



Take a shot to guess that grill

Comet anglers: That's some good bass



\$1.00

Vol. 65, Issue 24

1 section • 14 pages

Not over 75% advertising

www.braidwoodjournal.com

# BRAIDWOOD JOURNAL.com

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2023 | A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER • (815) 476-7966

## City leaders plan for public meetings with administrator

### Town Hall style meetings planned for summer, fall

BY MARNEY SIMON  
EDITOR

City leaders in Braidwood said they've taken public input to heart. Now, the city is offering three town hall-style meetings for folks who have questions on the future of Braidwood, the decision making process, and appointees.

During the June 13 regular meeting of the City Council, Streets Commissioner Dale Walsh

announced that residents are invited out to three meetings for an informal question and answer session with city administrator Tony Altiery.

On May 23, Karen Hart was sworn in as Mayor of Braidwood after the resignation of Mayor Chris Earley. Hart appointed Altiery back to the role that he held for four years under Mayor Bob Jones. And while that appointment was approved unanimously by the council, it was made to the objections of some residents who have voiced their concerns both during council meetings an online. While concerns have not been specific in nature, the handful of residents who have commented have cited trust concerns with the administrator, and have questioned his salary. In May,

the City Council approved a benefits package for Altiery. The benefits include salary of \$115,000 annually, 35 vacation days, 72 hours of sick time, and a vehicle for use for city business only. Altiery will be considered a full-time employee with Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund benefits, and will be subject to an annual raise each fiscal year. Altiery may also opt for health insurance coverage.

In response to the questions about Altiery, as well as general questions about the council's plans for the future, city leaders said they'll host public meetings to try to quell those concerns

"A few months ago I asked our city administrator Tony Altiery if he'd ever want to have an open Q and A

town hall, and he said of course, absolutely. So, We've got three scheduled," Walsh announced last week.

The town hall meetings will take place at 6 p.m. prior to the second city council meetings of July, September, and November, on Tuesday July 25, Tuesday Sept. 26, and Tuesday Nov. 28, in the council chamber at City Hall.

"It will be a respectful back and forth, it won't be an argumentative type thing," Walsh said.

Other elected officials said they are excited about the idea, and added that it brings a layer of transparency to city government.

"I really like the idea [for a town hall], it gives everybody in town a chance to come in, ask questions,

hopefully we can answer them in that session but if not we'll find answers," added Commissioner Warren Wietting. "This is what this council is trying to do. We're trying to involve the community, we would like your input."

Altiery has also encouraged the public to come to City Hall or e-mail questions or concerns directly to him, and to attend City Council meetings to engage with city leaders.

The town hall meetings will not be broadcast on the city's Facebook page, but residents who cannot attend can send questions via email to Commissioner Walsh, at [dwalsh@braidwood.us](mailto:dwalsh@braidwood.us), or to administrator Altiery at [taltieri@braidwood.us](mailto:taltieri@braidwood.us).

## Holy Rollers roll into town



Photos by Eric Fisher

**HOODS UP** - The Reed-Custer Elementary School parking lot was the place to be Saturday for muscle and vintage automobiles when the annual Holly Rollers car show was hosted by the Immaculate Conception Church of Braidwood. This Mach 1 Ford Mustang was among four dozen vehicles that were on display from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. as dash plaques were presented to all vehicles, as well as door prizes and raffles. The weather cooperated by remaining partly cloudy with a high of 82 degrees.



**TWO CHARACTERS** riding in the back of this 1940 Chevy station wagon were Bartles & Jaymes, from the television commercial promoting the flavored wine coolers and malt beverage line produced by E & J Gallo Winery in the mid 1980s. The wood sided wagon was one of many vehicles with character on display Saturday during the Holy Rollers car show hosted by the Immaculate Conception Church in Braidwood.



**THE WAYNE MOBILE** — Many recognized that red Chevy sitting at one end of the car show line-up on Saturday in Braidwood. That's the 1954 Chevy two-door owned by former mayor Wayne Saltzman and his wife Gerry. Wayne has driven it in parades and entered it in car shows

## City closer to filling empty Clerk seat

BY MARNEY SIMON  
EDITOR

Leaders in Braidwood hope that at least one vacant position will be filled by the end of this month.

On June 13, Mayor Karen Hart told members of the City Council that the city was narrowing down the list of candidates for City Clerk.

"As you know, we've been without a city clerk, and we have been advertising for a city clerk," Hart said. "I hope by the next meeting that I will be able to appoint one. We had a very good response and we have been interviewing, so hopefully by the next council meeting we'll have somebody."

Hart announced in May that the city was also searching for someone to assist with the city's website and media needs.

Meanwhile, the City Council also approved an ordinance to enter into an agreement with Mahoney, Silverman, & Cross, LLC for municipal corporation counsel.

Per the ordinance, the agreement sets a billing rate of \$225 per hour for counsel for matters that are not reimbursed to the city, and fees are billed in quarter hour increments.

The hourly fee for matters that are reimbursed to the city is \$300 per hour.

Statements will be delivered monthly.

The city's primary representation will be performed by City Attorney Bryan Wellner, who was re-appointed to that seat in May. Wellner served as City Attorney under Mayor

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 2

## BPD searching for new police officer

BY MARNEY SIMON  
EDITOR

The city of Braidwood will hire a new police officer in the coming months, as one long-time officer gets set to retire.

On June 13, Public Health and Safety Commissioner James Mikel announced that the city is currently in the process for a new hire.

"Officer Dave Cornelli has submitted in writing his intention to retire as a full time police officer with the Braidwood Police Department in May of next year," Mikel said. "It takes approximately nine months for an officer to get their... training. We have a spot secured at Suburban Law Enforcement Academy at the end of August. We do not want to be left short handed so we are moving forward with a hire. That hire will come from a recommendation from the police and fire board."

The BPD currently employs the Chief of Police, 12 full time officers, and six part time officers.

In May, the City Council unanimously approved the re-appointment of Todd Lyons as chief of police.

Mikel said that in addition to working on the new hire, the city is working on a compensation package for Lyons, which us expected to be presented to the council for approval later this month.

Mikel also announced the police activity report from May 23 through June 11. During that time, the Braidwood Police Department answered 301 calls for service, and reported five arrests totaling eight charges.



**BERKOT'S SUPER FOODS**

SALE VALID 6/22-6/28/23

WILMINGTON 815-476-6272  
COAL CITY 815-634-4224  
BRAIDWOOD 815-458-2114

CHECK OUT OUR WEEKLY AD AT [BERKOTFOODS.COM](http://BERKOTFOODS.COM)

Russet Potatoes 10 lb bag

2 FOR \$7

JUST 35¢ PER LB!

Censea Jumbo, Raw, Peeled, Tail-On **Black Tiger Shrimp** -13-15 ct (Sold in 2 lb bag for \$15.98)

\$7.99 PER LB

Kingsford Original Charcoal Briquets 2x 12 lb value pack

\$12.99 EACH



# Council

Bob Jones, and also serves as the municipal counsel for the city of Wilmington.

In other business before the City Council on June 13:

- The council approved the installation of a Memorial Street Sign. The sign will be installed at Reed Street and Comet Drive, which will receive the honorary moniker of Jack and Karen Bunting Memorial Drive. A date for installation was not announced.
- Streets Commissioner Dale Walsh said the city will purchase a new lawn-

mower.

"There was a grasshopper lawn mower that Sistek sales... for \$19,800," Walsh said. "Since we're a municipality, we can get a discount for the Sistek, the original price was \$25,500. So, anything under \$30,000 does not have to [go to bid], so, \$12,300 came from administration, and \$7,500 for the grasshopper came from TIF."

The council approved the purchase of that piece of equipment unanimously.

- Walsh also announced that the city is looking to hire two part-time seasonal workers to perform cutting and mowing tasks this summer. The council approved a motion for the hires, which are already included in the budget.

- The council approved the payment of bills in the amount of \$179,009.
- The council approved the payroll in the amount of \$88,721.
- The council approved Commissioner Doug Money, Mayor Karen Hart, and city administrator Tony Altiery as designated signatories for the city's bank accounts.
- The council announced that the July meeting of the Planning and Zoning Board has been moved to Monday, July 10, due to the 4th of July holiday. The meeting takes place at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

The next regular meeting of the full City Council is Tuesday, June 27 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

# Grundy ProAct lauded by Illinois Police Chiefs



BY ANN GILL  
STAFF EDITOR

The Grundy County ProActive Unit's strong stand against crime has caught the attention of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

Established in March 2021 under the leadership of Grundy County Sheriff Ken Briley, the ProActive Unit is a multi-jurisdictional task force that works to combat the trafficking of illegal narcotics, controlled substances, guns, unlawful street gang activity and other crimes.

In recognition of its outstanding work, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police presented the unit with its Meritorious Unit Citation.

The award is presented annually to units or task forces who perform an act or series of acts that demonstrate a high degree of teamwork and professionalism resulting in attainment of the units goals in an exemplary manner.

Coal City Police Chief Chris Harseim, a member of the state association, was the one to submit the unit for consideration.

"ProAct came to mind right away. They help us out in so many ways," Harseim said.

Sgt. Brent Black of the Grundy County Sheriff's Office is the unit supervisor and Eric Werden, the sheriff's chief deputy, oversees the officers from the sheriff's office, Morris, Channahon and Braidwood Police Departments.

"They are doing real police work and they are really getting things done, and it's exciting to see," Morris Police Chief Alicia Steffes said.

The award recognizes the unit for its work during 2022.

During that time period the group made 175 arrests—86 felony, 65 warrant and 24 misdemeanors—and seized six vehicles, seven firearms and over \$14,350 in currency.

Additionally, they seized 78,681 grams of illegal drugs—

**THE GRUNDY COUNTY ProActive Unit has been recognized by the Illinois Association of Police with its 2022 Meritorious Unit Citation. The award was presented last week by Marc Maton, the chief of the Lemont Police Department and first vice president of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.**

948 grams of methamphetamine, 179 grams of heroin and fentanyl, 75,207 grams of cannabis, 178 grams of cocaine, 1,940 grams of MDMA [ecstasy] and 213 grams of other prescription drugs.

"Pretty amazing stats for the number of guys in the unit," Harseim said.

Along with Sgt. Black, the unit is comprised of Sgt. Aaron Cory and deputy Jason Flores, of the sheriff's office; Mike Liebermann, an officer with the Channahon Police Department, Morris Police Sgt. Dustin Seale and Sgt. Chris Altiery from the Braidwood Police Department.

"We are a smaller agency and luckily we have a tip of Braidwood that is in Grundy County and allows us to be a part of this task force. They have assisted us on some pretty major cases that we did not have the man power to facili-

tate," Braidwood Police Chief Todd Lyons said.

Among those cases, Lyons said, were a carjacking that led the suspect to the city of Chicago and a missing person where the body had been dumped in rural Kankakee County.

"I felt they were at our department so much they worked for me. They put in a lot of hours and did a great job. Thank you for letting us be a part of it," Lyons said.

The award was presented last week at a meeting of the Grundy County Board.

Marc Maton, chief of the Lemont Police Department and first vice president of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, was there to recognize the unit and hand over the award to Sgt. Black and his unit.

"This type of unit should be replicated all over the place. These police chiefs, I applaud their vision for looking outside their jurisdiction getting together and creating a common capability to address a lot of things that are typically too big and outside the jurisdiction of a typical police department," Maton said.

Black commended the work of his fellow team members for, "going out and working hard every day."

*Public hearing to review fence variance for 120 S. Hickory St.*

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Take notice on July 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Braidwood City Hall, 141 W. Main Street, Braidwood, IL a Public Hearing shall be held by the Braidwood Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Braidwood at the request of Nickolas Bulanda, 30 N Broadway St, Coal City, IL, owner of the property commonly known as Ultimate Rides, 120 S. Hickory St, Braidwood, Illinois, with the Pin # 02-24-07-306-013-0000.

The Public Hearing is for a height variance for two separate fences, 8' tall and the material to be the metal to match the exterior of the business.

The property is legally described as follows:

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

TRACT 2: LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, & 10 (EX THE S 20 FT THROF OF LOTS 9 & 10) IN BLK 9 IN EUREKA COAL CO'S SUB OF PRT OF THE W1/2 OF THE SW1/4 OF SEC. 7, T32N-R9E, (EX THRFM THAT PRT TAKEN FOR HWY PURPOSE IN DOC #799969) & (EX A PORTION OF LOTS 3 & 4 IN BLK 9 IN EUREKA COAL COMPANY SUB, BEING A SUB OF PRT OF THE W1/2 OF THE SW1/4 OF SEC. 7, T32N-R9E, MORE PARTICULARLY DAF: COMM AT A PT ON THE S LN OF SD LOT 4 AT A PT WHERE SD S LN INTRSCTS THE E ROW LN OF I-55 AS IT CURRENTLY EXISTS, SD PT BEING THE POB; THC NE'LY ALG SD E ROW LN BEING A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE SE AND HAVING A RADIUS OF 22,768.33 FT AND A CHORD BEARING N 09 DEG 54'28" E, FOR A DIST OF 30.84 FT; THC S 87 DEG 15'11" E, FOR A DIST OF 52.98 FT; THC S 09 DEG 55'47" W, FOE A DIST OF 26.58 FT TO A PT ON THE S LN OF SD LOT 3; THC S 88 DEG 13'40" W, ALG THE S LN OF SD LOT 3 AND THE S LN OF SD LOT 4, FOR A DIST OF 53.67 FT TO THE POB PER R98-147352); DIV/CONS PER PET.#2004-94 & R2005-090102 NDA.

Commonly known address: 120 S. Hickory St, Braidwood, Illinois.

