

NFL player comes with a message

A sendoff for soccer seniors

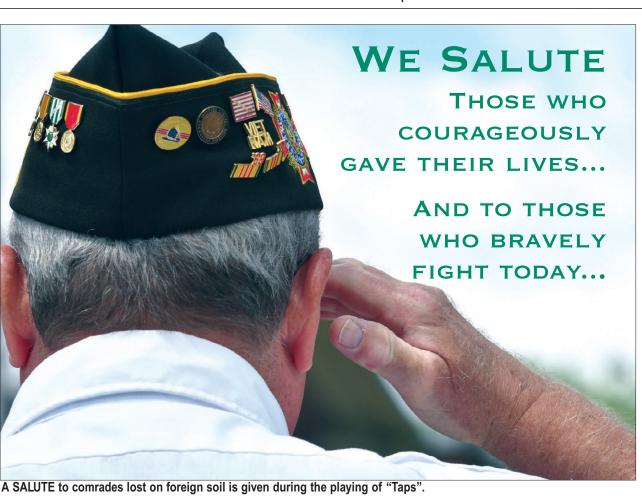




\$1.00 Vol. 123, Issue 21 1 section • 12 pages Not over 75% advertising www.coalcitycourant.com

COAL CITY COURANT is

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2024 | A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER • (815) 634-0315





COAL CITY MAYOR David Spesia addresses a crowd of 80 residents who attended Memorial Day services near the Wall of Honor on the Intermediate School grounds on Monday. Spesia talked about what it was like to enlist in the Marines as a 17-year-old and serve four years.



ST. JUVIN POST 1336 VFW Commander James "Hoppy" Phillips recognizes two Eagle Scout recipients from Coal City who contributed greatly to the improvement of the Wall of Honor located on the grounds of the Coal City Intermediate School. Behind Phillips are Christian Micetich of Coal City who is currently a Cadet Second Lieutenant the Civil Air Patrol and will soon begin basic training in the Air National Guard. Micetich's Eagle Scout project from 2018-2019 included painting the steps of the memorial, pouring concrete for the flag pole, mounting two more granite slabs engraved with the names of community veterans and landscaping with \$2,000 raise. At right is Ethan Bach whose Eagle Scout project completed last summer included \$1,300 in upgrades including stainless steel plaques in front of each flag representing the branches of the military, additional concrete, new mulch and other landscaping.



RAISE THE COLORS—St. Juvin Post 1336 VFW Post Commander James "Hoppy" Phillips (left) gives the command to raise the colors from half to full staff Monday during a Memorial Day Ceremony held at the Wall of Honor dedicated to area veterans who in branches of the U.S. military. The flags represent each branch of the military. They were raised by a veteran of their branch with the assistance of a Boy Scout from Troop 444.



Photo by Eric Fisher RIFLE SALUTE—Members of St. Juvin Post 1336 discharge a three round volley to start

Miss Randi retires after guiding preschool children for many years

In a heartfelt farewell to the icon of preschool education, the community bids adieu to the beloved Randi McLuckie, better known as "Miss Randi" who has dedicated an impressive 35 years to shaping young minds through play-based learning.

As she hangs up her teaching hat, Miss Randi leaves behind a legacy of nurturing, creativity, and boundless enthusiasm that has touched the lives of countless children and families in the Coal City Community. Since embarking on her journey as a preschool teacher over three decades ago, Miss Randi has been a beacon of warmth and compassion in

the lives of her students. environment ensured that Her classroom was not just a place of learning but a sanctuary of laughter, exploration, and endless

wonder. Through her innovaand play-centric approach to education, she instilled in her students a love for learning that transcended the confines of the classroom. Miss Randi's commitment to fostering holistic development in her students went beyond academic achievements. She believed in nurturing their social, emotional, and cognitive skills through handson experiences and meaningful interactions. Her dedication to creating a supportive and inclusive

every child felt valued and empowered to reach their

fullest potential. Over the years, Miss Randi's impact extended far beyond the walls of her classroom. She became a trusted confidante for parents, offering guidance and support as they navigated the joys and challenges of parenthood. Her involvement in community events initiatives further solidified her status as a cherished figure in the hearts of many.

SEE RETIRING PAGE 2



Great Grocery Deals to Fill Your Basket!

Memorial Day services held in Coal City Monday.

SALE VALID 5/30-6/5/24

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

CHECK OUT OUR **WEEKLY AD AT** BERKOTFOODS.COM Home Run Inn

Home Run Inn

12" Classic

27-33 oz

Coke Family Soda 24 pk 12 oz cans



Blue Bunny Ice Cream- 46-48 oz Novelties- 6-9 ct









EVERLASTING DIRT—Seniors on the Coal City softball team collected a small jar of dirt from the playing field during their last home game of the season. They will be the last Lady Coalers to play on a dirt and grass ball diamond as Unit District 1 has approved the installation of artificial turf fields for next year. Scraping up dirt from the position where they played are Abby Gagliardo (top) and Makayla Henline (bottom).



Attorney Wharrie files Joyce estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
JACQUELINE JOYCE,)

Deceased)
Case No.: 2024PR38)
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION CLAIMS
Notice is given of the death of
JACQUELINE JOYCE. Letters of
office were issued on May 17, 2024, to
DANIEL WINCHELL, 417 Mayfair Dr.,
Venice, FL 34293, as Independent
Administrator, whose attorney is larry. Administrator, whose attorney is Larry G. Wharrie, The Wharrie Law Firm, P.C., 105 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL

60416. Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs that the estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 755 ILCS 5 28-4, any interested person terminates inde-pendent administration at any time by E-filing or delivering a Petition to Terminate to the Circuit Clerk.

Ierminate to the Circuit Clerk.

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 http://efile.illinoiscourts. gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider if you need additional ball or revoider. provider. If you need additional help or have trouble E-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/ FAQ/geth elp.asp or talk to your local circuit clerk's office.

Claims against the estate may

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Probate Division, at Grundy County Courthouse, 111 East Washington St., Morris, IL 60450 or "It the consequence of the probability or both within with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of issuance of letters of office. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representa-tive and to the attorney within 10 days after it had been filed

Dated: May 20, 2024.

DANIEL WINCHELL Independent Administrator Independent Administrator
Larry G. Wharrie
The Wharrie Law Firm, P.C.
105 S. Broadway,
Coal City, IL 60416
Phone: 815-634-8990
ARDC #2996146
Published in the Coal City

Courant on May 29, June 5 and 12,

Coffee & <u>Newspapers</u>

One wakes you up One opens your eyes

Attorney Schmidt files Hulbert 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 Clinton L. Hulbert, Deceased; No.

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of Clinton L. Hulbert. Letters of office were issued on May 20, 2024 to Mark R. Hulbert and Ronald E. Hulbert as independent co-executors, whose attorney of record is Charles L. Schmidt, 117 W. Washington St., Morris, Illinois 60450.

Claims against the estate may

be filed within six months from the date of first publication. Any claim not filed within six months from the date of first publication or claims not filed within three months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to Creditor, whichever is later, shall be barred. Claims may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Ćlerk, Grundy County Courthouse, PO Box 707, 111 E. Washington Street, Morris, IL 60450, or with the representative through her attorney, or both. Copies of claims filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To efile, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit https://efile.illinois courts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or trouble e-filing, http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Charles I Schmidt Law Office of Charles L. Schmidt, Ltd. 117 West Washington Street

Morris, IL 60450 (815) 942-0701 grundylaw@gmail.com
Published in the Coal City
Courant on Wednesday, May 29, June

5 and 12, 2024.

Grundy County Sheriff's office seeking bids to provide meal services

PUBLIC NOTICE

Grundy County Sheriff's Office is seeking competitive BIDs from interested, qualified and experienced food service providers to provide meal services to the housed population located with the Grundy County Jail. These services are summarized within this ITB document. The intent of this Invitation to BID and the ensuing process is to provide companies with the information, requirements, and specifications necessary for the preparation of a professional and comprehensive

proposal. Specific terms and conditions are outlined within the BID document. If the Participant will not be selling directly to the County, it is the Participant's responsibility to choose one reseller with whom they will partner on

Sealed proposals will be accepted until 3:00 pm (cst.) July 10th, 2024, at the Grundy County Finance Department, 1320 Union St., Morris, IL 60450. At 3:00pm (cst.) July 10th, 2024; sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Fax and electronic submissions will not be accepted. Sealed proposals must be submitted in an envelope and clearly marked on the exterior "Food Service" and contain four (4) copies of the complete proposal with one (1) original packet with an original signature. No responsibility or liability will be attached to any County official, employee or agent for the premature opening or failure to open any pro-posal not marked according to this instruction.

The proposed project will require full compliance with all Federal, state, and

local regulations. You are invited to submit a proposal that includes your qualifi-cations and a work plan for completion of the stated project.

Proposal documents are available at the Office of the Grundy County Finance Department, 1320 Union St., Morris, IL 60450, and for inspection online at www.grundycountyil.gov/proposals-and-rfp/ or Demandstar www.demand star.com. The proposer remains responsible for obtaining all addenda, which will be posted at the same website.

The County of Grundy reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to

waive technical errors or informalities in proposal.

Chris Balkema County Board Chairman Retiring, continued from page 1

As Miss Randi bids farewell to her role as a preschool teacher, she leaves behind a void that will be challenging to fill. Her enthusiasm, infectious unwavering unwavering dedication, and genuine love for her students have left an indelible mark on the community. As she embarks on her new chapter of life, Randi hopes to spend more time traveling with her husband and says "I promise I will be around town, hoping to volunteer more, and read a few more books. While her retirement

may mark the end of an era, the memories she created and the lives she touched will continue to resonate for years to come. May she be met with the same love, joy, and fulfillment that she has brought to them throughout her illustrious career. Congratulations, Miss Randi, on your welldeserved retirement.



MISS RANDI leaves behind a legacy of nurturing, creativity, and boundless enthusiasm that has touched the lives of countless children and families in the Coal City Community.



GRUNDY AREA FFA members placed third in the Illinois (State) Envirothon competition in early May. Participating were [from left]: Evelyn Gonzalez, Minooka Community High School; Margaret Dockery and Courtney Klocker, Reed-Custer High School, Viviene Forte, Minooka Community High School, and Bradley Burla, Coal City High School.

Grundy Area FFA places third at state

At the Illinois (State) Envirothon competition, Grundy Area FFA earned third place in the FFA divi-

"This is truly a 'team' event where they listen to presenters and take a writ-

Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife, and Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Future," said Brandy Biros, FFA advisor and agriculture instructor at Grundy Area Vocational Center [GAVC].

Grundy Area FFA team ten test and complete a members include: Bradley practicum in the areas of Burla, Coal City High dents experienced it for the City High School.

