

Carbon Hill selects its grand marshal



Coalers get two wins in Shootout



\$1.00 Vol. 121, Issue 26 1 section • 14 pages Not over 75% advertising www.coalcitycourant.com

COAL CITY COURANT .com

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 | A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER • (815) 634-0315



DURING HIS TENURE Dr. Kent Bugg oversaw multiple building projects including one at the high school that added the performing arts center.



IN OBSERVANCE OF the 100th anniversary of the school building at 305 E. Division St., Dr. Bugg added his signature to others located under the bleachers.



MEGAN BUGG JOINED her dad, Dr. Kent Bugg, in breaking ground for Coal City's Early Childhood Center.



A BUILDING REFERENDUM was approved not long after Dr. Kent Bugg assumed the role of superintendent and the first project was the Earl Childhood Center.



A lasting legacy

And for that we say, thank you.

BY ANN GILL
EDITOR

"If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, then, you are an excellent leader."
—Dolly Parton

No quote could better describe the legacy of Dr. Kent Bugg, a man of honesty and integrity, an individual who, in the words of his successor, "has built his legacy by his actions and leadership."

Bugg came to the Unit 1 School District in 2000 to serve as K-8 principal of operations, student services and facilities planning, working from the middle school. Three years later he was selected to succeed Dr. Michael Throneburg as the district's superintendent, a position he assumed on July 1, 2004.

"To see what he has done and accomplished throughout his tenure here is truly amazing," said Chris Spencer, who will assume leadership of the district upon Bugg's retirement next week—June 30.

Bugg began his career 33 years ago when he was hired by Reed-Custer School District 255-U as a high school teacher. He also served as the district's athletic director. Bugg then transferred to Wilmington School District 209-U in 1995 to serve as assistant high school principal. In all, he spent 29 years in school administration—marking a milestone as the longest serving superintendent in the Unit 1 School District with 18 years.

"We couldn't have asked for a better person to be here," said Ken P. Miller, who prior to serving as president of the Unit 1 Board of Education served as a guidance counselor spending two years working along side Bugg.

"I didn't know who Kent Bugg was when we started in the new building, but it was the best two years I spent in education being able to work with him. We did some wonderful things because of him," Miller said.

Miller noted the superintendent's work in the district has been exemplary and when it comes to dedication, he knows no one more

devoted to the betterment of the school and community than Bugg.

The key to success, Bugg has said, can be summed up in two words: show up. And, that is what Kent Bugg has done for Coal City. He showed up and let the community know he cared not only for the students and staff in his buildings, but the community as a whole. Even when faced with difficult decisions and personal circumstances, he showed up and as a community we say, 'thank you.'

Bugg is a firm believer that one of the most important things we can do is to be grateful.

As he's told countless graduates, life is too short to focus on the negative, because if you do, the negativity will absolutely consume you and as humans you will be much happier if you take a bit of time every day to be thankful for the positive things in your life.



A BUGG'S LIFE—While serving as principal of Coal City Middle School, Dr. Kent Bugg took part in the annual Band-O-Rama. Throughout his tenure with the Unit 1 School District, Bugg was often spotted at concerts, musicals, contests and athletic events.

Our community has a lot of things to be thankful for and the leadership of Bugg is one of them. His ingenuity, work ethic and determination to always improve has resulted in opportunities for students and made our communities stronger.

Throughout his tenure, Bugg placed a strong focus on teaching and learning, never settling for the status quo.

When he took over, the district's was on the state's academic watch list due to poor performance on state testing. Now it's one of the highest performing districts in the state.

Under his leadership the district developed a standards based curriculum and assessment system, implemented a foreign language program that has been revised to ensure student success at the college level, introduced Advanced Placement courses, moved to self contained fifth grade classrooms and made changes to the middle school schedule to ensure students had adequate instructional time.

As school officials have noted, the district has become a model for academic excellence, and for this we say, 'thank you.'

A proponent of early childhood education, Bugg had a dream to provide Unit 1's youngest

SEE LEGACY, PAGE 2

Photos by Ann Gill
"I AM HUMBLLED by the trust this community put in me to take care of their most precious resource which is their kids. I am thankful for that. All I can say to the board, this school district and this community, my community is thank you. Next to being called dad by my two girls serving as superintendent of this district has been the honor of my life and I could not be more grateful." said Unit 1 School Superintendent Dr. Kent Bugg. After 33 years in education—29 years in school administration—he will retire on June 30 as the longest serving superintendent in the Unit 1 School District with 18 years of service.

Once a Coaler, Always a Coaler



BERKOT'S GRADUATION CATERING



PLACE YOUR GRADUATION AND PARTY CATERING PRE-ORDERS TODAY AT BERKOTFOODS.COM

A league to call their own

BY ANN GILL
EDITOR

Feeling they could be better served by Coal City Area Youth Baseball and Softball, a group of parents want to establish a new youth softball league in the community.

Starting with the spring 2023 season, the Coaler Youth Softball League plans to be playing games in town. The design for the new league was made public when the parent group approached the Coal City Village Board for assistance.

Speaking on behalf of the parents, Coal City resident Samantha Schaller asked the Board for permission to utilize the municipal-owned softball fields located in the town's Lions Park for practices and games.

"We only need one, we can run all of our games on one field," Schaller said, adding that a lighted field would be a bonus.

A fellow mom noted the new league isn't looking to take over or keep anyone else from utilizing the playing fields.

"We just want a space for our kids to play," the mom said.

The parents group had a few more questions for the board regarding field conditions and on-site storage.

"If you've been to our current fields you know the conditions. They haven't been kept up, and that was a main question. If we did go into an agreement with Coal City for using and taking care of the field would we have access to store our materials?" asked Schaller.

"To be honest with you there are questions I can't answer," Mayor Terry Halliday



A GROUP OF parents are looking to establish a new youth softball league and have approached the village of Coal City to utilize its fields.

said. "We provide the park, but I am not aware of any kind of agreement we have with the baseball/softball organization in terms of how we dictate the park usage. We leave that up to those organizations to resolve that however they want to schedule the games and use the parks," he continued.

Village Administrator Matt Fritz confirmed the village doesn't play a role in scheduling usage of the fields, however there is a field usage policy in place with the sports organization that governs the use of the fields such as maintenance and storage, as well as providing insurance coverage.

The fields would be open to the new league so long as they enter into a usage policy and the mayor indicated the village would be willing to work with the new group when it comes to secured storage for equipment and materials.

Village officials suggested the new league reach out to have some conversations with CCAYBS regarding sharing the fields.

"I want to stay out of the negotiation of who does what, when and how. I look for the organizations to work that out.

It's a public park and if there are Coal City kids trying to use those parks and organizations that are from Coal City they should use the parks. Now if somebody out of town or a travel league that was competing against Coal City, I think the board would agree to give preference to Coal City kids," Halliday said.

The mayor directed the new league to have some discussions with the Park Board, and Schaller said they were planning to attend the next meeting noting that they addressed the Village Board first due to timing.

"We are looking into what the process is for what we have to do, and we know we have to go to the Park Board as well, but your meeting was first and the reason we have a sense of urgency is we are putting in for our non-profit status and that is something that takes a while and we want to be ready for next season and it's something that cost a bit of money and we want to make sure we are on the right track before we make this investment," Schaller said.

The group didn't go into details as to why they feel their children are being under

served through participation in the current organization, but did say there have been situations when they don't feel the female players are being treated fairly, as well as a lack of communication that has hampered an ability to resolve any concerns.

"We have a good group of kids and we want to make something good for them," one mom said.

In her comments she noted the new league wants to do its part to provide a local opportunity where athletes can train and play together while developing skills they can use as they move forward into middle and high school, rather than training with their competition.

The mayor reiterated his position that the parks should be utilized by the community's children, and said he hopes the groups can come to terms on field usage.

"We've had these parks for years and we've had girls softball and baseball so there has to be a way to make it work. You are all intelligent adults and need to negotiate, I suspect all parties to give a little. No one should assume they own the parks, because they don't."

Halliday wished the new league his best and commended those willing to step up and offer programming for kids.

"Thank goodness we have people like you who want to coach our children, because it's a thankless job, but it's an important part of getting them engaged in the sport and coaching them the right way," Halliday said.

And, in response the moms said they are going to keep moving forward.

Coalers awarded local scholarships



RICK DARLING had a passion for baseball and his love the game will be remembered for years to come through a scholarship in his name. The Rick Darling Memorial Scholarship is offered to a high school baseball player who plans to further his education at a college, university or technical school. Riley Dehler was presented this year's financial award of \$500. Administered through the Unit 1 Educational Foundation, the scholarship was presented by high school principal Chris Spencer.



ST. JUVIN Post 1336 Veterans of Foreign Wars offers scholarships to Coaler graduates entering the health care field. This year's financial awards of \$1,000 each were presented to Lynzie Norris [left] and Emma Charles [right]. The recipients accepted their award from James "Hoppy" Phillips, St. Juvins' commander and chairperson of the scholarship committee. Those selected to receive the financial awards were made by scholarship committee members in a blind review of all applications submitted for consideration.

University of Iowa President's list announced

More than 1,000 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa named to the president's list for the 2022 spring semester.

The president's list was established in the fall of 1983 to recognize academic excellence. Local students include: Preston Johnson and Lauren Phillips, both of Coal City.

Copes, Phillips graduate from University of Iowa

This spring, more than 5,100 University of Iowa undergraduate, graduate, and professional students earned degrees. These Hawkeyes engaged, excelled, and stretched to reach their goals, despite a pandemic.

Local students include Carter Copes and Lauren Phillips, both of Coal City.

Legacy

students with an educational facility that would enhance their ability to learn and grow and, with the support of the community, a \$45 million building referendum was passed that resulted in the construction of the Early Childhood Center, "an absolute gem of an educational building," in the superintendent's word.

The community support also allowed for a 75,000 square-foot addition to Coal City High School that included the construction of an 800 seat performing arts center, that supported his goal of growing the fine arts program.

With the support of Bugg and the Board of Education, the district added a middle school musical expanding the offerings of the district's theatre department that has grown and is well known across the state as providing professional level theatre.

Bugg said the performing arts center is his, "pride and joy," and in honor of his years

of dedicated service to the district and support of fine arts the facility has officially been dedicated to him.

"We are unique in what we provide and allow for our students to be involved in, and this produces well-rounded kids and I am so proud of that," Bugg said, noting students are encouraged to pursue what they enjoy, even if they overlap from time to time, and as a community we say, 'thank you,' for providing these opportunities and for the facilities that allow our students to learn, grow and enjoy all school has to offer

In a move to ensure the academic needs of all district students are being served, Bugg led the effort to hire a director of special populations and the move to bring special education programming in-house. For this he tapped Sandy Rakes, a former colleague from Wilmington, to lead the program and said without her leadership the effort to bring special education students receiving outside services back to their home district would not have

been possible.

The move has facilitated a number of successful programs from PATH and transitions to the highly successful Coaler Academy, as community we say, 'thank you' for ensuring all students have the opportunity to learn and grow with their peers.

A long-term goal was accomplished in 2017 with the construction of the 6,545 square foot administration center that provided a central location for the district's administrative personnel and a meeting room for school and community groups. Although the project was pushed back multiple times, it was done to ensure the construction project was economic feasible for the district.

The district also undertook a number of improvement projects to ensure district facilities were up to date prior to the expiration of the current licensing of Dresden Generating Station, the district's largest taxpayer. For this, we say 'thank you' for ensuring tax dollars are being wisely spent and buildings are safe for the community's kids.

Throughout his tenure, Bugg and his team have worked with the Board of Education to ensure the district's finances are in order. The district is annually commended by the Illinois State Board of Education for its strong financial health. He also successfully negotiated employment contracts and collective bargaining agreements with the district's union workers. Coal City has been able to maintain the lowest K-12 tax rate in the county, as taxpayers we say, 'thank you.'

In the past year or so, there was much uncertainty about the state of our community. When the announcement came that Exelon was planning to shut down the Dresden Generating Station, Bugg was the first to jump into action to save the plant from closure. He would talk to anyone who would listen as to the important role the facility plays in the community from the direct and indirect jobs it provides to the financial implications that would come with its premature closure.

Bugg set up committees, rallied community members, leaders and legislators across the state to support a energy

bill that would protect the facilities. It was one of those things he wanted to accomplish before he retired, and as the first of two generating stations started to shut down, the legislature passed a bill keeping them running. For his tireless work to save local jobs and ensure the viability of the community, we say 'thank you.'

Bugg also saw the district through two tornadoes, looking out for the well-being of students and staff hit by the storms, even while his own home and school buildings suffered significant damage.

And, there was a global pandemic that shut down schools. Working with his team, Bugg was able to get students back into their school buildings in a safe manner.

On the topic of safety, Bugg has always said for students to be able to learn they need to feel safe so he supported measures to increase building safety and ensure school resource officers were located in key school buildings.

As part of his duties as superintendent, Bugg served as the district's representative to a number of education and community organizations including, but not limited to, the Grundy Area Vocational Center, Grundy County Special Education Cooperative, Grundy Economic Development Council and FAIRCUM [Fair

Assessment Information Resource Committee], and he served in various leadership roles within those organizations.

For your honest, transparency and so many other things, we say, 'thank you, Dr. Bugg.'

"I am humbled by the trust this community put in me to take care of their most precious resource which is their kids. I am thankful for that," Bugg said.

"All I can say to the board, this school district and this community, my community is thank you. Next to being called dad by my two girls serving as superintendent of this district has been the honor of my life and I could not be more grateful," he continued.

Just what the future holds in retirement is not quite clear

at this point for Bugg. But one thing is certain he will always be a Coaler. As he says, "once a Coaler, always a Coaler."

It's quite clear the legacy Bugg leaves on the Unit 1 School District was built on his dream to do more, to inspire and be a good leader.

For him, the legacy he hopes to leave is that he loved the students, the school district and community. "If that's the extent of my legacy in this school district then I am content with my career," Bugg said.

The Unit 1 School District will host an open house in honor of Dr. Bugg on Sunday, June 26 from 1-4 p.m. at the high school. All community members and friends of Dr. Bugg and his family are invited to participate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

EARLY VOTING SITE – GRUNDY COUNTY COURTHOUSE GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION – JUNE 28, 2022

Early Voting will begin on Thursday, May 19, 2022 and continue through Monday, June 27, 2022.

LOCATION – Grundy County Courthouse (Lobby)
Grundy County Election Authority
111 East Washington Street, Room 12
Morris, IL 60450

TIME – Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (unless noted below)

Saturday	May 28th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Tuesday	June 7th	8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	June 9th	8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	June 14th	8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	June 16th	8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	June 18th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Sunday	June 19th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Tuesday	June 21st	8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	June 23rd	8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	June 25th	8:00 a.m. to Noon

Please call the Grundy County Clerk's Office at (815) 941-3222, if you have any questions.

Please note: Cell phones are not allowed in the Grundy County Courthouse.

KAY T. OLSON

GRUNDY COUNTY ELECTION AUTHORITY

Looking for direction in this volatile market?



Tammy Johnson, AAMS*
Financial Advisor

12 East North Street
Coal City, IL 60416
815-634-0205

Edward Jones

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



The Coal City Courant

USPS No. 120-060

Published weekly, 52 times a year, on Wednesdays by G-W COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 271 S. Broadway St. Coal City, IL 60416

Periodicals postage paid at Coal City, Illinois

Postmaster: Send address changes to: Free Press Newspapers; P.O. Box 327; Wilmington, IL 60481

Subscription rates: \$43 Grundy & Will counties; \$50 other Illinois counties and \$57 out of state

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

Advertising and Business Offices:

- 111 South Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481 (815) 476-7966; Fax: (815) 476-7002
- 271 South Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 (815) 634-0315; Fax: (815) 476-7002

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

©2022 All news, photographs and advertising material used in this publication are the property of G.W. Communications, Inc. Use of the material without the consent of G.W. Communications, Inc. is strictly prohibited. Violators of this property right are subject to legal action.

Eric D. Fisher, publisher
Ann Gill, editor

Carbon Hill honors one of its own

BY MICHELE MICETICH
SPECIAL TO THE COAL CITY COURANT

Gary Eugene Lissy—you may know him as the John Deere tractor guy—is being honored by the village of Carbon Hill as its 2022 Homecoming grand marshal.

Each year the village honors one of its own during the annual Homecoming, now in its 73rd year, and as this year's honoree, Lissy joins a long list of community residents who have been recognized for their service to the community.

The 40-plus year resident of Carbon Hill has supported the community he calls home since the day he moved there, and his participation in the annual Homecoming dates back to when he was just a kid.

Everybody from every town came to Carbon Hill for the festival back then and the Lissy family would park and sit under the big tree in Annie Testa's yard all day on Homecoming Sunday. They ate a packed picnic lunch and bought hamburgers from the food stand for supper.

As most know, the Lissy Family has a deep connection to the Homecoming parade with its impressive display of vintage John Deere tractors.

For more than 40 years the green and gold machines have been a part of the parade, a tradition started by Lissy's son, Gary Jr., who was 13 when he drove his first tractor in the 1976 Carbon Hill parade—it was a 1938 John Deere two row planter he purchased in 1974.

And every parade—even the year it poured—the tractors have been in the lineup, with just one exception. In 1993, Gary, Sr. had a heart attack and machines stayed parked.

The most tractors in one parade was somewhere between 27 or 30. Gary Sr. and Gary Jr. bought the tractors together and it was a hobby that became something they shared and enjoyed.