All interested parties desiring to be heard on this matter should be in attendance.

Planning and Zoning Board, City of Braidwood  
Published in the Braidwood Journal on June 21 and June 28, 2023

**REED TOWNSHIP**  
Sherrill Knor  
Township Supervisor

### Exhibit A

Legal Description of the Property  
LOT 14 IN BLK 20 IN CHICAGO WILMINGTON COAL CO'S SUB, IN THE EI/2 OF THE NE1/4 OF SEC 7, T32N-R9E.  
Published in the Braidwood Journal on Wednesday, May 31, June 7, 14 and 21, 2023.

ATTEST: Angela Hutton  
Township Clerk

# Wilmington teen killed in Lorenzo Road accident

## STAFF REPORT

A tragic accident has taken the life of a Wilmington teenager.

The Will County Coroner's Office reported over the weekend that Chloe McCully, 17, of Wilmington, was killed in an automobile accident on Saturday, June 17.



CHLOE MCCULLY

According to the report, McCully was pronounced deceased at 7:57 p.m. on Saturday on Lorenzo Road approximately 550 feet west of Cooper Road in Wilmington Township.

McCully was the driver of a vehicle that was traveling westbound on Lorenzo Road when the car left the roadway, rolled over, and struck a fixed object.

Two other occupants in the vehicle did not sustain life-threatening injuries.

The preliminary cause of death is listed as multiple injuries due to a motor vehicle mishap.

The Will County Sheriff's Police Department is investigating the incident.

Officials with the Wilmington School District

offered their condolences in a message sent to families, and added that counseling is available at the high school from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. June 21 and June 22 (today and tomorrow) for any students who may need some help in processing this tragedy.

Referrals for ongoing local counseling will also be available.

Services for McCully will be held today (Wednesday) at Baskerville Funeral Home in Wilmington from 4 to 7 p.m., and again on Thursday, June 22, from 10 a.m. The full obituary can be found on page 8 of this edition.

# Railroad closure in Mazon will redirect traffic to Route 113

If you travel through the village of Mazon be advised the Burlington Northern Santa Fe [BNSF] railroad crossing will be closed for an extended time.

The Illinois Department of Transportation [IDOT] said the railroad crossing on Illinois Route 47 will be closed for repairs 10 days beginning Friday, June 23.

Vehicles will be redirected through the villages of Coal City and Diamond utilizing Route 113 to access Interstate 55.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area and be prepared for slow and stopped traffic. To avoid the work area, when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain for using mobile devices and be alert of workers and equipment.

CONTACT US AT  
**news@fpnusa.com or call 815-476-7966**  
WITH YOUR STORY IDEAS

## Don't let politics drive your investments.



**Dean A Shepherd, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor  
311 W Baltimore St  
Wilmington, IL 60481  
815-476-6856

Member SIPC  
www.edwardjones.com

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

## PERSONAL INJURY



# Block, Klukas & Manzella & Shell, P.C.

## Attorneys at Law

**Michael D. Block • Elizabeth A. Klukas • Thomas J. Manzella  
Bryan L. Shell • Aaron B. Morrow • Kyler W. Juckins**

*"Local lawyers with big city results"*

**Free Initial Consultation • No Fee Unless Successful**

**815-726-9999**

19W. Jefferson St., Joliet, IL 60432 • Across from the Courthouse

## WORKERS COMPENSATION

G.W. Communications, Inc publishes the weekly subscription newspapers named The Free Press Advocate, The Braidwood Journal and The Coal City Courant.

### Advertising and Business Offices:

- 111 South Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481 (815) 476-7966; Fax: (815) 476-7002
- 271 South Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 (815) 634-0315; Fax: (815) 476-7002.

### Deadline for The Free Press Advocate,

**Braidwood Journal and Coal City Courant**

Display Advertising: Friday, noon  
News and Classified Advertising: Monday, noon

E-mail: News & News Photos: news@fpnusa.com  
Ads & Artwork: graphics@fpnusa.com

©2023 All news, photographs and advertising material used in this publication are the property of G-W Communications, Inc. Use of the material without the consent of G-W Communications, Inc. is strictly prohibited. Violators of this property right are subject to legal action.

Eric D. Fisher, publisher  
Marney Simon, editor



**The Braidwood Journal**  
USPS No. 550-940

Published weekly, 52 times a year, on Wednesdays by  
G-W COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,  
111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481  
Periodicals postage paid at Wilmington, Illinois

**Postmaster:** Send address changes to:  
The Braidwood Journal, 111 S. Water St.;  
Wilmington IL 60481

Subscription rates: \$43 Grundy & Will counties; \$50 other Illinois counties and \$57 out of state







# Free Press Newspapers readers

# SOUND-OFF

To voice your opinion 24 hours a day, go to  
www.freepressnewspapers.com or call 815-634-0317

## 15 minutes

WILMINGTON—In last week's paper you had a story about Amtrak trains going to be traveling at 110 mph on tracks that run through our town. The way I read the story is \$1.96 billion was wasted just to gain 15 minutes on a train traveling from Chicago to St. Louis. It still will take 5 hours and 15 minutes to get there. Seems like a big waste of tax dollars when you can hop in a car and get their in the same amount of time. Kills me how the politicians—Pritzker, Durbin and Duckworth—all pat themselves on the back about how wonderful this will be. \$1.96 billion for “high speed” rail. Cost Illinois over \$300 million alone. No wonder other states told the feds they didn't want Obama's high speed rail money. Saves you 15 minutes, what a joke.

## Don't trust anyone

I read in the June issue of Readers Digest, “Stay Safe from Scams.” Smart ways to foil fraudsters looking to steal your money, your identity and your sense of security. Cyber security experts claim the U.S. experiences more cyber crime than any country in the world. The FBI Internet crime complaint center tracked \$27 billion in losses between 2018-2022. Older adults are particularly at risk. In 2021 alone, scams cheated Americans older than 50 out of \$3 billion. The true number could be much higher. More members of Generation Z born before 1996 are falling for phone and on-line scams. The number of online scams victims 20 and younger in United States increased 156% between 2017-2020. The younger generation ages 14-18 yr. who just opened bank accounts are tricked into giving out banking credentials on platforms like Snap Chat. Global Cybercrime is expected to balloon 10 trillion in two short years by 2025. Visa claims 44% of people in their 20's have reported monies lost to fraud. Don't trust anyone that calls on the phone about bank, Internet service, IRS etc. Phone scams cost Americans 39 billion 2021-2022. Scammers love to target older people because they pay so well when they text message as a grandchild having a problem needs monies. Visa world wide has invested \$9 billion in fraud prevention and cyber security over the last five years. Mastercard has invested over \$1 billion in cybersecurity since 2018. Trust your instincts.

## It's about time

WILMINGTON—The indictments against Trump have been a long time coming. After being impeached twice as president and now facing 34 indictments from New York for hush money felonies as well as 37 felony indictments for stealing the nation's 'top secret' documents, never before has an American president comported himself to be above the law to such an extent. Even President Nixon was neither impeached nor indicted but had the decency to resign in disgrace and his fellow Republicans carried out their patriotic duty by urging Nixon to do so. Country came first back then. Of course, these days we recognize that Donald Trump turns his back not only on his country but also on his loyal supporters. Jim B.

## Stream it live

BRAIDWOOD—The City of Braidwood has announced that they will be holding a series of Q&A sessions with City Administrator Tony Altieri. During that announcement made at an open City Council meeting, Commissioner Walsh indicated that these sessions will not be streamed live and that anyone wishing to participate will need to do so in person or submit questions to him so that they may be asked. Another intentional transparency fail by our local elected officials and appointed City Administrator. They are obviously afraid of something by not making these sessions available for viewing online. Perhaps they are worried that someone is going to start asking questions that they don't want to answer which will be viewable to the entire world? It was open season for firing off questions to those running for office during the Meet the Candidates night. The same needs to be done in this circumstance for the City Administrator.

## Stealing big shipments

MORRIS—I read big box stores are sounding the alarm about retail theft. Best Buy, Home

Depot, Target, Walmart is getting worse. The problem goes far deeper than individual shoplifters. Target claims it expects “organized retail crime” to cost Target \$500 million more this year than it did in 2022. Insurer Travelers has tracked a 600% increase in “cargo crime” in which crime syndicates steal big shipments out of distribution centers by pretending to be trucking companies. Brand name retailers have fled downtown San Francisco. Now Target is closing stores in high crime areas. Target and other CEOs have to answer to share holders when half a billion dollars a year is walking out the door. Third World Country!

## Forbidden by Scripture

WILMINGTON—The Hypocrisy Among Us Many Christian churches attack gay people and make it clear that they aren't welcome based on Scripture. But if the entire Holy Bible is examined, adultery committed between married individuals as well as fornication between unmarried individuals are both forbidden by Scripture. Considering the popular today of single people living together, having children together and the acceptance of that practice by the churches is the height of hypocrisy indeed. Ralph D.

## Pick and choose

COAL CITY—Some things never change. You know, Coal City Area Club each year just gets worse and worse. Not sure who or what but you know they raise our dues and pay eight life guards to sit at the beach over the weekend. I drove through here, could not believe my eyes their playing golf or whatever and no one is there. So your going to pay them to sit there on a rainy day and no one is supervising them. That's sad. Sad that the board allows this to happen. I don't know why we have 13 board members because there are two people that run this club so why do we need the other guys? They don't step up to the plate anyway. You know it's really sad. I've been a member all my life and that's a long time and I've never seen the club be so bad. The one good thing is the grounds look amazing. If it wasn't for the manager keeping this club looking beautiful it would go to hell really fast. So maybe the members of our club need to step up and start voting and causing a vote to vote some of these board members off because they sure aren't doing nothing for our club except screwing it up. I hope all of our members decide to figure out, maybe run for the board, maybe who knows. I don't know. I might run for the board again, who knows. You never know. But you know what they got their own little clique now. They don't have to have a vote. They pick and choose who they want in this club now as the board. So you members figure it out what you want to do about them.

## A corrupt man

WILMINGTON—Nobody should be above the law, but consider this. In the 2020 election, 5.2 million felons in America who had served their time were not allowed to vote and yet Donald Trump will be allowed to run for president from his jail cell if he goes to prison. Consider also that Trump was convicted of swindling both his Trump University students and his charity organization before he even started his presidency. It's no wonder that few of his supporters were present at his arraignment last week and it's no surprise he never rewarded those who did show up with refreshments as he promised. Trump's past convictions have already revealed a corrupt man who has no integrity. Irene

## Time to consolidate

CUSTER PARK—So when is the Custer Park Fire Protection District going to come clean to us, the taxpayers, on what their plans are to dissolve the district and consolidate with another local fire district? When are they finally going to admit that all of the big promises that they made to us back when they were seeking the big tax increase were nothing more than big dreams and empty promises. We were promised a local ambulance responding from our local fire station and all we got was a paramedic in a pickup truck with an ambulance responding from the Riverside Headquarters in Bourbonnais. We were told that approval of the tax increase would guarantee staffing in the fire station around the clock, but that only lasted a

lish these remarks the newspaper makes every effort to forward unpublished comments to the parties to whom they are directed.

The comments stated are the opinions and ideas of the callers and not that of the newspaper. Information may not constitute the actual events or facts of a particular topic.

Submissions by email to: [courant@fpnusa.com](mailto:courant@fpnusa.com) with “soundoff” in the subject line or go to [www.freepressnewspapers.com](http://www.freepressnewspapers.com), -> Submit Sound-off or call 815-634-0317. Please state the town in which you are calling from or in regards to. Mail comments to Sound-Off, 271 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481.



## TRUMP'S WALL FINALLY GETS BUILT... AND GUESS WHO'S GONNA PAY?

very short while. An ambulance vehicle was recently purchased and publicity was shared that an ambulance was coming soon to the community. However, once again an empty promise as the fire district leadership knew they would never be able to meet the requirements set by the state to operate such a vehicle. Fundraisers were recently held in support of raising money to help the financial strains of operating the department, so it leaves us all wondering if we were sold a bunch of sour lemons when they advertised a sweet dream. It's time to give up the delusions of grandeur and consolidate with another fire protection district who can actually provide what we need.

