

COAL CITY COURANT.com

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

|

A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER • (815) 634-0315



READY...SET...GO! Megan's Mission 5K run/walk steps off on South Broadway Street in Coal City on Saturday with the support of 425+ participants of all ages. This year's turnout surpassed all numbers from last year with over 100 more participants showing up for childhood cancer awareness. Between registrations, sponsorships, 50/50 raffle, merchandise and donations - the Megan's Mission Foundation raised \$29,412 to directly fund the research being done at Children's Cancer Therapy Development Institute to help kids all over the world. Megan's father Kent Bugg thanked everyone who participated. "We are so grateful for each and every one of you for making this the most successful 5K yet and continuing to push Megan's Mission forward! The wave to wipe out childhood cancer is big and we know Megan is so proud of this community!"

Photo by Eric Fisher

Community Service Award presented to Milnes



Photo by Eric Fisher

GORDON AND CATHY MILNE (second from left) were presented the Coal City Service Award on Saturday during the 2024 Fall Festival for their commitment and dedication of over 10 years with Help for Hope. City Administrator Matt Fritz (left) praised the Milnes for putting the needs of the most vulnerable within the community above everything else, providing leadership for Help for Hope, setting up a non-profit and working closely with community members for the organization's success. Mostly, they just did what was needed to provide relief to people in the community who needed it most. Joining in the presentation and thanking the Milnes for their service were Village Trustees (from right) CJ Lauterbur, Dan Greggain and Dave Togliatti.



Photo by Eric Fisher

CLIMBING THE WALL—The Village of Coal City put on a family-fun Fall Festival on Saturday including a climbing wall for youngsters, bounce houses for the little ones and a car show on South Broadway Street. It was a successful event with temperatures feeling more like summer than fall.

Board mourns the loss of member

STAFF REPORT

The Coal City School District 1 Board of Education mourned the loss of Board Secretary Mary Gill, who passed away Aug. 29.

"Mary has been a community member for decades, a mother to her children Ann and Bill, a grandmother to students Hunter and Ryder, and has served selflessly on the Board of Education since November of 1997," said board president Ken Miller at the start of the Sept. 4 meeting.

"Mary has been heavily involved in many District and Board initiatives, served on numerous committees, attended hundreds of meetings,

and was always willing to lend a hand representing the Board at a school or community event. Most importantly, she never missed an opportunity to watch her children or grandchildren perform in a school district function."

Miller noted that Mary would have celebrated her 27th year of service to District 1 this November, 24 years as secretary, both the longest tenures in District history.

"Mary was instrumental in securing a private donation to help fund the renovation of Coal City High School Learning Resource Center. She was involved in countless hours of support for even larger District

projects, including the additions to the high school, the building of the current middle school, and Early Childhood Center.

"Mary's footprints can be seen in nearly every building, every grade level, and practically every program the District offers," Miller said.

Board members offered their condolences to the family and held a moment of silence.

The board held a public hearing on the FY25 school district budget and received no comments from the public.

Jason Smith, chief school business official, outlined the tentative

SEE BOARD PAGE 2

Coffee with the Superintendent

Coal City Unit 1 Superintendent Chris Spencer invites the community to Coffee with the Superintendent, a new quarterly program that will afford school district residents an opportunity to receive timely updates on issues of importance, gain a better understanding of school operations and governance and pose questions on school related topics of their choosing.

The first Coffee with the Superintendent will be held at 9 a.m., Friday, Sept. 20 in the District Administration Center Board Room, 550 S. Carbon Hill Rd. All Coal City School District residents are invited and encouraged to participate.





SALE VALID 9/19-9/25/24

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

CHECK OUT OUR
WEEKLY AD AT
BERKOTFOODS.COM





Frito-Lay Lay's Chips- 5-8 oz Sel. Var. • Classico Pasta Sauce- 15-24 oz Sel. Var. •
No Yolk Noodles- 12 oz Sel. Var. • Hostess Donettes- 9.5-10.75 oz Sel. Var. •
Old El Paso Taco Shells, Tortillas, Beans or Rice- 8.8 oz or 8-12 ct Sel. Var. •
Mott's Applesauce- 6 ct Sel. Var. • Red Gold Salsa or Tomato Juice- 15.5-46 oz Sel. Var. •
Bomb Pop Novelties- 12 ct Sel. Var. • Faygo Cola, Crème Soda, Orange, Twist, or
Root Beer- 8 pk cans • Sara Lee Honey Wheat or 100% Whole Wheat Bread- 20 oz •
Mezzetta Nacho, Mild, Hot Jalapeno, or Banana Hot Pepper Rings- 16 oz

Board, continued from page 1

FY budget with revenues of \$40 million and expenditures of \$50 million as the district completes several construction projects, anticipates its collective bargaining agreement with faculty and benefits from budget constraints.

“The budget includes stable revenue through 2028 and a stable tax rate for taxpayers thanks to our negotiations with Constellation,” Smith said.

- A representative from Mack & Associates presented the 2024 Financial Audit findings. The board thanked Smith and his team for their efforts in ensuring another clean audit.
- Superintendent Spencer provided

the Board with an update on the facilitates improvement plan.

- Board members approved the contribution of \$250 for senior Mason Natyshok and junior Sam Vota to defray the cost of their participation in the All-State Production.
- Supt. Spencer noted that one-third of the student population at the high school is participating in a fall sport, which is great for the school, team unity and all around better students. The fall sports participation includes 89 athletes in football, boys soccer - 40, girls tennis - 24, boys golf - 20, girls golf - 10, football cheerleading - 14 and volleyball - 39.

Board approves personnel changes

The Coal City District #1 Board of Education approved the following personnel changes during its Sept. 4 meeting.

Resignations
Renee Bergmark — food server at the high school; Mariela Canchola — custodian at the high school; Aislinn Jones—full-time Classroom Aide at the high school; and Amanda Sheets—1:1 Special Ed Aide at the middle school.

Employments
Pending satisfactory completion of all state requirements: Jenna Basil— recess/lunchroom supervisor at the middle school; Kristina Lardi—1:1 Special Ed Aide at the Early Childhood Center; Ian Petrovich—custodian at the high school; Tammy Shephard — full-time 1:1 Special Ed Aide at the middle school.

Employee transfers
Sara Doogan—cafeteria sub at high school to a 3 hour food preparer.

Leave requests
Kristen Wilson—

human resources rep. at the District Office is requesting a 23-day paid maternity leave Dec. 2 through Jan. 3, 2025 followed by 19 vacation days and 19 FMLA days through Feb 28, 2025.

Sarah Cyrkiel, math teacher at the high school requesting 30-day paid maternity leave, with use of accumulated sick leave in accordance with the Teacher’s Negotiated Agreement, from approximately Feb. 24, through April 14, 2025. Also requesting a 29-day unpaid FMLA leave from April 15 through May 28, 2025, which is the conclusion of the 24 - 25 school year.

Tricia Smith, full-time 1:1 Aide at the elementary school, requested one week of unpaid time, in accordance with the support staff handbook with use of accumulated sick days from Sept. 3-6.

Veronica (Ronnie) Aldridge, spanish teacher at the middle school, is

requested 48 days paid FMLA leave, from with use of accumulated sick leave in accordance with the Teacher’s Negotiated Agreement, from Aug. 12, through Oct. 18.

Extra-curricular resignations
Shane Cuddy, bass fishing sponsor, last day was May 31, 2024.

Extra-curricular assignments
Andrew Vignocchi, assistant boys high school soccer coach.

Extra-curricular volunteers
Adam Rodriguez - Football, Matt Long - Football, Justin Hayse - Tennis, Tim Gabehart - Girls Golf, Colin Hart - high school soccer coach

Mentors: Lori Hamilton will mentor Jennifer Martino; Dave Sinkular will mentor Emily Vandergrift.

Advertising donations
One year - \$2,500 donation Martin & Associates; Three years - \$5,000 donation Geo’s Pizza.

Candidates vying for Corn Festival Queen



Coal City School District photo

COAL CITY AND its neighboring communities of Diamond, Carbon Hill and Goose Lake will be represented during the 75th Annual Grundy County Corn Festival by four members of the junior class at Coal City High School. Selected by their peers to represent the community and Coal City School District in the Corn Festival parade and coronation ceremony are [from left]: Keirsten Gabehart, Miley Smith Bridget Feeney and Maria Campagna. The queen coronation will be held Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. at the corner of Liberty and Jackson streets in downtown Morris. The candidates will also appear in the Corn Festival parade on Sunday, Sept. 29, as will the Marching Coaler bands from Coal City High School and Middle School.