School; Margaret Dockery and Courtney Kloecker, Reed-Custer High School, and Vivienne Forte and Evelyn Gonzalez, Minooka Community High School. Two students were repeats to the state Envirothon, and the other three stu-

"I am super proud of these individuals," Biros

Grundy FFA is comprised of students enrolled in the GAVC agriculture program housed at Coal

Work underway on ramps at I-80 and Illinois 47 interchange

The Illinois Dept. of Transportation announced patching work is underway on the exit and entrance ramps at the

Coal Bin Storage to dispose of property

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to Section 40 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois a sale or other disposition of property by COAL BIN STORAGE INC will be held online at www.BID13.com, auction ending on June 12, 2024 1:00 PM, to sell or dis-June 12, 2024 1:00 PM, to sell or dispose of the personal property of the following person, Alan Schmitke, 455 S Mary St, Coal City, IL and/or 107 Bridge St, Wilmington, IL, Unit E52/Location#1, to enforce a lien for storage pursuant to the self-storage facility act, in the amount of \$859.75, when attention from \$1.00 per section \$1.0 plus attorney fees & costs.
Published in the Coal City Courant on
May 29 & June 5, 2024.

Interstate 80 and Illinois 47 interchange in Morris. Construction will be done nightly starting at 6 p.m. and ending at 6 a.m. the following day.

There will be lane closures on the ramps from I-80 westbound to Illinois 47 and from Illinois 47 to I-80 eastbound. There will be lane reductions on the ramps from Illinois 47 to I-80 westbound and from I-80 eastbound to Illinois 47. All ramps will be fully opened during the weekends. The project is expected to wrap up by the end of June.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow

extra time for trips through this area and be prepared for slow and stopped traf-

To avoid the work area, when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain from using mobile devices and be alert for workers and equipment.

Over the next six years, IDOT is planning to improve more than 3,000 miles of highway and nearly 10 million square feet of bridge deck as part of the Rebuild Illinois capital program, which is investing \$33.2 billion into all

modes of transportation. Accomplishments through Year Four of Rebuild Illinois included approximately \$12.1 billion of improvements statewide on 5,339 miles of highway, 533 bridges and 762 additional safety improvements.

For IDOT District 3 updates on X, follow us at @IDOTDistrict3 or view area construction details on IDOT's traveler information map www.GettingAroundIllinoi s.com.

Krier files for property variance

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing will be held by the Coal City Zoning Board of Appeals on the Zoning Ordinance on the 17th the Coal City Zoning Board of Appeals on the Zoning Ordinance on the 17th 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 following matter:

To consider: A variance of 7900 ft. to the minimum lot area per dwelling unit for Rm-1 zoning

unit for Rm-1 zoning.

At the following address: TBD

Legal description of property:
Springhill Sub Phase 1 LT 46 Sec 3-32-8, Springhill Sub Phase 1 LT 47 Sec 3-32-8, Springhill Sub Phase 1 LT 48 Sec 3-32-8

Request for the above appeal was applied for by: Kenneth Krier
Said Board of Appeals will be at said time and place to hear all persons in support of such matter or any objection thereof. Persons may appear in

person or by agent.
Dated this 24th day of May 2024.
Published in the Coal City
Courant on May 29, 2024.



The Coal City Courant
USPS No. 120-060
Published weekly, 52 times a year, on
Wednesdays by

G-W COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 271 S. Broadway St. Coal City, IL 60416 Periodicals postage paid at Coal City, Illinois

Postmaster:

Send address changes to: Free Press Newspapers; 111 S. Water St.; Wilmington, IL 60481

Subscription rates: \$46 Grundy & Will counties; \$53 other Illinois counties and \$60 out of state

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

Advertising and Business Offices: • 111 South Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481

(815) 476-7966 • 271 South Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416

(815) 634-0315 Deadline for The Free Press Advocate,

Braidwood Journal and Coal City Courant Display Advertising: Friday, noon News and Classified Advertising: Monday, noon

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

©2024 All news, photographs and advertising material used in this publication are the property of G-W Communications, Inc. Use of the material without the consent of G-W Communications, Inc. is strictly prohibited. Violators of this property right are subject to legal action.

Eric D. Fisher, publisher

Published in the Coal City Courant on Wednesday, May 22 and 29, June



"Seussical, Kids" takes the stage

FOURTH AND FIFTH grade students from Coal City Intermediate School took the stage on Friday, May 17 for a production of "Seussical, Kids." The musical featured a 47 member cast taking on some of Dr. Seuss's most beloved characters including Horton, The Whos and The Cat in the Hat. The show was presented by the Coal City Theatre Department and was directed by recent graduate Elaina Patten and her fellow Drama Club members.

Former NFL player Clay Harbor addresses student-athletes

In his own words, Clay Harbor was an average football player on an average high school team, yet his journey into professional football was anything but average.

Harbor grew up in Dwight and was a three-sport athlete for the

He was an Interstate Eight All-Conference selection his final three years of high school in all three sports—football, basketball and track and field. Dwight and Coal City were conference opponents at the time and as Harbor remembers, "every time we'd go to Coal City it was to lose—basket-ball and football." He shared that memory when addressing student athletes at Coal City High School's first annual Senior Athletic Banquet.

After high school, Harbor enrolled at Missouri State University and scored a spot on the football team alongside his brother, Cory.

Redshirted his freshman year, Harbor got on Harbor was taken by the the field for 11 games the following season and earned All-American honand ors. By the close of his senior season he had racked up multiple accolades-Conference,

All-American Player of the Year. He was selected as one of 20 players to participate in the NFL Scouting Combine and he fared well.

As the 2010 NFL Draft underway, Harbor recalled sitting in a small hotel room in his hometown of Dwight with his dad and his brother, "waiting and hoping to get that call from the NFL."

When the phone did ring, it was Andy Reid asking Clay if he wanted to be a member of his team. The answer of course was yes and as the 125th pick, Philadelphia Eagles in the fourth round. 'It was such a great

moment being able to get drafted coming from Dwight and a small college," said Harbor, who played three seasons with the Eagles before moving on to the Jacksonville Jaguars. He would also play with the New England Patriots, Detroit Lions and New Orleans Saints before closing out his NFL playing

"I wish I could say that road was easy, something I knew was always meant to happen, a road that was smooth sailing, and something that I just knew was something I was going to do. That couldn't be farther from the truth," Harbor told the Coaler athletes.

"To say I was rather underprivileged would be to put it nicely. I grew up in a trailer court with 10 family members. We didn't have a car, we didn't have a phone, we didn't have cable and a lot of people don't know that about me_I didn't come from the perfect family. My parents were never married, there were a lot of family issues. Do I say this for sympathy or anything like that, no. I say that because the situation doesn't matter, what matters is where you are going and what you are able and willing to do," he said.

Harbor had a dream and was willing to do anything to chase it. He shared that from a young age he decided he wanted to change his circumstance and his family's.

"I didn't want my Mom to walk everywhere, she never had a car and I got my drivers license before she did. I didn't want to not have a cell phone or a house phone or to have to put quarters in a machine to make a call. I didn't want to have to worry about getting to the bus to get to a game, lunch tickets or food stamps. I wanted to change my family's trajectory and that is what spurred me to become something more than my current situation," Harbor said.

Through hard work and determination, Harbor was able to achieve his

Enrolling in college, earning a scholarship and having a career in professional sports—he's currently a sports analyst. He's also a consultant and speaker, and the latter is what brought him back to Coal City. He came to speak on what he calls his four quarters to victory—discipline, good habits, a powerful why and resilience-traits necessary for success.

"Discipline, to me, is trading what you want now for what you want most," Harbor said, noting that although the word often comes with a bad connotation-as if one is in trouble-his meaning is something completely different, "it's disciplining yourself," and it's something one has to choose for themselves

Good habits are another key to finding success, "your outcomes are literally a measure of your habits. You will never change your life until you change something you repeatedly do. You gotta make your bad habits hard," Harbor said.

And, you have to have powerful why. "Find something that is important to you, you will quit if you don't have a strong why and when you find your why, you will find your way," Harbor said.

To achieve success, to claim victory everyone needs to be resilient and with that . Harbor reminded the student-athletes that failure is part of success, not the opposite of it.

"If you don't fail you are not trying, so you got to keep getting up and be resilient," he said.

By being disciplined, developing good habits, finding his why and being resilient, Harbor changed the trajectory of his life and along the way has helped his family. He's found success and through his work is assisting others in finding their own success.

If you have discipline and trade what you want now for what you want most and if you have good habits and a powerful why—something drives you when you don't feel like getting up in the morning and don't feel like going on anymore— and have resilience and realize that failure is not the opposite of success but part of success you will be successful, you will become great," Harbor said in closing.

Coal City Public Library News

and to register.

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

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

"Adventure Challenge Begins at Your Library" now thru Monday, July 15 for all ages. Register via the Beanstack app or stop by CCPLD to register for the Challenge. Friday, May 31-Fun 12.p.m.

Fridays - 3 p.m.

Monday, Preschool Storytime - 11-11:45 a.m. -3 year olds -kindergarten ready to attend on their own can join us for books, a craft, and songs with each week focusing on a different theme. There are still spots open for registration. Kids Cooking Class - 1-

2 p.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Summer Lapsit and Tots - 6-6:30 p.m. Babies - 3 year olds and their caregiver can join us for stories, sensory activities, and songs with each week focusing on a different theme. There are still spots open for registration.

Preschool Summer Storytime - 6-6:45 p.m.

Check online event Tuesday, June 4-calendar at ccpld.org for a Summer Tween Fun - 11 description of the events a.m.-12 p.m.

Adult Book Club, 1-3

Summer Teen Fun, 1-3 p.m. Children going into 6th-12th grades can join us for books and activities focusing on a different theme. There are still spots open for registration.

Summer Kids Fun, 6-7 p.m. Your child going into 1st-3rd grade can join us for books, activities, and a craft with each week focusing on a different theme. There are still spots open for registration.

Wednesday, June 5-Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) - 9 a.m.-

Paper & More, 9 a.m.-4

Summer Kids Fun, 10-11 a.m. Your child going into 1st-3rd grade can join us for books, activities, and a craft with each week focusing on a different theme. There are still spots open for registration.

Beautiful - Paramount Theatre Bus Trip, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Incredible Family Event, 1-2 p.m .

Fit 4 Life, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Children going into 1st thru 5th grade can join us for Go Noodle exercises and ways to keep bodies healthy. In conjunction with Riverside Medical. There are still spots open for registration.

CCHS to host annual youth wrestling camp

will be hosting its annual summer wrestling camp open to first grade students and older, teaching them the proper techniques.

They will also learn how to defend themselves when their opponent goes for a takedown. Head wrestling coach

Mark Masters and high school helpers will go through different pinning combinations, ways to set people up, takedowns and escape techniques. They will also go

through body awareness, mental toughness and mat

The youth camp, 1st to register.

Coal City High School 5th graders, will be June 3-7 from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. It will take place at Coal City High School. Please enter by Door #10 on the South side of the school.

The 6th-12th grade camp will begin June 10-14. Mon.-Wed 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Thursday - Friday 8 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.. at the Coal City High School. Enter through Door #18 on the south side of the school. The camp will cost \$35.

Visit the school's website coalcityschools.org and under the Parent tab you will see Summer Camp Information and how to

Rodriguez named Distinguished Scholar

Amelia Rodriguez of Coal City, is announced as a Spring 2024 Distinguished Scholar at Rockford University. Full-time (12 or more credits) students who earned at

least a 3.75 GPA with no grades below "C" and completed all requirements for the semester are named Distinguished Scholars.

Sanders named to president's list

It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University congratulates Alyssa Sanders of Diamond, on being named to the Winter 2024 President's List. The winter terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List.