## Miss Fay honesty

BRAIDWOOD—Been watching council meetings for awhile online. Now that former street commissioner is no longer over the street dept., the new Street Comm. who the city administrator knows he can control is now in charge over streets and is now willing to work with him. Funny that the former commissioner consistently brought it out at council meetings that the city administrator refuses to work with him, of which he always had a quick answer to him saying the opposite. Now that former commissioner is gone, the city administrator is willing to work with the new Street Commissioner. It appears that the new Commissioner, newer street foreman and city administrator can't seem to do anything but to take the plans the former commissioner had and use them as their own ideas. These ideas include buying pipe which the city administrator said couldn't afford, so they could be ready for emergencies or when a resident requests a ditch to be filled in, an idea the former commissioner wanted to do but the administrator always had an excuse of why he couldn't do it. On last week's agenda, motion to hire part-time employees within the street dept. to help with mowing, once again the former commissioner who kept asking to hire a 5th employee for the street dept. but consistently being denied by the city administrator, especially when he had No Authority to tell a commissioner what they can or cannot do. Maybe everyone needs to read what the Administrators Job Duties really are by city ordinance. As well as the new Commissioner appointing the now city administrator to the Supervisor of Public Works, a non-union position who he feels he can tell everyone what to do, he says that he's in charge of everyone and he is not. The new Street Commissioner appointed the administrator as the Supervisor just to keep his friend employed with the city after he was let go by our previously elected Mayor, a position that hasn't been filled in over eight years because it wasn't needed as foreman were in place and the previous supervisor resigned that position to get into a Union. Would have been better use of taxpayer's dollars to give the street dept. the 5th Union employee that the former commissioner had repeatedly asked for over and over. How can you be paid for holding two positions, Administrator and Supervisor of public Works,

isn't that considered double dipping? Also on last week's Agenda was the purchase of a new lawn mower for the street dept. that once again former commissioner had brought to the council a year ago to surplus and a new mower purchase, which council approved the surplus piece of equipment. Days later the then and now current finance commissioner and city administrator said we've decided to not surplus the hopper lawn mower. Didn't know that those two controlled what's done, that's a full council's decision. After having watched last year's council meeting, this seems to the same mower that former commissioner and his previous foreman wanted to replace last year. But now that he's gone the administrator must make himself and new commissioner look good so the city administrator can secure another vote to keep secure his job, that's right he accomplished that. The budget that was approved at the April 25th meeting, the former commissioners last meeting, the street dept. got an increase of \$180,000 which he had constantly saying he needed to operate. Kind of funny that he asked for money to replace aging equipment and vehicles and once they were sure that former commissioner was no longer in, they gave the street department the money that was severely needed to accomplish this the same night that new Street Comm. was sworn in, a coincidence, Not. I want to thank former Comm. Smith for his 16 years of service to us residents. I am ashamed of this current administration and city administrator, looks like the last administration, that can't do anything but steal his ideas to better us residents and most likely they will all claim his ideas and projects as their own, not giving any credit to a man who truly dedicated his time and service to a city he truly loves and had the best interest of us residents in mind during his last 4 years battling with the city administrator over and over. Thank you to Comm. Fay Smith.

## Being held accountable

WILMINGTON—Which is more likely? Law enforcement, including the DOJ and FBI, had been corrupted and weaponized or that Donald Trump, embolden by years of committing crimes with no consequences, has finally been held accountable for contempt of the rule of law.

## Allowed to open

WILMINGTON—I was recently in a new business downtown. It's a very nice little shop and I wish them all the best however this business is not in compliance with the American Disability Act. This building is not handicap accessible. You have to step up a large step to have access to the building. Anyone in a wheelchair or walker could not have access to the building. I just wonder how this was approved by the city and who approved it. I think it was approved because the property is owned by one of the aldermen. This is not handicap accessible just like other nearby businesses. This is very sad that the city allows this to happen.

# Briggs Street over I-80 bridge work starts

The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that a project to replace the bridge carrying Briggs Street over Interstate 80 in Joliet will begin this week. The project is part of advance work leading to the \$1.2 billion reconstruction of I-80 through Will County.

Briggs Street will remain one lane in each direction, with lane widths reduced to 11 feet and no shoulders over the bridge. Motorists should also expect shoulder and occasion-

al overnight lane closures on I-80 at the bridge during that time.

The \$7.3 million project, which involves replacing the existing bridge with a new structure to accommodate the widening of I-80, is anticipated to be completed in late 2024.

The overall I-80 project will redesign and rebuild 16 miles from Ridge Road, in Minooka, to U.S. 30, in Joliet and New Lenox, while adding or extending auxiliary lanes to improve safety and reduce congestion.

Interchanges will be rebuilt or improved at Interstate 55, Illinois 7, Center Street, Chicago Street, Richards Street and Briggs Street, with a new flyover ramp linking southbound I-55 to eastbound I-80 to improve traffic flow and safety. More than 30 bridges will be rehabilitated or replaced, including those over the Des Plaines River.

# Meat demand strong despite inflation

**BY DONNA ROLANDO**  
THE CENTER SQUARE

Consumers continue to put meat on the table, not backing down on barbecues over high prices.

How long that will last with inflation is hard to know, Tasha Bunting, director of commodity and livestock programs at the Illinois Farm Bureau, said, calling it the million-dollar question.

Right now, the Illinois Farm Bureau finds consumer demand stable across the beef, pork and poultry industries, which is good news for all involved.

“Consumers are always looking for ways to access a

wholesome nutritious product, and protein definitely fits the bill,” she told The Center Square. “Luckily we are seeing a strong consumer demand for beef, pork and poultry.”

Supply is keeping pace with America's appetite for meat, she said, but drought conditions out west are being monitored.

“Right now, our beef herd, because of the continuing drought out west, is continuing to shrink,” she said.

Another challenge she cited is that pork herd levels may have been underestimated.

Overall, she is hopeful the demand for meat will survive inflation, but “time will tell,”

she said.

“The market right now is a little unpredictable because of all of the other external pressures that are out there,” Bunting said.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports in its Food Price Outlook for 2023 that beef and veal prices are expected to rise 0.7% for the year, but poultry could overshadow them with a 3.1% spike. Meanwhile, pork prices are likely to drop by 2.5% for the year, the outlook summary said.

Consumers may shop for cheaper cuts like hamburger rather than rib-eye, but right now they are still investing in nutrition.

ESSEX COMMUNITY CLUB

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Sunday, June 25**  
**7 a.m.-Noon**

Essex Community Hall  
217 Paris St., Essex, IL

Menu includes: Pancakes, french toast, eggs (any way), biscuits & gravy, bacon, sausage, hash browns, toast, milk, orange juice and coffee.

Kids 6 - 12 **\$4** • Adults **\$8** (under 6 FREE)  
Phone: 815-354-2822

We need your support, anyone interested in joining or volunteering please call 815-922-5906

**THE LAW OFFICES OF**  
**JUNE, PRODEHL, RENZI & LYNCH LLC**

- Elder Law/Nursing homes
- Medicaid
- Asset Conservation
- Wills & Trusts, Estate Planning
- Family Law & Divorce
- Mediation (custody and divorce)
- Bankruptcy: Chapter 7 & 13 (wage earner's plans)
- Foreclosure Defense
- Residential Real Estate: Sale & Purchase
- Traffic & Driver's License Reinstatement
- Restraining Orders/Orders of Protection
- Felony & Misdemeanor Defense

Call now for an appointment **815-725-8000**  
or visit our website at [www.jpirlaw.net](http://www.jpirlaw.net)

1861 Black Road, Joliet, IL 60435

This office is a designated Federal Debt Relief Agency pursuant to an act of Congress.

David (Andy) June  
Ford (Chet) June III  
Steve Prodehl  
John Renzi  
Jennifer Lynch  
Marilyn Wysocki  
Ed Oedzes

VISA  
MasterCard

**Farmland Auction - 279.8 +/- Acres in 4 Tracts**

**Wassom Trusts**  
Holdings in LaSalle County (Tracts 1 and 2) at 10:00 AM and holdings in Grundy and Livingston Counties (Tracts 3 and 4) at 1pm. Excellent soil fertility, strong relative yield histories, and vicinity to strong grain markets

Tract #1, 121.0+/- acres  
Tract #2, 40.0+/- acres  
Tract #3, 40.0+/- acres  
Tract #4, 78.8+/- acres

Call David Klein, Auctioneer at 800-532-LAND

Broker and Farm Manager  
Mark Smith - Bloomington  
309-665-0053  
[mrsmith@firstmid.com](mailto:mrsmith@firstmid.com)

**Virtual Live Online Auction**  
**July 11, 2023**  
LaSalle, Grundy, & Livingston, Counties

**First Mid**  
AG SERVICES



# Summer is Swimming with Super Savings!

Top Quality Groceries, Amazing Prices! - Berkot's Is Your Meat Headquarters

Only the BEST Fresh Meat & Produce! - Join Berkot's Loyalty for Savings!



Experience the Berkot's difference  
Fresh. Friendly. Focused on you.

Sales valid 6/22/23-6/28/23 | STORE HOURS: 7 AM - 9 PM  
ALL ITEMS AVAILABILITY BASED ON SUPPLY. QUANTITIES MAY BE LIMITED. NO RAINCHECKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

Berkot's Fresh  
Mild or Hot  
Italian Sausage  
or Brats  
(Sold in 5 pk for \$5)

**\$1**  
EA

Berkot's Famous  
USDA Choice  
Ribeye Steak Kabobs  
2 PACK

**\$15**

Berkot's  
All-Beef Hot Dogs  
Sold in 1.4 lb pkg for \$6.99 ea  
Maxwell Street Polish  
Sold in 1.5 lb pkg for \$7.49 ea

**\$4.99**  
LB

**USDA CHOICE**

USDA Choice Angus Sirloin Filets- 5 oz each  
(Sold in 3 pk for \$8.97)

**\$2.99**  
EACH

Censea Jumbo,  
Raw, Peeled, Tail-On  
Black Tiger Shrimp  
13-15 ct  
(Sold in 2 lb bag for \$15.98)

**\$7.99**  
LB

Berkot's Famous  
Chicken  
Breast Kabobs  
2 PACK

**\$12**

**USDA CHOICE**

Fresh Atlantic Salmon Whole Fillets- 2-3 lb size  
(Smaller cuts \$10.99/lb)

**\$7.99**  
PER LB

Fresh Produce at Hot Prices!

**2 FOR \$7**

**JUST 35¢ PER LB!**

Russet Potatoes- 10 lb bag

**99¢ PER LB**

Farm Fresh Green Beans

**2 FOR \$7**

Blueberries- Full Pint

**79¢ EACH**

Orange Peppers

**\$2.99 PER LB**

Extra Large, Super Sweet Cherries

**\$5.99 EACH**

Super Sweet Seedless Watermelons

Great Grocery Deals to Fill Your Basket!

Oscar Mayer  
Hot Dogs- 16 oz  
Smoked Sausage- 14 oz  
(Excludes Beef)

**\$1.99 EACH**

Smokies

**4 FOR \$5**

Gatorade- 28 oz  
Gfit- 16.9 oz  
Propel- 24 oz

**\$3.99 EACH**

Sargento  
Shredded or  
Sliced Cheese- 5-8 oz

**2 FOR \$5**

Blue Ribbon  
Ice Cream- 128 oz

**\$4.99 EACH**

General Mills  
Family Size Cereal  
18-19.7 oz

**\$3.99 EACH**

Daily's Original  
Hickory and Applewood  
Smoked or Hickory Thick  
Sliced Bacon- 16 oz

**\$3.99 EACH**

Nestle Pure Life Water  
6 pk- Acai Grape, Wild  
Berry, Lemon, or Orange  
Splash

**3 FOR \$5**

Kingsford  
Original Charcoal  
Briquets  
2x 12 lb  
value pack

**\$12.99 EACH**

Ice House  
30 pk 12 oz cans  
Single: \$15.99

**\$12.99**  
when buying 2

Miller High Life  
30 pk 12 oz cans  
Single: \$15.99

**\$12.99**  
when buying 2

Busch Light, Busch  
or Rolling Rock  
30 pk 12 oz cans  
Single: \$15.99

**\$12.99**  
when buying 2

Pabst Blue Ribbon  
30 pk cans  
Single: \$15.99

**\$13.99**  
when buying 2

Miller Lite, MGD,  
or Miller 64  
24 pk 12 oz  
btl or cans  
Single: \$18.99

**\$15.99**  
when buying 2

Bud Light or  
Budweiser  
24 pk 12 oz btl  
or cans  
Single: \$18.99

**\$15.99**  
when buying 2

Coors or  
Coors Light  
24 pk 12 oz  
btl or cans  
Single: \$18.99

**\$15.99**  
when buying 2

\*Share Loyalty Phone Number at Register. X Packages/LBs/etc. permitted, limit 1 transaction per loyalty account per ad week.

**1 DAYS OF  
LOYALTY  
SAVINGS**

PRICE W/ LOYALTY ONLY

**BUY 1  
GET 1  
FREE**  
with loyalty

Fresh, All-Natural  
Center Cut Pork Chops  
Regular Price: \$3.99/lb

PRICE W/ LOYALTY ONLY

**BUY 1  
GET 1  
FREE**  
with loyalty

Fresh, All-Natural  
Bone-In Sirloin Pork Chops  
Regular Price: \$2.99/lb

PRICE W/ LOYALTY ONLY

**BUY 1  
GET 1  
FREE**  
with loyalty

Berkot's Homemade  
Jamaican, Brickstone Beer,  
Cheddar, Jalapeno Cheddar,  
or Chili Brats  
Regular Price: \$5.99/lb

PRICE W/ LOYALTY ONLY  
10 Avocados permitted, limit 1 transaction  
per loyalty account per ad week.

**99¢ EACH**  
with loyalty  
LIMIT 10\*

Avocados

PRICE W/ LOYALTY ONLY

**\$4.99 PER LB**  
with loyalty

Eckrich  
Hard or Genoa Salami

PRICE W/ LOYALTY ONLY  
2 Packages permitted, limit 1 transaction per  
loyalty account per ad week.

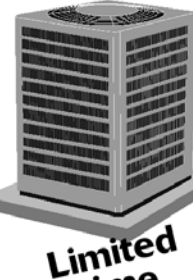
**\$3.99 EACH**  
with loyalty  
LIMIT 2\*

Pepsi Family- 12 pk 12 oz cans  
Additional price: \$6.49 each

FULL WEEKLY AD @ BERKOTFOODS.COM

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE





## HOT DEAL

Hot days are coming and we'll be busy so get a NEW A/C INSTALL now for a

# \$250

instant rebate with new install!

Limited time offer

Call now to upgrade with finance options available!

## BREEZE-AIR

Local, Trusted Company

### HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Call (815) 476-6615

www.breezeairhvacil.com



American Standard

## How America's outdated power grid is affecting climate change

Dear EarthTalk: How is America's outdated power grid inhibiting efforts to fight climate change?

-- Jim S., Milwaukee, WI

Our outdated power grid is indeed a significant hindrance to efforts to combat climate change. One of the key issues is the grid's limited capacity to integrate renewable energy sources (solar, wind, etc.), a needed step if we're to make the transition to a clean energy economy.

