



Comet kickers
outpace Plano

Van Duyne in the
Senior Spotlight



Ember
Van Duyne

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Braidwood City Council appoints new City Clerk

BY MARNEY SIMON
EDITOR

The city of Braidwood has sworn in its third City Clerk this year.

On Sept. 28, the Braidwood City Council approved the appointment of Hillary Bohac as clerk.

Bohac replaces Mike Colavecchi, who was appointed in July and officially began as City Clerk on Aug. 1.

"Although I have only held this position for a short time, I feel that this position is not a good fit for me," Colavecchi said in his letter of resignation. "This decision was difficult to make, as I enjoy being involved in the city and helping Braidwood become a better community than it already is. I plan on continuing to be a part-time part of the city, and contributing to its betterment. I have made friends over the years of involvement with the city, and plan to maintain those friendships."

City administrator Tony Altieri noted that Colavecchi, who serves as a part-time police officer, actually came into the position out of

retirement.

"It was a little too many hours for him, working both jobs seeing as he was already retired, and he'd actually like to enjoy retirement a little bit. So, he's going to do some work with the police chief on the projects they're working on," Altieri said.

Colavecchi previously served as the chair of the Zoning Board.

Prior to Colavecchi's appointment, the City Clerk seat was filled by Adam Beaty for several months. Beaty, who had also been serving as a part-time police officer, resigned as clerk after he was promoted to a full time position with the Braidwood Police Department.

In other business before the City Council on Sept. 28:

- The council approved a measure to let its current insurance company know that they will be terminating their contract, after seeking out lower rates regarding workman's compensation insurance coverage.

"Our insurance jumped up quite a bit last

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 2



Photo by Marney Simon

BRAIDWOOD CITY ATTORNEY Bryan Wellner administers the oath of office to the city's new Clerk, Hillary Bohac, during the Sept. 28 regular meeting of the City Council. Bohac replaces outgoing clerk Michael Colavecchi, who had served in the position since Aug. 1.

Exelon prepares for long term operations at Dresden

Energy legislation spurs Exelon to fill 650 jobs, invest in capital projects

Now that the Illinois General Assembly has passed sweeping clean energy legislation preserving its nuclear plants, Exelon Generation is filling 650 vacant positions across the state and jump-starting more than \$300 million in capital projects over the next five years at its Illinois nuclear stations.

The activities will prepare the Dresden and Byron Generating Stations for long term operations.

"With this landmark legislation in place, we are moving quickly to restaff and refuel all of our nuclear plants for 24/7 operation, producing carbon-free, baseload electricity for more than 10 million homes and businesses," said Dave Rhoades, Exelon Generation's chief nuclear officer.

"These plants are not only important for the clean energy they produce, but they are massive economic engines for their local communities, contributing more than \$1.6 billion to Illinois' GDP each year."

Byron Station began refueling Unit 1 after Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed the clean energy bill on Sept. 15.

While the nuclear support provision represents less than 20% of the cost of the overall legislation in the coming years, it has an outsized impact on the state's climate and economic goals. Saving the plants preserves two-thirds of the state's clean energy, avoids a 70% rise in emissions, protects 28,000 direct and indirect jobs, and prevents a \$480 million increase in annual energy prices for consumers.

Byron Station was set to close the day the bill was passed by the Illinois House, Dresden slated to terminate operations in mid-November, and the company had indicated the Braidwood and LaSalle stations were also in jeopardy.

With the legislation taking effect, Exelon began preparations to refuel Dresden's Unit 2.

The refueling outage will occur in November, and the station has nearly \$170 million in capital projects planned over the next five years, including upgrades to six feed-water heat exchange vessels, significant refurbishment of a main generator, electrical component overhauls,

SEE EXELON, PAGE 2

Friday night loss can't dampen this Comet Pride



Photo by Shawn Long

LET'S GO! Reed-Custer's Gavin Bruciak is fired up after stopping the Wildcats during a fourth down conversion attempt on Friday. While the Comets lost 21-14, they put up a good fight against the No. 1 team in the state in Class 3A. There's no reason to hang heads just yet as there's still the need to win for a better seed in the ISHA playoffs. The Comets take their 5-1 record to Streator on Friday. Read more about the Comets in sports on pages 13 and 14 of this edition.

Braidwood parents ask for Halloween consideration

Petition asks city to consider moving Trick-or-Treat hours to Saturday

BY MARNEY SIMON
EDITOR

Some Braidwood area families said they would like

to see an adjustment to how Halloween is celebrated this year.

On Sept. 28, Braidwood resident Erica Bolatto presented the members of the Braidwood City Council with a petition for changing the date of trick or treating this year, hoping to bump the date to a Saturday instead of Oct. 31, which falls on a Sunday.

"For those of us with

school kids who trick-or-treat, school nights are rough for trick-or-treating," Bolatto said. "I have a lot of parents who also agree."

Bolatto said her signature drive, where she collected signatures both in person and through the online platform Change.org, garnered about 100 signatures.

"Please consider changing the day to the last Saturday

of [October]," the petition reads. "We feel that this would help to end a lot of confusion and disappointment among families that miss out on the true tradition of Halloween, Trick-or-Treating."

"We the citizens of Braidwood, would like nothing more than to uphold long standing traditions with our families no matter the Holiday, however with cur-

rent circumstances being that Trick-or-Treating for the town is set for the Day of Halloween Oct. 31 (annually changing [day of week]) this makes it very difficult for families to participate and enjoy the holi-

SEE PETITION, PAGE 2

STAFF REPORT

A Braidwood man is being held in the Will County Adult Detention Center on \$1.2 million bond, after allegedly trying to lure a teenager into his car.

The Braidwood Police Department reported that on Thursday, Sept. 30, a 15-year-old female reported to police that she had been approached by a male in a gray vehicle while walking in the 300 block of East Main Street, shortly before 8 a.m.

The teen told the police that the man verbally tried to coax her into his vehicle.

According to the Braidwood Police Department, Anthony Schargorodsky, 42, of the 900 block of Jordan Avenue in Braidwood was quickly identified as the suspect.



ANTHONY SCHARGORODSKY

"We immediately identified the subject as Anthony Schargorodsky, who is a registered sex offender," the BPD noted in a press release.

SE ARREST, PAGE 2

City set to approve zoning change for Cindy's Custom Clips

BY MARNEY SIMON
EDITOR

The city of Braidwood is expected to give a local salon and barber shop permanent status as a business-zoned property later this month.

Cindy Petric, owner of Cindy's Custom Clips located at 111 N. Lincoln St., petitioned for the change. The city's zoning board held a public hearing on the zoning amendment on Sept. 13.

The business is looking to rezone from a special use lot to the B-1 business district.

Planning and Zoning Board member George Kocek presented the findings of that public hearing to members of the City Council on Sept. 28.

"The building has a Lincoln Street address but faces Main Street," Kocek said. "It is an attractive building, well maintained with off-street

parking. As per our B-1 business code, it also is compatible with the surrounding neighbors. Within this section of the city, there's the City Hall, the police department, the fire department, the post office, and three churches."

Kocek said the zoning board was in favor of granting the zoning change.

"If the council agrees, this would show current businesses that this administration is here for them, and shows any potential businesses considering to come to town that we are here to help them the best way we can for the betterment of the community."

Per the city code, the B-1 district "is intended to be the focal point or activity center for the community, offering a variety of business and commercial type uses as well as

SEE ZONING, PAGE 2



Council

year,” Altiery said. “The numbers [for a new policy] are substantial in my opinion, we’re looking to save well over \$120,000, between \$120,000 and \$140,000 going back to the company we had prior to switching.”

The measure was just to

end the current agreement, and not to acquire a new contract. That new contract will be negotiated and expected to be approved by the council by the start of 2022.

- Public Buildings and Property Commissioner Ronald Cockream reported that a hydrant on Eureka Street that was damaged in an automobile accident had been repaired and returned to service.

- The council approved the appointment of Ray McShane to the Planning and Zoning Board.

- The council approved the payment of bills in the amount of \$99,917.

- The council approved the payroll through Sept. 3 in the amount of \$79,553, and payroll through Sept. 17 in the amount of \$86,127.

- Following the approval of payroll, Administrator

Altiery said the city has been saving a significant amount of cash when it comes to controlling payroll figures.

“When we first came in, the approval of payroll was anywhere between \$125,000 to \$160,000 every two weeks,” Altiery said. “We’re still moving forward, running the city pretty well for just above half of what we used to pay every two weeks.”

Exelon

replacement of closed cooling piping and revamping nuclear instrumentation circuit components.

Byron Station plans to invest more than \$140 million into the plant in the next five years on projects overhauling a main generator, replacing large transformers, upgrading a fiber optic control

system and replacing various pumps, motors and piping in the plant.

Most of the projects will occur during refueling outages starting next year by union personnel.

“Exelon refueling outages put thousands of people to work in Illinois, providing jobs to skilled local and regional union and tradespeople,” said Terry McGoldrick, president and business manager of IBEW Local 15. “Keeping these plants open was the right decision, and I’m pleased the General Assembly

made this investment in the future of our workforce, our communities and our nuclear plants.”

Byron and Dresden will also soon begin the first of multiple new training classes for dozens of licensed operators who will become the next generation of employees operating the plants.

Exelon’s Illinois nuclear fleet produces more than 50% percent of the state’s electricity and nearly 90% of its carbon-free power.

Petition

day if the 31st falls on a weekday or school night,” the petition continues.

Bolatto’s local petition is just one in a national trend of parents lobbying local, state and federal lawmakers to set trick-or-treat hours for the last Saturday of October.

A national petition started on Change.org in 2018 has more than 156,000 signatures, and another has more than 20,000.

Dozens of other smaller petitions can also be found,

urging municipalities to move the date for trick-or-treating or school boards to make the day after the holiday a day off.

Online petitions geared toward creating a permanent day for trick-or-treat annually aren’t just aimed at making sure there’s no school the next day.

According to the CDC, children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year.

Halloween is not a federal or state holiday, so observance with specific rules and regulations are left up to local governing bodies.

Each year, the city

announces trick-or-treat hours, this year setting those hours for 4-7 p.m. on Oct. 31.

After accepting Bolatto’s petition, Mayor Bob Jones said he’s unlikely to support a change in Braidwood.

“I myself think Halloween should be on Halloween,” Jones said. “I don’t have kids so I don’t know how hard it is to get kids going to school on Monday, but I know when I was a kid we’d go straight from school to Halloween and have to go to school the next day. We just had candy. So, it’s a lot to change Halloween.”

As in year’s past, trick-or-treat hours in Braidwood will also line up with another local

favorite tradition—The Braidwood Lions Annual Halloween Hotdog Giveaway

This year’s event takes place on Sunday, Oct. 31 from 3 to 7 p.m. under the Lions Pavilion at Old Smokey City Park.

The Lions will again provide hot dogs, chips, popcorn, hot chocolate, lemonade, plus treats for kids while supplies last.

The event is sponsored by the Braidwood Lions Club, the Knights of Columbus Council 1574, and the Braidwood Park District.

Zoning

second floor residences. The district is intended to enhance the community and uses are more restrictive so that the district remains compatible with the surrounding neighborhoods.”

Businesses in the B-1 district are restricted to retail sale of goods, not wholesale.

The city’s additional business zoning districts are B-2 outlying business district, and B-3 region commercial district.

In addition to business and residential districts, the zoning map also includes three types of industrial districts.

City administrator Tony Altiery said that while the zoning board had made the recommendation to amend the zoning for Cindy’s Custom Clips, there is still some paperwork to be completed before the change can be voted on by the full city council.

That approval is expect to come this month.

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The Coal City Courant (by mail, electronic subscription and newsstands).....	1,715
The Prairie Shopper (by mail to these communities: Braidwood, Custer Park, Coal City, Carbon Hill, Diamond, Elwood, Essex, Mazon, Morris rural routes (Goose Lake), Ritchie, Symerton & Wilmington).....	14,393
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Eric D. Fisher, Publisher. Date: Sept. 30, 2021

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Will County sees steady decline in COVID-19 cases

STAFF REPORT

New cases of novel coronavirus are slowly on the decline in Will County.

As of the start of this week, the Will County Health Department is reporting that 56% of the county’s residents are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, with a test positivity seven day rolling average at 3.6%.

Infections are beginning to slow across the region.

The health department’s reporting on new infections lags by three weeks. But with that in mind, the department shows that among school age children, for the week of Sept. 13 (reported on Sept. 20), the county reported six new infections in Wilmington, and zero in Braidwood.

The total number of school aged children with new cases of COVID-19 throughout Will County was 262 as of Sept. 20. That is a steady decline of cases over the month of September, where there were 318 county-wide cases of school aged children as of Sept. 13, and 384 as of Sept. 6.

As of Sept. 20, there were 26 total new cases of COVID-19 in Wilmington, and 10 new cases in Braidwood. The Will County Health Department only provides information on new cases, not on total active cases.

Meanwhile, the Will County Health Department has followed suit with the Illinois Department of Public Health, adopting the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations for a booster shot of Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine in certain

populations and a booster dose for those in high risk occupational and institutional settings.

The CDC recommends the booster at least six months after completing the two-shot Pfizer series for people aged 65 and older, residents aged 18 years and older in long-term care settings, and for those 18 and older with underlying medical conditions or who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting.

Those medical conditions that qualify people for a booster dose include cancer, chronic kidney disease, moderate to severe asthma, cystic fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension, COPD, dementia or other neurological conditions, diabetes type 1 or 2, Down syndrome, heart disease, HIV, immunocompromised state, liver disease, obesity, pregnant and recently pregnant, sickle cell disease, smoking and tobacco use, transplant recipients, stroke, and substance abuse disorders.

At this time, boosters have not been approved for Moderna or Johnson & Johnson COVID-19.

The Will County Health Department is also planning for the expansion of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign efforts to include the 5-11-year-old age group.

The county is seeking feedback from Will County parents and guardians regarding their plans for vaccinating their 5-11-year-old children.

Feedback can be submitted online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/PRNTYKQ.

Senior Bingo returns to Reed Township

The Braidwood Senior Citizens group is once again meeting at the Reed Township Hall for lunch and a friendly game of Bingo on the fourth Monday of the month at 10 a.m.

Call Joan at 708-269-4730 to reserve a spot and join the fun.

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Eric D. Fisher, publisher
Ann Gill, editor

Arrest

The press release noted that the report was not made until more than seven hours after the incident happened.

