil the last 10 minutes of bake time to prevent over browning.

## Rhubarb Cookies

I had a rhubarb cookie recipe in last year, but someone said that you would never make another rhubarb cookie after you tasted this one. It is rich and has just a little taste of chocolate to go along with the rhubarb. You can leave out the nuts if preferred. You do have to plan ahead because the cookies have to be refrigerated. You can make the dough the day before and bake them in the morning. These are great "dunkers"!

1 2/3 C. flour

¾ t salt

½ t. baking powder

½ t. baking soda

1¼ sticks (10 T.) unsalted butter, softened

2/3 C. packed brown sugar

1 egg plus 1 egg yolk

1 t. vanilla

1C. white chocolate chips

1 C. pecan or walnut halves, roughly chopped

1½ stalks rhubarb (about 4 oz.) chopped into ¼ inch pieces

1 T. flaky sea salt

Sift flour, salt, baking powder and baking soda together in a large bowl. Beat the butter and brown sugar in a mixing bowl on medium speed until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Beat in the egg and yolk and then beat in vanilla. Reduce the mixer speed to

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# Careers in dentistry

As the calendar closes on another school year, students may be focusing on their future careers. Those who enjoy working with and helping people may wish to consider one of the variety of positions in the field of oral health.

A registered dental hygienist (RDH) works under a licensed dentist to provide preventive dental care and individualized education on effective daily oral hygiene practices for their patients. They must be able to take, review, and maintain records of their patient's oral and overall health history. In addition, they must understand the bi-directional influence of the patient's oral and overall health.

To this end, working as a dental hygienist requires the completion of a high school diploma, followed by a dental hygiene degree from an accredited university or college. All dental hygienists must take and pass the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) in order to achieve licensure. In addition, to maintain their license, they must meet their state's individual continuing education requirements.

A dental assistant works alongside a dentist to perform patient care and assist with any needs the dentist has while performing procedures, treatments, and exams. Dental assistants ensure a clean and safe working environment by sterilizing instruments and preparing the dental operatories to meet OSHA standards for safety. They must understand each dental procedure so they can anticipate and set up the proper instruments and materials that will be required. They greet and prepare patients for treatments by taking and/or updating their medical records, answering patient questions, reducing their anxiety, and providing patient education.

Dental assistants may be trained through an internship at the office, but most will complete a dental assisting program through a community college, vocational school, university, dental school, or technical institute. An Expanded Function Dental Assistant is a dental assistant who has received advanced training and additional licenses or certification to perform coronal polishing, take impressions, and apply sealants or topical anesthetics.



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

A dental receptionist manages clerical tasks in a dental office. These include answering phones, scheduling appointments, greeting, and checking in patients when they arrive, maintaining the dental office's appearance, and keeping patient data private and confidential in accordance with local and national laws. They must have a minimum of a high school diploma, and some dental offices require those in this position to have at least a few years of experience in a healthcare setting.

Dental laboratory technology is both a science and an art. Since each dental patient's needs are different, the duties of a dental laboratory technician are comprehensive and varied. If you enjoy gaming and have developed good manual dexterity and strong computer skills, you may enjoy a career that utilizes technology such as CAD/CAM. Dental laboratory technicians can go through an accredited program or be trained on the job.

A dental office manager is responsible for overseeing the operation of a dental office. Duties include understanding, communicating, and implementing all Occupational Safety and Health Administration compliance standards, hiring and training new employees, financial and marketing management, assuring quality patient care, and keeping patient data private and confidential in accordance with local and national laws. Although the minimal educational requirement is a high school diploma, and at least one year of experience in a dental office, many offices require an associate or bachelor's degree.

The medical biller in a dental office has the responsibility to bill all treatments and procedures performed by the dentist and other staff accurately and quickly. The primary duties include updating patient information, understanding what each different insurance company and individual policy covers, and assuring that the patient understands this information. Medical billers calculate invoices, submit bills to insurance

companies, collect payments, investigate disputed insurance claims, and apply insurance payments to patient accounts. Medical billers must have a minimum of a high school diploma, and some dental offices require those in this position to have at least a few years of experience in medical billing. A bachelor's degree in a related field may also be required, such as business, accounting, or health care administration.

Becoming a dentist requires a love of learning. To stay on the leading edge of disease prevention, intervention, wellness promotion, and

ever-advancing dental technology, means embracing the challenge of lifetime learning. While challenging, choosing a professional career as an oral physician is also incredibly rewarding.