Lissy's path to Carbon Hill wound from his formative days in the village of Godley to married life in Braidwood and Coal City.

Lissy came into the world two months earlier than expected on June 8, 1943 in St Joe's Hospital in Joliet. His early delivery resulted in a month long hospital stay until he was big enough to leave the hospital.

The youngest of four children born to John and Elizabeth [Hakey] Lissy, he joined siblings Marion [Sanders], John Jr, and Sylvester "Snook" at the family home in Godley.

As a youngster, Lissy would stand on the back hump in the car when his older brothers were driving any of their Model A cars—a '29, a '30 and a '31—and would watch as they shifted gears. That's how he learned to drive.

Today cherished snapshots are around to show his family through the generations, and Gary's baby bib and blue leather baby shoes are preserved in a display case in the living room of his Carbon Hill home.

Lissy describes the little Lissy house in

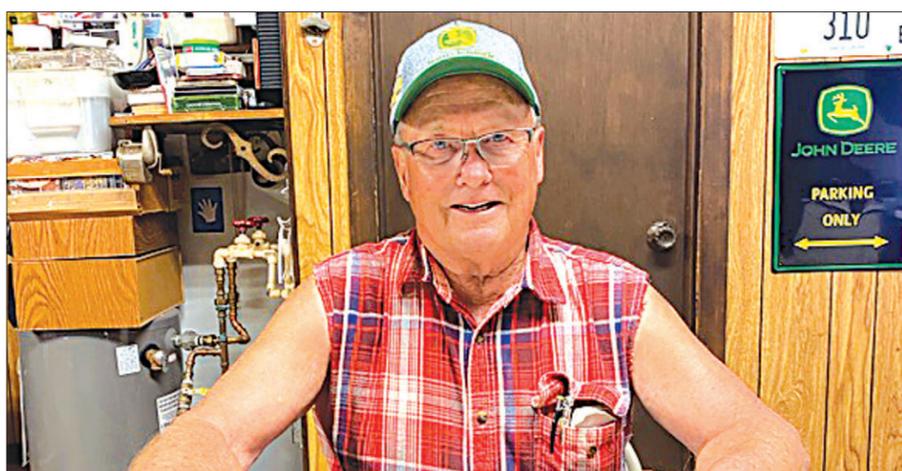


Photo by Michele Micetich

GARY LISSY, SR. has been selected as the 2022 Carbon Hill Homecoming Grand Marshal.

Godley as having one bedroom with two beds, he and his brother, John sharing a mattress. The front porch feather tick bed was warm, but if you slept out there you woke up with frost on your nose. And, they could hear the noise from Soxy's tavern through their window.

The kitchen had a coal stove stoked with corn cobs and lump coal from nearby McElvain's mine. There was no indoor plumbing.

Lissy attended the Godley Grade School that was just down the street. There was only one teacher—first Mr. Dillon and then Mrs. Adeline Aten—in the two room schoolhouse. One room was used for classes and the other for big events. A big plus was there were inside toilets.

The school building is still there, but it's apartments now.

Among his memorabilia from those days, Lissy has his report cards, a sweet letter from Mrs. Aten, and a fancy framed Champion certificate he won in a *Joliet Herald News* sponsored Will County Schools Spelling Bee.

Surrounded by many relatives, neighbors, and school mates, life in Godley was familiar with people welcome in each others' homes along the streets of the small village.

Lissy recalls an old guy named Vigo who lived south of Godley that regularly tied up his team of horses at Patty Buffo's saloon to have a few short snorts and then would walk the team of horses back home. Such characters continue to tumble out in stories as Lissy recalled his hometown. A keen observer of daily life and people, there was always something impressionable which he noticed.

When he was in eighth grade he farmed 80 acres on the Buffo farm using two tractors - a '39 B and a '40 B and of course these were John Deeres. The Buffo farm actually was his uncle's,

but the farm kept the name of the original owner. That year he got waist high soybeans off the farm acreage, 30 bushels to the acre, he said.

There are so many other memories from his youth from the Lily Mine dump, Mr. Smith's DeSoto car, Big Sally slicing bologna for the town kids' sandwiches to the "working girls" sunbathing outside the Farmhouse.

After grade school graduation Gary attended Reed-Custer High School in Braidwood, because his family lived on the Will County side of Godley, a village that sits on both sides of the Will-Grundy line road. The school bus picked the kids up at Rohrbach's corner and went down the gravel road to Reed Road to where the Halls lived on the corner and then went across by Tessler's land, which was all the Eureka Coal Co. property. And then the bus continued on to the school in town.

Lissy went two years to high school and then left to get married at the age of 16 1/2 years old. It was 1959,

His love, Nell LaZier, had already graduated from Reed-Custer. Nell's sister, Mona and her husband, Frank Basham drove the young couple to Clayton MO., to be married and when they arrived he had to call his mom to mail a notarized letter to Missouri saying it was OK for him to get married.

He left his little home with no running water to a place where there was not only running water and a toilet, but a coal heat stoker furnace. This place in lower Braidwood had been the old schoolhouse and was transformed into three apartments by Porky Lestina, who owned it.

Lissy had to fill the coal stoker that heated the whole building. But the thermostat was next door in Nell's sister and brother-in-laws apartment. That meant Gary and Nell's apartment

had to be kept really hot to keep Frank and Mona's warm. Trader Weidner and his wife, Pauline lived in the third apartment.

The couple welcomed a daughter, Michelle in 1960 and by the time Gary Jr. was born the family had moved into a home owned by Angelo Pogliano on Shabbona St., in Coal City.

The family would then move on to various farm locations and settled in Carbon Hill in 1978. They moved in a week before Christmas, their tree being a fir they cut down from their yard.

In 1978, Marty Kaiser was living next door with Tony and Jen Balbinot on the east and the Sheridans were across the street.

At the time the first block of First Street on the west side was all empty lots. The Fowlers were on First Street further north and Alec and Barbara Balbinot and their two daughters were up on the corner of Second Street. There was plenty of empty property in 1978, Gary said.

As residents of the village, Gary and Nell got involved with the community and did their part to support the Homecoming.

Lissy volunteered to work the beer stand and food stand, and Nell did her part baking pies to be sold at the food stand.

Daughter Michelle says she remembers her aunts and uncles asking what kind of pie and what day so they could go buy a piece.

Over the years Gary worked for Diamond Brothers, Arrow Road, DesPlaines Chemical and the Arsenal for 10 years and three months, he then hired on at DuPont in 1976 and worked there 22 years.

He shares that he always liked to work and do things well. At age 55 he retired to take care of Nell, who passed six months later.

He didn't like "not working" so he took a position at Mazon-Verona-Kinsman as custodian and after nine years he retired once again at age 65.

Retirement has been filled with more work. Devoted to maintaining his property, his tractors, and his garden, Lissy and his daughter do lots of chores together, inside and outside. They make spaghetti sauce, jalapenos, anti-pasto, peppers and bagna cauda dip.

His affection for the green and yellow tractors he's known for are featured on a beautiful white lighted John Deere Christmas tree with over 300 John Deere ornaments that stays up year round, and it's surrounded by John Deere memorabilia.

Lissy's contributions to the community he calls home will be recognized on tonight (6 p.m.) with a plaque presentation at the entrance of the village park, a ceremony that will officially kick off the annual Homecoming.

As the grand marshal, he will lead the annual parade that steps off at 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 26 and that will be followed by an open house at the Carbon Hill Museum beginning at 4 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the open house, refreshments will be served and photos, scrapbooks and stories will all be on hand.

Lifesaving training It's Homecoming week in Carbon Hill



Courtesy photos

LIFEGUARDS AT THE Coal City Area Club recently participated in a training exercise with the help of the Coal City Fire Protection District. Lifeguards, including Braiden Young, were able to hone their rescue skills using equipment provided by the fire department. As part of the training exercise, lifeguards were able to practice utilizing an AED. The lifesaving training was held Sunday, June 12.

STAFF REPORT

A tradition continues in the village of Carbon Hill this week as the town hosts its 72nd annual Homecoming.

As the summer festival gets underway this evening (Wednesday) organizers welcome people from across the area for five days of family fun.

The Homecoming, what started as a reunion of former mine workers in 1949, remains one of the most anticipated local events of the summer with thousands of people filling the town park on Lacey Street, between Third and Fifth streets, to take in the various activities including the crack of the bat to the boom of fireworks.

The festival will open this

evening with a ceremony honoring the 2022 grand marshal, Gary Lissy, Sr. Village officials will gather near the entrance of the park at 6 p.m. to recognize Lissy's dedicated service to Carbon Hill.

The carnival opens this evening at 6 p.m. Swygar Amusements, Inc., of New Athens, IL is providing the rides, games and concessions. The carnival opens at 6 p.m. each day with the exception of Saturday when rides open at noon and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Bingo is a festival tradition and organizers have lined up a host of prizes to be handed out to winners including specials from area businesses. The bingo stand, located at the entrance to the park, will open at 6 p.m. each evening with the exception of Saturday and

Sunday when games will get started at 3 p.m.

The festival will also include three days of music with The Brat Pack performing from 8 p.m. to midnight on Friday, June 24. SunFallen will take the stage Saturday, June 25 from 8 p.m. to midnight and Sunday's line up features BOGO performing from 3-9 p.m.

Homecoming Sunday wouldn't be complete without a parade and this year's will step-off from Carbon Hill Road and Seventh Street at 1 p.m. Lissy will lead the parade as grand marshal followed by a few of his John Deere tractors. The Lissy family has participated in the parade displaying its tractors since 1976.

The food stand—operated by Mustachio's Bar & Grill—

and beer garden will be open throughout the festival.

The softball field will be a busy place with the 10th Annual Josh Cumming Memorial Softball Tournament taking place, the winner to be crowned Sunday evening.

The festival will close with a fireworks display at the softball field beginning at 9:30 p.m. on Sunday.

The village relies on residents to donate a few hours to assist with the event including ticket sales, driving a golf cart from the handicapped parking area located at the village hall on Holcomb Street. The shuttle service is sponsored by D Construction.

Proceeds from the festival are put into the village's general fund to support town operations.

Johnson, McDowell on UW Oshkosh dean's list

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh officials have released the names of students who qualified for the spring dean's list

The term grade-point average (GPA) requirement for dean's list is 3.75 out of a possible 4.0. To qualify, a student must have been enrolled in a

minimum of 12 credits. Griffin Johnson and Mickey McDowell, both of Coal City are named on the dean's list.

Attorney Harrop files Wissel estate notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the Matter of the Estate of DONNA J. WISSEL, Deceased. Case No.: 2022 PR50

CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE IS GIVEN OF the death of Donna J. Wissel, and Letters of Office were issued on the 1st day of June, 2022 to Scott C. Wissel, 24828 Jensen Street, Shorewood, IL 60404 as Independent Executor, whose attorney is JOAN N. HARROP, 220 West Main Street, Suite 300, Morris, Illinois 60450.

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 mailing 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 <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/> service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <https://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Grundy County Court House, 111 East Washington Street, Morris, Illinois, 60450, or with the representative, or both, on or before December 9, 2022. 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 has been filed.

Scott C. Wissel
Independent Executor

Joan N. Harrop, #6237262
GOMIEN & HARROP, LTD.
First Midwest Bank Building
220 West Main Street, Ste. 300
Morris, Illinois 60450
(815) 942-0071
joanharrop@sbcglobal.net
Published in the Coal City Courant on June 8, 15 and 22, 2022.

Attorney Black files O'Hagan estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE No. 2022 PR 56

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY ANN O'HAGAN, DECEASED

CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE IS given to creditors of the death of Mary Ann O'Hagan. Letters of office as Independent Executor were issued to Terry Walls, 1455 Khatar Court, 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 been filed.

TERRY WALLS
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 22 and 29 and July 6, 2022.

Attorney Black files Erickson estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE No. 2022 PR 52

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARILYN J. ERICKSON, DECEASED

CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE IS given to creditors of the death of Marilyn J. Erickson. Letters of office as Independent Executor were issued to Michael D. Hutchings, 513 Johnson Avenue, Morris, Illinois 60450, whose attorney is TIMOTHY 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 been filed.

MICHAEL D. HUTCHINGS
INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

Timothy 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 8, 15 and 22, 2022.

Attorney Wheeler files case for Schultz guardianship

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF GRUNDY, SS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

DONNA SCHULTZ AND RYAN SCHULTZ, Petitioners.
IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF:
ADAM SCHULTZ, A minor child,
Gen. No. 22GR10

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced in this Court by the Petitioners, DONNA SCHULTZ AND RYAN SCHULTZ, seeking guardianship of the minor child. Notice is hereby given to you, GEORGIS KONSTANTINOS DEDETSINAS, that a Petition for Guardianship has been filed with this Court by the Petitioners seeking an order of guardianship and other relief.

Unless you file your answer to the Petition or otherwise file your appearance in the case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court, Grundy County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington Street, Morris, Illinois, 60450, on or before the 20th day of July, 2022, a JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP.

Garret Wheeler
Atty. No. #6270818
Wheeler Law Firm, Ltd.
305 E. North St.
Morris, IL 60450
Telephone: 815-942-5555
Facsimilar: 815-942-4950
Gwheeler23@hotmail.com
Published in the Coal City Courant on Wednesday, June 15, 22, and 29, 2022.

Youngsters invited to VBS

The First Baptist Church of Coal City will be holding a Vacation Bible School open to girls and boys in preschool through sixth grade.

The fun-filled event will take place Monday, June 27 through Friday, July 1 from 1-3 p.m. The theme will be Spark Studios incorporating art and

music each day. The church is located at 4470 Route 113 in Coal City. For details call the church at 815-634-2654.

Rousonelos applies for name change

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In re the Petition to Change the name of: Brooke Talbott Rousonelos, Petitioner Case No. 2022MR12

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned on behalf of herself shall appear in the Circuit Court for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Courtroom U.S.C., 111 E. Washington Street, Morris, Illinois 60450 on the 19th day of July, 2022 at 8:45 a.m. before the Judge assigned to hear said matter and then there present a Petition requesting the name of BROOKE TALBOTT ROUSONELOS be changed to BROOKE ANN WILLARD.

Signed: Brooke Talbott Rousonelos
Published in the Coal City Courant on Wednesday, June 8, 15 & 22, 2022.

Notary Notebook ETC files as new business

LEGAL NOTICE

Assumed Name
Publication Notice

Public Notice is hereby given that on June 13, A.D. 2022, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Grundy County, Illinois, setting forth names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Notary Notebook ETC, located at 26910 W. Locust Rd., Channahon, IL 60410.

Dated this 13th day of June, A.D. 2022.

Kay T. Olson, Grundy County Clerk
Published in the Coal City Courant on June 15, 22 and 29, 2022.

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. Calls may be anonymous.

The Free Press Newspapers reserves the right to edit remarks for taste, length, personal attacks, racism, threatening, calls for boycotts and libel. In cases where the publisher selects not to pub-

lish these remarks the newspaper makes every effort to forward unpublished comments to the parties to whom they are directed.

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

Submissions by email to: courant@fpnusa.com with "soundoff" in the subject line or go to www.freepressnewspapers.com. -> Submit Sound-off or call 815-634-0317. Please state the town in which you are calling from or in regards to. Mail comments to Sound-Off, 271 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481.

People vs. power

DIAMOND—I just don't get it. I am sick and tired of record high gas and food prices. Our farmers are struggling with even higher costs. They pay upfront and only recoup expenses at the point of sale months later. Usually what they see on the farm you and I don't see for another 12 to 18 months. Right now the farm costs are severe. Fuel costs have put many farms in the red. They have no electric trucks or electric tractors, it takes diesel to run them. Fuel and fertilizer make up 55% of farm costs. Prices of diesel has more than doubled and the cost of fertilizer and oil derivative has tripled and quadrupled. Diesel moves our goods and grows our food, from cargo ships to trucks and trains. Getting goods and food across country have boosted costs. Much of the price of food hinges on the price of oil. While most of our incomes haven't any prospects of changing, the prices of our essentials like food and gas are going up, up, up. Still Biden refuses to use our oil and it is plentiful. Today it is no longer Right against Left, it is people vs. power and I still don't get it.

U.S. blackouts

DIAMOND—The North American Energy electric Corp. (NERC) warned in their latest report "parts of North America are at risk at possible widespread summer blackouts amid closed power plants, supply chains, snafus and intense heat." NERC question the early retirement of fossil fuel plants as a critical issue. If they are capable of running at maximum capacity. Inventories of stored energy supplies have shrunk down by strong demand for liquidized natural gas by European buyers when domestic drillers aren't allowed to increase production. The focus here is on summer demand but the energy sector is already concerned about winter shortages. A perfect and unavoidable storm. Winter blackouts could be deadly.

Blame the right people

SHADOW LAKES—Biden has called or projected a mini revolution depended on the Supreme Court's decision on Roe vs. Wade. Why would he even suggest that? Well I think we need a large-scale revolution against Democrats who are trying to destroy our Constitution and our way of life. And you can't really blame George Soros for this as many conservatives have. You have to blame the people, the Senators, Representatives, Presidents etc. that took the money.