After the report was made, Schargorodsky was apprehended in Joliet by the Joliet Police Department.

Schargorodsky was charged on eight separate counts after the arrest, including two felony counts of child abduction/luring a victim under the age of 17, criminal trespassing, fleeing the police, and residential burglary, as well as misdemeanor counts of theft, criminal damage to property, and violating an order of protection.

Per the state’s criminal code, a person commits the

offense of child abduction if they intentionally lure or attempt to lure a child under age 17.

Schargorodsky was arrested in December of 2020 by the Braidwood Police Department and indicted for violating the sex offender registry and failure to report annually as a sex offender. His last court appearance on those charges was Aug. 23, with pretrial scheduled this week.

Schargorodsky’s next court date on the child abduction related charges is scheduled for Oct. 22.

The Braidwood Police Department also urged parents to talk to their children about this type of dangerous situation, and to encourage them to tell an adult and/or report the incident to the police immediately.

Braidwood Lions to hold Candy Day Fundraiser

The Braidwood Lions Club will once again be participating in the Annual Lions of Illinois Foundation Candy Day Fundraiser.

Club members and volunteers will be holding a canister collection day on Friday, Oct. 8, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the street corners of Highways 113, 129 and 53 in Braidwood.

As a token of appreciation, all donors will receive a special roll of Lions’ Candy Day candy.

All funds which are raised during the collection will assist the club in providing the much-needed sight and sound humanitarian services to those less fortunate in the Braidwood, Godley & Shadow Lakes communities.

No donation is too big or too small and all are greatly appreciated. For more information visit www.braidwoodlionsclub.org.

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October 1880, money and good times abound

Winter was coming, a fact that made the miners smile. Coal and more coal would be needed, translating into more hours in the mine and more money in the pocket. October was still warm however, and outdoor sports like quoiting were still being played. But let's start at the beginning.

One of the first things that we learn during October was that Patrick Kelly, of Braidwood was appointed Will County Mine Inspector. This was good news. Kelly knew his stuff and was not afraid to speak his mind. It was estimated that daily shipments of coal would average 170 railroad cars a day. A lot for one Mine Inspector to keep abreast of.

The main topic of conversation however, was upcoming foot race. "They say that lots of money is being staked upon the issue of the Cassidy - Dinsmore foot race, which is to come off on Saturday next. The dis-



TIME WAS....
Sandy Vasko

tance will be 150 yards; purse, \$200 (\$5,450 today). Cassidy is backed by the "Alabama bank. (the black community)"

At McArthur's Hall the sporting men measured out that 23 laps around the main hall would amount to one mile. Knowing that, an 8-hour foot race was held there.

"The eight hour go-as-you-please walking match at McArthur's, between Wilcoxson and Barber, was concluded at 10 o'clock tonight, Wilcoxson being the winner. It is said that he accomplished his 48th mile in six minutes. Considerable enthusiasm was manifested, and a good deal of money changed hands on the issue."

The great race was held during the second week of October, "The Cassidy-Dinsmore foot race - 150 yards - \$100 (\$2,725) a side, attracted many to Braidwood on last Saturday.

The excitement attained a fever heat, and men even mortgaged their humble homes for betting money.

"Cassiday appeared to be largely backed by the Irish element and Dinsmore by the Scotch, and betting went on wildly up to the very last moment preceding the race. At about half-past three the word "Go!" was given, and in a few seconds thereafter Mr. Cassidy was an easy winner of the race by some five yards.

"An exultant shout went up on the one side, while sullen silence pervaded the other. It is estimated that all of \$3,000 (\$81,600) changed hands on the result. One man we know of lost \$210 (\$5,700), while many others won \$25, \$50, \$60, and so on."

During the third week foot racing was still a hot topic. "A personal altercation between Kelso Ballentine and Jos. Donnelly occurred near the Caledonian house on Thursday evening, the result of bantering and bluffing concerning future matches in foot racing. The matter will loom up in Delmarle's court today."

During the last week of October money flowed into the community, "The C. & W. Co. paid out about \$35,000 on Wednesday, and the Eureka dispersed 75 pounds, troy, in gold coin on the same occasion."

The mining companies had things running smoothly at last, and so, "Mine Inspector Kelly has already begun to make his rounds, having visited Eureka, Beard's, and the G shafts. He says he is treated with uniform courtesy by the companies, and that their officers say "Yes!" to his every suggestion. If he desire them to turn a shaft upside down they would undoubtedly say "Yes!"

And while the companies were giving out money at a record rate, they conveniently provided a place for the miners to spend it.

"A model store - Such, indeed, is that of the Chicago, Wilmington & Vermillion Coal Company, on Main Street, in Braidwood. Properly speaking there are two stores in one - the whole area being about 100 by 50 feet. True, a center wall forms a partition, but a spacious arch at either end con-

nects the rooms so that practically they form one extensive and roomy establishment."

"The east half of the block is given to dress goods and textile fabrics generally; well filled show cases containing a profusion of ribbons, embroideries and trinkets adorn the counters while the show window in front is draped artistically with rich warm colors in winter dry-goods, hosiery, yarns, etc. The rear is filled with staple goods, boots and shoes and surplus stock.

"Passing thence across to the west side of the store, the eye is greeted with a very different array. The heavily laden shelves are literally crowded with canned goods, crockery, glassware and fancy groceries, while further in the rear is an almost endless supply of sugar, soaps and oils, together with surplus stock of various kinds. Half a dozen active clerks are kept busy the whole living day and everything about the establishment has the air of a first-class Chicago house."

Van Duyne in the spotlight for October

The Reed-Custer High School Senior Spotlight winner for the month of October is Ember Van Duyne.

Ember is the daughter of Kris and Alicia Van Duyne.

During her high school career, Ember has been involved in Fall Plays, Spring Musicals, Madrigals, Chorale, Concert Choir, Broadway Revue, Thespians, Solo and Ensemble and the ICE Leadership Conference. She was also President of Student Council, President of National Honor Society, a Class Officer, a Student of the Month, and was on the Honor Roll.

Her future plans are to attend a four-year college to study History and/or Theology, and she hopes to eventually teach.

Here are a few thoughts from Ember's teachers.

Mrs. Rankin says that Ember "is a hard working student with a positive attitude who actively wants to learn and grow. She is kind and encouraging to others and an asset to any group or class she's a part of."

Mrs. Dennis believes that Ember "has an outstanding work ethic. She is prepared and is great with working with younger or struggling students. She is a joy to work with."

Mrs. Arseneau thinks that Ember "is such an amazing young lady. She is so sweet, caring, smart and talented. She is a student that is always willing to help, even if she has a million things to do herself. Ember excels academically and is involved in numerous extracurricular activities which is always so impressive to me. She is planning to be a teacher in her future, and I truly hope she pursues this because we



need more people like Ember in our profession. I am so blessed to know Ember!"

Mrs. Lee appreciates that Ember "is amazing in so many ways! She is a wonderful, hard-working student who truly cares about learning and bettering herself. More importantly, she is a very kind and caring person. She always goes above and beyond to help out even when it is inconvenient for her! For someone that is involved in so many things, she is still able to give 100% to them all. Like I said, she's amazing!"

Mrs. Leveille is thankful that she "had the pleasure of teaching Ember in Honors Biology class when she was a freshman. Wow, what a great leader in class. She was always willing to help out others and had a positive attitude from the start. She gave 110% to all her classwork. We made DNA models, and she and her partner crocheted (by hand them-

selves) each piece for a model!! Strong character and all around nice person!!"

Mr. Swanson believes that Ember "is a joy to have in class; her attentive and supportive attitude improves the learning environment for everyone around her; she makes our world a better place every day and she probably doesn't even realize it. Talented and humble, a rare combination nowadays, she's a great student and an even better person."

Mrs. Redwitz says that Ember is an "outstanding young adult. She is always outgoing, kind and helpful. Last year, she was a welcoming face to Mr. Houchin and me during each passing period, always saying hello and asking how we were doing!"

Mr. Welsh thinks that Ember is "a young woman of exceptional character with a drive to succeed."

Mr. Mangan appreciates that Ember is "exceptionally

bright, diligent, and hard-working. She always comes to class or rehearsal prepared and focused, ready-to-go. She has a quality of wisdom and maturity beyond her years, and her exceptional leadership skills have helped serve as a valuable mentor for the students who came after her in the music and theater programs."

Mrs. Bugg remembers thinking that Ember "was really going to dominate this world! She is honest, mature, trustworthy and an overall good human being."

As a final thought, Ember's advice to younger students is "note takers are history makers! Stay on top of your homework, and it's not the end of the world if you don't understand something. Work harder and don't forget to have fun."

On behalf of the teachers and staff at RCHS, we would like to congratulate Ember Van Duyne as the October winner of the Senior Spotlight.

BAHS invites community to share stories Oct. 16

The Braidwood Area Historical Society invites the community to come celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Braidwood Museum.

On Saturday, Oct. 16 an open house will be held at the museum, 111 N. Center St., Braidwood from noon to 4 p.m.

BAHS members will share with the public the old wonders of Braidwood, Braceville, Custer Park and Godley including the Braidwood Rec. Club, local churches, coal mining, former businesses, schools and more.

The hope is area residents will come share their memories too.

Local coal strip mining expert Nick Koba will be attendance to provide information about area coal mines.

Light refreshment by BAHS members will be served. Donations and artifact donations to the museum are accepted and appreciated.

For more information or to donate items of historic value contact George Kocek at 815-710-0182 or Carida Davis at 815-258-4026.

Spiders are friends!

The Will County Forest Preserve is offering a Zoom webinar: Underappreciated - Backyard Spiders and Friends.

Robins and chipmunks and spiders are so terribly ordinary that we don't even bother to learn more about them. This virtual presentation from 6-6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, will help you become aware of the delights of everyday animals you can see out your window. It is free for all ages.

Register online at ReconnectWithNature.org for the Zoom link.

D & N Lawncare and Landscaping files as new business

PUBLIC NOTICE

Certificate of Change and/or Addition Publication Notice

Certificate 34241 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of Will County on September 28, 2021 wherein the business firm of D & N Lawncare and Landscaping, located at 147 S Maple St., Braidwood, IL 60408 which certificate sets forth the following changes in operation thereof:

Owner Name: David Aaron Cornelio

Owner Address: 924 Phyllis Dr., Wilmington, IL, 60481

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at this 28th day of September, 2021.

Lauren Staley Ferry

Will County Clerk

Published in the Braidwood Journal on Wednesday, October 6, 13 and 20, 2021.

Sheriff's sale of 402-404 W. 6th Street

PUBLIC NOTICE

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF WILL)

SS.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

LINCOLNWAY COMMUNITY BANK, AN ILLINOIS BANKING CORPORATION
Plaintiff,

vs.

MARK R. RAMSEY, TRAVIS DUKES, THOMAS DURNING, JIMMY HARRIS, ALEXA HARRIS, UNKNOWN TENANTS, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS, SABRE INVESTMENT LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY, SI RESOURCES, LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, OLD SCHOOL INVESTMENTS LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, UNKNOWN OWNERS, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant.
No. 20 CH 0579

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment entered in the above cause on the 31st day of August, 2020, MIKE KELLEY, Sheriff of Will County, Illinois, will on Thursday, the 14th day of October, 2021, commencing at 12:00 o'clock noon, at the Will County Courthouse Annex, 57 N. Ottawa Street, Room 201, Joliet, IL 60432, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder or bidders the following-described real estate: PARCEL 1: THAT PART OF LOT 4, IN BLOCK 5 IN COUNTY CLERK'S RESUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JULY 9, 1897, AS DOCUMENT NO. 193441, LYING WEST OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LINE: COMMENCING AT NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 4; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 16 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 4 A DISTANCE OF 65.95 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 22 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 66.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF TERMINUS, SAID POINT BEING 67.07 FEET EAST OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 4, EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS BENEATH THE SURFACE, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO MINE AND REMOVE THE SAME, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as: 402-404 W. 6TH STREET, BRAIDWOOD, IL 60408

Description of Improvements: Each Building contains 2 single Family Apartment Units

P.I.N.: 02-24-05-301-018-0000

PARCEL 2: THAT PART OF LOT 4, IN BLOCK 5 IN COUNTY CLERK'S RESUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JULY 9, 1897, AS DOCUMENT NO. 193441, LYING EAST OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LINE: COMMENCING AT NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 4; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 16 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 4 A DISTANCE OF 65.95 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 22 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 66.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF TERMINUS, SAID POINT BEING 67.07 FEET EAST OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 4, EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS BENEATH THE SURFACE, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO MINE AND REMOVE THE SAME, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

P.I.N.: 02-24-05-301-019-0000

Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County.

In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act.

Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State.

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Troy & Associates
PO Box 606
Channahon, IL 60410
P: 815-467-0756
F: 815-467-6247
Plaintiff's Attorney

MIKE KELLEY
Sheriff of Will County
Published in the Braidwood Journal, Wednesday, Sept. 22, 29 and Oct. 6, 2021

RCMS 7th grade class enjoys outdoor education

On September 27th and 28th, the Reed-Custer Middle School seventh graders traveled to Camp Manitou in Frankfort for their annual Outdoor Education Interdisciplinary Unit.

Prior to going, the students had rotated through team building activities in their Panther Time classes.

Activities included Silent Line Up, Light House, and Untangle Hands. The goals of the rotations were to model and encourage positive reinforcement, problem solving skills, and good listening skills that could be transferred to the outdoor education experience.

At camp, the students participated in two activities. One

activity included the high ropes challenge. While wearing a safety harness and helmet, students climbed up to a series of challenges offered one to two stories in the air. A few of the students' favorites were a swing walk, platform jump, and a cable walk. Listening to explicit instructions and seeking permission to advance around the course were the keys to success in these challenges.

The second activity was paintball. Before students were allowed to participate,

they had to watch a safety video that explained the rules and all the safety precautions. (Protective face masks were worn at all times while on the course.) Students were divided into groups, given a scenario, and then had to work together to develop a strategy. Communication (both verbal and nonverbal) and decision making skills were put to the test in this activity. The students did a fantastic job of facing and meeting new challenges that took them outside of their comfort levels.



