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COAL CITY COURANT

COALER SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER • (815) 634-0315



ADALINE DOWLING, vice president of the class of 2024, gives the farewell address and directs graduates to turn their tassels on Sunday.

CCHS awards 130 seniors diplomas

As the Coal City High School class of 2024 sat together one last time, they were reminded that their presence in the school's gymnasium on Sundav afternoon was a celebration of all they had accom-

"It has been a pleasure to see you achieve so many successes inside and outside of the classroom. For all of you, whether your name is denoted in the program or not or if your path to success was filled with bumps along the way. earning a high school diploma today is something you should be proud of. Your class has made a positive contribution to our school community,' said Coal City High School

Principal Art Stafford. "Your willingness to be involved in a multitude of sports, clubs, activities and volunteer organizations is something I have never seen in my 22 years in education.

Out of the 130 members of the class, 35 percent plan to attend a fouryear college or university, 29 percent will enroll in a junior college, 22 percent are entering the workforce, 13 percent are continuing their studies at a technical or trade school, and one student, Dennis Layne Cuddy, has enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and will depart for basic training on

June 24. The Top 25 percent of the graduating class were recognized for their academic success with particular emphasis on those completing their studies in

the Top 10 percent. the Academically,

class was led by valedictorian Dominic Cimino and salutatorian Abby Stiles. Both graduates address their classmates during the ceremony.

Graduates Elsa Bunton, Bradley Burla, Cimino, Adaline Dowling, Amelia Fritz, Alaina Gill, Giselle Guerrero, Mackenzie Henline, Makayla Henline, Ava Houston, Kylie Jackson, Cassidy Jenke, Ryland Megyeri,Ethan Scrogham, Jadyn Shaw, Stiles, Keaton Stroner and Wyatt Wickiser were also recognized for their achievement

Acclaimed Coalers. 'These students have achieved high standards of academic achievement and met all college and career readiness indica-

tors," Stafford said. Following the awarding of diplomas, the graduates heard closing remarks from class secretary/treasurer Giselle Guerrero and vice president Adaline Dowling, who directed classmates to turn their tassels to the left. With that they officially became alumni of Coal City High

School. As the graduates prepared to depart the ceremony, they had one last mark to leave on their school...confetti in all colors of the rainbow shot up to the rafters and rained down on the crowd, the mark of a true celebration.

As the ceremony concluded the graduates, clad in Coaler green robes, rose from their golden chairs and exited the gymnasium to the Coaler fight song.



Coal City School District photo

ETHAN BACH receives his high school diploma from Ken P.

Miller, president of the Board of Education.



GRADUATING SENIORS AT Coal City High School were awarded over \$83,000 in local scholarships. Recipients of the financial scholarships include (from left, row one): Bradley Burla, Max Hone, Kylie Jackson, Mia Ferrias, Avah Housman, Cassidy Jenke, Wyatt Wickiser, Ava Houston, Abby Stiles, Makenzie Henline, Jadyn Shaw, Makyla Henline, Adaline Dowling, Giselle Guerrero, Elsa Bunton, Alaina Gill and Amelia Fritz. Row two: Dominic Cimino, Jim Feeney, Ethan Scrogham, Tanner Phillios, Ryan Endrst, Ryland Megyeri, Colten Sztapka, Tanner Wallace, Joe Watson, Cade Baldauf, Chase Dehler, Gavin Carpenter, Buddy Widlowski, Stephen Byers, Jr., Kevin McConnell and Austin Davy. Not pictured Chesterine Kuhel. See story page 2





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Scholarships totaling over \$83,000 given to CCHS graduates

Coal City High School held its annual Scholarship Awards Night on Wednesday,

The evening was set aside to recognize members of the senior class who have been awarded one of more than 36 local scholarships. In all, 34 members of the class of 2024 received financial awards totaling \$83,193.

Aimee Gerhardt Outstanding Human Scholarship—\$1,000 each—presented to Adaline Dowling and Amelia Fritz Bob's Advanced Auto and Tire Scholarship— \$1,000 each—presented to

Makenzie Henline, Ava Houston and Ethan Scrogham Bank of Pontiac Scholarship—\$1,000—presented to Jim Feeney Coal City Community Unit Association Teacher Scholarship—\$500—presented to Elsa Bunton Coal City Alumni Memorial Scholarship—\$500—presented to Giselle

Coal City Athletic Boosters Three Sport Athlete Scholarship—\$750—presented to Jim Feeney, Makyla Henline, Makenzie Henline, and Colten Stzapka

Coal City Athletic Boosters Scholarship—\$500—presented to Cade Balduf, Stephen Byers, Jr., Enderst, Mia Ferrias, Max Hone, Kevin McConnell, Tanner Phillips, Ethan Scrogham, Jadyn Shaw, Abby Stiles, Joe Watson and Buddy Widlowski

Scholarship—\$500—presented to Bradley Wallace

Coal City Music Boosters Mark Larmon Scholarship—\$500—presented to Chesterine Kuhel

Coal City Music Boosters Rodgers

Cumming Scholarship—\$500—presented to Stephen Byers, Jr. Student Council Coal Citv

Scholarship—\$500 each—presented to Adaline Dowling and Alaina Gill Constellation Scholarship-

presented to Dominic Cimino Cordogan Clark Built Environment Scholarship—\$5,000—presented to Alaina

Grundy County Law Enforcement Managers Association—\$500—presented to Cade Baldauf

Donald L. Pfeifer Sr. Memorial Scholarship—\$250 each—presented to Alaina Gill and Jadyn Shaw Ed Rashke Memorial Scholarship—

\$500 each—presented to Ryland Megyeri Financial Plus Scholarship—\$500—

presented to Tanner Wallace GFWC-IL Coal City Junior Woman's Club Scholarship—\$250—presented to

Joliet Junior College Foundation Scholarship—\$3,200—presented to Alaina

Memorial Kessler-Wharrie Scholarship—\$500—presented to Tanner presented to Kylie Jackson Floyd and

multi-season

landscape.

habitat

dential association trans-

formed their lawn into a

mix of colorful prairie,

woodland and wetland

wildflowers and forbs,

sedges and grasses with

Dennis Swiftdeer Paige's

Zoom presentation demon-

strates how homeowners

can use these ideas to

enhance biodiversity, aes-

thetic beauty, and environ-

mental health in their own

native landscaping consult-

ant, speaker, and author.

This presentation is based

on his book Community

Eco-gardens: Landscaping

with Native Plants. The

subject landscape is a

recipient of the 2011

Conservation and Native

Landscaping Award from

Ortiz files for variance

PUBLIC NOTICE

that a Public Hearing will be held by the Coal City Zoning Board of Appeals

on the Zoning Ordinance on the 3rd day of June, 2024, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the office of the Board of Appeals, Coal City Village Hall, 515 South Broadway, Coal City, Illinois on the fol-

lowing matter:
To consider: A 5' Variance from
10' setback for R.V. Carport

Legal description of property: Quail Run Subdivision Fifth Addition

Lot 16 section 3-32-8

Request for the above appeal

Said Board of Appeals will be at said time and place to hear all persons in support of such matter or any objec-

Published in the Coal City Courant on May 15, 2024.

Felix Township to hold town budget hearing

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

FELIX TOWNSHIP BUDGET

tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Felix Township in the

county of Grundy, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024

the listal year beginning April 1, 2025, will be on file and available for inspection at Felix Township Office, 6525 E. Whitetie Rd. Coal City, Illinois beginning May 9, 2024. Please call 815-634-7288 or e-

mail felixclerk1@gmail.com for a copy

Notice is further given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 6:00 o'clock p.m. Wednesday June 12, 2024, at the Felix Township Office and

that final action on this ordinance will be taken at the June 12, 2024, meet-

John D'Arcy- Supervisor Megan Wharrie- Clerk Published in the Coal City Courant

Felix Township to

hold road district

budget hearing

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FELIX TOWNSHIP ROAD

DISTRICT BUDGET Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for road purposes for the Township of Felix in the county of

Grundy, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024, and ending March 31, 2025, will be on file and available for inspection at Felix

Township Office, 6525 E. Whitetie Rd. Coal City, Illinois beginning May 9, 2024. Please call 815-634-7288 or e-

mail felixclerk1@gmail.com for a copy

Dated: May 9, 2024

or to schedule an appointment.

on May 15, 2024.

Notice is hereby given that a

Persons may appear in person or by agent.

Dated this 10th day of May,

applied for by: De

tion thereof.

At the following address: 895

to build garage

NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

Paige is a naturalist,

restorationist,

interest.

Kim Ferrari Memorial Scholarship— \$500—presented to Joe Watson

Wilmington Masonic Scholarship— \$500 each —presented to Adaline Dowling and Amelia Fritz Ruth Kaplan Scholarship—\$500

each—presented to Mia Ferrias, Avah Housman, Cassidy Jenke, Ethan Scrogham, Joe Watson and Wyatt Wickiser. Scholarships valued at \$1,000 each were presented to Elsa Bunton, Amelia Fritz, Ava Houston, Kylie Jackson and Kevin McConnell. A scholarship valued at \$2,243 was awarded to salutatorian Abby Stiles and valedictorian Dominic Cimino

was presented with at \$3,500 scholarship Suzanne Cassani Memorial Scholarship—\$500 each—presented to Alaina Gill and Wyatt Wickiser

Touchdown Club Scholarship—\$500 each—presented to Gavin Carpenter and Tanner Phillips St. Juvin VFW Scholarship—\$1,000

each-presented to Alaina Gill and Kylie Will County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship—\$1,500—presented to Mia

City Firemen's Association Scholarship—\$500 each—presented to

Alaina Gill and Giselle Guerrero and \$1.000 awarded to Chase Dehler Class of 1984 Scholarship—\$500—

Morris Area Garden Club program on forbs

Norma Calcaterra Family Scholarship— \$1,000 each—presented to Elsa Bunton and Amelia Fritz

Electric/Greg Indicom Scholarship—\$1,000—presented to Ryan

Josh Cumming Memorial Scholarship—\$1,000—presented Adaline Dowling

Matt Vignocchi Memorial Scholarship—\$500 each—presented to Cade Baldauf, Cassidy Jenke and Tanner

Reeves/Baskerville Scholarship—\$500 presented to Alaina Gill Rick Darling Scholarship—\$500—pre-

West Flooring Scholarship—\$1,000-

presented to Joe Watson

Coal City Community Educational Foundation Scholarship — \$500 — presented to Elsa Bunton. Scholarships valued at \$750 each were presented to Kevin McConnell, Adaline Dowling, Cade Baldauf, Tanner Wallace, Colten Sztapka, Alaina Gill, Chase Dehler, Joe Wastson, Amelia Fritz and Tanner Phillips, Receiving \$1,000 scholarships were Ryan Endrst, Jim Feeney, Maxwell Hone, Cassidy Jenke, Kylie Jackson, Giselle Guerrero, Dominic Cimino, Wyatt Wickiser, Austin Davy, Avah Housman, Mia Ferrias and Ethan

April: Showers and mostly mild temps

April's weather was a headed outdoors when

The month started temperate, with a high of 61 degrees on April 1. It was pleasant enough, but then nature decided to play an April Fool Day prank, dumping 2.25 inches of Then Mother Nature

pulled a fast one – reverting to winter – with snow or a snow/rain mix from April 3 to 5, when temperatures nose-dived into the 30s.