Ideally, aspiring dentists should begin their career path as early as high school, by taking advanced courses in chemistry, physics, math, and biology. Having a strong foundation in these areas will help prepare you for college, as undergraduate dental students will need to take premedical courses in mathematics, chemistry, and biology. You will also

See CAREERS, Page 14

## ~ Back Of The Bulletin Commentary ~ By Pastor Kevin Cernek

A lecturer, when explaining stress management to an audience, raised a glass of water and asked, "How heavy is this glass of water?" Answers ranged from a few ounces to several ounces. The lecturer said, "the absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long you try to hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I have an ache in my right arm. If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance. In each case, its the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes." He continued, "If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on. As with the glass of water, you have to put it down or it will consume you and you won't be able to function. When we're refreshed, we can carry on. So, before you return home today, put the burden down. Don't carry it home. Whatever burdens you're carrying now, set them down for a moment if you can, and rest a while."

That is easier said than done. It is not very easy to simply set your burdens down. They always seem to come back on you. But there is a way to get release - and that is to give them to Jesus. In the Bible, it says to "cast all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you." In Matthew 11 Jesus says to "come unto me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

I am always preaching about the hope we have in Jesus as contrasted with the emptiness of mere human philosophy. We have all had hopeless moments in our lives and some of us are living in a hopeless season, when we say, "What is the use of going on?"

All of us desperately need hope. Without hope we lose the desire to live. The question is, what do we put our hope in? Some people say,

"I hope I win the lottery," or "I hope the Cubs win tonight." But what kind of hope is that? It is like if there is some kind of cosmic good luck out there that we might be fortunate to have fall on us. But do we really want to go through life putting our hope in something as big as chance? I think not.

The hope of the Bible, by definition is a confidence, knowledge, a peace, knowing that God will come through like His Word tells us He will. The Bible is "the word of truth," (Colossians 1:5). Everyone wants to know the truth. Nobody likes a liar. Someone has said, "The test of any religion is not whether it pleases us or is comfortable, but whether it is true." In other words, does it do what it says it will do? That is the test. The great thing about the good news of Jesus Christ is that it is true. It really works. He delivers people. When you lack hope or feel defeated, or depressed, or under pressure, Jesus stands there, available, waiting for you to cast your anxiety on Him and to take your burden.

People often say they want nothing to do with God or the Bible. They figure they can have a better life without Him. Yet, if they would take a minute and look at their life, they would see that destruction and hopelessness are following them like a bad disease - yet they think it's intellectually unhealthy to make a commitment to the God of the Bible. Instead, they let their lives continue the way they are until all hope eventually disappears. Any path we take other than Jesus, will lead to hopelessness.

God's word of truth has power to change, power to awaken, power to give hope. It is the good news that right now, whatever you are facing, in your moment of weakness, or struggle, or hopelessness, Jesus is available to you. His strength can be given and his wisdom granted to you, to steady you, strengthen you and make you to stand.

The Scoop Today & Shopper's Guide

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# Memorial Day weekend in Stockton

The Stockton American Legion will be placing flags on Veterans graves in the area for Memorial Day. If interested in participating, please join at Ladies Union Cemetery at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 23. Flags will also be placed in Holy Cross Cemetery. Clubs and organizations as well as individuals are welcome. "Poppy Days" will be held on

Friday, May 24 and Saturday, May 25. Members will be at local businesses passing out poppies to raise money for disabled Veterans. The Brat Fry fundraiser will be held at Sullivans on Saturday, May 25. A Memorial Day service will be held Monday, May 26 at the high school gymnasium at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Explore Rutherford Refuge at JDCF's upcoming speaker event

The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) invites you to join us as we explore Rutherford Refuge at Twin Bridges Nature Preserve on Saturday, May 31 from 1-3 p.m. At this JDCF preserve you will view natural plant communities dating back thousands of years, remnants of the Driftless area landscape as it was experienced by Native Americans and our first Euro American ancestors. The preserve is located at 9532 E Twin Bridges Rd, Warren, IL.

Randy Nyboer, botanist, ecologist and supervisor of natural area surveys will tell you about these remnants of the past and lead a trail walk of the preserve. The property is named for its previous owners, the late Barb and John Rutherford. The Rutherfords were leaders in countless conservation projects in the county. They bought the land because they recognized that it provided a rare window into our past, and they wanted it protected. Their children made it available to JDCF to purchase in 2020. In 2022, the site was dedicated as an Illinois Nature Preserve. This is an official status reserved for only the rarest and highest-quality natural areas in Illinois. To retain this status, JDCF's land stewards continue to maintain and enhance the preserve.