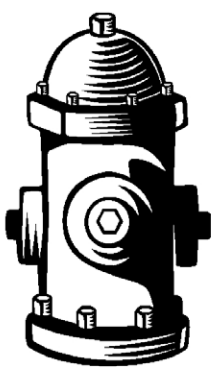
RCMS 7th grade students, Nathan Trucano, Arlethe Leyva, Kaaden Wood, and Abbey Cousins on the platform at high ropes.

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Monday, Oct. 11 thru
Friday, Oct. 27

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SOUND-OFF

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Still need fossil fuels

COAL CITY—I read President Carter in 1979 set a goal of solar power constituting 20 percent of our country's energy by year 2000. Two decades after his deadline, solar still accounts for only 1.6 percent of American energy production. President Biden's first day in office canceled the Keystone XL Pipeline. Three months later Russian-based hackers shut down the Colonial Pipeline on the east coast and reminded everyone that the country is deeply dependent on fossil fuels for the foreseeable future. But fuel will cost more for sure as we now see at the pumps. When President Biden came into office we were finally energy independent yet his plan is to end the use of oil and natural gas. Somebody else needs to be our president.

The river ran dry

WILMINGTON—I hope every city alderman and the mayor read last week's Free Press Advocate about when we had the river dry up. That year, 1991, wasn't even the worst year for drought and still the river went dry. With all this talk about climate change and warming up, we're going to need that dam from here to Kankakee because that's exactly what the river will look like if they take that dam out. The city should leave the dam and make a concrete pier about 100 feet long like they have at Niagara Falls with handicapped access and then fence off access to everything downstream for 200 yards. That would satisfy everyone and prevent people from getting too close. Thanks Free Press for running that bit of history about when the river dried up. Maybe we need to educate ourselves even more before making a big decision about the dam.

Added to the dole

COAL CITY—Thanks Gov. Pritzker for inviting Afghan refugees into Chicago, 800 of them. Were they vaccinated, are they qualified to do any job? Do they speak English? How many children will be put in the Chicago school system? Where will they live or are they all on the dole like so many living in Chicago. Also how many illegal Haitians have been invited to Chicago? A recent peace rally for Haitians was held in Chicago after President Biden allowed 12,000 illegal Haitians that were sitting on our Texas border to be sent all over the U.S.A. Were all 12,000 vaccinated? 330 were pregnant women. President Biden and V.P. Harris' plan is to bring in more votes for the Democrat party; 208,000 illegals not Haitians, relocated across the country in August alone. We need another Governor.

Guess who pays

President Obama's presidential center had a ground breaking ceremony on South Side of Chicago to build his presidential library. He chose for the location, Jackson Park which is on the National Register of Historic places. After a four-year federal review process with legal battles with park preservationists and protests from neighborhood activists who feared the \$500 million library would replace black residents, guess who won? Guess who pays for all road construction?

We know better

SHADOW LAKES—I'm listening to the news about Biden's new spending bill. He and Pelosi say it will not cost the people anything. Obviously Democrats think the average American is pretty stupid. Because whatever the government spends we, the people, will be taxed in one form or another to pay it back. Biden and Pelosi and Schumer must really believe, along with all the other Democrats, that we people are stupid and they need to control us. My name is Dan Hill.

Mercy healing

BRAIDWOOD—Everyone remembers Sept. 11, 2001. It was a horrific tragedy which brought Americans together throughout the country to fight the common foe. But during the end of Trump's presidency more Americans died every single day than on 9/11. And why? Because Trump made the act of wearing a mask a sore point, a mark of division and a call to violence. May God have mercy on Trump's soul and may God heal the polarization causing sickness and death in our land. Renee K.

Ashamed to read

This is in regards to the Soundoff from Sept. 29th "Since Biden took over." The information source is from The Heritage Foundation newsletter. Is that where the Free Press gets their information? This is the kinda stuff that you're allowed to post in here? Chinese Communist Covid Pandemic, that's what this person put in there. I think you need to a little bit of editing Eric because this is some nonsense that you're letting be put in your paper. This is complete nonsense and not true at all. It's really a shame that you even let the ink hit the paper. I'm ashamed, for you.

Publisher's note: No sense feeling ashamed. I've never felt ashamed at offering the community (which includes you) a forum to speak. Someone's submission to Sound-off isn't an endorsement of truth, it's an endorsement of the First Amendment.

The Fed's agenda

SHADOW LAKES—I'm wondering what people think about the Biden administration wanting the Fed's to know about every transaction \$600 or over for the American people? It used to be \$10,000. Now it's \$600. What is their agenda? Dan Hill.

Sound-Off is a 24-hour phone line provided to give readers a chance to voice their opinions. Calls may be anonymous.
The Free Press Newspapers reserves the right to edit remarks for taste, length, personal attacks, calls for boycotts and libel. In cases where the publisher selects not to publish these remarks the news-

paper 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.
To voice your opinion, please go to

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. If mailing comments please direct them to Sound-Off, 271 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481.

Trained to protect

MORRIS—This for the military genius in Wilmington. So if you would really like to discuss the job of the military then you must first become a part of the military because you cannot make the type of statement that you are making since you have a complete lack of knowledge about military training. You are taught in the military how to defend yourself so if you do enter a war zone you can come out alive. If you must kill someone to stay alive then it must only be done in defense of your life. Now you are saying that the job of the military was to kill in other countries into submission. You must be having delusions since that is not what you had previously said which was that the military was trained to kill people in their own country and what you did imply was that the veterans and military personnel were trained murderers to kill people in the U.S.A. You better get your facts straight before you make a bigger fool out or yourself. The objective of every military person is also to protect this nation from all forms of tyranny and to protect your right to talk stupid. So stop running your mouth with your brain in neutral.

Petition the railroad

BRAIDWOOD—I see that Gardner has now put a stop on the horns from these trains that are constantly going through here. Braceville did it a month ago. What in God's name is our mayor doing about these train whistles at four o'clock in the morning. Nobody can go around these gates anymore they'd have to crash through them. There's no reason why we should have to put up with these horns. If our mayor can't do anything but sit at a meeting and doodle on his paper, how about our administrator? Why isn't city hall petitioning the railroad to stop these horns? As a taxpayer in this city you people better wake up and hold these people more accountable because all they're doing is bleeding your tax dollars. That's all they're doing is padding their own pockets with whatever they can pass through.

Road repair needed

GODLEY—Who has responsibility for the horrible condition of Kankakee Street (County Line Road) running through the middle of Godley? Stand up and speak up.

Wake up Christians

WILMINGTON—Was it Christian behavior to bring slaves to this nation in order to make white people wealthy and in so doing cause suffering and death for the entire black race for hundreds of years? The Civil War tried to correct this, but freedoms and opportunities for blacks were soon removed by Jim Crow laws that created poverty by oppressive discrimination for 80 years. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 helped to make a difference but was eviscerated 8 years ago in 2013 by the Supreme Court thus allowing red states to once again hinder blacks from voting. How do Christians sit in church and listen to Jesus' word when such hatred exists? Aren't they aware of what's going on today? Kate L.

History equals revenue

WILMINGTON—Towns try to look good to bring dollars into the city and make living here very special. Wildlife and nature, bird watching are big draws for this town. Why risk losing so many things and remove the dam? Even the stone filled idea takes away from many awesome features of the dam. How many family pictures were taken with the dam in the background? Who is going to take pictures of nothing left? Don't fool with mother nature. Don't fool with revenues. New businesses opening up need to survive even through Covid. Help the town's businesses. If the city council votes to hand it over, we need to place their family name on signs everywhere in town so we will know who to blame. Shame on you. Nobody enforces the sign ordinances so they will be up for years. N.E.W.

What a joke

SHADOW LAKES—The Great White leader (term used to make deals with the American Indian, and then stick it to them) in Washington just made a joke and really made me laugh. He wants to give away \$3.5 trillion, and he said it is not going to cost me a penny. His quote, "the rich are going to pay for it. Anybody making less than \$400,000 is not going to pay." I can't stop laughing, I have listened to that for the last 60 years. Please, President Biden, tell me another joke so I can laugh some more. Margot Lane

An economic disaster

BRAIDWOOD—The Dems in the House of Representatives have a 2,500 page bill they are trying to shove through. This bill will turn our country into a socialist country. The Dems want \$5 trillion for mostly social programs. This is on top of the \$6 trillion already passed. When you spend this amount of money and increase taxes to pay for it the end result is suppression of the economy. It is an economic disaster. There is no reason to raise the debt ceiling. Our government takes in \$320 billion per month. Of that amount \$44 billion goes for government debt. The rest per Article 14 of the Constitution is for entitlement programs including pensions. The rest is for government spending and programs. This means that Social Security checks will keep coming and the government debt will keep being paid. What the Dems want is big money for future programs. Yes, raise your taxes and then give you money



back in the form of entitlements so you and future generations will be forever dependent on the government. This is socialism. It failed in Europe, the UK, Cuba, Venezuela. Why would we want this here? It's called an infrastructure bill but very little is going for real infrastructure. Most is going for social programs. We have enough of that already. People need to go back to work and earn their benefits.

It's not right

SHADOW LAKES—Last month Biden let over 10,000 unvaccinated illegals into our country with a promise to come back. Panama has warned that up to 60,000 more are coming. Will Biden stop them? No, not without the help of Democrat voters saying enough is enough. Fentanyl deaths are up 30 percent this year. It's made in China, shipped to Mexico and comes across our open borders. China killed our old with the virus and now our young with drugs, but no one stops them. You know inside this is not right. Put America before politics before it's too late. Eddie

It's the cruelty

COAL CITY—It's a fact that Republicans vote against the things that help the middle class and vote in favor of things that reward the super wealthy. During the Trump administration \$8 trillion of national debt was piled up by giving tax breaks to the rich. For Trump, cruelty to everyday people is the point no matter how expensive the cruelty is. Kurt K.

The other view

SHADOW LAKES—In response to "It Divides Us." First of all, no one cares if you do not renew your subscription. Are there programs on television you do not care for? What did you do to get rid of your TV? I can not speak for Dan Hill or others. I try to present a view, on what I read or see in the news, the other view. I try to present the truth. I, for one, do not intend to change anyone's mind. Perhaps you would like to believe you live in a La-La land. Kudos to the person who found info from "Heritage Foundation Newsletter." There are thinkers out there. Here is one for you, Mr. It Divides Us, "Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen calls for a permanent end to the debt limit." Do you realize what this would do to our money system and the country? Or don't you care? Margot Lane

I have a dream

WILMINGTON—I have a dream of an America subdivided into those that hate and those that don't. Red states should be designated for hostility, the blue states for cooperation and coexistence and I will choose to live in the latter. As it is now, I shut out all my Republican friends and avoid all my Republican relatives because their complaints are shrill as they screech and howl. It would be so much easier if these bitter, spiteful people would live elsewhere. It's sad that this is what Republicans have wrought. Brian V.

Keeping the power

WILMINGTON—We saw irrational hatred toward President Obama due to resentment of his intelligence, compassion and impeccable character. Likewise the riots against the thriving and prosperous black community of Greenwood, OK in 1921 was due to backlash by jealous white neighbors. And it's a fact of history that immediately after the Civil War, the accomplishments of freed slaves were significant at first but were soon stifled by the white establishment through Jim Crow laws. In other words, whites are not inherently supreme but keep themselves on top by holding others down. Ralph D.

The virus excuse

WILMINGTON—Have you noticed that since the Democrats have taken power that everything is the virus' fault? The crime rate is up over 30 percent and it's not the defund the police, it's the virus. Inflation - the virus, food shortages - the virus, drug overdose - the virus, illegals - the virus. Harry Truman, a Democrat, said the buck stops here. Leaders take responsibility not pass the buck. Eddie

22,000 coming

MORRIS—October chaos in Del Rio, TX at

the Haitian migrant camp on US/Mexico border had become the biggest migration surge in 20-plus years. The Biden Administration granted temporary protected status for 150,000 Haitians already in the USA in May 2021. What few Haitians who were deported arrived in Del Rio after years of living in South America. Twelve to fifteen thousand were shipped out all over the USA. The reality is of our porous borders may offend liberals in the Democrat party but pretending America can shrink the moral burden of enforcing the law is a 'recipe for disaster.' Twenty-two thousand Haitian, South Americans and Africans are now in Columbia on their way to the U.S. thanks President Biden and Vice President Harris for open borders. Especially Harris since she was put in charge of the border crisis. Poor choice.

You will pay

MORRIS—The Democrat Party is attempting to pass a bill 2,500 pages long that none of the members of Congress have read, nor have the faintest idea what is in the bill. Whenever you're told it's for free that's a big lie. Somebody pays maybe you.

A senseless burden

WILMINGTON—There's an editorial in the Kankakee Daily Journal called Banks oppose Biden's new proposal on IRS reporting. A proposal being pushed by the Biden Administration would require banks and other financial institutions to report to the IRS any deposits or withdrawals totaling more than \$600 annually to or from all business and personal accounts. Tax evasion is part of the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation package under consideration by Congress. The American Bankers Association, along with more than 40 businesses and financial groups, sent a letter to Pelosi objecting to the proposal. Almost every banking transaction and even transfers between one's accounts would be reported to the IRS. Banks already report a tremendous amount of data to other IRS on all 5,000 community banks in the US. The provision is a violation of Americans Privacy Rights and would be a crushing burden on community banks and credit unions struggling in the midst of the pandemic. It's a "dragnet."

In Washington, D.C.

COAL CITY—Our leaders in Washington, D.C. have decided to raise taxes on business which will result in a raise in the prices of every item purchased. And now all the migrants are going to receive everything free which includes housing and clothes. But all our leaders have to say these things is that everyone must pay their fair share and we must help the less fortunate. All this talk does not help those living on the streets while after the constant talk by our president that everyone must pay their fair share. It was on the news that our president owes \$500,000 in back taxes. It would be interesting to know the taxes of all of our elected officials and to learn how they acquire all their money or how a Congresswoman can afford to pay to go to a fundraiser of \$30,000 a plate dinner. Public servants could not afford to pay the price unless it was a gift for future favor. All the criminals are not in jail, they work in Washington, D.C.

Live as one

Correction: John Lennon would be rolling over in his grave. "Imagine" was not a Beatles song. Richard Nixon and other Republicans tried having John deported.