Police warn of scam emails showing photo of your home

The Wilmington Police Department is warning residents of the latest scam.

“Residents have been receiving an email which contains an image of their home and typically includes a link to click on,” the department’s warning stated. “There is also usually some kind of threat documented if you don’t take an action, such as sending Bitcoin.”

According to NordVPN, the scam is known as the Pegasus email scam. Cyber criminals claim they’ve hacked your phone or computer.

“To make their threats more convincing, criminals mention your name, phone number, and address in the email. They may even include a photo of your home to make the threat appear more credible,” NordVPN said.

There is no evidence that cyber criminals actually use Pegasus spyware to hack into your phone or computer. Hackers typically get your data from previous data breaches from corporations and retailers who sell your personal

information. To protect yourself, ignore suspicious emails that claim your device has been hacked, especially those demanding ransom. Never click on links or respond to the email.

Don’t worry if you’ve opened a phishing email, it will not cause problems if you don’t interact, click on links, or download attachments that may contain malicious software.

NordVPN advises blocking email that mentions Pegasus and report it to your email provider. It’s also a good idea to regularly change your password. Be sure to use strong, unique passwords for each account.

Porch pirates targeting iPhone deliveries

BY ROSE PANIERI
STAFF WRITER

Porch pirates, those wily thieves, who nab your Amazon packages and other goodies before you get to them, are at it again. According to ADT, an estimated 36 percent of Americans have had at least one package stolen from outside their home.

This time around,

porch pirates are targeting iPhones. The Braidwood Police Dept., and other area law enforcement agencies, have had increased reports iPhone thefts delivered to area homes.

“The suspects have been observed stealing the packages from porches, front door steps, etc., within minutes of delivery,” The Braidwood Police Dept. stated. “These cases are being investigated and an arrest has been made within our jurisdiction. Nevertheless, residents should be aware of these crimes and take precautions to prevent loss.”

The police department recommends the following steps to prevent porch pirating:

- Use a security camera

or smart doorbell. It’s a good idea to review footage from the times you’re absent. Such footage may be used as evidence. Prices for security cameras have come down, and many are WIFI connected.

- Use the app from your delivery service to track your package and get an alert when the package has been delivered.

- A lockbox on your porch will help to keep packages secure while you’re away.

- Ask a household member or neighbor to sign for the package when it’s delivered.

- Attempt to schedule deliveries for when you are home or ask a neighbor to keep an eye out and let you know if a package has been

delivered.

- Have the package delivered to the home of a family member, friend, or neighbor.

- Send deliveries to a locker at Amazon UPS store, etc., where they can be picked up.

- According to ADT, you can also ask the delivery service to leave packages out of plain view, perhaps at your back door.

- You may also have your packages delivered to your place of work or shipped to the store instead of your home.

Of course, if you’d really like to keep brand new iPhones out of the hands of porch pirates, consider investing in a nice, solid Android.

Coal Bin to dispose of property

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to Section 40 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois a sale or other disposition of property by COAL BIN STORAGE INC will be held online at www.BID13.com, auction ending on October 2, 2024 1:00 PM, to sell or dispose of the personal property of the following person, Jacob Krull, 207 North St., Braceville, IL Unit 317, Location#2, to enforce a lien for storage pursuant to the self-storage facility act, in the amount of \$750.00, plus attorney fees & costs.
Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 18 and 25 2024.

Attorney Harrop files Mahler estate notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the Matter of the Estate of MARJORIE D. MAHLER, Deceased.
Case No.: 2024 PR 56
CLAIM DATE NOTICE
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Majorie D. Mahler, and Letters of Office were issued on the 7th day of August, 2024, to Richard S. Mahler, 540 S. Poplar Circle, Manteno, IL 60950, 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 E. Washington Street, Morris, Illinois, 60450, or with the representative, or both, on or before March 20, 2025. 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.
Richard S. Mahler
Independent Executor
Joan N. Harrop, #6237262
GOMIEN & HARROP, LTD.
Old National Bank Building
220 West Main Street, Ste. 300
Morris, Illinois 60450
(815) 942-0071
joanharp@sbcbglobal.net
Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 11, 18 and 25, 2024.

Coal City Crafters Club

Coal City Crafters Club is a new program open to Coal City High School students, district staff and the community.

The first crafting session will be Oct. 3 and the first project will be creating a Busted Canvas.

Coal Bin to dispose of property

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to Section 40 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois a sale or other disposition of property by COAL BIN STORAGE INC will be held online at www.BID13.com, auction ending on October 2, 2024 1:00 PM, to sell or dispose of the personal property of the following person, Peggy Knoblich, 330 Wildwood Lane, Rockaway Beach, MO Unit 438, Location#2, 419/422, Location#2 and 420&421/ Location#2, to enforce a lien for storage pursuant to the self-storage facility act, in the amount of \$2045.00, plus attorney fees & costs.
Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 18 and 25 2024.

Village of Coal City to host public hearing on zoning code text amendment

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING VILLAGE OF COAL CITY ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Village of Coal City Planning and Zoning Board will conduct a public hearing on October 7, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at the Coal City Village Hall, 515 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL, to consider approval of a Zoning Code Text Amendment that would replace its temporary moratorium on tobacco shops and disallow the permitted future use of a retail location in this manner.
At the public hearing, all persons interested will be given an opportunity to provide oral and written testimony.
Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 18, 2024.

Participants can choose their own image, colors, patterns and decor and go home with a great piece to hang for Halloween.

The group is organized by Kim Sondgeroth. For more information sign on to the Google Classroom code i3y56xo or email her at ksondgeroth@coalcityschools.org.

JB Tech files as new business

LEGAL NOTICE

Assumed Name Publication Notice
Publication Notice is hereby given that on August 30, A.D. 2024, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Grundy County, Illinois, setting forth names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as JB Tech, located at 1910 E Old Pine Bluff Rd, Morris, IL 60450. Dated this 30th day of August, A.D. 2024.
Kay T Olson, Grundy County Clerk
Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 18, 25 and Oct. 2, 2024.

Felix Township Annual Financial Report

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF FELIX TOWNSHIP ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
Notice is hereby given that the Annual Financial Report for Felix Township, in the County of Grundy, State of Illinois, was completed by Werner, Rogers, Doran & Ruzon, LLC. The Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2021 and ending March 31, 2022, and fiscal year beginning April 1, 2022 and ending March 31, 2023, are on file and available for public inspection at Felix Township, 6525 E. Whitelie Rd., Coal City, Illinois, by appointment. Please contact our office at 815-634-7288 or e-mail felixclerk1@gmail.com to schedule.
Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 18, 2024.

Coal City Fire Protection District audit report on file

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AUDIT REPORT FOR THE COAL CITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
The Board of Trustees of the Coal City Fire Protection District, Grundy County, Illinois, hereby provides public notice that an audit of its funds for the fiscal year beginning on May 1, 2023 and ending on April 30, 2024 was prepared by our auditors, Mack & Associates, 116 E. Washington Street, Suite One, Morris, IL. The fiscal year 2023-2024 audit has been filed with the County Clerk of Grundy County in accordance with 30 ILCS 15/0.01 et seq. The entire audit report and the annual statement of receipts and disbursements are available for public inspection at the Fire District Fire Station #2 located at 1455 S. Berta Road, Coal City, IL from 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Coal City Fire Protection District
Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 18, 2024 .



ILLINOIS PRESS ASSOCIATION
Serving newspapers since 1865

Award Winner

The Coal City Courant
USPS No. 120-060
Published weekly, 52 times a year, on Wednesdays by
G-W COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,
271 S. Broadway St.
Coal City, IL 60416
Periodicals postage paid at Coal City, Illinois

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

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

Village of Diamond begins road improvements

Paving on many streets in Diamond is taking place over the next two weeks. D Construction has placed road construction and “no parking by police order” signs on those streets which will be effected.

Please do not park on those streets once work begins. Use caution and slow down during construction.

Village of Gardner gives notice of the fifth and sixth amendments to Gardner TIF district 1

PUBLIC NOTICE

VILLAGE OF GARDNER FIFTH & SIXTH AMENDMENTS TO GARDNER TIF DISTRICT I
Pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code [65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-5(c)], the Village of Gardner, Grundy County, Illinois, hereby gives notice of the Fifth and Sixth Amendments to the Village of Gardner Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District I Redevelopment Project Area, Plan and Projects.

Ordinance No. 2024-04 was adopted by the Mayor and Village Board of the Village of Gardner on September 9, 2024, providing for and approving the Fifth Amendment to the Gardner TIF District I Redevelopment Project Area, Plan and Projects. The Fifth Amendment removes parcels 12-04-380-019, 12-09-129-015, 12-09-126-016, 12-09-209-006, 12-04-378-007, 12-04-378-012 and 12-09-205-022 from the Redevelopment Project Area, as described in Exhibit A of the Fifth Amendment.