He's done so much

SHADOW LAKES—I've got to apologize for the times that I have condemned President Biden and Obama. After all, President JoeBama has done a lot for the country: He has tripled the price of gasoline, he has increased food prices, almost doubled inflation over the Jimmy Carter era. He has defunded our police. He has done a lot for this country so I have to apologize because JoeBama has done a lot and I have to thank the people that voted for him and Kamala Harris. Dan Hill

Puppet candidates

COAL CITY—If you watch television you are witnessing an excellent example of why we need strict limits on campaign spending on advertising. The two leading Republican candidates running for governor are both puppets of billionaires who apparently do not have anything better to do with their money than to bombard the public with endless, repetitive, obnoxious television commercials. The mayor of Aurora thinks Pritzker is a great leader and describes Trump as a racist and an idiot. How refreshing to have a Republican candidate who has a grasp of reality. Mr. Bailey opposes masks and science. He will pick up votes from those who fought Covid with Clorox and horse medicine. As well as from the school drop outs and those who think the world is flat. Mr. Bailey should run for office in Mississippi or somewhere where his corny ideas are more acceptable. Mr. Sullivan attacks our schools and always talks about religion. Is he running for Governor or Arch Bishop?

Double-talk

SHADOW LAKES—Listening to the news. Biden blames inflation and gas prices on Putin invading Ukraine. Well inflation and gas prices started the day JoeBama took office. Well then I'm listening to a Democrat Senator on the news that is saying that the Republicans have blocked everything that the Democrats have tried to do to reduce inflation, but they never say what the Democrats have tried to do. There is a lot of double talk, like my neighbor who voted for Biden. Dan Hill

Hold off pay raises

MORRIS—Well the Grundy County Board is meeting tonight and they're going to vote for pay raises for the treasurer and county clerk and also for county board members to get a pay raise. I just wonder how much more money they're going to get. Why don't these boards hold the line on pay raises, skip one year. Give the taxpayers a break. Pretty soon the superintendent and the school board people will be getting pay raises. I know the school board doesn't get money but the teachers will. Let's hold the line on pay raises.

Freak for mayor

BRAIDWOOD—Why are there no banks in Braidwood? There are three in Wilmington. Braidwood has become a sad ugly town; the only decent place is Top fuel Saloon. Maybe the Freak should become the next mayor. He does more good in one year than the last 10 years of other mayors.

Quit whining

WILMINGTON—I get the Free Press Newspaper every week and I'm really getting sick and tired of the crybaby Republicans whining and whining about Trump causing all this trouble with the economy when the truth of the matter is they need to accept responsibility and realize that all this trouble, gas, inflation and everything is because of the pandemic and the pandemic is the result of the fact that the communist we had before Biden, Trump didn't do anything to stop it. So quit whining like 2 year olds and accept some responsibility.

Make it difficult

SHADOW LAKES—To the person who wrote the article in sound-off "Still keep your guns." You obviously have no idea about what Democrats have been trying to do since the end of the Civil War when they started gun control. No, they aren't going to get rid of the Second Amendment. They just want to make it so extremely difficult that no one can buy a gun. And according to your article, if a criminal or mentally challenged person commits a crime with a gun these laws that you speak of and criminals buying guns will always be able to obtain what they want if they want to kill someone. The laws on the books now are not being enforced and who's not enforcing them? Democrat controlled cities. The laws are on the books. If they incarcerate people, come back with executions for convicted murderers, this mass hysteria will stop. But the Democrats want mass hysteria. They are funded by George Soros who loves destroying countries. And to the other article you state nobody is coming to take your guns but we can at least check out the new morons before they get any. So are you saying the people who own guns now are old morons? Dan Hill

Light out

COAL CITY—Every night when I go to work at midnight the street light on the corner of South Linda Street and West Daisy Place is out. It has been out for three months. Coal City, are you ever going to get it fixed?

Time for a change

The founding fathers did a wonderful job during their time. Times do change and so should we. All states have two senators even states with low populations. This should not change as this gives every state equal rights. The electoral college should be a thing of the past. The president should be elected by the popular vote of all Americans. People should only be allowed to vote in the state where they are residents. We should not handicap voters in any way and give equal opportunities. A voter breaking the law should have automatic jail time if they vote illegally. We could also make a law requiring a person running for office to be registered in the state they are running for office in. We have been a great country. Keep it great and fix our voting problems.

Arm the teachers

Should we give teachers the proper training so they can arm themselves? Teachers who do not want to be armed would not be forced to arm themselves. Does arming the teachers make sense? If I am a nut case and break into a classroom the first thing I would do is shoot the teacher. They may be armed. You just made them a target. It would definitely be better to just outlaw assault type weapons. There are all types of weapons for hunting or varmint shooting. You do not need assault type weapons. Ban them like machine guns were banned. Of course that would take common sense. If you do not have common sense you should not hold any type of political office. You should look out for the best interest of the public and



children.

The big giveaway

BRAIDWOOD—I read the articles in the paper about the two car dealerships. I can't believe the city of Braidwood is going into debt and giving them millions of dollars, not to mention the amount of money in taxes that the dealerships don't have to pay. This was definitely not a good move for Braidwood. What in the world are they thinking? Thank goodness Wilmington Mayor Dietz had the good sense to be fiscally responsible and not give all the things to these two dealerships wanted.

A costly deal

BRAIDWOOD—The June 15 Braidwood Journal stated that two car dealers are coming to Braidwood pursuant to an agreement worked out by the city. That sounds real good. But upon closer inspection there are a myriad of issues that deserve closer analysis. The article stated that the dealerships will bring in money from income tax, property tax and sales tax. First, let's point out that there is no city income tax. If the city administrator put forth that proposition as an incentive, then he simply lied. Not only does Braidwood not have an income tax, it lacks the authority to impose such a tax. As to property taxes, if the article is correct, 100% of those taxes will be returned to the dealerships until some unknown future date. As to sales tax, 55% of such taxes received will be returned to the dealerships until the year 2034. The city is going to purchase the property by borrowing \$1.8 million at an undisclosed interest rate. That is a debt that we taxpayers will be responsible for. The dealerships will not have to pay it back. It's our money that the city is using to purchase the property and then giving it to the dealerships. Additionally up to almost \$5 million of tax money, which is our money, will be used to improve the site. The dealerships will not have to pay that back either. All utility tap-on fees and permit fees will be waived. And so my fellow Braidwood taxpayers, your money, that's right, your millions of tax dollars will be used to enrich two car dealerships. This administration literally gave away the store just so they can say, "Look who I brought to town." But each and every one of us will have to pay for it. You will see clear proof of that when your tax bill goes up to cover all the costs that the dealerships will not have to pay. By the time the full impact hits your checkbook, our city administrator will already be vested in the city pension plan. And then he won't care if you vote his puppets out of office.

Skirting the rules

WILMINGTON—Have you noticed that for all their talk about law and order some Republicans refuse to follow the rules? The latest being Rep. Loudermilk giving a capital tour on Jan. 5 even though tours were prohibited. First he denied it but when confronted by video evidence his response was "oh that tour." Madison Cawthorn was caught with guns in the house and at the airport. Marjorie Taylor Greene forfeited her congressional pay to cover fines for not wearing a mask on the floor of the house. Jim Jordan allegedly witnessed crimes at Ohio State but didn't report them. At the top of the heap is Donald Trump. Not only did he violate the Constitution regarding the Emoluments Clause but he took classified documents to Mar-A-Lago in violation of the Presidential Records Act. Lastly he refused to recognize the will of the American people by claiming the election was rigged. History will not be kind to these people. P.S. Don't forget Matt Gaetz.

Not for 12 years

BRAIDWOOD—The Ford and Chevy "deal" to move to Braidwood is really no deal at all. The businesses get about \$2 million of property for free. They get almost \$5 million of TIF money for free. Almost no taxes of any kind until 2034. Where will all that money come from? From us taxpayers. No real tax money will come in until after 2034 if they are still here by then and if they are we will all be dead and buried by the time the city gets all that money back in taxes. So the city administrator and his buddies are giving away our tax money so they can gamble with it. Maybe, just maybe, in 30 or 40 years the city will be in the black again. Until then we pay the bill because the city isn't giving us a tax break. It is no wonder that the auto dealers are coming to Braidwood. When else will they ever have a chance to deal with such a gullible city administrator and council. No wonder they are called auto "dealers," because they sure got a deal. Any one of my small children could have reached a better deal for Braidwood.

No longer pro life

WILMINGTON—I was watching the Jan. 6 hearings and realized that the chance of hang Mike Pence and kill Nancy Pelosi the Republican party is no longer pro life.

Caught in the act

WILMINGTON—I saw where a caller was still trying to portray Ashli Babbitt as a martyr. She was a criminal caught in the act and chose to ignore the orders of law enforcement. As for being unarmed, the police didn't know that. The caller referred to her as a petite veteran. You know who else was a petite veteran? Timothy McVay. It's time to give up this childish belief that all veterans are good guys with guns. Some of them are white supremacists, domestic terrorists bent on destroying democracy because they can't win elections.

School security

DIAMOND—At the recent intermediate school's fourth and fifth grade spelling bee there was a single point of entry as well as an ID required to just get in. There was at least one police officer making rounds. Principal Tracy Carlson conducted the spelling bee. She is to be commended for the school's security initiative in place. Parents and grandparents appreciate the safety that protects their children. Thank you Principal Carlson.

The interview

DIAMOND—Andy Pollack was recently interviewed about school safety. Pollack's 16-year-old daughter, Meadow, was one of 17 people killed in the 2018 mass shooting at a high school in Parkland, FL. "The pain that Uvalde parents are feeling now is a pain that never goes away. It doesn't heal with time, it's something you just live with. I don't even bother with politicians," Pollack said. "It's the parents. If a parent, regardless of their party affiliation, thinks that it's safe to send their children to school without a single point of entry or police officers then it's on them. It's their children they're sending to the schools. Send your kids to safe schools." Pollack said parents need to get involved in school safety—from electing school board members that focus on safety to asking questions about safety initiatives in place. "I sent my daughter to school like those parents and I thought it was safe there. Suspect Salvatore Ramos entered Hobbs Elementary School through an unlocked door at 11:33 a.m. and was fatally shot at 12:50 p.m. There were plenty of officers to do whatever needed to be done with one exception. The on-site commander inside believed they needed more officers to do a tactical breach at that point he said. Meanwhile several children in the classrooms were calling 911 asking for police to come. A team of elite border control agents ultimately breached the classroom and shot Ramos, but that was 80 minutes too late." At Parkland Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School the shooter was stalking the hallways and classrooms for 5 1/2 minutes before walking off campus. The FBI released a statement four days after the shooting at Parkland saying the agency had received a tip about Cruz the previous month. The caller included information about Cruz's gun ownership, his desire to kill people, erratic behavior and disturbing social media posts as well as a potential of him conducting a school shooting. This information was not passed along to the local FBI office and no further investigation occurred. Pollack said, "These kids who are threatening people's lives, law enforcement all know who they are before they commit these heinous crimes right?" He then stated that current laws should be enforced before politicians look to create new ones. When someone is mentally sick and threatens to hurt themselves and others why isn't it going on the backgrounds? That's what they should be looking at in Congress, not making more laws. Let's enforce this law. Pollack said the mass shootings in Buffalo, NY should have been prevented from buying or possessing firearms because of his past behavior. The gunman, Peyton Gendron, threatened students at his high school a year ago and told the teacher he wanted to murder and commit suicide. At the time, school officials alerted police and Gendron was taken to a hospital for psychiatric evaluation but was released without any action. After Gendron was released from the hospital state police didn't seek to remove his firearms and a mental health red flag didn't appear on his background check when he subsequently bought guns. Gendron is accused of killing 10 people and wounding three others as he hasn't been tried yet. Pollack said they are taking away from the real solutions when they focus on guns, referring to lawmakers. Meanwhile, securing schools to match courtrooms, airports or sporting events is a no brainer. Pollack said "Biden believes in hardening the Capitol building and protecting the people in Congress but our children aren't a valuable asset worth protecting?" Since he lost his daughter Pollack has advocated for parents to get involved in school safety. He said, "The first thing I'd like to tell parents is if you can afford it, send your children to private schools. They take security seriously. Enforce red flag laws and harden safety in schools and have the faculty and staff learn and enforce all safety rules. Remember what can happen when one door is left unlocked." Sharon Marizza

Dreaming of a good night's rest?
Our showroom is open, Come in and find the right mattress for you!

A good night's rest is priceless.
Get the quality sleep you need with our premium-quality mattresses.

SPECIAL OFFER
on Select Mattresses

Showroom Open Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

JUST BEDS 75 W. Chestnut
815-634-4411

Grab These HOT Summer Deals From Berkot's!

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

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



Experience the Berkot's difference
Fresh. Friendly. Focused on you.

Sales valid
6/22/22-6/28/22

STORE HOURS: 7 AM - 9 PM

ALL ITEMS AVAILABILITY BASED ON SUPPLY.
QUANTITIES MAY BE LIMITED.
NO RAINCHECKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

INFLATION BUSTER SALE

SAVE BIG ON THESE SELECT MEAT ITEMS FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

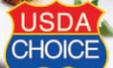
PRICE VALID WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY ONLY



USDA Choice
Bone-In Strip Steaks

\$5⁹⁹
PER LB
LIMIT 10 STEAKS

PRICE VALID FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY ONLY



USDA Choice
Bone-In Ribeye "Cowboy" Steaks

\$6⁹⁹
PER LB
LIMIT 10 STEAKS

Berkot's Has Great Deals On Meat All Week Long!



\$3⁹⁹
PER LB

USDA Choice
Black Angus Whole Beef Brisket



\$3⁹⁹
PER LB

All-Natural, Cryovac
Baby Back Ribs



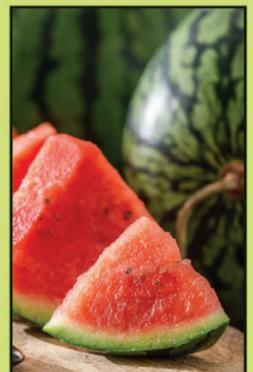
\$4⁹⁹
PER LB

Berkot's Famous
Country Style Bacon
(7 lbs or more - smaller packages \$5.99/lb)



10 FOR
\$4

Sweet Corn



\$4⁹⁹
EACH

Super Sweet Watermelons



4 FOR
\$5

Premium Strawberries- 1 lb



69[¢]
EACH

Yellow Peppers

Berkot's Farm Fresh
Premium
Medium-Sized
Boneless Skinless
Chicken Breast
(smaller packages
\$5.49/lb)



\$4⁹⁹
PER LB

BIGGER ISN'T ALWAYS BETTER!

Berkot's Medium-Sized Premium Chicken Breasts match the size and quality preferred by restaurants. Cage-free, antibiotic-free, and always tender and juicy, these smaller chicken breasts have **BIG** flavor and value!

Save money with Berkot's weekly grocery steals

Gatorade
Thirst
Quencher
8 pk



\$4⁹⁹
LIMIT 6

Creamette
Pasta
12-16 oz
(Select Var.)



10 FOR
\$10

Ore Ida
Extra Crispy
Fast Food Fries
6 lbs



99[¢]
PER LB
99[¢] x 6 lbs = \$5⁹⁴

Bud Light, Budweiser, Miller Lite, MGD, Miller 64, Coors Light or Coors Banquet- 24 pk 12 oz btl/s or cans
Single Purchases: \$15.99



\$13⁹⁹
when buying 2 like items

Busch, Busch Light, or Rolling Rock
30 pk 12 oz btl/s or cans
(Busch Apple excluded)
Single Purchases: \$13.99



\$11⁹⁹
when buying 2

Due to shortages across the supply chain, availability limited across locations. No rainchecks at this time.

FULL WEEKLY AD @ BERKOTFOODS.COM

Homemade lemonade makes Dewar's Lemon Wedge great

The 2022 U.S. Open is in the books, and we're celebrating a few "firsts", one at the course and one at the bar. On the course, Matt Fitzpatrick shot a 68 on Sunday to edge Will Zalatoris and Scottie Scheffler by a stroke to win his first major championship. At the bar, the US Open has named its first ever signature cocktail: the Dewar's Lemon Wedge.

Before we raise a glass, a quick recap of what proved to be an exciting major. Collin Morikawa fell short of his bid to become the first golfer to win three majors in his first 11 starts, though he held the lead at the halfway point. Rory McIlroy put on a putting clinic, but in the end he wasn't able to capitalize on the gains made on the green. There was plenty of suspense down the stretch as there always seems to be at a major. Fitzpatrick actually found a bunker with his tee shot on 18, but hit what he called "one of the best shots I ever hit" to salvage the hole with a two-putt par.



THE SUNDAY COCKTAIL
Brian Rung

Zalatoris could have sent the round to a two-hole playoff with a birdie, but it wasn't to be. The crowd erupted when Zalatoris' putt rolled past the hole, Fitzpatrick hugged his dad on Father's Day. It's worth watching the last round if you missed it, even though you already know the outcome.

Let's make one. Let's start with a pitcher of fresh lemonade. You do not have to use fresh lemonade, a quality pre-made juice from Minute Maid should work just fine. Having said that, every cocktail is better with fresh ingredients. Plus, it's nearly impossible to beat a pitcher of the real deal. You know what I'm talking about, the "grandmother approved" stuff. Lemonade is essentially lemon juice, sugar, and water, the challenge is finding the perfect balance.

Let's head over to the clubhouse and see what this new "official" US Open cocktail is all about. The cocktail was created by the Dewar's brand team in conjunction with the USGA, and is designed to showcase the quality of Dewar's 12 Year in a cocktail. You may be wondering why anyone would elect to use a high-quality 12 year blend in a cocktail in place of the standard Dewar's White Label.