Would like to know

SHADOW LAKES—I'd like to know where are Benny and Penny Lane, who I think are B.S. and the Wiedners and the Dahlikes about what's going on today with Biden the Alzheimer patient. And Obama really is running the country as we all do know. What about this young marine that carried and took a baby over the fence in Kabul who attended a Trump rally and now he's being investigated. Why should he be investigated? Can any of the former names that I just named answer that? Because I would really like to know, of course you can't commit yourselves. Dan Hill

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FAMILY



Madison Latham and Joseph Kerulis

Kerulis, Latham to wed Oct. 9

Madison Latham, of Pinson, AL and Joseph Kerulis, of Wilmington will be united in marriage on Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021, 4:30 p.m. at Region's Field in Birmingham, AL.

Parents of the bride-elect are Sharson and Michael Latham, of Tennessee. Parents of the future groom are Mary and John Kerulis, of Wilmington.

Madison is a graduate of St. George's Independent High School and Auburn University College. She is employed by Altec, Inc.

Joseph is a graduate of Wilmington High School and University of Alabama at Birmingham College. He is employed by Devin Cahn Associates.



Lissys to celebrate 60th anniversary

Ray and Kathy Lissy will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct. 14, 2021. Ray and the former Kathy Galbraith were married in Assumption Church in Coal City.

They are the parents of two children, Bonnie (Steve) Raulerson and David (deceased). They also have one granddaughter, Lane Payton.

A small family gathering is planned.



First Presbyterian plans memorial celebration

Members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church, Van Buren and Kankakee St., of Wilmington are invited to a special memorial celebration at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 17.

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church will be unveiling a beautiful memorial plaque of past members as a celebration of contributions from the church and its friends during the last several years.

Worship Service will be from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. with the unveiling immediately following the Service. The membership and friends in our community are invited to stay after the ceremony for coffee, punch and light refreshments

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Sat., Oct. 9 4-7:00 p.m. Moose Riders Spaghetti Dinner (Benefit Kuzma Cottage)	
Mon., Oct. 11 7:00 p.m. LOOM/WOTM Meeting	
Wed., Oct. 13 7:00 p.m. WOTM Meeting	
Fri., Oct. 15 5-7:30 p.m. Fish Fry	
Sun., Oct. 17 9:00 a.m. Moose Riders Meeting	
Sat., Oct. 23 5-7:30 p.m. Steak Fry	
Mon., Oct. 25 6-8:00 p.m. LOOM/WOTM Meeting	

HAPPY HALLOWEEN Open to the Public Fri., Oct. 29 5:30 p.m. Adult Halloween Party

Sun., Oct. 31 1-3:00 p.m. Kids Halloween Party

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Celebrating 12 years of hope

TaTa Trot supports breast cancer fighters, survivors

STAFF REPORT

The 12th annual TaTa Trot steps off from Carbon Hill Park on Sunday morning with dozens of runners and walkers coming together to support a great cause—breast cancer awareness, support and prevention.

The Oct. 10 event will serve to raise funds for the Riverside Cancer Institute

through support of the Riverside Medical Foundation.

Each year, TaTa Trot organizers work to generate funds through the 5K run/walk and other fundraising events to support the work taking place at the medical center.

This year's run/walk will get underway at 10:15 a.m., from Carbon Hill Park, 800 W. Lacy St. Same day registration is \$35 for adults and \$15 for children. Registration opens at 8 a.m. and continues until 9:30 a.m.

New to the event is a free

kids fun run scheduled from 9:35-10 a.m. at the park. The kids event, organized by Rodney Monbrun, is open to children ages 3-12 and each participant will receive a medal and certificate.

The TaTa Trot organization was established a dozen years ago by a group of local women who know all too well that the fight against breast cancer is waged every day. Since then the organization has remained true to its mission and in the process raised thousands of dollars to sup-

port the fight.

Members of Coal City High School's Footnotes show-choir will participate in pre-race activities that will also serve to honor those who have won the fight and encourage those who are in the midst of battle.

An estimated 281,550 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed this year in women and 2,650 cases in men. Along with a 49,290 cases on non-invasive breast cancer.

Playing in the park



COAL CITY HIGH School Theatre Department is taking its fall play on the road and will present its production of the classic tale *Alice in Wonderland* on the outdoor stage created in Carbon Hill Park. Join [from left] Landen Selio as the Mad Hatter, the Hare played by Stephen Byers and Derek Carlson as the Cheshire Cat as they share the story of Alice's adventures in wonderland. Shows are Oct. 14 and Oct. 16-17 at 7 p.m. Advanced tickets for general admission seating are available at bit.ly/CCTDTickets. Those attending need to bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating.

Dearth joins Morris Hospital cardiology practice

Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers has expanded its cardiology services with the addition of a board-certified nurse practitioner.

Alyssa Dearth, F.N.P.-B.C., has joined cardiologists Dr. Syed Ahmed, Dr. Mary Gordon and Dr. Athar Saeed with the Morris Hospital Cardiovascular Specialists. She works closely with all three doctors and sees patients out of the practice's Morris and Channahon offices, increasing patient access for all providers. She assists in the treatment of cardiovascular disorders including heart disease, blood pressure management, heart failure, circulation problems of the lower extremity, cholesterol management and more.

"All three doctors are very hard working and very passionate about what they do," Dearth says. "Together, we are just trying to improve the health of the community as best we can."

Bringing more than 13 years of nursing experience, Dearth has a diverse background in cardiac electrophysiology, interventional radiology and neurology. She worked for seven years as an advanced

practice nurse in cardiac electrophysiology and gained specialized knowledge in pace-makers, defibrillators, arrhythmias, atrial fibrillation and atrial flutters. Dearth acquired her master's degree in nursing from the University of St. Francis in Joliet, and she received her bachelor's degree in nursing from Lakeview College of Nursing in Charleston, IL. She is certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Born in Winfield and raised in Lombard, Dearth moved to Morris with her husband about two years ago. It wasn't long before she became a fan of the local hospital.

"I've had some experiences here at Morris Hospital with my children, which have been wonderful," Dearth says. "I just knew that I wanted to work for the organization. So when this popped up, it was the perfect opportunity."

The Morris Hospital Cardiovascular Specialists has four convenient locations, including offices at 27240 W. Saxony Dr., Channahon; 101 S. Prairie Ave., Dwight; 151 W. High St., Morris, and 1300 Starfire Dr., Ottawa. For more information visit morrishospital.org/cvspecialists.

Illinois Valley Area of NA to host meetings

The Illinois Valley Area of Narcotics Anonymous holds meetings Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays for anyone who needs help coping with drug abuse.

On Tuesdays, "Fight for life" meeting can be found in Coal City at the United Methodist Church on 6805 E. McArdle Rd., from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

On Wednesdays, "Working the steps" meeting is in Channahon at the United Methodist Church, on 24751 W. Eames St. The meeting is from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday's meeting is "Making amends" and will be located at the United Methodist Church in Coal City. Meeting times are 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

AA meetings at Masonic Lodge

The Wilmington Masonic Lodge at 311 N. Main St., offers Alcoholic Anonymous meetings on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Anyone seeking more information can contact George Roesel at 815-509-7001

Wilmington Soccer Club results

The Wilmington soccer club had some exciting games the last two weeks.

On Saturday, the club played against other Wilmington teams and had a ball doing it.

In the six and under division, Wilmo U6-2 used a seven-goal effort to fly by Wilmo U6-1, 7-1.

J. Dean, B. Hess and M. Campbell all scored two goals while S. Campbell added another for U6-2. S. Campbell scored for U6-1.

In the eight and under division, Wilmo U8-1 squeaked by U8-2, 3-2.

E. Langusch scored two goals while A. Chandler added the other for the winning team. B. Van Duyne scored both goals for U8-2.

In the 10 and under division, Wilmo U10-2 beat U10-1 by three, 5-2.

L. Sukley picked up the hat trick while C. Cavenaile added two other goals.

E. Corlett and E. VanDuyne scored for U10-1.

In the 12 and under division, U12-2 scored three goals to beat U12-1, 3-1. C. Hincherrick, P. Pet and Coleman Cavenaile scored the goals for the winners. C. Rabideau knocked in a goal for U12-1.

Sept. 25

In the six and under division, the U6-2 team beat Reed-Custer, 5-3 with B. Hess having two goals. V. Allen, E. Labanowski and M. Campbell added the other goals.

U6-1 beat Reed-Custer 3-2 with B. Bailey scoring two goals and G. Cary the other.

In their second match of the day, U6-2 beat Reed-Custer 3-2. Campbell had two goals with Hess adding another.

In the eight and under division, A. Chandler helped U8-1 tie with Reed-Custer 2-2 with both goals.

The U8-2 team fell to Reed-Custer 4-2 as B. Van

Duyne and U. Sanchez had the goals.

The U8-1 team beat Reed-Custer 2-1 to end eight and under action. N. Hansen and Chandler had the goals.

In U10 action, E. VanDuyne's hat trick helped U10-1 but they were unable to keep up with Reed-Custer in a 6-4 loss. E. Corlett scored the other goal.

The U10-2 team beat Reed-Custer 4-0 behind two goals from C. Cavenaile and a goal each from R. Sukley and L. Sukley.

In the 12-14 division, it was Caden Cavenaile who scored two goals to help U12-2 shutout R-C 6-0. P. Pet, C. Hincherrick, J. VanDuyne and Coleman Cavenaile added the other goals.

In U12-1 action, J. Mitchell and C. Hincherrick scored goals but it was not enough to beat Reed-Custer, 6-2.

F/S 'Cats keep their record perfect

The Wilmington fresh-soph football team improved to 6-0 with a 53-7 victory over Reed-Custer on Friday.

Running backs Kyle Farrell and Hunter Osipavicius ran in three touchdowns each for the Wildcats while the defense contained the visiting Comets to just one score.

Farrell finished with over 11 yards per carry as he racked up 188 yards in 17 attempts.

Osipavicius finished with 102 yards in seven carries for a 12.8 yard per attempt average.

Also rushing for the 'Cats were Franco Guajardo with 21 yards, Drew Jackson - 3 for 15, 5.0 avg. Shawn James - 3 for 7 yards and Joey Van Duyne - 3 for 6 yards including a touchdown.

Guajardo led the Wildcat defense with 4 solo tackles. Joseph Allgood recorded 3 solo

tackles including a sack while Peter Rampa had solid tackles, 1 TFL and a fumble recovery.

Joey Cortese really helped out with 3 solo tackles and a safety while Matt Swisher had 2 solo tackles and Austin Olsen 2 solo tackles and a safety.

Place kicker Reid Juster was 7 for 7 on PAT kicks.

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Rules @ 6:50 p.m.

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Howling coyote wins Midewin contest

A coyote releasing an emotion-filled howl on the Henslow Trail; a brave wolf spider carrying 100 of her babies on her back; stunning barred owls; and more photos highlight life at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie in the "Woodsy Owl & Friends" 50th Birthday Photo Challenge.

Carl Pixel won the photo challenge with his photo of a howling coyote on the Henslow Trail near Wilmington.

"When I first saw this photograph, it just filled me with a lot of joy," said USDA Forest Service Eastern Region Forester Gina Owens. "There is so much action and heart in the picture. What a great job and a stunning photograph."

Owens announced the winning photo during a special webinar on Sept. 15 celebrating Woodsy Owl's 50th birthday. Special guests from throughout the United States announced category finalists.

"A very special milestone in natural resources history has brought us together here tonight," said Midewin Prairie Supervisor Wade Spang. "Fifty years ago, today, on September

15, 1971, Woodsy Owl said for the first time: 'Give a hoot, don't pollute.' Throughout the years, Woodsy Owl has shared more messages that continue to inspire and keep us motivated to be good stewards. 'Lend a hand, care for the land' are Woodsy Owl's words of wisdom that are as important as ever here, where over 275 different species of native Illinois prairie plants are involved in the prairie restoration process."

A review panel of Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie volunteers spent several weeks looking at photo submissions to determine the overall winner of the contest and finalists in five categories. The Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Volunteer program is managed through a USDA Forest Service partnership agreement with The Nature Conservancy.

"I am very excited. I did not expect to win," Pixel said. "When I took the photo of the coyote, it was in August, at around 7:30 p.m. I was already leaving when I heard commotion about 100 yards away from me on the trail. He just started howling. It was a little

dark, so I was keeping my distance. As quickly as I could, I pulled out my camera and knelt on the ground and took three or four photos.

Pixel's photo faced a tie at first with the wolf spider photo, which was taken by William Shea at the River Road Seedbeds at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.

"It was a 'right place at the right time' kind of thing," Shea said. "I just happened to come upon the wolf spider. I've seen wolf spiders carry their babies before, but not that many at a time, so that was a special treat!"

In this golden anniversary year for Woodsy Owl, a special category in the photo challenge was dedicated to owls. Several photos featured barred owls and short-eared owls. Monika Bobek's photo of a barred owl was determined as the finalist in the Owls category.

"I discovered Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie two years ago, and I really spend a lot of time there," Bobek said. "I can hike hours and hours. I found a family of barred owls accidentally on a very gloomy winter day, and since then we have really spent a lot of time together. They are always there; if I don't see them, I hear them. Last spring, I was even honored to see their owlet; it was really a touching and priceless experience."

Other winning photos and finalists in each category:

Sunrises and Sunsets: Henslow Bridge at Sunrise by Barbara Parisi

Native Illinois Prairie Plants: Yellow Coneflower and Bergamot by Janet R. Lyons

Wildlife: Wolf Spider on Milkweed by William Shea-tied for overall winning photo

Photos by Kids: Blue Lobelia and Lilly Pads on A Pond (tied) by Grace and Olivia Thompson

Photos that were entered into the contest will be featured in the 2022 Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Conservation Education Guide. The howling coyote photo will be featured on the cover.

View the photos from the contest, here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/193983156@N07/albums/72157719890484716>.



A COYOTE HOWLS on the Henslow Trail at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. The photo, by Carl Pixel, was selected by a review panel of Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie volunteers as the overall winning photo in the "Woodsy Owl & Friends" 50th Birthday Photo Contest that Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie hosted this summer.

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OBITUARIES

Josiane Grindstaff

WILMINGTON—Josiane Helen Renee Grindstaff, 72, of Wilmington, passed away Monday, Sept. 27, 2021 at her home.