On Tax Day, April 15, winter-weary residents

Attorney Meents files Reardanz estate claim

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF HERMAN WALTER REARDANZ,
Deceased; No. 2024 PR 22 **CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given of the death of Herman Walter Reardanz, Letters of Testamentary as Independent Testamentary as Independent Executor were issued on April 25, 2024, to Cathleen Rose Reardanz, whose address is 895 E. Division Street, Coal City, Illinois 60416; whose attorney is Meents Law, P.C., 25158 W. Lanies 60410. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Grundy

County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington Street, Morris, Illinois 60450, or with the representative, or both, on or before November 12, 2024 or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a Claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.
E-filing is now mandatory with

limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit http://efile.illi-noiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more informa-

tion or visit www.illinoislegalaid.org.
Cathleen Rose Reardanz Independent Executor of the Estate of Herman Walter Reardanz

Frank J. Meents 25158 West Eames Street, Unit A Channahon, Illinois 60410 Telephone: (815)534-9515 Facsimile: (815)534-9516

Attorney Code: 06298859
E-mail: frank@meentslaw.com
Published in the Coal City
Courant on Wednesday, May 1, 8 and 15, 2024.

temperatures degrees, and continued to hover in the high 70s and low 80s, before diving back into the 50s and 60s. By April 28, temps rose to nearly 80 degrees and temperatures remained mild until the end of the month.

April showers clocked in at 2.6 inches, with 14 days of measurable precipitation. Total liquid precipita-

tion for the year to date was a mere 9.82 inches The average high for April was 63.7 degrees with

the low at 43.3 degrees.

Attorney Meents files Maland estate claim

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF PETER JOSEPH MALAND,
Deceased; No. 2024 PR 25
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of

Notice is given of the death of Peter Joseph Maland, Letters of Office as Independent Executor was issued on April 25, 2024, to Anthony E. Maland, whose address is 6571 Spruce Lane, Winneconne, Wisconsin 54986; whose attorney is Meents Law, P.C., 25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A, Channahon, Illinois 60410. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Grundy County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington Street, Morris, Illinois 60450, or with the representative, or both, on or before November 12, 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice date is barred. Copies of a Claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory with

limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing visit have trouble e-filling, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/geth-elp.asp or talk with your local circul-clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail.

Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit www.illinoislegalaid.org.

Anthony E. Maland Independent Executor of the Estate of Peter Joseph Maland, Deceased Frank J. Meents 25158 West Eames Street, Unit A Channahon, Illinois 60410 Telephone: (815)534-9515 Facsimile: (815)534-9516

Facsimile: (813)534-95 to Attorney Code: 06298859 E-mail: frank@meentslaw.com Published in the Coal City Courant on Wednesday, May 1, 8 and 15. 2024.

Village of Carbon Hill to host hearing on annexation agreement

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING VILLAGE OF CARBON HILL ANNEXATION AGREEMENT

(GIORDANO & BAP POWER CORP. D/B/A CENERGY POWER)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Village of Carbon Hill Village Board at the Village of Carbon Hill Village Hall, 695 N. Holcomb Street, Carbon Hill, Illinois 60416 on, Tuesday, June 4th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., to consider the terms of a proposed Annexation Agreement between

the Village of Carbon Hill, Scott & Keith Giordano, and BAP Power Corp. D/B/A Cenergy Power, for the following described property:

A portion of the North half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 33 North, Range 8, East of the Third Principal Meridian, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the center of said Section 34, thence

measuring North 1364.5 feet to place of beginning, thence West 120 feet, thence North 100 feet, thence West 60 feet, thence North 50 feet, thence West 150 feet, then South 50 feet, thence West 230 feet, thence North 50 feet, thence West 150 feet, thence South 50 feet, thence West 20 feet, thence North 50 feet, thence West 150 feet, thence North 50 feet, thence West 230 feet, thence South 50 feet, thence West 860 feet, thence North 50 feet, thence West 210 feet, thence North 50 feet, thence West 170 feet, thence North 1421 feet, thence West 190 feet, thence North 550 feet, thence following the center of the main Claypool Levee and Drainage District in an easterly direction for 2660 feet to the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 34, thence South 1275.5 feet to the ace of beginning, (except coal and other minerals underlying said premises and the right to mine and remove the same);

The above described property consists of approximately 41.33 acres +/nd is located on Cameron Street in Felix Township, Grundy County, Illinois (PIN 06-34-101-003).

A copy of the proposed Annexation Agreement is available for inspection at the Village of Carbon Hill Village Hall, 695 N. Holcomb Street, Carbon Hill, Illinois 60416. The Annexation Agreement provides, among other terms, that the entire property to be annexed to the Village of Carbon Hill will be zoned under the M-1 Manufacturing District to construct and operate a Large Scale Solar Energy System under the provisions of the Village of Carbon Hill Zoning Code, and subject to the terms and conditions contained in said Annexation Agreement. Said Annexation Agreement may be amended after Public Hearing and before approval and execution thereof.

All interested parties are invited to attend the Public Hearing, and will be given an opportunity to be heard. Questions or comments may be submitted oralor both

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CARBON HILL VILLAGE BOARD

Published in the Coal City Courant on May 15, 2024

mail felixcierki (@gmail.com for a copy or appointment.

Notice is further given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held on June 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Felix Township Office and that final action on this ordinance will be taken action on this ordinance will be taken at the June 12, 2024, meeting. Dated: May 9, 2024 John D'Arcy – Supervisor

Megan Wharrie – Clerk

Published in the Coal City

Courant on May 15, 2024.

Wilderness Alliance.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 15 at 6 p.m. at the Morris Area Public Library, located at 604 Liberty Street. The session will begin with a brief business meeting and end with a door prize drawing. Attendees will pick up a snack on the way to their seats and enjoy another interesting presentation.

This meeting is cosponsored by the Morris Area Public Library and

Uncle Fuzz's Varmint Removal files as new business

LEGAL NOTICE

Assumed Name Publication Notice

Public Notice is hereby given that on April 30th, A.D. 2024, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Grundy County, Illinois, setting forth names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Uncle Fuzz's Varmint Removal located at P.O. Box 75, Mazon, IL 60444.

Dated this 30th day of April, A.D.

Kay T Olson, Grundy County Clerk Published in the Coal City Courant on Wednesday, May 8, 15 and 22,

and activities are on the schedule for 2024. Why not put a recurring meeting on calendar today? Morris Area Garden Club, MAGC meets the third Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., February through November at Morris Area Public Library, Downstairs Conference Room

Many fine speakers come, expert gardeners to novices, no experience necessary. Come to the next meeting and learn more about the Morris Area Garden Club.

For additional information visit their Facebook page Morris Area Garden MAGardenClub@gmail.co

ATTENTION

VILLAGE OF DIAMOND RESIDENTS NOTICE OF HYDRANT FLUSHING



The Village of Diamond will be flushing hydrants starting May 20 through May 31, **2024.** (weather permitting)

You may experience low water pressure during this period. Questions, call the Village of Diamond 815-634-8149.

A message of gratitude

To all the gracious and giving people who took a part of their Sunday to wish me a happy birthday; your kindness and generous love touched me deeply. I wish to thank each one who personally expressed a greeting and those who sent one or phoned. I treasure all. I have been truly blessed to have lived in Coal City. This community is filled with people who have a beautiful and generous spirit which shines through in so many ways and reflects theirs and God's compassion and love. Thank you for showering me with both. God's blessing to all of you.

> Sincerely and gratefully, Lucille DeGulie



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

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Eric D. Fisher, publisher



INTEGRITY WAS THE character trait students at Coal City Middle School have been focused on for the past month. Students recognized for their character include [from left]: Carson Dearth, Gage Kraus, Grace Sitar, Camden Schott, Derek Maxwell, Melody Leman and Emma D'Orazio. Each of the students received a certificate and gift card. Integrity is the next area of focus for middle schoolers.



Coal City School District photo

IT CAME DOWN to three and with the correct spelling of bionic, fifth grader Kam Gabehart was declared the winner of the 2024 Coal City Intermediate School Spelling Bee. The bee was held Friday, May 10 and moderated by Superintendent Chris Spencer.

Students of the week



COAL CITY MIDDLE School has announced its Students of the Week for the week of May 13. The honored students were selected by their teachers for the weekly recognition. Honored were [from left, front]: Aiden Carrigan, nominated by Mrs. Roseland; Mykila Hess, nominated by Mrs. Moir and Tori Harrington, nominated by Mrs. Munsterman. Not pictured is Branna Flores, nominated by Mrs. Cade.



COAL CITY MIDDLE School has announced its Students of the Week for the week of May 6. The honored students were selected by their teachers for the weekly recognition. Honored were [from left, front]: Jonna Allen, nominated by Mr. Brimm and Grace Ferenzi, nominated by Mrs. Fincher. Not pictured is Ashlyn Siron, nominated by Mrs. Sandburg.



COAL CITY MIDDLE School student Cele Gordon was nominated by her choir director Mr. Kren to serve as Student of the Week.

Coal City Public Library News

calendar at ccpld.org for a description of the events and to register.

Check out our digital services available 24/7 on our website www.ccpld.org.

In-Person Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-10 a.m. First half hour is cardio and the second half is weights, resistance band and strength training.

Thursday, May 16-We

Check online event Remember, 1 p.m. Michele Micetich will discuss the topic of the impact of weather.

Friday, May 17-Bingo,

Fun Fridays - 3 p.m. Saturday, May 18-Reading Summer Challenge "Adventure Begins at Your Library begins Saturday, May 18 and ends Monday, July 15 for all ages. Register via the Beanstack app or stop by

CCPLD to register for the

Challenge. Registration for Summer classes and events

Laki Hawaiian Ice Truck, 12-6 p.m. in CCPLD's parking lot. They will have over 20+ flavors of shaved ice for sale. They take cash or card.

Monday, May 20-Mahjong, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, May 22-Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) - 9 a.m.-

Grundy County Health Department to host annual Senior Expo

empowering seniors.

Calling all who are ageing in the Grundy County Area, The Grundy County Health Department Senior Expo is right around the corner. The buzz hasn't stopped since our first Senior Expo. With the attendance of over 1,300 persons, more than 75 vendors, and hours of fun! Our excitement is palpable as we gear up for a grand celebration! Your valuable contributions are truly appreci-

Reflecting on our journey, the team and I once orchestrated Older American Month Celebrations with an annual budget of one hundred dollars. Gratefully, we have hosted many seniors, marking the inception of what has now blossomed into a vibrant expo featuring bingo all day, enticing prizes, raffles every half appearances county celebrities, and a well-stocked cash bar.

