



Firefighter graduates

Getting their kicks on the soccer field



COAL CITY COURANT .com

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 successful.

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 unending availability.

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 that long career.

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 neiged 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

The 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 and

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



BERKOT'S SUPER FOODS

SALE VALID 6/13-6/19/24

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

CHECK OUT OUR WEEKLY AD AT BERKOTFOODS.COM

QUENCH YOUR THIRST FOR GREAT DEALS!

7 Up Family Soda- 24 pk 12 oz cans

Sale Price **\$12.99/ea**

Digital Coupon **-\$3.00**

FINAL PRICE \$9.99 ea

with \$3 digital coupon LIMIT 2 CASES TOTAL!

Coke Family Soda- 24 pk 12 oz cans

Sale Price **\$11.99 EACH**

Prairie Farms 1%, 2%, or Skim Milk- Gallon

Sale Price **\$3.49/ea**

Digital Coupon **-.61c/ea** when buying 2

FINAL PRICE \$2.88 ea

when buying 2 with digital coupon - LIMIT 2*



Coal City School District photos

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 director.



Coal City School District photos

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 Foundation.

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

The Coal City School 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.

Retirees Travis Johnson, Dan Hutchings, Sara Anderson, Carol Budde and Denise Esparza have over 120 combined years 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

he retires.

"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 courses including Introduction of Business,

Microsoft Office, 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 an 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-

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 district.

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 come.



Coal City School District photos

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.

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.

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

Superintendent Chris Spencer provided an update on the Facilities Improvement 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 upgrades.

Approved the three-year agreement 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 summer.

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.

Approved the Title I Schoolwide

Coal City Courant
Fresh Hot Delivery | Benson Insurance Agency, Inc. | ALLEGRA Printing

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

Kari Bottari
Winner of a large 2-item Pizza, carry-out only
Must redeem by June 17, 2024

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

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

"Support Coal City High School Athletes"

Hometown Storage to dispose of property

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Lien
Hometown Storage, 2920 E. 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.
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, 2920 E. 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.
Tenant: Samantha Riggs, 2 Sportsmans, Diamond, IL 60416, Unit 330.
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.

FRESH HOT DELIVERY!

Geo's PIZZA

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

39TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

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

ONLY \$28.99

Not valid with any other offer. Plus sales tax. Expires 06/30/24.

Gift Certificates Available

Order online at www.geospizza.net **634-8858**
715 S. Broadway • Coal City

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 our website at www.ccpld.org.

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

Summer Reading Challenge "Adventure Begins at Your Library" - now thru Monday, July 15 for all ages. Register via the Beanstack app or stop by CCPLD to register for the Challenge.

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.

Friday, June 14- Euchre, 1-4 p.m.

Fun Fridays, 1 p.m.

Monday, June 17- Summer Preschool 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 a.m.

Summer Teen Fun, 1 p.m.

Summer Kids Fun, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, June 19- Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) - 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Summer Kids Fun, 10 a.m.

Sweet Treats & Tasty Eat Pop-Up, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Pop-Up Event in the library parking lot. If weather does 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 University of Illinois Springfield at the conclusion of the spring semester on May 11, 2024, pending completion of university requirements.

Free Press Newspapers readers

SOUND-OFF

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

Sound-Off is a 24-hour phone line provided to give readers a chance to voice their opinions. The Free Press Newspapers reserves the right to edit remarks for taste, length, personal attacks, racism, threatening, calls for boycotts and libel. The comments stated are the opinions and ideas of the callers and not that of the newspaper. Information may not constitute the actual events or facts of a particular topic. Submissions by email to: courant@fpnusa.com with "soundoff" in the subject line or visit www.freepressnewspapers.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 consumers!

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 tactics

SHADOW LAKES—As hard as I try I just can't find a reason why trump supporters 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 brain-wash 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 country.

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



J. Heller ©2024 THE FREE PRESS

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 be here.

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 run 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 programmed.

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?

10th ANNIVERSARY SALE & Celebration

Stop in June 17-22 for anniversary specials, giveaways and more!

FROM 25% to 50% OFF EVERYTHING

Free Gift & Raffle Entry

Receive one entry to win our fabulous anniversary raffle prize!

Monday, June 17 through Saturday, June 22, enjoy incredible savings storewide!

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

The Flower Loft is marking a special milestone - 10 years since reopening under new ownership in 2014! To commemorate this occasion, we're hosting an anniversary celebration you won't want to miss.

Receive a **Free Gift** with any purchase over \$50!