Today's grid is made up of a patchwork of local and regional interests often at odds with one another and developed to process locally sourced coal and gas into electricity that rarely gets transported more than a few dozen miles away.

To take full advantage of renewables, these local and regional utilities need to coordinate on the production and placement of thousands of miles of new high voltage transmission lines that could

## EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

send electricity generated by wind and solar for thousands of miles across multiple grid regions.

But without clear financial incentives, utilities aren't in any rush to pursue such endeavors.

A key challenge of renewable energy generation is its intermittency. Solar and wind power is variable depending on weather conditions, making it essential to have a grid capable of balancing supply and demand in real-time.

An outdated grid with limited energy storage capacity and transmission capability can't effectively manage the fluctuations in renewable energy production. So renewable energy gets wasted while the grid keeps using fossil fuels to meet demand during times of low renewable generation.

Moreover, an outdated power grid falls short in integrating electric vehicles (EVs) into the transportation sector, a crucial component of efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. EV adoption is on the rise, but the existing grid is ill-equipped to support a widespread charging infra-



ONE ISSUE WITH our grid is that the transmission lines across the U.S. weren't designed to carry renewable energy long distances.

structure. This hinders the growth of the EV market.

To fully realize the potential of EVs as a climate solution, a grid must be able to support increased demand from charging stations and manage the associated load fluctuations.

Outdated power grid vulnerabilities are further exacerbated by the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events linked to climate change. Aging infrastructure is more susceptible to damage from storms, hurricanes and wildfires, resulting in prolonged power outages and disruptions.

These events not only have immediate impacts on public safety and health but also impede climate change mitigation efforts by hampering renewable energy generation and slowing down the

restoration of power supply.

To address these challenges, significant investments in grid modernization are essential. Upgrading the power grid to a smart grid, equipped with advanced sensors, automation and two-way communication can enhance grid resilience and flexibility.

Smart grid technologies enable real-time monitoring and response, optimizing electricity distribution, and facilitating the integration of renewable energy sources. Additionally, expanding energy storage infrastructure, such as battery systems, can help mitigate the intermittency of renewable energy generation and provide backup power during outages.

EarthTalk® is a 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. Send questions to: question@earth-talk.org.

## Something to smile about



\$500 OFF  
implants/dentures

New patient visit  
50% off

## COAL CITY DENTAL

Our priority is to provide comfortable, quality dental care!

- Dentures • Implants • Extractions • Nitrous Oxide/Sedation Options
- Evening Availability • Whitening/Cosmetic Procedures
- Work with most Insurances and more

Phone: 815.634.4999

Coal City Dental, Still Catering To The "Dental Coward" After All These Years!

645 E. Division St. (Rte. 113), Coal City | www.CoalCityDental.com

## Missouri names locals on dean's list

University of Missouri has released the Dean's list for spring of 2023. The following local students were among those earning a 3.5 or above gpa.

Madyson Schuck of Braceville, Anna Schulte of Braidwood, Harley Felker, Courtney Meyer and Joshua Michalak all of Diamond. Maggie Meyr and Mazie Meyr of Essex and Rhianna Brown, Rebecca Horton and Emily Watson all of Wilmington.

## Ukulele lessons for beginners coming

The Elwood Children's Garden is offering ukulele lessons for complete beginners starting Wednesdays, from July 12 to August 2.

The ukulele, also called a uke, is like a miniature guitar the generally employs four nylon strings. At roughly 17 inches, it is easier for youth to handle and a great instrument to gain their interest in music.

The one-hour group class will be held 7-8 p.m. The entire cost for the four-week program is \$25. All money collected goes directly to the Elwood Children's Garden.

Signups are at the park or call 815-693-0214. All ages are welcome. The class meets in the outdoor pavilion. Participants must bring their own ukulele.

# 73RD ANNUAL CARBON HILL HOMECOMING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 - SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

## BINGO

Wed. - Fri., 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
Saturday, 3 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
Sunday, 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

## Fireworks

Sunday, 9:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars!

## 11th Annual Josh Cumming Memorial Softball Tournament

Begins 6 p.m. on June 21  
Playoffs to be played on Sunday, June 25 after parade



## Sign up for BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT

Thursday at 6:30 p.m.  
Tournament 7:15 p.m.  
Contact George Reader  
815-953-3110

## HANDICAP PARKING AT VILLAGE HALL

Shuttle from hall to Bingo stand.  
Must have I.D. to park at Village Hall.

## CARNIVAL OPENS

Wed.-Fri. 6:00 p.m.;  
Sat. 2:00 p.m.; Sun. 2:00 p.m.

## Advance Sale Carnival Tickets

At The Following Locations:

Old National Bank • Midland Bank-Diamond  
The Cove • Coal City Village Hall  
Carbon Hill Village Hall • Bum's Tavern  
Quality Auto Body • Mustachio's • Berkots

Week long  
Unlimited Ride  
Armband Ticket  
\$50 in advance  
\$60 at the Fair  
Single Day  
Unlimited Ride

Available at Homecoming only  
\$30 per person per day

Rides • Games • Food • Entertainment • Petting Zoo

CASH ONLY

Food Stand  
Operated by:  
Mustachio's



Bar & Grill

## Parade Sunday @1 p.m.

Friends with Disabilities

Sat., June 24 • Noon - 2 p.m.  
No Charge  
Also includes 1 Free Bag of Popcorn and Drink!

Join the Fun!

ENTERTAINMENT

## ENTERTAINMENT

- Fri., June 23 -  
"ETHAN BELL BAND"  
9 p.m. - Midnight

- Sat., June 24 -  
"3 ON THE TREE"  
2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

"THE BRAT PACK"  
8 p.m. - Midnight



Live Music!

- Sun., June 25 -  
"FIDDLEROCK"  
Featuring Casey McGrath  
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

"BOGO FREE"  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Carbon Hill Homecoming — Don't Miss It!!! — June 21st - 25th



# A healthy dessert to satisfy your sweet tooth

BY ELAINE FISHER-OHLUND  
STAFF MEMBER

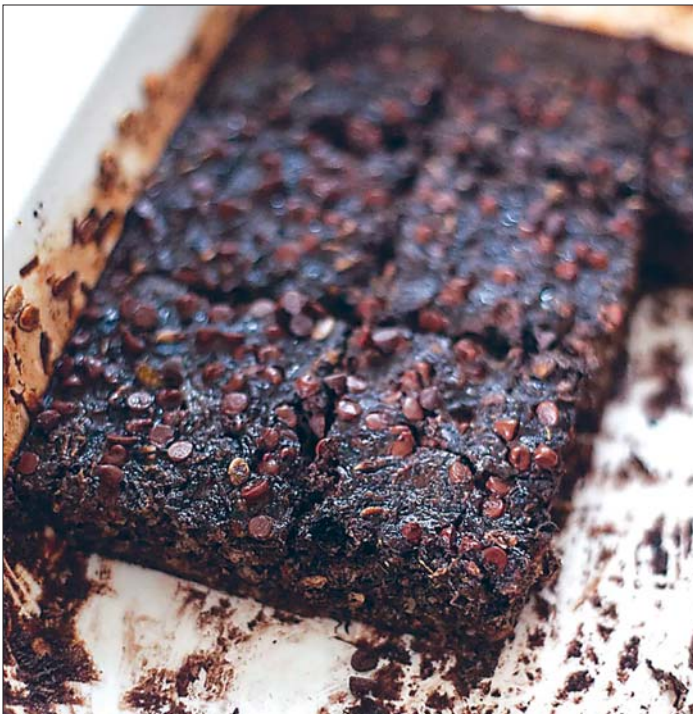
If there is one vice my family has it is having a sweet tooth. Dessert at the end of supper was the one thing I looked forward to and was also the bribing tool I used over and over for my kids to eat their vegetables.

However, having a sugary dessert every night was just not ideal for a healthy diet. And having kids on a sugar rush right before bed time was not cutting it for this mom who enjoys her sleep. So I decided to search for a recipe that was vegan, gluten free and had minimal sugar to satisfy our sweet tooth.

I tried multiple healthy dessert recipes but the ingredients were always hard to find. Sometimes I thought I found a winner and nailed it, only to have each child try it (while the drum roll went in my head) for them to turn their noses up to it. I was almost defeated until I found this simple easy recipe for chocolate oats.

Not only was it tasty but getting my kids to willingly eat oats was a bonus because of their nutritional value. Oats are full of vitamins, minerals, antioxidants and a great source of fiber. If you ever have a problem with constipation, oats is a good answer.

Another ingredient that



CHOCOLATE OAT BROWNIES are on the healthier side of satisfying your sweet tooth.

just tickled me pink was flax seed. Flax seed is benefits the digestive system and is a plant based protein. Studies have shown that having it before bed is the best time to ingest it. So I figured this dessert had to be a winner.

#### Ingredients

- 2 cups of coconut milk
- 1/2 cup maple syrup

- 1/3 cup peanut butter
  - 1 t. of vanilla
  - 2 cups of rolled oats
  - 1/4 cup cocoa
  - 1 tablespoon flax seed
  - 1t. baking powder
  - 1 t. salt
  - 1/2 cup of dark chocolate chips
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Add all the wet ingre-

dients together in a mixing bowl, coconut milk, maple syrup, peanut butter and vanilla.

Tip: I like to use Kirkland Signature Organic creamy peanut butter because it has two ingredients, dry roasted organic peanuts and sea salt. So it is chemical free and no seed oils which can cause inflammation. Stir well.

Next, add the dry ingredients, cocoa, flax seed, baking powder, salt and stir well. Then the fun part, fold in the dark chocolate chips.

Before I add the mix to the baking dish I line it with parchment paper that way it is an easy clean up once we have finished it off.

Finally, bake for 40 minutes. Once it is finished you can top it off with a scoop of vanilla ice cream (see below) and I promise you your little ones will gobble it up.

Tip: There are some great healthy choices for ice cream too. A brand we love is Halo Top with less sugar which can be found in our local grocery store. Please enjoy and remember to just not eat for taste but for nutrition too.

## Gas downstate drops to \$2.29/g, cheapest locally is \$3.74/g

Average gasoline prices in Illinois are unchanged in the last week, averaging \$4.02/g Tuesday, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois.

Prices in Illinois are 10.2 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand \$1.50 per gallon lower than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Illinois new Pekin was priced at \$2.29/g Monday while the most expensive was \$5.19/g, a difference of \$2.90/g.

Braidwood stations showed the lowest price locally at \$3.79 while in Coal City it was \$3.84 and Wilmington \$3.91. Travel to Bourbonnais and those stations were averaging \$3.50; in Morris \$3.74 and Joliet \$3.93.

"It has been a quiet week for the national average, with little overall movement in average

gas prices nationally even as oil prices have been a bit unstable. Some states have seen minor increases while others have seen decreases, and the mixed bag is likely to continue for the time being with oil prices a bit all over the place," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

The national average price of gasoline is \$3.56/g.

"While gasoline demand continues to inch up, we could see additional pressure on pump prices, while the price of diesel continues to see downward movement. While the uncertainty over the direction of the economy is a major player in preventing oil's rise, inventories of oil and gasoline do remain tight, preventing much additional downward movement as well.

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS • PROPERTY



"Your local State Farm Agent for 30 years"

**Jerry Hallahan - Agent**

1350 E. Division St., Diamond

(815) 634-2222 jerry@jerryhallahan.com

MOTORCYCLE • REC VEHICLES • WATERCRAFT • LIABILITY

INSURANCE

**Asphalt Paving**

• New Driveways

• Parking Lots

• Asphalt Repairs

• Sealcoating

**10 years of covering local driveways**



**PREMIER ASPHALT**

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

**815-846-3500**

Premierasphalt.net

pete@premierasphalt.net



**NO GAMES...  
REFI YOUR RV  
WITH US AND GET  
1% CASH  
BACK\***

+ NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS\*\*

**SOCU**

800.595.2454  
1544 CREEK DR  
MORRIS, IL 60450

\*All loans subject to credit approval. Rate & term will vary based on credit and value. 1% cash back is only for refinances from another financial institution; maximum \$750. The loan must be open for 120 days or the 1% cash back will be surrendered. A Form 1099-MISC may be received at year-end for tax purposes. \*\*If No Pay for 90 Days option is chosen, the loan is not eligible for skip a payment program until 12 monthly payments have been made. Limited time offer. Federally insured by the NCUA.



**Nelsons**  
*home furnishings*  
& OUTLET CENTER

Well worth the trip!

**SALE DATES**

Sat., June 24 • 9am - 5pm  
Sun., June 25 • 10am - 3 pm

For 55 years we have provided our area with the  
**LARGEST SELECTION** and the **BEST PRICES!**

**Full  
Reclining  
Sofa Sale**

**\$799<sup>95</sup>**



**WEEKEND  
FLASH  
SALE**

290 BRIDGE ST. (RT. 53)  
**WILMINGTON • 815-476-7620**

Great Deals at **nelsonsfurniture.com**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK...MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 9AM-7PM.....SATURDAY 9AM-4PM.....SUNDAY 10AM-3PM





**Nelly's and Old School Brewing**  
are now in one location and  
better than ever!  
Now available for catering/events!

**ALSO**

**New game room and party space!**







# OBITUARIES

## Joanne Fitzpatrick

WILMINGTON—Joanne Fitzpatrick, 79, of Wilmington, passed away Sunday, June 18, 2023 at Silver Cross Hospital in New Lenox, IL.