If you taste the White Label and the 12 Year side by side, you will notice that the White Label is smooth, but lacks the complexity of the 12 Year. The complex nature of the 12 Year blend pairs nicely with fresh lemonade, and the club soda topper ties the Lemon Wedge together nicely. Is this the work of a marketing department attempting to boost sales of Dewar's 12 Year? Perhaps, but the Lemon Wedge is delicious. It's the perfect 19th hole drink that is coming soon to a clubhouse near you. If your course doesn't have a bar, maybe it's com-

ing soon to your house. Let's make one. Let's start with a pitcher of fresh lemonade. You do not have to use fresh lemonade, a quality pre-made juice from Minute Maid should work just fine. Having said that, every cocktail is better with fresh ingredients. Plus, it's nearly impossible to beat a pitcher of the real deal. You know what I'm talking about, the "grandmother approved" stuff. Lemonade is essentially lemon juice, sugar, and water, the challenge is finding the perfect balance.

To prepare a pitcher of "grandmother approved" lemonade, start with 9-10 medium lemons. Prepare a batch of "rich" simple syrup in a saucepan, dissolving 1 3/4 cups of white sugar into 1 cup of hot water. Allow to cool. Juice the lemons until you have 1 1/2 cups of fresh lemon juice and pulp. Combine 7 cups of ice-cold water and 1 1/2 cups of the fresh-squeezed lemon juice. Here's the trick to perfect lemonade: the sugar (simple syrup) is added last, to

Warren's Collision Center

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

Deanna McDowell
860 E.Z. St., Braidwood
815-458-3300

ESSEX COMMUNITY CLUB

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, June 26
7 a.m.-Noon

Essex Community Hall
217 Paris St., Essex, IL

Menu includes: Pancakes, french toast, eggs (any way), biscuits & gravy, bacon, sausage, hash browns, toast, milk, orange juice and coffee.

Kids 6 - 12 **\$4** • Adults **\$8** (under 6 FREE)
Phone: 815-354-2822

We need your support, anyone interested in joining or volunteering please call 815-922-5906

COAL CITY DENTAL

Our priority is to provide comfortable, quality dental care!

Local Small Business
Friendly, Familiar Faces
Quality AND Comfort

Most services performed in-office

- Dentures • Implants • Extractions
- Nitrous Oxide/Sedation Options
- Evening Availability
- Whitening/Cosmetic Procedures
- Work with most Insurances and more

NEW PATIENTS
for June and July
50% off
Check-up, Cleaning & Xrays

Phone: 815.634.4999

Coal City Dental, Still Catering To The "Dental Coward" After All These Years!
645 E. Division St. (Rte. 113), Coal City | www.CoalCityDental.com

the clubhouse and see what this new "official" US Open cocktail is all about. The cocktail was created by the Dewar's brand team in conjunction with the USGA, and is designed to showcase the quality of Dewar's 12 Year in a cocktail. You may be wondering why anyone would elect to use a high-quality 12 year blend in a cocktail in place of the standard Dewar's White Label.

the clubhouse and see what this new "official" US Open cocktail is all about. The cocktail was created by the Dewar's brand team in conjunction with the USGA, and is designed to showcase the quality of Dewar's 12 Year in a cocktail. You may be wondering why anyone would elect to use a high-quality 12 year blend in a cocktail in place of the standard Dewar's White Label.

the clubhouse and see what this new "official" US Open cocktail is all about. The cocktail was created by the Dewar's brand team in conjunction with the USGA, and is designed to showcase the quality of Dewar's 12 Year in a cocktail. You may be wondering why anyone would elect to use a high-quality 12 year blend in a cocktail in place of the standard Dewar's White Label.

Letter to the Editor

Misguided on gasoline

Dear Editor:
Anyone thinks we have been self sufficient on petroleum up to 2020 is wrong. We haven't been self sufficient since the early fifties. We have been buying Mexican and Canadian petroleum and saying self-sufficient. We have been getting Middle East oil since the sixties and Venezuelan oil and gasoline since the fifties. In the past couple of decades we have been getting a couple of million barrels a day from Russia. I own shares in a couple of Permian Basin independents which are drilling as fast as they can support the rigs. There are lots of rigs just lying on the ground because the majors are happy with the high prices over \$110 per barrel so why put out more? However, the refineries are at

capacity so they can't make more fuels. Refiners have closed older refineries for years as they became unprofitable. Russia was the number three producer so when they invaded Ukraine and exports ceased, thus the supply dropped as demand rose. If you support Putin in his "Peter the Great Quest" to rebuild the old Russia and Soviet Union then you have a right to complain. However, if you think his invasions of other countries is wrong then grip your teeth and tank up while being glad we have oceans between him and us.
Chuck Johnson,
Former geographer, construction field engineer, and commercial industrial realtor
Morris, IL

Skip the lighter fluid

Stop purchasing charcoal lighter fluid. Not only is it flammable and dangerous to keep in your home, its toxic chemicals can ruin the flavor of the food you grill. Purchase a charcoal chimney device, it will last for decades and all you need to get your charcoal hot is a few rolled up newspaper pages and a match. These are sold at most outdoor garden centers, grill retailers and on the internet.

72ND ANNUAL CARBON HILL HOMECOMING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22 - SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022

BINGO

Wed. - Fri., 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Sat. & Sun., 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

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

CARNIVAL OPENS

Wed.-Fri. 6:00 p.m.;
Sat. Noon; Sun. 2:00 p.m.

Advance Sale Carnival Tickets
At The Following Locations:

Berkot's • First Midwest Bank
Midland Bank-Coal City & Diamond
Coal City Village Hall • Carbon Hill Village Hall
Bum's Tavern • Quality Auto Body • Mustachio's

Advanced purchases good for ONE armband any day.

One-Day Unlimited Ride Armband Ticket
\$20 in advance
\$25 at the Fair

Rides • Games • Food • Entertainment

Mark your calendars!

10th Annual Josh Cumming Memorial Softball Tournament
Begins 6 p.m. on June 22
Playoffs to be played on Sunday, June 26 after parade

Join the Fun!

Food Stand
Operated by:
Mustachio's

Bar & Grill

CASH ONLY

Parade Sunday @ 1 p.m.

Craft Show
Saturday
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sponsored by Coal City Junior Woman's Club

ENTERTAINMENT

- Fri., June 24 -
"BRAT PACK"
8 p.m. - 12 a.m.

- Sat., June 25 -
"SUNFALLEN"
8 p.m. - 12 a.m.

- Sun., June 26 -
"BOGO"
3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Live Music!

Thanks, Murph!



THE WILMINGTON CHAMBER of Commerce recently named Rob Murphy (left) its employee of the month for May. Murph is retiring from the high school after serving 28 years as driver's education instructor, head wrestling coach, while assisting in football and track. Murph coached the Wildcats to three Dual Team State championships, two state runner-ups and one fourth place; and 10 individual state champions. He's been named Illinois Coaches Association Coach of the Year three times, Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association (IWCOA) Coach of the Year two times, National High School Athletic Coaches Association finalist (2010) and (2018), I-8 Coach of the year 11 times, IWCOA Hall of Fame Inductee (2011) and IWCOA Man of the Year (2015). The chamber recognizes his leadership in sports and in the community, helping so many teens learn to drive. Presenting the trophy is chamber president Steve Evans.

Wilmington Area Community Band presents songs from around the world

The Wilmington Area Community Band will perform the second concert of the 15th season on Sunday, June 26, at 6 p.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park, Wilmington.

Arrive early and order dinner from Lil' Debs Mobile Eats. Please bring a lawn chair, lots of mosquito spray, snacks, and water. Relax in the shade as the band performs the following music in a beautiful outdoor setting.

The theme for this concert is "Musical Passport Around The World" and will be selected from the following:

- Star Spangled Banner
- Bushido (Japan)
- First Suite in E Flat (England)
- Italian Feast (Italy)
- Irish Tune from County Derry (Ireland)
- Holiday in Paris (France)
- Three Welsh Songs (Wales)
- **INTERMISSION**
- Malaguena (Spain)
- Caribbean Fantasy
- Surprise Symphony (Austria)

Mexican Hat Dance (Mexico)

Grand Old Flag/America the Beautiful

Veteran's Memorial Park is located at the intersection of Williams and Vine Streets, across from Oakwood Cemetery and Island City Baptist Church.

In case of excessive heat or rain, our alternate concert location is Wilmington High School. The Wilmington Area Community Band is a volunteer group of local musicians from ages 13 up.]

We welcome musicians looking for a fun summer ensemble. Please contact Wes Smith at 815-476-5517 if you have any questions.

Wilmington Library to host knitting, crochet club

The Wilmington Public Library District hosts a knitting and crochet club with instructor Helen Ziller on the first Tuesday of the month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.. All skill levels are welcome, and you can choose to work on your own project or join us for the featured one.

For a list of supplies needed to create the monthly featured project, feel free to check the library's website or call 815-476-2834.

Lions youth fishing derby Saturday

The Wilmington Lions Club will host its annual youth fishing derby at the South Island pond on Saturday, June 25.

Boys and girls ages 2-12 years old are invited to come catch stocked catfish. Those who catch the most fish in each age group will be awarded prizes.

Registration for all participants will be from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. From 4:30 to 5 p.m. kids ages 2 to 5 years old can fish. At 5 p.m. all ages can fish. Lines out will be at 6:30 p.m. with prizes to follow.

For questions contact Lion John Persic at 815-210-5155.

- 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.

The Real Estate Group

Jim Blackburn
 815-474-0549
 815-744-1000

925 N. IL Rt. 59, Shorewood, IL

Walk in. Feel better.

Convenient Care 7 days a week!

No appointment needed.
 Mon-Fri 8am-7pm
 Sat & Sun 8am-2pm
 Open July 4, 8 am-2 pm!

**MORRIS HOSPITAL
DIAMOND-COAL CITY
CAMPUS**

1450 E. Division Street, Diamond

Additional urgent care locations:
Channahon, Morris & Yorkville
 For hours by location, go to morrishospital.org/urgentcare.

ONLY ONE CANDIDATE

for Will County Judge has **experience in every aspect of the criminal justice system, being a judge, prosecutor, and defense attorney.**

	RECOMMENDED/ NOT RECOMMENDED	MEETS REQUIREMENTS OF OFFICE	INTEGRITY	IMPARTIALITY	TEMPERAMENT	
DONALD DEWILKINS	RECOMMENDED	87.07	92.00	87.42	91.39	88.59
BOB BODACH	NOT RECOMMENDED	60.16	70.34	66.12	66.94	73.02

THE CHOICE FOR WILL COUNTY JUDGE IS CLEAR.

It's a tremendous honor serving as a Will County Judge. When I was appointed in 2020, I knew I was ready and so did the judicial community. Based on my excellent ratings, I was appointed by the Will County Circuit Judges over 34 other applicants in my first time applying.

After growing up in a family of working-class police officers, I worked as a prosecutor for 25 years where I earned the reputation as a tough law-and-order prosecutor when I was an Assistant State's Attorney in Will County.

These experiences make me uniquely qualified to serve as judge, and I hope to earn your vote.

Please vote for me for Will County Judge so I can continue to ensure everyone is treated with the respect they deserve.

Donald W. DeWilkins

←
BOB BODACH
applied to become Associate Judge at least 5 times and was never selected.

←
BOB BODACH
has no prosecutorial or law enforcement experience.

EARLY VOTING
Through June 27th

ELECTION DAY
Tuesday, June 28th

JUDGE DONALD DEWILKINS
WILL COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

JudgeDeWilkins.com

/ElectJudgeDeWilkins

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS TO ELECT JUDGE DEWILKINS

OBITUARIES

Charles "Bud" Butler

COAL CITY— Charles "Bud" Butler, 91, of Coal City, and formerly of Detroit, MI and Fairfield, IL passed away with loving family members at his side on Friday, Feb. 4, 2022 at Park Pointe Healthcare and Rehab in Morris.

Born March 27, 1930 in Fairfield, Charles was a son of Charles Sr. and Virginia (nee Grivich) Butler. He was raised and educated in Fairfield and in Michigan, and on Oct. 31, 1952, Bud married Betty Lou Harrison in Fairfield.

Throughout the years, Bud worked for Northern Petrochemical, Enron and Lyondell before formally retiring in 1995. He was a member of the Moose Lodge #967, enjoyed gardening, and was talented in rebuilding cars, building wooden boats and refinishing furniture. He passed his time reading westerns and took pleasure in watching sports, both high school and college wrestling, basketball and tennis.

Survivors include his three children: Steve (Pam) Butler, of Morris; Jim (Noemi) Butler, of Cupertino, CA and Karen Radomski, of Coal City; seven grandchildren: Matthew Butler, of Chicago; Caitlyn (Nate) Nesbit, of Palos Heights; Joshua Butler and Karen Butler, both of Cupertino; Jacki (Kyle) Wesolowski, of Channahon; Kirby (Tim) Davis, of Morris and Reilly Radomski, of Coal City; four great-grandchildren: Everett Davis, Emmett Davis, Liam



Wesolowski and Addison Wesolowski, and one sister-in-law, Georgia Harrison, of Travelers Rest in South Carolina.

Bud was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Butler Sr. and Virginia (Butler) Lash; wife, Betty Butler and one sister, Patricia Astemborski.

Per Bud's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded. The family welcomes friends to gather for a celebration of life at Reeves Funeral Home, 75 N. Broadway, one block north of IL Route 113 in Coal City on Friday, June 24, 2022 from 10 a.m. until the time of memorial service at 11 a.m.

Bud will be laid to rest with his late wife, Betty, in Maple Hill Cemetery in Fairfield, IL on Saturday, June 25, 2022 at 1 p.m.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Bud's memory to the Coal City Public Library or to Lightways Hospice of Joliet.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Bud's memorial page online through social media www.reevesfuneral.com/obituaries/Charles-Butler.

Cremation services and memorial arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Coal City. www.ReevesFuneralHomes.com

Joyce Corbin

COAL CITY—Joyce Marie (Bell) Corbin, 78, of Coal City, passed away Saturday, June 18, 2022 at Ascension St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee.

Born June 10, 1944 in Joliet, Joyce Marie was a daughter of John R. and Marjorie (Liberty) Bell. She was raised in Joliet and graduated from St. Francis Academy. On Dec. 7, 1963, Joy married Richard M. Corbin in Assumption Catholic Church in Coal City.

Following high school Joy worked for a few years at Kroehler Furniture Company in Kankakee before staying home to tend to her children. She later gained employment in 1985 driving a school bus, which led to becoming the Transportation Manager for the Laraway School District. She later took a position working for First Student in Crest Hill, and it was also during this time working in student transportation that Joy taught safety classes for the state of Illinois. Finally Joy went on to become a phlebotomist, and worked six years with Quest Diagnostics from where she retired. Throughout her various jobs, none were more important to her than being a devoted farmer's wife and mom.

She was a member of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church in Coal City; served as an election judge with Felix Township in Grundy County and over the years country danced with County Line, Heartland and the Kingsway Kickers. Joy enjoyed to cro-



chet, read and work puzzles. She loved her flowers and took great pleasure in watching the birds.

Survivors include her husband, Richard; two daughters, Wyvone Corbin Eller and Wyvette Corbin, both of Forney, TX; two brothers, John (Linda) Bell, of Georgia and Michael (Barb) Bell, of Wilmington and numerous nieces and nephews, as well as her dear friend, Jeannie Thomas, of Braidwood.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, and her first born, Richard, Jr. "Ricky" Corbin.

Funeral services were held at Reeves Funeral Home, 75 N. Broadway in Coal City on Wednesday, June 22, 2022. Deacon William Dunn from Assumption Parish in Coal City presided. Burial was in Braceville-Gardner Cemetery, where Joy was laid to rest with her son, Ricky.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Joy's memory to Donate Life Illinois or Dads Against Diabetes.

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

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

Rosemary McDaniel

COAL CITY—Rosemary (St. Ange) McDaniel, 87, of Coal City, passed away Tuesday June 14, 2022 at Heritage Woods of Dwight.

Born Sept. 20, 1934 in Joliet, Rosemary Eleanor was a daughter of John and Caroline (Aberns) Olivo. She was raised in Joliet and graduated from Providence High School. Rosemary worked for many years at the Coal City Pharmacy before gaining employment with Dr. Lee in Coal City. She enjoyed playing cards, crocheting and babysitting the grandchildren, but most of all loved spending time with family.

Survivors include four children: Toni (Bob) Rawlins, of Wisconsin; Mary (Pat) Mallaney, of Coal City; Christine (Dominic) St. Ange, of Shorewood and Jacqui (Steve) Fenoglio, of Coal City; son-in-law, Earl "Biff" Mack, of Braceville; grandchildren: Jennifer (Shane) Elliott and Jessica (Billy) Shain, both of Coal City; Scott (Jaime) Mallaney, of Dwight; Jacob (Hollie) Mallaney, of Braidwood; Elizabeth Fenoglio (Adam Gill), of Custer Park and Stevie Fenoglio,



of Gardner; 8 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Rosemary was preceded in death by her parents, three husbands: Dominic Minnito, Jake St. Ange and Larry McDaniel; her daughter, Sally Mack, and three siblings.

Green flameless cremation rites have been accorded.