FREE LOCAL Flower Delivery to Wilmington, Braidwood, Diamond and Coal City

\$10 Flat Rate Delivery Everywhere Else
*Promotion excludes deliveries to Channahon/Minooka, Manhattan, Joliet, & Kankakee.

THE FLOWER LOFT
221 North Water St., Wilmington
815-476-5638 (LOFT) www.tfloft.com

Owner: Matthew Baskerville / Manager: Nick Facchina

Garden club presents Living with Japanese Beetles

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. 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 will begin with a brief business meeting and end with a door prize drawing. Attendees can pick up a snack on the way to their seats and enjoy another interesting presentation. Plan to attend the July meeting, "Garden 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 the details: Morris Area Garden Club, MAGC, 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., February through November, Morris Area Public Library, downstairs conference Room. Non-members are welcome, expert gardeners to novices, no experience necessary. Come to the next meeting and learn more about the Morris Area Garden Club. For additional information visit their Facebook page Morris Area Garden Club or e-mail MAGardenClub@gmail.com.

Celebrate Dad With Berkot's Amazing Savings!

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

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

BERKOT'S SUPER FOODS HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Sales valid 6/13/24-6/19/24 | STORE HOURS: 7 AM - 9 PM
ALL ITEMS AVAILABILITY BASED ON SUPPLY. QUANTITIES MAY BE LIMITED. NO RAINCHECKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

10 OZ STEAK
\$11.99 EA
-\$3.99 EA with loyalty
\$8.00 EA

USDA Choice Boneless Angus Ribeye Steaks- 10 oz portion
USDA Choice Big Daddy Cut Boneless Ribeye Steaks- 16 oz portion
\$18.99/EA - \$3/EA W/ LOYALTY = \$15.99/EA

14 OZ STEAK
\$24.99 EA
-\$5.00 EA with loyalty
\$19.99 EA

USDA PRIME Boneless Angus Ribeye Steaks- 14 oz portion

14 OZ STEAK
\$27.99 EA
-\$5.00 EA with loyalty
\$22.99 EA

Berkot's American Wagyu Boneless Ribeye Steaks- 14 oz portion

\$1 EACH

Berkot's 80% Lean Ground Beef Burger Patties 1/4 lb patties Sold in 8 pk for \$8

PAIR YOUR STEAK WITH TASTY SIDES Fluffy, Delicious Baker Potatoes **69¢ EA**

BERKOT'S MEAT MAKES THE BEST FATHER'S DAY GIFT!

Berkot's Famous Country Style Bacon 7 lbs or more
Sale Price **\$4.99/lb**
Digital Coupon **-\$1.00/lb**
FINAL PRICE \$3.99/lb with digital coupon LIMIT 1 PACKAGE*

Berkot's Farm Fresh, Medium-Size, Restaurant-Quality Family Pack Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast
Sale Price **\$3.99/lb**
Digital Coupon **-\$1.00/lb**
FINAL PRICE \$2.99/lb with digital coupon LIMIT 1 PACKAGE*

\$2.99 PER LB LIMIT 8 PKGS.*
Berkot's Fresh, All-Natural Duroc Cryovac Peeled Baby Back Ribs

\$7.99 PER LB FRESH
Fresh Atlantic Salmon Whole Fillets- 2-3 lb Avg.

\$7.99 EACH FROZEN
Censea Jumbo Raw, Peeled & Deveined Shrimp 16-20 ct (Sold in a 1 lb bag)

USDA Choice **\$3.99 PER LB** Angus Whole Beef Brisket

Tomatoes On The Vine **99¢ PER LB**

Strawberries 1 lb Sale Price **\$2.99/ea** Digital Coupon **-\$2.00/ea** **FINAL PRICE 99¢ ea** with \$2 digital coupon LIMIT 4 PACKAGES*

Mouth Watering Southern Peaches **99¢ PER LB**

Extra Sweet Watermelons Sale Price **\$4.99/ea** Digital Coupon **-\$1.00/ea** **FINAL PRICE \$3.99 ea** with \$1 digital coupon LIMIT 1 WATERMELON*

EXTRA LARGE, Extra Sweet Cherries Sale Price **\$4.99/lb** Digital Coupon **-\$1.50/lb** **FINAL PRICE \$3.49/lb** with digital coupon LIMIT 5 lbs in one transaction*

Great Grocery Deals to Fill Your Basket!