Water will be provided. Wear sensible shoes for the walk and bring a walking stick if you use one. There is a short moderate climb, but most of the 1-mile mowed trail is gently elevated or flat. Shaded canopies and chairs for Randy's talk will be provided. The event is free to attend but RSVP to info@jdcf.org are requested.

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## Join these businesses in honoring those we lost this Memorial Day

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# **•Kitchen** (Continued from page 10)

low. Add the dry ingredients and beat until well combined, about 1 minute. Fold in the white chips and nuts; then fold in the rhubarb. Cover the bowl with a clean towel and refrigerate the dough for at least 1 hour or up to overnight.

Preheat the oven to 375. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. Use a 1-ounce ice cream scoop to scoop the dough onto the baking sheet about 2 inches apart.

Sprinkle with the sea salt on top of the dough balls. Bake, rotating the baking sheets from top to bottom and front to back, halfway through until the cookies are golden around the edges but still soft in the middle, 14 to 16 minutes. Let cookies cool for 10 minutes on the baking sheets, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely, about 30 minutes. Store cookies in a tightly sealed container at room temperature for up to 5 days.

## **Strawberry Rhubarb Coffee Cake**

This coffee cake is great for a brunch or for a dessert. It makes a large coffee cake with just the right combination of strawberries, rhubarb, and a crunchy topping.

### **Filling:**

3 C. sliced fresh or frozen rhubarb cut in 1-inch pieces  
1 qt. fresh strawberries, mashed

2 T. lemon juice  
1 C. sugar  
1/3 C. cornstarch  
**Cake:**  
3 C. flour  
1 C. sugar  
1 t. baking powder  
1 t. baking soda  
½ t. salt  
1 C. butter, cut into pieces  
1½ C. buttermilk  
2 eggs, room temperature  
1 t. vanilla  
**Topping:**  
¼ C. butter  
¾ C. flour  
¾ C. sugar

In a large saucepan, combine the rhubarb, strawberries and lemon juice. Cover and cook over medium heat for 5 minutes. Combine sugar and cornstarch; stir into saucepan. Bring to a boil; cook and stir 2 minutes or until thickened. Remove from heat and set aside.

Preheat oven to 350. In a large bowl, combine the

flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Beat buttermilk, eggs and vanilla in a separate bowl. Stir into crumb mixture.

Spread half of the batter evenly into a greased 9x13 baking dish. Carefully spread the rhubarb filling on top. Drop remaining batter by tablespoonfuls over the filling.

**Topping:** Melt butter in a saucepan over low heat. Remove from the heat; stir in flour and sugar until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Sprinkle over batter. Lay foil on lower oven rack to catch any juice spillovers. Place the coffee cake on the middle rack; bake 40 to 45 minutes. Cool on a wire rack.

### **Final Thoughts**

This week will be ready getting ready for Memorial Day. Don't forget to check

out the parades and programs featured in the community. There will be picnics and graduation parties, so keep safe. I have to get my plants to the cemetery and hope that no one takes them. As you pass the cemetery this Memorial Day, remember the loved ones of the people around you. Stay safe if you are driving especially in our area where there are lots of detours, construction, and one-lane roads. Have a great week and enjoy the festivities and each other.

We are looking for some picnic recipes. We will also be looking for some strawberry recipes because it will be that season. If you find some recipes to share, you can contact us by email at scoopshopper@rvpublishing.com or by mail at From Lena's Kitchens, *The Shopper's Guide* at Rock Valley Publishing, 1102 Ann St., Delavan, WI 53115. Have a great week.

## **LEGAL NOTICES**

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Under Section 10-120 of the Illinois Property Tax Code, as amended, the Jo Daviess County Farmland Assessment Review Committee shall hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 8:30AM.** This hearing will be held at the Jo Daviess County Administrative Building/Board Room at 219 Kelly Lane, Galena, IL. The primary objective of the meeting will be to certify the 2026 farmland values that the committee has received from the Illinois Department of Revenue.

Laura Edmonds, CIAO  
Chief County Assessment Officer

(Published in  
The Scoop Today  
May 21, 2025)  
471818

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

In Re the Matter  
of the Estate of:  
Veronica Lock Mowatt,  
Deceased.