Ordinance No. 2024-05 was adopted by the Mayor and Village Board on September 9, 2024 providing for and approving the Sixth Amendment to the Gardner TIF District I Redevelopment Plan and Projects. The overall purpose of the Sixth Amendment is to: (1) ratify, confirm and incorporate all private redevelopment agreements, public projects, inter-fund transfers, intergovernmental agreements, administrative agreements and other eligible redevelopment project costs into the TIF Plan; (2) amend “Section V” of the original Redevelopment Plan and Projects by increasing the total estimated Redevelopment Project Costs set out in the Plan by 5% and an adjustment for inflation from the date the Plan was adopted through the remaining life of the TIF District, including the 24-year legislative extensions, as permitted by Section 5/11-74.4-5(c) of the TIF Act; (3) define eligible redevelopment project costs to include all costs, public or private, as defined in Section 11-74.4-3 of the TIF Act; (4) allow for adjustments to be made in line items within the total, provided the total amount of payment for all eligible redevelopment project costs shall not exceed the total amount set forth in the amended Plan; and (5) allow for eligible redevelopment project costs in any contiguous TIF Districts to be paid or reimbursed from increment generated within such contiguous TIF District I and for increment generated within any such contiguous TIF Districts to be used to pay or reimburse eligible costs within TIF District I.

If you have questions regarding the Fifth or Sixth Amendments to Gardner TIF District I, please contact Mayor Mike Serena, Village of Gardner, at (815) 237-2592.

Pat Malinowski
Village Clerk

Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 18, 2024.

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

Advertising and Business Offices:
• 111 South Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481 (815) 476-7966
• 271 South Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 (815) 634-0315

Deadline for The Free Press Advocate, Braidwood Journal and Coal City Courant
Display Advertising: Friday, noon
News and Classified Advertising: Monday, noon

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

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

Eric D. Fisher, publisher



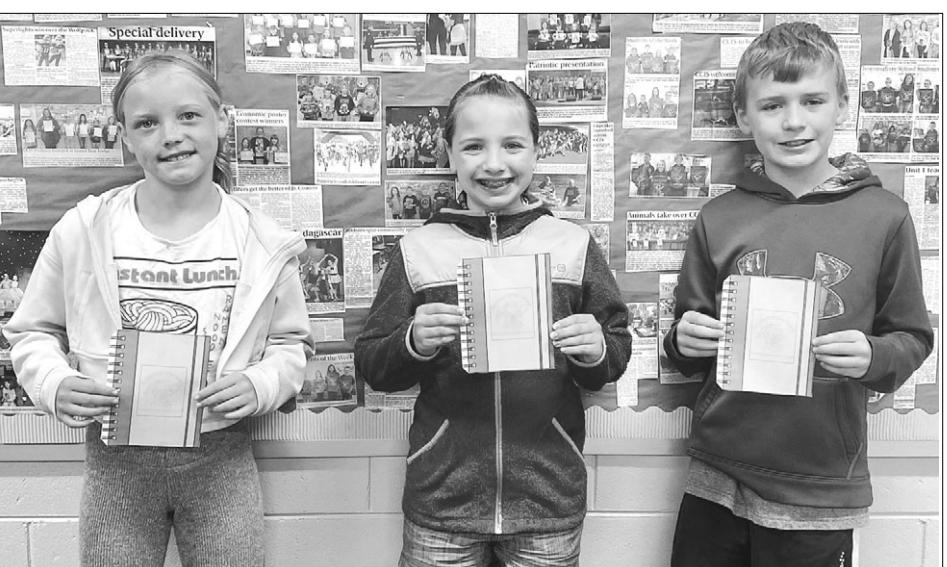
Courtesy photo
COAL CITY INTERMEDIATE School Students of the Week for Sept. 9 are [from left]: Grace Reyelts, Danny Matsko, Juliette Mason and Jacob Harris.



Courtesy photo
FOUR STUDENTS AT Coal City Middle School have been named the school's first Students of the Week for the 2024-2025 school year. Recognized were [from left]: Kennedy Loughran, nominated by Ms. Horrie; Hailey Fisher, nominated by Mrs. Clark; Luca Chellino, nominated by Ms. Urquiza, and Patrick Doerfler, nominated by Mrs. Siefken.



Courtesy photo
COAL CITY EARLY Childhood Center named students of the week, students include (front, from left) Veda Kolberg, Easton Blaine, Payton Anderson and Rory Young. Middle row: Paige Alderson, Viviana Villafuerte, Hudson seidler and Waylon Johnke. Back row: Rylie Ahern, Lizzy Brooks, Lykenzie Anders, Vanessa Aguilar, Lizzy Richardson and Bennett Boyd.



Courtesy photo
COAL CITY INTERMEDIATE School Students of the week for the week of Sept. 2 are (from left) Haley Seaward, Sylvia Leman and Mason Wren.

Are you ready for a Homecoming parade?

It's becoming a tradition for Coal City High School to host a homecoming parade and this year's march down Broadway is quickly approaching.

The fourth annual homecoming parade, Coaler Safari, will be held Friday, Oct. 4 stepping off from the intersection of South Broadway and Spring Road at 2:30 p.m. The parade will head north on Broadway to Carbon Street and conclude at the Berst Center on Kankakee Street.

The Marching Coaler Bands from the high school and middle school will participate as will various high school clubs, organizations and athletic teams.

Once again, the student council invites community businesses and churches to enter a unit in the parade. There will be a \$100 fee assessed to those entries. No political parties or candidates for election will be granted entry and no person under high school age will be allowed to participate in the parade with the exception of middle school band members.

All parade entries are to follow the homecoming theme of safari/jungle and be school appropriate.



COALER SAFARI HOCO PARADE



Community Organizations
2024 Homecoming Parade
Information and Entries

Those deemed inappropriate are subject to elimination from the lineup by school administration.

There are a few rules that need to be followed including candy and other items can not be thrown from vehicles, but can be passed out by walkers, and drivers must drive responsibly and cautiously.

Once on a float or in a vehicle there is no getting off once the parade has started, if riding in a pickup truck the tailgate must be closed for the safety of riders, and legs and feet can not dangle from a unit and standing is not recommended.

All entries must be at the high school and ready to go no later than 2 p.m., as all unit will proceed to the start of the parade route departing the high school at 2:15 p.m.

Participants are expected to clean up any mess or garbage left behind on school property or elsewhere.

The parade will be staged in the high school tennis court parking lot at the corner of Division Street and Carbon Hill Road. Vehicles and floats can be brought to the high school as early as 7 a.m. on parade day, club sponsors are open to arranging an early drop-off as long as plans are made ahead of time.

All entries must be at the high school and ready to go no later than 2 p.m., as all unit will proceed to the start of the parade route departing the high school at 2:15 p.m.

High school clubs, organizations and teams participating are required to secure their own vehicles and drivers.

A parade entry form is available using the QR code located within the attached graphic. Entries are due by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

Businesses can forward their participation fee to Coal City High School Student Council, Allison Peterson, co-sponsor, 655

History of Grundy County auto racing

Racing historian Stan Kalwasinski will give a presentation on the history of automobile racing in the Grundy County area on Tuesday, Sept. 24, at 7 pm. Included will be tracks at the old Grundy County Fairgrounds, the Mazon

Speed Bowl and the current Grundy County Speedway in Morris.

The event will be held at the Grundy County Historical Society Museum, 510 W. Illinois Ave., Morris.

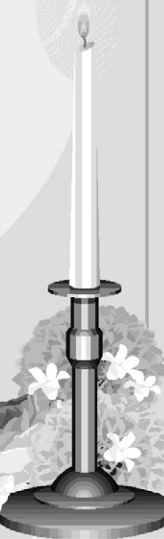
It is open to all. There is no admission charge.

