Firefighter graduates



§1.00 Vol. 123, Issue 24 1 section • 12 pages Not over 75% advertising www.coalcitycourant.com

ALCITY COURANT &

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER • (815) 634-0315

Grand marshal has a legacy of serving community

These days village residents see Dale Scubic driving by slowly in his well kept, sharp red truck, on his way to or from somewhere with wife, Pat, along for the ride. Humble, quiet and mostly smiling, Dale is a true helper to his family, friends and community.

As one of Carbon Hill's finest citizens, Dale has given many long hours of volunteer time and effort.

Scubic served on the village board in the 1980s, and ran the Bingo stand with his efficient small crew. While Dale called the numbers his wife Pat, along with Michele M and Pat T, moved through the aisles gathering up the quarters each game cost to play a single card, and handed out more cards and collected more quarters quickly to keep the games going and help make the Bingo stand suc-

Dale, a card carrying plumber-fitter, was also valued as a capable board member, digging deep around town to find and fix leaks in the water pipe system.

Along with other village volunteers, often in freezing cold or at night, or on a weekend, they did whatever it took. Volunteer efforts meant we all relied on each one's skills, competencies and muscles, plus that reliable and

In the early 1980s, Scubic and George Dare tore down the park's old outhouses. D Construction had just started and loaned them a jackhammer to cut out the concrete.

Dale also installed the plumbing in the new park bathrooms and made the stainless steel trough in the men's bathroom in the park with help from his sheetmetal co- workers. Dale began his career with a fitter's card and plumber's license and in 2004 officially retired from

Dale represents a third generation family in Carbon Hill. His grandfather Frank Skubic, a coal miner and then a beekeeper, served the village also "in the old days" as one of our mayors, and maintained the old cedar water tank, walking to and from home every day along Lacey



DALE SKUBIC has been chosen as grand marshal of the Carbon Hill Homcoming for 2024.

Street to do his tasks.

Dale's parents, Tony and Ramona (Wharrie) Scubic, started out as a young couple renting a house in Carbon Hill before they moved into Coal City, buying their little home at 80 DeWitt Street, where Doris and Dale grew up.

Tony was working as a cutter at Hyman's Tailoring Factory in 1940, before the U.S. entered WWII. Tony was 37 years old. The local draft board told Tony to go get a defense job. So he went over to Seneca, IL where, along the Illinois River, the Chicago Bridge and Iron Co. had just opened the "Prairie Shipyard".

Tony was hired and became one of many defense workers who built 157 of the 1,051 LSTs (Landing Ship, Tank) used in WWII. Twenty-three of the Seneca Shipyard LSTs participated in the D-Day assault. In the midst of wartime, Dale Anton Scubic was born on May 15, 1944.

In 1950 when Dale was six years old he and his dad came into Carbon Hill in the 35 Chevy. At the entry into the village of Carbon Hill, Dale recalls a guy was there standing selling "tickets" (tags on a string) for \$1.00 each. This donation was to support the "Homecoming" events.

That day the big soccer game was between a team from Mexico versus another team from far away. Each entry road into the village had a volunteer selling those tickets. Dale remembers the whole village was crowded with cars and people.

Young Dale and his dad enjoyed many happy times together; fishing was a favorite pastime. Fishing in the local rural spots in the 1950s was common.

In that era the winding curves of White Tie Road going west to "the Falls" at Mazon Creek offered access for fishing without having to venture up on the "high banks" (narrow high strip mine spoil clay ridges between the deep water which had filled the abandoned pits). Today, along White Tie Road going west, the curves have been straightened and a modern bridge crosses the drainage ditch. Concrete, riprap, and guard rails replaced the falls or old access roads into these pits, but keen eyes and a bit of imagination can still trace how it used to be.

In 1954, Dale saw some butterfly collections made by neighed boys and others in the neighborhood. Dale was about 10 and inspired to make his own display. Dale's two display cases of butterflies are the result. This collection hangs on the wall in his home today - meticulously mounted insects arranged with precision and patience -

SEE GRAND MARSHAL PAGE 2



BRAVO COMPANY, 766th Brigade Engineer Battalion, based at the Marseilles Training Area, mobilized for deployment at Coal City High School on Thursday, June 6, The Illinois National Guard soldiers recognized at the mobilization ceremony are among 550 being sent overseas on a mission to secure and protect U.S. and Allied Forces.



Coal City gives soldiers a patriotic send-off

Illinois National Guardsman headed overseas

100 Illinois National Guard guardsmen assigned to Bravo Company, 766th Brigade Engineer Battalion, based at the Marseilles Training Area, mobilized for deployment on Thursday, June 6 and they were sent off with a ceremony held at Coal City High School.

Captain Bryce Sesemann, the Company Commander and First Sergeant Marshall Shearer led the unit that is heading overseas with the primary mission of securing and

protecting U.S. and Allied Forces, as well as training

with allies in the region. The soldiers were bound for Fort Bliss, TX prior to their departure to Kuwait where they will serve out an assignment of over one year.

Attending the mobilization ceremony were family members

friends of the guardsmen, along with local veterans and community members.

State Senator Tom Bennett was on hand to wish them well on their **SEE SEND-OFF PAGE 2**





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Grand marshal, continued from page 1

hallmarks of two of Dale's traits throughout his life. When Little League got organized in Coal City

on the original high school grounds, Dale joined at age 11 and played for two seasons until he was 12. His age advanced him to Pony League and a few years later he was Coaler at CCHS (1958) playing basketball until his senior year when he played both basketball and baseball.

Following high school graduation in 1962, Scubic joined the basketball team at Joliet Junior College for two years until he graduated. Dale then attended Western Illinois University for one year and quit school soon after his close friend Tommy Hanfeld was killed in a car accident. serving in the

Dale went straight to the local draft board and changed his classification, then took a job at AP Green "Clay Pit" in Goose Lake while he waited. The first notice came December 21, 1965 and in January of 1966 he got his greetings letter. He traveled to Ft Polk in Lousiana and on to Fort Hood Texas for basic training and was sent to New Mexico for nuclear weapons training school before he was back to Fort Hood until his active duty was completed.

On Feb 7, 1968, Dale was back in Coal City, having served 2 years active duty. This duty was followed by the required 2 years of active reserve and 2 more years of inactive reserve. Dale remained "on call" for four years until 1972 when his service was fully completed. Dale had returned to

Coal City, where he met Patricia Halliday, a hometown Coal City girl. It was a typical small town love story -- "there she was justa walking down the street" while the local guys buzzed the gut noticing the girls. And on May 20,

Coal City Fire District to hold public hearing on tentative budget

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on the Tentative Budget of the COAL CITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT in the County of Grundy and State of Illinois for the fiscal year beginning on May 1, 2024 and ending on April 30, 2025 at the Coal City Fire District Station #2, located at 1455 S. Berta Road, Coal City, Illinois on July 16, 2024 at 10:30

The Tentative Budget for the COAL CITY FIRE PROTECTION DIS-TRICT for said fiscal year ending on April 30, 2025 is now posted on the bulletin board of the said COAL CITY tion in said fire protection district, and is conveniently available for public inspection. Dated June 12, 2024.

COAL CITY FIRE PROTECTION

Published in the Coal City

Courant on June 12, 2024.

Attorney Wharrie files Joyce estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

COUNTY OF GRUNDY IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JACQUELINE JOYCE, Deceased 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 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 independent administration at any time by E-filing or delivering a Petition to Terminate 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 help or have trouble E-filling, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/ FAQ/geth elp.asp or talk to your local circuit clerk's office.

Clicuit clerk's office.

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 with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of issuance of letters of office. Any claim not filed letters of office Any claim not filed. 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 representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it had been filed. Dated: May 20, 2024.

DANIEL WINCHELL 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,

1972, Dale Scubic married Pat Halliday in Assumption Catholic Church.

Leaving his family home at 80 Dewitt St in Coal City, he and Pat rented a little white house at 445 E. First Street until August '73. Dale began building their Carbon Hill home in August of 73, continuing through May '74.

For a while Dale, Pat and baby Toni Marie went to Dewitt St and stayed with Mona and Tony until May 27, 1974 when they moved into Carbon Hill and raised their three daughters. So May 27, 2024 marked 50 years for Dale living in Carbon Hill.

Dale's roots in Carbon Hill go back to the early 1900s when grandpa Frank and grandma (Korelc) Skubic Skubic and lived on the west side of Sixth St. Their two story house is remodeled but it's still there, owned by Charlie Shain now.

On the east side of Sixth Street, all the lots were one again vacant by the 1920s, so Frank and Ursula Skubic bought those lots to grow potatoes or other produce. Dale's Aunt Frances bought these lots from her mom and Dale's dad Tony then bought three of the the lots from Frances. Dale's sister Doris and her husband ("Murph") had their home built on the south corner lots in 1960.

Doris and Dale's cousin Billy Wharrie, helped Dale chop down all the scrub trees and clear the corner lots for Doris and Murph to build their home. Dale's lots are north of Doris' and they were cleared when Dale was ready to build his home in late summer 1973.

Dale has always been a lover of vintage cars and trucks. He once bought a Model T Ford from Ivan, a mechanic in the Ford garage. Dale eventually sold that vintage Model T truck. It ended up with new owner George Dare who would drive it in Carbon Hill parades for many years.

Dale has bought and restored several old cars in his garage in Carbon Hill. Between car clubs, car shows, cruise nights and car runs, Dale and several buddies along with his cousin Joey Macaluso enjoyed this hobby, and shared good times over the years.

They continue to reminisce about cars, car Homecoming memories of parachutists jumping out of planes during Homecoming to land in the ball field (and missing the spot), the bungee jumpers, fireworks, and the Sunday parades they all enjoyed in the shade under the ash trees along Lacey Street in Micetich's

Then tragedy struck when Dale's wife Pat died at age 47 on June 30, 1998. Dale and his three daughters, as well as their friends and family, were numb with grief.

On July 17, 1999, Dale met Pat Vidmar, whose colleague had suggested she meet Dale Scubic. Pat and Dale dated from summer 1999 until they married on March 1, 2005 in Las Vegas. Their 20th anniversary will be March 1, 2025.

blessings. His three daughters, now with their own families, all live nearby. His firstborn daughter Toni Marie is married to Doug Durham; second daughter Alice Ann is married to Brett Aldridge; and third daughter Cori Lynn (Doug Carey) married Jason Forsythe but way too soon became his widow.