FORMER NFL PLAYER and Dwight native Clay Harbor spoke to student-athletes at Coal City High School's first annual Senior Athletic Banquet this month. Harbor addressed what he calls his four quarters to victory—discipline, good habits, a powerful why and resilience—traits necessary for success.

<u>qurant</u>

Benson Insurance

Agency, Inc.



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"

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, threatening, calls for boycotts and libel.

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. There can be only one submission of 250 words or less per person during any given week.

RED LOBSTER'S

BANKRUPTCY

Any other day

COAL CITY—Can the Coal City
School Board please adjust the school comto not schedule the high school commencement ceremony on Mothers Day? It is terribly inconvenient for families and staff to have to juggle activities for multiple events taking place on the same day. Perhaps a weeknight or a Saturday. Actually, any day except Mother's Day.

We pay taxes too WILMINGTON—FIX KANKAKEE STREET!

How far we have fallen

WILMINGTON—It was unthinkable only a decade ago that our president would attempt to overthrow a national election by using deadly violence. It was unthinkable that this same president would demand absolute immunity. And it was unthinkable that this same president threaten to dismantle Constitution by promising to establish a dictatorship for the purpose of assassinating his political rivals. When our nation was founded almost 250 years ago, it was truly unthinkable that any of these threats would plague our nation any time during its future. For example, just 20 years ago the outcome of the 2000 national election was in doubt but Al Gore graciously conceded to George Bush despite ample evidence that Gore was the true winner. Therefore it's essential at this time of chaos that true patriots tirelessly demand justice in spite of the evil that has plagued us in fewer than 10 short years from a failed businessman who is the first president to be impeached twice and the first president ever to be criminally charged.

Biden's list

DIAMOND-Someone last week mentioned some great accomplishments from Biden. He has produced 15 million new jobs and unemployment is at a record low. Why stop there? There are many more accomplishments we can thank Biden for. High interest rates affecting young people wanting to buy a home, along with a 40year record high inflation that hits the poor the hardest. Let's not forget the high gas prices and open borders.

A sinister side

BRAIDWOOD—Imagine moment a man that flaunts his love for community and seemed so dedicated thereto suddenly declining to help and support that same community. Seems odd. That was the case when a former chief and social media oligarch refused to help Braidwood's Cop on a Rooftop event. Paw Patrol's "Chase" was often seen waving at motorists and getting hugs and high fives from kids in years past. However, that appearance was denied by the former chief who took possession of the "uniform" when he departed. It's my understanding he was even offered compensation for the uniform and refused. Then, to further his jab at Braidwood, he was rather quick to share and support the City of Wilmington's Cop on a Rooftop effort. I don't know, seems rather immature for someone that was so adamant about Braidwood's success and the good things that happen for this city. Perception is everything these days, and right now it seems there is a more sinister side to someone that says they'll run for mayor.

Can't afford that

BRAIDWOOD—To all of the people in Braidwood who have the expensive tastes for public amenities like a pool, expansive playgrounds, splash pad, recreation centers, programs for children, fitness center, etc., ask yourself this question. Would you be okay with, and able to afford a \$1,000 + property tax increase to pay for these things? You can't have expensive things and pay what currently is, in all reality, dirt cheap property taxes. If you want to pay Naperville or Bolingbrook tax rates, please move because the rest of us living in Braidwood can't afford that.

Selling out America

COAL CITY—If you don't believe that people crossing the southern border are receiving more benefits than the U.S. citizens, and do not believe that if the next election keeps this administration in office that your legal rights will decline and more taxes will be taken from your payroll check so you can support more people from foreign lands, then the only suggestion to you would be for you go find a mirror and take a good hard look at the brain behind the face you see. All you will see is distortion of true facts about how our country is being turned over to foreign governments. So answer this question if you can. Why is a foreign government allowed to purchase land or own any business in the USA?

All a farce

MORRIS-Veteran expecting help from the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs can forget about it since they withhold documents from the veterans that they did not have the right to receive from a different government facility instead of the documents being sent to the veteran.

Letter to the editor

Prescription drug discount program threatened

Prescription drug dis- these discounts. count program a vital life- Free colo drug discount program to protect patient care.

We represent 54 comhealth centers munity across Illinois providing care to more than 1.5 million people – many who are low income, uninsured, or underinsured.

For more than 30 years, we have used the federally approved 340B drug discount program as a lifeline: It dramatically decreases the cost of prescription drugs, and we use those provide affordable access to life-saving drugs and prop up other care that is underfunded or not

colonoscopies line to affordable health and mammograms, mobile care. Time is running short clinics and free transporta- approved, and 20 others are on the Illinois legislative tion to appointments are considering, a solution session, and we are dialing not a luxury for people modeled in Senate Bill 3727 911 for the critical 340B without other options. that would simply stop the They're a necessity, and they happen at our clinics and at hospitals across the state only through the 340B

> Today, 340B is holding on by a thread – and time is running short. In some Illinois counties, patients are being forced to travel far out of their way to get vital medications. With the uninsured, that simply isn't an option – and their health will suffer greatly for it.

In a recent letter to the four legislative leaders, Governor and other leadership in Springfield, we warned that staff layoffs available at all without and service cuts are immi-

nent if something isn't done

Five other states have that would simply stop the harmful restrictions on 340B that are threatening care. We are confident it will work here if given the opportunity. In Arkansas, multiple court rulings have now upheld a similar law despite a hard legal fight against it by the drug companies.

We call on the legislature to approve Senate Bill 3727 now and assure Illinoisans we will continue to support and protect health care options that are under attack.

Ollie Idowu, President and CEO, Illinois Primary Health Care Association, Springfield.

organization because they promise everything and give nothing which all the veterans organizations have been doing for decades. Just ask yourself how many veterans have asked for help and received nothing from any veterans organizations and how many veterans are without legal rights or are forced to live on the streets without any type of funds. Veteran organizations that say they will help the veterans are speaking with a split tongue and each and every veterans organization is a farce which includes all the private veterans Not your responsibility

And don't concern yourself about receiv-

ing any help from any other veterans

BRAIDWOOD—I found it interesting

this past week when a familiar face made a comment on the Braidwood and Surrounding Area page post about the idea of a splash pad within the city. The post said "On Aug. 16 of last year I sent every council member photos of a beautiful park with a splash pad, pickle ball courts, and basketball courts, along with a picnic area and gazebo. I think a park like this should be a priority, it would help bring the community together and provide family entertainment." Huh. Aug. 16 of last year. I do believe the author of that post was still chief of police then. So let me get this straight, you turned your focus to other issues other than the ones you were directly responsible for? You sent every council member information on this park project? Was that done on city time? I think you were paid rather well to work on the police department. So you'll come through on things that aren't your responsibility, albeit a nice thought and put the department and the employees you're directly responsible for on the back burner? Again, it's another social media post where you seem to want people to know you had the idea first, otherwise you wouldn't have put the exact date you had the idea. Again, if it wasn't

your idea or if you didn't somehow benefit, you never would have made the comment. Just remember, you can only inflate a balloon so much. Hopefully the resi-

dents see that as well.



Honoring Veterans BRAIDWOOD—At Memorial Day we remember those who died for our country. But not as "suckers and losers" the way Trump describes the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice and not by the insults which Trump cast upon Senator John McCain who was captured and tortured for years by the enemy. Our military leaders and statesmen at the very top, such as John Bolton who views NATO as the most valuable accord ever created, also reveal that Trump endangers our national security because he is not savvy enough to value our international alliances dedicated to freedom rather than despotism. Furthermore, Trump's domestic policies discourage free speech and encourage a police state atmosphere similar to those authoritarian countries he loves of which we witnessed during his presidency. Let's return to our patriotic roots by honoring veterans and exposing the likes of Trump whose cowardice got

To get more votes
WILMINGTON—Every week we are treated to a column two of democratic propaganda by the same person about how wonderful illegals aliens almost like we don't have TV news or the Internet and can't see the real truth. Why do the Dems want 12 million illegals in the country? 1) The census. White middle class are leaving blue cities so they have to keep the population up or loose seats in the House. 2) if the Dems win in November they can fast track illegals for citizenship and have 12 million new Democratic voters. It's that

his daddy to excuse him from military

Before you vote

COAL CITY—What are the ideal traits of a leader? As Socrates said these qualities are essential to a leader: Wisdom, temperance, courage and justice. Before you vote in the November election please read "A Warning." It is an eye opener. Did you ever hear Bush or Reagan complain? So it's cold in the court room, try working outside in 10 below. What a crybaby! Wake up people, read and think twice before

New law targets litter

Garbage trucks that lose trash because they are not properly covered could soon be fined after a bill unanimously advanced out of the İllinois House and Senate.

House Bill 4848 would create a specific violation for law enforcement to cite when garbage or other debris falls from a truck and litters highways. Each infraction would result in a \$150 ticket.

Sen. Donald DeWitte, R-St. Charles, said the legislation is an attempt to eliminate unsightly waste.

"You don't have to drive very far to see the fences along the farm

fields, the trees, all decorated with various pieces of plastic bags and garbage that might have flown off trucks," DeWitte said.

Take a drive in any direction of Interstate 55 and it's easy to spot why this law is needed. Motorists can help too by not littering.





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

- Elder Law Retirement Planning
- Estate Planning
- Living Trust
- · Last Will & Testament
- · Power of Attorney Probate

To speak with an attorney about the best way to secure peace of mind and protection, call our office today.

FISHER MEENTS LLC

207 S. Water St., Wilmington

815-476-7635

Tips for your financial spring cleaning

As Americans kick off the spring season by cleaning, sorting and tidying up around the house, Grundy Bank is encouraging consumers to add financial organization to their spring-cleaning to-do list.

To help, Grundy Bank has highlighted six tips for organizing your financial 'People are motivated

to get things done when the weather warms up and the flowers bloom, which makes it an ideal time to look closely at your savings and spending habits, "said Kevin Olson, President & CEO of Grundy Bank. "Putting in the work now will help you live your best life in the months ahead."

Grundy Bank recommends these six tips to help consumers organize their finances:

 Review your budget. A lot can change in a year. If you've been promoted, had a child, or become a

new homeowner or renter,

be sure to update your

budget. Determine what

expenses demand the most money and identify areas where you can realistically cut back. Develop a strategy for spending and saving - and stick to it.

• Evaluate and pay

down debt. Take a look at how much you owe and what you are paying in interest. Begin paying off existing debt, whether that's by chipping away at loans with the highest interest rates or eliminating smaller debt first.

• Set up automatic bill pay. By signing up for automatic bill pay, you'll never have to worry about a

missed payment impacting your credit score. You can set it so that money is withdrawn from your

checking account on the same day each month. Sign up for e-statements, paperless billing and text alerts. Converting to paperless billing will help keep your house physical and financial cleaner and more organ-

ized, and will help protect

you from fraud.

· Check your credit report. Every year, you are guaranteed one free credit report from each of the three credit bureaus. Take advantage of these free reports and check them for possible Mistakes can drag down your score and prevent you from getting a loan, or cause you to pay a higher than necessary interest

• Manage your money on the go. Utilize your bank's mobile app to check your balance, pay your bills, transfer funds, deposit a check and send money to friends or family wherever you are. Grundy Bank is a lead-

ing community bank in Grundy County that is dedicated to providing hometown service while offering big bank products to their clients. For locations and

information on Grundy Bank call 815-942-0130 or visit grundy.bank.