September 10

Grandma Judy

As we light this candle
we remember you!
Happy Heavenly birthday

Love & miss you,
Devun, Dylun, Aricana,
Ryleigh, Blake, Kaitlyn,
Marlie, Preston, & Grant

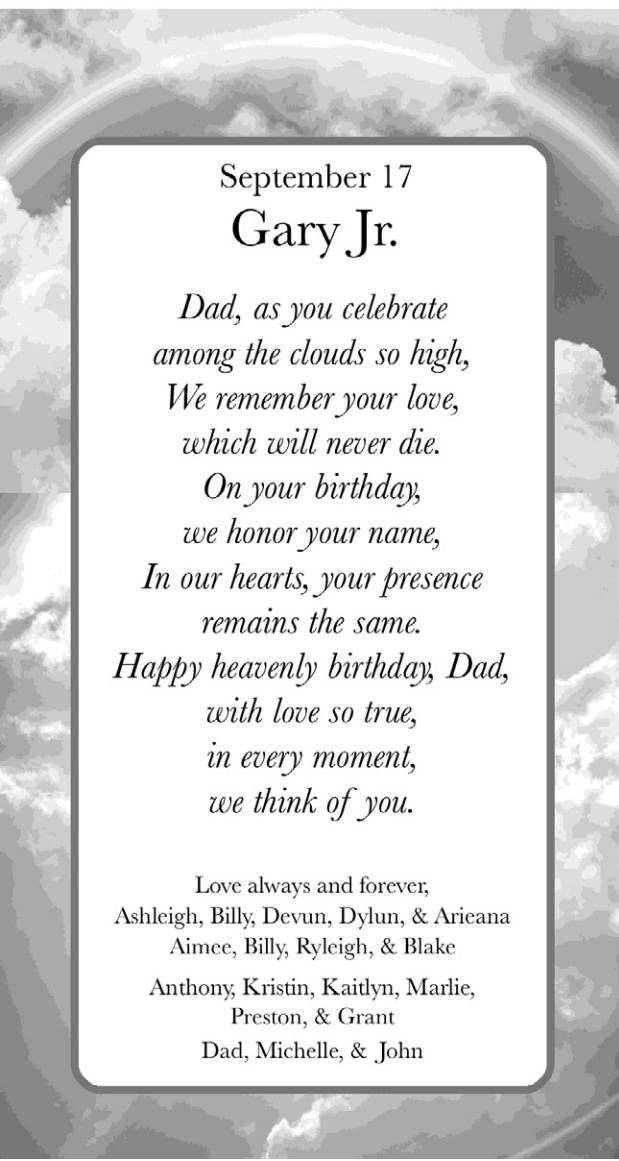


September 17

Gary Jr.

*Dad, as you celebrate
among the clouds so high,
We remember your love,
which will never die.
On your birthday,
we honor your name,
In our hearts, your presence
remains the same.
Happy heavenly birthday, Dad,
with love so true,
in every moment,
we think of you.*

Love always and forever,
Ashleigh, Billy, Devun, Dylun, & Aricana
Aimee, Billy, Ryleigh, & Blake
Anthony, Kristin, Kaitlyn, Marlie,
Preston, & Grant
Dad, Michelle, & John





Courtesy photo
COAL CITY INTERMEDIATE School Student of the Week for the week of Sept. 2 is Izyk Decker.

W. Division St., Coal City, IL 60416. Checks should be made payable to Coal City High School.

Direct questions to apeterson@coalcityschools.org.

The community is encouraged to celebrate homecoming by participating and attending the parade.

PUBLIC NOTICE EARLY VOTING SITES

GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 5, 2024

Early Voting will begin on Thursday, September 26, 2024 and continue through Monday, November 4, 2024.

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

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

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

Tuesday	October 1st	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	October 3rd	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	October 5th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Tuesday	October 8th	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	October 10th	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	October 12th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Tuesday	October 15th	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	October 17th	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	October 19th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Tuesday	October 22nd	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	October 24th	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	October 26th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Sunday	October 27th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Tuesday	October 29th	8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	November 2nd	8:00 a.m. to Noon

Early Voting will be offered at the below locations for the following hours only:

LOCATION	LOCATION
Village of Minooka (Community Room A) 121 E. McEvilly Rd. Minooka, IL 60447	Coal City Library (Annex Building) 85 N. Garfield St. Coal City, IL 60416

Available only during dates/times listed below:

Tuesday	October 15th	3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	October 16th	3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	October 17th	3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	October 19th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Wednesday	October 23rd	3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	October 24th	3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	October 26th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Sunday	October 27th	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Tuesday	October 29th	3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	October 30th	3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	November 2nd	8:00 a.m. to Noon

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

KAY T. OLSON
GRUNDY COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

Free Press Newspapers readers SOUND-OFF

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

Meeting a joke

BRAIDWOOD—Last week's Braidwood City Council meeting was a joke. We have grown adults in Braidwood acting like spoiled rotten children who throw a temper tantrum when they don't get their way. Talk about a self entitled embarrassment to our society. Grow up children because you obviously don't know how to act like the respectable adults you should be. To Mayor Hart, great job in controlling the decorum and enforcing Robert's Rule of Order despite their feet stomping, paper throwing, snickering and bickering.

Serious debt

WILMINGTON—A trillion is one million million and has 12 zeros. If you owned a trillion dollars and spent one hundred thousand dollars a day, it would take 2,740 years to spend. Our government has managed to rack up a debt of \$36 trillion, mostly because of excessive spending and borrowing which causes inflated prices. It is not the fault of corporations. The U.S taxpayers are responsible for this huge debt because it has to be paid at some point. Do we want to hand it over to our children and grandchildren to pay? Current government leadership is not taking our debt seriously. Guess they will be out of office when it comes due. We need responsible business minded leadership and not politicians who want to pay for foreign wars and giveaway programs.

Small town living

BRAIDWOOD—In response to last week's sound off about the illegal burning complaints in Braidwood, I completely agree, enough is enough. There's no need to keep calling the cops over and over again for something that isn't going to do any good. People have wood burning stoves and fireplaces as supplemental heat their homes and garages for crying out loud. Does these complaining residents expect people to just stop using them because this person doesn't like the smoke they create? It's also the time of year when people like to get together and sit around a small campfire to relax and enjoy conversations. Does the complainer expect us to just give that up too because they don't like it? That's just the way it is down here and if they don't like it they need to move to the big city where there isn't any of this going on. Don't expect others to give us their freedoms associated with small town living just because it offends you.

Tariffs will cost us

SHADOW LAKES— For those people planning to vote for Trump I hope you're paying attention, Trump is saying that when he gets elected he is going to impose more tariffs on imports. Have you ever heard the expression don't insult my intelligence' well this is what we should be telling the man, when he tells us that tariffs are good because China pays the tariffs and increases tax revenue for the government. It is true that increases revenue for the government but not true that China pays the tariffs, the tariffs get passed on to the consumer meaning we pay the tariffs. Trump is using this tactic to shift the tax burden from the very rich to the working class. He did it the first time he was president and if he gets elected he is telling us he is going to do it again. Half the stuff that comes from his mouth is untrue. The latest one during the presidential debate he said that migrants in Ohio are eating cats and dogs. He said that Democrats are killing babies at birth. He tells us that we live in a horrible country. He would do and say anything to brainwash or scare people into voting for him. You Trump supporters need to open your eyes and see the real Trump. If you are in favor of Trump's tariffs then don't complain about high prices and high inflation. High prices and higher inflation are a direct result of imposing billions of dollars in tariffs on imported products all at once. Some may tell you that tax cuts for corporations is good for the economy because the money will be reinvested. Not true, studies have shown very little of tax cuts money is reinvested. The tax laws already

allow plenty of tax write-offs for companies that invest money in improving their business. Some businesses owners take advantage and abuse the system by writing off personal expenses. Corporate America does not need more tax cuts, especially not at the expense of working people.

Handed to Harris

COAL CITY—There are a lot of conservative ideas out there that we would be wise to adopt. Do you want to open your arms and homes to the millions of illegal aliens flooding this country and give to them all the things you have worked all your life for? Someone said that Project 2025 will remove our freedoms, making our nation unrecognizable. The Democrats had a big freedom removed and they don't realize it, not actually having a chance to select a candidate for the presidency. As far as Biden passing the torch to Harris it wasn't passed. It was ignominiously snatched from the disabled hand of Biden and dubiously handed to Harris, who never garnered enough support in her own right to be a previous candidate for the presidency. The present Democratic party is being ruled by a hidden power bent on turning the United States into a Socialist country and that does not inspire jubilation of any sort in me. If elected, Harris will be taken over by Biden's puppetmaster and everyone in our unrecognizable country will be told what to do, how to do it and when to do it.

In our neighborhoods

WILMINGTON—I noticed that the never Trumpers never say Harris will fix everything she screwed up the last three years they just call Trump names. You are willing to vote for a far left socialist that her real record shows so I have to ask if Nov. 1 if you wake up and find 50 Haitians living in Island park in Wilmington or in Ole Smoky in Braidwood or maybe Shadow Lakes would you still vote for her? If you don't, you're being hypocritical because you believe illegals are great unless they are in my neighborhood and they soon will be.