7 Up Family Soda- 24 pk 12 oz cans
Sale Price **\$12.99/ea** Digital Coupon **-\$3.00** **FINAL PRICE \$9.99 ea** with \$3 digital coupon LIMIT 2 CASES TOTAL*

Coke Family Soda- 24 pk 12 oz cans
\$11.99 EACH

Almond Breeze Milk- 64 oz Oat Blend- 52 oz
2 FOR \$6

Silk Milk- 64 oz Oatmilk or Protein Almond- 59 oz
\$3.99 EACH

International Delight Creamer 32 oz
\$3.99 EACH

Entenmann's Donuts- 15-17.5 oz Reg. Price: \$6.59
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

Fairlife Milk 52 oz
\$4.49 EACH

Sugardale Regular or Thick Cut Bacon 1 lb
\$3.99 EACH

Prairie Farms 1%, 2%, or Skim Milk Gallon

Absopure Purified Water 24 pk .5 L btls
3 FOR \$10

2 FOR \$7

Milo's Sweet or Unsweetened Tea- Gallon

\$8 EACH

Berkot's Homemade Rotini Pasta Salad- 1.5 lb Macaroni Salad- 1.5 lb Potato Salad- 2 lb

MUST CLIP DIGITAL COUPON AT BERKOTFOODS.COM Clip to redeem up to 10 ears

Super Sweet Sweet Corn
Sale Price **50¢/ea** Digital Coupon **-21¢/ea** **FINAL PRICE 29¢ ea** with digital coupon LIMIT 10 EARS*

\$5.99 EACH

Blue Ribbon Classics Ice Cream Pails- 128 oz

\$14.99 when buying 2 LIMIT 4* WITH INSTANT SAVINGS

Busch Light, Busch, or Rolling Rock- 30 pk 12 oz cans

BOURBON PURCHASE RAFFLE

JUNE 15TH FROM 6AM-7AM | NEW LENOX BERKOT'S ONLY

PURCHASE A \$10 FOOD PANTRY DONATION BAG BETWEEN 6AM-7AM ON JUNE 15TH TO BE ENTERED FOR A CHANCE TO PURCHASE A BOTTLE OF PREMIUM RARE BOURBON! BUY AS MANY CHANCES AS YOU WISH!

-RAFFLE ENTRIES WILL BE DRAWN AT 7AM-

PREMIUM BRANDS INCLUDED IN PROMOTION: PAPPY VAN WINKLE, BLANTON'S, EAGLE RARE, E.H. TAYLOR SMALL BATCH, WELLER RESERVE, BUFFALO TRACE, & A SURPRISE MYSTERY BOURBON!
SEE NEW LENOX STORE OR BERKOTFOODS.COM FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS

*Clip Coupon at BERKOTFOODS.COM & Share Loyalty Phone Number at Register to Redeem Limit Permitted Per Loyalty Account Per Ad Week.

FULL WEEKLY AD @ BERKOTFOODS.COM

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE →



Let Freedom Rock, Rotary car show coming June 28

The City of Wilmington will hold a celebration of the 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 Maggie Speaks, food trucks, a beer stand, glow-in-the-dark putt putt golf, facepainting, interactive games for the kids and fireworks after 9:30 p.m..

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

Judge rules 14 Republicans can be on the ballot

A state law essentially designed to prevent Republicans from appointing legislative candidates to the ballot after the March primary was ruled unconstitutional by a Sangamon 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.



CAPITOL FACTS
Rich Miller

widely seen as the target of the law because he is running against Rep. Katie Stuart (D-Edwardsville). Stuart represents a somewhat swing district, but she outperformed every statewide Democrat on the ballot in 2022. No statewide Democrat lost the district, but some came close, losing by a fraction of a point (Kwame Raoul 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.

Justice Center filed the lawsuit. Let's go back to Republican House candidate Keeven, who was believed to be the target of the law.

"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 signed SB2412 into law.

effect, I pointed out. "Doesn't matter," 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." Oh.

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*.

GIVE US A CALL TODAY!

The Bat Guys
HARMLESS BAT REMOVAL
BAT-PROOF & CLEAN UP
FULL ATTIC RESTORATION
10-YEAR WARRANTY

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

warrencollisioncenteril.com

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

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

WE CARE BEYOND THE REPAIR!

Grace Lutheran PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

We offer 2, 3 and 5 day classes for 3, 4 and 5 year olds.

If you would like to schedule a tour of the school our email is: gracepreschool@gmail.com or call Mary Kay Hays (815) 476-9480
907 Luther Dr., Wilmington

The timing, Judge Noll declared, imposed a "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.

A total of 15 Republicans were slated to the ballot and turned in petitions after Gov. JB Pritzker signed the bill into law.