Dale's grandchildren Natalie Durham, Drew Curtis Durham, Mason **Iames** Aldridge, Leah Grace Aldridge, Kellen Dale Forsythe, Daxton Michael (Forsythe.

enjoying retired life with Pat and they are living still at 735 N Sixth St in Carbon Hill. Family gatherings and day trips to casinos, and quiet times at home fill his days. An oil and acrylic painting hobby has now become his pastime. Dale says his artwork in oil and acrylics is his legacy..... that's true enough.

Homecoming for 2024.

Grand Marshal.

at 6 pm, in Carbon Hill School Museum, we will there and bring your own stories about Dale and the many decades of the Carbon Hill homecomings.

Send-off, continued from page 1

journey and he joined Brigadier General Justin Osbert, Director of the Illinois National Guard Joint Staff and Chaplin Major Kip Troeger, Brigade Chaplin, 33rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team in addressing the deploying soldiers.

Although part of a separate battalion, the unit will co-deploy with four

Attorney Schmidt files Hulbert estate claim

PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF 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 Clerk, 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 have trouble e-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/geth elp.asp, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office Charles L. 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

units from the Battalion, 178th Infantry Regiment and fall under 1-178th Infantry the

Battalion's command and

control.

The 1-178th will have its headquarters in Jordan and will have personnel stationed in 13 locations across six different coun-

In all, about 550 Illinois National Guard soldiers have been deployed based in units Marseilles, Kankakee, Chicago, Bartonville and

Attorney Black files Peterson estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT **GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE** No. 2024 PR 41
IN THE MATTER OF

THE ESTATE OF CAROL J. PETERSON, DECEASED

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of Carol J. Peterson. Letters of office as Independent Executor were issued to Leslie Peterson, P.O. Box 728, Morris, Illinois 60450, whose attorney is FRANK J. BLACK, BLACK & BLACK, 201 Liberty Street, Suite 211, Morris, Illinois 60450. Claims against the estate may be filed

in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Grundy County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington St., Morris, IL 60450, with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or, if mailing or delivery of a notice is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has LESLIE PETERSON INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

Frank J. Black Black & Black Lawyers 201 Liberty Street Suite 211 P.O. Box 148

Morris, IL 60450

815-942-0594 Published in the Coal City Courant on June 12, 19 and 26, 2024.

The 21st century has provided Dale with many

Ťoday, Dale, 80, is

But Dale has left an

additional legacy: his service to his community. This legacy is appreciated by naming him the Grand Marshal of Carbon Hill's

Dale will be presented with a plaque at 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 19 at the village park's flagpole to begin the week's festivities. See him again in Sunday's parade as the honored On Saturday, June 22,

celebrate Dale sharing stories, photos and listening to his stories too. Join all

THE COAL CITY Fire Protection District commends three recent graduates of the Shabbona Fire Academy, completing over 250 hours of training to become firefighters. At the ceremony were CCFPD Firefighter/Paramedic Kevin Hennessy, graduate firefighters Dylan Ludes, Lilly Ullrich and Zach Finch and Coal City Fire Chief Jim Seerup.

Local students graduate Chief Shabbona Fire Academy June 7

Six area candidates • Zach Finch graduated from the 26th Shabbona Academy on June 7.

Each graduate received over 250 hours of training, far exceeding the 180 hours required by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshall, to attain the Basic Operations Firefighter Certification, including-From Braidwood:

- Jimmie Clanton (valedictorian) • Jacob Richardson
- Angela Vertucci From Coal City:

• Dylan Ludes

• Lillian Ullrich Academy instructors

hail from a variety of departments and include those who have volunteered their time. instructors are unpaid. The academy offers

programs designed to prepare aspiring firefighters for a career. Basic Operations Firefighter training provides students with fundamental skills from fire behavior and suppression to rescue opera-

tions and hazardous mate-

"Every year between January and June, the Chief Shabbona Fire Academy is put on," Chris Jude, Chief of Braidwood Fire Protection District, said. "We started with 19, and we ended up graduating 15 of them, including the three candidates from Braidwood."

Jude also serves as the academy director.

Graduates of the 2024 Chief Shabbona Fire Academy began classes on

Wilmington men charged with gunrunning for drugs three counts of unlawful

warned the public of a heavy police presence in the 400 block of Fulton Street around 2 p.m. Monday, June 3.

The advised there was no threat to the public but to steer clear of the area while several area police agencies were arresting two men accused of running guns, according to Joliet Police spokesman Dwayne English. The Joliet agency was

the lead team involved in two raids that resulted in arrest of Robert Delacruz, 35, and Aaron David, 37, both of Wilmington, who were charged with gunrunning,

Hometown Storage to

dispose of property

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Lien
Hometown Storage, 2920 E.
Division St., Diamond, IL 60416, 81534-3333 hereby is asserting a
Possessory Lien in pursuant to your
contract and the State of Illinois SelfService Facility Act.
Tenet: Johnny Crawford, 408

Tenant: Johnny Crawford, 408 S. East St., Gardner, IL 60424, Unit G-

If unpaid rental charges, late

Published in the Coal City

fees and associated charges are not paid for in full by June 29, 2024, the property will be sold to satisfy the lien.

Attorney Black files

Royston estate

claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE
No. 2024 PR 39
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of JAMES M. ROYSTON

JR. Letters of office as Independent Executor were issued to Brenda Sue

Barger, 725 E. Mesa Drive, Godlev. Illinois 60407, whose attorney is DON-ALD F. BLACK, BLACK & BLACK, 201

Liberty Street, Suite 211, Morris, Illinois 60450.

111 E. Washington St., Morris, IL 60450, with the representative, or

both, within six months from the date

of the first publication of this notice or,

if mailing or delivery of a notice is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in

that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a

claim filed with the clerk must be

mailed or delivered to the representa-

tive and to the attorney within 10 days

Published in the Coal City Courant on Wednesday, June 5, 12

BRENDA SUE BARGER INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

after it has been filed.

Black & Black Lawyers 201 Liberty Street

Suite 211

P.O. Box 148 Morris, IL 60450

815-942-0594

and 19, 2024.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Grundy County Courthouse,

JAMES M. ROYSTON JR.

DECEASED

Courant on June 12 and 26, 2024.

a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. They were taken to the Will County Jail. The pair of arrests were made after an investigation that began several

sale of guns, possession of

Delacruz and David were identified as suspects in the unlawful sale of mulguns, English explained. Delacruz and David allegedly, unlawfully sold guns to people in exchange for cash and nar-

cotics during this time. On Monday, members of the narcotics, tactical, and K9 unit from the Ioliet Police Department as well as members from the Will County Sheriff's Office, Grundy County Sheriff's Office, and the Wilmington Police Department raided the pair of homes for

Delacruz and David.

Officers recovered a handgun, ammunition, and drug paraphernalia. search of

David's residence located

in the 23000 block of Coal

City Road in Wilmington. officers recovered six rifles, seven handguns ammunition. Prior to the search warrants, Delacruz and

David were seen inside a vehicle near the 200 block of E. Mississippi Ave. in Elwood, according to English. A traffic stop was conducted and officers recovered fentanyl from the vehicle.

Delacruz and David were placed into custody without incident at this time. Both were processed at the Joliet Police Department and taken to the Will County Adult Detention Facility.



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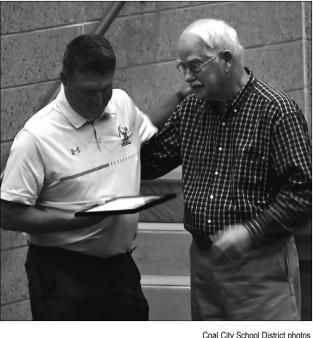
111 South Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481 (815) 476-7966 271 South Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 (815) 634-0315

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

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Eric D. Fisher, publisher



DAN HUTCHINGS has worn many hats during his tenure with the school district including teacher, coach, dean of students and he retires this month as the district's athletic



TRAVIS JOHNSON closes his career in education this month as he retires as principal of Coal City Middle School. Johnson came to the district 18 years ago.



Coal City School District photos CAROL BUDDE ends her career at Coal City Intermediate School where she served as an assistant secretary and health aide. She also served as a recess and lunchroom aide, substitute caller, and dedicated her personal time to the Parent School Organization and Unit 1 Educational

They leave Coal City schools after making them a better place to learn

The Coal City School he retires. District said farewell to several staff members who are leaving the district for new opportunities and five staff members entering the next phase of life....retirement.

Travis Retirees Johnson, Dan Hutchings, Sara Anderson, Carol Budde and Denise Esparza have over 120 combined vears of service to the Coal City School District.

'Two things I will miss the most are the people I work with and I will miss the work that we do everyday with the people that we love and the kids that we love and the difference that we make every single day with the kids. That is what I will miss," Johnson told district staff on the final day of the school year.

Johnson and his family moved to Coal City 18 years ago when he assumed the role of principal at Coal City Elementary School. Johnson served in that role from 2006 to 2013. He then transferred to the principal's position at Coal City Middle School from where

"I leave here with a full heart, my cup runneth over, I will miss you and Godspeed," Johnson concluded.

After a few years as a teacher and coach in area school districts, Dan Hutchings returned to teach and coach at his alma mater in 1995. During his tenure at Coal City High School, Hutchings has taught science, health and drivers education, and coached basketball and football.

He served as the head football coach from 2017-2021. Since 2003, he has served as athletic director and has also held the positions of dean of students and district transportation director.

Sara Anderson joined the faculty in 1994 as an eighth grade computer instructor at Coal City Middle School. In 2002, she moved to the high school where she taught multiple computer and business including Introduction of Business,

Law, Personal Finance and College and Career Exploration among others.

Anderson has also served as a freshman class and student council sponsor since 2008. She has been a constant at school activities and events having attended 15 homecoming dances and assisted in the implementation of an annual homecoming parade.

Carol Budde has supported school district operations for 27 years. During that time she has served as elementary school lunchroom and recess aide, middle school secretary, buildings and grounds secretary, assistant secretary at the early childhood center and most recently as the assistant secretary and health aide at the intermediate school.

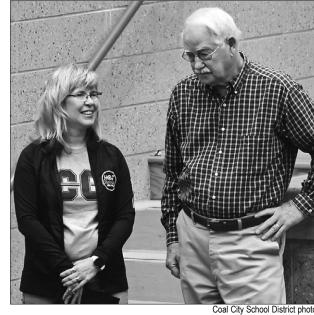
She served several years as a substitute caller for the district. Budde was also involved for several years with the Parent School Organization [PSO] serving in the roles of pres-

Microsoft Office, Business ident and vice president and was a founding member of the Unit 1 Educational Foundation.