Born July 23, 1943 in Joliet, Joanne was the daughter of Nicola "China" and Rose (Groff) Macaluso. She was raised in Coal City; graduated from Coal City High School with the Class of 1961, and went on to earn her Associates Degree in Journalism from Joliet Junior College.

On June 4, 1964, Joanne married Raymond Fitzpatrick in Assumption Catholic Church in Coal City, and together they made a home in Wilmington, and raised six children. Joanne was a dedicated wife and mother, who was always involved in supporting her children's education. She assisted as a room mother for the kids classes, volunteered for hot lunch days and was proud to always pitch in to help at St. Rose School through their various fundraising efforts during her kids years in school and beyond. Joanne was a Girl Scout Leader and also supported Ray's involvement with the Wilmington Fire Department as a 'Fire Bell'.

Church and community were important to Joanne, and in addition to being active with St. Rose Parish through Parish Council, CCW, Bible Study, Pre-Cana, Focus Classes, and teaching Religious Education, Joanne also contributed to the community. She and Ray were part of the original Catfish Days Committee; she served as a Democratic Election Judge for many years, and was also elected by the community to both a Library Trustee position for 10 years, and as a Wilmington Township Trustee for 20 years.

Joanne's career as a librarian began at St. Rose School, which spanned from 1982 until 1988. She then gained a librarian position with the Wilmington Public Library, where she worked for the following 20 years, until retiring in 2008.

In her spare time, Joanne enjoyed gardening, a trait in which she gained from her father. She was quite crafty, and her creativity could create most anything out of nothing. Holidays were particularly important to Joanne, as it not only brought family together, but it also allowed for her to decorate and express her love of the day. Her Halloween displays were amazing, and her collection of Santa's were vast. Joanne was one who was always ready to lend an ear to listen, and she will be most remembered for her love of sending cards with confetti, or as the family coined "Nana Flakes."

Without a doubt, the bright flames of life, always so steadfast and present, may waver without Joanne's unique spark. But we will find the strength to fan this flame and carry forward, brightening the world as Joanne has done tirelessly. We will continue to carry her legacy to the future, and keep her memories close to our



hearts. May family and friends alike continue to gather and share the stories to honor Joanne's creativity and how she made the world a better place. In this way, we keep her beautiful spirit alive and can continue to inspire others as she so inspired each of us.

Survivors include her children: Lisa Rae (Anthony) Boyer of Lockport, Dennis John (Tracie) Fitzpatrick of Manhattan, Laurie Sue (Stephen) Lam of Camarillo, CA, Douglas Fitzpatrick of Wilmington, Rachael (Daniel) Cimino of Coal City, and Joseph Anthony Fitzpatrick of Maryland Heights, MO; grandchildren: Sean Patrick Lam of San Francisco, CA, Sarah Danielle Lam of Santa Barbara, CA, John Raymond Boyer of Lockport, Allison Joanne Boyer, currently studying at John Hopkins, Aidan James Fitzpatrick, currently studying at Arizona State University, Meaghan Rae Fitzpatrick, currently studying at Mizzou University, and Dominic Joseph Cimino, Jacob Vincent Cimino and Augustus James Cimino, all of Coal City; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law: Donna and Rob Flowers of Tempe, AZ and Joliet, and Leroy and Barb Steffes of Lockport; nieces and nephews: Sheri and Ron Menelli of Carlsbad, CA, Holly and Dan Pierson of Morris, Chris and Meghan Flowers of Valencia, CA, Michael and Tara Steffes of Downers Grove, IL and Traci and T.J. Valacack of Schaumburg, IL as well as 13 great nieces and nephews.

Joanne was preceded in death by her parents; husband Ray in 2002; one brother, Anthony Macaluso; her sister-in-law, Nancy Steffes and father-in-law and mother-in-law: Joe and Dorothy Fitzpatrick.

The family will receive friends for a memorial visitation at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 East Kahler Road in Wilmington on Friday, June 23, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. until time of service, 7:00 p.m. Deacon Jay Plese from St. Rose Parish in Wilmington will preside.

A private family inurnment will follow in Mt. Olivet Catholic Cemetery in Wilmington, where Joanne will be laid to rest with her late husband, Ray.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests cards be sent to someone special without occasion, to brighten the recipient's day. In the true spirit of Joanne, fill those cards with special messages of love, encouragement, support, and add some fun confetti.

Family and friends are encouraged to log onto [www.baskervillefuneral.com](http://www.baskervillefuneral.com) to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Joanne's memorial page online through social media.

Cremation and memorial services have been made under the direction and care of Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes and Crematory.

## Clair Matthews-Rath

MORRIS—Clair Matthews-Rath, 77, of Morris, passed away Sunday, June 18, 2023 at Park Pointe Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center in Morris.

Born Dec. 22, 1945 in Dixon, IL Clair Ellen was a daughter of William and Genevieve (Stiles) Barthelmes. She attended school in Dixon through the 5th grade until her family moved to Morris where she graduated from Morris High School with the Class of 1963. Clair went to college at Drake University in Iowa, achieving a Master's Degree in Elementary Education, and moved to Huntington Beach, CA, where she would teach for 25 years.

Clair loved everything about living in Southern California, especially spending time at the beach. She was an adventurous person who loved being outdoors. Clair learned how to sail a Hobie Cat sail boat with her first husband, Erich Matthews, which they would sail off the coast in San Diego.

She married William Rath on Aug. 4, 1989, and together they moved to Morris, and made their home with their family. Clair was a talented artist who enjoyed water color paintings and working with stained glass. She was a caring and understanding person who loved spending time with her grandchildren and her pets,



always making sure to make a comfortable and loving home for her family.

Survivors include her son, Erich (Hillary) Matthews of Coal City, and her step-children: Jennifer (Alex) Davis of Cary, IL, Jon (Lisa) Rath of Minooka, and Sarah Smith of Coal City; thirteen grandchildren: Mayday and Rosey Matthews, Clarissa, Megan, and Abbey Davis, Darien (Matt) Fincher, Miranda, Bailey, and Camden Rath, Turner (Kelly), Mason, and Vivienne Neri, and Avery Powell; two great grandchildren: Oliver and Millie; one sister, Wilhelmina "Billie" Williams of Texas and Wisconsin, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Josetta Nelson, Ronald (Barbara) Rath, and Laurie (Duane) McComas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Clair was preceded in death by her parents, and one sister in infancy.

Cremation rites are being accorded, and a private family inurnment will follow at Mount Carmel Catholic Cemetery in Morris.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book, upload photographs, and share Clair's memorial page via social media.

Cremation services and memorial arrangements are being made under the direction and care of Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes and Crematory in Morris.

## Jamison Landers

WILMINGTON—Jamison Michael Landers, 45, of Wilmington, passed away Saturday, June 17, 2023 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, IL. Born Oct. 20, 1977 in Joliet, to Ronald and Mary Ann Landers. Jamison graduated from Wilmington High School with the class of 1997. He worked at Whitmore Ace Hardware in Wilmington for over twenty-five years. He always kept himself busy by tinkering with motors and loved to socialize with people. He also enjoyed fishing and deer hunting with his dad.

Surviving are his father, Ronald P. Landers, Jr. of Wilmington; sister, Cheryl L. Landers of Wilmington; brother, Jeffrey W. Landers of Wilmington; and grandparents, Alan and Jennie Zlomie of Wilmington.

Preceding him in death were his mother, Mary Ann (nee Zalud) Landers; paternal grand-



father, Ronald P. Landers, Sr.; maternal grandparents, Emil and Audie May Zalud; and aunt, Faith Lynn Koehler.

Visitation for Jamison will be at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, Braidwood, Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. until the time of funeral services at 7:00 p.m.

Cremation rites will be accorded following services.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be directed to Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.

For more information and to visit his online guestbook, please log on to [www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com).

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, 401 E. Main St., Braidwood, is entrusted with arrangements.

## Chloe McCully

WILMINGTON—Chloe Lynn McCully, 17 of Wilmington, passed away Saturday June 17, 2023 as the result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident.

Born Jan. 11, 2006 in Joliet, Chloe was a daughter of Carli McCully. She was raised in Wilmington and currently entering her senior year in High School. Chloe, also referred to by many as "Red", was active in past years with both Soccer and Cheer-leading at Wilmington High School and worked part-time at the local Dollar General. She was a Christian who had a strong bond with her mother; loved doing hair and nails, and had a great affection for cows. Red was proud to be only two classes from earning her high school diploma early. She loved children, and children loved her. Red enjoyed being on the water, swimming, boating and fishing.

Gone too soon, may Red's loved ones and friends always feel her presence in their hearts and forever treasure the fond memories she leaves behind.

Survivors include her parents; grandparents: Terry and Penny McCully and Corena



Gilbert; great grandmothers: Joanne Damakowski and Marilyn Jackson; many aunts, uncles and cousins; her 'Forever Fishie' Andrew, and her pet rats, Stitch and Cheese.

Chloe was preceded in death by her uncle, Chris McCully and great aunt, Donna Stephen.

The family will receive friends for a casual visitation (which they suggest casual attire, including hoodies and pajama pants) at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 East Kahler Road in Wilmington on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and again on Thursday morning, June 22, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. until time of funeral service, 11:00 a.m.

Burial will follow in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Wilmington.

Family and friends are encouraged to log onto [www.baskervillefuneral.com](http://www.baskervillefuneral.com) to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Chloe's memorial page online through social media.

Funeral services and arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Baskerville Funeral Home in Wilmington.

## William Schaulin

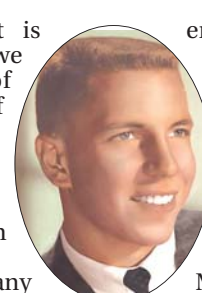


COLLEYVILLE, TX—It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of William Lewis Schaulin of Colleyville, TX. He was born in Gardner, IL on July 4, 1938. He passed away peacefully in his sleep on March 25, 2023, at the age of 84. William (Bill) was the oldest of 44 grandchildren in the John L. and Gertrude Hill family.

He was loved and cherished by many people. Bill graduated from Amboy High School in Amboy, IL and attended the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign graduating with a degree in General Engineering. During his tenure at the Illinois, he was an active member of the Triangle fraternity. Upon graduation, Bill was commissioned as a naval officer and served valiantly aboard the USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Aircraft Carrier, which included sailing in the South China Sea just before the official start of the Vietnam War.

His hobby was playing golf and he was immensely proud of scoring a hole-in-one on September 26, 2001, at Canyon Creek Country Club. His passion for golf led him to make golf clubs for other people. One of his famous achievements was making a custom club for Gary Player.

Bill is survived by his daughter, Karen Belmont and her husband, Mike Belmont; son, Dr. Brian Schaulin and his wife, Rebecca Schaulin; grandsons Brice Schaulin and Preston Schaulin; his brother Richard Schaulin and his wife, Mary Jane Schaulin; his nephew, Jeff Schaulin; his niece, Jennifer Schaulin; his broth-



er, Karl Schaulin and his wife, Karrin Schaulin; his niece Kirsten Brandenburg and her husband Damien (Kris) Brandenburg; great niece Evelyn Brandenburg; nephew, Kraig Schaulin and his wife, Joy Schaulin; great nieces, Zoe Lake, Soraya Lake, and Billi Lake; niece, Esther Beck and husband Richard Beck; great nephews Skyler Beck and Mason Beck; great niece Mia Beck and nephew, Scott Schaulin.

Bill was preceded in death by his father, Lyle Schaulin; his mother, Mildred Hill Schaulin; his sister, Karen Joy Schaulin; his brother, Roger Schaulin; and his nephew, Kyle Schaulin.

Memorial services were held in Colleyville, TX, and a graveside service will be Saturday, June 24, 2023 at Gardner Prairie Cemetery in Gardner, IL at 11:00 a.m. with full military honors.

Those who cannot join these services in person may attend virtually via a live stream which can be found on Bill's memorial page.

In lieu of flowers please send any memorial gifts to Brookdale Senior Living, Alzheimer's Walk, Veteran's Administration or Gardner Prairie Cemetery.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book, upload photographs, and share Bill's memorial page via social media.

Memorial services and arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes and Crematory in Gardner.

# TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

Become a subscriber and you'll automatically be entered into a weekly drawing for a set of four tickets to see the Joliet Slammers! We're drawing for sets of tickets to subscribers who sign up for home delivery or our e-edition before July 31, 2023.

Winners will be contacted by phone to make ticket arrangements for your family fun night in Joliet.

We'll begin immediate delivery of your local newspaper that's packed with award-winning news coverage that pertains to you and your community. Each week for one year you'll receive news that pertains to you including the latest developments involving city & school government, sports, births, obituaries, police & fire news, columnists and much more.

**Weekly drawing now thru July 31st!**

THE BRAIDWOOD JOURNAL THE COAL CITY COURANT THE FREE PRESS ADVOCATE

One year in Will or Grundy county - \$43 (cash or check)  
All other Illinois counties - \$50 (cash or check)  
Out of state - \$57 (cash or check)

## The Free Press Newspapers

111 S. Water St.  
Wilmington, IL 60481  
(815) 476-7966

271 S. Broadway  
Coal City, IL 60416  
(815) 634-0315

Sign me up for a subscription and enter my name into the Joliet Slammers give-away

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

☐ New ☐ The Braidwood Journal ☐ The Free Press Advocate  
☐ Renewal ☐ The Coal City Courant

Expires 7/31/23



Mail in your payment or call 815-476-7966 to charge it on a Visa or Mastercard. A service fee of \$.0399\* added to all credit card transactions

The sooner you subscribe the better your odds for winning!