A private family memorial service will be at Reeves Funeral Home in Coal City with Rev. Dr. Roy Backus officiating.

Rosemary will be laid to rest in Wisconsin. Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Rosemary's memory to the Help for Hope, 100 S. Baima Street, Coal City, IL 60416.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guestbook, upload photographs and share Rosemary's memorial page online through social media.

Green flameless cremation services and memorial arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Coal City. www.ReevesFuneral.com

Catherine Herman

WILMINGTON—Catherine Mary Herman, "Aunt Cathy," 74, of Wilmington and formerly Morris, passed away Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at her home residence.

Born Oct. 27, 1947, in Morris, Cathy was the oldest daughter of Francis and Joan (Griggs) Herman. She was raised in Wilmington. Throughout her life, Cathy would retain the intuition and the awe of a child. Cathy will be remembered for her excitement over the little things, her reorganizational skills, her ability to always have a good time, and her exceptional memory. Cathy was a nurturing, sweet, selfless person with an innocent heart. She loved all animals, especially her dogs: RJ, Tango, Diesel, Riot and Ice. She loved being an aunt and sister. Her favorite thing in the world was being with her nieces and nephews.

Survivors include her brothers and sister: Susan (Roger) Johnson, of Wilmington; John (Stacy) Herman, of Coal City and Daniel Herman, of Wilmington; one brother-in-law,



Richard Latham, of Bourbonnais; seven nieces and nephews: Rhonda (Joey) Drake, Bradford (Ingrid) Latham, Amanda (Stephen) Gerdez, Brooke (Andrew) Crutchfield, Justin (Laci) Johnson, Leslie Herman, and Mitchell Herman; eight great-nieces and great-nephews: Noah, Nathan and Natalie Drake; George Burchfield, Logan Gerdez, Kai and Xavier Crutchfield and baby Johnson.

Cathy was preceded in death by her parents and sister, Pamela Latham.

Cremation rites are being accorded, and the family will receive friends for a memorial visitation on Friday, June 24, 2022 at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 E. Kahler Rd., in Wilmington from 10 to 11 a.m. A funeral procession will immediately follow the visitation to Mount Carmel Catholic Cemetery in Morris, where Cathy will be laid to rest with her parents.

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

Kevin R. Togliatti

MEQUON, WI—Kevin R. Togliatti, 52, of Mequon, WI, formerly of Coal City, passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday, May 28, 2022.

Kevin will be greatly missed as a tower of strength to family and friends, an inspiring tennis instructor at the Lockport Park District and so much more.

He is survived by his son, Alec; wife, Alexis MacDowall; mother, Margaret Togliatti; father, David (Donna) Togliatti; brother, Chris as well as several aunts, uncles



and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Anton and Gladys Togliatti.

Family and friends will gather to celebrate Kevin's life at a time and place to be announced in the future. Cremation rites have been accorded.

In lieu of flowers, donations to a selection of charities in Kevin's name are appreciated.

For online condolences please visit www.muellerfuneralhome.com.

Patricia Martis

WINTER HAVEN, FL—Patricia Martis, 78, of Winter Haven, FL and formerly of Coal City, passed away in Winter Haven on Sunday, April 3, 2022, after a 4-year valiant battle with ovarian cancer. She was a warrior throughout life.

Pat was born Patricia Rae Wilson on Sept. 20, 1943, in Coal City, to parents William "Bill" and Lola (nee Miller) Wilson. Pat was raised in Coal City and graduated from Coal City High School with the class of 1961. She married Elmer Martis, on June 30, 1962, and raised three beautiful children. They lived in Coal City until they moved permanently to Winter Haven, in 2018. Pat made a career in banking before she retired in 1995.

Pat was a very special woman and will always be remembered as a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and dearest friend with the biggest heart anyone could have. She never met a stranger; to know her was to love her. Her heart was warm and caring; her smile and laugh infectious. Her grandson was the light of her life and made sure everyone knew it. Pat was always willing to lend a helping hand or cook a meal whenever someone was in need. Pat enjoyed quilting, reading, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.

Survivors include her husband of almost 60 years, Elmer Martis; three children: Greg Martis,



Rodney Martis and Tami (Brian) Cashion; her cherished grandson, Chase Cashion; brothers and sister, Bill (Karen) Wilson, Jim (Sharon) Wilson, Judy (Larry) Stafford, Jack Wilson, Larry (Nancy) Wilson and many nieces and nephews.

Pat was preceded in death by her parents, Lola and Bill; sister, Laurie Luedtke; brother-in-law, Larry Stafford and mother/father-in-law, Margaret (nee Skubic) and Elmer Martis.

At the wishes of our beloved wife and mother, Pat was cremated.

Family and friends are invited to join together to celebrate Pat's life on Saturday, June 25, 2022. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held in Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church, 215 S. Kankakee Street in Coal City at 10 a.m. Rev. Joshua Miller will preside, and Deacon William Dunn will assist. Pat will then be laid to rest in Braceville-Gardner Cemetery. Following the services, all are invited to join together to receive the family during a memorial luncheon which will be held in the Berst Center of Assumption Parish.

The family is asking in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance www.ocrahope.org.

Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Coal City is assisting the family with the memorial arrangements. www.ReevesFuneral.com

"Loui" Napoleon Karnezis

MORRIS—"Loui" Napoleon Karnezis, 78, of Morris, and formerly of Oak Lawn, IL, passed away Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at the Lightways Hospice Home in Joliet.

Born Sept. 27, 1943 in Louka, Greece, Napoleon Steven was a son of Steven and Nicoletta (Pappas) Karnezis. At the age of 17, Loui immigrated to the United States and worked as a restaurateur his entire life. On Nov. 12, 1967, Loui married Irene Ann Freiburger in Sts Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago. He was a member of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA); All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Joliet and the Goose Lake Association.

In his free time, Loui truly enjoyed being outdoors, gardening and landscaping. He loved birds and will be remembered as a "Mr. Fix-it." Nothing gave him greater joy than his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Irene; son and daughter-in-law, John and Barb Karnezis, of Channahon and daughter and son-in-law, Maggie and Jeff Novak, of Mokena; three grand-



children: Jason Novak, Alex Novak and Arianna Karnezis; four brothers: George (Elaine) Karnezis, of Morris; Pete (Julia) Karnezis, of Munster, IN; Evans (Terry) Karnezis, of Orland Park and Tommy (Marie) Karnezis, of Houston, TX and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 21, 2022 in All Saints Greek Orthodox Church, in Joliet and burial was in Woodlawn Memorial Park in Joliet.

Pallbearers were John Karnezis, Maggie Novak, Barb Karnezis, Jeff Novak, Jason Novak, Alex Novak and Arianna Karnezis.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Loui's memory to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation or to a Cancer Research Foundation of the donor's choosing.

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

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

Milton Spaulding

FLORIDA—Milton Ross Spaulding, "Milt," 84, of Moore Haven, FL, and formerly of Wilmington, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022 after a long courageous battle with Parkinson's.

Born July 19, 1937 in Illinois, Milton was a son of Arthur and Leona (Scurrah) Spaulding. He worked at Uniroyal and retired from Northern Petrochemical in Morris. He was a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose and was an avid sportsman, who loved to fish and golf. Milt enjoyed karaoke, playing the guitar, going to the beach and hosting parties.

Survivors include his loving wife of 42 years, Mary; children: Tina (Rob) Murphy, of Wilmington; Tracy (Bill) Whitsel, of Moweaqua, IL; Jason Spaulding, of Moore Haven, FL and Peggy Johnson, of Joliet; grandchildren: Rachelle Nesbit, Aaron (Shannon) Sowa, Robbie (Amanda) Murphy, Jake (Gina) Murphy, Erin (Robert Fultz) Murphy, Fabiola (Justin Smith) Trujillo and Tatiano (Sydney Harmeier) Garcia; 12 great-grandchildren, three great-great-



grandchildren, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, numerous nieces and nephews and special friends Gayle and Larry Cowan.

Milt was preceded in death by his parents, stepmother, Margaret; four brothers and his son, Donald.

Graveside services will be held at Oakwood Cemetery in Wilmington, on Saturday, June 25, 2022 at 11 a.m. Milt will be laid to rest in the family lot with his parents and son, Donald.

Memorial contributions can be made to Michael J. Fox Parkinson's Foundation for Research at www.michaeljfox.org or to Trail of Hope Animal Rescue in Okeechobee, FL at trailofhopeanimalrescue.org.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guestbook, upload photographs and share Milt's memorial page online through social media.

Baskerville Funeral Home in Wilmington is assisting the family.

Joan Thompson

WILMINGTON—Joan Thompson, 87, of Wilmington, succumbed to her fierce battle with lung cancer on June 15, 2022 with her loving daughters by her side.

Born March 1, 1935 in Chicago, Wanita Joan was the daughter of Alan and Wanita (Engert) Herdrich. Joan was raised and educated in Chicago and married Robert Thompson on July 12, 1958.

Joan was a beautiful balance of her parents, loving and caring like her mother and quick witted and crazy like her father. She enjoyed gardening, margaritas, Sunday Funday's watching the Chicago Bears and spending time sharing stories and laughs on The Veranda with family and friends. She loved any kind of animal preferring them over people most of the time.

Survivors include her youngest daughter and best friend, Jeanne Thompson, of Wilmington; daughters: Katherine (Tom) Spangler, of Wilmington; Marguerite Yacono (Shelley), of Chicago Heights and Linda (Tom) Frazzini, of Indiana; brother, Fred (Nancy) Herdrich, of Florida; grandchildren: Jackie (Rob) Park, of Manhattan; Brian (Danielle)



Spangler, of Indiana; Joseph Yacono (Tim), of Wisconsin; Kelly Yacono (Amy), of Chicago; Debra (Brent) Cunningham, of New York and Mark (Terri) Frazzini, of Oak Forest; great-grandchildren: Lexi and Gavin Park, Mason and Evelyn Spangler and Jack and Carter Cunningham; nieces: Diane, Debbie, Denise and Patti Lynn, nephew Derek and fur baby, Tobi.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Robert and son, Robert Jr.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

Services were held from Baskerville Funeral Home in Wilmington on Saturday, June 18, 2022 to Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Wilmington where Joan was laid to rest with her late husband, Bob.

Donations to ASPCA in Joan's honor are appreciated.

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

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

Blanche Marie Case

BRAIDWOOD—A Celebration of Life for Blanche Marie Case, 87, of Braidwood, will be held Saturday, June 25, from 1-4 p.m. at the Moose Family Center, 32050 West River Rd., Wilmington.

Blanche passed away Jan. 27, 2022 at AMITA St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet and family and friends are invited to attend this celebration on her behalf on Saturday.

Born June 24, 1934 in Great Falls, MT, Blanche Marie was a daughter of Ezra William and Loma Phoebe Philomena (Beaulne) Wilson. She was raised and educated in Montana, and on July 2, 1954, Blanche married Clyde J. Case in Great Falls. The new bride, being a military wife,



the newlyweds lived in Turkey and Kansas before settling with their family in Braidwood in 1972.

Blanche was a dedicated wife and mother who was a Cub Scout Den Mother, bowled on Wednesday nights at Riverfront Lanes, where she belonged to the American Bowling Congress and was active with running the youth bowling program for many years. She was a past member of the Wilmington Moose and the Gardner American Legion.

Cremation rites were accorded by Baskerville Funeral home in Wilmington and she was laid to rest in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood.

OBITUARIES

Sandra Bennett

MORRIS—Sandra Sue Bennett (Sandy), 73, of Morris passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, June 16, 2022, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on Nov. 14, 1948 to Denward and Robertine Little in Weeksbury, KY. Sandy worked most of her life in management and excelled at it. She enjoyed life to the fullest. Her interests included working in her yard, riding the Harley with her husband, and she loved decorating her home for Christmas. But most of all she dedicated her life to her children and grandchildren and loved throwing holiday dinners for her family. Anyone who met her would describe her as a "firecracker" with a big heart.

She is survived by her loving children: Dawn Bennett-Siwiek, Sean (Diane) Bennett, and Shannon Bennett-Rutkowski; six beautiful grandchildren: Raven (Hershel) Bennett, Jake



and Brooke Bennett, Ryan, Aidan and Jonathan Rutkowski; and her mother, Robertine Little, as well as numerous siblings, most notable, Robin (Barbara) Little and Kathy Thomas and a dear friend, Brian DeMuth.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Garry in 2016 after 48 years of marriage, her father, Denward; loving sister, Carol Buis and brother, Harry Skip Little.

Cremation rites will be accorded. Funeral services were held on Monday, June 20, 2022 at Ferrari Funeral Chapel in Coal City. Pastor Jan Chandler officiated.

An online guest book is available at www.ferrarifuneral.com.

Donations may be made to Lightways Hospice as the care they provided at the end of her battle with lung cancer was amazing. Ferrari Funeral Services in Coal City was in charge of arrangements.

Diane Gombash

MOMENCE—Diane Kathleen Gombash, 79, of Momence, IL, formerly of Worth, IL, passed away Saturday, June 18, 2022 at Arcadia Care in Morris.

Born July 18, 1942 in Glendale, CA, Diane Kathleen was a daughter of William Baynes and Bette Mae (Schenck) Baynes-Whetzal. She was raised in Warrenville, IL, graduated from Wheaton Central High School, and attended Spencerian College in Milwaukee, WI. Diane worked for the Frito Lay Company in Downers Grove until she retired in 1998, after nearly 30 years of service as an executive secretary.

She was very proud to be a long time member of the Warrenville VFW Post 8081 Auxiliary due to her father's service in the military. Diane was a musically gifted person who would sing in many city variety shows as a young woman, and played the piano for many years. Diane also took great pleasure in flower gardening and going fishing with her husband, Frank.

Survivors include her daughter, Mary (Bob) Mister-Keene, of Sandwich; four step-children: Frank (Lucy) Gombash, of Texas; Cindy (Dave) Nunn, of Florida and Lisa Riebe and Steve Gombash, both of Morris; 13 grandchildren and



seven great-grandchildren; two brothers and six sisters: Marie Wyatt, Janelle (Gary) Williams, Mary Roberts, Lori (Dean) Rinehart, Robin (Bob) Wilt, Karen Schumacher, John (Pamela) Whetzal III, and Bob Whetzal; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Diane was preceded in death by her parents, William Baynes and Bette (John, Jr.) Whetzal; her husband, Frank Gombash, on May 2, 2022; one son, Brian Loney, and two sisters, Judy Wentz and Patti Stauffer.

The family will receive friends for a visitation on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at Reeves Funeral Home, 75 N. Broadway Street, in Coal City from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A funeral procession will immediately follow the visitation for Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood for committal services at 1:30 p.m.

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

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

Ronald D. Kyrouac

MORRIS—Ronald D. Kyrouac, 88, of Morris, passed away Saturday, June 18, 2022 at his home.

Born Dec. 5, 1933 in Harvey, IL, Ronald Dale was a son of Viator and Yvonne (Chantome) Kyrouac. He was raised in Harvey and graduated from Thornton High School. Ron then served honorably in the United States Army from 1953 to 1955. He gained employment with Commonwealth Edison and worked for them for 40 years, retiring in 1992 as a Nuclear Quality Program Supervisor. Ron was a member of Immaculate Conception Church in Morris and the Morris American Legion Post 294. He was a regular with the Romeo Breakfast Group and an active participant of the Classic Thunderbird Club, rarely missing a Morris Cruise Night in his Red 1955 Ford Thunderbird.

Whether it was N Gauge model train sets and oil paintings, or off-roading and rock hunting, Ron was a man of many talents and interests. He was an avid fisherman and never missed his annual fishing trip to Lake of the Woods Canada for 50 years. Ron's greatest passion was family, always setting a great example and source of wisdom to his children and grandchildren. He loved traveling with his wife across country and overseas, constantly searching for that next great adventure.

Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Karen Kyrouac, of Morris; three children: Pennie (Jim) Guske, of Keedysville, MD; Cindie (Jeff) Haddon, of Coal City and Craig (Autumn)



Kyrouac, of Wildomar, CA; four grandchildren: Heather (Chris) Worcester, Brooke Kyrouac, Krissie Haddon, and Jamie Guske; one great-grandchild, Blayke Worcester; two sisters-in-law: Virginia Olson and Connie Jenkins and several nieces and nephews.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers: Bernie Kyrouac and Viator Kyrouac; one sister, Sylvia Paglash, and his first wife, Sally Kyrouac. Per Ron's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded.

The family will receive friends for a memorial visitation on Monday, July 18, 2022 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 600 E. Jackson St. in Morris from 10 a.m. until the time of funeral service at 11 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated, and inurnment with full military honors will follow at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Ron's memory to Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's or Operation St. Nick of Grundy County.

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

Cremation services and memorial arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. in Morris. www.ReevesFuneral.com.

David A. Ketchledge

WILMINGTON—David A. Ketchledge, 65, of Wilmington, formerly of Clinton, IL, passed away unexpectedly Thursday, June 16, 2022 at his home.

Born Sept. 1, 1956 in Morristown, NJ, David Anthony was a son of Raymond and Lois (Quackenbush) Ketchledge. He was raised in New Jersey until his family moved to Wheaton, IL. After graduating from high school, David enlisted in the United States Navy, serving two tours from 1978 to 1990. During his service, he was stationed as a nuclear reactor operator on both the USS Patrick Henry and USS Daniel Webster. On June 16, 1984 he married Susan Allen in Groton, CT.