#### **No. 25-PR-11 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS**

Notice is given of the death of Veronica Lock Mowatt, of the town of Lockerbie in Scotland. Letters of Office were issued on April 28, 2025, to:  
**Anthony V. Coon  
Attorney At Law  
10 N. Galena Ave.,  
Ste. 210  
Freeport, Illinois 61032**

as independent Administrator of the Estate of Veronica Lock Mowatt, and who is also acting as the attorney for the estate.

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

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at Stephenson County Courthouse, 15 N. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois 61032, or with the representative, or both, on or before November 10, 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 29, 2025.  
*/s/ Anthony V. Coon*  
Anthony V. Coon,  
Administrator

Anthony V. Coon,  
#6269568  
Attorney at Law  
10 N. Galena Ave.,  
Ste. 210  
Freeport, IL 61032  
815-235-2212  
Fax 815-232-5500  
toneycoonlaw@aol.com

(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
May 7, 14 & 21, 2025)  
471271

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE COURT OF THE  
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT COUNTY OF  
STEPHENSON**  
Sandra M. Rahorn  
Plaintiffs,  
vs.  
Trisha L. Miller, and  
Cody A. Kirschbaum,  
a/k/a Cody A. Firschbaum

Defendants. )

No. 2025EV59

#### **NOTICE OF COMPLAINT FOR JUDICIAL DEED**

Notice is given to Defendants, Trisha L. Miller, and Cody A. Kirschbaum, a/k/a Cody A. Firschbaum that a Complaint was filed in the Circuit Court of Stephenson County, Illinois, for a Judicial Deed :

1. The owner is: Sandra M. Rahorn
2. The buyers pursuant to an Agreement for Deed is: Trisha L. Miller, and Cody A. Kirschbaum, a/k/a Cody A. Firschbaum. (Recorded Memorandum Doc. No. 202000177943).
3. The location is: 134 W. Conaty St., McConnell, IL 61050, PIN: 12-08-07-427-010

Now therefore, unless you and all whom it may concern, appear or otherwise file your answer to the Complaint in the action or otherwise file your appearance therein, in the said Circuit Court of Stephenson County, in the City of Freeport, Illinois, on or before May 28, 2025, at 9:00 A.M., a default judgment may be entered against you at any time after that hearing in accordance with the prayer for relief of said Complaint.

Dated: April 30, 2025.  
Sandra M. Rahorn  
By: Anthony V. Coon,  
Attorney for Plaintiff

Anthony V. Coon,  
#6269568  
Attorney at Law  
10 N. Galena Ave.,  
Ste. 210  
Freeport, IL 61032  
815-235-2212  
Fax 815-232-5500  
toneycoonlaw@aol.com  
(Published in  
The Shopper's Guide  
May 7, 14 & 21, 2025)  
471413

## **•Careers** (Continued from page 11)

need to maintain top grades in college in order to obtain letters of recommendation to get into dental school.

The next step is to take the Dental School Admissions Test. Most dentists take the DAT by their junior year in college. Getting into dental school is competitive, so scoring well on the DAT is crucial. Once you have completed dental school you will need to take the Integrated National Board

Dental Examination. To practice, dentists are required to pass the exam and obtain state-specific licensure. To maintain their license, Oral physicians must meet their individual state's specific continuing education requirements to keep up with changes in dental medicine practice standards and technology.

After completing dental school, some oral physicians will choose to specialize,

in one particular area of dentistry. This requires being accepted into a residency program. While most residency programs last one to two years, becoming an oral and maxillofacial surgeon requires a six-year residency.

High school students who are considering a career in oral health are encouraged to contact their dentist's office to see if they offer a summer job/internship program.



## **You ought to be in pictures!**

### **THIS IS AN OPEN CALL FOR SUBMITTED PHOTOS TO BE USED IN YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER**

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to place your ad

# Rock Valley Publishing Classifieds

AD DEADLINE:  
Friday  
at 4 pm

SERVING NORTHERN ILLINOIS AND SOUTHERN WISCONSIN



## help wanted

### ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

**Rock Valley Publishing** is looking for a Part-Time Advertising Sales Executive. Approximately 20 hours per week.

We publish newspapers, shoppers, and niche publications throughout the stateline. You have the opportunity to sell into all Rock Valley Publishing. L.L.C. publications, making your paycheck much larger!