Budde also shared with district staff that she too departs the district with a full heart and wonderful memories.

Denise Esparza retires from the district with 24 years of service as a member of the custodial staff. He began as a substitute in 1999 and a year later joined the elementary school staff. She has since worked at the high school, middle school and intermediate school. After several years at the intermediate school. Esparza returned to the high school this spring to finish out the school year and her tenure with the dis-

The Coal City School District is grateful for their dedicated service to the students, staff and school community and wish them all the best in the years to



SARA ANDERSON retires from the district with 30 years of service to the students of Coal City Middle and High Schools. Anderson taught computers and business courses starting at the middle school and concluding at the high school. She is pictured with board president Ken Miller.

Coal City Public Library News

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

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

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

Reading Summer Challenge Begins at Your Library" -Beanstack app or stop by CCPLD to register for the Challenge.

Thursday, June 13-Summer Lapsit, 10:30 a.m. Summer Tot Class,

11:30 a.m. Jr. Artists, 1 p.m. Teen Artists, 3 p.m. June 14-Friday, Euchre, 1-4 p.m.

Fun Fridays, 1 p.m. June 17-Monday, Preschool Summer Storytime, 11-11:45 a.m.

Mahjong, 1-4 p.m. Teen Cooking Class, 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Summer Lapsit and Tots, 6 p.m.

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

Tuesday, June 18-Summer Tween Fun, 11

Summer Teen Fun, 1 Summer Kids Fun, 6

Wednesday, June 19-Senior Health Insurance

Program (SHIP) - 9 a.m.-Summer Kids Fun, 10

Sweet Treats & Tasty

"Adventure Eat Pop-Up, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Pop-Up Event in the library now thru Monday, July 15 parking lot. If weather does for all ages. Register via the not permit it will move to the Annex. Stop by and purchase some sweets such as cheesecake, cupcakes and more.

Sebby earns degree

Elaina Sebby of Coal City earned a degree in Bachelor of Business Administration from the Illinois University of Springfield at the conclusion of the spring semester on May 11, 2024, pending completion of university requirements.

Unit 1 Board commends top achievers to end school year

The Unit 1 Board of Education started its monthly meeting last week by commending several accomplishments by students and athletes at the end of the school year. Recognition was given to several

groups in the gym at the Coal City Middle School. • The Board recognized High

School Track Coaches and IHSA State Qualifiers.

• The Board recognized High School Bass Fishing Coaches and IHSA State Qualifiers. The Board recognized Illinois

High School Musical Theatre Awards (IHSMTA) actor nominee, Stephen Byers, as well as the Best Production nomination for Mary Poppins, and Best Director nominee Jack Micetich.

• The Board recognized Middle School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Jim Hitchcock and Jen Munsterman and the state qualifying team members.

• The board recognized Middle School Track Coaches, IESA State Qualifiers and IESA state placers.

ourant

Coal City Coalers Team Pride

#1 Sports Fans Weekly Internet Winner

"Proud to be serving the community

for the past 39 years!"

We will have a new Internet winner each week throughout the school year, so watch the Courant

each week for the lucky Coaler Fan Winner.

"Support Coal City High School Athletes"

Benson Insurance

Agency, Inc.

Kari Bottari

Winner of a large 2-item

Pizza, carry-out only

Must redeem by June 17, 2024

Board members then recovened at the District office board room for the following action:

Superintendent Chris Spencer provided an update on the Facilities mprovement Plan. He also provided the board with an update on staff openings for the FY25 school year (Possible ECC Self-Contained Special **Education Teacher**)

 The board approved the Hazardous Bus Routes as presented.

 Approved the three-year agreement with GoGuardian. • Approved the K-5 furniture

· Approved the three-year agree-

ment with Skyward for ERP Software. Approved the Health Life

Safety Report from Cordogan Clark. Established the fiscal year and approved the 2024 n 2025 Board of Education meeting dates and Board Study Session of the Whole meeting dates.

• Approved adding a self-contained Special Education position at the Early Childhood Center.

· Approved the agreement with Sunbelt Staffing, LLC to assist the district with nursing service over the

 Approved the filing of the quarterly dropout report.18.

 Approved the resolutions to accept the School Site Donations from the Village of Coal City and the Village of Diamond.

• Discussed the 2024 Financial Designation perfect score of 4.0 and the per capita tuition charge for the FY25 school year of \$15,561.51.20.

 Approve the agreement with MMC Educational Consulting & Staffing LLC for a school psychologist for FY25.21.

• Approved the renewal of the PRESS Plus annual subscription for

\$4,300.22. Title I Approved the

Schoolwide



LEGAL NOTICE

Possessory Lien in pursuant to your contract and the State of Illinois Self-Service Facility Act. Tenant: Dane Workman, 1022 Clinton St, Apt. 3, Ottawa, IL 61350,

Unit G-12.

If unpaid rental charges, late fees and associated charges are not paid for in full by June 29, 2024, the property will be sold to satisfy the lien. Published in the Coal City Courant on June 12 and 26, 2024.

Hometown Storage to dispose of property

LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Lien

Hometown Storage. Division St., Diamond, IL 60416, 815-634-3333 hereby is asserting a Possessory Lien in pursuant to your contract and the State of Illinois Self-Service Facility Act.

Service Facility Act.
Tenant: Samantha Riggs, 2
Sportsmans, Diamond, IL 60416, Unit

If unpaid rental charges, late fees and associated charges are not paid for in full by June 29, 2024, the property will be sold to satisfy the lien. Published in the Coal City Courant on June 12 and 26, 2024.



Free Press Newspapers readers

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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.

It's about time

WILMINGTON—Congress finally got off their lazy rear ends long enough to question big oil corporations about illegal trusts. About time! While they are at it, have them investigate the big oil barons violating suspected anti-trust laws in Wilmington, too. When Wilmington gas is at \$3.99 - \$4.07/gallon and Kankakee is at \$3.07, it is time to start asking questions. Talk about screwing the Wilmington con-

Question your bill
GARDNER—Just a heads up about the high bills Waste Management sends out every year. Mine was outrageous as usual. My bill last year ended up being \$477 after calling and getting it down from \$790. This year the bill was \$930! I called and got it down to \$444. Every year I have to call them to get it to a reasonable amount. I'm putting this in here because if you don't know you can fix it, you'll end up giving this company way too much money. The first year I had to have the Illinois AG go after them for price gouging and we won. The past two years all I did was call (866) 570-4702 and talk to some nice people and they automatically fixed it. They have nothing to do with the original billing, but they apologized which was nice. So have everyone you know check their bills and get them fixed before it's too late. Especially older people who may not even pay attention and pay it. Don't fall for the rip off.

Trump's tacticsSHADOW LAKES—As hard as I try I just can't find a reason why trump sup-porters are so devoted to him. I don't know why they don't see the man for whom he is and not the picture that he paints of himself. You have a man that is turning Americans against their own country by telling us that our justice system is corrupted. The justice system in this country is the same way it was when the U.S. constitution was written, nothing has changed. If a person is charged with a crime and that person doesn't trust the judge, the Constitution gives people the right to choose a jury of citizens from the community and if the accused happens to be a billionaire he can hire the best attorney in the country to prove his innocence. Bottom line our justice system is not corrupt. Trump uses a tactic used by tyrants in third world countries. Divide the people, turn them against each other, that way you isolate the good people that still have principles. Then you put fear in the people's minds by telling them that they're losing their country and they are living miserable lives. But then he tells you that he is the answer to all your problems. He is going to make America white again (oops, excuse me, make America great again.) Build a wall like in the Middle Ages. Oh and by the way make someone else pay for it. Do away with the affordable healthcare system that has helped over 30 million. Uninsured Americans finally get health care. Thank goodness those were just more of his lies and it never actually happened. If Trump manages to brainwash enough people and he gets re-elected, this country will be a circus because he will try to stop criminal proceedings against him and the Democrats will impeach him for it. And the clowns in Congress will be too busy fighting each other to actually do anything good for the

Peace and prosperity

WILMINGTON—Looks like it is necessary to use many words to describe the successes of President Biden and the Democrats. But, in the end, there are only a few to describe President Trump's term in office--peace and prosperity.

Missing M17s

SHADOW LAKES—It seems its former name, Fort Benning, isn't the only thing Georgia's current Fort Moore has lost. The Army has had 31 SIG M17s go missing and have no idea how or by whom. The DACID is on the case and offering up to \$5,000 for information. The Army has no idea just how long these firearms have been missing. Giving a guess, where do you think they will wind up. Obediently yours, Margot Lane.

Unfair assessments

COAL CITY- If you want to know how unfair real estate taxes are check this out. There is currently a home in rural Will County, but in the Coal City Unit 1 School District, for sale at \$1.3 million dollars. The tax records show an assessed value of \$128,393 in 2022 (meaning the assessor gave it a fair market value of \$386,817). This home pays \$4,163.79 to the Unit 1 school district. But get this, the home sold in 2013 for \$500,000 yet it still assessed over \$100k less than the actual fair market value of 10 years ago. For comparison there is a home in town which sold for \$350,000 in 2017 and has a 2022 fair market value assessment of \$390,399, the home pays \$4,222.98 to the Unit 1 school district. How is it that a home which sold for \$500k 10 years ago and is currently on the market for over a million dollars pays less in school taxes than a home worth

th ANNIVERSARY

SALE &



less than half as much? If I was that homeowner I'd be kinda ticked off. I know the school officials are trying to get GE to pay their fair share of taxes, but more needs to be looked into. This is just a small sample of the unfairness of assessments in all local school districts.

Pay increases

BRAIDWOOD—So the city can't afford a splash pad or community pool or anything families would like because our taxes will climb. But they can hire new officers, promote four sergeants, give the city administrator and his clerk a 5% raise and purchase a new car for the city administrator. This is costing taxpayers over a half million dollars per year. Seems like the unelected mayor and administrator (citizens did not want) are taking care of themselves and their buddies. Unfortunately for the citizens they can do a lot more damage in the last year they will

Both failed miserably

DIAMOND—I loved last week's article by the writer of "Best for all". Was that your audition to become the news anchor on the biggest liberal news station? Here's the bottom line. The last and current president are both a couple of clowns. They both failed miserably at their job and yet they are running again. We are probably the laughing stock of the world. There are approximately 340 million people in the U.S. and this is the best we can do? I would much rather have one of the elected officials of our small towns down here be president. They know how it is to live like us and what we need. Remember the old saying, whoever controls the media controls the mind.