# LET FREEDOM ROCK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION!

Friday June 30th 6PM - Midnight North Island Park

## Spirit Of Wilmington

Sherri Michaels  
Mobil Wilmington  
ELP 55, LLC

## Liberty

Brieser Construction Company  
O'Dekirk, Allred & Rhodes, LLC  
D'Orazio Ford

## Gemini Rocketman

Chamlin & Associates, Inc. ~ ITI Intermodal, Inc.  
U.S. Cold Storage ~ Discount Technology Workforce, Inc.

## Purple Tiger Tail

Blue Horse LLC ~ T.J. Hansen Country Financial  
Des Rochers Backyard Pool, Inc ~ Old National Bank  
Tuffy's Lounge ~ Northern Insurance Group  
Oak Knoll Financial Strategies ~ Angelo's Liquors  
Riverside Medical Group of Wilmington ~ Grundy Bank  
Nan's Catering & Home Cooking ~ First Christian Church  
Illinois Central School Bus ~ Davy Industrial Park

## Other

Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd. ~ Arnie Bauer Chevrolet  
Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes ~ Free Press Newspaper

## Sparkler

Impressions Hair & Tanning Salon  
Trinity Services ~ Convenient Self Storage  
Angelo's Bait Shop



~ Live Music by Hairbangers Ball ~  
~ Food Trucks ~ Ice Cream Truck ~  
~ Bounce Houses ~ Beer Garden ~  
~ FIREWORKS ~

## Wilmington Area Community Band to perform Sunday

The Wilmington Area Community Band will perform the second concert of the 16th season on Sunday, June 25, at 6 p.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park.

Arrive early and order dinner from "Between The Buns" food truck. Please bring a lawn chair, mosquito spray, snacks, and water and relax in the shade as the band performs the following music in a

beautiful outdoor setting.

- Star Spangled Banner
- American Patrol
- America the Beautiful
- Chimes of Freedom
- Battle Hymn Epic
- Armed Forces Salute INTERMISSION
- Hands Across the Sea
- Strike Up the Band
- Echoes from the Battlefield
- Stars and Stripes Forever

Veteran's Memorial Park is located at the intersection of Williams and Vine Streets - across from Oakwood Cemetery and Island City Baptist Church.

In case of inclement weather, the concert will be performed at the Wilmington High School Cafetorium. The Wilmington Area Community Band is a volunteer group of local musicians from ages 13 up.

The band welcomes musicians looking for a fun summer ensemble. Please contact Wes Smith at 815-476-5517 for details.

## United Methodist Church to hold outdoor praise

Coal City United Methodist Church (6805 E. McArdle Road) invites the community to join them on Sunday, June 25, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for a great evening of worship in their south parking lot.

Praise bands will perform and everyone is invited to stay to watch the Carbon Hill

Homecoming fireworks afterwards. Praise bands from First Baptist Church of Coal City, The Village Christian Church of Diamond, Christian Life Assembly of Diamond, and Coal City United Methodist Church, will all be performing. Everyone is welcome and invited.

## Elwood garden to host story time, free music

The Elwood Children's Garden is hosting story time with Mrs. Dorie on Thursday, June 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. It is for PreK to second grade and pre-registration is not required.

Then on June 27 the Elwood garden will host Ukulele Moonshiners from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. It will include free music in the garden. You can check out more information on the Ukulele Moonshiners at [www.ukulele-moonshiners.com](http://www.ukulele-moonshiners.com). If the weather is threatening the concert will be moved to the Elwood Church, 101 N. Chicago St., Elwood.

**A "TAKE SOME OF THE WORRY OUT OF LIFE" POLICY.**

With rewards for safe behavior that protects what matters most, rather than penalties for what doesn't go quiet right. And with the support you need, every step of the way. For your car. Your home. For your unique life. Dream fearlessly with American Family Insurance. Contact me today.

**Gerald Gresham**  
815-729-3570  
815-476-6364  
863 Center Ct., Unit B,  
Shorewood, IL 60404  
[teamgresham@amfam.com](mailto:teamgresham@amfam.com)  
Email: [gresham@amfam.com](mailto:gresham@amfam.com)

**AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE**

American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & its Operating Companies.  
American Family Life Insurance Company, 6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53703  
©2020 017720 - 1/20 - 14732207

Wilmington Rotary Club

# Cars for a Cause

**ROUTE 66**

## 2023

— WATER ST. WILMINGTON —



## Bianchettas to celebrate 60th Anniversary

PAT AND DON BIANCHETTA will observe their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, June 29, 2023. Don Bianchetta and the former Pat Ruffatti exchanged marriage vows in the Assumption Church in Coal City on June 29th, 1963 with Father Flynn and Father Lennon officiating the ceremony. The couple are blessed with three children, Jim (the late Darlene) Bianchetta of Braidwood, Janet (Tim) Shannon of Normal, IL and Joyce (Bob) Jones of Williamsville, IL. Four grand children, two great gran

## Family Medicine

## Welcoming New Patients!



**Raymond Maceren, MD**  
Family Medicine

**Primary Care Services for newborn to adult including but not limited to:**

- Annual Wellness exams
- Preventative Care
- Health Screenings
- Immunizations
- Sick Visits
- Same Day Appointments Available

### Primary Care – Wilmington

105 S. First Street | Wilmington, IL 60481  
(815) 476-5210

**More Doctors.  
More Choices.**

Find yours @ (855) 404-DOCS  
or [myRiversideDocs.com](http://myRiversideDocs.com).



**RIVERSIDE**  
MEDICAL GROUP



# CLASSIFIEDS

## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Pre-payment required for all classified ads unless customer has a pre established business account

**Deadlines**  
**Classified Display**  
Fridays - 5 p.m.  
**Classified Word Ads**  
Mondays - noon

The Free Press Newspapers will be responsible for the first incorrect insertion, and its liabilities shall be limited to the price on one insertion. The Free Press Newspapers reserves the right to classify correctly, edit, reject or cancel any advertisement at any time in accordance with its policy. All ads must be checked for errors the first week of publication by the advertiser.

**Phone (815) 476-7966 or (815) 634-0315 for details.**

**Cost**  
Line Ads are up to 30 words (20¢ for each word over 30)  
1 wk. - \$15; 2 wks. - \$19;  
3 wks. - \$22; 4 wks. - \$25  
\$1.00 Extra per line for bold or caps on classified

The Braidwood Journal — The Coal City Courant — The Free Press Advocate

### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Gardner - 1 bedroom apartment. \$575 per month. One month deposit required. No dogs. On second floor in downtown Gardner. Water, sewer and trash included. Tenant pays electric. Texts preferred at 815-277-6018. One year lease and criminal background check required. cc22-25

Wilmington - 2 bedroom apartment. Nice location. \$800/month. First, last & security. 618-383-6330. cc24-26

### GARAGE SALE

Wilmington - \*\*\*Foxtail Commons Subdivision Garage Sale\*\*\* 285 Jennifer Lane. Thur., Fri., Sat., June 22, 23, 24 from 9am-3pm. \*Rain dates are Thur., Fri., Sat., June 29, 30 & July 1 from 9am-3pm\* cc24-25

Wilmington - 402 Trout Street. Friday & Saturday, June 23 & 24. 8AM-4PM. Moving sale. Various household goods, some furniture. cc25

Wilmington - Multi family sale. 34119 W River Road. Thurs. and Fri., June 22-23; 8AM-4PM and Sat., June 24; 8AM-Noon. Books, clothes(infant to adult), furniture, jewelry, misc. household and office items, discontinued Pampered Chef, jogging stroller, smoker, snow blower, local honey & lots more. cc25

### HELP WANTED

Summer help needed. Training dogs, cutting grass and not afraid of hard work. Wilmington, IL, 5 days a week. 8am-4pm. Call 630-399-4982. cc24-25

### HELP WANTED

Applications are being taken for full time, 12 month, Union Custodial Maintenance position. Please contact Jim Habing at jhabing@209u.net or phone 815-926-1725 Resumes should be sent to: Mr. Jim Habing Wilmington High School 209U Wildcat Court Wilmington, IL 60481 Wilmington Community Unit School District No. 209U is in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which states that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap, be denied the benefits of or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity in which District 209U receives federal assistance. ch25-25

**HIRING BARTENDER** to work weekends and fill-ins. BASSET and food-handler certification needed. Apply in person at Tuffy's Lounge, 1099 S. Water St., Wilmington 815-476-2700. ch23-25

Maintenance Technician - Apartment Communities. Coal City & Braidwood, Full-time benefits. Call or text TM Associates at 815-634-8044. cc22-25

Manager needed for dog training facility in Wilmington, IL. Helping with training dogs, maintaining grass cutting of 200 acres and managing employees. 5 days a week, year round paid holidays. Pay appropriate to experience & ability. Call 630-399-4982 before 8:00 PM. cc25-28

**SHOP YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES!**

### HELP WANTED

Sunday worship pianist. 2-4 Sundays per month. Late intermediate to advanced level ability preferred. Contact Grace Lutheran Church, Wilmington at 815-476-9480. cc23-25

VanDuyn Motel is looking for part-time housekeeper, working 8-15 hrs/week. Starts at \$11/hr. cash. Please call 815-476-2801 or stop by VanDuyn Motel at 107 Bridge St., Wilmington, IL. Come to office and fill out application. cc22b-25b

Will County Sportsmen's Club is looking for a reliable Maintenance Worker. Must be able to operate the Skidsteer, Backhoe and other equipment. Please call the office at 815-476-6561 or email: wcsc1946@gmail.com.

### HOMES FOR RENT

270 Jennifer Lane, Wilmington. Upscale 2 BR, 2 BA townhouse, beautiful kitchen with stainless steal appliances, carpeted and in floor ceramic heat, C/A, w/d hook up, attached 2 car garage, \$1,500. mo. plus utilities, 1 mo. security deposit, no smoking, call 815-861-6534 or 815-545-0298. ck23-26

### LOST & FOUND

Have you found a lost pet or lost a pet in Will County? Please call Will County Animal Control. We may have your pet. We want to reunite your family, 815-462-5633. fr/tfn

### MISCELLANEOUS

12 x 10 aluminum double hard top roof gazebo with netting. Still in box. 2023 cost - \$1,332 + \$95 tax = \$1,427. Your cost \$1,000. No tax. Call 815-584-6503. cc23-25

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Hall Rental** - Available for parties, showers & meetings. Seats 100 people, full kitchen available. If interested call New Hope Presbyterian Church in Coal City, 815-634-8332. ch 27a-tfn

### MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

Braidwood: 2 BR, 2 bath, no pets. \$975 month. 815-693-9141. ck25-28

### PETS

Large Selection of Dog and Cat Food, treats, accessories, health aids, clothing, Birthday treats, wall art, jewelry, gifts, greeting cards and Home of Fritters for Critters Pet Treats. New! Brew and Chew Dog Treats. Trinity Barkery 240 W. Baltimore Wilmington, IL 60481 815-476-5104 slewis@trinity-services.org. ch22b-tfn



**FOUND KEYS**

Are you the owner of a Nissan vehicle who has lost a set of keys? If so claims them at the US Bank branch in Wilmington, 417 S. Water Street

### REAL ESTATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 13TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - MORRIS, ILLINOIS FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION Plaintiff, -v- REYDYN LEMKE A/K/A RACHEL LEMKE Defendant, 2022 FC 33 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on March 30, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 11:00 AM on July 5, 2023, at the Grundy County Courthouse, 111 East Washington Street front door entrance, MORRIS, IL, 60450, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 805 W RATHBURN ST, CARBON HILL, IL 60416 Property Index No. 06-34-301-007 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$196,859.92. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiffs' Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 22-022876. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810 CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 22-022876 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Case Number: 2022 FC 33 TJSC#: 43-1431 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2022 FC 33 I3221563 Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., June 7, 14 & 21, 2023

pective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiffs' Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 22-022876. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810 CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 22-022876 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Case Number: 2022 FC 33 TJSC#: 43-1431 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2022 FC 33 I3221563 Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., June 7, 14 & 21, 2023

### SERVICE & REPAIRS

**A Thousand Words Photography**  
385 N. Second Ave. Coal City  
**Mandy Eaton**  
815-791-2913

**Gas Fireplace Repair**  
40 years experience. Licensed, insured & bonded. Call Margo at 708-712-5012 to schedule an appointment. Can repair most brands. Weekends available. Thank you. ck34-33

Looking for housekeeping jobs. Within 10 miles of Coal City. 815-388-7743. cc25-28

**Mike Collins Roofing**, re-shingles and gutter cleaning, aluminum gutter screen, no repair to small or too big. Don't let your roof get damaged from black algae. Have it sprayed, low prices. **INSULATION.** Keep your house cooler in summertime and warmer in the winter. Free estimate for blown in insulation for attics from Mike Collins Roofing. Lic # 104.007296. Ask for Mike at 815-730-1303. ck17-20

### SITUATIONS WANTED

Wanted: Stories about local people, organizations and events. If you know a neighbor with an interesting hobby, collection or cause, give the editor a call at 1-815-634-0315 or 1-815-476-7966. tfn/47b

### STORAGE

**PUBLIC STORAGE**  
*Clementine's Closets*  
**815-530-0200**  
- No Deposit - Starting at \$50  
515 Davy Lane, Wilmington

Storage units for rent. Long term rental only. Large enough for a car. Call 815-557-4010. cc24-27