Another GOP candidate, Jay Keeven, filed the day before Pritzker signed the legislation. Keeven was

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 points.

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

House Republicans were also convinced that Keeven's candidacy would be safe after the law took effect. They had recruited 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, Matt Dietrich, a spokesman 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 law.'"

But Keeven filed the day before the law took

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 GasBuddy.

"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."

74TH ANNUAL CARBON HILL HOMECOMING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19 - SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

BINGO

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

Fireworks
Sunday, 9:30 p.m.

Sign up for **BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT**

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

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

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

CARNIVAL OPENS

Wed.-Fri. 6pm • Sat. 2pm • Sun. 2pm

Tickets Purchased At Carnival

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

HANDICAP PARKING AT VILLAGE HALL
Shuttle from hall to Bingo stand. Must have I.D. to park at Village Hall.

CASH ONLY

Food Stand
Operated by:
Mustachio's

Bar & Grill

Parade Sunday @1 p.m.

Rides • Games

- Food •
- Entertainment •
- Petting Zoo •

ENTERTAINMENT **Live Music!**

Wed., June 19 DJ-DANCE FLOW CONTROL 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Sat., June 22 SOUTHTOWN ENTERTAINMENT DJ PARTY 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Sun., June 23 SKIP GRIPARIS-ELVIS, BUDDY, ROY & RICKY 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fri., June 21 CADILLAC GROOVE 8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	ETHAN BELL 9:00 p.m. - Midnight	WICKED VIC BAND 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

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

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 bad about eating it. Everything organic, grass-fed butter, pasteurized eggs and my favorite, sourdough starter.

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". She 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 family.

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 her sourdough bread, pretzels, 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 to 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 care-free 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 it.

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 "modern 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 believe 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/localkitchensbakery and facebook: Local Kitchen: a Sourdough Bakery or you can find her at Kankakee Farmers Market on Saturdays. You won't be disappointed nor feel bad about sharing a sweet treat with your family.

YOUR NEW HOME DESERVES THE BEST PROTECTION

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

Contact me today and get the protection you deserve.



American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & its Operating Companies, American Family Life Insurance Company, 6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53703 ©2020 19714-421-14722130

Gerald Gresham
815-729-3570
815-476-6364
863 Center Ct., Unit B, Shorewood, IL 60404
teamgresham@amfam.com
Email: ggresham@amfam.com

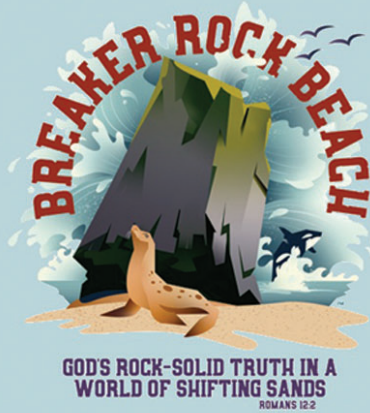
FREE VBS at ISLAND CITY BAPTIST

When: June 17-21

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: 120 Vine Street, Wilmington, IL 815-476-9750

OPEN TO KIDS AGES K-6TH GRADE



GOD'S ROCK-SOLID TRUTH IN A WORLD OF SHIFTING SANDS ROMANS 12:2

Registration is now open on our website!

www.icbcwilmington.org

FREE



Photo by Elaine Fisher-Ohlund

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

Crusin the Green Car Show planned for this Saturday

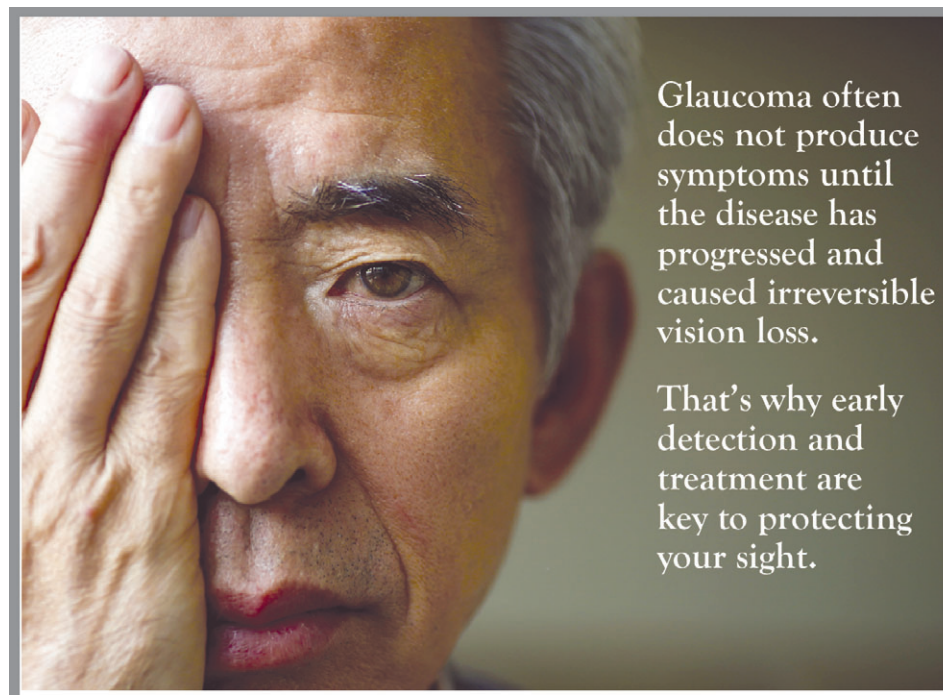
Crusin the Green car show will be coming to Wilmington's Winchester Green Shopping Center, 1099 S. Water St., on Saturday, June 15. Registration will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the car show will start 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be a car show registration