Queen for a Day

WILMINGTON—Compared to that old-time fun show, "Queen for a Day," Trump's "dictator for a day" is bone-chilling. Trump has spelled out his future dictatorial powers in a document, Agenda 47, which includes oddities like constructing tent cities and offering baby bonuses to force a population boom. This is downright eerie and un-American. Also, huge energy conglomerates would have unprecedented authority for widespread pollution which local communities would be powerless to stop. Sound like Russia? Agenda 47 is hauntingly reminiscent of past European policies which resulted in WWII and continues today by Russia. Putin could gobble up Ukraine, then set his sights on Poland and, like dominoes, other European countries, could fall under Russian control and Putin would get away with it because NATO would be gone. And, of course, due to Trump's packed Supreme Court our system of checks and balances would be incapable of stopping dictator Trump together with his cabal of fellow convicted felons from destroying the freedom and liberty within our own great nation. Irene

Early birds

COAL CITY—Just wondering if 4 a.m. is a little early for Homewood Disposal to be picking up trash in a residential area.

Oscar Programmed voters

WILMINGTON—Democratic California is \$1.6 trillion in debt. Its biggest city, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, look like something out of an apocalypse movie. Homeless and illegals own the streets stealing the wire from EV charging stations, fire hydrants, even sewer caps for scrap. What is Governor

Newsom's answer? Defund the police Why do people vote for him? Because he's a democratic and robots vote as programed.

It's insane BRAIDWOOD-Trump has always had a problem with intelligence. Just ask his generals who called him unflattering names. And we'll never forget during his presidency that Trump announced on the world stage in Helsinki in 2018 that he preferred to believe Russian intelligence over U.S. intelligence. That was a shockingly ignorant thing for former President Trump to say on so many levels. Furthermore, at that same Helsinki event Trump went behind closed doors with Putin and Putin's interpreter which was strictly forbidden. Nobody knows what was said between them but Trump got away with it even though the incident was known to the public. The most recent news just occurred when Republican House Leader Mike Johnson appointed two Trump loyalists to the Intelligence Committee, Scott Perry who played a leadership role in the Jan. 6 insurrection and Ronny Jackson, a former White House physician who made extravagant praises about Trump's health but was demoted due to unsavory behavior on the job. These two characters are bad news especially when it comes to intelligence. When former Congressman Adam Kinzinger was asked his opinion on the matter, he stated that these two appointments are "insane"

and MAGA should be ashamed. Cheaper elsewhere

WILMINGTON— Why are gas prices in town and nearby towns so high? All one has to do is go towards Mazon, Morris and Kankakee County to see cheaper prices. Isn't this called price gouging?

Ignoring their oath

WILMINGTON—In January there was an article in the Soundoff column about the Winchester Manor apartments in Wilmington. Owned by Pro Max Midwest Corp. on how they treated the seniors and disabled tenants with total disrespect. There has not been any notification about any investigation into the horrible way these people were treated. Apparently big business can do whatever they please against any American citizen and this type of treatment will probably continue until they are stopped by the laws our leaders are suppose to enforce instead of turning their backs to anything that will give any aid to American citizens because crime is more important than the rule of law from public servants. Our leaders only care about their wallets, not the rule of law and definitely not the lives of the Americans. What happened to their oath to serve the public?

Insult to women

COAL CITY-For decades there has been a Miss America and Miss Universe contest for women which gives many women a chance at fame and are described as intelligent, beautiful women. They will have a chance to enter in all forms of employment opportunities and there is even a pageant for women to be given a crown for each state. But now we have a Miss Maryland that is a transgender which has degraded all the pageants for women and these types of things should not be allowed because a man is a man and a woman is a woman. But what is produced from this Miss Maryland pageant is nothing but a distortion of mental ability and how can this be allowed?







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Join the Morris Area Garden Club to view the video "Living with Japanese Beetles" by Ken Johnson, U of I Extension Educator. Understand this voracious

insect's life cycle, how to manage them and the plants they devour, and the ones they never bother.

ness meeting and end with

door prize drawing.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 19 at 6 p.m. at the Morris Area Public Library, located at 604 Liberty St. The session the details: will begin with a brief busi-

Club,

Garden club presents

snack on the way to their seats and enjoy another Public Library, downstairs interesting presentation. Plan to attend the July

Living with Japanese Beetles

meeting, Daydreaming," presented by Sarah Beach from Sunshine Garden Center. Many fine speakers and activities are on the schedule for 2024. Why not put a recurring meeting on your calendar today? Here are

Wednesday of the month at

Morris Area Garden MAGC,

Attendees can pick up a 6 p.m., February through November, Morris Area conference Room, Nonmembers are welcome, gardeners expert novices, no experience necessary. Come to the next meeting and learn more about the Morris Area Garden Club. For additional infor-

mation visit their Facebook page Morris Area Garden 3rd MAGardenClub@gmail.co

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Let Freedom Rock, Rotary car show coming June 28

Wilmington will hold a cel-Independence Day Holiday celebration on Friday, June 28, on the North island park from 6 p.m. to midnight.

This free event features a live music performance by Alex Hoffer and Speaks, Maggie food

trucks, a beer stand, glowin-the-dark putt putt golf, facepainting, interactive games for the kids and fireworks after 9:30 p.m..

Preceeding the island activities will be the Wilmington Rotary Car Show "Cars for a Cause" mary from 4-7 p.m. on North Water Street.

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Judge rules 14 Republicans can be on the ballot

law essentially designed to prevent Republicans from appointing legislative candidates to the ballot after the March priwas ruled unconstitutional by a Sangamon

Rich Miller County judge last week, but her ruling only applied to the 14 Republican plaintiffs in the case who are running for the Illinois House and Senate.

The law prohibited local party slating of legislative candidates when no candidate had run in the primary. But, as Circuit Judge Gail Noll noted, the bill was passed and signed into law after the 75-day post-primary candidate slating process had already begun.

The timing, Judge Noll declared, imposed severe restriction on the right to vote," based on an earlier Illinois Supreme Court precedent.

The General Assembly could have passed a bill to stop the practice in future elections, but not in the middle of the process. total of

Republicans were slated to the ballot and turned in petitions after Gov. JB Pritzker signed the bill into Another GOP candi-

date, Jay Keeven, filed the day before Pritzker signed the legislation. Keeven was

the target of because he is running against Rep. Katie Stuart (D-Edwardsville).

Stuart represents s o m e w h a t swingy district, but she outperformed every statewide Democrat on

the ballot in 2022. statewide Democrat lost the district, but some came close, losing by a fraction of a point (Kwame and Michael Frerichs). The district is one of the few pickup opportunities the Republicans have this fall. Another Republican

House candidate, Timothy Szymankowski, was not a plaintiff in the lawsuit, so the ruling does not yet apply to him. Szymankowski filed to

run against Rep. Natalie Manley (D-Joliet).

The law is blatantly unfair and a prime example of super-majority Democratic Party overreach. But it's extremely unlikely that any of the plaintiffs have even a tiny shot of winning. Gov. JB Pritzker defeated Darren Bailey in the 14 districts covered by the ruling by an average of 47 percentage

Most, if not all of these candidates were apparentlv recruited by the Illinois Policy Institute. And the IPI-affiliated Liberty Justice Center filed the

go back to Let's Republican House candidate Keeven, who was believed to be the target of

"I got my petition filed before the Senate passed that bill and the governor signed it, so I am on the ballot," Keeven confidently told the Alton Telegraph last month, not long after Gov. Pritzker SB2412 into law. House The

Republicans were also convinced that Keeven's candidacy would be safe after the law took effect. recruited They had Keeven. a former Edwardsville police chief, to challenge Rep. Stuart, one of the very few possible pickup opportunities they have this year. He was not part of the Liberty Justice Center's successful lawsuit, but few thought Keeven would need that protection.

However, Dietrich, a spokesperson for the Illinois State Board of Elections told me that Keeven could very well be tossed off the ballot when the board meets next month. Since Keeven wasn't a

plaintiff, Dietrich said, "he's not going to get the protection if this order stands up," on appeal. "Keeven could still be objected to based on the new law, and our board could say, 'Okay, it's the

But Keeven filed the day before the law took

Dietrich said.

But Keeven got in before the law took effect, I again said.

'Yeah, but what does the law say?" he asked. "The law says no one is eligible for the 2024 ballot for the General Assembly unless there was a primary candidate from that party.'

He's right: "However, if there was no candidate for the nomination of the party in the primary," the new law says about the local slating of legislative candidates, "no candidate of that party for that office may be listed on the ballot at the general election."

So, the law doesn't necessarily ban local slating. The statute bans listing those slated candidates on the ballot, which is what the State Board of Elections will decide about Keeven next month. And since Keeven wasn't part of the lawsuit, he's not protected from a legal challenge at the board.

If the board tosses Keeven next month, he. could always resort to the courts. But Judge Noll's ruling carries no precedent, so a different judge might possibly rule a different way, unless or until an appellate court steps into the broader case.

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

Large drop in gas prices, but local stations stuck on more

Average gasoline prices in Illinois have fallen 13 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.76/g Monday, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois.

Prices in Illinois are 16.5 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 19.9 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

Locally, gas prices were higher than the average, except in Bourbonnais. Braidwood gas is running \$3.92/g to \$3.95/g. Coal City ranges from \$3.79/g to \$3.88/g, with Wilmington at \$3.38/g (Mohsen station at Lorenzo Rd) to \$3.99/g.

Further afield, in Morris, gas is

\$3.47/g to \$3.54/g. If a trip to Bourbonnais is in your future, gas is ranging from \$3.04/g to \$3.39/g.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Illinois was priced at \$2.94/g Monday while the most expensive was \$5.19/g, a difference of \$2.25/g.

'We've seen one of the larger weekly drops in the national average price of gasoline in some time, and what incredible timing that it comes at the beginning of the summer driving season," said Patrick De Haan. head of petroleum analysis at

"Not only have gasoline prices

plummeted in nearly every state in the last week, but nearly every state has also seen prices drop compared to a month ago. With the declines, Americans will spend roughly \$425 million less per week on gasoline than a year ago.

"In addition, the price of diesel has fallen alongside gasoline to its lowest level since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in early 2022. This price decline party is ramping up, and I expect additional declines ahead of July 4 for both gasoline and diesel prices."

CARBON HILL HOMECOMING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19 - SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

Sign up for **BEAN BAG**

TOURNAMENT

Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Tournament

7:15 p.m. Contact

George Reader

815-953-3110



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



Fireworks

Sunday, 9:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars!