Enjoy The Warm Weather With Hot Deals From Berkot's!



FULL WEEKLY AD @ BERKOTFOODS.COM SCAN THIS QR CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE



rkot's Loyalty for Savings!

resh Meat

Produce

GIVE US A CALL TODAY! the Bat Guys

HARMLESS BAT REMOVAL **BAT-PROOF & CLEAN UP**

FULL ATTIC RESTORATION

10-YEAR WARRANTY

Bat Removal thebatguysbatremoval.com **779-208-6748**

YOUR NEW HOME DESERVES THE BEST PROTECTION

American Family Insurance is proud to be named Best Homeowners Insurance of 2021 by Forbes Advisor.

Contact me today and get the protection you deserve.



rician Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & its Operating Companies,

teamgresham@aimfam.com

Email: ggresham@amfam.com



Gerald Gresham 815-729-3570 815-476-6364 863 Center Ct., Unit B. Shorewood, IL 60404

warrenscollisioncenteril.com



√ Finest quality warranted collision repair

Rentals available ✓ Certified technicians

/ All insurance accepted

Completed in a timely fashion

860 E.Z. St., Braidwood

WE CARE BEYOND THE REPAIR!



RELIABLE, FAST & AFFORDABLE INTERNET SERVICE

Mention this ad and receive FREE INSTALLATION—Call Today!



(888) 274-6381 · www.surfbroadband.com

One of the strangest roll calls in IL House

sure I've seen a stranger roll call than last week's House vote Senate Bill 2978. The data privacy bill is an initiative of Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias, and he was on

Rich Miller

floor during the debate. The far-right ginned up social media opposition to the bill by claiming that it would allow noncitizens to vote. More than 1,400 electronic witness slips have so far been filed in opposition.

House

Ĝroups like the Illinois Freedom Alliance and the Illinois Conservative claimed Union on Facebook that the bill will "interfere with verification of citizenship of voters.' Illinois Family Institute went even further in a recent email blast, claiming, "As it is written, this bill will likely be used to allow non-citizens to vote in our elections.'

Accusations from the far-right that Democrats will use the votes of undocumented residents to "steal" the 2024 election have gained significant national traction over the

past months. Usually, no evidence is presented, and you can chalk up this latest freakout to yet another misunderstanding of the basic lawmaking process. h

offending language is actual-ly already in state statute, an official

with the secretary of state's office explained during a Executive Committee hearing last week. The bill drafters simply "recodified" it. A search of state statutes shows those claims to be accu-The official also said

that the secretary of state

voter registration system "does prevent anybody that is not provided citizenship information from being transmitted to register to vote.' But the loud, conspiropposition acy-minded stampeded Republican

committee members away from the bill, and so it passed the committee on a partisan roll call. The ACLU of Illinois is also strongly opposed to

the bill, but for an entirely different reason. The civil liberties

group claims the measure "could be read as permitting data-sharing with federal or out-of-state law enforcement who are investigating or enforcing laws that criminalize abortion or gender-affirming care in other jurisdictions." "We believe that the

bill should be amended to be clear that our data should not be used to identify people seeking, providing, or assisting with reproductive or genderaffirming care – health care Illinois has made a policy decision to protect,' The ACLU IL continued. "This could be accomplished by enacting protections similar to last year's automated license plate reader bill.'

Secretary Giannoulias never convinced the group to drop its opposition.

Rep. Kelly Cassidy (D-Chicago), a legislative leader on abortion and trans rights, rose in debate to point out that, "Indiana law enforcement could ask the secretary to provide information related to an Illinois license plate on a car used in connection with an Indiana resident accessing abortion care in Illinois.'

Rep. Cassidy also objected to the bill by noting that it does not have the same standard language inserted "several

times" in other bills to make it "explicitly clear that the data would not be used to identify people seeking, providing or assisting with lawful health care." She also said she was "deeply concerned" that the data could be sold, "given that that's allowed as well.'

In a shocking defeat, the entire Republican caucus and three House Democrats voted "No," while numerous other Democrats skipped the vote. The bill wound up with 57 votes, three shy of passage, as Secretary Giannoulias looked on. I don't think I've ever seen a legislative chamber reject a bill supported by a statewide officeholder while that official was standing among the members.

The sponsor, Rep. Margaret Croke (D-Chicago), put it on what's called Postponed Consideration, meaning she could bring the bill up for a vote again. Some House Democrats were legitimately absent, but this bill needs to be retooled.

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

United Methodist to host blood drive

Coal City United Methodist Church (located at 6805 E. McArdle Road in Coal City), will host a 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.

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

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. There will be authentic pioneer crafts by Prairie Partners as they reenact life on the prairie in the 1830s. There will be a food

tent, mountain dulcimer music, children's games and more.

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

The park is located at 5010 N. Jugtown Road north of Coal City. For more information visit the Prairie Partner's website at http://www.gooselakeprairie.org/craggcabinfestival.htm

Price at the pump jumps nearly 18¢

gasoline prices in Illinois jumped 17.8 cents per gallon last week, just before the Memorial Day weekend, averaging \$4.02/g, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois. The price dropped

overnight Braidwood from \$4.29 to \$4.19 on Tuesday. In Wilmington the price ranged from (Mohsen) to \$4.19 yesterday while in Coal City the average was \$3.93. Cheaper gas was

being reported in Morris \$3.74 and Bourbonnais at \$3.56. According

GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in southern Illinois was priced at \$3.18/g yesterday while the most expensive was in Chicago at \$5.19/g, a difference of month of smooth sailing, \$2.01/g.

8.9 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 11.4 cents per gallon higher than a year

The national average ing.

price of gasoline has risen 1.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.56/g. The national average is down 6.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 1.2 cents per gallon higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy.

"With the summer driving season now underway, average gas prices have seen ups in some areas and downs in others. Most states are seeing prices slightly below their 2024 peak thus far, with some refinery issues in the Great Lakes weighing on prices there, while other areas, like the West Coast, have seen notable relief with more coming," Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

'June tends to be a where we see gas prices Prices in Illinois are decline in most areas, and that's a trend that looks the most likely for drivers, barring unexpected refinery snags or a tropical storm develop-



CABINETRY, GRANITE & QUARTZ COUNTERTOPS **DESIGN & SALES**







VISIT OUR SHOWROOM: 450 DAVY LANE - WILMINGTON Monday - Friday 9-5 & Saturday 9-12

(815) 790-1235

SHORKEY PAINTING (815) 546–1321 Est.

1989 Interior/Exterior



Wilmington, IL 60481 Office 815-476-5242 Cell 815-671-1356 mluckett@farmersagent.com

Sewer Rodding - Sanitary - Party Potties

Ed Bonnivier

Coal City • 634-4691



Auto • Home Life • Commercial

SISTEK RENTALS

We SELL, REPAIR, and RENT Outdoor Power Equipment





815-237-8298 740 Oak Street • South Wilmington, IL

ORDER YOUR BUSINESS CARDS

A & E SEPTIC SERVICE Pumping - Repairs - New Installation

from the Free Press Newspapers Call 815-476-7966 and ask for Eric



Insulation <u>Raising</u> driveways garages pole buildings sidewalks

Wilmington • 815-200-6880

patios

and more!

· attics

· basements

commercial

industrial

SHOP LOCAL!



Wilmington



 Pulverized topsoil Pool & play sand Hardwood mulch Decorative stone Bobcat Service We Deliver! 815-478-3717 708-921-3535



Property Maintenance



515 Davy Lane, Wilmington Affordable Clean, Secure

Monthly Rentals

No Deposit Required 815-530-0200



FREE PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

Shingle/Flat Roofs Gutters Licensed

Siding Insured - Fascia/Soffit Bonded

Insurance Claims IL State License # 104-002993

(815) 476-6010

LICENSED—INSURED—BONDED www.vrcc.us



A \$70,000 CHECK was presented to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation by organizers and volunteers from Constellation who sponsored the annual "Fishing for a Cure" bass fishing tournament held at Braidwood Lake. A total of 47 boats entered this year's tournament. With the help of several sponsors, over \$906,000 has been raised in the 23-year history of the tour-

Fishing for a Cure raises \$70,000

"Fishing for a Cure" tournament, ȟeld Saturday, May 18 on Braidwood Lake, impressive an \$70,000 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, bringing the tournament's 23year fundraising total to \$906,000.

WWW.FREEPRESSNEWSPAPERS.COM

Cystic fibrosis is a progressive, genetic disease that affects the lungs, pancreas and other organs of nearly 40,000 children and adults living with the illness in the U.S. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation serves individuals with cystic fibrosis and is working to develop a means to cure and control the disease and improve the quality of life for those afflicted.

Logan Kap, 25, was born with cystic fibrosis and spent many years during his childhood in and out of hospitals getting

Constellation's treatment for the disease. Logan has benefitted from Cystic Fibrosis Foundation services over the years and participated in a gamechanging drug study several years ago that successfully created the medication allowing many with cystic fibrosis to live a normal life.

"I'm just happy to be here and be alive," Logan said Saturday at the tournament, recalling how just 10 years ago before the new drug was created, he was in and out of hospitals from week-to-week and those with cystic fibrosis were considered fortunate to live to the age of 30.

Inspired by Logan, whose father Mike Kap works at the Braidwood Clean Energy Center, Constellation employees chose Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as the 2024 beneficiary of this year's

"Fishing for a Cure" event. We were absolutely

thrilled and honored to be the benefitting charity for this year's Constellation Fishing for a Cure," said Meg Schneider, executive director of the Cystic

Fibrosis Foundation. 'In the last decade, scientific research in the fight against cystic fibrosis has been groundbreaking and transformative. because of support like this that the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation will be able to continue on this incredible path of success and find a cure for those impacted by cystic fibrosis.'

A total of 47 two-person teams entered this year's Fishing for a Cure tournament. Trey Budach (Morris) and Mike Hzechio (Minooka) took home first place and the \$4,000 top prize. Their three-fish total of 13.49 pounds was best in the tournament field.

Coming in second was Matt Leimach (Braidwood) and Nick Stuedemann (Morris), who caught fish totaling 12.6 pounds for a second-place finish and \$2,500. Third place and \$1,000 was snared by Bryan Partak (Marseilles) and Anna Moody (Big Rock, IL) with 10.19 pounds of bass. Seven other teams shared the remaining \$2,500 in prize money.

ESPN's Chauncey Niziol broadcasted live for "Chauncey's Great Outdoors" radio show from Braidwood Lake and served as tournament host. A children's fishing derby was held in the morning at nearby Godley Pond.

Braidwood Station and several local sponsoring businesses and organizations made contributions to the event. All proceeds raised through tournament fees, employee fundraising initiatives and sponsorships go to the recipient charity, which is selected annually by station employees.

Organizations businesses contributing included Siemens Energy, Allied Power, Berkot's, City of Braidwood, Electrical Builders, Inc., Eurest USA, NALCO, Northern Illinois Steel, Pullman, Reactor Services, Inc., J.F. Brennan Company, CSS Building ChemTreat, Services, Framatome and Corporation.