fee of \$10. There will also be 10 awards announced at 3 p.m.

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.



Glaucoma often does not produce symptoms until the disease has progressed and caused irreversible vision loss.

That's why early detection and treatment are key to protecting your sight.

You may not see Glaucoma coming...

But We Will.

If you're age 40 or older, or if you have diabetes, high blood pressure or a family history of glaucoma, talk to us to learn more or to schedule a screening

815-468-2015

501 S. Locust St. (Rt. 50) • Manteno



FISHER-GENTRY EYE CARE

WEESIP LIQUORS

<p>Twisted Tea \$16.99 12 pk cans</p> <p>Absolut Vodka \$200 OFF 750ml</p> <p>Cazadores Tequila \$300 OFF 1.75L</p> <p>Carnivor Wine or Marassou Wine \$200 OFF 750ml</p>	<p>Sailor Jerry Rum \$1.00 OFF 750ml</p> <p>Paul Masson Brandy \$200 OFF 1.75L</p> <p>Redemption Bourbon \$200 OFF 750ml</p> <p>\$300 OFF 750ml</p>
---	--

LIL VEGAS
6 Machines Private Room
COME TRY YOUR LUCK!
Must be 21 yrs or Older

Offers good through June 18, 2024

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

Countryside Village Outdoor Market

June 15 9am-2pm

Outdoors Rain or Shine

Storefront Closes at 4pm on Market Days

65+ handmade artisans, crafters, vintage/repurposed, gourmet foods, food trucks, wineries, brew master, music and more

FREE ADMISSION

FREE PARKING

FREE SHUTTLE at our overflow parking at Vilt's Greenhouse

NO PETS ALLOWED

Countryside Village Gifts
1540 N Division St
Braidwood, IL 60408
155 & Coal City Exit 236
www.countrysidevillagegifts.com

Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie...

DSNDP volunteers sow seeds of sustainability



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

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

demand for reforestation, regulate environmental temperature, prevent soil erosion, and promote biodiversity. These initiatives 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 Midwin 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 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-

Lions youth fishing derby delayed till fall

The Wilmington Lions 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

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

Lisa Marie's HAIR SALON
• Men
• Women
• Children
CUTS ★ COLOR
450 Davy Ln., Wilmington
(708) 465-3198

INSURANCE AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS • PROPERTY
Your local State Farm Agent for 30 years
Jerry Hallahan - Agent
State Farm 1350 E. Division St., Diamond
(815) 634-2222 jerry@jerryhallahan.com
INSURANCE MOTORCYCLE • REC VEHICLES • WATERCRAFT • LIABILITY

First responders train for threat incidents

Members of the 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 crisis, 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 a 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 with being

trained on a unified response 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 Police Department, 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 responders attended the training,

which included representatives from Grundy County, the Illinois Secretary of 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 safe." 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 email ema@willcountyllinois.com.

THANK YOU CONSTRUCTION WORKERS



For building our homes, schools, hospitals and more by working hard every day

But don't forget about yourself.

Last Will and Testaments, Trusts, Durable Power of Attorney and Health Care Power of Attorney are serious concerns that need to be addressed. Gain peace of mind knowing your affairs are in order by calling for an appointment in taking care of these important life decisions.