Kamala lies too

DIAMOND—We have a new kid on the block named Kamala Harris so let's move on to her lies from the debate. "Trump left us the worst unemployment since the Great Depression." Kamala left out the fact that government mandates had forced businesses around the country to close causing the economy to shed jobs temporarily because of a pandemic. Once life started to turn back to normal these jobs returned as well. That was starting to happen by the time Biden was inaugurated. Also, before the pandemic in 2019, U.S. unemployment rate fell to a 50 year low at 3.5% which is lower than the current rate under the Biden administration. Project 2025—Trump has repeatedly disavowed the project and his allies have criticized the people who wrote it. While some former Trump officials were involved in crafting this, Trump's campaign played no role in it. Harris stated that "nowhere in America is a woman carrying a pregnancy to term and asking for an abortion." The truth is women can seek an abortion at any point in their pregnancies even late into the third trimester in seven states and the District of Columbia. "When you look at his economic plan, it's all about tax breaks for the rich." The Trump tax cuts did benefit the wealthy but they also benefited nearly every American because taxes were lowered across the board. They lowered taxes for middle and lower income households, including by lowering income taxes for lower brackets, expanding the child tax credit, and doubling the standard deduction.

Best persons missing

WILMINGTON—Watching football all weekend I noticed that there is no slacking in sports. It's the best person for the job unlike our Presidential race that's based on race and sex and hate.

Declaring tariffs

SHADOW LAKES—Tariffs could be beneficial to the country only if they're wisely implemented. If there was an

Sound-Off is a 24-hour phone line provided to give readers a chance to voice their opinions. The Free Press Newspapers reserves the right to edit remarks for taste, length, personal attacks, racism, threatening, calls for boycotts and libel.

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

Submissions by email to: courant@fpnusa.com with "soundoff" in the subject line or visit www.freepressnewspapers.com, or call 815-634-0317. Please state the town in which you are calling from or in regards to. Mail comments to Sound-Off, 271 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481. There can be only one submission of 250 words or less per person during any given week.



American product that was been treating by a low cost import imposing tariffs could save an American company. But declaring a tariffs war on the entire world is just plain stupid. You can not impose 50% or higher tariffs on almost everything coming in to the country without destroying the economy. The only people that will tell you that this is a good thing are the very rich people that benefit from the tax cuts that were replaced by tariffs.

Big talk, little action

COAL CITY—It sure would be nice to fact check what Kamala says. Why was Trump checked five times in the debate and she didn't get check once? She had more that five lies and the first words out of her mouth was a lie about the 2025 project that Trump has nothing to do with. It was an independent organization that developed this document and did not involve President Trump. Many Democrats are using you for their experiment to see how many times they have to say this lie before you start believing their lies. Check her records yourself, Kamala voted for an abortion bill that eliminated parental notification and any laws against partial birth abortion. Thank God it didn't pass. Also, since Roe Vs. Wade was overturned, the number of abortions have increased. So what's the issue? Anyone can get an abortion in this country, you may have to go to another state, just like you may have to go to another state for a medical specialist. How many people you know have gone to Mayo Clinic for specific medical care? Trump has always been for IVF and now she is jumping on that band wagon too. She just says what you want to hear.

Do us a favor

BRAIDWOOD—To the sound-off in the paper a few weeks ago, I would like to point out that during the last election for mayor 640 voters voted for Earley. One of his priorities if elected was to rid this town of the city administrator which 640 votes is a lot more than just a handful. Criticism of the facts is different than lies. Please do all of us residents a favor to save our tax dollars and resign. After that if you want to move out of town you are more than welcome to.

More political games?

BRAIDWOOD—With petitions for the three vacant positions within our city council being circulated are we as residents going to have to watch the dirty politics of Braidwood once again? The candidates that will be running in the upcoming election have nothing to lose. I want my fellow residents to think about the past two elections and see who has benefited the most from the dirty politics and so call "transparency." A more important question is who has the most to lose if the upcoming election doesn't go their way? The answer to both questions seems to be one individual. This individual has caused more problems while getting a larger

salary. Shame on our elected officials for not doing their job.

Disrespect our fallen

BRAIDWOOD—As a retired firefighter of many years, I watched the news of the attack on Sept. 11 as my brothers rushed towards the towers. That day we lost 343 brothers and sisters along with over 2,000 others. I see all the flags lowered to half-staff out of respect for everyone who lost their lives on that tragic day. Well, almost every flag was lowered. I noticed the city hall's flag wasn't lowered. Why didn't Mayor Hart have it lowered to honor those we lost that horrible day? If you cannot respect our fallen heroes you have no business holding any elected position.

Just plain stupid

SHADOW LAKES—Tariffs could be beneficial to the country, only if they are wisely implemented. If there was an American product that was being threatened by a low cost import, imposing tariffs could save an American company. But declaring a tariffs war on the entire world is just plain stupid. You can not impose 50% or higher tariffs on almost everything coming into the country without destroying the economy. The only people that will tell you that this is a good thing are the very rich people that benefit from the tax cuts that were replaced by tariffs.

Ignorant lies

WILMINGTON—Here are some random observations. The folks at Fox News are complaining that Kamala Harris isn't doing enough media interviews. But they also complain that the media is corrupt and an enemy of the people. And aren't they also a part of the media? Republicans claim to be pro police and law-and- order but their candidate is a 34 count felon and a sex offender. JD Vance says childless cat ladies are leading miserable lives but the ones I know tell me they are happy and enjoying their existence except the part where they have to witness JD Vance saying ignorantly unfounded lies. More to come. Penny Lane

Open your eyes

Without naming presidential candidates read the following to determine who would be the best for leading our beautiful United States of America. Candidate 1 would immediately finish building the wall. Candidate 2, not going to happen. 1. would open Keystone pipeline to lower our gas/oil prices. 2. not going to happen. 1. will support our veterans and the men/women in blue. 2, not going to happen. 1, true American patriot. 2, father was liberal professor at Berkley College and a member of the communist party. 1, will keep our health insurance coverage. 2, wants socialized medicine for all paid for out of our pockets. 1, Christian affiliation, 2, none. Be smart and vote from your heart. Remember, we are voting for our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren's future. Thank you and God Bless America.

Division remains on future of an airport at Peotone

BY ANDREW ADAMS
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

A new airport near Peotone could bring thousands of jobs and a \$1 billion economic impact, according to a new report. But state and local officials are expressing concerns about the future of the long-delayed project.

A study from the Illinois Economic Policy Institute, a think tank with ties to organized labor, found that building a cargo-focused airport in the south suburbs would create around 6,300 total jobs.

The plan for an airport near Peotone has been proposed and discussed in various forms for decades, with the earliest proposals coming in the 1960s. The state has commissioned several studies on its viability since the early 1990s.

While previous proposals included passenger travel, the current plan is for a cargo-only airport between Beecher and Peotone. The state currently owns 89 percent of the land needed to build such an airport.

In 2019 lawmakers allocated \$162 million in capital funding to build a new interchange on Interstate 57 to, at least in part, allow more traffic to reach the area where the airport could be built. Construction is set to begin in the current fiscal year, which the report suggests will bring in an

additional 1,500 jobs and boost economic activity by \$314 million.

The airport would also generate approximately \$24 million each year in economic activity and \$2 million each year in state and local tax revenues, according to the report.

"Once it is built, the south suburban airport would have these long-lasting positive effects well after the construction phase," ILEPI economist Frank Manzo said in an interview.

ILEPI Transportation Director Mary Tyler, a co-author of the report alongside Manzo, noted that the south suburban region has become a freight hub boosted by the rise in e-commerce over recent years.

"You've got I-57. You've got, in Joliet, the inland port at Elwood, the navigable waterways," she said. "It's obvious because you can see Will County has already grown so much in terms of distribution centers and all the other freight growth that the industry has already viewed that as a key area."

Tyler noted that freight traffic at O'Hare Airport in Chicago and in Rockford almost doubled between 2010 and 2022. Air freight traffic in Rockford alone grew by 273 percent over the same time, partially due to e-commerce giant Amazon building a facility there in 2016.

The Illinois General Assembly has

recently taken several steps to advance progress on the long-delayed south suburban airport.

In 2023, state legislators passed a law requiring the Illinois Department of Transportation to develop a process for requesting contractors and other developers to submit plans

A spokesperson for IDOT said the department is working on a request for qualifications, an early step in the bidding process for large projects like this, but the department has not released it.

Earlier this year, lawmakers revisited the subject and passed a bill that allows IDOT to accept unsolicited bids for the project.

Rep. Will Davis, D-Homewood, who sponsored both bills, said in an interview he is frustrated with the project's slow progress. He said that political leadership in the state has "failed to bring us all together" to push the development forward.