12th Annual **Josh Cumming Memorial Softball Tournament**

Begins 6 p.m. on June 19 Playoffs to be played on Sunday, June 23 after parade



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- Rides Games
 - Food •
- Entertainment •
- Petting Zoo •

Carnival Ticket Info!

PRESALE TICKETS

Daily Unlimited Ride

Wristband Tickets \$25 Daily Ticket Per Person

Purchase by June 18, 2024 at these local businesses! Old National Bank • Midland States Bank • The Cove • Coal City Village Hall

CARNIVAL OPENS

Wed.-Fri. 6pm • Sat. 2pm • Sun. 2pm

Carbon Hill Village Hall • Bum's Tavern • Mustachio's Bar & Grill • Berkots

Tickets Purchased At Carnival

Wednesday/Thursday - \$30 Daily Ticket Per Person Friday/Saturday/Sunday - \$35 Daily Ticket Per Person

ENTERTAINMEN Wed., June 19

DJ-DANCE FLOW CONTROL 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Fri., June 21 CADILLAC **GROOVE**

8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Sat., June 22 SOUTHTOWN ENTERTAINMENT DJ PARTY

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

ETHAN BELL

9:00 p.m. - Midnight

ELVIS, BUDDY, **ROY & RICKY** 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

<u>Sun., June 23</u>

SKIP GRIPARIS -

WICKED VIC

BAND 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Carbon Hill Homecoming — Don't Miss It!!! — June 19th - 23rd

WWW.FREEPRESSNEWSPAPERS.COM Sourdough yields sweet results for home baker

ELAINE FISHER-OHLUND FOOD FOR THE SOUL

It was a beautiful day and I decided to check out the local flea market at Red Carpet Corridor. I came across a stand that smelled like heaven.

Behind the counter was a woman with a baby swaddled to her chest. Her vibe was cool, calm and confident and surrounding her was sourdough goodies. My kind of chick.

I bought six sourdough brown butter chocolate chunk cookies to share with family. I am a big fan of sweets and the benefits of sourdough. But I will be honest I ate all six. They were unbelievably good.

The hint of sourdough mixed with the chocolate made such a good match. Not only was the flavor outstanding but the ingredient list didn't make me feel so about eating it. Everything organic, grassfed butter, pasteurized eggs and my favorite, sourdough

I was glad I got her card because she had mentioned you could order online and to my surprise she was right here in Wilmington. Her name is Yarden Tamari Cutter and I just invited myself over,

asking her for her story.

Out front of her house a sign reads "Local Kitchen, Baked-to-order, organic sourdough bakes". opened the door and it was immediate deja vu.

A baby swaddled to her chest and it smelled like heaven. Looking at her setup I was impressed and excited to start asking questions. Her husband worked outside in a garden while another little one with unbrushed hair ran around smiling

She introduced me to her parents who were visiting from Israel. Yarden is from Tel Aviv, Israel and came America to study at NYU. She majored in math and computer science. Met her husband and settled in Wilmington with her little

She admits she wasn't much of a baker but had read about sourdough's health benefits and wanted to give it a try. She has been perfecting her recipes for about a year and a half now.

I had the pleasure of trying sourdough her pretzels, breaď, lemon blueberry scones, sourdough chocolate chunk cookies, but my favorite was her rogalach. Rogalach is from her culture and just melts in your mouth.

As she served me one

of her lemon blueberry scones, we talked about her experience coming America to study and all the learning and experimenting she did to get to this point. She was filled with so much knowledge about nutrition and the body, I was impressed.

I joked with her, "have you always been this carefree and confident?" Before she could answer her mother did with a quick "yes". It was really the only word I understood from her mom as she spoke her language in any exchange with Yarden or the little one. But with one word and the look on her face I could see how proud she was of her daughter.

Her creations taste like they are made by someone with a passion for baking. But when I asked her, "is this your passion?" She said, "I don't know, I guess for now it is." I was kind of surprised by her answer.

I had asked her one more question, "is there anything you would like say or get across?" She just wanted people to understand why it was important to her to use the ingredients she does. That paying a little extra for local food and clean ingredients is worth every penny for more reasons than one.

Then it hit me why I was so drawn to her. Her passion was caring for her family, nurturing their bodies with natural ingredients and teaching others about

Through this health journey I have come to the same conclusion over and over again. Big business does not have our backs and the two I am most suspicious of is the pharmaceutical companies and food industry.

I understand there is good medicine but I have also experienced the "mod-ern day cartel side" of Big Pharma. So I think it's time we take our health into our own hands, educate ourselves and buy as much as we can locally with clean ingredients.

I belief too that local businesses care for the community and supporting them will eventually trickle back to you and your kids. Meeting a beautiful woman

like Yarden gives me hope that we are all waking up to help create change for the next generation. Visit hotplate.com/

localkitchensdbakery and facebook: Local Kitchen: a Sourdough Bakery or you can find her at Kankakee Farmers Market Saturdays. You won't de disappointed nor feel bad about sharing a sweet treat with your family.



American Family Insurance is proud to be named Best Homeowners

Insurance of 2021 by Forbes Advisor.





When: June 17-21

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: 120 Vine Street,

Wilmington, IL 815-476-9750

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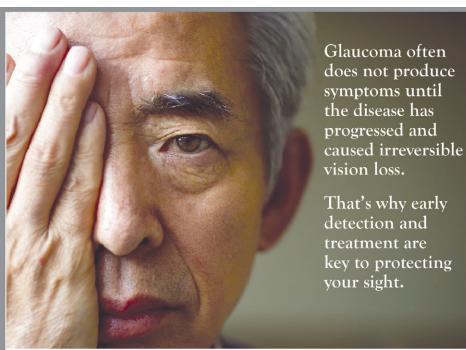
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Registration is now open on our website! Www.icbcwilmington.org





YARDEN TAMARI CUTTER stands in front of her Local Kitchen in Wilmington. She makes plethora of sweet treats with all organic ingredients and sourdough.



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FISHER-GENTRY EYE CARE

Crusin the Green Car Show planned for this Saturday

Crusin the Green car show will be fee of \$10. There will also be 10 awards coming to Wilmington's Winchester Green announced at 3 p.m. Shopping Center, 1099 S. Water St., on Saturday, June 15. Registration will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the car show

will start 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be a car show registration

Food, raffles and 50/50 will take place and all proceeds donated to Kuzma Care

Cottage. The show is being held in cooperation

with the Rusty Nutz Car Club.



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)BITUARIES

_Wanda L. Bertoglio_____

VERONA-Wanda L. Bertoglio, 77, of Verona, and formerly of Morris, passed away Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at the ARC of Dwight. Born July 31, 1946, in Joliet,

Wanda Lee was a daughter of Walter and Lucille (Hughes) Harris. She was raised and educated in Coal City and graduated from Coal City High School with the class

Wanda's employment included working in the cafeteria at Morris High School as well as at Hornsby's Department Store. She later gained a position in the housekeeping department at Morris Hospital from where she retired.

A member of the Morris VFW Women's Auxiliary, Wanda also belonged to the Coal City Area Club and attended both Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Morris, as well as Assumption Catholic Church in Coal City.

She loved flowers and gardening and spent much time riding her three-wheel bicycle. Known for her sweet nature and thoughtful heart, Wanda was always appreciative of others, radiating kindness

Above all, Wanda cherished her family. Her love for her grandchildren was boundless, and she took immense pride in being a loving and dedicated mom and grandma. Her memory will be a source of comfort and inspiration for her family, who will forever hold her in their hearts.

Wanda Bertoglio leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness, and a life well-lived. She will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Survivors include her loving companion of 38 years, Rich Knop; children: Philip (Lisa) Bertoglio, of Diamond; Lisa Bertoglio, of Morris and Alan Bertoglio of Joliet, as well as Don (Mary) Knop, of Oklahoma; grandchildren: Ryan (Jasmine) Shannon, of Algonquin, IL; Brittany (Mike) Sutton and Jeremy (Paige) Shannon, of Iowa; Jules (Jayson) Nowak, of Wisconsin; Morgan Bertoglio, of Seneca; Nicholas (Alyssa) Arndt, of

Florida; Nathan Arndt, of Chicago; Kristen Arndt, of Diamond and Melissa (Justin) Brous, of Oklahoma; great-grand-Kamden Shannon, Kaeden Shannon, Eevie Nowak, Annie Nowak, Knox Sutton, Elijah Shannon and Myla Rose Brous; one sister, Charlene Orolin, of Morris and several nieces and nephews. Wanda was preceded in death by her

parents; two sisters, Joanne Ferrari and Mary Lou Baker; the father of her children, Joseph Bertoglio; Terry Knop and aunt, Florence Passet.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A graveside service is being planned and Wanda will be laid to rest in Ward Cemetery in Rural Verona at a later date. Preferred memorials may be made as

Activities Department or to Lightways Family and friends are encouraged to log onto www.ReevesFuneral.com to sign the guest book, upload photographs and

share Wanda's memorial page online

gifts in Wanda's memory to ARC of Dwight

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

Dan Bendel

WILMINGTON Dan Bendel, 77, of Wilmington, passed away peacefully Friday, May 31, 2024, under home hospice care after a long

battle with cancer, surrounded

by his family.

Born June 29, 1946 in Berwyn, IL, Daniel Wayne was a son of Raymond and Sarah (Davis) Bendel. He was raised in Wilmington and served in the United States Army from 1966 to 1969, during which time he was stationed in Germany. On Oct. 24, 1970 Danny married Barbara Anderson at the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington. He began his career as a mechanic work-

ing for local car dealerships, including Lombardi Chevrolet, before gaining employment with Bunge Loders Croklaan in Channahon. Danny was a member of the Loyal

Order of Moose Lodge 241 in Wilmington, and he was a friendly guy who could have a conversation with anyone he met. He enjoyed being outdoors and took great pleasure in fishing, especially at South Padre Island in Texas. Danny was a helpful person, inclined to lend a hand when someone was in need, and worked hard at being the best husband, father, grandfather, and brother he could be.

Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. Romans 8:18

Survivors include two daughters, Bobbi Lynn Adams-Stumpf, of Scottsdale,

> JOLIET-Frank Cary, 72, and long time resi-

> > away

dent of the Joliet area,

passed

Kankakee.