We have heard that there are too many fairs in Grundy- that did not deter the Senior Division. There is a notion that big ideas are for big cities- that did not deter us either. Instead, it has motivated us to continue. And so, I welcome everyone to join the team and I, in what has been the best idea yet.

It brings me great joy to extend a warm welcome to our annual Senior Expo. A heartfelt thank you to all who lent their support in Gore 2023. For those who missed out last year, make sure to mark your calendars, as we embark on another year of

The Grundy County Health Department Senior Expo will be held at Jennifer's Gardens, 555

Wednesday May 22, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event will once again be free to all who are ageing. To reserve your tickets please find our event on EventBright.com or call us at 815-941-3121.





Benson Insurance Agency, Inc.



Coal City Coalers Team Pride #1 Sports Fans Weekly Internet Winner



Breanna Clark Winner of a large 2-item Pizza, carry-out only

Must redeem by May 20, 2024

"Proud to be serving the community for the past 39 years!"

We will have a new Internet winner each week throughout the school year, so watch the Courant each week for the lucky Coaler Fan Winner.

"Support Coal City High School Athletes"

Diamond Mayor cuts ribbon for Surface Ride



THE GRUNDY COUNTY Chamber of Commerce & Industry celebrated Surface Ride Shop's two-year anniversary in Diamond with a ribbon cutting April 24, with the Surface team and Mayor Terry Kernc (third from left).



"Proud to be serving the community for the past 39 years!"



ERSARY SPECI

1 X-Large - 2 Topping Pizza XL Geo's Nuggets, FREE Double Chocolate Caramel M&M's Gourmet Brownie

& a FREE 2-Liter of Soda

Not valid with any other offer. Plus sales tax.

Order online at www.geospizza.net

Free Press Newspapers readers

To voice your opinion 24 hours a day, go to www.freepressnewspapers.com or call 815-634-0317 Sound-Off is a 24-hour phone line provided to give readers a chance to voice their opinions. The Free Press Newspapers reserves the right to edit remarks for taste, length, personal attacks, racism,

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

Submissions by email to: courant@fpnusa.com with "soundoff" in the subject line or visit www.freep

ressnewspapers.com, or call 815-634-0317. Please state the town in which you are calling from or in regards to. Mail comments to Sound-Off, 271 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481. The can be only one submission of 250 words or less per person during any given week.

Cicada conspiracy

sending the cicadas. I heard if you kill them you can hear the technology and Tesla being destroyed if you crush it.

How government functions

SHADOW LAKES—People can blame the president for taxes being too high and they can complain that they don't like the way tax money is being spent. But the reality is that our Constitution says that only Congress can tax the people. They set the federal tax bracket. Also not a penny of your tax dollars can be spent without Congress approving it. And who controls Congress right now? The Republicans aka the MAGA party. It's a shame how easily people can be misled because they don't know how our government functions.

Your tax bill

WILMINGTON—In response to the woman with a small, old house on Water Street who saw a big jump on her property taxes. Just look at your tax bill. There are 12 taxing bodies including the school, park, city, library and townships dipping into your checkbook. Then add in the junior college, forest preserve, county, countywide mental health district (thanks to naive voters) and more. Look at your total paid to the city of Wilmington and you'll see that 46 percent of that total is going to pensions and still Illinois has the worst pension debt in the country. How about our roads in town. You have two taxing districts—the city road/bridge fund and Wilmington township road fund—collecting taxes and still our roads are mostly in bad shape. When was the last time you got help from Wilmington Township. Who even knows what they do besides occupy a building that could be private and generate more property taxes. They spend money on new computers, new trucks and other road equipment but do you ever see them going around town filling in potholes? No, the city does that so why are we being double taxed? If you want to get your taxes lowered, fight to get rid of township government. We don't need it. What purpose do they serve? Illinois has almost 8,000 units of taxing districts, that's the most of all states, in fact 2,000 more than the next highest state. Democrats have set it up this way so they can keep state and local workers voting for them. It's time to start having fewer taxing districts. They have overlapping services and that just costs us all more on our property taxes. Mine has gone up \$1,200

since two years. Time to leave Illinois. No more toilets

COAL CITY-Last weekend i went down state to go fishing. Drove on I-57, passed three rest areas. Two of the three were closed. I guess Governor Pugsly took all the toilets out so the state wouldn't have to pay taxes on the property!

Where is common

ELWOOD-As you watch this trial play out in New York, you have to ask, What is the Crime?" It started as a misdemeanor that the DA twisted into a felony being tried in a district that is predominantly liberal Democrat. And it's being tried by a judge that is really biased and a huge Joe Biden supporter. In addition, there is supposedly a second crime that

no one has articulated yet. Unbelievably, Trump is under a gag order from that judge to keep him from exercising his Second Amendment right to free speech. Almost every legal pundit, including Democrat Alan Dershowitz, agrees it'll get tossed o out on appeal. So why is it that the taxpayers are footing the bill for such a kangaroo court trial? Unless you're an idiot, it's clear that this sham trial is an attempt to sway the election for Biden. And that, my friends, is exactly what Trump is on trial for attempting to sway an election (over a minor clerical error that should be a misdemeanor. It's not against the law to pay for a person's silence. It's done every day - corporate officers, salespeople, government workers - most all sign non-disclosures as a condition of employment. This travesty against Donald Trump is the worst example of illegally scheming to sway an election. Taking what might be a misdemeanor and marshaling the weight of the full Justice Department in cahoots with the Executive Branch, or Biden, and publicly humiliating and denying Constitutional rights to one of our more prolific citizens because he's running for office against Biden is criminal. Like Trump or not, this is wrong.

Demonizing migrants

SHADOW LAKES— Is there an illegal immigration problem in the USA? Yes there is but it's nothing new, this problem has been going on for decades. But in the recent years politicians have learned to use it as a tool to get voter support. Unfortunately some of these politicians are using fear tactics and demonizing migrants in total disregard of the damage they are causing. If today all illegal people where deported, would we be paying less taxes tomorrow? Unfortunately not. We need to remember that migrants are human beings like us nothing wrong with knowledge that there is a migration problem, but a humane solution needs to be

The big spenders

SHADOW LAKES— You want to see who is running the country? Watch TV, the most expensive ads are insurance companies and Medicare ads used to end by March this is May and they still run them. So do something about insurance companies. Dan Hill

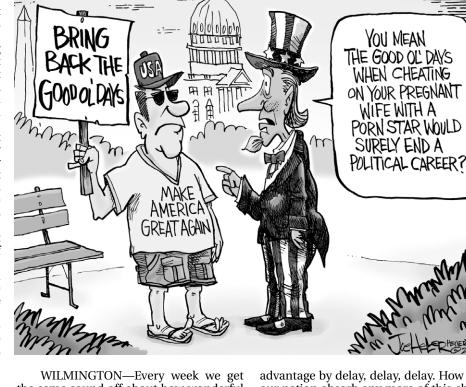
All for votes

WILMINGTON- Joe Biden told the world we have Israel's back, we stand with Israel. The next day he cancels military aid that Congress voted on, why? Because he's loosing the youth vote, the college kids. Like always it is about the polls and Jewish always vote Democrat anyway.

Giving to protesters

DIAMOND—The news media gave a list of donors financing the protesters against Israel on the college campuses and to my surprise they named the governor of Illinois. If he has been donating funds for the protesters then this man that is our governor has not just broke his oath of office to protect Americans but he should be immediately removed from office for aiding criminal activity and should be denied any future ability to run for office again. Why doesn't our governor revoke sanctuary state status and perform his duties instead of catering to the people in the U.S. illegally?

Law breaking migrants



the same sound off about how wonderful illegals are so let me reply. My brother's car was hit by a wonderful illegal that that has no driver's license, no insurance, he was given a court date and released with no bail and to no one's surprise he disappeared. The officer said this is going on all the time. They shoplift, break into garages and they know just how much they can steal without getting locked up. Face it, they aren't coming to Chicago to pick fruit.

The legal way

DIAMOND-Just a comment to the writer of "Migrants are vital." This may be a true statement but we do have laws in this country. Everyone says "Trump is not above the law." This is another true statement. But you believe people sneaking into our country, breaking our laws are above the law? I'm sure there are plenty of people petitioning to get in legally and they are welcome as far as I'm concerned. If we need millions of people to do the jobs you stated, I'm sure our government can get plenty the legal way. This is all a ploy for certain politicians to get votes.

Cruelty is not a virtue

BRAIDWOOD-Have you heard of the truth that goes as follows? There's no such thing as a bad dog, but instead only dog owners who don't know how to love a dog, handle a dog or train a dog. Governor Kristi Noem is just such a dog owner and hopefully will never have the opportunity to commit the same cruel act of killing another dog. And because Kristi Noem has such a mean streak as she describes by her own admission and considers it to be a virtue, she has no place in the White

Indeed a curse

WILMINGTON-Is there any doubt that our democracy is under siege by Trump and his cabal of MAGA extremists who declare that they will support the outcome of the election only if Trump is the winner? Buckle up, Buttercup, because if Trump loses, his vengeful wrath could strain our republic beyond its breaking point. As it is, the courts are huffing and puffing these days trying to give Trump his due process which Trump treats with contempt and distorts to his

advantage by delay, delay, delay. How can our nation absorb any more of this chaos and havoc? And then again if Trump wins, he promises to dismantle parts of the Constitution, declare himself dictator and our amazing democracy would be gone. What then? Those who are big shots and super-rich fat cats could buy favors like the oligarchs in Russia and other dictatorships around the world. But for everyday people like you and me there would be nothing left but the crying and gnashing of teeth. Trump is indeed a curse to America. Irene

Orders, not laws

SHADOW LAKES—Presidential executive orders are not laws. They are not permanent and they are limited in their powers. They have to be within constitutional guidelines. For example the president can not issue an executive order to change the Constitution or to change federal tax brackets. Only Congress can do that. Executive orders are mostly used to implement federal programs. There is no such thing as an open border, there are over 20,000 border patrol agents patrolling and guarding the United States border every single day.

With free handouts

WILMINGTON—Millions of illegal immigrants have crossed our Southern border the last three years. Government policy has allowed them free cell phones, free housing, free health insurance and more. Where does the government get the money? The only place to get it is from the taxpaying U.S. citizens. With expenses paid, these illegals may not even need to work, but if they do, the jobs are low paying usually. This helps employers and the big corporations. The idea that U.S. citizens don't want low paying jobs may be because of the very low pay. Perhaps the employers could increase the pay for our citizens. So many of our good manufacturing high paying jobs have gone to China with very low wages also. Our citizens deserve a fair playing field. They are the ones paying taxes and paying all the bills while dealing with inflation. It is hard to see how illegal immigration is at all vital for our economy. Let's follow legal immigration laws only.

Gas prices dropping before driving holiday

per gallon.