She was born in Paris, France March 2, 1949, the only child born to Roger and Irene Bazin. They immigrated to Montreal, Canada in 1953; briefly resided in Calgary, and later relocated to Los Angeles, CA. There, little Josiane started school and began learning her English. It was also in California that Josiane's father started an auto body business and worked for Ford, as well as for private customers. Among some of Jo's favorite memories were driving the cars that her father repaired and painted, along the fashionable highways of Venice, Hollywood and Los Angeles. In addition, she enjoyed frequenting the beaches with her surfing friends, and watching her favorite bands in concerts and listening to them on vinyl. Josiane graduated from Belmont High School in June of 1967 and went on to meet her future husband Arthur Grindstaff who was recently discharged from the United States Marine Corps. They met through a mutual friend at the Robert Taylor car wash in January of 1968, the very same building known later for the 70's movie, Car Wash.

Josiane and Arthur were married in her family home on March 1, 1969 and made their first home in a small town in the Mojave Desert. Arthur worked and played with a group of friends who shared his love for riding motorcycles, and together they enjoyed life's simpler things. Later in September of 1969 their first born, Kelley arrived, but not too soon before another unexpected house guest showed up in their desert home. This unexpected visit was an uncle who had recently escaped from the Ohio State Penitentiary, who was looking to hide out with them, adding himself to their crew.

As some time later passed, the family moved to Englewood, CA, where Josiane worked as a stay at home mother, while Art worked at LAX Airport directing planes. It was here that their second child, Brian was next to arrive in July of 1971.

Later in the same year, following a large earthquake, the young family packed up and moved to Illinois, to an area where Arthur spent



most of his childhood.

For those of us who knew Jo, knew that she saw the good in everyone. Anyone who met her, felt welcome with her warm smile and sincere laugh. It was not surprising, that her love for her family, and the people around her, drew her to the promises that the Bible contains, and beautiful qualities that God encourages. In October of 1972, Jo started studying with Jehovah's Witnesses, and was baptized the following year. Her youngest child, Jason was born in December of 1975.

Jo worked as an accountant through the 1980's for the factory that Arthur worked. After their youngest was out of school and Josiane's father needed assistance, plans were made to return to California. On June 28, 2004 Illinois was rocked with a rare earthquake, and it was the very day that they left Illinois to return back to Josiane's childhood home.

Arthur and Jo made the difficult decision to move back to Illinois again in December of 2017 to receive assistance due to progressive Alzheimer's disease. No major earthquake was reported on that date.

Survivors include her husband Arthur Grindstaff; three children: Kelley (Jeff) Hyatt Grindstaff, Jason (Naomi) Grindstaff and Brian (Cari) Grindstaff; four grandchildren: Kali Grindstaff, Maxwell Grindstaff, Luke Grindstaff, and Layla Grindstaff; one great-grandchild, Alistair Romo Grindstaff and the loyal family companion, Bingo.

She was preceded in death by her parents. Per Josiane's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded.

A virtual Memorial Talk via zoom was held on Saturday Oct. 2, 2021. Inurnment will take place at a later date in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Josiane's memorial page online through social media by logging onto: www.ReevesFuneral.com/Obituary/Josiane-Grindstaff.

Cremation services and arrangements were made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Coal City.

Juan A. Herrera

COAL CITY—Juan A. Herrera, 79, of Coal City, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021 at Amita Saint Joseph Medical Center in Joliet.

Born Jan. 27, 1942 in Durango, Mexico, Juan was a son of Alberto and Nicasia Arambula Herrera. He was raised in Mexico and immigrated to the United States in the 1960's. He was a member of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church in Coal City, and formerly worked for Norwalk Tank Company in New Lenox.

Survivors include his wife, Manuela; five children: Juan F. (Maria) Herrera, of Coal City; Salvador Herrera, of Braidwood; Maria (Nicolas III) Colin, of Chicago; Lorena (Julio) Lopez, of Coal City and Griselda (Braulio) Valdez, of Coal City; 17 grandchildren: Natalie, Stacey and Joshua Herrera; Elisa and Joel Herrera, Ariana, Nicolas IV, Anareli, Isaiah, Rosemary and Jared Colin; Jacqueline, Leslie, Julio and Michael Lopez and Anthony and Kassandra Valdez; six great-grandchildren: Andrea, Zayden, Alaina, Mariah, Nicolas V and Oliver and siblings, Julio,



Catarino, Maximina, Gonzala and Jose Leon, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Juan was preceded in death by his parents, his granddaughter, Sophia and great-grandson, Aiden; sisters: Andrea, Teresa and Angelita and brothers: Paulino, Francisco, Jesus and Rito.

A family visitation was held at Reeves Funeral Home in Coal City, followed by funeral services in Assumption Catholic Church in Coal City. Reverend Jason Stone presided with Deacon Arnulfo Cisneros assisting.

Burial was in Braceville-Gardner Cemetery. Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Juan's memorial page online through social media by logging onto: www.ReevesFuneral.com/obituary/Juan-Herrera

Funeral services and arrangements were made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Coal City.

Frederick Schuster



VALPARAISO, IN—Frederick Walter Schuster, 78, of Valparaiso, IN, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021 at Brookdale Assisted Living in Valparaiso.

He was born May 14, 1943, in Chicago, to George Frederick and Maxine (Brooks) Schuster. Fred honorably served his country in the United States Army. He was a lab manager for Simpson Technologies for 25 years. Fred was a man of many talents and over his lifetime he worked as a journeyman butcher, security guard, law officer and volunteer fireman. Fred was a member of New Hope Presbyterian Church in Coal City, where he was also the sound technician. He enjoyed gardening and tinkering around in his garage or workshop, repairing and building electronics. Fred delivered Meals on Wheels for many years. On Nov. 18, 1972, he married Donna J. (Warnke) Schuster in Chicago, IL.

Surviving are his three siblings: Lorraine (Perry) Price, of Wynne, AR; Peter (Nancy)



Schuster, of Kokomo, IN and Gloria Hanks of Valparaiso, IN; nieces and nephews: Barbara (Rob) Wilson, Jennifer (David Arts) Newkirk and Daniel Price; great-nieces and great-nephews: Bridget Smith, Cammie Arts, Noah Wilson, Aiden Coleman, Jett Coleman and Brittany Coleman; great-great niece, Emily Koenemann and many friends and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Donna on Nov. 18, 2010; one niece, Nicole Coleman and brother-in-law, Tommy Hanks.

A private service will be held. Burial will take place at Graceland Cemetery in Valparaiso. Condolences can be sent to the family at www.LakeviewFHC.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to The Michael J. Fox Foundation, P.O. Box 5014 Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014.

Sunset Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

William Enz



WILMINGTON—William "Bill" Enz, 72, of Wilmington, passed away Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021 at the Lightways Hospice Home in Joliet.

Born March 17, 1949 in Clinton, IA, William Mark was a son of Robert Mark and Wilma Jean (Potter) Enz. He attended St. Rose School; graduated from Wilmington High School with the class of 1968, and went on to attend Parks College in St. Louis, where he completed the aeronautical program in 1969. Bill worked briefly as a jailer in Joliet before being drafted into the United States Army in 1970. He served throughout Europe before being honorably discharged and soon thereafter entered into the Electricians Apprenticeship Program. Bill worked as an electrician for more than 40 years, many of which was with Block Electric in Shorewood. He retired from IBEW Local #176 in 2014. Bill held his pilot license, enjoyed trap and skeet shooting and spending time on the boat. He owned a horse and was active in harness racing for a period and will be remembered for his love of working on anything mechanical.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy, who he married Nov. 23, 2011; two daughters, Christy Enz (Ryan Dwyer), of Wilmington and Michelle Enz (John Sullivan), of Downers Grove; two grandchildren, Chloe Sanford and Nicholas



Sanford; two brothers, Mark Enz, of Tempe, AZ and Marty (Sarah) Enz, of Wilmington; two nieces, Renee (Tyler) Crater and Alicia Enz, and two step-children, Christopher Kersten and Chad (Heather) Kersten, both of Homewood.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Robert G. Enz and sister, Rhonda Jefferson.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

A memorial visitation was held on Monday, Oct. 4, 2021 at Baskerville Funeral Home in Wilmington.

Bill was laid to rest on Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021 in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood with military honors

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Bill's memory to his family for the creation of a Trades Scholarship through the Wilmington School District Foundation For Excellence, 209 Wildcat Drive, Wilmington, IL 60481.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Bill's memorial page online through social media by logging onto: www.BaskervilleFuneral.com/obituary/WilliamBill-Enz.

Cremation services and arrangements were made under the direction and care of Baskerville Funeral Home in Wilmington.

Elma Jean Cramer

OSWEGO—Elma Jean Cramer, 75, of Oswego, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021 at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

She was born May 25, 1946 in Delhi, LA, the daughter of Walter and Candyce Parker. She married George Leroy Cramer on Nov. 28, 1964.

Elma lived in Miami, FL until the age of 12 when her family moved to Illinois. She lived in South Wilmington, Gardner and Reddick during her high school years. She graduated from Reddick High School with the class of 1964. Elma spent the past 20 years as an office manager/bookkeeper with a variety of companies. She was currently employed at Champion Wood Pallets in Aurora, IL.

Elma was a dedicated mother and grandmother who loved her family dearly and cherished the time they spent together. She enjoyed taking day trips, driving along the Fox River, attending her grandkids sporting events and wholeheartedly celebrating the holidays. "Grammy" was well known for her holiday decorations and Christmas Day scavenger hunts that would send Rachel, Matt and John to great lengths to find the last gift of Christmas. She was a caring person who faced recent health challenges head on, demonstrating admirable courage. She will be missed dearly.



Surviving is her daughter, Dawn (Patrick) Halloran, of Coal City and her three grandchildren: Rachel (Ryan) VanDuyn and Matthew Halloran (Chelsea Schultz), of Coal City; John Halloran, of Los Angeles, CA and great-granddaughter, Reese VanDuyn. Also surviving are three brothers: Louis Dwayne Parker, of Punta Gorda, FL; Royce Glenn Parker, of Salem, OR and Oliver Franklin "Buddy" (Laurinda) Parker, of De Leon Springs, FL and one sister, Bonnie Ileen (Parker) Haisten (Larry Lewandowski), of Deltona, FL. Elma is also survived by a sister-in-law, Beverly Parker, of Gardner. Elma leaves behind many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and several cousins who she loved dearly. Elma was a friend, dedicated co-worker, and caring neighbor who will be deeply missed.

Preceding her in death were her parents and brother, Walter Thomas Parker Jr.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021 at Dunn Family Funeral Home in Oswego.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Elma's name to fight juvenile diabetes at JDRE.org or the American Heart Association at heart.org.

For information go to www.dunnfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Wayne Milton

WILMINGTON—Wayne Conrad Milton, 94, of Wilmington, passed away Monday, Oct. 4, 2021 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee.

Born Aug. 2, 1927 in Kankakee, Wayne Conrad was a son of Ellsworth and Valeda (Shreffler) Milton. He was raised in Rockville Township and graduated from Reddick High School with the class of 1945. On Aug. 27, 1949, Wayne married Phyllis Laverne Kamis, and together they made a home and raised a family together.

Wayne farmed for the majority of his life, and resided on farms in the Manteno, Ritchie and Symerton areas before retiring to Wilmington. In addition to farming, Wayne in his earlier years worked at the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant as a car blocker; drove a school bus, and served as a substitute rural mail carrier. He later gained employment with the city of Wilmington, where he retired as the Water Plant Operator.

One who loved to travel, Wayne also took pleasure in handyman projects; often joking that he could fix anything with duct tape and a Swiss Army knife. Following his formal retirement, he continued to help the family for many years during the harvest season, driving the grain truck to the elevator. Wayne was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Wilmington; belonged to the Will County Farm Bureau, where he served on the Board of Directors; was past founding member of the reorganized Catfish Days Committee; past member of the Wilmington Park District and was a former board member of Oakwood Cemetery Association in Wilmington.

Survivors include four children: Penny (Irvin) Holm, Celeste Milton and Vicky (William) Weidling, all of Wilmington and Heather (Paul) Rogers, of Kankakee; grandchil-



dren: Nathaniel (Karen Patterson) Holm, of Palatine; Megan (Joshua) Corlett, of Wilmington; Dr. Robert (Dr. Morgan Gonder) Weidling, of Fairway, KS and Brooke Rogers, of Ames, IA; three great-grandchildren: Cameron and Emma Corlett and Ingrid Holm, and siblings, Wendell (Patricia) Milton, of Manteno and Robert Milton, of Kankakee.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Phyllis on Oct. 20, 2020; brothers, Sherman Milton and Dale Milton; sister, Fostine (Wilber) Schwark and half sister, Vesta (Leonard) Klafka.

The family will receive friends for a visitation at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 E. Kahler Rd. in Wilmington on Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021 from 9 a.m. until time of funeral service at 11 a.m. Reverend Harriette Cross from the First United Methodist Church of Wilmington will officiate.

Burial will follow in Oakwood Cemetery, Wilmington, where Wayne will be laid to rest with his late wife, Phyllis.

Pallbearers will be: Irvin Holm, William Weidling, Paul Rogers, Nathaniel Holm, Robert Weidling, Josh Corlett, Richard Milton and Brian Milton.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Wayne's memory to the First United Methodist Church of Wilmington, 401 E. Kahler Road, Wilmington, IL 60481.

Family and friends may sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Wayne's memorial page online through social media by logging onto: www.BaskervilleFuneral.com/obituary/Wayne-Milton

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

Marguerite Olsen



VERONA—Marguerite "Maggie" Olsen, 98, formerly of Verona, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021 at the home of her daughter in Golden Valley, AZ.

Born Dec. 14, 1922 in Union, ME, Marguerite Hazel was a daughter of William G. and Alice (Leach) Daniels. She was raised and educated in St. George, ME and went on to honorably serve in the United States Army during World War II.

In March of 1947, Marguerite married Donald John Olsen in Waltham, MA, and together they made a home and raised a family. She worked for the William W. Fox Developmental Center in Dwight from where she retired, and was a member of First Baptist Church in Dwight. Throughout the years, Maggie enjoyed traveling, riding through the desert, and in her free time took pleasure in reading and puzzles.

Survivors include her six children: William Olsen, of South Wilmington; Lois Pickens, of Golden Valley, AZ; Dawn (Wayne) Mize, of Dwight; Marjorie Hansbrough, of Norris City, IL; Christine Mills, of Chadron, NE and Donald (Barbara) Olsen, of Verona; 15 grandchildren, as



well as many great-grandchildren and several great-great-grandchildren; three sisters, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Marguerite was preceded in death by her parents, husband, one son, Walter Olsen; one daughter, Sheila McCulley; her daughter-in-law, Carol Olsen; two sons-in-law: Bill Pickens and Jack Hansbrough; two brothers, one sister and one grandson.