Thursday, June 6, 2024 at Riverside Medical Center in

Frank Wayne Cary would begin

his life in Illinois before moving to

California where he graduated from

Sylmar High School in Los Angeles. At

the age of 18, he enlisted in the United

States Marine Corps and served until his

honorable discharge in 1971. Frank would

relocate back to the Joliet area and worked

for EJ&E Railroad and Union 76 Citgo

Refinery for several years before gaining

employment with NRG Energy. He worked as a supervisor at multiple different loca-

to do with cars, and could take them com-

pletely apart and put them right back

together again. He took great pleasure in

attending car shows and going to local

race tracks, and was an all around motor-

sports enthusiast. He was a great cook who

took great pride in mastering his smoker,

and had recently taken to growing his own

herbs to create his own signature spice

blends. Frank was firm but fair, and was a

man of high integrity who understood the

value of hard work. Family was his number

one priority, and he especially treasured

Frank was very interested in anything

tions until he retired.

Born Aug. 7, 1951 in Joliet,

AZ and Kimberly Lynn Bendel Rose, of Wilmington; his biological son, Bryan Steele, of Bourbonnais: five grandchildren: Jonathan Daniel Rose, Hana Evelin Rose Stumpf, Abigail Jordan Rose, Sommer Daniella Stumpf and Lacibella Skye Stumpf; two sisters, Barbara Bendel, of Gardner and Anita (Tom) Proffit, of Wilmington; one sister-in-law, Margaret Bendel, of Stafford, AZ and several nieces and nephews, including Mary Palmer, of

Wilmington. Danny was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Barbara on July 25, 2022 and his brothers: David, Russell, James, and Bruce "Buzz" Bendel.

Per Danny's wishes, cremation rites are being accorded and memorial services are being planned at a later date. Danny will be laid to rest with Full Military Honors at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, along with his wife,

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made as gifts in Danny's memory to the American Cancer Society.

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

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

Dale Blanco.

MORRIS- Dale Blanco, 62 of Morris, formerly of Peru, IL, passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at his home.

Born Sept. 22, 1961 in Spring Valley, IL, Dale Joseph was a son of Benny and Theresa (Poremba) Blanco. He was raised in Peru, attended Peru Catholic Grade School, and graduated from LaSalle-Peru High School with the Class of 1980. Dale was a factory work-

Carter Corporation in Mendota, IL. He was a past member of Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Peru, and was currently a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Morris. Faith was a constant in Dale's life and he was truly active within the church since he was a young boy. He was also a former member of the Peoria Riverman Booster Club and was a lifelong sports fan. Dale golfed in high school and was a devoted fan of the Chicago White Sox and diehard supporter of the University of Michigan football program,

er for many years and retired from Hart

He married his wife, Joann (Roche) Feldges Blanco on April 10, 2021 in Orland Park, IL, and was grateful to have the wedding blessed at Immaculate Conception Church. Dale was a kind and loving man who was always up for a laugh. He was an avid music fan and concert goer, with the bands Chicago and The Eagles being two of his favorites. Dale never passed up an opportunity to have some good food and a craft beer, and will be remembered for all of the joy and love he shared with the people who knew him.

Morris; his step-daughters: Beth and Megan Feldges, both of Morris; his brother and sister: Gary (Paula) Blanco and Gina (Fred) Steele, both of Peru; brothers and sisters-in-law: Michael (Linda) Roche of Aurora, IL and Jeanne (Christopher Hamaker Lockport, IL; several cousins, including Carolyn (Chris) Adams of Dexter, Michigan, numerous nieces and nephews, his best friend,

Scott Wilke of Peru, and his special canine companion, Buddy. Dale was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Greg Blanco, and his

beloved dog, Mya. The family will receive friends for a visitation at Řeeves Funeral Home, 408 East Washington Street (one block east of Illinois Route 47), in Morris on Sunday, June 9, 2024 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Funeral services will be Monday, June 10, 2024 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 600 East Jackson Street, in Morris at 10:00 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Reverend Jason Stone and assisted by Deacon Paul Jung.

Cremation rites will be accorded, and burial will be at a later date in Peru.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Dale's memory to the American Kidney Fund.

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

Funeral services and cremation arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves & Baskerville Survivors include his wife, Joann, of Funeral Homes and Crematory in Morris.

- Frank Cary -

his relationships with his grandchildren and making sure to have a unique relationship with each of Survivors include his wife.

Noel Cary, of Braidwood; three

children: Michele (Jonathan)

Rustvold, of Renton, WA; John (Sandy) Cary, of Wilmington and Joshua (Michelle) Cary, of Fremont, OH; 10 grandchildren: Alyssa, Jacob, Mercer, Caitlyn, Kyle, Nicholas, Grace, Clara, Ryland and Laiken; great-grandchildren: Bentley, Graciela and Aubrie; and one sister, Cathy

(Jim) Stam of Athol, ID. Frank was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Debra McCarthy and his uncle, Roger Cary.

Per his wishes, cremation rites are being accorded and Frank will be laid to rest privately with full military honors at Abraĥam Lincoln National Cemetery in

Family and friends are encouraged to online guest book at sign the www.ReevesFuneral.com, upload photographs, and share Frank's memorial page

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

Georgia Brtva

COAL CITY— Georgia "Kay" Ament Brtva, 78, passed away on March 12, 2024, in Rockwood, TN after an extended illness. Kay was born on May 31, 1945, in Urbana, IL, the daughter of Joseph Milton Ament and Georgia Helen (McCollom) Ament.

Kay graduated from Kankakee High School in 1963 and then graduated from the Eugenie Bauerly School of Beauty in Chicago the following year. Most of her adult life

until retirement, Kay worked in the Catheter Lab at Olympia Fields Osteopathic Hospital. On Aug. 19, 1982, she married Franklin Donald Brtva. Kay and Franklin loved doing things together. They travelled extensively after retirement, spending winters in Clermont, FL near Disney World Orlando, summers in Coal City, and visiting siblings, children,

grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and extended family across the country. Together, they were involved in many aspects of the Boy Scouts, including camps and inspections. She ran the Rainbow Council summer camp store for years and was a Vigil Honor Member of the Waupecan Lodge. Kay and Frank were also Disney World volunteers, assisting with marathons and special events at the park throughout the winter.

Kay sang in Sunday choirs both in Florida and Illinois. She and Frank were active members of the Coal City United Methodist Church. Kay made personalized baptismal quilts for all of the newest members of the church. They also enjoyed gardening wherever they were and participated in the various neighborhood groups in their housing communities. Kay was extremely creative with crafts, decorating, sewing, and cooking. She still used her grandmother's hook rug frame and canned every summer. Kay and Frank were quick to volunteer wherever help was

Kay is survived by her children: Craig

Renchen (Scott) Jackson; her stepchildren, Dennis (Jodi) Brtva, Catherine (Jerry Conte) Brtva, and David (Darby) Brtva; her sisters, Jo Beth (Steve) Good, Shelley in land (David) Wit; her brother-in-law Joel Coash, and her Aunt Wilma McCollom. Kay is also survived by her grandchildren and step grandchildren: Joshua Alan Frerichs, Jaclyn Danielle Renchen, Christopher Mickele Renchen, Daniel Eric Renchen, Jr, Rhiannon Renchen, Thomas Colby Mitchell, Michael Alan Mitchell, Lillian Renee Mitchell, Michael (Heather) Kaczmarski, Becky (Daphne) Brtva, Adam (Becky) Brtva, Amanda (Todd) Szymanski, Jessica Brtva, Derek Kaczmarski, Tara (Tim) Dinolfo, Eric (Kaitlyn Rescino) Craigmile, Alexander Brtva, and William Franklin Brtva; great

Alan Renchen and Renee Diane

loved her dearly. Kay was preceded in death by her parents, her husband of 37 years Franklin D. Brtva in 2019, her great granddaughter Cali Marie Renchen in 2014, her great grandson Jaxson Daniel Renchen in 2019, her son Daniel Eric Renchen in 2022, and her sister Roberta "Jean" Ament Coash in

grandchildren and step great grandchil-

dren: Caleb, Emma, Hayvin, Thomas, Jr,

Jaiden, Kayleigh, Katelyn, Lilli, Thomas, Andrew, and Rick. Kay is also survived by

many nieces, nephews and cousins who

Kay's remains have been interred next to her husband Franklin in Peotone Cemetery, Peotone, IL Memorial donations may be directed

to the Coal City United Methodist Church or to the Georgia Kay Brtva Memorial Fund, C/O Rainbow Council, 921 South State St., Lockport, IL 60441. A Celebration of Life will be held for

Kay on Saturday, June 29, from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., with a brief Service at 1:30 p.m., at the Coal City United Methodist Church, 6805 E. McArdle Rd., Coal City, IL 60416

____Carol A. Nelson____

JOLIET—Carol A. Nelson, 88 of Joliet, formerly of Pinellas Park, FL, passed away Friday, June 7, 2024 at the Lightways Hospice Home in Ioliet.

Born Nov. 16, 1935 in Lockport, IL, Carol Ann was a daughter of Frank and Thelma (Larson) Delcourse. She was raised and educated in Lockport and graduated from Lockport High School. Carol met and fell in love with

Lester Nelson while working for Nelson's Dairy, and they would marry and go on to have seven children together. She was raised Lutheran, and was a past member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Joliet where she would take her children to church as well.

Raising her children was very important to Carol, but as they grew and left home, she began her own career at Silver Cross Hospital in Joliet. She began as a CNA, later becoming a telemetry technician, and gave over 30 years of dedicated service to the hospital before she retired. Carol relocated to Pinellas Park in 2011 and would live there for over 10 years until she moved back to Illinois to be closer to her children. She had strong relationships with not just her children, but also her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, creating lasting memories that will be cherished forever by those who loved and

Survivors include five children: Kerry (Timothy) Boyle, of North Aurora, IĽ; David (Robin) Nelson, of Crest Hill; Lester (Kim) Nelson Jr., of Joliet; Carol Nelson, of

Aurora and (Giovanna) Nelson, of Utica, IL; 10 grandchildren: Gary Jr. (Dallis), Carl (Andria), Amber (Luke), Emerald, Nicholas, Christian (Alex), Kristy (Artie), Jamie (Eric), Amanda and Molly; 12 greatgrandchildren: Addison, Declan, K.J., Easton, Wrenley, Bella, Dominic, Brayden,

Dean, Lilah and Wyatt; one brother and one sister: Enola (Roger) Cirrencione, of New Lenox and Wesley (Diana) Puhl, of Joliet; one sister-in-law, Starla Puhl and several nieces and

Carol was preceded in death by her parents and husband; two children, Paul and Theann; one grandson, David Nelson Jr.; one brother, Leslie Puhl and one sister, Laverne Puhl, in infancy.