Average gasoline prices week and stands at \$3.90 in Illinois have risen 1.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.89/g Monday, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378

stations in Illinois. Prices in Illinois are 7.7 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 1 cent per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 4.6 cents in the last

prices Wilmington were \$3.61/g to 3.93/g. In Braidwood, expect to pay \$3.93/g across the board. Coal City, (without the Will County gas taxes) ran \$3.94/g across town. Further afield, Morris came in at \$3.59 to \$3.99, and Bourbonnais ran

\$3.83/g to \$3.99/g. "Price drops could \$2.44/g.

potentially accelerate after last week's jobs data shows the economy continues to cool off," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy'

According GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Illinois was priced at \$2.85/g Monday while the most expensive was \$5.29/g, a difference of most

Charity Car Show to Benefit Operation Christmas Child

Cruise on over to the First Baptist Church of Coal City's Charity Car Show on Sunday, May 19, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 pm. The event will take place in the church parking lot at 4470 E. Rt. 113 (1 mile west of Coal City High School).

Prizes will be awarded for Best of Show People's Choice and Best of Show Exhibitor's Choice. There is a \$20 entry fee per car.

The church will also

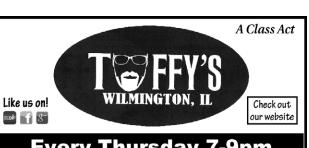
Broadband

be serving roast beef sandwiches for lunch as well having several wonderful Silent Auction items to bid on, including Dollywood Tickets! There will be a Bake Sale with mouthwatering baked goods and the FBC Praise Team will be providing uplifting music for attendees.

100% of all donations will go towards FBC's mission to send 500 shoe boxes to children in need

across the world through Operation Christmas

Child. If you have questions about the Car Show, contact Sam Payne at 815-263through or Messenger @ Sam Scott Payne. Questions about Operation Christmas Child or the Silent Auction, contact the church at 815-634-2654. Please leave a mes-



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Help me in my present and urgent petition. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. St. Jude pray for us and all who invoke your aid.

Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys and Glorias. Publication must be promised. This Novena has never been known to fail.

I have had my request granted.

Publication promised.

Now is not the right time for Chicago's Mayor Johnson to be asking for \$1 billion

Illinois Statehouse appeared to be girding itself for Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson before his Springfield visit last week. After dra-

matically announcing to Rich Miller Chicago reporters earli-

er in the week that the city's families are "owed" \$1 billion from state government, particularly education, Gov. JB Pritzker sent two distinct messages to the building. First, Pritzker notified

state agency directors to start preparing for \$800 million in budget reductions next fiscal year because of lack of legislative support for the governor's revenue proposals. The directors were told to focus on "grant programs and other discretionary spending that ha increased in recent years." has Then, the governor's

office issued an extensive background memo laying out how much more money Chicago's school system has received from the state, including a \$265 million increase in its annual General Revenue Fund outlays since Fiscal Year 2019, which worked out to a \$1,542 per student hike, or a 30 percent increase. . The annual Early

Childhood Block Grant appropriation was increased by \$66.4 million

money for teacher penand enough money from the state's evidence-based funding formula to where Chicago Public Schools is now funded better than more than 400 Illinois schools

and has moved out of the critically underfunded Tier One level to Tier Two.

And then, the Senate Committee, Executive tightly controlled by Senate President Don Harmon, unanimously approved Harmon's bill opposed by Mayor Johnson to protect selective enrollment schools from closure, admissions entrance changes and disproportionate budget cuts until a fully elected school board is

The measure (HB303) was scheduled for a hearing before Johnson made known that he was coming to Springfield. But instead of delaying passage out of deference to Johnson, it was put on the agreed bill list, which was quickly zoomed to the floor without debate, where it may be amended. Perhaps sensing the

headwinds, Johnson's lob-bying crew belated distributed a one-page memo to legislators containing far more modest budget requests than Johnson had previewed to city reporters, and nothing about direct

public school funding.

The mayor's office asked for a little more money from the Local Government Distributive Fund, some lead service line replacement debt forgiveness and more money for lead removal from licensed daycare centers, a change in state law to allow the city to collect more for its 911 services, and money to replace what ultimately turned out to be a federal budget cut for domestic violence hotline funding.

As a result, the mayor did not bring up the \$1 billion "owed" for schools during meetings with any of the leaders, I'm told. Instead, he focused on that one-pager, which in one instance was printed from my website to be used during the discussion. The governor's office

starts putting the budget together in the fall, and work through February to craft it. That's the best time period to initial budget make requests. A mayoral visit to

Springfield in May should be for a victory lap, or to shore up last-minute support for the budget. Mayor Johnson was

asked by a reporter if maybe he should be in town more often or make his budget requests earlier in the process.

"Well, look, we're at the right time," Johnson said. "As you all know, you all have been covering Springfield for a very long time, you know when stuff gets done. So we're down at the right time."

office things are finalized. The governor, advocacy groups and legislators have been pushing their own budgetary priorities for weeks, even months. Coming to town with two weeks left can mean settling for leftovers, and if the budget is as tight as the governor says, there may not be any leftovers.

Meanwhile, Chicago city council's Black Caucus was in Springfield the same day for a longplanned lobby day. For whatever reason, the mayor did not attempt to coordinate with the caucus after he belatedly announced his Statehouse trip. That seems

The mayor also held a

Springfield press conference. Asked about education funding, the mayor said he wanted to push for that \$1 billion over time. When asked whether his proposals would "jump the line" ahead of other school districts, Johnson said, "This is not a zero-sum game. There's more than enough for everyone."

Except there's not. which is what the mayor's top allies at the Chicago Teachers Union will be told when they visit Springfield en masse for their own lobby day to demand that billion dollars the mayor didn't bring up.

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

Stateville Center may close as early as September under Pritzker's prison plan

BY HANNAH MEISEL CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Stateville Correctional Center in Crest Hill could close as early as September under a plan laid out by Gov. JB Pritzker's administration on Friday.

A 12-member panel on the General Assembly's Government Forecasting and Accountability face a mid-June deadline to make a recommendation on the governor's plan to close and rebuild Stateville and Logan Correctional Center in Lincoln, IL.

administration can go as money is built into the state's next budget.

"I want everybody to understand that (any) recommendation that comes from this commission here is advisory," COGFA Co-Chair Dave Koehler, a Democratic state senator from Peoria, said Friday

Mike Newman, the deputy director of AFSCME Council 31, the union that represents some 80,000 state workers including most employees within the Department of Corrections, expressed strong reservations about Pritzker's plan to close the two prisons.

The governor's administration recently provided

Prosorving

more details on the plan, Logan Correctional Center, one of only two women's prisons in Illinois, may be rebuilt the grounds Stateville, which would expand the state's current operations into a multifunctional campus. Local elected officials

joined organized labor in pushing back against the plan for Logan CC, citing economic impact on the rural area north of Springfield.

Asked about that pushback week, Pritzker said state and local But no matter what the officials should focus more ahead with its plans so long those in the new Ferrero factory Bloomington, where the governor traveled Tuesday for a ribbon cutting.

"And I think that really is the future for most places across the state, to not rely upon a state-run facility that's a prison," he said. "That can't be a great economic growth strategy for the area.

The governor announced the prison closure plan in March, 10 months after the administration received a report it

deferred maintenance of state prisons.The report deteriorating detailed buildings, compromised water supplies, infestations and all manner of recommended repairs and upgrades. including to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The total price tag to fully address those deficiencies would cost an estimated \$2.5 billion, according to the report. The costly repairs

needed to remedy all of the issues identified by the CGL report and the structural engineering survey still will panel decides, the Pritzker on "attracting great new not resolve the design defi-administration can go private sector jobs" like ciencies present in the 1920s structure," IDOC Acting Director Latoya Hughes said of Stateville. Hughes and

deputies did not dispute lawmakers' assertions that the agency is aiming to Stateville September, though they did acknowledge the fiveyear timeline to fully phase out the dilapidated prisons could be in flux.

Logan Correctional Center, meanwhile, would be kept open as long as possible, Hughes said, in order to accommodate hours," he said.

had commissioned on the both current inmates and staff. When inmates are moved out of their current facilities ñ whenever that might be ñ IDOC will have to spend nearly \$7 million to place them elsewhere, according to a report the agency filed recently.

AFSCME has pushed back on the plan since it was announced in March, and Friday was no different. Newman repeatedly cast doubt on IDOC's internal estimates of both costs and jobs.He threw cold water on the agency's assurances that current prison employees would be guaranteed job transfers with minimal disruption to their lives, citing the long distances some may need

to drive to a new facility. "And even if there are vacancies at facilities like Sheridan or Pontiac, those are very likely too difficult a commute for Stateville employees, given especially that many are already traveling from Chicago and its suburbs, that most are frequently working overtime, which can make their workday as long as 16

Visit Goose Lake Prairie June 1 for Cabin Fest

The Cragg Cabin on the grounds of the Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area near Morris will serve as the backdrop for the Cabin Festival. The event, sponsored by the Goose

Lake Prairie Partners, will get underway at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 1. Programs and activities will continue to 3 p.m.

Originally located in Mazon, the reconstructed Cragg Cabin came to the park in 1975.

During the Cabin Festival, visitors to the park will have an opportunity to step inside and view the interior of the cabin. Prairie Partners as they re-enact life on the

prairie in the 1830s. There will be a food tent, mountain dulcimer music, children's games and

The event is free and open to the public. Visitors are encouraged to bring cam-

The park is located at 5010 N. Jugtown Road north of Coal City. For more infor-

mation visit the Prairie Partner's website at http://www.gooselakeprairie.org/craggcabinfestival.htm

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BY JIM TALAMONTI THE CENTER SQUARE

Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias is

urging residents to get Real After May 7, 2025, federal law will require domestic travelers on commercial

flights to have Real IDcompliant identification. According Giannoulias, less than 24%

of state residents have Real ID cards. "Our primary goal is getting the word out, so that a year from now, we're

not experiencing crazy

lines at our DMV facilities

and major issues at our airports," Giannoulias said.

Drivers encouraged to get Real ID card

In launching the "Get campaign, Giannoulias said the message to Illinoisans is clear.

"Don't procrastinate, and get real. Get real, real ID, get it?" Giannoulias

Transportation $\bar{Administration}$ Security Federal Security Director Jim Spriggs said the 9-11 Commission recommended that the federal government set security standards for drivers licenses and ID

"The idea is that we want to know who is board-

ing our aircraft, and we want to verify that the person standing at the checkpoint is who they say they are," Spriggs said. Giannoulias launched

the "Get Real" campaign to create awareness. "We strongly encour-

age residents to get real before the deadline, to avoid any added headaches at our airports or at our Giannoulias said. Travelers will still be

able to board flights with a valid U.S. passport, which is already Real ID-compli-

Baseball, the sport that brings people together

ELAINE FISHER-OHLUND FOOD FOR THE SOUL

It's easy to love baseball. It's America's pastime. It's not just a sport, but a cultural legacy, a connector of generations and a reflection of America's past, present and future.