The family will receive friends for a visitation at Reeves Funeral Home, 203 Liberty St., in Gardner on Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021 from 9 a.m. until the time of funeral service at 11 a.m.. Pastor Daniel L. Woodward from the First Baptist Church in Dwight will officiate.

Burial will follow in McDowell Cemetery in Dwight, where Maggie will be laid to rest with her late husband, son and grandson.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Maggie's memorial page online through social media by logging onto: www.ReevesFuneral.com/obituary/Marguerite-Olsen.

Funeral services and arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Gardner.

CURBSIDE CARE

Diapers, Wipes, Formula
and Baby Hygiene Items

Every Second Tuesday of the Month

February 9	July 13
March 9	August 10
April 13	September 14
May 11	October 12
June 8	November 9
December 14	

HOURS

MONDAY - 10a-4p
TUESDAY - 10a-4p
WEDNESDAY - 10a-4p
THURSDAY - 10a-4p
FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
CLOSED

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www.pregnancyresourcecenter.org

CLASSIFIEDS

Early Deadline!

Please submit your classified ad by 10 a.m.

Thurs., Oct. 7 for Mon., Oct. 11 Prairie Shopper.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Wilmington, upstairs, 3 Bedroom apartment. \$1,000/month and \$1,500 security deposit. No Pets. Lease, credit check, references. Call 815-365-2829 and leave message. cc331a-34b

ESTATE SALES

1108 N. Kankakee St., Wilmington, Friday and Saturday, October 8 & 9 from 8am-5pm. Former owners of Milltown Market, 45 years of shed/workshop clean out, primitive antiques. cc40b

HELP WANTED

Apartment manager part-time. General administration of the properties and all related functions. Requires a detailed self starter, some Quickbooks, maintain confidential files, dependable, customer service and work with little supervision. Occasionally will drive a few miles between sights. Please email your resume with hourly rates to nwasser922@gmail.com. cc38a-41b

Goose Lake Association is looking to hire a Bar manager and Bartenders. Contact office at 815-942-4879.

GARAGE SALES

201 N. Main St., Wilmington, Fri.-Sun., Oct. 1-3 and Fri.-Sun., Oct. 8-10. 9am-4pm. Some of everything, furniture, clothing, automotive audio & parts, toys, tools, kitchenware, decorations, outdoor items, etc. cc39a-40b

Going out of business sale. 205 School St., Wilmington, Sat., Oct. 2-Sun., Oct. 10 from 10am-5pm. Tue., Oct. 5 is 11am-6pm. Plumbing, heating, air, remodeling doors, tools, plumbing & electrical fittings, all types of fasteners, drywall jack, pallet jack, electrical wire, insulation blower, pipe vices, aluminum ext. ladder, unit heater 115,000 BTU, aluminum tool box & storage box. Many other items. Questions call 815-693-5738. cc39b-40b

180 W. 3rd St., Coal City (in alley). Thurs., Oct. 7, 4:30-7pm; Fri., Oct. 8, 8:30am-3pm; Sat., Oct. 9, 8am-noon. Girls clothes sz. 7/8, women's small-plus, men's small-XL, shoes, bikes, dishes & misc. kitchen items; full sz. bedspread, Ashton Drake & Danbury Mint Dolls, Holiday decor., tools, lawn tools, furniture, LOTS of misc. ca 40a-b

Coal City Lions Hall community garage sale. 480 S. Illinois St. Coal City. Anyone wishing to drop off unwanted items (except clothes) can do so from 8-10 am or 4-7 pm Tues, Wed and Thurs. Oct. 5, 6 and 7. Sale is Oct. 8 & 9. Fri. 8-4 and Sat 8-2, Sat. is 1/2 price day. Any questions please call Karen or Denny Wills 815-922-4949 or Penny Wills 815-482-7881. ch40ab

Multi-family sale - 1408 N. Kankakee St., Wilmington, Fri., Oct. 8 & Sat., Oct. 9, 9am-4pm. Furniture, home decor, dishes, knickknacks, baby items, boys, girls and adult clothing and lots of misc. items. cc40ab

HELP WANTED

Admin. assistant/assistant property manager for growing rental real estate company in Kankakee. Must be reliable, have basic computer skills, and work with minimal supervision. Monday through Friday. Hours are negotiable to accommodate any other commitments you may have. Apply in person at 1934 W. Station St., Kankakee. cc39a-42b

Restaurant in Coal City needs a delivery driver. Night and weekend shifts. Call 815-370-9600 for more details.

Braidwood Street Commissioner Fay Smith, is now accepting applications for a Full-time Maintenance Worker position in the Street Department. Applications are available online at braidwood.us or at Braidwood City Hall, 141 W. Main St. Applications will be accepted until Friday, October 15, 2021. Send Applications to Comm. Fay Smith, City of Braidwood, 144 N. Division Street, Braidwood, IL 60408. ch40b-41a

Looking for part-time electrician or part-time electrical apprentice. Pay based on experience. Contact Chris at 708-670-0786. cc39a-42b

Part time bartender needed for afternoons & evenings. Apply in person at Hot Shotz, 725 S. Broadway St., Coal City. Please call 815-685-2919 & leave a message with any questions. ca 40b-43a

HELP WANTED

General handyman for farm work, drive tractor, cut grass, helping with dog training, light mechanical work. Wilmington area, 40 hours a week. Call 630-399-4982 before 6pm in the evening. cc38a-41b

Earn Extra Cash, tax preparers needed, hourly wage, experience preferred but not required, computerized online tax courses available, bi-lingual applicants a plus, contact PAM INC., 815-416-0630 or paminc49@gmail.com cc 39b-43a

Joliet: In office Bookkeeper for bookkeeping and front desk. Wages* are negotiable to Credentialed** applicants with experience. Position requires at least two afternoons/evenings and Saturdays. Health Care office and or customer service experience preferred. Electronic records, professional office skills, internet, Microsoft Word, Excel, software use, etc.; ordering, with basic billing experience, etc. *Wages commensurate with ** Quickbooks experience and confirmed resume. Semi-Retirees Welcome. Call for interview 331-249-7549. cc40b-44a

Tri Star Estates in Bourbonnais is currently looking for a full-time maintenance tech. Generous hourly pay, health ins., life ins., 401K, paid time off & more. Please contact Eric at 815-802-1100 for more info. cc40b-44a

HELP WANTED

Personal Assistant needed immediately, well organized, detail oriented. Excellent communication & time management skills. Will train the right person. Pay will be based on experience. Please send resume to herman@apexforest.com cc38b-42a

VanDuyn Motel is looking for part-time maintenance man/handy man, working up to 25 hrs/week. Also, looking for part-time housekeeper, working 8-15 hrs/week. Please call 815-476-2801 or stop by VanDuyn Motel at 107 Bridge St., Wilmington, IL. Come to office and fill out application. cc38b-42a

Optometric Vision & Eye Health Care Joliet Practice seeks experienced Optometric Assistant leading to Management. Wages* are negotiable to Credentialed applicants with experience. Position requires at least two afternoons/evenings (7 or 8pm) and Saturdays (3 or 4pm). NO SUNDAYS. Optometric Vision and Eye Health Care experienced; customer service, E.H.R., professional office skills, internet, Microsoft Word, Excel, software use, etc. ordering glasses, with basic billing experience, etc. *Wages commensurate with experience and confirmed resume. Semi-Retirees Welcome. Submit resume with references. adforhelpwanted@yahoo.com cc40b-44a

MISCELLANEOUS

Automotive & Garage Tools for Sale in Braidwood. 3-tool boxes full of hand tools, 2 1/2 ton floor jack, jack stands, welder, bench grinder, drill press, circular saw, rotary grinder, No Haggle. \$1,500.00 Call 779-435-9712. ck40a-41b

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-tn

Two new tires, Offroad LT 245-7516. Brand new, 500 miles, \$250 OBO, 815-634-4946. ca40b-42a

Well seasoned oak firewood, \$100, face cord, 815-791-4596. cc 40a-43b

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

1, 2 or 3 BR mobile homes available for rent or sale. Rent from \$709-\$909. Includes water, sewer & trash removal. Please call & talk to Eric about financing options. Call 815-237-2290 for more information. cc37a-40b

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

Bookwalter Woods, Gardner. Mobile home for sale. Comes completely furnished, 2 BR, 2 full BA, new kitchen appliances, freshly painted, new flooring throughout. Must be approved by property management, \$19,500. Call for more details, 815-585-0904. cc 40a-43b

SEED/FEED/GRAINS

STOP LOSING YIELD to soybean white mold. Protection starts at less than \$4/acre with Heads Up® Seed Treatment. Proven results at HeadsUpST.com/fall21 Call Jeff 309/278-2446

LARGE ESTATE AUCTION

Sunday, October 10, 2021 @ 9:00 AM
Address: 11200 N Scott School Rd, Newark, IL.

Directions: From I-80/IL-47 in Morris, head North on IL-47 for 4 miles to Minooka Rd, then West on Minooka Rd for 4.5 miles to Scott School Rd.

10+ HAYRACKS OF MISC ITEMS:

JON BOAT 15' w/MERC 25HP -
75+ PCS OF CLEAN CAST IRON COOKWARE -
100+ BOXES OF AMMO - (4) ACCORDIANS -
ARIENS 22HP LAWN TRACTOR - NICE LAWN EQUIP & TOOLS - OVER 50K PCS OF KNEX -
PYREX - LOADS OF TUPPERWARE -
ENTIRE HAYRACK OF CANNING JARS -
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Owners: The accumulation of several Estates in the area.

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REAL ESTATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 13TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF GRUNDY - MORRIS, ILLINOIS PNC BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; Plaintiff, vs.

TODD M. HOLDEN AKA TODD HOLDEN; HUNTERS CROSSING HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 19 CH 68

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at the hour of 2:00 p.m. in the office of Donald F. Black, 201 Liberty Street, Suite 211, Morris, Illinois 60450, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 03-24-276-007. Commonly known as 26518 West Deer Path, Channahon, Illinois 60410. The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Anselmo Lindberg & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563-1890. (630) 453-6960. File Number F19080075 INTER-COUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com

13177368 Published in the Free Press Newspapers Wednesday, Sept. 29 and October 6, 13, 2021

REAL ESTATE

SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE OF 612-14 S. EAST STREET, WILMINGTON, ILLINOIS, IL 60481 (2 single family apartments in the Building). On the 14th day of October, 2021 to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse Annex, 57 N. Ottawa Street, Room 201, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: LINCOLNWAY COMMUNITY BANK, AN ILLINOIS BANKING CORPORATION Plaintiff V. MARK R. RAMSEY, TRAVIS DUKES, THOMAS DURNING, JIMMY HARRIS, ALEXA HARRIS, UNKNOWN TENANTS, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS, SABRE INVESTMENT LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY, SI RESOURCES, LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, OLD SCHOOL INVESTMENTS LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, UNKNOWN OWNERS, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant. Case No. 20 CH 0579 in the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: Troy & Associates PO Box 606 Channahon, IL 60410 P: 815-467-0756 F: 815-467-6247

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wednesday, Sept. 22, 29 and Oct. 6, 2021.

Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: Troy & Associates PO Box 606 Channahon, IL 60410 P: 815-467-0756 F: 815-467-6247

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LAND AUCTION: 78 ACRES - 133 PI SAT, NOVEMBER 6, 2021 @ 10:00 AM

Auction Location: American Legion #352
508 Depot St, Mazon, IL

Property Location: 8750 S Kinsman Rd, Kinsman, IL
Farm located 2½ mi South of Kinsman on Kinsman Rd. (2 miles South of Gardner Rd)

W½ of the SW¼ of SEC 17

HIGHLAND TWP

GRUNDY CO ILLINOIS

PIN: 10-17-300-006

Tillable Land - One Tract

Drummer, Elliott & Ashkum Soils

78.794 Surveyed Acres - 132.8 PI

Owner: Drinan Family Trust

Complete Listing, Terms, Flyer and Maps on website!

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to the State. For Information Please Contact: Troy & Associates PO Box 606 Channahon, IL 60410 P: 815-467-0756 F: 815-467-6247

REAL ESTATE

SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE OF 117 W. Park Street, Elwood, IL 60421 (Residential). On the 14th day of October, 2021 to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse Annex, 57 N. Ottawa Street, Room 201, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: American Advisors Group Plaintiff V. Elizabeth M. Blatt; et al. Defendant. Case No. 21 CH 0123 in the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: Codilis & Associates, P.C. 15W030 N. Frontage Road Suite 100 Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527 P: 630-794-5300 F: 630-794-9090

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wednesday, Sept. 22, 29 and Oct. 6, 2021.

Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: Codilis & Associates, P.C. 15W030 N. Frontage Road Suite 100 Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527 P: 630-794-5300 F: 630-794-9090

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21

CENTURY 21

Coleman-Hornsby

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CENTURY 21

Coleman-Hornsby

7	2	4		3	6	1	8	5	9
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5	1	6	8	9	2	7	3	4	
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9	6	5	7	1	3	4	2	8	
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cc42a-42a

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Pork roast dinner set for Oct. 16

The First United Methodist Church will hold its annual pork dinner on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 4 to 7 p.m.

The menu will include pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing, green beans, cole slaw, bread, homemade desserts and beverages. Carry-outs will be available.

The coast is a free-will offering that will benefit local charities. The community is invited to attend.

Our Caring Closet will hold a silent auction at the event.

First United Methodist Church is located at 401 E. Kahler Road in Wilmington.

State offering help in finding unclaimed life insurance benefits

The Illinois Department of Insurance's Life Policy Locator can help find a deceased family member's lost life insurance policies or annuity contracts. IDOI has already helped consumers collect more than \$3 million this year.

"We want to make it as easy as possible for Illinoisans to find unclaimed benefits, so grieving families don't miss out on the financial assistance that life insurance proceeds can provide," said IDOI Acting Director Dana Popish Severinghaus.

In Illinois, insurance companies are required to attempt to locate the beneficiaries of deceased policy-

holders when life insurance proceeds remain unpaid. IDOI helps consumers start the search on their own.