For immediate consideration send resume/job history to:

Vicki Vanderwerff, Director of Advertising

Email: vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com

Fax: (262) 725-6844

444841

### Help Wanted

**CONTRACT ROUTE OPEN**  
ONE DAY PER WEEK -  
WEDNESDAYS. YOUR VEHICLE. DELAVAN, BRODHEAD AND EVANSVILLE AREAS. WEEKLY CONTRACT PAY. CALL 262-725-7704 CALL TO INQUIRE.

**MAIL ROOM/WAREHOUSE WORKERS** 2-3 DAYS PER WEEK. MON.-WED. CASUAL ENVIRONMENT. PLEASE CALL 262-725-7704 TO INQUIRE.

**FIND YOUR NEXT JOB  
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS**

# FREE

Are you selling a single item for  
**LESS THAN \$100?**

**IF SO, WE WILL RUN YOUR AD IN THE  
SCOOP TODAY AND SHOPPER'S GUIDE AT**

## No Charge!

Private Party Only

Just fill out the coupon below and mail to:  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

## business & service

### Auctions

### Spring Classic Auction

Thursday-Saturday, May 29-31

5/29-10am, 5/30-6pm, & 5/31-10am

Preview noon-7 pm on Wednesday, May 28

Live in Union, Illinois & Online at

**DonleyAuctions.com**

Coin-Op, Sports Memorabilia, Antiques,  
Advertising, Coins, and Jewelry for All Price Ranges

Always Accepting Quality Consignments

472182

### Other Services Offered

## GUN SHOW

Winnebago County Fairgrounds • Pecatonica, IL

**ADMISSION  
ADULTS: \$10**

Friday, June 6, 4-9 p.m.  
Saturday, June 7, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Sunday, June 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

MARVIN KRAUS PROMOTIONS • 563-608-4401

471847

## 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 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free tele phone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



**Time To  
Sell Your  
Home?**

Call  
815-369-4112  
for details  
on placing an ad

422791

## for rent

### NOW RENTING

62 yrs of age or older  
Handicap/Disabled  
Regardless of age  
Small pet welcome

PEPPERMINT SQUARE APTS  
LENA, IL

- 1 bedroom apartments available
- Remodeled with new appliances and A/C and many more updates
- Rent based on 30% Adjusted Income



Schaible Properties  
815-369-5147

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

471381

## 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.

### Agriculture

**LAND TO RENT** Hay ground in Orangeville Davis Area. 815-291-2382.



For details on placing an ad in our  
**Classified Section**  
Call 815-369-4112

**The Scoop Today Shopper's Guide**

Find us online: rvpnews.com



## transportation

### Automobiles

**1977 OLDSMOBILE CUTLAS BROUGHAM** Mint condition. 100K, \$20,000 OBO. 262-379-4161.

**1999 SUBARU FORESTER** AWD S, project car. I hit a deer on the right side and did not deploy air bags. I have a replacement fender and hood. I also purchased the remainder of other components for the repair. The engine is completely rebuilt 2.5 LEJ25 with oversized injectors, milled heads and block. Aftermarket cam, Borla headers, remote oil filter. The transmission is a completely rebuilt 4EAT, with H-d Clutch packs and H-d torque converter. Rim and tires 215/60R16 Blizzak WS70. \$2K OBO. Cobb Engineering long port cold air intake upon request extra \$\$. 262-325-8951.

**1989 ARRIVA** 21 ft 305 V8, good interior, runs good, needs starter. \$1,500. 708-431-4955 Browns Lake, WI

**1998 23' POWERPLAY** With Shorelander Roller Trailer. 454/330 HP, Bravo 1 outdrive. Under 100 hours. Great project boat. \$2,600. 773-370-7467.

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

**25' MAGNUM MARINE 1974** With trailer. Twin 350 Chevys, restored and in great shape. \$25,000. Call 414-530-8300.

**JON BOAT WITH TRAILER** 18 foot, 25 hp Yamaha F/S. \$1,500. Call 262-206-1725.

### Campers and RVs

**2022 COACHMAN FREEDOM EXPRESS** 24' Travel Trailer with Q bed. Very clean. \$19,000. OBO. 262-470-4083.

### Motorcycles

**2007 HONDA GOLD WING** Perfect condition, black, new tires, 45K. \$8,600 OBO. 262-458-7026.





# MEMORIAL DAY SAVINGS EVENT

**SAVE NOW  
IN EVERY  
DEPARTMENT  
& GET FREE  
REWARDS**

Monroe Furniture Center would like to  
**THANK YOU FOR  
SHOPPING LOCAL!**  
Receive a **\$50 REWARD CARD** with every \$999 purchase  
**\$100 REWARD CARD** with every \$1999 purchase  
As Our Thanks to You! 