Per Carol's wishes, cremation rites are being accorded and a private family memorial service will be held at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Joliet, where Carol will be laid to rest with her husband.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Carol's memory to the American Cancer Society.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book at www.ReevesFuneral.com, upload photo-graphs, and share Carol'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 Wilmington.

Electronics dropoff Thursday

Will County's free electronics drop-off event will be held Thursday, June 13, from 5-7 p.m. at the Wilmington City Hall parking lot, 1165 S. Water St.

Participants are reminded to remain in their vehicles at all times, show ID by holding it to the window for staff to see and then allow staff to remove items without assistance from each vehicle.

include: Televisions, monitors, printers, computers (desktops, laptops, notebooks, tablets), electronic keyboards, fax machines, videocassette recorders, portable digital music players, DVD players, DVD recorders, video game consoles, small scale servers, scanners, electronic mice, digital converter boxes, cable receivers, satelite month.

accepted receivers, cell phones, computer cable, portable digital assistants (PDAs) and zip

Electronic items contain materials that can be recycled countless times while other materials in items are considered hazardous.

The recycling takes place in Wilmington the second Thursday of each

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie...

DSNDP volunteers sow seeds of sustainability

TWELVE VOLUNTEERS plant and water native perennials at the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Visitor Center, Wilmington on Sunday.

residents demand for reforestation, joined hands as dedicated volunteers of the global non-profit organization Dr. Nanasaheb Dharmadhikari Pratishthan (DSNDP), undertaking a tree planting event in collaboration with the US Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Illinois at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Visitor Center in Wilmington on Sunday.

In alignment with the "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (The world is one family), DSNDP aims to foster a brighter future by advocating for tree plantation/conservation in collaboration with the US government to address the

regulate environmental temperature, prevent soil erosion, and promote biodiversity. These

include planting seeds/bulbs/saplings/trees , seed ball making, mulching, watering, weed management, removal of invasive plant species, leaf litter cleanup and more.

The tree planting event by DSNDP drew 12 volunteers at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Visitor Center, Wilmington who persistently worked on planting and watering for 48 volunteer hours to plant 1,669 native prairie perennials with nine species like

spotted joe-pye weed, wild bergamot, with height from 6 inch to 8 inch tall, and more. Earlier in Illinois, the

initiatives organization has undertaken two programs involving 23 volunteers who worked for 82 hours for planting and 2690 trees so far. The joint effort between the US Forest Service and DSNDP signifies their shared commitment to enhancing the beauty of Illinois, progressing one mile at a time.

Such initiatives are an integral part of DSNDP's Nationwide Tree Plantation and Conservation Drive, reaching across 15 states and 33 cities.

During these cleanli-

ness drives, DSNDP has successfully engaged 583 volunteers, actively planting 17,650 trees and collecting more than 14,000 pounds of garbage and weeds, resulting in significant cost savings for the government. The organization has received accolades from various state and county governments in the form of 15 certificates and 11 media coverages.

The organization is also involved in cleanliness drives across 18 states and 73 cities within the US. DSNDP is also involved in health initiatives such as Women's Cancer Awareness Conference successfully hosted February 2023 and blood/ plasma donation drives in Canada and the United

For more information, please visit http://www. dsndp.com

Lions youth fishing derby delayed till fall

Club's annual youth fishing derby at the South Island pond which was scheduled for Saturday, June 22 is being delayed.

Organizers made the decision to postpone the event after discovering the pond is choked with weeds and is too shallow to sustain stocked fish. The pond was once 8

feet deep but in recent years has filled in to only 18 inches in most places, allowing grasses to grow in the shallows. It's deepest spot is 4 feet but that's in a limited area. Lion John Persic said

The Wilmington Lions Monday its conditions are not right for a fishing contest, especially if youngsters were to get snagged in the weeds.



 Women Children

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First responders train for threat incidents

Members Wilmington Fire Protection District recently participated in a hands-on training for first responders in Monee, aimed at bringing together police, fire, and dispatch agencies to coordinate effectively on various active threat incidents.

"These trainings are critical to get all agencies on the same page and to be prepared for a wide variety of emergency situations, said Will County EMA Director Allison Anderson. 'In the early stages of a cris, when seconds matter, it's important that first responders are working together cohesively.'

The training is part of a multi-year effort by Will County EMA to implement more standardized response from county-wide agencies to large scale active threat incidents. The command and control" model establishes procedures for police, fire, and dispatch officials to implement within the first few hours of an active threat

incident. Along

the trained on a unified which included representaresponse model, attendees participated in a hands-on implementation exercise. The training simulated how police, fire, and dispatch officials would work together in various active threat responses.

Will County **EMA** worked with a variety of local partners to host the training, including the Will County Sheriff's Office, Wilmington Fire Protection District, Manhattan Fire Protection District, Minooka Fire Protection District, Monee Police Department, Shorewood Department, Police Joliet 9-1-1, and WESCOM.

'Developing a unified model for active threat incidents is crucial to a successful response," said Will County EMA Preparedness and Recovery Manager Chelsea Bowen. "We're thankful for the continued attendance of agencies to our trainings, which is helping build more resilient communities throughout the county and region."

Over 50 first responwith being ders attended the training,

tives from Grundy County, the Illinois Secretary of the Illinois Secretary State Police, and the Rochelle Community Consolidated District #231 in addition to Will County agencies. Will County EMA also welcomed 10 representatives from interested in adopting the "command and control" model from Boone County, Missouri.

"Will County's Emergency Management Agency continues to provide regional and state leadership on critical public safety topics," said Will County Executive Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant. "Bringing together officials from throughout the state and nation to share information and strategies is helping keep our communities

Will County EMA has trained over 600 first responders on the "command and control" model since its implementation. First responders interested in participating in future trainings can ema@willcountyillinois.co

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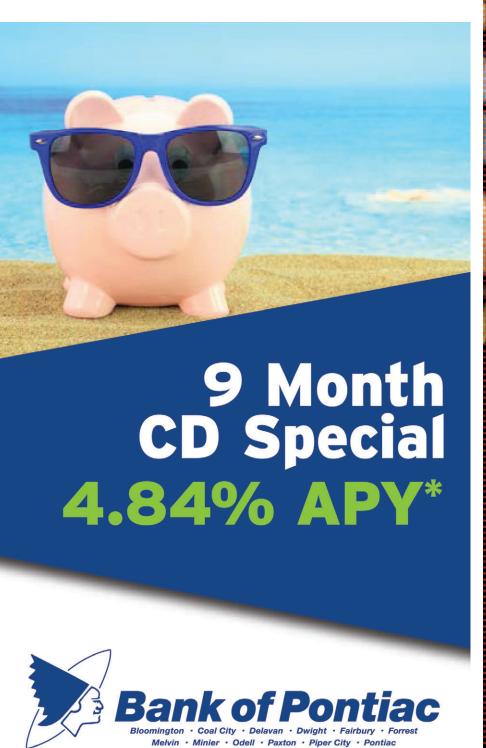
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Big tech companies going green

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– B.P. via email As global demand for sustainable practices intensifies, the race among major tech companies to adopt green practices has become highly competi-

Many tech giants, including Microsoft, Apple and Google are pursuing demanding sustainability

Microsoft has set the most ambitious target: to run entirely on renewable energy by 2025, to go car-





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to neutralize all past emissions dating back to 1975 by 2050. Also, Microsoft has mandated its suppliers report their emissions since 2021 and has implemented a carbon tax on its supply

In May 2024, the company signed the largest corporate clean energy deal, purchasing 10.5 gigawatts of carbon-free power from Brookfield Renewable Partners. Microsoft already sources electricity from solar and wind farms across America, Europe and Asia.

Transparency distinguishes Microsoft from other major tech companies: It has openly invested in carbon offset projects, such as installing clean stovetops in Kenya and protecting Indonesian forests, and has supported renewable energy infrastructure, including backup generation for Wyoming solar grids and energy storIn 2020, Microsoft

founded the Climate Innovation Fund, investing \$1 billion in over 35 companies developing climate technology solutions for underserved commu-Apple differs in that it

mainly makes physical products. Apple hopes to limit its annual carbon emissions to less than 10 million 'unavoidable' metric tons by 2030 and reach zero net emissions via carbon offsets and removal.

In 2022, Apple's carbon footprint was a staggering 22.5 million metric tons, 75 percent produced during manufacturing and 20 percent generated during product use and transportation.

Since production accounts for most of Apple's emissions, the company has prioritized material and energy sourcing. The 2019 MacBook Air's external enclosure is 100 percent recycled aluminum, reducing the product's carbon footprint by nearly half.

Also, Apple is developing more durable and energy-efficient products and powering its production lines, offices and data centers with clean energy. And Apple has many carbon off-



MICROSOFT HAS SET the most ambitious targets of any of the tech cos: to run entirely on renewable energy by 2025, to go carbon-negative by 2030, and to neutralize all past emissions dating back to 1975 by 2050.

set/removal projects, mostly to protect and restore wetlands, grasslands and forests.

Google has striven to neutralize its carbon emissions since its founding in 1998, and aims to exceed carbon neutrality becoming carbon-free by 2030. Its carbon-free plan includes three phases: offsetting, reducing and eliminating emissions.

For two decades, Google has used "high-quality" carbon offsets and renewable energy. However, Google's lack of clarity about what constitutes "high-quality" makes it difficult to verify their sustainability claims. Since 2017, Google has increased reliance on wind and solar power and hopes to power all facilities soon with locally sourced carbon-free electricity. Sun and wind energy can be unpredictable and insufficient for large-scale tech operations. To address this, Google

collaborated with its subsidiary DeepMind to develop machine learning systems that forecast wind farm output up to 36 hours in advance and worked with local authorities to optimize solar panel place-

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Jen and Sarah

Farmers market June 20

The Wilmington Park District will be is holding the first farmers market of the summer on Thursday, June 20, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on North Water Street.

The street and public parking lot will be blocked off to allow for live music, with locally sourced veggies, and good eats from food trucks. Come browse the creative works of local makers and artisans. Other market dates will be July 18, August 17 and September 19.