FM FISHER MEENTS LLC



207 S. Water St., Wilmington • 815-476-7635



9 Month CD Special
4.84% APY*



Bank of Pontiac
Bloomington • Coal City • Delavan • Dwight • Fairbury • Forrest
Melvin • Minier • Odell • Paxton • Piper City • Pontiac
Toll Free 855-844-6151 | www.bankofpontiac.com
Member FDIC

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



FRONTIER LEAGUE PARTNER LEAGUE

INDIVIDUAL GAME & GROUP TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



SLAMMERS

GET LOCKED IN!
jolietslammers.com

JUNE 21: SWIFTIE NIGHT, POSTGAME FIREWORKS
JUNE 22: DOG DAY! Presented by NVA
JUNE 23: FIRST RESPONDERS DAY, FAMILY SUNDAYS!

Barbie Night July 2nd!

Big tech companies going green

Dear EarthTalk: Which of the big tech companies are considered the greenest now?

— 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-

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

Microsoft has set the most ambitious target: 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. Also, Microsoft has mandated its suppliers report their emissions since 2021 and has implemented a carbon tax on its supply chain.

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 stoves in Kenya and protecting Indonesian forests, and has supported renewable energy infrastructure, including backup generation for Wyoming solar grids and energy stor-

age batteries in Ireland. In 2020, Microsoft founded the Climate Innovation Fund, investing \$1 billion in over 35 companies developing climate technology solutions for underserved communities.

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 by 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 placement.

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



RELIABLE, FAST & AFFORDABLE INTERNET SERVICE

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



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

- FOR SALE -



275 S. Broadway St., Coal City

Professional - Office - Retail - Service

PRIME 2,760 sq. ft. Multi-use storefront in the heart of Coal City's beautifully improved central business district. Building is divided into 3 separate units, each is fully updated and has its own utilities and mechanicals. Free village maintained street parking. \$240,000.00.



Sold Sisters
815-409-9768

925 N. IL Rt. 59,
Shorewood, IL

soldsisters@coldwellhomes.com

www.soldsisters.coldwellhomes.com



Jen and Sarah

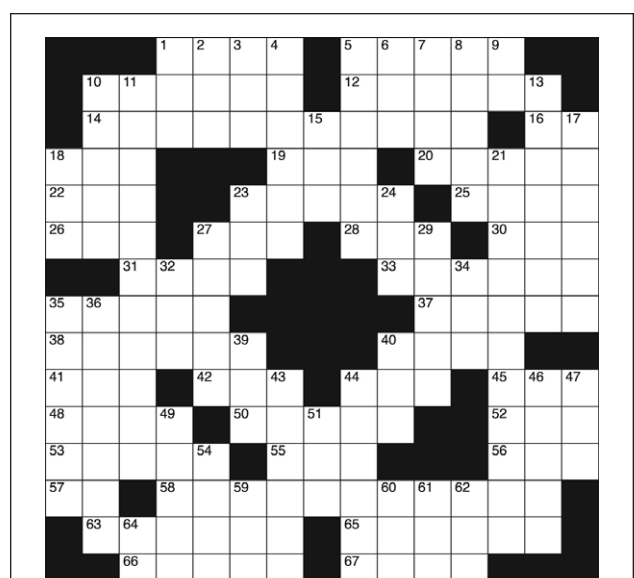
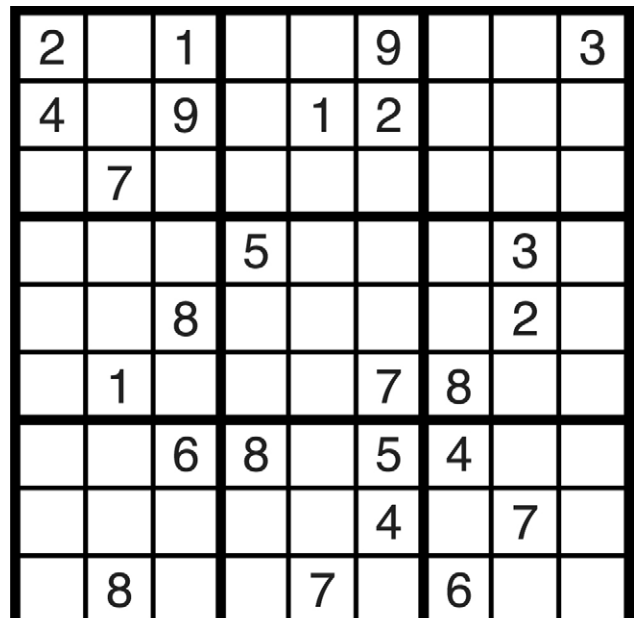
Farmers market June 20

The Wilmington Park District will be 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, vendors 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 a.m. at the United Methodist Church, 401 E. Kahler Rd., Wilmington.