That airport, which opened in the late 1980s, serves as a regional hub for FedEx and Amazon Air.

"Why would we not want a thriving development like that in Illinois?" he said. Davis said in his district there is "excitement about the project."

But some in Will County remain opposed. Sen. Rachel Ventura, D-Joliet, voted against both recent bills dealing with

the airport and remains opposed to a cargo airport in the area.

She said the boom in warehouses and freight traffic in recent years has contributed to increased flooding and higher maintenance costs for local roads.

"All of that burden goes to the residents here," Ventura said.

Ventura also said that Will County residents and local governments are "exasperated" and feel like they have not had a seat at the table during discussions of the airport.

Judy Ogalla, who was first elected to the Will County Board in 2012 and elected to be the board's chair in 2022, lives near Peotone. Ogalla is a longtime critic of the airport plan and has pushed the board to oppose the project. She calls her home an "island," one of the few parcels of land near her that hasn't been purchased by the state as part of the development of the airport.

She said the airport is unnecessary, adding that the state owning so much land has impeded the abilities for communities like Peotone and Beecher to grow.

"I think there's a better use for the land," Ogalla said.

Ogalla instead advocates for using that land for agricultural research and education, something the board included in its most recent state legislative agenda.

Hello Autumn! Fall In Love With These Prices!

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 9/19/24-9/25/24 | STORE HOURS: 7 AM - 9 PM

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

USDA **PRIME** Angus Boneless Ribeye Steaks or New York Strip Steaks
10 oz portions

USDA **PRIME** Big Daddy Boneless New York Strip Steak- 16 oz portion \$15.99/ea

10 OZ STEAK

\$10

EACH

Berkot's Fresh, All Natural Duroc Bone-In Twin Pack Pork Butt
(Single packages \$2.19/lb)

\$1.29

PER LB

BERKOT'S LIMITED RELEASE

BEER & CHEDDAR

SIGNATURE BRATWURST

\$5.99

PER LB

\$5

EACH

Berkot's Apple Cider Donuts- 6 ct

99¢

with digital coupon*

LIMITED SUPPLY Plumcots (Summer Punch, King Kong, or Super Nova)- 1 lb bag- Limit 4 • Supersweet Grape or Cherry Tomatoes- pint- Limit 4 ea • Crisp Head Lettuce- Limit 4 • Crisp Celery- Limit 4 • Whole White Mushrooms- 8 oz- Limit 4 • Brown Coconuts- Limit 4 • Extra Large Extra Creamy Avocados- Limit 4 • Farm Fresh Cucumbers- Limit 8 • Crisp Green Peppers- Limit 8 • Farm Fresh Brussels Sprouts- per lb- Limit 8 lbs in 1 transaction • Farm Fresh Zucchini- per lb- Limit 8 lbs in 1 transaction

\$1.99

with digital coupon*

Fresh Express Salads- 5-6 oz- Limit 2 • Romaine Hearts- 3pk- Limit 4 • Yellow Onions- 3 lb bag- Limit 4 • Idaho Potatoes- 5 lb bag- Limit 4 • Yukon Gold Potatoes- 3 lb bag- Limit 4 • Wild Wonders Tomatoes- 1.5 lb bowl- Limit 4 • Mini Peppers- 1 lb bag- Limit 4 • Sweet Golden Pineapples- Limit 4 • California Broccoli Crowns- per lb- Limit 8 lbs in 1 transaction • Snow White Cauliflower- per lb- Limit 8 lbs in 1 transaction

*Price without digital coupon varies. Limits vary. Items sold by the pound are limited to total specified number of pounds in a single transaction.

GREAT GROCERY DEALS TO FILL YOUR BASKET

Blue Bunny Premium Ice Cream
46-48 oz

\$3.99

EACH

Thomas' Bagels
6 pk
Single: \$5.49

BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

Absopure Purified Water- 24 pk .5 L
Single: \$3.99

3 FOR \$10

when buying 3

Powerade or Powerade Zero Drinks
28 oz

Sale Price **99¢/ea**
Digital Coupon **-30¢/ea**
FINAL PRICE 69¢ ea
with 30¢ digital coupon
LIMIT 5 BOTTLES*

Pepsi Family Soda
24 pk cans

Sale Price **\$11.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$3.00/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$8.99 ea
with \$3 digital coupon
LIMIT 2 CASES*

7 Up Family Soda
24 pk cans

Sale Price **\$11.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$3.00/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$8.99 ea
with \$3 digital coupon
LIMIT 2 CASES*

7 Up Family Soda
6 pk .5L

Sale Price **2/\$8**
Digital Coupon **-\$3.00**
FINAL PRICE 2/\$5
with \$3 digital coupon
LIMIT 2 PACKAGES*

Kentucky Legend Sliced Bacon
16 oz
Sel. Var.

Sale Price **\$3.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$1.00/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$2.99 ea
with \$1 digital coupon
LIMIT 5 PACKAGES*

Nabisco Chips Ahoy!, Ritz, BelVita, or Snack Crackers
6.5-13.7 oz or 5 ct
Sel. Var.

Sale Price **2/\$7**
Digital Coupon **-\$1.00** when buying 2
FINAL PRICE 2/\$6
when buying 2 with \$1 digital coupon

Pure Leaf Tea
59 oz
Sel. Var.

Sale Price **2/\$5**
Digital Coupon **-\$1.00** when buying 2
FINAL PRICE 2/\$4
when buying 2 with \$1 digital coupon

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

Sale Price **\$3.49/ea**
Digital Coupon **-.50¢/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$2.99 ea
when buying 2 with digital coupon- LIMIT 2*

DiGiorno or California Pizza Kitchen Pizza
12 Inch Sel. Var.

Sale Price **\$4.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-.50¢/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$4.49 ea
with 50¢ digital coupon

Simply Juice
52 oz
Sel. Var.

Sale Price **\$3.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-.50¢/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$3.49 ea
with 50¢ digital coupon

Fairlife Milk
52 oz
Sel. Var.

Sale Price **\$5.49/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$1.50/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$3.99 ea
with \$1.50 digital coupon
LIMIT 2 BOTTLES*

Flora Bath Tissue, Paper Towels or Napkins
6-12 Roll or 500 ct

Sale Price **\$3.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$1.00/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$2.99 ea
with \$1 digital coupon

2 FOR \$5

Frito-Lay Lay's Chips- 5-8 oz Sel. Var. • Classico Pasta Sauce- 15-24 oz Sel. Var. • No Yolks Noodles- 12 oz Sel. Var. • Hostess Donettes- 9.5-10.75 oz Sel. Var. • Old El Paso Taco Shells, Tortillas, Beans or Rice- 8.8 oz or 8-12 ct Sel. Var. • Mott's Applesauce- 6 ct Sel. Var. • Red Gold Salsa or Tomato Juice- 15.5-46 oz Sel. Var. • Bomb Pop Novelties- 12 ct Sel. Var. • Faygo Soda, Crème Soda, Orange, Twist, or Root Beer- 8 pk cans • Sara Lee Honey Wheat or 100% Whole Wheat Bread- 20 oz • Mezzetta Nacho, Mild, Hot Jalapeno, or Banana Hot Pepper Rings- 16 oz

2 FOR \$6

Jell-O Gelatin or Pudding- 4 ct Sel. Var. • Cracker Barrel Cheese- 6-8 oz Sel. Var. • Florida's Natural Lemonade or Fruit Splash- 59 oz Sel. Var. • New York Garlic Breadsticks or Texas Toast- 6-8 ct Sel. Var. • Stubbs Original, Spicy, Sticky Sweet, or Sweet Heat BBQ Sauce- 18 oz • Milo's Sweet or Unsweetened Tea- 128 oz • Oke Doke Popcorn- 7.5 oz • Snyder's Pretzels- 16 oz

3 DAY SUPER SALE

9/20-9/22 ONLY

Berkot's Fresh 80% Lean Ground Beef Family Pack (3 lbs or more)

9/20-9/22 ONLY

Sale Price **\$4.99/lb**
Digital Coupon **-\$2.00/lb**
FINAL PRICE \$2.99 lb
with \$2 digital coupon
LIMIT 1 PACKAGE*

Joe's Italian Beef 64 oz

9/20-9/22 ONLY

Sale Price **\$14.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$6.00/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$8.99 ea
with \$6 digital coupon
LIMIT 2 PACKAGES*

7 Up Family Soda 2 L

9/20-9/22 ONLY

Sale Price **\$1.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$1.20/ea** when buying 4
FINAL PRICE 79¢ ea
when buying 4 with \$1.20 dig. coupon- LIMIT 4 BTLs