Following his military service, David went to Southern Illinois University and completed his bachelor's degree in science in engineering. He gained employment with the Illinois Power Station in Clinton as a reactor operator, where he worked for 10 years. David later worked at the Dresden Generating Station in Morris for five years until he retired in 2012. He loved all things about outer space, and especially enjoyed learning about rockets. David published multiple books about rockets and was an avid builder of model rockets, a passion that he shared with his children. He was a man with a strong work ethic who took great pride in pro-



viding for his family, always making sure they were taken care of ahead of himself.

Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Susan Ketchledge, of Wilmington; three children: Christina Ketchledge, of Wisconsin; Matthew Ketchledge, of Michigan and Leisa (Jonathan) Talerico, of Plainfield; one grandson, Johnny Abranski; two brothers and two sisters: Ray Ketchledge, Carol Ann (Bill) Johnson, Rick (Lisa) Ketchledge, and Robin Ketchledge and numerous nieces and nephews.

David was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Bruce Ketchledge and one brother-in-law, Gary Allen.

Cremation rites are being accorded and the family will receive friends for a memorial visitation on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 E. Kahler Rd., in Wilmington from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Inurnment with full military honors will follow at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood at 2 p.m.

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

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

MIDWEST BETTER BUILT CONSTRUCTION



EXTERIOR/INTERIOR REMODELS
NEW CONSTRUCTION
CARPENTER CONTRACTOR

(815) 530-0630 *Free Estimates*
Brandon *Fully Insured*

FOR ALL YOUR CARPENTRY NEEDS

A & E SEPTIC SERVICE

Pumping - Repairs - New Installation
Sewer Rodding - Sanitary - Party Potties
Ed Bonnovier
Coal City • 634-4691

TIRE ZONE



Tires & Alignment

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8-5; Saturday, 8-12

Shocks/Struts • Batteries • Wheel Alignments
Tire Balancing • Oil & Lube

24 Hour Towing - 815-353-8511
85 N. 1st Ave., Coal City • 634-3000

FARMERS INSURANCE



MELODIE J. LUCKETT



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

Agent, Notary
Auto • Home Life • Commercial

JOHNKE TREE SERVICE

No Job Too Big Or Too Small!

- Power line clearance certified
- Free Estimates
- 20 years experience

Veterans, Military & Senior Discount

Fully Bonded & Insured

815-791-5146

PROFESSIONAL **PRO** REAL ESTATE



JUDY SUNDINE
BROKER

Direct: (815) 405-6758
815-476-7916

FAX: 815-476-7566
Email: judysundine@sbcglobal.net

506 S. WATER ST., WILMINGTON, IL 60481

SISTEK RENTALS

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



815-237-8298

740 Oak Street • South Wilmington, IL

Riverfront Lanes



402 S. Water St., Wilmington

- Birthday parties (815)
- Fundraisers 476-2600
- Corporate parties
- Child & adult leagues

www.riverfrontlanes.com

LIFTED

SPRAY FOAM INSULATION
CONCRETE RAISING

Spray Foam Insulation

- garages
- pole buildings
- attics
- basements
- commercial
- industrial

Concrete Raising

- driveways
- sidewalks
- patios
- stairs
- and more!

Wilmington • 815-200-6880

Mini Storage

CLEMENTINE'S CLOSETS

515 Davy Lane, Wilmington

Affordable
Clean, Secure
Monthly Rentals

No Deposit Required
815-530-0200

PROTECT-YOUR-DECK



DECKS
• FENCES
• HOUSES

DECK BUILDER & FENCE REPAIR
MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

VINYL SIDING & CONCRETE
POWER WASHING

18 years in business
Licensed, Insured & Bonded

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

BASEMENT & CRAWL SPACE SOLUTIONS

WATERPROOFING
FOUNDATION REPAIR
INSULATING
ENCAPSULATION
SUMP PUMPS
DRAINAGE SYSTEMS
GUTTER GUARDS

(815) 715-6050 DryToday.net
Braidwood, IL

ORDER YOUR BUSINESS CARDS

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

Landscape Supply



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

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

M & B Roofing

QUALITY ROOFING

Licensed • Insured • Bonded
Lic. # 104.018831

FREE ESTIMATES
Office: 815-935-9949

This space could be yours!

Call (815) 476-7966

LET FREEDOM ROCK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION!

Friday July 1st 4PM - 10PM North Island Park

Spirit Of Wilmington
D'Orazio Ford
Liberty
 Sherri Michaels
 O'Dekirk, Allred & Associates, LLC
 Berkot's Super Foods
Gemini Rocketman

Purple Tiger Tail

Wilmington Pizzeria ~ Eaton & Schultz Insurance Group
 Davy Industrial Park, Inc. ~ Grundy Bank
 Impressions Hair & Tanning Salon ~ Wilmington Subway
 Wilmington Mobil ~ Le Fleur De Lis Boutiques & Antiques
 Riverside Medical Group ~ American Legion Post 191
 Angelo's Liquors ~ Free Press Newspaper
 Prestige Tint ~ TJ Hansen Country Financial
 Wilmington Ace Hardware ~ Begler's Auto Repair
 Skinner Animal Clinic ~ S.D. Notter & Associates
 Downtown Merchants Association ~ Pro Real Estate, Inc
 Baskerville Funeral Home ~ Tuffy's Lounge
 Wilmington Lions Club ~ Wilmington Rotary Club

Sparkler

Brown's Carpet Care ~ Prom Avenue
 Nelly's ~ RT 66 Old School Brewery



~ Live Music ~
 ~ Lions Club Food ~ Ice Cream Truck ~
 ~ Bounce Houses ~ Beer Garden ~
 ~ FIREWORKS ~

Valles Produce Market ~ VFW Post 5422
 Clennon Electric, Inc. ~ ITI Intermodal, Inc.
 Aperia Care Wilmington ~ Scott Tyler Auto, Inc
 Hayden's Crossing ~ Warehouse Services No.4 LLC

Aurora University dean's list

Aurora University has named Taylor Mathus of Wilmington to the dean's list for the spring 2022 semester. The dean's list recognizes full-time undergraduate students who have earned a 3.6 GPA or higher.

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS • PROPERTY

State Farm "Your local State Farm Agent for 30 years"

Jerry Hallahan - Agent
 1350 E. Division St., Diamond
 (815) 634-2222 jerry@jerryhallahan.com

INSURANCE MOTORCYCLE • REC VEHICLES • WATERCRAFT • LIABILITY

Surf Broadband Solutions
 Connect Further, Faster.

RELIABLE, FAST & AFFORDABLE
 INTERNET SERVICE

Mention this ad and receive
 FREE INSTALLATION—Call Today!

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

Illinois GOP at a defining turn

"We're not the party of Trump," Senate Republican Leader Dan McConchie told an interviewer a couple of months ago. "I'm in the Republican Party and the party of Lincoln. And at the end of the day, the important thing is that we're standing up for ideas and ideals and not a personality. And that is what the Republican Party has been about for decades and what I believe we're going to be going forward."

At least as far as the Illinois governor's race goes, that now seems less likely. As you undoubtedly know

by now, Sen. Darren Bailey (R-Xenia) did not appear to be gaining traction until the GOP primary battlefield was reshaped as a referendum on the former President Trump by big money pumped in from billionaire Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker and Republican billionaire Dick Uihlein.

The question now is whether that Trump referendum will move down the ballot. Two polls showed a very tight Republican attorney general primary with huge numbers of people who can't decide between Ken Griffin-backed Steve Kim and outlandish, far-right covid attorney Tom DeVore, who has been endorsed by Bailey. And Trump and Bailey have both endorsed US Rep. Mary Miller over fellow Republican US Rep. Rodney Davis.



CAPITOL FACTS
 Rich Miller

And what about the state legislature? While the House Republican Organization is formally staying out of the race in the open 87th District primary, House GOP Leader Jim Durkin has contributed \$5,000 to candidate Mary Burress. And a committee controlled by Durkin ally Rep. Avery Bourne (R-Morrisonville) has maxed out to Burress with a \$59,900 contribution. Burress, the Tazewell County Treasurer, is running against Tazewell County Board member and physician William Hauer.

The reason I mention this is that Burress is one of the only House Republican candidates I can find who is openly touting her support for former President Trump. "Mary Burress is the pro-Trump Republican working to make Illinois great again," declares a headline on one mailer, which also features a photo of her next to the former POTUS.

With Bailey surging and a recent Sun-Times poll showing Trump still very popular with party members, it would seem to be a no-brainer for conservative Republican candidates to publicly attach themselves to one or the other or both in their advertising and social media posts.

Bailey has decided to take the initiative. And there are some unifying threads here: House Republican Leader Jim Durkin and the 2019 gas tax hike that Durkin eventually supported.

"We've got a whole list of anti-establishment reformers who we're going to be endorsing in the next 24 hours," a top Bailey official told me late last week.

Included on the list is Sen. Win Stoller (R-East Peoria). Stoller is up against Brett Nicklaus, who is backed by House GOP Leader Jim Durkin and others close to him.

There's no love at all between Bailey and Durkin. The two clashed often when Bailey was in the House and Durkin fully backed Irvin. Both Durkin and Irvin's running mate Rep. Avery Bourne voted to double the motor fuel tax in 2019, something Bailey often pounds home on the campaign trail as the price of gas has skyrocketed. Bailey doesn't seem to have any ideas about how to repair and upgrade our woefully dilapidated infrastructure without that money, but nobody seems to care.

Bailey also endorsed Republican Don Debolt over Sen. Steve McClure (R-Springfield), who voted for the gas tax increase as well. And Bailey's backing former GOP Rep. John Cabello in his race against a candidate backed by a trade union which pushed hard to raise the gas tax. Cabello voted "No."

Kent Gray is running against Rep. Tim Butler (R-Springfield), who voted with his party leadership on the gas tax. Gray has not raised a lot of money, has a thick opposition research file and Butler hasn't taken any chances by spending big and campaigning hard. If Bailey's coattails can drag Gray across the line... whew.

Bailey's also supporting Travis Weaver against Rep. Mark Luft (R-Pekin) who wasn't around for the gas tax vote, but is backed heavily by Durkin and some unions. And he's supporting Rep. Dave Welter's opponent Jed Davis. Welter (R-Morris) is in House Republican leadership, so you already know where he was in 2019.

That was one tough vote in 2019. It took guts to take it and I still think, despite the prices, it was the right thing to do for the state's future. We'll see if Bailey tries to connect those tax dots in voters' minds or whether, as time expires, he'll just try to win these races with his personality alone.

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

DRIVE HOME HAPPINESS WITH OUR AUTO LOAN

AS LOW AS **2.99%** APR*

Up to 72 MONTHS
 2019 + NEWER
 90 DAYS TO PAY!

SOCU
 SOCU.ORG
 815.416.1170
 1544 CREEK DR
 MORRIS, IL 60450

*APR is Annual Percentage Rate. All loans subject to credit approval. Rate may vary based on credit, term and value. Valid on purchases only. As low as rate of 2.99% APR is based on a 72 month term with a Transunion credit score of 700 or above, with auto payment discount of 50% APR and SOCU Visa credit card discount of 50% APR. Additional 50% APR discount may apply with ScoreCard point redemption of equal points to amount of loan financed. Limited time offer. Federally insured by the NCUA. NMLS #421974.

Free kids show coming to Elwood Garden

The next event in the series celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Elwood Children's Garden is a free kids show featuring "The Dot and Susan Storytellers" at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28.

A Show Box parade will kick things off at 5:30 p.m., followed by an ice cream social from 6 p.m. to 6:25 p.m. and then the free show sponsored by the Village of Elwood and the Manhattan/Elwood Library.

The Elwood Children's Garden is located at 801 N. Chicago Ave., in Lloyd Erickson Park.

On Tuesday, July 12 from 7-8 p.m. the Silverstrings Band will perform from 7-8 p.m.

READY TO CLOSE

Buying or selling a home is likely the most expensive single transaction in your life. Hire the local law firm with the most experience to protect your interests during a real estate sale or purchase.

F M
 FISHER MEENTS LLC

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

DON'T WAIT! Beat the heat now with a new A/C SYSTEM

\$100 Gas Card Free with new install

ACCREDITED BUSINESS
 BBB Rating: A+

Call (815) 476-6615

BREEZE-AIR
 Local, Trusted Company
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

American Standard

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 (20c for each word over 30)
 1 wk. - \$15; 2 wks. - \$19;
 3 wks. - \$22; 4 wks. - \$25
 \$1.00 Extra per line for bold or caps on classified

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

SERVICE & REPAIRS

Mike Collins Roofing, re-shingles and gutter cleaning, aluminum gutter screen, no repair to small or too big.
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. ck17b-16b

STORAGE

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

WANTED TO BUY

Private collector buying old toys, Lionel trains, American Flyer, old Tonka trucks, Matchbox cars, Barbie, GI Joe, paying top cash dollar, call 630-248-3222. cc 21b-32b

WANTED TO BUY

Want to buy: Have a car just sitting? Looking for a cheap used car with working air conditioner for my son. \$800 or under, have cash. Wilmington but will travel. Call 815-212-0310.

Local Newspapers are **IMPORTANT**
 Any Way You Look At It

Addressing cards, bills & letters just got easy!

Speed the task up with a custom self-inking RUBBER STAMP Great for addressing your envelopes or filling out Queen of Hearts tickets

Get thousands of impressions And we'll re-ink it for FREE when needed

FPN FREE PRESS NEWSPAPERS
 111 South Water Street
 Wilmington, IL 60481
 815/476-7966

GARAGE SALES

COAL CITY

Multi-family sales 528 and 545 Hunters Run, Coal City. Thursday June 23, 8-4 and Friday June 24, 8-2. Home decor, dog items, bedding, outdoor items, kids and adult clothing and shoes, toys, dinnerware, Jeep factory tires and rims, furniture, curtains, WAY TOO MUCH TO LIST EVERYTHING! Come check it out! cc25b

WILMINGTON

2025 Lakewood Drive, Wilmington, Fri., June 24 & Sat., June 25 from 9am-3pm, Sun., June 26 from 9am-1pm. Collectibles, tools, glassware, lamps, pottery, tins, books, Avon, wicker items, mason jars, mancave/she-shed items, mostly vintage items. ca25b

Garage Sale at 403 N. Kankakee St., Wilmington. Saturday, June 25, 8am-noon. Bed, bicycle, kids' stuff, women's sm/xsm clothing and shoes (8), antiques, some furniture, gold flatware, china sets, knick knacks.

garagesale ALERT

HOMES FOR RENT

Braidwood area, 2BR, 2BA, stove, refrigerator, c/a, washer/dryer hook up. Insulated storage shed w/electric, large covered deck and large yard located at the end of quiet dead end street. 784 E Elmo Ct, Godley, IL. \$1,175.00, first, last, security and credit report. 815-476-6462. cc23b-29b

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 27a-tfn

MEALWORMS- 1-1 1/4" long. \$5 for 100. 815-342-8937, leave message. ck25b-28b

LOST & FOUND

FOUND: Key FOB for Chrysler vehicle near Oakwood Cemetery in Wilmington. Pick up at the Free Press, 111 S. Water St., Wilmington. Call 815-476-7966. fr23b-26b

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

PETS

Free. 10 week old orange and white female kittens. Wilmington. 815-944-2024.

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. ch22b-tfn

MISCELLANEOUS

Craftsman 10" contractor table saw, hardly used with manual \$300.00 OBO; Delta 12" Band Saw with stand & manual \$150.00 OBO; Jet 12" Planer with stand \$125.00 OBO; Delta 12" Drill Press, \$125.00 OBO; Central Machinery Drill Press 10" 1/2 Chuck \$50.00 OBO. Call 708-262-9586.

SERVICE & REPAIRS

A Thousand Words Photography
 385 N. Second Ave. Coal City
Mandy Eaton
 815-791-2913

FOR FREE

Free: Microsoft laptop and free spiked pond plant. 815-476-6481.

HELP WANTED

Seeking a before/after school teacher for students in grades K-5 who attend the Reed-Custer Elementary School in Braidwood, for the upcoming school year. Email: discoverykids.rces@gmail.com for qualification info. and resume submission. cc24b-27b

Help Wanted. Seeking light, medium and heavy duty tow truck driver and auto mechanic. Bob's Advanced Auto & Tire, Inc. 815-634-0004.

HELP WANTED

Coal City Area Club is hiring an administrative assistant at the area club office, 285 S. Broadway, 15-30 hrs. per week, \$13-\$15 hr. rate. Also need gate guards, \$13/hr. Applications available at club office or visit www.coal-cityareaclub.net. ch 25b

SHOP YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES!

HELP WANTED
TOW TRUCK DRIVER
 Light / Medium / Heavy Duty
 Also, seeking experienced **AUTO MECHANIC.**
Quality Car Care Bumper to Bumper
Bob's Advanced Auto & Tire, Inc.
 Coal City • 815-634-0004

FOR SALE
2017 SLINGSHOT SLR



ONE OWNER: Ex. Cond., 1,000 miles, garage kept, fuel-injected 4 cyl Chevy engine, 146 cu. in. - 2884cc, radio, backup camera, lighted pedals, 5-sp. stick shift, storage, all warranty/recalls documented, KBB \$24,240 Asking \$24,000
Call Steve, 815-405-5446 after 7 p.m.