Offers good through June 4, 2024

1099 S. Water St., Wilmington • 815-476-2764



9:00 am • Registration:

• Fishing Derby: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

• Lunch: 12:00 pm Awards:

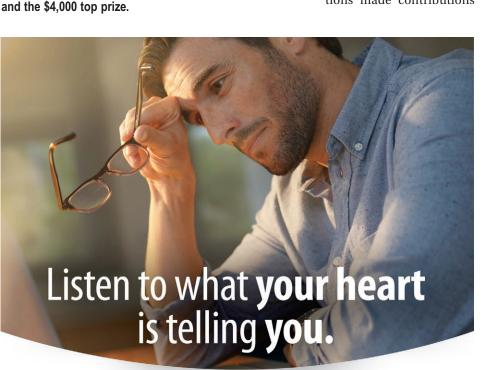
This is a free fishing derby for children ages 2 - 16 years old. Bait will be provided by the Park District, please bring your own fishing poles. A big thank you to all the local business- 500 S. Kankakee Street es that have donated to make the fishing derby a free event! 2023 Sponsors: Berkot's Foods, Village of Godley, Bedford Sales, D Construction, Sistek Sales, Pepsi. If you'd like to donate, please call the Park District.



Godley Park District Godley, IL 60407 (815) 458-6129 www.godleypark.com



FIRST PLACE WINNERS in the annual Fishing for A Cure bass tournament held at Braidwood Lake were Trey Budach (Morris) and Mike Hzechio (Minooka) took home first place



- Chest discomfort
 Shortness of breath
 - Lightheadedness Extreme fatigue
 - Racing or slow heartbeat

These are signs that something might not be right with your heart.

Our board certified cardiologists are experienced in diagnosing and treating heart problems using advanced capabilities and technology at Morris Hospital.

If you have a family history of heart disease or any concerns about your heart health, **call 815-705-1000 today** to schedule an appointment with a cardiologist.

Syed Ahmed, M.D., Mostafa Ghanim, M.D., Mary Menz, D.O. Alexander Green, M.D., Athar Saeed, M.D.

Office locations in Channahon, Dwight, Morris and Ottawa



www.morrishospital.org/cvspecialists





*Annual Percentage Yield accurate as of 5/7/2024; \$2,500 minimum deposit; Rates subject to change without notice; Penalty for early withdrawal.

OBITUARIES

Yvonne Monson, 86, passed away Saturday, May 11, 2024 at Aperion Care in Niles, IL.

Born Jan. 20, 1938, in Channahon, Yvonne was the daughter of John G. and Marcella J. (Black) Barber. Yvonne's life was a tapestry woven from the vibrant threads of several Illinois cities, including Joliet, Wilmington, Diamond Melrose Park, and Niles. Amidst her nomadic journey, she found sol-

ace and strength as a proud member of the First Baptist/Island City Baptist Church in Wilmington, where faith and community intertwined to shape her identity and values.

Survivors include her two children, Michael (Meena) Monson, of Chum Phae, Thailand and Eric (Liliya) Monson, of Lake Thunderbird, IL; one brother, Thomas Barber; eight grandchildren: Debra (Jay) Fraze, of Tarpon, FL; Christina Wallace, of Eau Claire, WI; Ashlie and John Maitrejean, of Muscoda, WI; Stephanie and Jeff Ahlers, of Pontiac; Alexis Monson, of Saint Anne, IL; Taylor Monson, of Coal City; Tiffany Monson, of Kewanee, IL and Vlad Stepanov, of Princeton, IL; 16 great-grandchildren: Kyah Robinson, Jessica Fraze, Trista Fraze, Parker Wallace, Jada Doval, Miles Maitrejean, William Maitrejean, Emily Maitrejean, Madison Ahlers, Dallas Ahlers, Rayleigh Ahlers, Bentley Ahlers, Čassandra Collins, Donovon Collins, Walker Riley and Emersyn Knippenberg. acknowledge-

Special ments are extended to her wonderful Dempsey and Bonnie Huston. Yvonne was preceded in

death by her parents; her husband, Milton E. Monson; her daughter, Denise Henson and son-inlaw, Thomas Henson, and her sister-inlaw, Marsha Barber.

Cremation rites have been accorded. The family will receive friends for a memorial visitation at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 E. Kahler Rd. in Wilmington on Saturday, June 1, 2024, from 9 a.m. until the time of memorial service at 10 a.m. Burial will follow in Oakwood Cemetery,

Families and friends are encouraged to log onto www.ReevesFuneral.com to sign the guest book, upload photographs, and share Yvonne's memorial page online

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

Rennea Ruddy ₋

LEMONT—Rennea Pawloski), 78, of Lemont and formerly Plainfield and Goose Lake Township, passed away on May 20, 2024, in Joliet. She was born on Nov. 16, 1945, to her

loving parents, Albert and Loretta Pawloski. Rennea was raised in Lemont and graduated from Lemont High School with the class of 1964. She continued her education at St. Joseph's Nursing School from where she graduated and went on to dedicate her life to helping others. Rennea spent her career as an ICU and Recovery Room Nurse and was instrumental in establishing District 202's first PTO group, as well as volunteering with numerous Plainfield school programs. Rennea's dedication and quality of work were recognized by the State of Illinois after the 1990 Plainfield Tornado for her efforts and aid in feeding and caring for hundreds of displaced residents in the following days and weeks following the

After retirement, Rennea kept busy with her husband, Tom, aboard their boat and traveling to many different places. She loved tending to her garden, fishing with the grandkids, and spending time with her dear friends. Rennea cared for Tom after he suffered a stroke, becoming his 24/7 caregiver. She never gave up on trying to give him a better quality of life. Determined, compassionate, and caring would be a few words to describe Rennea,

but to encapsulate her life and persona into this summary would be impossible. She is survived by her beloved hus-

band, Thomas Ruddy; her children: Todd (Jennifer) Ruddy, Julie Ruddy (Jeff Zwolinski) and Brian (Staci) Ruddy, as well as her grandchildren: Shawn (Alyssa), Jacob, James, Samantha, Jill, John, Conner, Peyton and Kaitlyn. Rennea was also cherished by her dearest friends: Darrell (Pat) Herman, Ron (Kathy) Kazmar, Deb (Mark) Arabajief, and many others she loved Rennea was preceded in death by her

Cemetery committal services will be held at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood on Friday, May 24, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. Those wishing to attend are requested to assemble at the cemetery

In lieu of flowers, preferred memorials in Rennea's memory may be made to Children's (www.StJude.org>www.StJude.org).

Family and friends are encouraged to log onto www.ReevesFuneral.com to sign the guestbook, upload photographs and share Rennea's memorial page online through social media.

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

Sign-up for senior citizen property tax freeze

Methodist Church, 401 E. Kahler Rd., Wilmington, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Tuesday, June 5.

They will answer questions and assist with exemption forms for Senior Freeze (total household income of \$65,000 or less), disability, and veteran exemptions.

Will County Assessment Office repre- Will County homeowners age 65 and older exemption.

Those who were mailed an application should bring it with them along with their 2023 federal income tax return.

For more information visit www.willcountysoa.com or call Barb Valek at 815-

Witness music history with **Wilmington Public Library**

Calling all music enthusiasts! The Wilmington Public Library District is thrilled to present an exclusive journey to witness the legendary Million Dollar Quartet at the Stolp Island Theatre in Aurora, IL. Join in for an unforgettable experience on Wednesday, Aug. 7, departing promptly at 10 a.m. from the library

and returning by 5:30 p.m. Immersed within the newly crafted ambiance of the Stolp Island Theatre, this captivating experience will transport you back to the moment when Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins spontaneously united for a legendary jam session that etched its place in

The cost of this event is \$50, which includes both the ticket and transportation. Lunch will be on your own, offering you the opportunity to explore the various dining options located near the theatre.

Registration for this bus trip is underway until June 30, and the non-refundable payment is due at the time of registration. For further details, please don't hesitate to reach out to the library at 815-476-2834.

Strawberries off to early start

BY PHYLLIS COULTER **FARMWEEK**

Fruit season got off to a quick start with strawberries in southern Illinois this

Strawberry picking started about two weeks, said Chris Eckert, president and CEO of Eckert's family

'People are coming out. We are pleased with the amount of traffic," he said of customers' interest

in the crop. At Flamm Orchard in Cobden, strawberries start-

ed a full 10 days early. "We're not used to having it that early," Mike Flamm said. "Demand has been

good." It looks like apple season might start early this year, Eckert said of what

Flamm believes a pretty good apple crop could be on the way. Eckert's apples look good, too, with no frost damage. They are past bloom and pollination. "We are pleased with the potential," Eckert said.

However, the next challenge is rain and keepnext ing disease at bay, said the eighth-generation farmer.

Eckert is looking forward to The Cider Shed season which features hard cider and live concerts. "It's been a fun new adventure. he said of the cider bar that opened in 2022.

Blackberries are also looking good and will likely be ready the first week in June, he said.

Timing is notable this

appears to be early fruit southern seasons Illinois.

Farm Market opening season for Rendleman Orchards is coming near the end of June in Alto Pass.

Sirles is looking forward to the flower fields and developing the natural pollinator areas. They are working on getting a bee program started to eventually produce their own honey and honey products at Rendleman Orchards, which celebrated its 150th anniversary last year.

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

Anthony Farrero _

Anthony away May 12, 2024 at the Illinois Veterans Home in Manteno. Born on July 30, 1943 at

St. Joseph's Medical Center in Joliet, Anthony was the son of (Stepnosky) Farrero. Raised and educated in Coal

City, Anthony lived the typical childhood of the times. Spending time with the neighborhood kids taking apart their bikes just to see who could reassemble them the fastest and fishing at Whitetie. In addition, he was active in Rainbow Council Boy Scouts of America (Troop #66) where he advanced to Explorers Crew. Anthony attended Coal City High School where he played on the baseball team and participated in track before graduating with the class of 1961. It was during these formative years he also acquired the nicknames: "Anchor" and

Following high school, Anthony went on to graduate from University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Administration. While later being admitted to the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He was a member of the Honorary Commerce Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi, and the Society Advancement of Management. Anthony was recognized by the Department of Professional Regulation to practice as a Professional Engineer.
Anthony honorably served his

Country during the Vietnam War for two years from May of 1966 until his honorable discharge in May of 1968.

Anthony was employed at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida where he was recognized for his dedication and support to the Space Flight Program. During his tenure with the Space Center, he will be remembered for acquiring hydrated ice cream from NASA for all to enjoy. Anthony later took on a position

with Dresden Nuclear Power

Station in Illinois from where he formally retired. Anthony was a member of Mid-America Carpenters

WWW.FREEPRESSNEWSPAPERS.COM

Regional Council Union Local #916; belonged to the National Rifle Association and the National Archery Association, and was a lifelong member of Assumption Catholic Church in Coal City. Anthony is survived by his

daughter, Regina (Ken) West, of Rock Hill, SC and three grandchildren: Adam, Ryan and Lynzi; his sister, Carol (Matthew) Thraen; niece, Courtney Caroline Thraen and nephew, Matthew Louis Thraen, as well as several cousins.