If you attend a high school game, you'll see moms and dads, grandmas and grandpas relaxing in the sun enjoying the game. Little siblings gather on blankets playing Play-Doh and eating yummy snacks. Pets are sometimes pres-

At Wilmington home games there is even a favorite dog, Diesel, that all the little ones take turns walking. No matter how tired old Diesel looks, he is willing to take a walk

Lexi Liarmatis last week brought a squirrel she and Reese Van Duyne saved from a fallen nest. Most moms were hesitant to even look at the creature curled up in a blanket while the little ones anxiously lined up to hold him. Happy to report he's thriving and doing well.

The ballpark, be it baseball or softball, is a fun place to gather with others. I especially enjoy being around the grandparent crew as much as I enjoy watching the game.

Our grandparent crew starts with Grandma B. who is not afraid to speak her mind with strong words. She will let the announcer know when she's not a fan of the music. The funny thing is she's right, you can't understand

one word of it. She also likes to yell things like, "can we get a hit already" to the next batter. But she's grown on me because she is just as



THE GRANDPARET CREW watches a Wilmington baseball game last week. They include (from left) Grandpa S., Grandpa M., Grandma T., Grandma B. and Grandpa B.

loud as when they make a great play.

She reminds me of my grandmother, who encouraged her family to pick up and move to a small town to buy a newspaper at the age of 55. From what I understand Grandma B. did a lot for this community. She is strong, honest

what we are all thinking. Grandpa S. doesn't really say much. He's a quiet man but I heard he was one hell of an athlete

and out spoken. And really

she's just saying out loud

growing up. Now I know every team has a Grandma T. Grandma T. is the grandma that would give a hug to ever batter that struck out if she could. I wouldn't be surprised is she bakes a dessert for the team to pass out on the bus for the ride home, win or loose.

I know for a fact she's a great seamstress. If you need a letterman jacket or prom dress altered, she's the team grandma to go see. She always underprices her work, but it's obivious she doesn't do it for the money. She does it

because she wants to be helpful. She is the grandma that is about smothering these boys with love.

Grandpa M. was a coach for over 26 years and his son has followed in his footsteps. If he coached anything like his son does, he was a great coach. And I would put money on it that his grandson will also one day be a coach.

Grandpa M. is definitely the loudest but I personally think he gives solid advice. However his son who is a coach to the team sometimes doesn't feel the way. They'll exchange words between them as their wives cringe in the stands. But us bystanders understand and find it almost entertaining.

Grandpa B. never misses game. I realize now I have been on multiple travel baseball vacations with this man and probably have only said 20 words to him. He has put his time in for his grandson.

I asked the grandparents how many hours they think they have spent at their grandson's baseball games. They came up with the number of 2000 hours.

That's 120,000 minutes or 83.3 days. They have put in their time, punched their cards and that's why they deserve the best seat in the house, right behind home plate.

Here is a recipe from Grandma T's kitchen, pizza casserole. It's a delicious recipe that I have had the pleasure of tasting and can be prepped before a game, then popped in after a win for a comfort food meal. Ingredients • 1 box of penne pasta

and drained, can add Italian seasoning and garlarge jar of

1/2 Italian sausage (brown

spaghetti sauce • 1 can of pizza sauce • 1 can of cheddar

• 1 lb of ground meat,

cheese soup • 2 cups of mozzarella

Directions

Mix sauces, beef and noodles. Pour half of the mixture into a 9x13 pan. Cover with 1 cup of the mozzarella cheese. Repeat and layer. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.





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United Methodist to host blood drive

Methodist Church (located Coal City), will host a

United at 6805 E. McArdle Road in

Community Blood Drive in conjunction with Versiti Blood Center on Tuesday,

June 4 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Anyone willing to donate blood should contact Karen Hart at 708-217-5808 to schedule a preferred time or register

online at versiti.org/il.

Walk-ins are also welcome, but appointments are recommended.

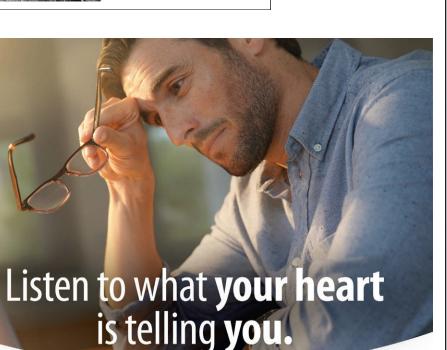
Bring a photo ID, eat a good meal, and be sure to drink plenty of water before donating. Please consider giving blood, one pint of blood can save up to three lives.

lot of the history he has

Ed Menz observes 93rd birthday



Edward Menz, of Wilmington, celebrated his 93rd birthday on Monday. He holds his driver's license from 1955 and tells us a witnessed. When Ed was born the worst drought in U.S. history, known as the Dust Bowl, was taking place. Also the Empire State Building was completed and first opened although it was still tough to find a job with 16.3% unemployment. The year 1931 was also the year Al Capone was sentenced to 11 years in prison for tax fraud.



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OBITUARIES

Edward D. Nowman

COAL CITY—Edward Nowman, 76, and a lifelong resident of Coal City, passed away peacefully on Thursday, May 9, 2024 at Morris Hospital.

Born April 18, 1948, in Joliet, Edward DeWayne Nowman was the son of Othie E. "Pat" and Anna A. (Lankers) Nowman. From his earliest days on South Kankakee Street in Coal City

Edward's roots ran deep in the soil of his hometown. He embarked on his educational journey at Assumption Parochial School, later graduating with the class of 1966 from Coal City High School, where he undoubtedly left an indelible mark.

Following his graduation, Edward pursued his calling in healthcare, earning his nursing assistant education. By night, he dedicated himself to serving others at St. Joseph Hospital as a CNA, while by day, he immersed himself in the vibrant world of flowers and antiques at Chada's Greenhouse, under the mentorship of Eddie Chada. It was during this time that Edward's fascination with antiques blossomed into a lifelong passion.

After his tenure at St. Joe's, Edward transitioned to private home healthcare before fully committing himself to the antique business. His love for antiquities and collectibles led him to establish Mill Race Emporium Antiques in downtown Wilmington, where he shared his treasures with the community for many years. Even after the closure of his retail space, Edward remained a stalwart presence in the antique world, continuing to buy and sell collectibles online until recent years.

Beyond his business endeavors, Edward was a custodian of local history, deeply involved with the Carbon Hill Museum, where he served as treasurer, and he was a life member of the Wilmington Historical Society. His contributions to preserving Coal City's heritage, including artifacts displayed at the Coal City Library, underscored his commitment to honoring the past. Edward's passion for history was infectious, as evidenced by his engaging presentations at the public library and museum, where he shared his expertise with regular "Show and Tell" pro-

Edward traversed far and wide in search of hidden treasures. His keen eye for antiques was matched only by his quick wit and culinary talents, particularly his renowned chocolate chip

cookies, which brought joy to all who sampled them. Nowman Edward

behind a legacy far richer than any antique collection-a legacy of kindness, knowledge, and cherished memories. Though he may be gone from our sight, his spirit lives on in the hearts of those fortunate enough to have known him. In celebrating Edward's life, let us also celebrate the enduring legacy of community, passion, and generosity he leaves

Survivors include his sister, Patti (Lori Carlson) Nowman, of Morris, and several cousins as well as a host of friends. Edward was preceded in death by his

parents, and his life-long best friend, Mary Per Edward's wishes, cremation rites

have been accorded. A private family graveside service was

held in Braceville-Gardner Cemetery, where Edward was laid to rest with his par-A special thank you is extended to Dr. Daniel Jurak and the staff at Morris

Hospital for the exceptional care given to

Edward in the days past. Your thoughtfulness and dedication will always be remem-Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Edward's memory to the Carbon Hill Museum, 875 N. Second Street, Carbon Hill, IL 60416 or to Coal City

Fireman's Association, P.O. Box 219, Coal City, IL 60416. Family and friends are encouraged to log onto www.ReevesFuneral.com to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Edward's memorial page online

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

through social media.

Jessica Cunning

Essex—In Loving Memory of Jessica Lynn Cunning.

With heavy hearts, we announce that Jessica Lynn Cunning, the beloved infant daughter of Brandon and Lauren (Homerding) Cunning, earned her angel wings on May

Though her time with us was too brief, Jessica left an indelible mark on the hearts of all who loved her before they knew her.

Survivors include her parents, Brandon and Lauren of Essex; maternal grandparents, Sharon Homerding and Roger Homerding; maternal great grandmother, Pauline Homerding; aunts and uncles: Shelly Allen, John Allen (Michelle), Sarah Cunning, Dana Buzzard, Theresa (Dustin) Streff, Christopher Homerding (Kirstyn) and Allison Homerding.

paternal grandparents: Marla Allen and Harold Thomas Cunning and her uncle, Matthew Homerding.

The family will receive friends for a visitation at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 Kahler Road East Wilmington on Saturday, May 11, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. until time of funeral service 10:00 a.m. Dennis Papp

Southfield Church in Channahon will

Burial will follow in Oakwood Cemetery on Essex Road in Braidwood.

Family and friends are encouraged to log onto www.baskervillefuneral.com to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Jessica's memorial page online through social media.

Funeral services and arrangements made under the direction and care of Jessica was preceded in death by Baskerville Funeral Home in Wilmington.

Charlie Brown

VENICE, Charles "Charlie" Brown, a man of unwavering dedication and service, passed away on Friday, May 10, 2024, at his home in Venice,

FL, at the age of 80. Born Oct. 5, 1943, in Joliet, Charlie was the son of Charles O. and Kathryn J. (Patch) Brown. Charlie embarked on a life filled with

commitment, passion, and service. In 1964, he married Kathy Jisa, and together they built a life centered around family

and community. They raised two children, Colleen, and Thomas, instilling in them the values of integrity, compassion, and Charlie's dedication to his country

was evident from a young age, as he proudly served in the United States Navy during the Cuban Missile Crisis. His service to his country was matched only by his commitment to his profession. For 28 years, Charlie served at the Illinois Bell Telephone Company, retiring as an Outside Plant Engineer. Never one to rest on his laurels, he continued his career following his retirement with Byers Engineering Co. and MFS Network Technologies, where he held various managerial and supervisory positions includ-ing Operations Manager, Engineering Supervisor and Project Manager.

In addition to his professional endeavors, Charlie was deeplŷ involved in his community, serving in various capacities that showcased his leadership and commitment to public service. He served as the building inspector for the Village of Diamond and played a vital role on the village's planning and zoning board. His dedication to education led him to serve on the Coal City Community Unit District #1 School Board, where he advocated for the

betterment of the local schools. Charlie's commitment to public safety was exemplary, as evidenced by his seven years of service on the Coal City Emergency Squad where he was the squads first Certified EMT (A). In addition, he dedicated himself to 20 years with the Coal City Fire Protection District, where he was the district's first State Certified Fire Service Advanced Firefighter/Fire Service Instructor and Fire Service Officer with an associate degree in Fire Science. He was proud to have retired as Deputy Chief. His passion for safety extended beyond his professional life, as he worked as an inde-

pendent safety consultant, sharing his

expertise in Industrial First Aid, ĈPR/AED and defensive driving with certification through the National Safety Council.