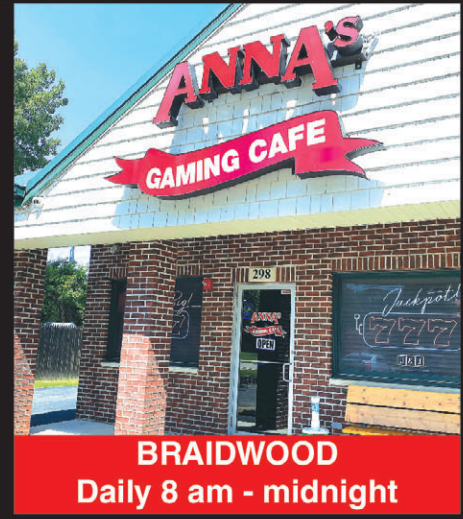
CLUES ACROSS

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
52. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
53. Agave
55. Noted journalist Tarbell
56. Computer firm
57. Type of record
58. Bacterium that can cause infection
63. Sheaths enclosing the spinal cord
65. A narrow opening (as in a rock wall)
66. Pattern
67. Very eager to see something

CLUES DOWN

1. Witch
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 poetry
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

298 S Front St | Braidwood
2445 E Division St | Diamond

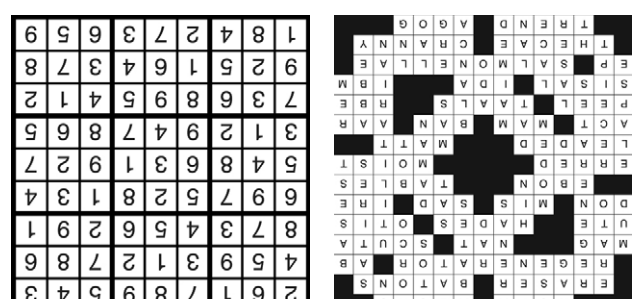


The fun's all here at Anna's!

Relax and enjoy coffee, \$1 can beer or wine all day, cold drinks and **hot slots!**



DIAMOND
Daily 9 am - midnight



CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

Deadlines

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

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

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

Cost

Line Ads are up to 30 words (20¢ for each word over 30)
1 wk. - \$17; 2 wks. - \$21;
3 wks. - \$25; 4 wks. - \$29*
\$1.00 Extra per line for bold or caps on classified
*plus .0399% with credit card

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

REAL ESTATE

SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE OF 725 East Rose Lane, Godley, 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 vacancy is un-known for this residency.). 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 Toothman Defendant.** Case No. 23 FC 0246 in the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within 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 residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the

unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: **MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE 1.N. Dearborn Suite 1300 Chicago, Illinois 60602 P: 312-346-9088**

GOT GRASS Lawn Care Jim Baudino 815-342-6394 ch10-25

Mike Collins Roofing, re-shingles and gutter cleaning, aluminum gutter screen, no repair to small or too big. Free roof inspection. Low prices. **INSULATION**. Keep your house cooler in summertime and warmer in the winter. Free estimate for blown in insulation for attics from Mike Collins Roofing. Lic # 104.007296. Ask for Mike at 815-730-1303. ck21-46

PAINTING Interior only, 25 years experience, referrals available. Call 815-585-0904. cc21-24

Ron's Drywall, Hang, Tape & Paint, 25 years experience. Reasonable rates including drywall repairs, plaster repairs, cracks, holes, & patches. Carpenter available by request. 815-549-5136. cc21-28

WANTED SCRAP METAL
• Farm Machinery
• Garden Tractors
• Snowmobiles
• Appliances
• Anything Metal
Free pickup 7 days 815-210-8819

GOODS FIREARMS
2 Crossbows - Horton RDX reverse draw with scope. Excellent condition, used one season \$700.00. Ten Point Pro Elite with Red Dot Scope, hard case and accessory kit. Very good condition \$450.00. Call 815-354-1811. ca24-27

BUSINESS PROPERTIES FOR RENT
For Rent in Wilmington Office/Shop on 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 items, pots, pans, utensils, knives, new and used watches. Handcrafted items: afghans, hats, scarves. Too much to list. ca24

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. No rain date. cc22-24

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

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

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

HPZ Pet Rover Run performance stroller for dog. Made in USA with heavy-duty tubing. Holds up to 50 lbs. Life-time warranty. Retail for \$363. Asking \$100. Call Eric 815-922-7966.