21 CENTURY 21
 Locally Owned, Nationally Known
 Call Us At 942-9190 or Log on to C21.com
 Shawn Hornsby, Designated Managing Broker
 1802 N. Division St. Morris, IL 60450

NEW LISTING MAZON \$155,000 2 unit has newer roof, well maintained. Easy to rent property in a highly visible location just off of Rt. 47. Shawn 474-6670. CM303	NEW LISTING COAL CITY \$39,900 Here is your opportunity to own a great lot! Perfect spot to build in an area of other upscale homes! Theresa Lamb 735-8494. PP62	SOLD MORRIS \$625,000 6 unit apartment bldg with on site laundry, dcr 2 & 3 car garage. Extremely well maintained. Call/Text Tom 815-735-2868. B1924	SOLD VERONA \$425,000 Beautiful 4 BR home w/recently remodeled kit and mstr bath. Garage parking for 6 vehicles. Shawn 815-474-6670. WM4560	SOLD MORRIS \$269,000 3 BR, 2 BA ranch. Prof paint/clean. Full bsmt, deck, pool, generator. 2 car gar. Call Jim 815-630-0180. AP1890
MORRIS \$229,000 3 BR, 1 BA house plus 2 BR apt. for additional income or related living. Call/Text Terri 815-474-1575. JS616	GRUNDY COUNTY'S #1 HOME SELLER (815) 942-9190 SEE EVERY HOME ON THE MARKET AT C21.COM Source: Midwest Real Estate DataBase, (MLS) Single Family Detached Homes Sold in 2021 by Grundy County Offices.	SOLD MORRIS \$194,900 Attractive brick ranch on scenic acre lot. Updated w/current decor. Never roof, fum, C/A, walls, windows & more! Call Theresa 735-8494. CW1725	SOLD GARDNER \$192,000 Brick ranch duplex. New roof. East side 2 BR, 1 BA, Ref, Range, W&D hkuaps. 2 car garage. Rod 815-674-2583. JB110/112	RESIDENTIAL LOTS Including Wooded and Waterfront
MORRIS \$184,900 Cute 3 BR, 2 BA, ext-in kit. Appl Stay Full bsmt. Fenced yard 2+ garage. Morris schools. JoEllen 815-252-1724. GG1130	MAZON \$135,000 2 Story, 3 BR home w/vinyl siding, vinyl windows, 25 car garage and fenced yard. Call/Text Shawn 815-474-6670. CMS07	WILMINGTON \$34,900 Scenic lakefront paradise. Almost 1 acre. Deer Ridge Subd. Wooded. Call Rodney Baudino 815-674-2583. NL32747	SOLD MAZON \$80,000 Office/storefront, downtown business dist, 3250 sq. ft. zoned B2, 725 traffic count, 2 BR, 1 BA apt. Rod 674-2583. DD508	

Wilmington Bobcat
GOLF CART RAFFLE



You could win a 2022 EZ GO gas golf cart!
 Lifted and street legal
Tickets only \$20

Tickets are selling...drawing when last ticket is sold!
Call Joe for tickets 815-693-8284

Need printing?

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

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

Specializing in full color business cards

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

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

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

T	R	A	N	C	E	S	E	E	R	I	E			
R	E	M	O	R	S	E		K	N	A	V	E		
A	P	P	R	O	P	R	I	A	T	E	D	O	R	
C	E	E			E	B	B	E	D		F	R	I	
E	A	R			N	I	L	E		E	R	I	E	
S	T	E	R	I	L	I	Z	E		C	R	E	E	S
		A	D	Y	T	A		B	A	R	E	S	T	
		C	O	R	Y		C	O	N	A				
D	E	F	I	L	E		C	O	L	E	T			
E	A	R	N	S		P	A	N	O	R	A	M	A	S
C	R	A	G		L	O	U	D			A	R	M	
E	F	T		H	A	L	L	E			I	R	A	
A	L		M	A	R	K	K	N	O	P	F	L	E	R
S	A	N	A				S	P	A	R	E	S	T	
E	P	I	C	S			E	S	C	O	R	T	S	

2	4	9	3	1	7	5	8	6
6	8	7	5	4	9	3	2	1
1	3	5	2	6	8	9	7	4
3	2	1	6	7	5	4	9	8
4	5	8	9	2	3	6	1	7
7	9	6	1	8	4	2	3	5
5	7	4	8	3	2	1	6	9
9	1	3	7	5	6	8	4	2
8	6	2	4	9	1	7	5	3

A "TAKE SOME OF THE WORRY OUT OF LIFE" POLICY.

With rewards for safe behavior that protects what matters most, rather than penalties for what doesn't go quiet right. And with the support you need, every step of the way. For your car. Your home. For your unique life. Dream fearlessly with American Family Insurance. Contact me today.



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

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & its Operating Companies.
American Family Life Insurance Company, 6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53783
©2020 017720 - 120 - 1473207

Fioritto's
Antenna & Satellite

dish NETWORK Up to 90 Channels FREE with local antenna

• HD Antennas
• Direct TV
• Dish

Locally Owned • Veteran
(815) 474-1365
Fully Insured

WE DO COLOR!

Lisa Marie's Hair Salon

Call 708.465.3198 for an appointment

450 Davy Ln., Wilmington
Mon. | Tues Wed. Fri | Thur.
11-7 | 9-7 | 9-5
SATURDAYS 8-3

Enter now... Baby contest returning as part of Catfish Days

One of the popular contests missing from Catfish Days in recent years has been the annual Baby Contest. But it's returning this year with a couple of new twists.

Route 66 Old School Brewing is the new sponsor for the event and all entries must be made now before July 10.

The contest is open to girls and boys ages 6 months to 24 months. There will be prizes awarded in three age divisions: 6-12 months, 13-18 months and 19-24 months.

To enter parents are asked to pay \$5 cash, submit a current 4x6 photo, a completed registration form along with a signed waiver and a copy of a birth certificate.

Only one 4x6 photograph per contestant will be accepted. There can be only one entry per child and only one child in the photo unless children are twins or triplets. The photo does not have to be done by a professional photographer.

Photos will be categorized by the age of the child. Preliminary judging will be by photo only. Finalists will be notified by phone and email by Wednesday, July 15th. Only finalists will be notified.

Finalists will come to RT66 Old School Brewing at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 23 for final judging. Final judging will be based on personality not wardrobe.

All entries must be dropped off at Route 66 Old School Brewing, 110 Bridge St., Wilmington. Visit the Rt66 Old School Brewing Facebook page for a link to the registration form and waiver.

Hours to drop off completed entries are Mon. - Thurs. 4-10 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. noon to 11 p.m. and Sun., noon to 8 p.m.

Sewing Machine Cleaning & Repair

Plus we have **More Fabric**

Spins & Needles

Custom Wind Spinners of your favorite team

614 Davy Ln., Wilmington
815-592-1183

Ukulele lessons for beginners coming to Elwood

The Elwood Children's Garden is offering ukulele lessons for complete beginners starting Wednesdays, from July 13 to August 3.

The one-hour group class will be held 7-8 p.m. The entire cost for the four-week program is \$25. All money collected goes directly to the Elwood Children's Garden.

Signups are at the park or call 815-693-0214. Payment is due by July 6. All ages are welcome. The class meets in the outdoor pavilion.

Instructor Stan Ketcik passed along these encouraging words to anyone thinking about signing up for the class, "If you can tie your shoes - you can learn to play the ukulele."

Grundy County seeking bids for full design and construction of Health Department Clinic

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION GRUNDY COUNTY LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLINIC

Sealed proposals will be received for a Grundy County Local Public Health Department Clinic. Sealed envelope must be clearly marked on the exterior "Grundy County Local Public Health Department Clinic" and contain six (6) copies as well as one (1) original with signature. No responsibility or liability will be attached to any County official, employee or agent for the premature opening or failure to open any proposal not marked according to this instruction.

Sealed proposals will be accepted until 1:00 pm (cst.), July 22nd, 2022 at the Grundy County Finance Department, 1320 Union St., Morris, IL 60450. At that time, sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Fax and electronic submissions will not be accepted.

Grundy County Health Department is sourcing to work directly with qualified, responsive, and responsible firms to help assist in the development and construction of a future state of the art facility to house our current Health Department and all services offered. The County of Grundy will accept request for qualifications and proposals from interested and qualified architectural and engineering firms for the full design and construction the facility to house the Grundy County Health Department and ensure adequate space to house all programs and services offered. The project will be awarded to the proposer who submits the best proposal in compliance with this request. This request is being issued under the authority of the Grundy County Board. Grundy County Health Department, Grundy County Administrator, and the Grundy County Finance Director will oversee all aspects of the selection process, subject to review and approval of the Grundy County Board.

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

The County of Grundy reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive technical errors or informalities in proposal.

Chris Balkema
County Board Chairman
Published in the Coal City Courant June 15, 22, 29 and July 6 and 13, 2022

Come wish **Paul Countryman** a Happy 90th Birthday

Saturday, June 25
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Reed Township Hall
Braidwood

If you wish to mail him a card his address is:
32066 Lawhorn Lane,
Wilmington, IL 60481



District 209-U seeks proposals for Stevens Intermediate energy improvements

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Wilmington Community Unit School District 209U hereby gives public notice that it is requesting proposals from interested and qualified energy services companies (ESCO) for the following project: PERFORMANCE CONTRACT FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION & FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

In conjunction with this contract, the District is interested in solutions for the following baseline opportunities:

1. Replacement of the heating and air conditioning systems and associated work at L.J. Stevens Intermediate School, along with any resulting, necessary asbestos abatement or pipe/ceiling replacement.
2. To be paid from guaranteed annual energy and operation cost savings in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/Article 19b requirements.
3. The District plans to select the most qualified Contractor for the purpose of negotiating a final contract. A Letter-of-Intent (LOI) will be issued to the selected qualified Contractor.
4. Copies of the Request-for-Proposal (RFP) are available at the School District Office (209u Wildcat Court; Wilmington, IL 60481) or at the Capital Development Board website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/cdb/procurement/escos/>
5. All questions about the RFP are required to be sent via e-mail (not phone) to Matt Swick - mswick@209u.net. Potential respondents shall not call or contact any other representative from the District directly.
6. The District will host a mandatory pre-proposal meeting June 30, 2022.
7. The meeting will commence at 1:00 p.m. at the District Office, 209u Wildcat Court, Wilmington, IL 60481. After a review of the RFP, attendees will have the option to tour the school building where the heating and air conditioning units are located. No other walk-throughs will be permitted.
8. Paper copies of all Proposals must be received at the following address by August 4, 2022, 10:00 AM CST, after which time they will no longer be accepted. A public opening of all proposals received shall follow immediately.
Wilmington School District 209U
209u Wildcat Court
Wilmington, IL 60481
Disclosure
9. An Architectural and Engineering review of the RFP responses will be completed by Healy Bender Patton & Been Architects. The final scope including definition, drawings, specifications, and permits are the sole responsibility of any selected ESCO. The District reserves the right to request changes to the ESCO's proposed scope of work, drawings, specifications, etc. based upon the results of the architectural and engineering review during the Evaluation and Review of Proposals time period and/or during the contract negotiation period. The District also reserves the right to seek input and guidance from Healy Bender Patton & Been Architects throughout the entirety of the project.
10. As a part of any submitted RFP response received by 10:00am on August 4, 2022. Contractors will provide the following information to be reviewed by Healy Bender Patton & Been Architects and District officials:
* Schematic drawings
* Letter detailing the scope of work
* Specifications and Equipment Submit
NO DUE DATE EXTENSIONS SHALL BE GRANTED.
Matthew W. Swick, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Wilmington School District 209u
815.926.1751
@WilmingtonLearn
As Iron Sharpens Iron
Links: [1] <https://www2.illinois.gov/cdb/procurement/escos/>
Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, June 15 and 22, 2022.

District 209-U seeking bids for Wilmington Middle School foundation wall repairs

PUBLIC NOTICE
DIVISION 0 - BIDDING AND CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS
Notice To Bidders

Sealed bids for the 2022 Foundation Wall Repair, Work Wilmington Middle School For Wilmington Community Unit School District 209-U will be received by the Board of Education, Wilmington Community Unit School District 209-U, at their District Office at 209U Wildcat Court, Wilmington, Will County, Illinois, until 2:00 P.M. prevailing time on the 30th day of June, 2022. Bids will be opened and read aloud at that time.

The work is to be performed in accordance with the proposed Contract Documents as prepared by Healy Bender Patton & Been Architects, 4040 Helene Avenue, Naperville, Illinois. The proposed Contract Documents may be obtained upon request to the office of the Architect at file@healybender.com. Bidders will be required to complete a Registered Plan Holder Record form and a Bidding Documents License Agreement for the Project.

Upon receipt of a completed Registered Plan Holder Record form and a Bidding Documents License Agreement, prospective bidders will be sent bidding documents and will become registered plan holders. During the bidding period, the office of the Architect will send project addenda, clarifications, and other project information to registered plan holders via the email address(es) listed on the Registered Plan Holder Record on file at the Architect's office.

These proposed Contract Documents may be viewed online at Dodge Data & Analytics internet site at www.construction.com. Bids will be received on General Contract Work, including all trades.

BIDDER RESPONSIBILITY

Each Bidder must satisfactorily complete the Bidder Responsibility process described in Section 01 00 00 - Bidder Responsibility Criteria of the Project Manual by providing the required Documents.

In the case of a joint venture or partnership, each joint venturer or partner must independently meet each of the requirements set forth in Paragraphs 1.02, 1.03, 1.04 and 1.05 in Section 01 00 00 - Bidder Responsibility Criteria.

The required Documents must be delivered along with the bidder's sealed bid at the same place and time required for the bid. Contents of each bidder's Responsibility Criteria Documents will be available for public review.

The Bidder Responsibility Documents will be reviewed by the Owner and Architect to determine the lowest responsible Bidder.

Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Guarantee in the form of a Bid Bond, Certified Check or Bank Draft in an amount equal to not less than ten percent (10%), of the bid and made payable to Wilmington Community Unit School District 209-U, 209U Wildcat Court, Wilmington, Illinois. No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days after the bids opening date without the consent of the Owner. Checks or drafts of unsuccessful bidders will be returned as soon as practical after opening and checking the bids.

Successful bidder must provide a Performance Bond and a Labor and Material Payment Bond in the full amount of the Contract, acceptable to the Owner. This Contract is subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1 et seq.).

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

Contact Jim Habing at 815-514-7859 to make arrangements to visit the site.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
WILMINGTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 209-U
WILMINGTON, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, June 15 and 22, 2022.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13								14				
15						16	17	18			19	
20						21					22	
23						24				25		
26			27	28	29					30		
										31		
										32		
										33		
35	36	37								38		
39						40				41	42	43
44						45						46
47						48						49
50										52	53	54
55										57		
58										59		

- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Half-conscious states
 8. Unnatural
 13. Deep regret
 14. Rogue
 15. Took without permission
 19. An alternative
 20. After B
 21. Partner to "flowed"
 22. The best day of the week (abbr.)
 23. Helps you hear
 24. Egyptian river
 25. Lake __, one of the Great
 26. Make free from bacteria
 30. Indigenous peoples of central Canada
 31. Sanctuaries in Greek temples
 32. Most unclothed
 33. NJ senator Booker
 34. Tibetan lake
 35. Desecrate something sacred
 38. John __, English educator 1467-1519
 39. Obtains in return for labor
 40. Views
 44. Rugged cliff
 45. Not quiet
 46. Body part
 47. Newt
 48. German city
 49. A way to save money
 50. NBC's Roker
 51. Dire Straits frontman
 55. Actress Lathan
 57. Most meager
 58. Poems
 59. Companions

- CLUES DOWN**
1. Draws over
 2. Recur
 3. Current unit
 4. Neither
 5. Certified Radio Operator (abbr.)
 6. Power of perception
 7. Peace
 8. Supplemented with difficulty
 9. The last section or part of anything
 10. Dorm worker
 11. Bones
 12. Most unnatural
 16. Spanish island
 17. The skill to do something
 18. Where golf games begin
 22. Untethered
 25. Print errors
 27. The sport of engaging in contests of speed
 28. Ones to look up to
 29. Stringed instrument
 30. Gives whippings
 32. Type of tie
 34. Make more concentrated
 35. Die
 36. Part of a winter hat
 37. Young men's club
 38. Bathrooms need it
 40. U.S. president
 41. American novelist
 42. Take into custody
 43. Hurts
 45. Type of gibbon
 48. American actor Lukas
 51. Partner to cheese
 52. Some are covert
 53. Political action committee
 54. To and __
 56. Atomic #28

HANSEN'S
WINDOW COVERINGS & FURNITURE UPHOLSTERY

FREE in home measuring & selection

Serving Will. Cook, Grundy & Kankakee Counties For Over 20 Years

Keep the sun at bay with **GREAT PRICING** on Energy Saving Window Coverings.

Come visit us at our Bradley & Mokena Showrooms!