A man of many talents and interests, Charlie was a writer, contributing articles on historical military firearms to Small Arms Review/Small Arms of the World magazines. He was a dedicated life member of the

Illinois State Rifle Association and belonged to the National Rifle Association, embodying his passion for firearms and marksmanship.

Charlie was an active member of the St. Juvin Post #1336 VFW, where he served as commander and in addition served as vice chair of the Grundy County Veteran's Assistance Commission. His dedication to his fellow veterans was unwavering, and he leaves behind a legacy of service and sacrifice that will be remembered for generations to come.

Charlie's passing leaves a void in the lives of all who knew him, but his memory will live on in the hearts of his family, friends, and community. His legacy of service, integrity, and dedication will continue to inspire us all. May his spirit soar high, forever remembered as a true patriot, leader, and friend.

Charlie is survived by his loving wife, Kathy; children, Colleen M. (Roger) Bottens and Thomas C. (Margaret) Brown; grandchildren, Caitlin (George) Lynch, Zac Bottens, Tyler Bottens, Lauren Brown and Alexa Woolcock and a host of friends, and comrades-in-arms who were touched by his kindness and generosity. Charlie was preceded in death by his

parents and one grandson, Dillon Bottens In honoring Charlie's wishes, crema-

tion rites have been accorded.

The family will receive friends for a memorial visitation at Reeves Funeral Home on June 21, 2024, from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. A private family graveside service with full military will follow in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood. Family and friends are encouraged to

log onto www.ReevesFuneral.com to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Charlie's memorial page online through social media.

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

Rita Barham _____

COAL CITY—Rita Barham, 79, of Coal City, passed away Friday, May 10, 2024, at Lightways Hospice Home in Joliet.

Born Jan. 12, 1945, in Joliet. Rita was the daughter of Robert and Norma Ruth (Hoskins) Pfister. She was raised in Coal City until relocating to Harrisburg, IL where she graduated from Harrisburg High School with the class of 1963. Rita married Jerry Barham, and together they made a home and raised their family in Coal City.

A dedicated wife and mother, Rita in addition to maintaining the family home, most recently held employment with Shadow Lakes, where she did marketing and clerical. Rita was a great sports fan, who enjoyed following the Chicago Bears, she loved animals, taking dogs and birds into the family home throughout the years, and she was a true music enthusiast. Rita took pleasure in cooking, collecting bears, and created many happy memories traveling to the tropics.

One who always put others ahead of herself, Rita will be remembered as generous and caring. She had a wonderful sense of humor and loved to laugh. Family was of utmost importance, and nothing gave her greater joy than becoming a grandSurvivors include her hus-

band, Jerry; two sons, Mark Barham (fiancé, Rose Gabriel), of Elk Grove Village, IL and Greg (Linda) Barham, of Plainfield one grandson, Bobby Barham; bonus grandchildren: Joey and Frankie Nagy and Daramjee; one brother, Robert Bob" (the late Mary) Pfister, of Arlington, TX and one brother-in-law, Michael (Eugena) Barham, of Auburn, IL,

as well as several nieces and nephews. Rita was preceded in death by her par-

Funeral services were held Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at Reeves Funeral Home in Coal City with Deacon Bill Dunn from Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church presiding.

Burial followed in Mount Olivet
Catholic Cemetery in Wilmington, where

Rita was laid to rest near her parents. Family and friends are encouraged to log onto www.reevesfuneral.com to sign

the guest book, upload photographs and share Rita's memorial page. Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes &

Crematory in Coal City was in charge of arrangements.

Zwaantje R. Cwiok_

MORRIS— Zwaantje R. Cwiok, 99 and affectionately known to many as "Swaanie", peacefully passed away on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at her home in Saratoga Tower, Morris. She was born on May 10, 1924, in Chicago, to Herman and Hilda (Smedemann) Zwaantje's life was marked by

resilience, grace, and a spirit of generosity that touched the lives of all who knew her. Raised and educated in Chicago, she dedicated most of her life to various bookkeeping and clerical positions, demonstrating a strong work ethic and commitment to excellence. As a past tenant president at Saratoga

Tower, Zwaantje found joy in bringing people together, organizing resident bus trips, and planning activities that fostered a sense of community among her neighbors. Her passion for crafting was evident to all who knew her, as she delighted in creating holiday ornaments throughout the year, sharing her creations with others and spreading joy wherever she went.

In her leisure time, Swaanie found solace in playing bingo, completing word searches, and immersing herself in the works of Fern Michaels and Debbie Macomber, whose stories captivated her imagination. She enjoyed the simple pleasures of watching the Hallmark Channel and game shows, finding comfort

and companionship in the familiar rhythms of television.

Throughout the trials and triumphs of the past century, Zwaantje's giving nature and unwavering determination were a source of inspiration to all who knew her. Her memory will be cherished by those whose lives she touched, and her legacy of kindness and resilience will endure for generations to come. Survivors include two sons, Lawrence

Cwiok of Morris and Jerome (Lisa) Cwiok of Beecher, IL; one grandson, James David Cwiok; one brother, John Rosing of Cary, IL and numerous nieces and nephews. Swaanie was preceded in death by her

parents; one son, James Cwiok, two sisters: Elkena (William) Knight and Margaret (Daniel) Tomano and one brother, Jacob (Chris) Rosing. Cremation rites have been accorded

and a celebration of Swaanie's life is being planned for a later date. Family and friends are encouraged to

log onto www.reevesfuneral.com to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Swaanie's memorial page online through social media. Cremation services and arrangements

have been made under the direction and care of Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes and Crematory in Morris.

Robert Wegforth



Arthur Robert Wegforth, 93, away on May 6, 2024. Bob was

beloved husband of the late Ruth Wegforth (nee Peters) for 55 years and the late Dolores Wegforth he attended Calumet High School and graduated from Illinois Institute of Technology. He served in the US Army and was assigned to the Far East Command. He was President of Executives International, Inc., Senior Vice President of Drake Beam Morin Corporation, Manager of National Accounts, and other sales management and sales positions within a division of American Can Company. He was under contract in the Chicago White Sox organization as a pitcher. He served in various leadership roles at First Nazarene Church

Robert was the loving father of Robert S. (Debra), Gayl Jones (Ed) and John (Heidi); grandfather of Jennifer Brenner

(Josh), Jessica Waldron (Chad), Shelby Wegforth, and Austin Wegforth (Mallory); great grandfather of Reign Winker, Rosie, Billy, Joey, Brittni, and Sage Brenner, Emalee, Joshua, and Jacob Cohen; Scotty Schmidt, Wegforth great-grandfather of Samuel

Bob was the cherished son of the late Ted and Arvilla Wegforth and loving brother of the late Edward Wegforth.

Visitation with the family will be held at First Nazarene Church, 12725 Bell Road in Lemont (firstnaz.cc), on Tuesday, May 21 from 4-8 p.m. in Cerrato Hall. The Celebration of Life Service will be on Wednesday, May 22 at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary. The family will receive visitors starting at 10 a.m. A luncheon will immediately follow the service in Cerrato Hall.

Interment will be held at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL at a

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The problem with conventional toothpaste tubes

Dear EarthTalk: Why are conventional toothpaste tubes not eco-friendly? What better alternatives are out there?

WWW.FREEPRESSNEWSPAPERS.COM

-- Jackie V., Pittsburgh,



The impact of conventional tootĥpaste tubes is significant and largely negative. Typically made from non-biodegradable plastic and aluminum, they present significant challenges in recycling processes.

The mixed material composition requires complex, costly separation techniques, making recycling inefficient and often nonviable. According to Forbes, some 1.5 billion toothpastes tubes are discarded each year.

The production and disposal of these tubes involves substantial energy use and emissions. From the extraction and processing of raw materials to manufacturing and eventual disposal, the lifecycle of conventional toothpaste tubes is energy-intensive and ecologically damag-

After use, they are typically "discarded at a facility and will end up in the landfill" says Julie Smith of Aspire Colorado.

In response to these issues, there has been a rise in eco-friendly alternatives. Zero-waste toothpastes, which eschew traditional tubes, are becoming increasingly popular. These typically come

in tablet or powder form and are packaged in biodegradable or recyclable materials. Toothpaste tablets are especially sustainable as they also reduce water usage, relying instead on saliva of water. Other innovative solu-

tions include toothpastes packaged in metal tubes, which are easier to recycle than plastic ones, and brands that use plantbased container materials.

These efforts reflect growing consumer demand for sustainable products, reflecting a broader trend towards environmental responsi-

Several brands have been leading the way in this shift towards sustainability. David's Natural

paste is packaged in metal tubes, and The Humble Co. uses plant-based materials for their biodegradable tubes.

Both options present a significant reduction in waste compared to traditional plastic tubes. These products not only help to reduce environmental impacts and also cater to health-conscious sumer by avoiding harmful chemicals often found in conventional toothpastes.

However, transitioning to these eco-friendly alternatives is not without its challenges. Makers face significant hurdles in altering established production lines, sourcing materials that meet quality and safe-ty standards and potentially incurring higher costs.

Consumers may also be hesitant to switch to new formats, such as tablets or powders, or may be skeptic about their efficacy. Additionally, the initial cost of these alternatives can be higher, which may deter widespread adoption.

Regulation and industry standards play a crucial role in facilitating this transition. Governments can promote the use of sustainable packaging by



THE PRODUCTION and disposal of toothpaste tubes involves substantial energy use and emissions.

Lisa Marie's Women

 Children CUTS ★ COLOR 450 Davy Ln., Wilmington

(708) 465-3198

implementing policies that **YOUR NEW HOME** encourage recycling, reduce the use of non-**DESERVES THE** recyclable materials or provide incentives for **BEST PROTECTION** companies to develop greener products. Specific American Family Insurance is proud regulations that mandate to be named Best Homeowners the use of recyclable mate-Insurance of 2021 by Forbes Advisor. rials in packaging can drive innovation in the industry, leading to more sustainable options becoming **Gerald Gresham** available and economical-

ly viable. *EarthTalk*® isnonprofit 501(c)3EarthTalk. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

815-729-3570 815-476-6364 863 Center Ct., Unit B

AMERICAN FAMILY Email: ggresham@amfam.com

Button winner claims \$605



WILMINGTON CHAMBER PRESIDENT Steve Evans presents Marilyn Hussey of Custer Park with a check for \$605. Hussey had the winning button #260 during the recent Red Carpet Corridor split-the-pot button raffle.