### WANTED

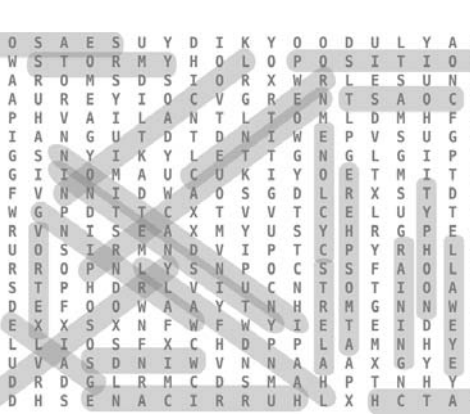
**WANTED SCRAP METAL**

- Farm Machinery
- Garden Tractors
- Snowmobiles
- Appliances
- Anything Metal

**Free pickup 7 days 815-210-8819**

### WANTED TO BUY

Private collector buying old toys, Lionel Trains, American Flyer, old Tonka trucks, Matchbox cars, Barbie, GI Joe, paying top cash dollar, call 630-248-3222. cc15-26



**Call Us At 942-9190 or Log on to C21.com**

Shawn Hornsby, Designated Managing Broker 1802 N. Division St. Morris, IL 60450

**NEW LISTING**

**MORRIS \$399,000**  
Beautiful 6 BR, 3.5 BA home on a lg wooded lot in town w/ optional community swim pool membership. Shawn 815-474-6670. AP106

**MORRIS \$249,900**  
Well maintained 4 BR, 3 BA Victorian with 2.5 car garage in a great location near Stratton Park. Shawn 815-474-6670. IH628

**VERONA \$125,000**  
4 BR, 2 BA home. First floor primary bedroom, 2.5 car garage. Located in Seneca School Dist. Shawn 815-474-6670. ED310

**SOLD**

**MORRIS \$389,900**  
Custom built 3 BR, 2.5 BA home w/HUGE 3 car heated garage, fenced yard & pool. Call/Txt Tom 815-735-2868. PL1748

**MORRIS \$239,900**  
Nice 3-4 BR ranch home with master suite, dining room, shaded deck and 2 car garage. Shawn 815-474-6670. DS131

**COAL CITY \$39,900**  
Here is your opportunity to own a great lot! Perfect spot to build in an area of other upscale homes! Theresa Lamb 735-8494. PP62

**MAZON \$389,000**  
3 BR, 2 full & 2 half BA. Brick home w/geothermal heating and cooling for low utility bills. Text Shawn 815-474-6670. WM12

**MORRIS \$149,900**  
Affordable priced 3 BR home w/ lg. rooms, 1 car grg, fenced yard and two covered porches. Shawn 815-474-6670. JB825

**DIAMOND \$16/SF/YR**  
Prof office space, 1,425 sf for rent. High visibility. Gross lease. Call Rodney Baudino 815-674-2583. DH1360

**GRUNDY COUNTY'S #1 HOME SELLER**

(815) 942-9190

**SEE EVERY HOME ON THE MARKET AT C21.COM**

Source: Midwest Real Estate DataBase, (MLS)  
Single Family Detached Homes Sold in 2022 By Grundy County Offices.

**VERONA \$108,000**  
2 story home in small quiet town. 4 BR, 1.1 BA needs work. Lg. rooms/yard. Call Della 815-258-6467. AO432

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 7 |
| 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 |
| 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 |
| 9 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 8 |
| 7 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 6 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 5 |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 3 |

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | G | R | O | K |   |   |   |   | P | A | I | R |   |   |   |
| A | N | A | L | O | G |   |   |   | H | A | I | L | E | D |   |
| S | A | N | D | B | A | G |   |   | S | E | C | R | E | C | Y |
| I | R | K |   | E | L | A | B | O | R | A | T | I | O | N |   |
| O | L | L | A |   | S | T | A | L | E |   |   | T | I | E |   |
|   | Y | E | L | P |   | T | A | O | S |   |   | T | I | L |   |
|   |   | D | U | E | S |   |   | S | E | I | Z | E | S |   |   |
|   |   |   | M | A | A | S |   |   | D | E | E | S |   |   |   |
|   |   |   | A | N | K | L | E | S |   | S | E | T | S |   |   |
|   |   | U | C | A |   |   | A | P | E | S |   | S | E | E | S |
| A | R | E |   |   |   | R | I | A | T | A |   | S | A | P | S |
| R | E | T | A | L | I | A | T | O | R | Y |   |   | M | E | I |
| I | M | A | G | O | E | S |   |   | P | A | L | S | I | E | S |
| L | I | T | E | R | S |   |   |   |   | S | E | C | E | D | E |

**Homegrown**

NEWS  
SHOPPING  
DINING  
EVENTS  
IDEAS  
DEALS  
SPORTS  
JOBS  
FUN  
& MORE

**Soil and Water Outcomes Fund**

**Financial Incentives for New Conservation Ag Practices**

- No-till/reduced tillage
- Cover crops
- Extended crop rotations

**Illinois Enrollment Open**

Enroll your acres now at [www.theoutcomesfund.com/il-news](http://www.theoutcomesfund.com/il-news).

**Surf Broadband Solutions**

Connect Further, Faster.

**RELIABLE, FAST & AFFORDABLE INTERNET SERVICE**

Mention this ad and receive **FREE INSTALLATION—Call Today!**

(888) 274-6381 • [www.surfbroadband.com](http://www.surfbroadband.com)



# Solving Chicago's crime requires some listening

As I told you last week, the staid and conservative Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago's latest and more liberal ideas on taxes and crime reduction have caused some folks to sit up and take notice, including Illinois Senate President Don Harmon.

"I think that the Civic Committee is approaching major problems with a very different perspective," Harmon said.

Harmon suggested the business group's recently hired president Derek Douglas as a possible reason for the change. Douglas is an African-American who worked for the Obama administration as Special Assistant to the President for Urban Affairs, and then the University of Chicago as Vice President for Civic Engagement and External Affairs.

Harmon also seemed impressed with how the Civic Committee was willing to put itself in the firing-line, particularly on the crime issue and its insistence that Chicago must institute police reforms.

Crain's Chicago Business and others have whacked the influential group's crime plan, which relies primarily on vio-

lence prevention, targeted investment and hiring, because it didn't specifically call for hiring more police officers. The group wants to reduce Chicago's homicide numbers below 400 a year within five years. Last year, 695 homicide victims were tallied by the city's police department.

A recent Crain's editorial ended by saying that if the Civic Committee "is going to issue a business-minded prescription on issues of law enforcement and reform — and if it is to truly reflect the sentiments not only of downtown businesspeople but their counterparts in neighborhoods hit hardest by violence — then it should also call for a fully staffed police force."

The Civic Committee's most prominent member supporting its crime-reduction plan is billionaire James Crown, and he told me he didn't see the editorializing as "hostility."

Instead, Crown said, it's



CAPITOL FACTS

Rich Miller

"something we have seen along the way, which is people have got in their heads that 'this is the problem' or 'this is what we need.' And it's usually a very short phrase or answer. 'The problem is guns.' 'The problem is jobs.' 'The problem is the schools.'"

"The frustration we have had in those conversations is they're right, but it's not the whole answer. It requires many elements, many factors, some of which are immediate, some of which will take years before we have really addressed this problem satisfactorily."

As far as the specific criticism about additional police hiring, Crown said, "There are people who will look at the understaffing of the police department relative to open positions or history and say that is a problem. And it might well be, and we're very supportive of the police department and want effective policing, and we may well join in the observation that Crain's has been promoting. But there also is evidence that police departments with many fewer officers per 100,000 residents are very successful. Why?"

Good question. The Civic Committee's President Derek Douglas was also asked about the Crain's

editorial and related attacks on WTTW's Chicago Tonight program: "We were a little disappointed to see that, because the suggestion was as if we were against adding police, or increasing police, which we never said. What we said was the approach we want to take is to sit down with the leadership of CPD, sit down with the city, understand what is their strategy, what are their needs, how much do they want to grow and get behind that. So as opposed to us dictating, 'you need to do X, Y and Z,' it was more of a collaborative approach to hear from the police themselves, 'Here's what we'd like to have, we'd like to add more of this, we'd like to add more of that,' and then have the business community find ways to support it. So, it's just about the way you come at the issue."

Even with the somewhat conciliatory approach, it's clear that things have changed.

Harmon is right. The Civic Committee has evolved from a standard businessperson group issuing standard businessperson demands which echoed standard pro-business publications, editorial pages and pundits, to taking a much more nuanced, holistic approach to actually solving very difficult, perhaps intractable problems.

Douglas, I think, said it best when he talked about a "collaborative approach" that focused on listening. There are way too many unilateral

screamers on the crime issue in particular, and far too few people who want to take the time to listen, learn and collaboratively find a path forward.

While I don't know how long this approach will last (the Civic Committee's membership being what it is), I wish them luck.

Rich Miller also publishes Capitol Fax, a daily political newsletter, and CapitolFax.com.

## Local students earn academic honors at University of Iowa

The University of Iowa has named seven area residents to the president's list (4.0 gpa) and dean's lists (3.5 gpa)

Two students from Coal City, Preston Johnson and Natalie Durham were named on both the president's and dean's lists for the spring semester. Both were enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Johnson majoring in neuroscience and Durham in political science.

Students named to the dean's list from Wilmington were first year student Amelia Earley, who is enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Jordyn Reents, a third year student in the College of Engineering.

Students from Braidwood on the dean's list include Ashley Bollino, a second year student enrolled in the Tippie College of Business and third year student Madeline Bollino, who is enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

## Saint Mary's College dean's list

Brooke Montgomery, of Godley, has been named to the Saint Mary's College Dean's List for the Spring 2023 semester.

To earn this academic honor at Saint Mary's, a stu-

dent must achieve a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.6 on a 4.0 scale, have a minimum of 12 graded credit hours, no incompletes, and no grades lower than a C.

**Lisa Marie's**  
HAIR SALON

- Men
- Women
- Children

**CUTS ★ COLOR**  
450 Davy Ln., Wilmington  
**(708) 465-3198**

**warrenscollisioncenteril.com**

- ✓ **Finest quality warranted collision repair**
- ✓ **Rentals available**
- ✓ **Certified technicians**
- ✓ **All insurance accepted**
- ✓ **Completed in a timely fashion**

**WARREN'S COLLISION CENTER**  
860 E.Z. St., Braidwood  
815-458-3300

**WE CARE BEYOND THE REPAIR!**

**HANSEN'S**  
WINDOW COVERINGS & FURNITURE UPHOLSTERY

**FREE**  
in home  
measuring  
& selection

**Keep the sun at bay with GREAT PRICING on Energy Saving Window Coverings.**

**Come visit us at our Bradley & Mokena Showrooms!**  
200 North Washington • Bradley  
(815) 935-0010  
19827 South LaGrange Rd. • Mokena  
(708) 479-6600

**HunterDouglas**  
Frankfort (815) 469-6610  
New Lenox (815) 485-2058  
Orland Park (708) 403-1110  
Joliet (815) 722-0011  
[www.HansensWindowCoverings.com](http://www.HansensWindowCoverings.com)

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**PROTECT-  
YOUR-DECK**

**DECKS  
•  
FENCES  
•  
HOUSES**

**DECK BUILDER  
& FENCE REPAIR  
MAINTENANCE  
& REPAIR**

**VINYL SIDING  
& CONCRETE  
POWER WASHING**

**19 years  
in  
business**

**M & B Roofing**  
QUALITY ROOFING

**Licensed • Insured • Bonded**  
Lic. # 104.018831

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
Office: 815-935-9949

**Riverfront  
Lanes**

402 S. Water St., Wilmington

- Birthday parties
- Fundraisers
- Corporate parties
- Child & adult leagues

(815) 476-2600

[www.riverfrontlanes.com](http://www.riverfrontlanes.com)

**VIKING ROOFING**  
& CONSTRUCTION CORP.

**\*Now Offering IL Public Adjuster Services\***

**FREE PROPERTY INSPECTIONS**

- Shingle/Flat Roofs
- Gutters
- Siding
- Fascia/Soffit
- Insurance Claims

**Licensed  
Insured  
Bonded**

IL State License # 104-002993  
(815) 476-6010  
[www.vrcc.us](http://www.vrcc.us)

**WILDCAT  
SELF STORAGE**

Easy Online Booking: [wildcatsst.com](http://wildcatsst.com)

Call Chris:  
815-768-0681  
or Eric  
630-750-1279  
Wilmington

**SHORKEY PAINTING**

(815) 546-1321

Est. 1989 Interior/Exterior

**SISTEK RENTALS**

We **SELL, REPAIR, and RENT**  
Outdoor Power Equipment

**CubCadet** **GRASS HOPPER**

**YOUR NEXT MOWER®**

815-237-8298

740 Oak Street • South Wilmington, IL

**HENDRON  
CABINETS.COM**

Jason Hendron Construction, LLC

**CABINETS  
COUNTERTOPS  
FLOORING**

Showroom Location: 450 Davy Lane, Wilmington

**815.790.1235**

**A & E SEPTIC SERVICE**

Pumping - Repairs - New Installation  
Sewer Rodding - Sanitary - Party Potties  
Ed Bonnavier  
Coal City • 634-4691

**ELECTRICAL • CARPENTRY • PAINTING • DRYWALL**

**CALL SCOTTY  
CONSTRUCTION**

815.735.8247 & Sealcoating

HOT RUBBER CRACK FILLING • PATCHING • STRIPING

**BASEMENT & CRAWL  
SPACE SOLUTIONS**

**WATERPROOFING  
FOUNDATION REPAIR  
INSULATING  
ENCAPSULATION  
SUMP PUMPS  
DRAINAGE SYSTEMS  
GUTTER GUARDS**

(815) 715-6050 DryToday.net  
Braidwood, IL

**LIFTED**  
SPRAY FOAM INSULATION  
CONCRETE RAISING

**Spray Foam  
Insulation**

- garages
- pole buildings
- attics
- basements
- commercial
- industrial

**Concrete  
Raising**

- driveways
- sidewalks
- patios
- stairs
- and more!