Brew Pub Pizza 20-26.82 oz

9/20-9/22 ONLY

Sale Price **\$7.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$4.00/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$3.99 ea
with \$4 digital coupon
LIMIT 2 PIZZAS*

SUPER PREMIUM California Seedless Red or Green Grapes

9/20-9/22 ONLY

Sale Price **\$3.99/lb**
Digital Coupon **-\$2.00/lb**
FINAL PRICE \$1.99 lb
with digital coupon
LIMIT 10 lbs in 1 transaction*

Kings Hawaiian Take and Bake Sandwiches 12 ct - Ham & Cheese, Italian, or Reuben

9/20-9/22 ONLY

Sale Price **\$15.00/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$5.00/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$10 ea
with \$5 digital coupon
LIMIT 3 PACKAGES*

Berkot's Own Pico de Gallo 12 oz
Guacamole 7 oz

9/20-9/22 ONLY

Sale Price **\$3.99/ea**
Digital Coupon **-\$2.00/ea**
FINAL PRICE \$1.99 ea
when mix and matching 2 with digital coupon
LIMIT 2 REDEMPTIONS TOTAL

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

FULL WEEKLY AD @ BERKOTFOODS.COM

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE



Chicago's \$8.5 billion bailout looms

It's been an open secret for weeks that at least some members of Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson's Intergovernmental Affairs staff would be leaving after the Democratic National Convention, including its director, Sydney Holman.

That happened last week. Holman quit and two others were forced out of the IGA office, which liaisons with both the city council and the Illinois General Assembly.

Holman is well-known to state legislators. She started on the House Democratic staff and did a stint as Gov. JB Pritzker's House liaison.

She's well-liked, even though the mayor isn't exactly popular at the Statehouse.

Holman leaves as the city is gearing up to face what is estimated as at least a \$982.4 million budget deficit next fiscal year.

But the city has long known this massive deficit was coming. Almost a year ago, the city released a two-year budget forecast with a "base outlook" that projected a \$986 million deficit in Fiscal Year 2025, which is only a few million dollars away from the current city projection. The city's 2023 budget report predicted a "negative outlook" of a \$1.14 billion deficit by 2025.

And now the city is apparently hoping to convince the General Assembly to help it out. One outlet reported the



Rich Miller

A Chicago-only bailout is just not in the cards, and a broader bailout of municipalities would cost exponentially more than the billion dollars that Chicago needs.

Chicago is already asking for an immediate increase of about \$5 billion for statewide and Chicago-specific school funding and \$2.5 billion in state help to build a new Chicago Bears Stadium. So, we're talking about a total ask of \$8.5 billion, not including money for every other municipality, which would have to be included if Chicago got any more cash, and not including the \$730 million mass transit bailout for next year, which will eventually rise to \$1.32 billion.

Good luck with all that.

Syd Holman has been superseded by Kennedy Bartley, who was hired by the mayor earlier this year as a liaison to progressive groups and unions. Crain's Chicago Business reported last week that the mayor's office had circulated an organizational chart showing that Holman and her staff would report to Bartley. Holman, as long expected, did not want to work for Bartley, so she left.

Bartley comes from United Working Families, a progressive group that is

closely allied with the Chicago Teachers Union.

Bartley spent quite a bit of time organizing on behalf of the "defund the police" movement. Two days after the terror group Hamas attacked Israel, Bartley tweeted, "From the river to the sea Palestine will be free. Amen!" which is considered by many to be a call to eliminate Jews in Israel. Bartley also called police "f-ing pigs" in a 2021 interview.

In other words, Bartley may have some problems lobbying the Illinois state legislature.

While most of the people stepping up to criticize Mayor Johnson for elevating Bartley are the usual Johnson critics, state Sen. Rob Martwick (D-Chicago) is a longtime Johnson friend, is very tight with the Chicago Teachers Union (where the mayor worked) and endorsed the mayor's election last year. Sen. Martwick sent out a critical press release last week which focused on the "f-ing pigs" comment.

"The comments made by Kennedy Bartley serve only to disparage our val-

ued public servants and diminish the progress that we have made," Sen. Martwick said in the release. "Our government leaders should be working toward a greater sense of safety through unity, not chaos through division and insults. I condemn these comments, and I implore our Mayor to ensure accountability for the harm they have caused."

That doesn't portend well.

Johnson's elevation of Bartley could also be seen as a sort of war declaration. The CTU and the mayor have strongly indicated that they plan to blame Gov. Pritzker and the General Assembly if they cannot achieve the union's contract goals.

And Mayor Johnson, who comes from the CTU, may be wanting the same bogeyman to justify his own deficit problems. Bartley would likely be a good fit for that sort of role, even though that confrontational path will undoubtedly lead to no good end.

Filling up is getting cheaper

Average gasoline prices in Illinois have fallen 11.7 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.40/g, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois. Prices in Illinois are 38.2 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 52-cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

Wilmington is offering gas from \$3.06/g (Mohsen), to \$3.17/g (Circle K).

Braidwood, on the other hand, is charging anywhere from \$3.57/g at Casey's to \$3.59/g at Marathon.

Coal City is charging \$3.48/g up to \$3.51/g.

Those willing to travel to Morris for a fill up, can get gas for \$3.02/g, up to \$3.09/g.

Bourbonnais has gas for \$3.08/g a Gulf up to \$3.17 at Circle K.

"Gasoline prices continue to crumble across nearly the entire nation, with average prices below

\$3 per gallon in 18 states, with some 65,000 stations selling below that psychological mark," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

"Diesel prices are also falling and are at their lowest level in nearly 1,000 days. With the change to winter gasoline happening at most stations across the country, the outlook is bright for the national average to continue to make a run at falling to \$2.99 per gallon for the first time since 2021."

The national average price of diesel has declined 3.4 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.57 per gallon- the lowest level since January, 2022, over 900 days ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Illinois was priced at \$2.74/g Monday while the most expensive was \$4.95/g, a difference of \$2.21/g.



ON SEPTEMBER 11, Coal City High School students Zander Nicola and Gavin Zeich climbed up and down the stairs of the school's stadium in remembrance of the 2,753 individuals killed in the terrorist attack of World Trade Center. Zeich and Nicola are fire cadets with the Braceville Fire Protection District.



ON SEPTEMBER 11, Coal City High School students Zander Nicola and Gavin Zeich climbed up and down the stairs of the school's stadium in remembrance of the 2,753 individuals killed in the terrorist attack of World Trade Center. Zeich and Nicola are fire cadets with the Braceville Fire Protection District.

An act of remembrance on 9/11

In honor of the 2,753 individuals who died in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001 three Coal City School District students paid tribute by recreating the 110-story climb up the towers New York City's first responders took that day.

Zander Nicola, Gavin

Zeich and Gavin Nicola—cadets with the Braceville Fire Fire Protection District—put on their fire gear and climbed up and down stairs at the Coal City High School Stadium on Wednesday afternoon.

Zander Nicola and Gavin Zeich each made over 50 trips up and down the stadium stairs. Gavin

Nicola made 20 passes as they replicated the 2,071 step climb members of the FDNY took that tragic September morning in their efforts to clear the World Trade Center Towers.

Family, friends and members of the Braceville and Coal City Fire Protection Districts were at the stadium in support of

their effort to remember those who died in the attacks—343 of them firefighters.

Zander Nicola and Gavin Zeich are students at Coal City High School and Gavin Nicola attends Coal City Middle School.

ESSEX COMMUNITY CLUB

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, Sept. 22
7 a.m.-Noon

Essex Community Hall
217 Parls 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 and under) \$5 • Adults \$10

Phone: 815-354-2822

We need your support. anyone interested in joining or volunteering please call 815-322-5906

THE LAW OFFICES OF JUNE, PRODEHL, RENZI & LYNCH LLC

- Elder Law/Nursing homes
- Medicaid
- Asset Conservation
- Wills & Trusts, Estate Planning
- Family Law & Divorce
- Mediation (custody and divorce)
- Bankruptcy: Chapter 7 & 13 (wage earner's plans)
- Foreclosure Defense
- Residential Real Estate: Sale & Purchase
- Traffic & Driver's License Reinstatement
- Restraining Orders/Orders of Protection
- Felony & Misdemeanor Defense

Call now for an appointment 815-725-8000 or visit our website at www.jpirlaw.net
1861 Black Road, Joliet, IL 60435

David (Andy) June
Ford (Chet) June III
Steve Prodehl
John Renzi
Jennifer Lynch
Marilyn Wysocki
Ed Oedzes

warrencollisioncenteril.com

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

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

WE CARE BEYOND THE REPAIR!