Anthony was preceded in death by his wife, Bobbi Sue (Dubin) Farrero; parents and aunts, uncles, and cousins. Cremation rites have been accorded.

memorial visitation at Reeves Funeral

Home, 75 N. Broadway, one block north of

The family will receive friends for a

Illinois Route 113 in Coal City on Thursday, May 30. 2024 from 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow in Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, 215 S. Kankakee St. in Coal City at 6 p.m. Reverend Josh Miller will preside with Deacon William Dunn Following Mass, military honors will

be rendered, and a private graveside held in Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery in Braidwood, where Anthony will be laid to rest with his parents. Preferred memorials may be made as

gifts in Anthony's memory to Assumption Catholic Church in Coal City or to SamaritansPurse.org

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

Funeral services & arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes and

Irene E. Schaefer

MORRIS-Irene E. Schaefer, 91, of Morris, passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 25, 2024 at The Gardens of Park Pointe in Morris with her daughter by her side. Born Sept. 20, 1932 in

Morris, Irene Elizabeth was the daughter of Adam and Mary (nee Kulof) Elinewski. She was raised in Morris, where she attended grade school and then graduated high school from St. Angela Academy. On Oct. 21, 1956, Irene married Robert William Schaefer, who

tragically passed away on Dec. 5, 1969. She continued her employment with First Midwest Bank in Morris, to support herself and her daughter. Irene was a devoted employee, holding several positions during her tenure with the bank, and retired from loan support after 30 years of loyal service. She proceeded to work part time at Hancock's Jewelers in Morris for several years, where she was a friendly and

familiar face to many clientele. Irene was a lifelong member of Immaculate Conception Church in Morris and was a devoted mother to her daughter, Nancy Jo. Everything she did was to make sure that Nancy was provided for and knew she was loved. Irene took great pleasure in craft shows, dancing, and elaborately decorating her home for every holiday. She especially enjoyed her regular Sunday outings with her daughter and Rich and his kids. These outings almost always starting off with cinnamon rolls which she would bake at home, creating treasured memories for all involved. Irene loved to cook for her family, constantly displaying her nurturing instincts by preparing lunches for herself and her daughter, even after she was grown and moved out. She simply loved being with the peo-ple she loved, devoting her life

to being the best mom and friend she could be. Survivors include her daughter, Nancy Jo Schaefer, of Joliet and numerous nieces

and nephews. Irene was preceded in death by her parents, Adam and Mary Elinewski; her husband, Robert W. Schaefer and one brother, Walter

(Lauretta) Kulof. Per Irene's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded.

A visitation will be at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 600 E. Jackson St., in Morris on Friday, May 31, 2024 from 9 a.m. until the time of funeral services at 10 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Reverend Jason Stone, and burial will follow at Mount Carmel Catholic Cemetery in Morris, where Irene will be laid to rest with

her husband, Robert. Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Irene's memory to: Operation St. Nick, P.O. Box 781, Morris, IL 60450 or Lightways Hospice, 250 Water Stone Circle, Joliet, IL 60431.

Family and friends are encouraged to online guest book at www.RevesFuneral.com, upload photographs, and share Irene's memorial page via social media.

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

Harriet Y. Luce _

CREST HILL—Harriet Y. Luce, 86, of Crest Hill, IL passed away May 26,2024 at Lightways Hospice House with her daughter and son-in-law by

Harriet was born in Braceville, the youngest child of Frank and Dorothy (Cook) Yoder. She grew up in her hometown and later graduated from Gardner-South Wilmington High School class of 1955 which had

31 original classmates. Their alumni still meets occasionally over the recent years. After graduation she worked at the Joliet Army Ammunition plant in Wilmington and in various secretarial roles then finally retiring from Deaton-Kennedy Company after 28 years. She never passed up the opportunity to talk to people whether she knew them or not about almost anything. She was always ready with a quip or a saucy comment.

Harriet really loved gardening, her flowers, and took pride in her yard so much so that she achieved her Master Gardener certificate. She enjoyed crossword puzzles and started each day with at least two. She loved her animals, especially her dogs. Camping with husband, Bud in their various campers and 5th wheel cocktail and chocolate in all forms.

and traveling to various states was a favorite pastime. She also loved a yummy Harriet believed in giving back to the community and volunteered as a Respite Care worker for Joliet Area Community

Hospice, now known as Lightways

Hospice, served at Will County Animal Shelter and delivered Meals on Wheels.

She was a long-time congregant of Hope United Methodist Church where she served in various capacities and sewed with the "Bag Ladies" who sewed totes for school children in foreign nations as part of an outreach program. Harriet is survived by daughter,

Terry (Matt) Karales, of Joliet and numerous nieces, nephews and dear friends and two stepdaughters, Suzonne Pulaski and Myrna Luce.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 26 years, Harold "Bud" Luce; parents, Frank and Dorothy Yoder, sisters, Arlene (Lloyd) Decker and Delores (Glenn) Hammond, all formerly of Braceville; Shirley (Elmer) Rolando, formerly of Diamond and one brother, Lester Yoder, formerly of Braceville.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations can be made in her name to Hope United Methodist Church, 2506 Caton Farm Road, Joliet IL or Lightways Hospice, 250 Water Stone Circle, Joliet, IL 60431. Cremation rites have been accorded

and a celebration of life will be held on Friday, May 31, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with a chapel service beginning at 12:30 p.m. at Tezak Funeral Home, 1211 Plainfield Rd. Joliet. Inurnment will be held privately at a later date at Braceville Gardner Cemetery in Braceville.

CAITLYN BROWN (third from left), from Wilmington, is a member of the pit crew for No. 2 Shell Powering Progress Indy car team that set a record time of 10.792 seconds in the Pit Stop Challenge.

Brown on two-time Indy 500 championship team

STAFF REPORT

Caitlyn Brown, a 2017 WHS graduate, continues to make history on the Indy car circuit.

Sunday the On Wilmington native became the first female crew member to win back-to-back Indy 500 championship Brown is the left-front

tire changer for Team Penske IndyCar driver Josef Newgarden who made a thrilling last-lap pass to win the 108th running of the Indy 500.

Newgarden became the first repeat winner of the race since Helio Castroneves won in 2001 and 2002 for Team Penske. Newgarden also achieved the record-extending 20th victory in the Indianapolis 500 for car owner Roger

After starting the race from the third position to help Team Penske lockout the front row, Newgarden methodically worked on the handling of his No. 2 Shell Powering Progress Chevrolet over the majority of the race to set himself up for when it mattered the

Over the last 25 laps of 200-lap Newgarden, Alexander Rossi and Pato O'Ward Alexander threw punches and counterpunches at each other at over 220 mph with the race inevitably roaring to a lastlap pass for the win.

That is exactly what the fans that stuck through the heavy rain earlier in the day were treated to when Newgarden - seemingly left with no more moves after O'Ward raced around him on the last lap - kept his foot to the floor in the third corner of the final lap to move back around the No. 5 Chevrolet and race to the checkered flag.

For Newgarden, it is the 30th win in an illustrious career that now counts two Indianapolis 500 wins and two series championships among his acco-

The win capped a record weekend for Brown and her crew mates who set a new record time of

10.792 seconds in the Pit Stop Challenge.

For Caitlyn it was proving ground that with determination and hard work you can achieve your dream job.

Her parents, Danielle and Joe Brown, owners of BTI Tire in Wilmington, were thrilled to again witness a second victory for their daughter. They know first hand how hard Caitlyn has worked to become the female mechanic that sends her over-the-wall to change tires in a maledominated sport.

This was the fourth Indy 500 race for Caitlyn. As a rookie in 2021, Brown was on an all women's crew for Beth Paretta's Autosport Indy 500 team that drew praise but did not win. She went from a backup tire changer to a front-line team leader in less than two years.

I knew we could win race Newgarden quoted in the Team Penske news report. "I'm just so proud of the team. They crushed it.



Courtesy photo

CAITLYN BROWN with her parents Danielle and Joe Brown at the Indy 500 raceway.

Morris Hospital offers babysitter training course

Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers is offering the American Red Cross Training Babysitter's Course for youth age 11 and older on Friday, June 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Morris Hospital Training Classroom at Shabbona School, 725 School St.,

Participants

bring a doll to class along with an e-mail address so their certificate can be sent to them by the American Red Cross upon completion the Registration is \$40 and includes lunch. Register online at www.morrishospital.org/events. Questions can be directed to 815-705should 7360.



Women

Children

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

- FOR SALE





275 S. Broadway St., Coal City Professional - Office - Retail - Service

PRIME 2.760 sq. ft. Multi-use storefront in the heart of Coal City's beautifully improved central business district. Building is divided into 3 separate units, each is fully updated and has its own utilities and mechanicals. Free village maintained street parking. \$240,000.00.



Sold Sisters 815-409-9768

> 925 N. IL Rt. 59, Shorewood, IL

soldsisters@coldwellhomes.com REAL ESTATE GROUP www.soldsisters.coldwellhomes.com



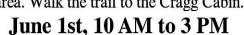
Jen and Sarah

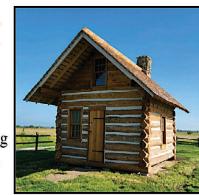
Welcome to the 1830's

CABIN FESTIVAL 2024

See authentic pioneer crafts done by the Prairie Partners and Friends as they re-enact in authentic dress. Visit the Cragg Cabin exhibit and prairie life presentations.

Park your car in the visitor center parking area. Walk the trail to the Cragg Cabin.







VISIT THE PRAIRIE RE-ENACTORS A free event for all ages. Bring your Cameras & folding chairs.

FOOD AND DRINK AVAIABLE, GIFT TENT Accepting CASH OR CHECKS

Fundraiser Tickets in Gift Tent. One ticket \$1 Six Tickets \$5.00



CPV THREE RIVERS, LLC

Visit website for performer

info. https://www.gooselakeprairie.org/craggcabinfestival.htm

At Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area, 5010 N. Jugtown Road, Morris, IL 60450

Illinois State Police warns residents of phone scam

Illinois Police (ISP) has received several phone calls from individuals reporting a person claiming to be an ISP investigator telling them their identity has been stolen.

This is a scam. ISP special agents will not make cold calls requesting personal or financial information, or ask you to confirm personal or financial information.

If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be an ISP investigator, ask for the caller's name, badge number and phone number, and then hang up.

Never provide or confirm personal or financial information over phone to an unknown caller. You can verify if a caller is an ISP special gent by contacting one of the seven investigative regions

State in the state, which can be

found on the ISP website. If you have provided personal or financial information to a caller, or think someone may have stolen your identifying information, ISP recommends contacting each of the three credit bureaus to put a free security freeze on your credit. This will prevent someone from opening credit in your name:

•https://www.equifax. com/personal/creditreport-services/creditfreeze/ •https://www.exper-

ian.com/freeze/center.htm

•https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze

You can call the Illinois Attorney General's Identity Theft Hotline at 1-866-999-5630. You will be assigned a consumer advocate to guide you through the recovery process.



Exploring orbiting solar plants for clean energy use on earth

feasible is creating orbiting solar plants that can beam energy down to Earth? If it's possible, when can we expect to see such tech implemented?

– P.R., via email

In the 1941 short story Reason, science fiction author Isaac Asimov introduces a space station that produces energy by sending microwave beams to the planets. This concept is tional space programs and research labs test the technology necessary to bring it to life.

Traditional solar technologies convert sunlight into usable energy here on Earth. However, their use is limited to daytime hours and restricted by weather and geography. The idea of an orbiting solar plant bypasses these restrictions, allowing energy harvesting above the clouds.