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

HELP WANTED

TRINITY Services, Inc.

NOW HIRING
Full or Part Time Job Coach
Monday - Friday 10am-6pm
Flexible Days
\$18.00/hour

"Helping people with disabilities and mental illness flourish and live full and abundant lives."

For more information call 815-476-5405 or apply at 1197 South Buchanan, Wilmington www.trinityservices.org

Braidwood, 395 N. Walker St., rain or shine. Fri. & Sat., June 7-8 and Fri. & Sat., June 14-15 from 8AM-3PM. Multi-family garage sale. Items include kitchen and other household items, boys clothing sizes 5 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

Wilmington, Deer Ridge Park, multi-house. Look for signs on 129 just south of Coal City 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, Deer Ridge Park. 32759 Nikki Lane. Friday & Saturday, June 14-15, 8AM-2PM. Avon, books, household, 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 Tues. through Sat. Stop in for application at the bar. ch21-24.

STORAGE

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

GRUNDY COUNTY'S #1 HOME SELLER

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

SEE EVERY HOME ON THE MARKET AT C21.COM

(815) 942-9190

99% Customer Satisfaction Rating

CENTURY 21
Coleman-Hornsbay

NEED PRINTING?

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

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

FPN FREE PRESS NEWSPAPERS

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

HENDRON CABINETS.COM
Jason Hendron Construction, LLC.
CABINETRY, GRANITE & QUARTZ COUNTERTOPS
DESIGN & SALES

JSI CABINETRY QUARTZ CABINETRY SKYLINE CABINETRY

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

(815) 790-1235

FARMERS INSURANCE

MELODIE J. LUCKETT
Agent, Notary

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

Auto • Home Life • Commercial

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

CubCadet **GRASS HOPPER**
YOUR NEXT MOWER®

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

SHORKEY PAINTING
Est. 1989
(815) 546-1321
Interior/Exterior

A & E SEPTIC SERVICE
Pumping - Repairs - New Installation
Sewer Rodding - Sanitary - Party Potties
Ed Bonnivier
Coal City • 634-4691

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

LIFTED
SPRAY FOAM INSULATION
CONCRETE RAISING

Spray Foam Insulation
• garages
• pole buildings
• attics
• basements
• commercial
• industrial
Wilmington • 815-200-6880

Concrete Raising
• driveways
• sidewalks
• patios
• stairs
• and more!

SHOP LOCAL!

WILMINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
EST. 1958

**616 Davy Lane
Wilmington**

Landscape Supply
Elwood, IL

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

We Deliver!
www.jdlandscapesupply.com
815-478-3717
708-921-3535

FULL COLOR

- Banners -
- Yard Signs -
- Post Cards -
- Brochures -

Customized to your liking.
Competitive prices.

THE FREE PRESS
111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL

Mini Storage
CLEMENTINE'S CLOSETS
515 Davy Lane, Wilmington

Affordable Clean, Secure Monthly Rentals

No Deposit Required
815-530-0200

VIKING ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION CORP

Now Offering IL Public Adjuster Services

FREE PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

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

Licensed Insured Bonded

IL State License # 104-002993
(815) 476-6010
www.vrcc.us



Courtesy photos

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.

Braidwood Shootout gets underway today

The 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 title.

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 will be Lincoln-Way 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 more.

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

The girls Braidwood Shootout featuring 16 area teams including the Comets, Coalers and Wildcats was played yesterday.



Courtesy photos

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.

Children's used book collection

The Grundy County 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

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.

Grundy County has been most generous in these events since 2017 and has given over 15,000 books to needy children.

Please help this worthy cause by donating children's books from preschool through 6th grade.

For more information contact Beth Skoff, 815-941-3228, bskoff@grund-countyil.gov or Heidi Miller at 815-941-3229, hmillier@grund-countyil.gov.

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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Because it's your right to know

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

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

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



Dr. Spyro Analytis
Internal Medicine



Dr. Darakhshan Anjum
Pediatrics



Stacey Johnson
Family Nurse Practitioner



Dr. Olga Peplos
Internal Medicine

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

Call 815-634-3500 to schedule an appointment.



MORRIS HOSPITAL
DIAMOND-COAL CITY CAMPUS
1450 E. Division St. Diamond www.morrishospital.org/dcc



Courtesy photos

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 Czaja. Nathan Yusko and Presley Murphey are in Smith and Coaches Kevin Hennessy, Josh Hintze and Eduardo Arcos.



Courtesy photos

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 Brcnich. Not pictured are Coach Chris Christensen and Coach Brock Kratochvil.