Here in Illinois, people can check for unclaimed life insurance policies at these sites:

- IDOI: <<https://insurance.illinois.gov/Applications/LifePolicyLocator>

- Illinois State Treasurer: <<https://icash.illinoistreasurer.gov>

- National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC)

- Life Insurance Policy Locator: <<https://eapps.naic.org/life-policy-locator/#/welcome>

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Grace Luthern starts suicide support group

Grace Luthern Church is now holding a suicide support group on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the church at 907 Luther Dr., in Wilmington. The next meeting will be on Oct. 12.

If you have lost a family member or friend to suicide, please come and join us as a way to heal. Bring a picture of your loved one with you.

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First United Methodist Church

PORK ROAST DINNER

Saturday, Oct. 16

401 E. Kahler Rd., Wilmington
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

YUM! Pork roast, mashed potatoes and
gravy, dressing, green beans, coleslaw,
bread, beverages and homemade desserts.

- Carry-outs will be available -

The community is invited to attend.

Cost: Free-will offering to benefit local charities
Our Caring Closet will hold a SILENT AUCTION at this event

Commentary

Why we need a community forum

BY BRIAN J. ALLFREY

I am not sure what I expected our country to look like in 2021, but I certainly did not expect it to be so fractured and so bogged down in hate.

My oldest son was a year old on Sept. 11, 2001. The wave of patriotism following that day gave me hope for the America that my kids would inherit.

Fast forward 20 years, and that hope has been overtaken by fear. Fear that our country has become so polarized on every issue that it may not survive.

In 1858, Abraham Lincoln said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand". Never in America's history has this quote been truer. In 1858, Lincoln spoke about the divide between free states and slave states.

In 2021, America is divided on a multitude of issues, and most of our society is determined to expand that divide rather than close the gap. We have technology and media platforms that not only created this divide but continue to drive a wedge between us. These concerns are a driving force behind the theme of National Newspaper Week -- The Community Forum, newspapers as the foundation of our communities. Let me explain the problem and then offer a solution.

We are polarized on every issue because of the information that we consume every day. We have completely lost our ability to see another point of view. We no longer accept differences of opinion, debate, disagreement, or dissent. Any division in thought is met with anger and hatred. This is in complete violation of the concepts that created America.

America was founded on the ideals of freedom, tolerance, and acceptance. All men were created equal with fundamental rights. People of

diverse backgrounds and beliefs worked together to frame these ideas into a new country with liberty and justice for all. They compromised for the betterment of everyone.

Now, we all know our country is not perfect. It never has been and never will be. These ideals have not always applied to everyone, but the beauty of our country is that it should continue to evolve. America is a concept, a target for which we are striving. Unfortunately, it feels like we are as far away from the target, as far from a perfect system, as we have ever been.

The question for all of us is, how did we get here, and how we evolve.

The 1980's gave birth to the 24-hour news networks. These "news" networks have become Entertainment TV Programming with multiple networks now fighting for viewers, ratings, and advertising dollars. They each appeal to a subset of viewers with a distinct political leaning.

Their programming has little reporting of the actual news, focused mostly on commentary, feeding their viewers what they want to see and hear. These networks have become 100% entertainment losing all their journalistic integrity. They feed us the information that they want us to have, and most of us are unaware that we are consuming propaganda rather than facts.

The 2000's saw the advent of social media networks, heralded as a breakthrough in human interaction and communication. With a mouse click, or swipe, you can connect with anyone, or any group, anywhere in the world. This modern technology has changed how we live and communicate. Unfortunately, it is being used to further the divide of the American public.

Social networks work on algorithms designed to show you things in which you are interested, which explains why they are so entertaining and addicting. However, many entities are exploiting these platforms to divide us.

Social Media has moved beyond connecting people to the single most polarizing platform in this country. Think about the negativity, hate, fear and bullying in your feed. No matter the subject, people are attacking each other in the most vile, evil ways.

There is no discussion or civil discord, just polarized ideas of right and wrong. We say things to each other that we would never say to someone's face. We treat each other without dignity or class. The technology and platforms that we entertain ourselves with are destroying the fabric of our society.

The very nature of social media is to connect people with shared interests, and on the surface, seems great. However, it connects people with like interests regardless of whether those interests are positive or negative. Social media platforms become an echo chamber of people sharing the same beliefs and same fears, regardless of what those are.

Ted Kaczynski (The Unabomber) was one man, working alone. In 2021, he would be part of an extremist social media group, spreading his thoughts and feeding off the radicalism of others in a virtual mob effect.

We need to get back to being civil with one another, treating each other with dignity. We need to listen to others viewpoint. We will not always agree, but we do not have to. Differences of opinion are not bad. There can be truth on both sides of an argument.

For example, masks are a huge argument across our communities right now. Is it possible that both sides could be correct in parts of their argument? Could it be that masks may help slow the spread of disease, but at the same be detrimental to students learning? The issue is very rarely black and white but usually in the grey area between. We need to understand that both sides of an argument can be correct and

stop fighting, hating, and bullying those that disagree with us.

The first step is in our own mind. We must look at the media and propaganda we are consuming. Our minds are consuming these ideas of hatred and polarization. We need to move towards civil discussion and treating everyone with respect. To do this, we must regulate our media intake. We must turn away from the ideological echo chamber of "news" entertainment and social media around us. Open minded people are bad for business for media outlets or social media groups pushing a certain agenda.

We need a new COMMUNITY FORUM for news, entertainment, and connection with our community.

Every night, Walter Cronkite told you what had happened that day. He did not give you his opinion, he gave you facts. We need the facts about what is going on in our community, and we can only get that in our local newspaper.

Newspapers are embedded in the community. Local news has a much bigger impact in your day-to-day life than national/regional news. City Council, zoning, school board, local elections all have profound effect on our daily life. Engaging with our local newspaper makes our community better. Attend town halls and community events. Help hold our local elected officials accountable.

Local newspapers are the original community forum, disseminating essential information, holding government accountable and engaging the community in civil discourse.

We can ignite a wave of change, but we must start local. Our government and leaders reflect our values. If we want them to change, we must change. Be part of the Community Forum.

Subscribe to your local newspaper today, in print or online. Support Local Journalism, engage in activities that build up your communities.

Brian J. Allfrey - Executive Director, Utah Press Association. He commentary is being shared in newspapers across the nation as part of National Newspaper Week.

Gas prices on the high side as demand grows

Illinois gas prices have risen 5.6 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.32/g Monday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois.

Gas prices in Illinois are 2.5 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand \$1.09/g higher than a year ago. "We've seen very little overall movement in gas prices over the last week with prices remaining near their 2021 highs as crude oil prices remain well above \$70 on sup-

ply concerns and strong global demand," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Illinois is priced at \$2.87/g while the most expensive is \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.12/g. The national average price is unchanged in the last week, averaging \$3.18/g. The national average stands \$1.01/g higher than a year ago. "With energy in high demand ahead of the winter heating season and a surge in global demand due to COVID-induced imbalances, we're not likely to see a meaningful decline at the pump any time soon, but unfortunately, could see prices holding near these levels for the next few weeks."

Circle jam set for Oct. 9

There will be a circle jam on Saturday, Oct. 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. in the hall under the water tower at the Godley Park District, 500 S. Kankakee Street, Godley.

Bring your instrument and play, sing or just enjoy.

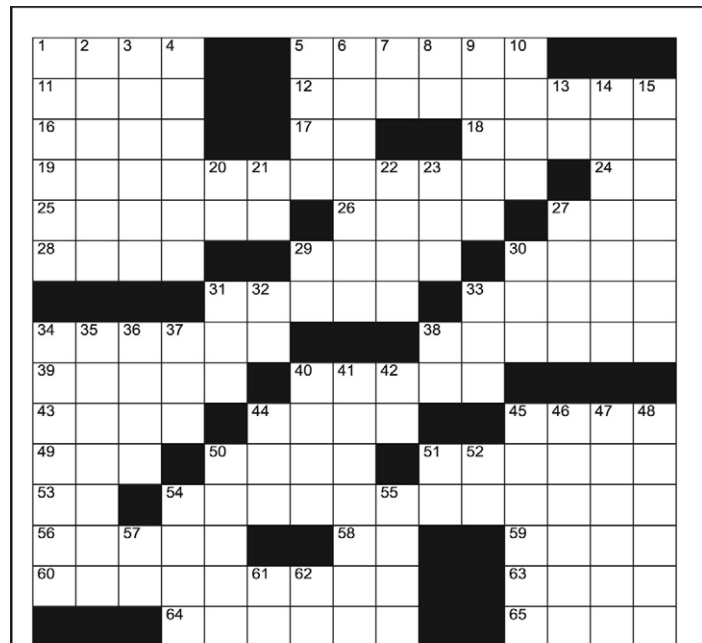
The free event is open to everyone including musicians and listeners. Donations will be accepted.

For more information call Randy Kieffling at 815-237-8139.

Spooky Scavenger Hunt

Wear your favorite costume and search for spooky-tacular items during the Will County Forest Preserve District's "Spooky Scavenger Hunt" in McKinley Woods, Channahon, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tuesdays - Saturdays, and noon - 4 p.m. Sundays, now through Oct. 31.

Some items may be natural, while some may be SUPER-natural! Stop by the Four Rivers Environmental Education Center to get a map of the route and a list of items, free, for all ages.



CLUES ACROSS

- Leg shank
- A way to recognize
- "VeggieTales" character
- Getting out of by cunning
- Mythological mountain
- Atomic #18
- Viscous liquid
- 2010 Denzel film
- 12th star in a constellation
- Made better
- Pouches
- Nervous twitch
- This (Spanish)
- Tennis legend Bjorn
- Hand (Spanish)
- Afrikaans
- Int'l interpreters organization (abbr.)
- Treated with kid gloves
- Leaseholder
- Frogs, toads, tree toads
- Popular dance
- Sailing maneuver: tack & _
- Indicates speed of rotation (abbr.)
- Mark
- Health insurance
- Custom clothing brand
- One who makes suits
- Execute or perform
- Degree of pleasantness when tasting
- Equal to roughly 5.6 bushels
- Blood group
- Imaginary line
- Hopeless
- Darken
- Spoke
- Work units

CLUES DOWN

- A way to fit out
- Football carries
- Force out
- Maintaining equilibrium
- Sealed with a kiss
- Type of container
- Hollywood
- We
- Small freshwater ducks
- Norse personification of old age
- Says who you are
- Candidate
- Sugar found in honey and sweet fruits
- Defunct language (abbr.)
- Take too much
- Iranian province
- Records electric currents
- ___ and feathers
- Beloved Mr. T character
- More (Spanish)
- Beverage
- Promotional material
- Green vegetable
- National capital
- To any further extent
- Swollen, inflamed lymph node
- Anger
- Pound
- Popular Yugo
- Salt of acetic acid
- Millihenry
- Israeli city ___ Aviv
- Make wider
- Drink containing medicine
- Acknowledging
- Private, romantic rendezvous
- Calvary sword
- Disease of the lungs
- 2001 Spielberg film
- Fleshy, watery fruit
- In one's chambers
- Set of information (abbr.)
- Dorm employee
- Indicates position

22nd Wilmington Foundation for Excellence Golf Outing

THANK YOU

The 25th of September was a fine day to play golf again. After having to cancel the 2020 golf outing due to Covid, the course and weather at Cinder Ridge was beautiful! The Foundation hosted 36 teams using a shotgun start. Due to the generosity of the golfers, donors, and outing sponsors, a little over \$24,000 was raised for the Wilmington High School scholarship program.

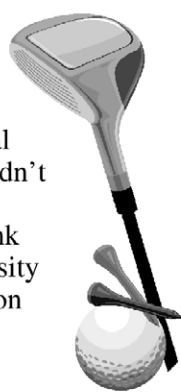
The Foundation wishes to extend a very hearty thank you to Oak Knoll Financial Strategies for all of our prize monies. Big thanks to businesses who sponsored a hole and team(s). They were O'Dekirk, Allred, & Associates, LLC., US Cold Storage, Warren's Collision, Elens & Maichin Roofing and Sheet Metal, and Kuyper Brother's Construction. Other hole sponsors were Clennon Electric, Illinois Bone and Joint Institute, D Construction, Inc., Stumm Insurance, LLC, Mancuso Concrete, DesRochers Backyard Pools, Pro Real Estate, Inc., Loyal Order of the Moose, Symerton Tap and Grill, D'Orazio Ford, Nelly's and Rt. 66 Old School Brewing, Klein, Thorpe, and Jenkins Law Firm, Baskerville Funeral Home, The Flower Loft, Ritchie Grain Elevator, Tuffy's Lounge, Bob Bolser Country Companies, TJ Hansen Country Companies, Professional Benefits Association, The Wilmington City Council, and Healy-Bender Architecture.

Other generous sponsors and donors were Whitmore Ace Hardware, Begler Auto, First Trust Portfolios, Athletico, Ben & Jessica Dietz, Bill Rowland, Wee Sip Liquors, Bill & Rita Francis, Stan & Sandy Roeder, Jeff & Kathryn Henderson, Mike & Jane Matlock, Dean Shepherd-Edward Jones, Dr. Matt Swick, Rose Malone, Kathy Brockett, Curt & Dawn Fox, Don & Nancy Duffy, Van-Mack Electric, Contractors Power and Light, Mitch Hazelton, Riverside Medical Center, First Midwest Bank, The Free Press Advocate, and special thanks to Kent Moon for Lunch on the Turn.

Special shout out to our event photographer, Heidi Kreitz Photography, for our team pictures and golfer candids.

In addition, we also wish to thank the current Foundation Directors who helped organize and work the outing as well as our volunteers of the day who contributed to its success: Tina Brownlee, Lisa Holmes, Kathy Daniels, Stacie O'Brien, Ashlee Geiss, Caitlin Davenport, Clara Smith, and WHS National Honor Society members, Tysen Meents and Chandler Wuchter. Special thanks to Mark and the staff at Cinder Ridge Golf Course. We couldn't have done it without you!

Finally, and foremost, the Foundation extends a profound thank you to the Wilmington community for their support and generosity towards our scholarship program throughout the year, and Wilmington School District 209U for their continued support.



COMET SPORTS

Comets look to cage Bulldogs' big plays to earn playoff berth

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

The Comets cooled in a 21-14 loss to Wilmington on Friday that ended their five-game win streak.

They'll be looking to rekindle the fire Friday at Streator who is coming off of a 26-20 overtime loss to Peotone.

Streator has allowed the second-most points in the conference, giving up 29 points per game. The Comets, on the other hand, have one of the best defenses and best offenses in the Illinois Central Eight conference. They give up 14 points per game while scoring 45.