Mobile food pantry to visit Kuzma Cottage

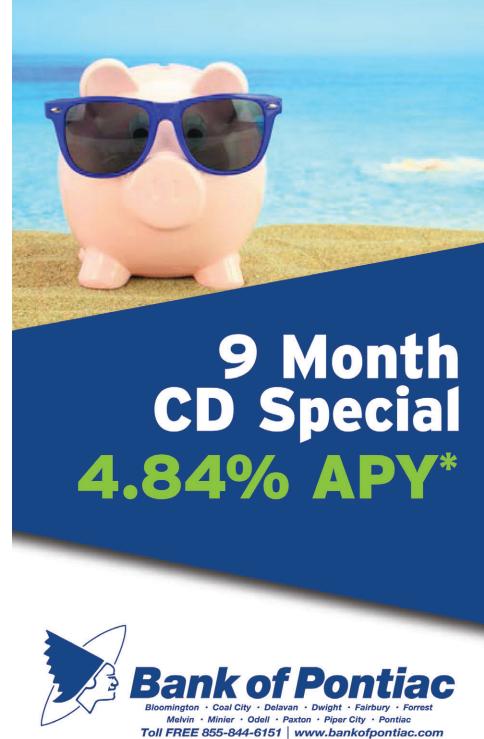
Joliet will be hosting Mobile Food Pantry at Kuzma Care Cottage on Wednesday, May 22, at 635 S. Main St., Wilmington from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Rose Church parking lot by entering on the Main Street side. (Please do not arrive before 9 a.m.) All Mobile Food Pantries will use a

When you arrive, "drive thru" method to displease line up in the St. tribute food.

Please clear space in your trunk or backseat so volunteers can load boxes of food directly into your vehicle. Food is free to neighbors in need; no ID, proof of address or income is required. Everyone is welcome.

Food is distributed on a first-come, first served basis, while supplies last.



*Annual Percentage Yield accurate as of 5/7/2024; \$2,500 minimum deposit;

Rates subject to change without notice; Penalty for early withdrawal.

Camping hosts needed at Kankakee River State Park

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is seeking campground hosts for the 2024 camping season at the Kankakee River State Park on Highway 102 and two other state parks in northeastern Illinois: Illinois Beach and Chain O' Lakes.

Campground hosting is a perfect position for anyone who enjoys camping and helping other people. Hosts are often the first face to greet state park visi-

They check on arrivals and departures, write camping permits, acquaint campers with park faciliregulations, ties and answer questions about local and statewide attractions, help visitors plan outings, and more.

Campground hosts live in their own RVs, motor homes, or trailers at designated spots within state parks.

"Above all, the quality all campground hosts possess is a passion for working with the public," said Calvin Beckmann, chief of parks and recreation for IDNR. "If campground hosting sounds appealing to you, we would love to hear from you."

Kankakee River State Park is a 4,000-acre park in Kankakee County with more than 200 campsites.

Illinois Beach State

Park is in Lake County along the beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline. Chain O' Lakes State Park, in McHenry and Lake counties, is popular with anglers, boaters,

Anyone interested in being a campground host can complete and submit a Campground Program Packet. Questions can be directed to the site superintendent at the appropriate state park.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT LAKEWOOD SHORES ANNUAL

> CC Report will be available at the meeting, or by contacting

IMPROVEMENT **ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP** June 5, 2024 @ 7 pm First Christian Church **1824 Church Street**

LSIA for a copy and will be posted at

the pumphouse.



Prizes for Best of Show People's Choice and Best of Show Exhibitor's Choice.

For Car show questions, contact Sam Scott Payne on Facebook. \$20 entry fee.

4470 E. Rt. 113, Coal City, IL 1 mile west of Coal City High School

 Serving Lunch We have lots of great

Silent Auction

Bake Sale



items, including **Dollywood Tickets!**

Help us spread joy

ne gift at a time

100% of all donations will go towards FBC Coal City's mission to send 500 shoe boxes to children in need across the world through Operation Christmas Child. Don't be

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the heat!

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Wilmington seeks bids for improvements near South Island Park entrance

PUBLIC NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids will be received by the City of Wilmington for "South Island Park Improvement" and is further described as follows: Construction of parking lot and subtitude and the landauctic restrictions and Bull insidential and parking lot. and multi-use path, landscaping restoration, and all incidental and collateral work

necessary to complete the improvement.

Bids shall be submitted no later than 11:30 AM at the office of the City
Clerk, at 1165 South Water Street, Wilmington, IL 60481 on Friday, May 31,

2024. Proposals will be opened and publicly read at that time.

Plans and specifications may be accessed on-line at: www.chamlin.com

Full-size plans and specifications are available from Chamlin & Associates,
Inc., 221 West Washington Street, Morris, Illinois 60450 at the non-refundable

cost of \$50.00 per set.

Bidders are advised that this Contract will be subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act. Bidders are advised that this Contract will be subject to the Illinois Steel

Products Procurement Act.

The successful Bidder shall provide at least 40% of all labor required for the completion of this project.

The Bid shall be accompanied by a bid bond, in the amount of five percent (5%) of the gross amount of the bid.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids and to

waive any informalities in the bidding

BY ORDER OF: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF WILMINGTON

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

Wilmington seeks bids for improvements to various water mains & roadways

PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids will be received by the City of Wilmington for "2024 Water Main and Roadway Improvement" and is further described as follows: installation of water main, storm sewer, curb and gutter, HMA surface removal and replacement, structure adjustment, landscaping restoration, and all incidental and collateral work necessary to complete the improvement along various routes located in the City of Wilmington. the City of Wilmington. Bids shall be submitted no later than 11:00 AM at the office of the City

Clerk, at 1165 South Water Street, Wilmington, IL 60481 on Friday, May 31, 2024. Proposals will be opened and publicly read at that time.

Plans and specifications may be accessed on-line at: www.chamlin.com Full-size plans and specifications are available from Chamlin & Associates, Inc., 221 West Washington Street, Morris, Illinois 60450 at the non-refundable cost of \$50.00 per set.

Bidders are advised that this Contract will be subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act.

Bidders are advised that this Contract will be subject to the Illinois Steel

Products Procurement Act

The successful Bidder shall provide at least 40% of all labor required for

the completion of this project.

The Bid shall be accompanied by a bid bond, in the amount of five percent

(5%) of the gross amount of the bid.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids and to waive any informalities in the bidding.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF WILMINGTON Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

Attorney Meents files Spangler estate claim PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF MARY PATRICIA SPANGLER,
Deceased; No. 2024 PR 210
CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Mary Patricia Spangler, Letters of Office as Co-Executors were issued

on May 6, 2024, to Thomas Richard Spangler, whose address is 17930 W. Commercial Street, Wilmington, Illinois Commercial Street, Wilmington, Illinois 60481 and Joseph Roy Spangler, whose address is 18634 Kahler Road, Wilmington, Illinois 60481; whose attorney is Meents Law, P.C., 25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A, Channahon, Illinois 60410. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street leight Illinois 60432 or with the Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432, or with the representative, or both, on or before November 25, 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that potice. Any claim not filed on ed in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a Claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been E-filing is now mandatory with

E-IIIIII is flow maintatory with initiated exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit http://efil.ilinoiscourts.gov /service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing visit have trouble e-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit

www.illinoislegalaid.org.
Thomas Richard Spangler and
Joseph Roy Spangler
Co-Executors of the Estate of Mary Patricia Spangler, Deceased Frank J. Meents Meents Law, P.C.

25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A Channahon, Illinois 60410 Telephone: (815) 534-9515 Facsimile: (815) 534-9516 Facsimile: (615) 534-9516 Attorney Code: 06298859 E-mail: frank@meentslaw.com Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, May 15, 22

and 29, 2024.

Attorney Berardi files Carlson estate notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS -IN PROBATE

In the Matter of the Estate of HAROLD E. CARLSON, Deceased. Case No.: 24PR206

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Harold E. Carlson. Letters of Office were issued as Independent Executor on April 22, 2024 to Scott H. Carlson on April 22, 2024 to Scott R. Carison whose address is 904 W. Diversey Pkwy, #1E, Chicago, IL 60614; whose attorney is Berardi and Associates, LLC, 14919 Founders Crossing, Henra Clas III, 6041 Homer Glen, IL 60491.

The estate will be administered

without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the

Court at Will County Court House, 100
West Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the first publication date of this Notice, which is on or before November 8, 2024, or if mailing or delivery of this notice from the personal representative is required by Sec.18.3 of the Probate Act of by Sec.18.3 of the Propage Act of 1995, the date stated in that Notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for

documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider.

Visit https://efile.illinoiscourts

gov/ service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider.

If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit http://www. illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/get help.asp, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Scott H. Carlson, Independent Executor for the estate of Harold E. Carlson. Mark M. Berardi, Attorney at

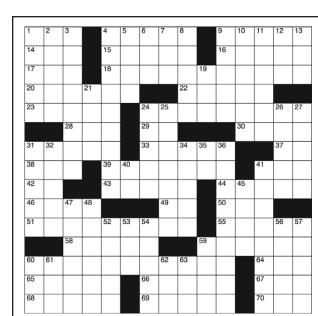
Law, Attorney No.: 6305463, 14919 Founders Crossing, Homer Glen, IL 60491. (708) 942-8030 Email: mark@berardilaw office.com

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, May 8, 15 and 22, 2024.

Joliet Slammers 2024 season is underway!! Come on out to the ballpark! Tickets 815-722-2287

With 10 nights of fireworks and the returning promotional staples of Princess Night, Super Hero Night, Dog Days, and Star Wars Night, the Slammers are bringing more family fun for everyone in 2024. Walk up tickets available or call 815.722.2287. 1 Mayor Art Schultz Dr., Joliet, IL www.jolietslammers.com

2 6 9 2 5 8 4 9 2 8 6



CLUES ACROSS

. Geological time 4. Ooze

9. A set of eight

14. Obstruction Swiss mathematician

Philosophy 17. The night before

18. A timid person 20 Unifies

22. Gangs 23. Alternative name Acumen

28. Cathode-ray tube Tantalum

30. Soluble ribonucleic acid Humiliate

33. Earthy pigment 37. Air Force

38. Adult males 39. Stiff untanned leather

41. Before 42. Atomic #18

43. Beer mug

44. Nostrils

46. Type of chef 49. Midway between north and east

50. They 51. Splits

55. Walk in a timid manner Preserved animal skin with hair

59. Popular donut shop item You smear it on bagels

64. Don't know when yet

Equal to 10 amperes

66. Synthetic acrylic fiber

One point south of due east 68. Of mixed ancestry

. Home of the Pyramids 70. A way to change color

47. Cheerful

CLUES DOWN

2 Untangle

(abbr.)

3. One from the U.S.

Academic terms

8. Arugula genus 9. VIII

11 Tormentor

13. Sprinkle

26. Entrap

12. Commercials

19. Make a mistake

Accumulate

21. Freshwater fishes 24. Vermont town 25. Man-made device

10. Makes a monarch

1. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues

San __ Obispo, in California

6. Not healthy
7. Self-assessment questionnaire

35. Denotes past 36. Becoming popular again

40. Indicates position Came before

45. An extra seed-covering

27. Places to store important things

32. Greek mythological nymph 34. Gregory ___, American dancer

48. Deli sandwich staple

52. Skateboarders love them

53. Mandela's party 54. Sierra lake

56. Nickname for Elizabeth 57. Remove from record

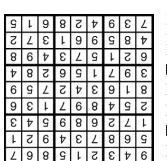
59. Employee stock ownership plan 60. Former NFLer Newton 61. Relative biological effectiveness

62 Work unit

(abbr.)