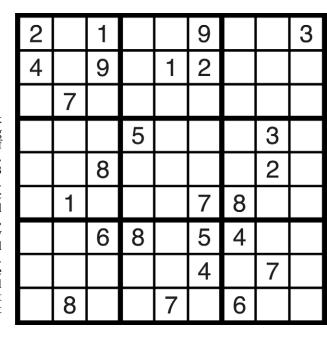
PEO Chapter GK to meet

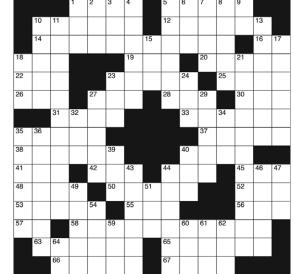
PEO Chapter GK will hold their annual brunch on Saturday, June 15, at 9 at the Methodist Church, 401 E. Kahler Rd., Wilmington.

Daily 9 am - midnight



and hot slots!





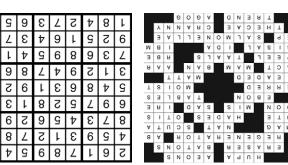
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Native American people
- 5. Very long periods of time (Brit.) 10. Schoolboard accessory
- 12. Rods
- 14. One who renews 16. Sculpted body part
- 18. Chatter incessantly
- 19. __ King Cole, musician 20. Plates on a turtle's shell
- 22. University of Utah athlete
- 23. The world of the dead
- 25. Singer Redding 26. Former Yankee great Mattingly
- 27. Prefix indicating wrongly 28. Unhappy 30. Anger
- 31. Dark brown or black 33. Restaurants have a lot of them
- 35. Made a mistake
- 37. Damp 38. Type of gasoline
- 40. Actor LeBlanc 41. Perform in a play
- 42. One's mother
- 44. Prohibit
- 45. Swiss river
- 48. Part of a banana 50. Indian hand clash cymbals
- (abbr.) 53. Agave
- 55. Noted journalist Tarbell 56. Computer firm Type of record
- 58. Bacterium that can cause infec-
- 63. Sheaths enclosing the spinal

52. Relative biological effectiveness

- 65. A narrow opening (as in a rock
- 66 Pattern 67. Very eager to see something

- **CLUES DOWN**
- 2 Utilize
- 3. Writing utensil 4. Places to perform
- 5. Subsides
- 6. Consume
- 7. Athleisure clothing brand 8. California town
- 9. Atomic #50 10. The Muse of lyric and love
- poetrv 11. Creates anew 13. Humorous commentaries
- 15. Cool!
- 17. Most ignoble
- 18. Soggy dirt
- 21. Designed to be useful
 23. Hebrew unit of liquid capacity
- 24. High schoolers' test
- 27. One-time internet accessory 29. City in India
- 32. Furniture
- 34. You have likely chatted with one
- 35. Pass or go by 36. Proof of purchase
- 39. A digital tape recording of
- sound 40. More (Spanish)
- 43. Disfigured 44. White (Spanish)
- 46. Building occupied by monks
- 47. Georgia rock band 49. Device that generates intense
- beam of light 51. State of agitation
- 54. Make by braiding
- 59. Local area network 60. Unit of work or energy 61. Indigenous person of Thailand
- 62. Liquefied natural gas 64. Distance to top



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For Rent in Wilmington Chicago Street, available Sept. 1, 2024. Also, mini storage on Chicago Street. Call 815-693-6030, leave message and number. ca23-25

GARAGE SALES

Braidwood, Garage and craft sale. 200 S. Division St., Thurs., June 13 and Fri., June 14, 9am-4pm; Sat., June 15, 9am-2pm. Good assortment of household & kitchen pots, pans, items, utensils, knives, new and used watches. Handcrafted items: afghans, hats, scarves. Too much to list. ca24

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GARAGE SALES

BRAIDWOOD GARAGE SALE DAYS Friday and Saturday, June 14th & 15th, 8AM-3PM. Maps available at the First Presbyterian Church on Main & Lincoln St. Look for the Tye Dye banners at each sale. rain cc22-24

Braidwood, 395 N. Walker St., rain or shine. Fri. & Sat., June 7-8 and Fri. & Sat.. 14-15 from June 8AM-3PM. Multi-family garage sale. Items include kitchen and other household items, boys clothing sizes through 7, other misc. clothing, baby car seat, high chair, and many other items. cc23-24

Coal City, 480 N. First Ave., Thurs., Fri. & Sat., June 13, 14, 15 from 8AM-3PM. Bob Jogger Stroller, umbrella stroller, toddler bed w/mattress, ladies clothing S-XL, Victoria Secret bras, girls clothing NB-3T, boys clothing NB-6, mens clothing XL, misc. cc23-24

GARAGE SALES

Coal City, 1110 E. 3rd Street. Friday and Saturday, June 14-15, 9AM-2PM. Large garage sale. All items reasonably priced. Bike, clothing, household items, quilts & much more. cc24

Wilmington, Deer Ridge Park. multihouse. Look for signs on 129 just south of Coal Citv road. Fri. & Sat., June 14-15, 8AM-4PM. Free 6 month old kitten, neutered, all shots, loveable lap cat. 10x12 aluminum gazebo with netting, in carton, \$1,450 now \$950. ca2

Wilmington, 32759 Nikki Lane. Friday & Saturday, June 14-15, 8AM-2PM. Avon, household, books, dishes, new clothes. cc24

HELP WANTED

The Wilmington VFW at 557 W. Baltimore St is hiring a full-time cook. Must have manager's certification or take class to get one. Hours noon to 8pm through Stop in for application at the bar, ch21-24.

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IL 60407 (The property is
a single family. The property has a two car garage The garage is attached. The exterior is vinyl siding The color is yellow. The gas is on. The water is on. The property does not have a fence. The vacanidency.). On the 27th day of June, 2024 to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: FLAGSTAR BANK, N.A. Plaintiff V. **Michael J**

Case No. 23 FC 0246 in the Circuit Court of

Defendant.

Toothman

the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twentyfour (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 resi-dential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the

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unit, other than a mort-

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

For Information Please Contact: MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE 1 N. Dearborn Suite 1300 Chicago, Illinois 60602 P: 312-346-9088

PURSUANT TO FAIR DEBT COLLEC-TION 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 **PURPOSE** Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., June 5, 12 & 19, 2024.

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COALER SPORTS



CCU19 D Construction soccer team recently took 1st place in a tournament. Martin Contreras is in front with trophy. Pictured in row two [from left] are Adrian Dames, Creed Macaluso, Moises Martin, Jayden Castillo and Angel Martin. Completing the group in row three are Nathan Foster, Carter Nicholson, Christopher Hammerstein, Devon McVey, Carter Macaluso, Gavin Carpenter, Landin Benson, Jacob Cerutti, Jake Peters and Coach Andy Vignocchi. Not pictured: Carsen Hart and Coach Colin Hart.



THIRD PLACE WINNERS were CCU12 Sunshine. Pictured in row one are [from left] Brayden Sorensen, Ryder Sorensen and

Melody Leman. Coach Adam Mohler is in row two with Zackary Babcock, Devon Fatlan, Corey Childress, Olivia Beach, Charlotte Mohler, Jackie Robles-Serna, Austin Newman, Coach Venessa Babcock and Drake Figge. Not pictured: Ariana Eaton, Macallister Kee, Carter McNelis, Drew Poeschel and Ben Wollgast.

Braidwood Shootout gets underway today

annual Braidwood Shootout featuring 32 varsity boys basketball team is underway at Reed-Custer high school, fieldhouse and middle school.

The Comets have hosted 32 teams every year for over 25 years. There were two summers during the COVID pandemic when it was not held. It restarted in 2022 with St. Joseph Ogden winning the trophy and then in 2023, Kankakee won the overall

The shootout is being held today (Wednesday) and Thursday. Over the course of the two days, 80 basketball games will be played. Each team is guaranteed five games with two being played on the first day and three on the second day.

Kankakee is back to defend their title. Also playing are Reed-Custer,

Coal City and Wilmington. Among the tougher teams Lincoln-Way be Central, Seneca, Mercer County and Roanoke

Benson. The shootout, sponsored by Constellation, Culligan and Country Financial, will conclude at 7 p.m. Thursday in the

RCHS main gym. The admission price for a one day pass is \$7 for adults, students and seniors are \$3 with a maximum price per family being \$25. There will be a concession stand serving pizza, candy, drinks, and

Bracket updates showing teams and game times can be seen at www.braidwoodshootout.com.

The girls Braidwood Shootout featuring 16 area teams including Comets, Coalers Wildcats was played yes-

Children's used book collection

Land Use Department will be collecting used children's books for Bernie's Book Bank through July 12, 2024, at the administration building located at 1320 Union St., Morris from the hours of 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m, Monday through Friday.

Practicing one of the four Rs is reuse. Children's books that are no longer being used can find their way into the hands of a child who needs a book.

Studies have shown that reading is the most important skill a child needs to learn. However, studies also show that 61% of low-income families don't have any children's book for their families.

Bernie's Book Bank provides books to 25,000 children annually. Since

The Grundy County 2009, Bernie's Book Bank has distributed more than 25 million children's books. Bernie's Book Bank will provide at least 12 books per year for each child that they serve. They do ask that you do not give educational textbooks or religious books.

> been most generous in these events since 2017 and has given over 15,000 books to needy children. Please help this worthy

Grundy County has

cause by donating children's books from preschool through 6th grade. For more information contact Beth Skoff, 815-

941-3228, bskoff@grundcountyil.gov or Heidi Miller 815-941-3229, hmiller@grundycountyil.g

CCU14 Elliott Electric took 4th place but are not pictured. Team members are: Caleb Brown, Drake Carpenter, Christian Castillo, Decklan Castle, James Davis, Alexander Duran, Breanna Flores, Ryder Kramer, Sean Langer, Damion Libner, Jack Norrington, Nazih Rodriguez, Shane Spoto, Hope Wermer, Coach Julie Langer and Coach Timi Shabani.

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COAL CITY SOCCER Club participated in the 2024 Mud, Sweat and Tears Tournament from May 31-June 2. CCU6 Lori Bonarek team took fourth place. Pictured in row one [from left] are Deacon Hintze, Londyn Hennessy, Sabrina Arcos, Anna Barrie, Brexten Plata and Dawson Czaia, Nathan Yusko and Preslev Murphey are in Smith and Coaches Kevin



CCU8 RIVALS TOOK first place. Pictured in row one [from left] are Grace Einhaus, Christopher Danley, Brayden Foster, Emersyn Christensen and Lexi Christensen. Brandon Jones is in row two with Brant Kratochvil, Mason McIlvane, Liam Santos and Colton Brncich. Not pictured are Coach Chris Christensen and Coach Brock Kratochvil.