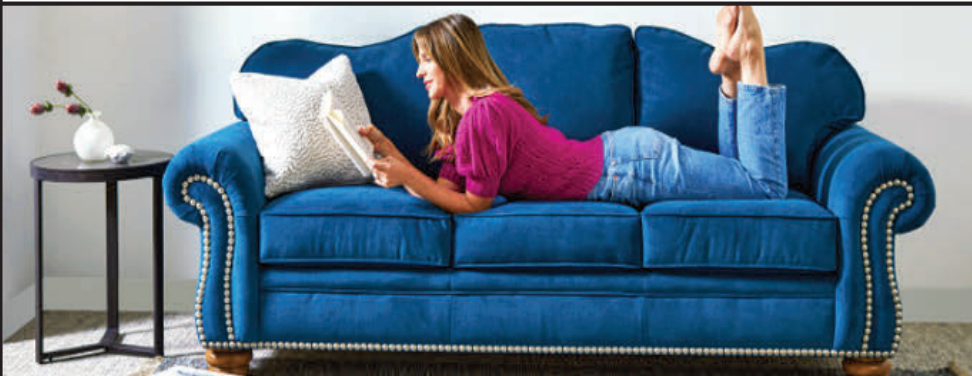
**Serta**  
MEMORIAL DAY SALE  
April 29, 2025 - May 27, 2025  
**SAVE UP TO  
\$900 \$925**  
ON SELECT SERTA 'ICOMFORT' & 'ICOMFORTPRO' MATTRESS + ADJUSTABLE BASE SETS  
2025 National Event  
We've included an EXTRA \$25 OFF rate pricing for the Serta Counting Sheep's birthday.



**Beautyrest  
BLACK**  
MEMORIAL DAY  
★  
SALE  
UP TO **\$900 OFF**  
SELECT MATTRESS +  
ADJUSTABLE BASE SETS  
**SHOP NOW**

**nectar**  
**QUEEN SIZE NECTAR MATTRESSES**  
START AT \$649.00  
**TWIN SIZE NECTAR MATTRESSES**  
START AT \$349.00

**All Furniture including: Living Room, Dining Room, Bedroom, Home Office, & Occasional Tables REDUCED FOR THIS EVENT!**



**SAVE UP TO 50% OFF QUALITY MANUFACTURERS LIKE:**     & Others...

**MAYTAG** **AMANA** **Whirlpool** **KitchenAid**  
MAY IS MAYTAG MONTH  
UPGRADE TO PERFORMANCE TODAY  
**MAYTAG** **BIGGEST SALE OF THE YEAR\***  
ON ALL MAYTAG MAJOR APPLIANCES  
BUY 2  
SELECT LAUNDRY APPLIANCES  
AND GET UP TO  
**\$100**  
BONUS VIA PREPAID CARD BY MAIL  
MAY 1 - MAY 31, 2025

**CRAFT YOUR  
DREAM KITCHEN**  
AND UNLOCK REBATES UP TO  
**\$2000**  
VIA A PREPAID MASTERCARD® REBATE  
WHEN YOU PURCHASE SELECT  
KITCHENAID BRAND APPLIANCES

**SHOP THE ONLY  
HEALTH & WELLNESS SHOWROOM**  
in the Stateline Area for the Best Selection & Get Rewards

- LIFT RECLINERS
- ADJUSTABLE BED BASES
- MASSAGE CHAIRS
- VIBRA THERAPY PLATFORMS

Save up to \$3000 on our state of the art massage chairs plus, get free rewards!

**FREE DELIVERY & SET UP IN THE STATELINE AREA**  
**UP TO 12 MONTHS FREE FINANCING**

Visit us at [www.monroefurniturecenter.net](http://www.monroefurniturecenter.net)

**MONROE FURNITURE CENTER**  
APPLIANCES FURNITURE MATTRESSES

110 W. 6th on Monroe's West Side • 608-325-9200  
Mon.-Fri., 9-6 p.m.; Sat., 9-4 p.m.; Sun., 12-4 p.m.

Clearance Showroom 2581 6 1/2 Ave. 608-426-6833  
Mon.-Fri., 10-5 p.m.; Sat., 10-4 p.m.; Sun., 12-4 p.m.