Wilmington • 815-200-6880

**Mini Storage**  
CLEMENTINE'S  
CLOSETS

515 Davy Lane,  
Wilmington

**Affordable  
Clean, Secure  
Monthly Rentals**

**No Deposit Required**  
815-530-0200

**Landscape  
& Supply**

- Driveway stone
- Pulverized topsoil
- Pool & play sand
- Hardwood mulch
- Decorative stone
- Bobcat Service

**We Deliver!**  
[www.jdlandscapesupply.com](http://www.jdlandscapesupply.com)  
815-478-3717  
708-921-3535

**AJ's Promotional Products  
and Apparel**

Adidas® Koozies®  
Oakley® Bic® Pens  
Champion® Sharpie®

EMAIL: [ajsprint@comcast.net](mailto:ajsprint@comcast.net)  
WEB: [ajspromotional.dcpromosite.com](http://ajspromotional.dcpromosite.com)

**Janet Fisher-Schatz** **815-263-5990**

**FARMERS  
INSURANCE**

**MELODIE J. LUCKETT**

326 E. Baltimore St.  
Wilmington, IL 60481  
Office 815-476-5242  
Cell 815-671-1356  
[mluckett@farmersagent.com](mailto:mluckett@farmersagent.com)

Agent, Notary

Auto • Home  
Life • Commercial

**This space could be yours!**  
**Call (815) 476-7966**

**ORDER YOUR BUSINESS CARDS**  
from the Free Press Newspapers  
Call 815-476-7966 and ask for Eric

**PROFESSIONAL PRO REAL ESTATE**

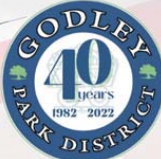
**JUDY SUNDINE**  
BROKER

Direct: (815) 405-6758  
815-476-7916

FAX: 815-476-7566  
Email: [judy.sundine@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:judy.sundine@sbcbglobal.net)

506 S. WATER ST.,  
WILMINGTON, IL 60481







# All-American Country Fair

Please join us for some good ol' All-American  
Summertime fun. Kids will enjoy an inflatable zipline/slide, trackless  
train, climbing wall, dunk tank, and kid-friendly games like tug-of-war,  
bozo buckets, and potato sack races. There will be music, concessions,  
lots of fun, and the area's best fireworks display!  
All games and amusements are FREE!

## Saturday, June 24

### 6:00 – 8:30pm

### Fireworks at dusk!



Godley Park District | 500 S. Kankakee St. Godley, IL 60407 | [www.godleypark.com](http://www.godleypark.com)

# Vietnam Moving Wall coming to Manhattan

Food donations, T-shirts for purchase and any volunteers that would like to help can visit [www.villageofmanhattan.org/about\\_Manhattan/community\\_events](http://www.villageofmanhattan.org/about_Manhattan/community_events) or contact Kristen Reinke at (815) 418-2053.

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to hurricanes.

*Guess Who?*

---

I am a singer born in Alabama on June 20, 1949. I found early success as a member of a 1970s R&B group, before branching out into a solo career. I co-wrote the hit single "We Are the World."

# WHS Class of '63 to hold reunion

Door will be open at 10 a.m. and buffet-style lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. We invite class members, their spouses and/or companions and members of other WHS 60's era classes to join us for lunch and to share memories and good company.

Please reply to Mary Ellen McGrath by text or voice mail at 815-370-2846.

## HURRICANE SEASON WORD SEARCH

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | O | S | A | E | S | U | Y | D | I | K | Y | O | O | D | U | L | Y | A | A |
| D | W | S | T | O | R | M | Y | H | O | L | O | P | O | S | I | T | I | O | N |
| P | A | R | O | M | S | D | I | C | V | R | X | R | L | E | S | U | N | X |   |
| G | A | R | U | E | Y | I | O | C | I | G | W | E | N | T | S | A | O | C |   |
| L | P | A | H | V | A | I | L | A | N | T | L | T | O | M | L | D | M | H |   |
| O | P | I | A | N | G | U | T | D | T | N | T | I | W | E | P | V | S | U |   |
| P | G | S | A | N | Y | I | K | Y | L | E | T | G | N | G | L | G | I | P |   |
| G | G | I | I | O | M | A | U | C | U | K | I | Y | O | E | T | M | I | T |   |
| G | F | V | N | N | I | D | W | A | O | S | G | D | L | R | X | S | T | D |   |
| W | W | G | P | D | T | T | C | X | T | V | V | T | C | E | L | U | Y | T |   |
| T | R | V | N | I | S | E | A | X | M | Y | U | S | Y | H | R | G | P | E |   |
| H | L | O | S | I | R | M | N | D | V | I | P | T | C | S | P | Y | R | H |   |
| L | R | R | O | P | N | L | Y | S | N | P | O | C | S | S | F | A | O | L |   |
| D | S | T | P | H | D | R | L | V | I | U | C | N | T | O | T | I | O | A |   |
| I | D | E | F | O | W | A | A | Y | F | T | U | N | H | R | M | G | N | N |   |
| L | E | X | X | S | X | N | F | W | F | W | Y | I | E | T | E | I | D | E |   |
| H | L | L | I | O | S | F | X | C | H | D | P | P | L | A | M | N | H | Y |   |
| D | U | V | A | S | D | N | I | W | V | S | N | A | A | X | G | N | E | W |   |
| E | D | R | D | G | L | R | M | C | D | S | M | A | A | H | P | T | N | H |   |
| A | D | H | S | E | N | A | C | I | R | R | U | H | L | X | H | C | T | A |   |

**Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.**

### WORDS

- ADVISORY
- ALERTS
- ATMOSPHERE
- CENTER
- COAST
- CYCLONE
- EYE WALL
- GALE
- HURRICANE
- INTENSITY
- INUNDATION
- LANDFALL
- LOCATION
- POSITION
- PRECAUTION
- RAINING
- SEASON
- STORMY
- TRACKING
- TYPHOON
- VORTEX
- WARNING
- WATCH
- WINDS

# Augustana College graduates

Those recognized included Casey Crop, of Braidwood who studied Music Education Instrumental and McKenzie Hennessy, of Coal City, who studied Communication Science & Disorders.

Pay attention to your mail. Collect it every day and place a hold on it if you're going to be out of town. If a piece of mail you are expecting, such as a bill or bank statement, doesn't arrive, check with the sender to confirm when it was sent. Consider making a change to receive your account statements electronically.

# Establish a Lasting and Loving Legacy

Taking legal action to protect your assets, provide for your loved ones, and ensure your final wishes are followed while you can make these decisions on your own terms is important.

- Simple wills
- Estate planning
- Trust administration & probate





Phone: 815-476-7635

207 S. Water St.,  
Wilmington



# How well do you know these front grills?



HERE'S A CAR BUFF challenge. The Holly Rollers car show was held in Braidwood Saturday by the Immaculate Conception Church, attracting several classics. Can you guess the make and model of the vehicles pictured here? The best our staff could do was get four right and we're giving you seven to contemplate. The answers appear lower on this page. This is NUMBER 1!



NUMBER 3



NUMBER 5



NUMBER 2



NUMBER 4



NUMBER 6



NUMBER 7

## Wilmington, RC rivals reunite at Shrine game



WILMINGTON FOOTBALL coach Jeff Reents (right) enjoyed being on the same sideline with a past rival, Jace Christian a senior linebacker who graduated from Reed-Custer High School. The two were invited to participate in the Illinois High School Shrine Bowl game on Saturday at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington. The roster for the Blue team, which won 20-3, included 40 football standouts including Christian. Reents was on the Blue team coaching staff.

And the vehicles in order are...

- 1 - 1948 Chevy Style Master, owned by George Gancerski of Tinley Park
- 2 - 1940 Chevy Station Wagon owned by Bob Jacovec, Coal City
- 3 - 1950 Dodge Coronet
- 4 - 1958 Edsel Ranger owned by Jim Neumann, Braidwood
- 5 - 1941 Chevy Truck owned by Bill Couch, Tinley Park
- 6 - 1948 Packard Super 8 owned by Jim Neumann, Braidwood
- 7 - 1984 Olds Toronado owned by Jake from Goose Lake

FRESH HOT DELIVERY!

**Geo's PIZZA**

"Proud to be serving the community for the past 38 years!"

Greater Grundy County Readers' Choice Awards 2015

**38<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL**

**1 X-Large - 2 Topping Pizza**  
XL Geo's Nuggets, FREE Double Chocolate Caramel M&M's Gourmet Brownie & a FREE 2-Liter of Soda  
(Limit 1 coupon per party per visit)

**ONLY \$28<sup>99</sup>**

Not valid with any other offer. Plus sales tax. Expires 06/30/23.

**Gift Certificates Available**

Order online at [www.geospizza.net](http://www.geospizza.net)

**634-8858**  
715 S. Broadway • Coal City



## Casting Comets compete in B.A.S.S State Championship



**BRET CAVANAUGH** from Reed-Custer Casting Comets shows off his fish at the ICASSTT State Championship in Springfield.



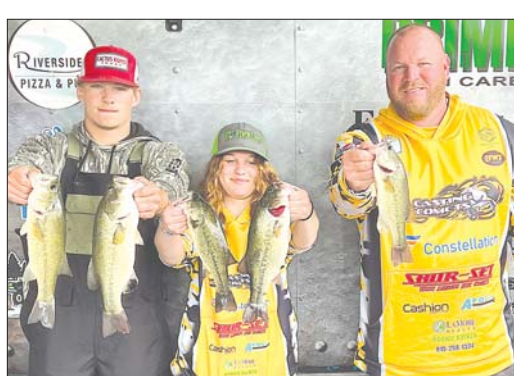
**RCHS CASTING COMETS** attended the IBN State Championship at the Desplaines River and brought home a few good catches. Coach Ed Gad (left) and Alex Bielfield display their catches of the day.



**RCHS CASTING COMETS** (from left) Coach Tony Tessone, Micah Crisp and Ethan Furlon proudly display their fish at the IBN State Championship in Desplaines.



**RCHS CASTING COMETS** Bret Cavanaugh, Blake Clement and Coach Mark Stewart show off their catch of the day from Desplaines River.



**BRANDON MORMAN** (from left), Mady Meyer and Coach Pete Banach from the RCHS Casting Comets, proudly show off their catches of the day at the IBN State Championship.

The Reed-Custer Casting Comets completed their season at the Illinois B.A.S.S. Nation High School State Championship on the Des Plaines River June 10 and 11. The Casting Comets entered four boats and all did a great two-day job with their top boat finishing in 7th place. Also a stellar solo performance was Bret Cavanaugh, with his boat captain Mark Stewart, when they traveled to the ICASSTT State Championship in Springfield

June 3 and 4, as he casted his way to a very impressive finish of 25th out of 70 boats. We want to wish our graduating seniors: Blake Clement, Brandon Moorman, Gunner Berg, Jace Christian, and Lucas Foote the very best in all they pursue in life. They couldn't have succeeded with boat captains/Coaches: Mark Stewart, Pete Banach, Ed Gad, Tony Tessone, Bill Howell, Ryan Cavanaugh, and David Oelschlager for all the hours

and endless support they give our anglers throughout the year. Lastly, a thank you to head coach Erik Frederiksen for the last 12 years of leading the team to great achievements including multiple IHSA State events and experiences for all our anglers. The team is already preparing and looking forward to the 23-24 school year to start setting hooks.

### CUSTER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

#### FIRE FEST 2023



**Saturday, July 1st (1 - 6 p.m.)**

**Wilmington VFW • 557 W. Baltimore St.**

- \* **Silent Auction**
- \* **Gun Raffle**
- \* **Music**
- Food and Fun!!**



**MUSIC BY ABBYNORMAL**

**\$15.00 per person**

**Tickets available by calling 815-458-2680, at the door or from any Custer Fire Protection District personnel**

**Silent Auction closes at 6 p.m.**

**followed by Gun Raffle Drawing**

**Winner need not be present**

**Food included: Chicken, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw & Fries**

**Cash Bar**

**Proceeds to benefit "Friends of Custer Fire"**  
**a 501 (c)3 Charitable Organization**

**THE JOLIET SLAMMERS PRESENT:**

# FIREWORKS FEST 2023

**POST-GAME FIREWORKS:**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 30 | FIRST PITCH AT 6:35PM**

**SATURDAY, JULY 1 | FIRST PITCH AT 6:05PM**

**SUNDAY, JULY 2 | FIRST PITCH AT 6:05PM**

**GATES OPEN 1 HOUR PRIOR**

**TICKETS START AT \$7**

**Call 815.722.2287**

**JOLIET SLAMMERS**

**(815) 722-2287 | JolietSlammers.com | 1 Mayor Art Schultz Dr**

## When was the last time you saw a primary care provider?

The board-certified primary care providers at **Braidwood Healthcare Center of Morris Hospital** specialize in providing quality, compassionate care for patients of all ages! They serve as excellent resources for:

- Illness and Injuries
- Routine Check-Ups
- Immunizations
- Acute and Chronic Conditions
- Nutrition and Lifestyle Counseling
- Physicals
- Preventive Medicine
- Health Risk Assessments
- Screening Tests



**Dr. Mark Passerman**  
Family Medicine



**Dr. Jennifer Thomas**  
Family Medicine



**Amy Bohland**  
Family Nurse Practitioner

**It's time to schedule back-to-school and sports physicals!**

**Call 815-458-2532 to schedule an appointment.**



**BRAIDWOOD HEALTHCARE CENTER**  
of MORRIS HOSPITAL

389 E. Main Street Braidwood [www.morrishospital.org/braidwood](http://www.morrishospital.org/braidwood)