Streator is currently 3-3 and started the year with wins over East Peoria (14-12), Ottawa (28-23) and Herscher (45-40) before losing their last three games to Lisle (28-14), Manteno 42-28) and most recently to Peotone.

"They just lost to Peotone in overtime too so I'm sure they're going to have a little edge on them," added Johnston. "I think our resilience really showed the second half and after going down and making some mistakes, we were able to turn the page and making it really interesting game last night. I think our kids are going to come out highly motivated and to prove everyone wrong and finish the rest of the year out like we want to. We would like to finish off the season 8-1."

They'll be looking to right the wrong and they have all the tools to do it. The Bulldogs are coached by coach Kyle Tutt and run a spread offense that's main purpose is getting it into the hands of their speedy receivers.

"It's definitely like contrasting styles we're going from the last two weeks to what we're going to see with Streator," said R-C football coach Gavin Johnston. "That's something our kids are more used to and accustomed to so it's going to be about the bounce back."

Their quarterback Christian Benning is a good one as he has thrown for 1,150 yards with 11 touchdowns to just six interceptions.



Photo by Shawn Long

SPINNING OUT OF a tackle is Reed-Custer's Brandon Moorman caught six passes for 60 yards in the Comets game at Wilmington Friday.

Benning (12) has also been used in short yardage running plays, scoring two touchdowns on the ground. Benning threw three touchdowns against Peotone.

His two favorite receivers in the passing game are Aneefy Ford (2) and Cade Stevens (13).

Ford burned the Blue Devil

defense for a 66-yard touchdown. That added to his 12 catch, 155-yard night. He added another touchdown.

Stevens also caught four passes for 82 yards with a touchdown. Benning has been very balanced and doesn't seem like he has a favorite wide receiver. Ford has 23 catches for 477 yards with five touchdowns. His

best game was against Herscher where he caught seven for 285 with three touchdowns. Stevens has caught 19 passes for 460 with five touchdowns. He had his best game against Manteno, catching eight passes for 174 with three scores.

"They do a nice job getting the ball into their athletes' hands," com-

mented Johnston. "It's about suffocating their space. We've got to use our team speed and as always, we want them playing east and west not north and south. We need to make sure we rally to the ball. We've got to get 11 hats to the ball and try to force some turnovers as well."

The Comets are coached by Gavin Johnston and are back in the playoffs for the first time in 12 years.

The Comets beat Elmwood Park (60-0), Arcola (56-34), Lisle (42-14), Manteno (55-7) and Peotone (42-6) before losing to Wilmington. Despite the loss, Johnston says it will get them better.

"We needed a game like that. We needed a little adversity and the most important thing is it wasn't the last game of the year so if that was a play-off game we lost, there's a lot of disappointment so we can take it and learn from it."

They run a spread offense with a quarterback that has a lot of weapons and is a weapon himself.

Reed-Custer QB Jake McPherson (2) has made smart decisions as he has thrown for 677 with 13 touchdowns while also running it for 411 yards with two scores.

McPherson's top targets are Eddie Gad (15-192-3) and Dylan Garrelts (8-164-3). They are both tall and can go up, and get the football. He also looks to Brandon Moorman, who caught six passes for 60 yards against Wilmington.

They like to use Elliot Cassem on the ground. He leads the team with 844 yards rushing with 13 total touchdowns. Another power runner the Comets possess is Jace Christian who has scored six touchdowns already. The whole offense benefits from the offensive line that has helped them average 300-plus yards every week. They're mean and physical up front.

When it comes down to it, the Comets will have to eliminate the big play and establish their running game. If they do that, they will win this game.

The Comets fell to Streator 30-13 in the 2019 season so they will be looking to turn the tables and earn a road win.

Comets earn Wilmington's respect in hard fought game with Wildcats

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

There's no reason to hang heads after losing 21-14 to the No. 1 team in the state.

It was a tough loss Friday for the Comet football team that saw their perfect run after five games suffer its first loss.

The Reed-Custer football team showed Friday they were every bit as good as Wilmington. It was just not enough to win. And Reed-Custer coach Gavin Johnston admitted it was the result of great coaching.

"We just couldn't get the stops when we needed to," said Johnston. "Hats off to Barry and coach Reents over there. They do what they do and there's a reason they're the number one team in the state. They showed us a little something tonight. I'm proud of our kids but obviously it wasn't a good end result."

Their defense played well during the opening drive as they held the Wildcats to a field goal as Allan Richards connected to give Wilmington a 3-0 five minutes in to the game.

Reed-Custer quarterback Jake McPherson did something that he normally doesn't do. He missed his receiver and the Wilmington corner jumped in front of it to give the Wildcats the ball and a chance to go up by 10. That would set up Colin James, who took the hand-off broke a few tackles and scored from 20-yards out to put them up 10-0 with 2:54 remaining in

the first.

Reed-Custer coach Gavin Johnston gives McPherson credit for not letting the interception get to him.

"We have faced zero adversity this season," said Johnston. "It's something we tried to preach this week. It's going to come up. It was a great thing for that to happen. It sucks that we had to lose because of it but I just told the kids we didn't lose our last game."

The Comets needed a spark and got one from the passing game, who led them down the field and Elliot Cassem who would get them in as he found a lane, coasting into the end zone from 19-yards out to make it 10-7. Cassem admitted it was a grind all game long but it felt good once he got into the end zone.

"It was a good game," said Cassem. "We played hard but we weren't there mentally. I felt perfectly fine running the ball. Sometimes there was no hole but sometimes there was a hole and I bounced out and made something happen. And when I busted one and got some points on that board, we all started going again. We've just got to focus mentally and punch it in next time. We missed some blocks."

They were getting the ball to start the half and made the most of it with quick passes, one of which helped them take a 14-13 lead. McPherson found Dylan Garrelts who slipped a tackle and dashed in from 18-yards out to put the Comets on

top.

"In a big game like this it's just those little things," commented Johnston. "They had a kid make a nice play on our last offensive drive as well when we were going down there to tie it up so it's a game of inches at times and unfortunately it wasn't always in our favor."

But Wilmington was not done as they led another long drive that burned up over 10 minutes and Friddle powered his way in from eight-yards out to give them a 19-14 advantage.

Wilmington offensive coordinator Barry Southall elected to keep the offense on the field for the two-point conversion and it worked as Friddle got in for two to put them up by seven with just 7:55 left in the game.

Reed-Custer had one more chance as they drove it down the field and got inside the 30-yard line as McPherson hooked up on a deep ball to Connor Esparza. They were unable to keep it going as the Wildcats ended up stopping them on fourth down.

Wilmington quarterback Ryder Meents took a knee to secure the win for the 'Cats.

The Wildcats led with 281 yards, all of which were on the ground. Along with that, they led in time of possession as well, holding the ball for over 28 minutes of this game. The Comets, on the other hand, held the ball for almost 20 minutes, totaling 279 yards with 142 through the air and 137 on the ground.

Colin James led the 'Cats offense with 128 yards on the ground with a touchdown. Jake Friddle also had a touchdown, rushing for 116. Karsen Hansen (36) and Meents (1) also ran the ball.

McPherson was 13-of-20 for 142 yards with a touchdown and a pick. Brandon Moorman was his main receiver, catching six passes for 60 yards. Eddie Gad hauled in three passes for 43 while Esparza (2-25) and Garrelts (1-18-1) also had catches in the passing game.

For the Comets, McPherson had 68 yards while Cassem had 67 on 12 carries with a touchdown and Moorman also gained two yards.

Both defenses played well. Wilmington's was led by Richards, who collected 15 total tackles. Hansen had nine while Ryan Banas and Brendan Moran had seven. James added five tackles.

The Comet defense was anchored by Jace Christian, who picked up 20 total tackles. Josh Bohac had 12 while Vander Dransfeldt, Noah Windsor and Zach Cieslak were all in on 10. Peyton Bradley had nine while Moorman had eight and Gunnar Berg had seven.

The Comets will look for a bounceback win in a road game with Streator on Friday.



Photo by Alyssa Ohlund

TWO ON ONE—Reed-Custer's Noah Windsor (22) and Jace Christian (23) combine to make the stop of the Wilmington ballcarrier.

RC's Schaefer misses sectional by one stroke

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

The Reed-Custer boys golfers placed ninth during the Seneca Regional with 406 points.

The Comets had a good showing that was better than Streator (426), Ottawa (428), Wilmington (457) and Cullom (Tri-Point) 480. El Paso Gridley ended up winning the event with 323 points while Fairbury Prairie Central (341) Roanoke Benson (341) Seneca (346), Gibson City Melvin-Sibley (355) Dwight (361),

Eureka (363) and Minonk Fieldcrest (373) filled the rest of the first eight placements.

The Comets were led by senior Eli Schaefer, who just missed sectional placement with a score of 90. The last player to make the sectionals had an 89 so he was one stroke off. Noah Ramos from Colfax Ridgeview had the lowest score in those advancing for the boys sectional with a 75.

Aiden Lantka had a 100 while Ben Lepper followed with a 106. Spencer Newborough and Colin Esparza rounded out scoring with a 110, and a 145.

Wilkins out in golf sectional

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

Reed-Custer's Makayla Wilkins competed in the girls golf sectional in Aurora on Monday but did not advance

to state.

Wilkins finishes off her junior year with her second Illinois Central Eight All-Conference nod and her first trip to the Sectional. She'll look out to get back there during her senior year.

At the regional the Comet shot a respectable 101 which was good for sixth and a trip the sectional.

The best score of the contest was a 74 from Pontiac's Dani Schrock.

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Kuban, Comets outpace Plano

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

Danny Kuban had another big game, scoring four goals to help the soccer Comets beat Plano 6-5 on Monday.

Kuban also had an assist in the contest to lead them.

Freshman Jarreck Hirsch and Brassard scored the other two goals. Brassard also had three assists and Sam Dennis added another.

Dennis also picked up 10 saves in goal.

The Comets will host Clifton Central for their senior night on Thursday.

Reed-Custer 1 Coal City 4

The Comet kickers came up short against the Coalers on Thursday.

Mendi Alieu scored the lone goal for the Comets to give them the lead in the first but Coal City came back with one to tie it at half and three more to finish them off. Braxton Brassard had the assist on Alieu's goal.

"I think we played really good collectively as a team," said R-C coach Andy Gleixner. "I think we played two hard games with one of the top teams in Streator on Tuesday and lost to them 1-0 but it was a good loss. Tonight was a good loss too. It's a character builder. We're still sitting here with some injured starters but I thought the guys we put out onto the field played hard. And Sam (Dennis) has played out of his mind the last couple of weeks which bodes well going into regionals. And of course our defense has played well winning some 50-50 balls and it turns things around. We had some opportunities but didn't finish every one of them but we had a strong start against a good team in Coal City.

Dennis continued to make saves with 10 saves, allowing four goals.

"At that point in time, I'm just in auto-pilot," said Dennis. "My body takes over. All I'm thinking about is knowing where my teammates should be and knowing where I should be, and just trying to react the best I can at the right times."

Credit Dennis for only allowing four goals to Coal City who usually scores more.

"It feels really good because I know they were coming into the game expecting to blow us out of the water just with what their record compares to ours but I knew from the beginning of the game that I wasn't going to let that happen. I knew when we got that goal on them in the first half they definitely weren't expecting that but from the beginning of the game I wasn't going to let them score at will. I played my hardest game out here tonight."

Reed-Custer 0 Streator 1

The Comets were unable to get much going offensively in a shutout to Streator on Tuesday.

Despite the loss, Dennis continued to play well in goal with 10 saves.



Photo by Shawn Long

HEADING THE BALL out of Comet territory during Thursday's game with Coal City is defender Josh Sprinkles.



Photo by Shawn Long

SLIDING TO MAKE a save is Reed-Custer's Sam Dennis. Dennis played really well in goal, saving 10 goals during their home match with Coal City.

Lady Comets lose in close conference games

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

The Reed-Custer volleyball team got off to a good start but Manteno recovered, losing 21-25, 9-25 on Thursday.

The Comets started off fast but just couldn't put the

Panthers away.

"The first game I was really happy about," said Reed-Custer volleyball coach Jen Patton. "A lot of the stuff they were doing right on the court like digging up balls and hustling--we worked on in practice so they actually applied it

to that first game. Then, the second game the first server kills us with seven or eight in a row but it's hard for anyone to come back from that. It deflated them early.

The Comets had their attack game working with 10 kills as a team. Alysha Fisher led them with five while Laci Newbrough hammered three and both Kaitlyn Fisher and Mackenzie Keller added another one. Alysha Fisher and Newbrough also had a block while Haley Budick added a block.

Outside hitter Keller has noticed improvements.

"This is the second time playing Manteno and I feel like we improved," said Keller. "Last time it didn't go very well and I feel like we're just improving and working really hard even though we keep losing. I feel like we don't give up and we still go out there and try to play our hardest, and have fun out there with the team and I feel like that is really helping us. I feel like I've improved as a player physically and mentally and I feel like everyone is improving as well."



Photo by Shawn Long

RETURN VOLLEY-Reed-Custer's Gabby Fitzwater keeps the play alive by bumping the ball back over during Thursday's home match with Manteno.

body the best I can. Sometimes it gets hard but I just remember I'm here for a reason," added Keller.

Olivia Smith did a nice job setting it up with nine assists. Smith also had one of the two aces. The other came from libero Gabby Fitzwater.

Shelby O'Reilly played sound defense with eight digs with an ace.

The Comets will be back on the court Thursday at Peotone. They will travel to Princeton for a tournament on Saturday.

Reed-Custer 16, 26, 12 Herscher 25, 24, 25

The Lady Comets rallied for a second game win but ran out of gas on Tuesday.

The Comets' block game was strong as they batted down 11 with Kaitlyn Fisher leading the charge with eight. Alysha Fisher also had four while Budick chipped in three big blocks. Cole added two while Newbrough added another.

Reed-Custer had 65 digs in three sets and were led by Alysha Fisher and Smith, who had 17 and 12. O'Reilly and Fitzwater also had nine digs each.

Smith also delivered six assists and the Comets attack game was lacking with just nine kills. They were led by Newbrough who had three. Cole and Alysha Fisher chipped in two while Kaitlyn Fisher and Smith added another.

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Photo by Shawn Long

FRONT ROW BUMP-Reed-Custer's Hannah Budick keeps play alive during last week's home meet.