There are different designs, but the principles are similar: A large satellite transforms solar power into electricity using photovoltaic cells made of material that generates voltage and electric current when exposed to light. The power is then beamed down to earth by microwaves (or lasers) to dedicated receiving stations that turn the

energy back into electricity to get fed into the local grid.

Entities such as the European Space Agency (ESA), Space Solar (a startup in the UK), and the California Institute of Technology are investing working on launching this type of project.

Besides the obvious benefit of having all sun, all the time, orbiting solar plants have various other benefits. There are no dangerous byproducts as there are for other energy production methods: no fly ash from coal or radioactive waste from nuclear power. The entirely renewable—it will not run out in the age of humanity—so it is harmless could help limit the impacts of climate change if adopted on a global scale.

So why don't we already have these powergenerating stations orbiting in space? There are still The cost is prohibitive, the structure would need to be about 2,000 metric tons, roughly equivalent to the weight of 286 male African elephants and need to be a mile and a quarter in diameter, with a little over a halfmile-long transmitter.

Another challenge is engineering, particularly the parts used for such power-beaming structures. Given the difficulty of reaching the satellites for maintenance and repairs, it is suggested that parts must withstand at least 15 years

Additionally, there's a need to improve the efficiency of current wireless power transmission to ensure that all the energy can be collected down to

There are some significant drawbacks, too. Solar plants orbiting closer to Earth would transmit ener-

gy more easily, but light pollution would be difficult for humans and both flora and fauna to cope with. Research also suggests that exposure to artificial light at night can increase health issues in humans, including obesity, depression, diabetes and more.

Whether Asimov's proposal from nearly a century ago will be implemented remains to be seen. The ESA has recently sought ideas to make it more feasible. "The potential of this concept to contribute to long-term sustainable energy is very high," says ESA Engineer Advenit Makaya. For the time being, vou can invest in solar power on Earth and keep your eyes on the sky as the technology advances and

costs drop. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

District 209-U seeking bids for diesel fuel

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Wilmington Community Unit School District 209U, Will County, Wilmington, Illinois will receive bids for the purchase of diesel fuel for the 2024-2025 school year. Bid specifications may be obtained upon request from the Office of the Superintendent, Wilmington Community Unit School District No. 209U, 209U Wildcat Court, Wilmington, IL 60481 - Phone (815) 926-1751. All bids are to be received in the Office of the Superintendent at the above address on or before 2:30 PM. CDST, Tuesday, June 4, 2024 and will be opened publicly at that time. The Board of Education will make its decision on Monday, June 10, 2024, and reserves the right to waive any technicalities or irregularities and to reject any or all bids or any part or parts thereof. By and for the Board of Education

Wilmington Community Unit School District 209U Peggy Kunz, Secretary, Board of Education Published in the Free Press Advocate Wednesday, May 22 and 29, 2024.

Sheriff's sale of 112 Wyndstone Dr.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

STATE OF ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff,

VS.
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF RICHARD WHEET, DECEASED; KIM-BERLI EVON; SCOTT WHEET; RICHARD WHEET JR; VILLAGE OF ELWOOD;
WYNDSTONE VILLAGE TOWNHOMES ASSOCIATION, INC.; AMIR MOHAB. BAT, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF RICHARD WHEET, DECEASED, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant. No. 22 FC 0483

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment entered in the above cause on the 12th day of October, 2023, MIKE KELLEY, Sheriff of Will County, Illinois, will on Thursday, the 13th day of June, 2024, commencing at 12:00 o'clock noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder

ROOM 904, Joliet, IL 60432, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder or bidders the following-described real estate:

THE WEST 38.12 FEET OF THE EAST 131.97 FEET OF LOT 2 IN WYN-DSTONE VILLAGE TOWNHOMES UNIT 1, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 34 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED OCTOBER 13, 1992 AS DOCUMENT NO. R92-80523, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Commonly known as:

112 WYNDSTONE DR, ELWOOD, IL

Description of Improvements: Single Family P.I.N.: 10-11-20-308-017-0000

Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance with-in 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 pay-ments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will

County.

In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 13-13-1307(c)(1)(n-1) and (n-2), 763 ILCS 603/18)(g)(3), and 763 ILCS 603/18.3(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act.

Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following appliance of the purchase of the surplus following appliance of the purchase of the surplus following appliance of the surplus following application and surplus following

cation of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeit-

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
120 W. MADISON STREET SUITE 718

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602 P: 312 444-1122 X102

Plaintiff's Attorney

Will County
Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, May 22, 29 and June 5, 2024.

District seeking bids for new doors, windows

Elwood Fire Protection

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Elwood Fire Protection District will be accepting sealed bids for the purchase and installation of replacement windows for 6 doors and 13 fixed windows at the Elwood Fire Protection District. Bid specifications/packets must be picked up in person at the Elwood Fire Protection District 309 W. Mississippi St., Elwood, IL 60421, Mon-Fri St., Elwood, IL 60421, Mon-Fri, 8:30am- 2:30 pm. A mandatory pre-construction meeting will be held on June 6, 2024, at 10:00am at the Elwood Fire Protection District (address above). Bids must be submitted by 9:00am, June 10, 2024. The bids may be mailed to: Elwood Fire Protection District 309 W. Mississippi St., Elwood, IL 60421, or dropped off in person 8:30am-2:30pm, Mon-Fri The Fire District will not receive bids after 9:00am on June 10, 2024. All bids shall be opened at the Elwood Fire Protection District on June 10, 2024, at 1:00pm.

The Fire District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Any questions should be directed to Chief Locacius at clocacius@elwoodfpd.

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, May 29 and June 5, 2024.

> Wesley Township Road District to do cleanup

PUBLIC NOTICE

Wesley Township Residents and LandOwners,
Wesley Township Road District will be cleaning the ditches, cutting shoulders, and reclaiming the Right of Way throughout the township. The replacement of driveway entrance cut verts will be evaluated at time of ditch cleaning. If the township deems it necessary to replace the culvert it will be done at no cost to the homeowner Culverts will not be installed on vacant residential lots.

Any structures on the Right of Way must be removed. Any structures on the Right of Way at time of construction will be deemed debris and disposed of. Any mailbox post that must be removed will be reinstalled by the Road District at no cost to the landowner.

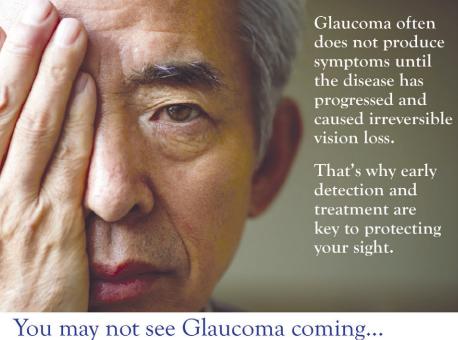
During the upcoming monthly township meeting on June 11, 2024, the Road District will be presenting an ordinance to the Wesley Township Board for their approval that will prohibit constructing on, and or filling in ditches throughout the township.

If you have any questions on the project or the proposed ordinance, please attend the monthly meeting on June 17, 2024, at 6:30 pm @ 21333 W Ballou Rd. Wilmington, II. Leonard McCubbin

Road Commissioner Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, May 29,

Mike Kelley

Sheriff of



But We Wil If you're age 40 or older, or if you have

diabetes, high blood pressure or a family history of glaucoma, talk to us to learn more or to schedule a screening

815-468-2015 501 S. Locust St. (Rt. 50) • Manteno





Bring your little princess out for

Princess Night Friday, May 31

6:35 p.m. game time

Calling all princesses to the grandest ball in town — Princess Night at the ballpark!

Bring the family for a fun-filled night including fireworks.

Schedule of upcoming games:

Saturday, June 1 — Pride Night, 6:05 p.m. Sunday, June 2 — Harry Potter Night, 1:05 p.m. Tuesday, June 4 —Pajama Night, 6:35 p.m. Wednesday, June 5 — Polish Heritage Night, 6:35 p.m. Thursday, June 6 — 80's Night Party, 6:35 p.m.

CALL 815-722-2287 FOR TICKETS





Step 1: Follow the QR Code to register for your lane. Step 2: Call Ashley at 815-476-2105 to confirm your lane!

advisory services offered through Raymond James Financial Servies Advisors, Inc. Oak Knoll Financial Strategies is not a registered broker/dealer and is independent of Raymond James Financial Services.

Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. Investment

REPAIRS

PAINTING

Interior only,

25 years experience.

referrals available

Call 815-585-0904.

cc21-24

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

Deadlines

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

VISA

Maverick,

Contact:

NEW

(Motor

alone).

4384. fr22-25

9048. cc22-23

AUTOS

FOR SALE: 2022 Ford

miles, Area 51 blue.

BOATS

MOTOR - Lowe 2002

14 feet Jon fishing boat

with 2023 9.9 Mercury

electric start motor. No trailer. Selling because

we bought a pontoon

for grandkids. \$1,500.

GARAGE SALES

15th ANNUAL

WILMINGTON

ALL-TOWN

GARAGE SALE

Thurs., June 6 (8am-5 pm);

Fri., June 7

(8am-5 pm);

Sat.. June 8

(8 am - 2 pm)

Sponsored by

First United

Methodist Church,

Advertise

with us!

worth

Call 815-735-

847-323-

OUTBOARD

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

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

June

GARAGE SALE

BRAIDWOOD

GARAGE SALE

DAYS

Friday and Saturday,

8AM-3PM. Maps avail-

able at the First Presbyterian Church

on Main & Lincoln St.

Look for the Tye Dye

banners at each sale.

Wilmington, Pole Barn

Garage Sale. 210 Stewart, Thurs., Fri. &

Sat., June 6, 7, 8 from

tools, hardware, real

barn wood beehive

crafted furniture, flag

pallets, engine stand &

carrier, interior doors.

HELP WANTED

Lifeguards needed at

local sportsmen's club in Wilmington. Must be

certified or able to be-

come certified. Please

through

Stop in for application

at the bar, ch21-24.

inquiries

Lots more. ca22-23

Wildcat stuff,

Crafts,

8AM-5PM.

boxes.

No rain date. cc22-24

14th & 15th.

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

HELP WANTED

Will County Sports-

men's Club is looking

for a full-time office

employee. Must have

Microsoft Office, POS

systems, and phone

etiquette. Please send

wcsc1946@gmail.com

or call the office at

Will County Sports-

men's Club is looking

for a reliable Mainte

nance Worker. Must be

able to operate the

and other equipment.

Please call the office at

wcsc1946@gmail.com

LOST & FOUND

Have you found a lost

pet or lost a pet in Will County? Please call

Will County Animal

Control. We may have

your pet. We want to

Holds up to 50 lbs.

for

Asking \$100. Call Eric 815-922-7966.

warranty.

\$363.

Life-time

Retails

815-476-6561.

Skidsteer.

email:

cc17-22

815-476-6561

with

cc17-

Backhoe

experience

inquiries

<u>Cost</u>

Line Ads are up to 30 words (20¢ for each word over 30)

1 wk.- \$17; 2 wks.- \$21;

PETS

Large Selection of Dog

and Cat Food, treats,

aids, clothing, Birthday

treats, wall art, jewelry.

gifts, greeting cards

and Home of Fritters

for Critters Pet Treats.