63. Town in Cambridgeshire





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

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GARAGE SALES

15th ANNUAL WILMINGTON **ALL-TOWN GARAGE SALE** Thurs., June 6 (8am-5 pm); Fri., June 7 (8 am-5 pm); Sat., June 8 (8 am - 2 pm) Sponsored by First United

Methodist Church, 401 E. Kahler. Wilmington. Everyone is welcome to come out and explore all the great sales at the church and throughout the whole town. Stop by for lunch at the church on Friday 11:30-1:00 Listing Maps will be available for pick up at

the church beginning at 8 am on June 6 and throughout the sale dates. For more information. call: 815-476-5474. ch19-21

Braidwood - 174 E. Third Street. Wed., May 22, 8AM-Noon and 1PM-5PM. Huge Sale, 50 years accumulation. Tools, furniture, glassware, paintings, wall decorations. Too much to mention. cc20-21

Braidwood - Multi Familv Sale. 145 S. Kenard St. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 9AM-3PM. Not your sale. Michelle's Bougie Buckle Boutique. Ľadies 0-30, boys 6-10, mens clothes, household, bike, highchair. Tons of extras. You don't want to miss out. Cleaning out storage

GARAGE SALES

I ake Shannon Annual Multi-Family Garage Sales Saturday, May 2024. 8:00am May 18, 4.00pm. 18530 3000N Rd, Reddick.

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Bartender needed for afternoons & evenings. Please call 815-685-2919 and leave message. ck17-20 Lifeguards needed at

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local sportsmen's club in Wilmington. Must be certified or able to become certified. Please send inquiries to wcsc 1946@ġmail.com or call the office at 815-476-6561. cc17-22

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

email: wcsc1946 @gmail.com cc17-22

Will County Sports-men's Club is looking for a full-time office employee. Must have experience with Microsoft Office, POS systems, and phone etiquette. Please send

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REAL ESTATE

SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE of 37150 S MACKS ROAD, CUSTER PARK, IL 60481 (Not applicable). On the **30th** day of **May**, **2024** to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: LAKE-VIEW LOAN SERVICING
LLC Plaintiff V. MARK R.
RAMSEY AKA MARK
RAMSEY; MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC.; LARRY LIBERSH-ER; UNKNOWN OWN-ERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant. Case No. 22 FC 0819 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 condo-

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 surphage of the

that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mort-

gagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by sub-divisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) ofSection 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 proceed-ing advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribu-tion or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact:
ANSELMO LINDBERG

1771 W. Diehl Rd. Suite 120 NAPERVILLE, IL 60563

P: 630-453-6960 F: 630-428-4620

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLEC-TION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPT-ING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFOR-MATION OBTA WILL BE USED THAT PURF **OBTAINED PURPOSE** Published in the Free Press Newspapers on May

22, 2024.

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

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15th ANNUAL WILMINGTON ALL-TOWN GARAGE SALE Thurs., June 6 ~ Fri., June 7 ~ Sat., June 8

The 15th Annual All-Town Garage Sale will be sponsored by the First United Methodist Church. We will be producing MAPS of listings throughout the town. All of the advertising will be done for you and bargain hunters will be out all over town. You may sign up for one or all days, and specify your hours. We may have sellers inside the church and vendors/crafters can have a space in our parking lot for an additional \$10 (for all 3 days). MAPS can be picked up at the church on Thursday, June 6th beginning at 8 a.m. through the entirety of the sale. Please fill out the form below by May 28 with a \$10.00 donation to have your information in our Map Listing (60481 RESIDENTS ONLY). These forms are also available at Wilmington City Hall, Wilmington Library, FUMC church, or download from our website at: www.fumcwilm.org. Make your check payable to First United Methodist Church and you may drop off or mail your check to FUMC, All-Town Garage Sale, 401 E. Kahler Road, Wilmington, IL 60481. Call our church office at 815-476-5474 with any questions. (The First United Methodist Church of Wilmington is not responsible for lost,

NAME: ______ PHONE: EMAIL:

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my own table (June 6: 8-5; June 7: 8-5; June 8: 8-2)

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removed after the sale.)

Dates/Times of your sale:____

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COALER SPORTS



Going to state

COAL CITY FRESHMAN Ella Wills will compete in the long jump and triple jump at state. Ella went 5.10m in the long jump at the Princeton Sectional this week to earn a trip to state. She took second in sectional action in the triple jump at 10.63m. Two members of the Lady Coaler Track and Field team have qualified for the Illinois High School Association State Finals.



COAL CITY SOPHOMORE Evelyn Wills finished second at the sectional meet in high jump with a jump of 1.49m. to qualify for state. The State Finals will take place May 16-18 at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

including a 3-run bomb

and 4 RBIs. Tanner Wallace

(RBI), Gabe McHugh and

Lance Cuddy added hits for

defeat Beecher at 4:30 on

Thursday in order to

advance to the regional

championship game at 11

a.m. Saturday, likely against Wilmington who finished

the conference 14-0 and

are 22-1 overall.

The Coalers must

Coal City.

MAKING A THROW during last week's win over Reed-Custer is Lance Cuddy.

Coalers ready to go deep into the playoffs

The slate has been wiped clean for the Coal City baseball team as they prepare for a post-season run starting Thursday at Reed-Custer against Beecher.

The two teams did not play each other during the regular season. Bobcats enter the regional with a 20-9 record while the Coalers are 15-12 overall after dropping five straight.

On Saturday Coalers fell 4-1 to a strong Pleasant Plains team on the road. It was the second game of the day for the Coalers.

Gabe McHugh threw 5.2 IP, allowing just 4 runs (3 earned), on 7 hits while walking and striking out. Lance Cuddy got the last out, a strike out. Gabe McHugh was 2-for- 4. Luke Nolan, Danny Olson (RBI), Wyatt Wickiser, and Jack Varnack added hits.

Coal City 7, Rochester 8 The Coalers traveled to

Pleasant Plains to play Rochester and Pleasant Plains in a double header. Rochester was able to sneak out an 8-7 win in game 1. AJ Wills went 3.1 IP allowing 7 earned on 5 hits

with 5 walks and 4 Ks. Austin Davy went the next 2.2 IP allowing 1 earned on 5 hits with no BB and 2 strikeouts.

Austin Davy (RBI), Danny Olson ((2 RBIs)), and Lance Cuddy notched two hits each. AJ Wills and Gabe McHugh each had a double and two RBIs. Creide Skubic and Dylan

Young also had hits. Coal City 2, Manteno 5

The Coalers dropped the final ICE game at home for Senior Night, 5-2. Tanner Wallace went the distance on the mound and was the tough luck loser surrendering 5 runs (one earned) on 5 walks with 4 Ks. Luke Nolan had a solo homer. Tanner Wallace doubled. Will McArdle (RBI) and Austin Davy added hits.

Coal City 8, Manteno 10 Coalers drop a 10-8 decision at Manteno.

Joe Watson went 3 IP, allowing 8 runs (1 earned), on 7 hits and 3 walks with 1K. Jack Varnack came on to hurl 2.2 IP allowing 2 runs (0 earned) on 3 hits with 2 walks and 2 Ks.

Danny Olson led the offense with 2-for-3 day Catholic regional where Beecher (28-1) and JCA (16-8) are heavily expected

At Manteno, Coal City (20-10) has a shot at winning the title but they have to get McNamara Bishop (Wednesday) at 4:30 p.m. to return on Friday at 4:30

The Lady Coalers beat McNamara before, 13-12, but have lost twice to

They battled Manteno last Tuesday at home, scoring three runs in the first inning before the Panthers erupted for eight runs in the top of the second. Still Coal City closed with 9-5 after three innings before the visitors pulled away for

Manteno may have out-hit Coal City 16 to 12 but the Lady Coalers had their bright spots with Makenzie Henline and a double and single by Abbi Gagliardo. Sierra Anderson and Kaycee Graf finished with two hits each. Also contributing hits were Makayla Henline, Jaydn Shaw, Addison Harvey, Khloe Picard and D'Arcy

Lady Coalers get a favorable regional, must upset Beecher Rodriguez

Coalers were held to just

one hit against a tough

Anderson singled and

pitcher, losing 5-1.

The Coal City softball team is fortunate to land in the Manteno Regional.

Unlike Wilmington and Reed-Custer, the Lady Coalers dodged the Joliet to battle for the champi-

p.m. for the championship against #2 seeded Manteno who is 29-1-2 overall.

Manteno 2-1 and 12-5.

Bri Combes pitched two innings, giving up eight runs (only three earned) off five hits and walks. Naomi

Coal City in the third innings, getting tagged for inning while Pontiac hit 11 hits, four runs and one two home runs and took Pontiac 5, CCHS 1 advantage of a couple of On Friday the Lady

Coaler errors. Combes were seven innings in the circle, allowing 11 hits, five earned runs while striking out two.



Photo by Amy Walker THROWING FOR AN OUT after fielding the ball is Lady Coaler Makenzie Henline.

Middle School Coalers advance 19 to state track and field events

City Middle School will be well represented at the Illinois Elementary School Association [IESA] State Track and Field Finals. The Coalers have 19 athletes advance to the state meet in 13 events.

Participating at the state meet are: Jaylyn Hogan-shot

Kinsley Nowak-long

Marina Figge—100, 200, and long jump

Levi Marshall—400 Kenny Tazelaar—400 Nick Pfeiffer—800 Jonah Micetich-hur-

dles and pole vault Ryaln DeMicheleshot put

Frank

jump

Roehr—high

high jump and long jump
Phil Larson—pole

Spencer Vaira—pole Kiptyn Dearth-discus

4x100 relay—Levi Marshall, Jonah Micetich, Kenny Tazelaar and Alex

4x200 relay-Maddox Meents, Spencer Vaira, Frank Roehr and Miguel

4x200 relay—Ryland Clements Tyce Farrell Gage Kraus and Leriyahn Hunter 4x400 relay—Levi Marshall, Maddox Meents, Kenny Tazelaar and Jonah

Micetich The state finals will be held May 17-18 at Eastside Center in East Peoria.



The Coal City soccer

team realized that on Friday when they defeated

Manteno in regional action on Friday. Junior Kylee Kennel scored the lone goal for Coal City. Freshman goalie

Clair Mohler ended up with

The Lady Coalers (12-4-2) were to play for the Regional Championship yesterday (Tuesday) against Beecher who was coming off a 6-1 win against Wilmington.

The last time Coal City and Beecher battled each other it ended in a 0-0 tie.

WORKING THE BALL for the Lady Coalers during their home match is Aubrey Mellen.