200 North Washington • Bradley (815) 935-0010
19827 South LaGrange Rd. • Mokena (708) 479-6600

HunterDouglas
Frankfort (815) 469-6610
New Lenox (815) 485-2058
Orland Park (708) 403-1110
Joliet (815) 722-0011
www.HansensWindowCoverings.com

	4		3					8	
	8					9			
				2	6		9		
			1	6					
								1	
			6					3	5
5						2			9
				7					2
8			4		1				

Special Service Of Anointing for Healing

Sunday, June 26 • 10:30 a.m.
United Methodist Church of Ritchey



Rev. Dan Lybarger, former Pastor of the United Methodist Church of Ritchey, will be leading a special service of anointing for healing. He has conducted services like this for many years. He invites the public to this service like no other you have experienced. He has seen many miracles take place as a result of anointing. He invites you to come for anointing for yourself, a family member or a friend. He says, "Come and see what only God can do!" The service will be on June 26, 2022 at the United Methodist Church of Ritchey on Highway 102 in Ritchie, IL

First three games will define the Coalers' season

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

It's never too early to talk Coaler football now that the 2022 schedule is locked in. Last fall the Coalers finished third in the Illinois Central Eight Conference and will be looking to continue the playoff tradition with a new group of players.

If the Coalers advance into the playoffs they will be seeing familiar foes closer to home as opposed to what was being proposed.

The Coalers were open to the Illinois High School Association decision to seed playoff qualifiers in one 32-team bracket for all classes. That would have meant teams would face opponents from throughout the state instead of the present 16-team north and south tier brackets. But with fuel prices at a record high, the IHSA rescinded that move resulting in most teams seeing opponents they've seen before.

"That was going to be pretty exciting," said Coal City football coach Francis Loughran. "But with the extenuating circumstances and with travel costs it's understandable. I'm more concerned with getting to the playoffs. Once

you get in there, you really don't care too much about the format. You're just happy you are there."

The Coalers start with two very familiar non-conference opponents.

Loughran, the defensive coordinator, promises to have his squad ready for that time.

"Things have been going well over the summer. I think our guys are excited. They see some opportunities to fill some spots. Attendance has been very good and so we just try to preach every day we get out on the field or every time we get in the weight room, it's an opportunity to get better so we're taking advantage of some of those opportunities but we also understand we have a lot of work to do to get ready for another tough schedule."

The Coalers finished 6-4, falling in the first round of the Class 4A playoffs. They will open the season Aug. 26 at Morris, a team they lost to 13-3 during the first week of the 2021 season.

"We're going to see early on really where we're at," added Loughran. "Going over to Morris, they return a ton of starters. They were a very good team last year and again this year they will be reloaded so very tough game to start off

with but I think it's something that should benefit us down the road. Morris just does so many things well. We're hoping that we can be physical once again and kind of see what happens."

Week 2 - They'll host Bishop McNamara, who they beat by eight points. The first two games will be the toughest two on the schedule for Coal City.

"We've got some key players to replace but I'm excited to see kind of where some of our new guys fit and we're going to need many people to step up early on with these two games. Bishop Mac has a new head coach but a team that returns some key players from a squad last year that made the quarterfinals as well so we've got our hands full."

Week 3 - The Coalers travel across the train tracks to Wilmington for a battle with the defending 2A state champion Wildcats. Last year, the Coalers came up short 10-7 to the 'Cats in another physical match. Loughran notes you've always got to be ready for the Wildcats especially at their place.

"It always makes for a great atmosphere. I think it's one of the best rivalries in the state. Obviously, they're com-

ing off a state championship, a great accomplishment by them and each year they just reload and they do so many things so well. We've got to make sure we're disciplined and we're playing fundamental football against a very good team like that."

Week 4 - Herscher comes to town on Sept. 16. The Coalers manhandled the Tigers, 17-6 last season and will look to pound them this year as well.

"We were lucky to get out of there last year with--they're a very good, physical team last year. We had problems in the first half and we kind of made some adjustments. We kind of got out of there with a win. I think this year, they also have a new coach which the good thing for us is we get to see some film on them before we play them and I expect another tough, physical game and if you look at our conference, if you don't come to play each week, you're going to be in trouble so I'm glad they're coming here in week 4 but hopefully we'll be able to try to contain them because I expect them to be very good again offensively."

Week 5 - The Coalers head to Benedictine University to square off against the Lisle

Lions. The Coalers found their identity offensively in a 24-12 beatdown of the Lions. They'll be looking to power through yet again. Hopefully, at that point, they will be well on their way to a 5-0 start.

"Going up to Lisle is never easy. They actually return a ton and they have some nice skill position players coming back and then they've got the big offensive linemen, the name escapes me right now but I know he's getting some Division 1 looks. They're a team where if you make a few mistakes, they seem to make you pay. Going up there we've got to be focused and try to stop their running attack."

Week 6 - The Coalers welcome Manteno for their Homecoming on Sept. 30. They upended Manteno 42-14 with their first game scoring over 30 points. Manteno can be sneaky good with the pass but as long as the Coalers have their brand of physicality they'll be good.

"Their offense is well documented over the years and playing them on a homecoming week, we've got to stay focused and try to stop that passing attack. They can actually run the ball very well too. Defensively, they can get after it as well so hopefully we're able to stay focused that week and try to contain that offense."

Week 7 - The Coalers will head to Peotone. The Coalers took it to the Blue Devils in a 28-6 defensive win last season. Peotone is always tough and a year won't much difference.

"I think we've got one of the tougher 3A/4A conferences in the state. Peotone is going to run the ball. They're extremely tough and well coached. Disciplined. They're going to try to match up, run the ball at you and if we don't play disciplined on defense, they're going to find a crease and they're going to pop a big play so always tough to play Peotone."

Week 8 - Reed-Custer will

visit Coal City on Oct. 14 for the last home game of the regular season. Last year, the Comets turned the tide on the Coalers, 33-9. This time around, the Coalers will be looking to deliver the blow early so that doesn't happen. It's always a dogfight when the Coalers play the Comets.

"It's been well documented how well Reed-Custer did last year and what they're hoping to do again this year and they're coming off a quarterfinal appearance and return a ton so a tough matchup and hopefully on offense we can try to limit them. They were able to move the ball on us pretty well last year so we've got work to do to get ready for Reed-Custer."

Week 9 - In the final week of the regular season, the Coalers will head to Streator to finish off strong or to try to salvage their season. The Coalers manhandled Streator, 41-6, a year ago.

"They've got weapons coming back with Ford, the quarterback and the Stevens kid. They're going to be much improved and see them late in the year can be difficult because by then they've probably got that offense running pretty good so they're known offensively so obviously that'd be a tough matchup for us but they've got athletes and some good size on the line so I expect Streator to kind of be on the rise."

With four home games this season, Coalers fans will savor each time their team gets to come out from under the green helmet.

"It's always nice to be at home. We have great crowds here, great energy and I think it's part of the experience. The boys really appreciate when they get to high school, put on a Coal uniform, and be greeted by all the fans in their hometown."

Their first home game is just 11 weeks away.

Lady Coalers earn fifth place in the Braidwood Shootout

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

The Coal City girls basketball team went 3-1 during the third annual girls' Braidwood Shootout, placing fifth overall. The Lady Coalers had full

control from the beginning but Willows Academy, who was a 22-10 team last year, was not going away without a fight as Coal City only led by a short margin at the half and pushed it out to 37-27 to earn the win.

The Lady Coalers played Fieldcrest in the quarterfinal

game and got bumped to the consolation bracket with a 66-36 loss to a team that was a game away from a state title last season, finishing 34-4 as the fourth place medalist in Class 2A.

That pushed Coal City to the consolation bracket where

they would upend Putnam County 44-30 to get to the fifth place game.

In the fifth place game, the Lady Coalers raced by the 'Cats, 53-37 to capture fifth, handing the 'Cats sixth.

The Comets earned fourth place in the shootout.

Best baseball players in the ICE

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

The baseball season in the Illinois Central Eight came to an end with Coal City being eliminated by Joliet Catholic Academy in the Sectional championship game on Saturday.

The Coalers, Comets and 'Cats had many standouts, 10 of which were given the nod as All-Conference players.

Coal City (20-9, 11-3) placed second in the ICE conference and won the regional championship over Manteno. The Coalers had a lot of leaders but Ashton Harvey, Abram Wills, Braden Reilly, Aydan Murphey, Nolan Berger and Brady Best received the All-Conference honors.

Harvey was the ICE offensive player of the year for a rea-

son. In 2022, he hit .400 with seven home runs, eight doubles and 32 RBIs. His batting average was ranked third in the conference, his seven home runs were tied for first with his teammate and his 32 RBIs ranked second behind Manteno's Mason Senholtz (35). Harvey's best game came in a loss to Bradley Bourbonnais when he would go 5-for-5 with two home runs and four runs driven in.

Wills was dominant at the plate with seven homers, six doubles, a triple and a .319 average but that paled in comparison to his dominance on the mound. The 2022 ICE pitcher of the year was 8-1 with a 1.09 ERA. He punched out 108 batters in 57.1 innings pitched while walking only 11. Wills had one no-hitter in a 12 strikeout game against Streator

and punched out 19 of the 25 batters he faced in a 3-1 win over Lisle.

Reilly batted in the five spot behind Wills and got a lot of RBI opportunities, driving in 23 which was good for third on the team. On top of that, he hit .306 with a home run, four doubles and two triples. He was also their number two pitcher on the mound after Wills and he compiled 5-1 record with a 1.78 ERA. He fanned 47 batters in 35.1 innings. He had four, three-RBI days at the plate and pitched a four-hit shutout against Reed-Custer in his best game on the mound.

Murphey was a premiere lead-off hitter and one of the best in the conference that hit .355 with a .473 on-base percentage. He compiled two doubles and two triples while scoring 30 runs which was good for second in the conference. His best game came against Nashville when he went 3-for-3 with a walk, a hit by pitch, an RBI and four runs scored.

Berger quietly came on as a really good #6 hitter in the order behind Reilly as he batted .319 with a home run, four doubles and a triple while scoring 17 runs. He went 2-for-2 with a walk, a hit-by-pitch and three runs scored against Bishop Mac during his best game of the season.

Best had a very good season hitting in the second spot in the lineup, batting .378 with six doubles, a triple and 23 runs scored. His 28 hits was second on the team behind Harvey. He also pitched on the mound but not as much as he had to last year, having a win with 13 punchouts in 13.2 innings pitched. His best game came in a loss to Nashville when he went 2-for-3 with two doubles, two walks and two RBIs while scoring three runs. He got his lone win in a victory over Wilmington.

Reed-Custer (14-10, 8-6) who finished fifth in the ICE, had their season come to an end in a loss to the eventual sectional champions Joliet Catholic Academy. The Comets were led by several different

players but Jake McPherson and Cameron Smith received All-Conference honors.

McPherson was once again a do-it-all player for the Comets, who hit .293 at the plate with three home runs and five doubles while driving in 20. He walked 16 times, a team high. He also pitched very well on the mound with a 6-2 record and a 1.22 ERA. He was second to only Wills with 77 punchouts in 51.2 innings pitched. His best game on the mound came against Manteno where he would last 6.2 innings, giving up a run on four hits while fanning 14 batters. His best game at the plate was his game against Peotone when he went 2-for-3 with a home run driving in a run with a walk and two runs scored.

Smith was really good hitting catcher behind the plate as he hit .303 from the two spot

in the lineup with nine doubles and 23 runs scored which is third best in the conference. His best game was also against Peotone when he went 3-for-3 with three doubles and a run batted in.

Wilmington (10-11, 5-8) finished seventh in the ICE conference falling out in the first round of the regionals against JCA. They had a really impressive season and named Ryan Banas and Kaden Humphries All-Conference.

Banas was one of the best lead-off hitters in the ICE conference, hitting .351 with a conference-leading, 11 doubles, 10 stolen bases and 16 runs scored. He also walked 11 times. He had a .469 on-base percentage which was one of the best in the conference. His best game was against Pontiac when he was 3-for-3 with a double, a walk, a stolen base

and two runs scored.

Humphries was arguably one of the best pitchers in the conference as he pitched to a 3-1 record with a 0.00 ERA fanning 41 batters in 24.2 innings pitched. He was a third of an inning away from qualifying for the best ERAs in Wilmington history. The best five are Tanner Roark (1.35), Chris Alberico (1.44), Kyle Davis (1.54), Dillon Roark (1.68) and Connor Dempsay (1.92). If Humphries hadn't have been injured to start the year he could have had the ERA record. His best game was his no-hit, 12 punchout performance during the first round of the playoffs against Herscher. He also was 6-for-25 at the plate in limited plate appearances.



Fresh Hot Delivery

The Coal City
Courant

Benson Insurance
Agency, Inc.



ALLEGRA
Printing

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



Larry Olson
Winner of a large 2-item Pizza, carry-out only

Must redeem by June 27, 2022

"Proud to be serving the community for the past 36 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"



FRESH HOT DELIVERY!

"Proud to be serving the community for the past 36 years!"



36TH 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 \$28⁹⁹

Not valid with any other offer. Plus sales tax. Expires 06/30/22.

Gift Certificates Available

Order online at www.geospizza.net

634-8858



715 S. Broadway • Coal City



Photo by Shawn Long

WRONG SPORT—Coal City's Cason Headley tucks the ball and charges at the basket while getting tackled by a Streater Woodland defender during Tuesday's Braidwood Shootout held in the Reed-Custer Middle School gym.



Photo by Shawn Long

LAYING IT IN during their 37-27 victory over Streater Woodland is Coal City's Garrett Keeley.



Photo by Shawn Long

COAL CITY'S Owen Wren lays the ball in for two points during Tuesday's Braidwood Shootout game.

Coalers with two wins in Braidwood Shootout

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

The Coal City boys basketball team went 2-3 during the 26th annual boys basketball Braidwood Shootout last week.

The Coalers started with a solid 55-32 victory over Roanoke Benson.

That helped them advance to the second round of the Shootout where they came up short 59-58 to Bishop McNamara.

That loss bumped them to the consolation bracket where a 46-39 win over Woodland would help them stay alive.

After that, they ran into the eventual fifth place medalist Momeno who escaped with a 55-42 win.

The Coalers had one last opportunity in a game with Gibson City-Melvin Sibley but came up short 40-28 to end their time at the Braidwood Shootout.

The champion of the shootout was St. Joseph Ogden, who beat Dwight (60-30), Peotone (63-30), Elgin St. Edwards (63-38), Fieldcrest (57-52) and Eureka 72-50 in the championship game.

Wilmington went 1-4 while the Comets ended up going 2-3 during the Shootout.

Coal City Soccer teams place in Reed-Custer's Mud, Sweat and Tears Tourney



Courtesy photos

U10 THIRD PLACE: Geo's (from left): Raegan Enerson, Coach Vanessa Babcock, Keslyn Hawkins, Avery Hollis, Liam Hollis, Duncan Alcala, Coach Kyle Hollis, Ryden Sorensen, Corey Childress, Brayden Sorensen, Zach Babcock and Austin Newman. Not pictured: Melody Leman.



U12 SECOND PLACE: Subway (row one, from left): Jason Piatak, Zander Nicola, Felocity Furlan and Brody Promis. Row two: Caleb Brown, Gavin Nicola, Trent Kingman, Liam Allen, Carter Hollis, Coach Kyle Hollis, Nazih Rodriguez, Colton Bailey, Tristan Brncich, Adriana Brassard and Christian Castillo.



U6 FIRST PLACE: Onorato (from left): Logan, Zac Harris, Coach Jordan Cardosi, Gauge Trammel, Ryder Delk, Sean Lewis, Brandon Jones, Clayton Cockerham, Coach Chris Decker, Steven Cardosi, Paige Darin and Braylee Newman. Not pictured: Vivian Cannon.

Josh Cumming Memorial Softball Tournament underway

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

The 11th annual Josh Cumming Memorial Softball Tournament is underway in Carbon Hill featuring a 16-team field.

The tournament, which coincides with Carbon Hill's Homecoming celebration, is named in honor of Josh Cumming, the tournament director's son who died during a pedestrian/train accident. It features some of the best slow pitch softball players in the area.

"I wish every year he was still around to play in it but it's great to keep it going for him," said tournament director Todd Cumming. "I do what I can for the town."

It's a double elimination event with eight local teams and eight from the surrounding area.

"There's probably seven Coal City teams. There's maybe one from Braidwood. South Willy Gardner has two, Morris has two. There's a couple that were thrown together. I'm not sure where all the guys are from. There's a Channahon team and one plays in Joliet and I hope they're not loading up on me. I'm being trusting."

Local teams include: Dirtbags, Babe's Tap, Rury's Tap, Hakey-State Farm, Onorato Realty/Insurance, Streetside, Mustachio's and Country's Team.

The eight other teams are Curley's Tap, Blackjack Builders, Walk it Off, Twisted Tees, Bag of Balls, Ebbey

George's Chug Buds and the two-time champions Low Voltage Solutions.

The tournament began Monday with the top of the bracket which includes Dirtbags vs. Curley's Tap, Blackjack vs. Walk It Off, LVS vs. Hakey-State Farm and Babe's Tap vs. Twisted Tees.

The bottom half of the bracket played their first games last night (Tuesday).

The bottom half of the bracket features: Country's Team vs. Onorato, Mustachio's vs. Bag of Balls, Ebbey George's vs. Streetside and Chug Buds v. Rury's Tap.

The tournament will continue each night through Sunday when the championship will be played after the 1 p.m. parade.



U8 THIRD PLACE: D'Orazio Ford: (from left): Braxton Boresi, Ayden Comer, Oliver D'Orazio, Coach Kris Spiezio, Morgan Mutz, Kaden Rhodes, Charlie Emling, Chloe Conrad, Allyson Lemmons, Coach Danielle Lemmons, Aubree Becker, Boden Boresi and Greyson Eaton. Not pictured: Logan Ingalls.