New! Brew and Chew

Dog Treats. Trinity Barkery 240 W. Balti-

60481 815-476-5104

slewis@trinity-

DOGS PETS

LIVESTOCK

When veterinary care is

ask for Happy Jack® animal

healthcare products for

cats, dogs, & horses. At Tractor Supply®

(www.happyjackinc.com)

REAL ESTATE

REAL ESTATE of 112 WYNDSTONE DR , EL-WOOD, IL 60421 (Single

Family). On the 13th day

of June, 2024 to be held

at 12:00 noon, at the Will

SHERIFF'S SALE

unavailable or unaffordable

more Wilmington.,

services.org.

ch22b-tfn

accessories,

GOT GRASS 3 wks.- \$25; 4 wks.-\$29* Lawn Care \$1.00 Extra per line for bold or Jim Baudino

caps on classified 815-342-6394 plus .0399% with credit card

REAL ESTATE

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 pur-

suant to its credit bid at the

sale or by any mortgagee,

judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the resi-

dential real estate whose

dential real estate arose

prior to the sale. All pay-ments shall be made in

cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of

Will County. In the event the property is a condo-

minium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1),

you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the

unit, other than a mort-gagee, shall pay the

assessments and legal fees required by sub-

divisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the as-

sessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois

Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if

there is a surplus following

application of the pro-

ceeds of sale, then the

YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT

COLLECTOR ATTEMPT-

SERVICE & REPAIRS

A Thousand

Words

Photography 385 N. Second Ave. Coal City

Mandy Eaton 815-791-2913

Mike Collins Roofing, re-shingles and gutter

gutter screen, no repair

to small or too big. Free roof inspection.

your house cooler in

warmer in the winter.

blown in insulation for

attics from Mike Collins

Roofing. Lic # 104.007296. Ask for

estimate

and

for

CLUES ACROSS

1. Fashion accessory

7. Small, faint constellation

10. Self-righteous person

14. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)

19. What stage performers do

26. Licensed for Wall Street

29. It's on many people's heads

39. Popular music awards show

46. Edward ___, author and writer

12. Caucasian language

16. Former French coin

17. Levels the score

20. Egyptian Sun god

25. Spherical body

30. Boxing's GOAT

32. Popular HBO show

42. Lake in Botswana

43. Unruly group

44. One-fourth

45. Very eager

48. Flying insect

51. Not just "play"

52. Commercials

50. Thus far

49. Dragged forcibly

21. Localities

27. Perfect

31. Photo

41. Pouch

4. Engine additive

8. Gives a job

13. Surinam toad

cleaning,

Low prices.

INSULATION.

summertime

Ron's Drywall, Hang,

Tape & Paint, 25 years Reasonexperience. able rates including dry-wall repairs, plaster repairs, cracks, holes, & patches. Carpenter available by request. 815-549-5136. cc21-

ch10-25

WANTED

Wanted: collection or 476-7966. tfn/45a

STORAGE

PUBLIC STORAGE Clementine's Closets

815-530-0200

No Deposit -

Starting at \$50 515 Davy Lane, Wilmingt

SHOP LOCAL!

Snowmobiles

 Appliances Anything Metal

WANTED

WANTED

SCRAP METAL

Farm Machinery

Garden Tractors

Free pickup 7 days 815-210-8819

BOAT FOR SALE



feet Jon fishing boat with 2023 9.9 Mercury electric start motor. No trailer. Selling because we bought a pontoon for grandkids. \$1,500. (Motor worth that alone). Call 815-735-4384.

5 5 6 3 5 6 8 5 3 9 8



SITUATIONS

Stories about local people, organizations and events. If you know a neighbor with an interesting hobby, give the editor a call at 815-634-0315 or 815-

to wcsc1946@gmail.c County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room reunite your family, 815-462-5633. fr/tfn 401 E. Kahler, plaintiff shall send om or call the office at written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to Wilmington. 904, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: FREE-815-476-6561. cc17-Everyone is welcome all parties to the proceedto come out and DOM MORTGAGE COR-MISCELLANEOUS ing advising them of the explore all the great PORA-TION Plaintiff amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be Looking for part time help for local cleaning UNKNOWN HEIRS AND sales at the church LEGATEES RICHARD Hall Rental - Available OF WHEET, and throughout the whole town. held until a party obtains a court order for its distribufor parties, showers & service, must be able DECEASED; KIMBERLI EVON; SCOTT WHEET; to work early mornings, meetings. Seats 100 tion or, in the absence of Stop by for lunch at people, full kitchen available. If interested an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. the church on Friday no weekends, all holi-RICHARD WHEET JR; VILLAGE OF ELWOOD; WYNDSTONE VILLAGE TOWNHOMES ASSOCIdays off, background from 11:30-1:00. For Informa-tion Please Contact: INTERCOUNTY call New Hope Presby-Listing Maps will be available for pick up at check, call 815-458-0883. cc21-22 terian Church in Coal JUDICIAL SALES COR-ATION, INC.; AMIR MOHABBAT, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF PORATION the church beginning City, 815-634-8332. ch 27a-tfn MADISON at 8 am on June 6 and 120 W. The Wilmington VFW STREET SUITE 718 CHICAGO, IL 60602 throughout the sale THE ESTATE RICHARD WHEET, at 557 W. Baltimore St dates. For more HPZ Pet Rover Run hiring a full-time P: 312 444-1122 X102 information, performance stroller for CEASED, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-REcook. Must have mancall: 815-476-5474. PURSUANT TO FAIR DEBT CO 6 dog. Made in USA with ager's certification or ch19-21 CORD CLAIMANTS: Deheavy-duty tubing. COLLECtake class to get one. Hours noon to 8pm fendant. Case No. 22 FC TION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED

the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time ING TO COLLECT A
DEBT AND ANY INFOR-MATION OBTAINED
WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., May 22, 29 and June 5, 2024

0483 in the Circuit Court of

We'll put our award-winning graphic arts department to work for you to typeset and print practically anything.

Sure you can order printing online but it's not always cheaper when you add in those hidden art charges and shipping. Get a local quote first!

Specializing in full color business cards

- business cards
- dinner tickets
- letterhead
- full color copies
- banners
- posters
- raffle tickets
- envelopes
- business forms
- fliers
- resumes
- yard signs and more

We'll take care of your printing needs from start to finish.



Stop in for a free competitive quote 111 S. Water St., Wilmington Ph. 815-476-7966

Mike at 815-730-1303.



Source: Midwest Real Estate DataBase, (MLS) Single Family Detached Homes Sold in 2023 By Grundy County Offices.

SEE EVERY HOME ON THE MARKET AT C21.COM

99% Customer **Satisfaction Rating**

e 0 e

CLUES DOWN

1. Occur

2. Show up

3. Capital of Taiwan

5. Secret get-togethers

8. Where the action is

14. Type of vessel (abbr.)

19. One who buys and sells securities

23. Naturally occurring material

27. Postmodernist Austrian "House"

24. Luke's mentor -Wan

31. Beginning military rank

32. Talk rapidly and unintelligbly

28. Aquatic salamander

34. Caregiver (abbr.)

35. Old Irish alphabet

36. Japanese city

38. Things to see

40. Type of tooth

44. To be demonstrated 47. Defunct European group

39. Nursemaid

37. In a way, acted

29. Baseball stat

33. Paddle

15. Accept and handle

4. Brother or sister

6. Type of tea

11. Crime group

18. Sacrifice hit

simultaneously

22. Most thin

20. Month

9 Cast out

COALER SPORTS



CCHS SOCCER SENIOR Cassidy Jenke is escorted by her parents Raquel and Michael



CCHS SOCCER SENIOR Ava Houston is escorted by Tracy and Devon Elliott.



CCHS SOCCER SENIOR Madison Gomez is escorted by Becky and Dave Gomez.



CCHS SOCCER SENIOR Aubrey Mellen is escorted by her parents Stephanie and Adam Mellen.

Coal City H.S. says farewell to soccer seniors

The Coal City High Åthletic recognized Department senior members of the Girls Soccer Team—Kiley McKim, Cassidy Jenke, Mellen, Houston and Madison Gomez—on Senior Night held on Thursday, May 2.

Kiley McKim was recognized for her four years of contributions to the Coaler Soccer Team. She has also participated in golf, Future Business Leaders of America, Spanish Honor Society, Coaler Creations and served on the Prom Committee. McKim was accompanied by Brooke Howard and Patrick Vanduyne on Senior Night. Her future plans are cur-

rently undecided. Cassidy Jenke is a four year member of the Coaler

Soccer Team and she was honored on Senior Night along with her parents Raquel and Michael Jenke, Cassidy has also been involved in Coalers with Character, Link

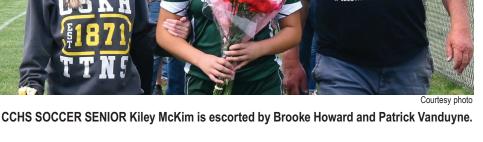
Leaders, Committee, Coaler Creations, Yearbook, Math Team, Footnotes, basketball cheer and golf. Her plans are to attend Joliet Ĵunior College prior to transferring to Illinois State University to major in health and physical educa-

recognized as a four year member of the Coaler Soccer Team. She has also played volleyball for the Coalers. She was accompanied on Senior Night by her parents Stephanie and

Adam Mellen. Her plans after high school are to continue her

career as a cosmetologist. Ava Houston joined the Coaler Soccer Team this season and was recognized for her contributions this season. As a Coaler, Ava has participated in cheerleading, Coalers with Character, National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society. She was accompanied on Senior Night by Tracy and Devon Elliott. She will be attending the University of Missouri with an English

major for pre-law. Madison Gomez was honored as a four year member of the Coaler Soccer Team. She also participated on the school's volleyball team. Madison was accompanied on Senior Night by Becky and Dave Gomez. Her plans are to continue her education at Joliet Junior College.



Senior Night CCHS Softball



Photo by Amy Walker CCHS SOFTBALL SENIOR Briahnna Combes is escorted by Amanda Combes. She is a three year member of the Lady Coaler Softball Team. She will continue her education at Joliet Junior College studying in the field of nursing.



Photo by Amy Walker

CCHS SOFTBALL SENIOR Abby Gagliardo is escorted by her parents Tony and Trisha Gagliardo. She has taken the field for the Lady Coalers all four years of high school. She also was a four year member of the basketball team and Coalers with Character. Abby will



CCHS SOFTBALL SENIORS Makayla (left) and Makenzie Henline are escorted by their parents Lonnie and Stephanie Henline. Makenzie has been a member of the Lady Coaler Softball Team for four years. She has also participated in basketball, volleyball, Coalers with Character, National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society during high school. Makenzie will continue her education at Illinois State University majoring in elementary education. Makayla Henline is a four year member of the Lady Coaler Softball team and will take her talents to Rock Valley College where she will play for the Golden Eagles. During high school she participated in basketball, volleyball, Coalers with Character and National Honor Society. As a student athlete at Rock Valley she will study nursing. Makayla was

accompanied by her parents, Lonnie and Stefanie Henline on Senior Night.



CCHS SOFTBALL SENIOR Jadyn Shaw is escorted by her parents Joe and Kerrie Shaw. She is a four year member of the Lady Coaler Softball Team and will continue playing the game as a member of the Rock Valley College Golden Eagles. During her time at CCHS she also participated in volleyball, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Coalers with Character. As a student athlete at Rock Valley she will major in nursing.