BINGO IS BACK!

DOORS OPEN @ 5PM
EVERY THURSDAY @ 6 PM

VFW Post 5422
557 Baltimore St., Wilmington
(815) 476-9210

Kitchen open until 8 p.m. with special menu!
All you have to do is play Bingo, our staff will get your drinks and cook a delicious meal for you!

NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED!



COAL CITY FIRE Chief James Seerup and members of the Coal City Fire Protection District came out in support of Braceville Fire Protection District cadets Zander Nicola, Gavin Zeich and Gavin Nicola who paid tribute to the 2,753 individuals killed in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. The fire cadets are students in the Coal City School District.

The strength that comes from others who inspire

ELAINE FISHER-OHLUND
FOOD FOR THE SOUL

It was a month before my birthday and I laid next to the pool with my best friend in pondering thoughts. "I can't believe I am turning 40, I feel like the older I get, the faster time is speeding up."

"Well maybe we can spin your 40 into a positive, why don't we like train for a triathlon or marathon," my friend said. I thought triathlon sounds good because the thought of just running sounded so miserable to me.

The rest of our vacation my friend Vicki, who has competed in an ironman race, desperately tried to teach me how to do the freestyle stroke while our little ones cheered us on.

Let's just say I am not a swimmer. So at the end of Florida we made a more reasonable pact. A half marathon for a positive spin on 40.

Boy did I bite off more than I could chew. I had no idea what I was doing. I just started running on the tread mill and found myself dreading it.

Every night I hobbled around the house as if my body had warped from a 40-year-old trying to train for a marathon to an 90-year-old woman that could barely walk. My son Zach would spot me and say, "looks like you need to stretch," which was usually my line to him.

I will never forget the morning when I was staring at my running shoes and



KATRINA SKORYI after a four mile run in the 85 degree heat. She is the pace setter of our friendship.

cursing my best friend in my head when a snap chat notification popped up on my phone.

It was Katrina Skoryi, 37, from Wilmington. She actually lives right down the road from me. I have found myself a few times chuckling at her posts about mom life, delicious meals she has prepped, healthy food and not so healthy food indulgences and just being brutally honest about life.

She too was trying this running thing. And no matter how hard and uncomfortable it got, she just kept putting her feet to the pavement. It was inspiring to watch.

So I started sending her messages and asking questions. "Where do you run?" How often are you doing this?" "What kind of shoes do you wear?" I figured if I was going to do this right I needed to do some

research.

She encouraged me to run outside instead of the treadmill which was a game changer.

It's a whole other ball game from treadmill to outside. Dogs, cars, heat and an oversized acorn can nearly snap your ankle in half. But I felt like I could step into my breath and go farther and faster.

The next curve ball she threw at me was not advice but just a screen shot of her miles and time from her run that day.

It was like she lit a fire under my you know what and I couldn't get my running shoes on fast enough.

I messaged, "oh it's on now, but we need to make this fair, do you warm up first before starting your time?"

She responded, "stretch and run." Well shoot, I didn't even think to stretch. Something else she taught me to help improve.

So I stretched and I was off to a challenged time. I was about half way through the park when I heard "Lannnnneeyyyyyy."

It was Katrina and her husband Kyle on bikes sipping on sweet iced coffees. I still wonder if it was sheer coincidence or she was trying to throw me off my game. I know her only other sibling is an older brother, she was raised to be competitive.

Either way the rest of my run I couldn't help but chuckle to myself and my run was little bit more enjoyable in the 85 degree heat.

You see, it was a competition but a friendly one. When I couldn't challenge myself to run a longer distance, I told her I needed her to do it first. She sets the tone for me, she is my pace setter.

And on days when I am putting it off, she has like this spidey sense to know when to message me to kick my butt into gear.

I found myself kicking the big acorns out of our running path so she wouldn't roll an ankle too. She has inspired me to go harder and do better.

I asked her one day, "do you want to try to do this forever?" Her response hit me right down to my bones.

"As long as I can, for sure. I want my kids to see the importance of movement and exercise. I used to see Patty Meents and Kim Jansen's crew running every morning when I would be leaving for work. I would always tell myself I want be that fit when I am older. My mom started walking a little over a year ago and she's up to 8 miles some days. Running is definitely something I want to hold on to for many reasons."

And there you have it, it was women who inspired her too.

The older I get the more I realize how important it is to have strong wise girlfriends to not just lean on but inspire me. And as much as social media can be a curse, maybe we can change the narrative to inspire healthy lifestyles and the wisdom that comes with age.

Rec Bike Club to host six rides starting with Wauponee Trail

The Forest Preserve District of Will County has scheduled six bike rides as part of a special Rec Bike Club series this fall.

Participants will bike a range of 5 to 10.5 miles on trails throughout the District.

"The mileage for each route varies with our shortest ride at the end of the season since the sun will be setting earlier," said Em Wilcher, the Forest Preserve's recreation coordinator who will lead the

rides.

Registration is available on the Event Calendar at ReconnectWithNature.org and is required for each ride. Participants can register for as many rides as they want, from one to all six.

Those who complete all six rides will get a T-shirt. The rides are for ages 16 or older.

Saturday rides are from 9 to 11 a.m. and Wednesday rides are from 3 to 5 p.m. Here is the Rec

Bike Club ride schedule:

- Saturday, Sept. 21 – Wauponee Glacial Trail South, Forked Creek – Ballou Road Access, Wesley Township; 9 miles.

- Wednesday, Sept. 25 [5] – Rock Run Greenway Trail – Black Road Access, Joliet; 7.5 miles.

- Saturday, Oct. 5 – Old Plank Road Trail – Washington Street Access, Joliet; 10 miles.

- Wednesday, Oct. 9 – Wauponee Glacial Trail North, Sugar Creek

Administration Center on Laraway Road, Joliet; 10.5 miles.

- Saturday, Oct. 19 [8] – Hickory Creek Preserve – Hickory Creek Barrens, New Lenox Township; 9.5 miles.

- Wednesday, Oct. 23 [9] – Messenger Marsh, Homer Glen; 5 miles.

Three of the rides are on crushed limestone and three are on paved paths.

"The pace will be comfortable for a group including riders who have less experience, so this is a great entry point for anyone who has considered trying a program but is not confident they can take on longer distances," Wilcher said.

Made for movies money



Photo courtesy Wilmington Police Dept.

A COUNTERFEIT \$100 bill that was discovered at Circle K gas station on West Baltimore St. on Friday had the town buzzing. The C-Note is clearly marked "For Motion Picture Use," which made folks wonder whether Tom Cruise or Brad Pitt or someone famous may have stopped in town. A photo of the bill showed up on the Wilmington Police Department's Facebook page, featuring a rather dyspeptic likeness of Ben Franklin, who apparently resented being featured on phony currency. "Nobody actually tried to use it, that we know of," Wilmington Police Chief, Adam Zink, said. "But, it was found in the gas station parking lot and was turned in to us."



Preserving Assets from Generation to Generation

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

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

FM
FISHER MEENTS LLC



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

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

Lisa Marie's
HAIR SALON

- Men
- Women
- Children

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

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

INSURANCE
AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS • PROPERTY
MOTORCYCLE • REC VEHICLES • WATERCRAFT • LIABILITY

WEESIP LIQUORS

	Sun Cruiser 4 pk \$1.00 OFF
Samuel Adams Boston Lager or Octoberfest 12 pk btls \$15.99	\$2.00 OFF 8 pk
Casamigos Tequila 750ml \$3.00 OFF	Stella Rosa Wine 750ml \$2.00 OFF
Ketel One Vodka 750 ml \$2.00 OFF	Jameson Irish Whiskey All Flavors 750 ml \$2.00 OFF
Basil Hayden Bourbon 750 ml \$3.00 OFF	Malibu Rum 750ml \$2.00 OFF
\$4.00 OFF 1.75L	\$3.00 OFF 1.75L

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

Offers good through September 24, 2024
1099 S. Water St., Wilmington • 815-476-2764

Listen to what your heart is telling you.

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

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

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

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

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

Office locations in Channahon, Dwight, Morris and Ottawa

MORRIS HOSPITAL
CARDIOVASCULAR
SPECIALISTS

www.morrishospital.org/cvspecialists

OBITUARIES

Doris K. Alderson

COAL CITY—Doris K. Alderson, 84, of Coal City, formerly of Wilmington, passed away Friday, Aug. 30, 2024 at the Lightways Hospice Home in Joliet.

Born Jan. 18, 1940 in Mt. Vernon, IL, Doris Kay was a daughter of Russell and Eunice (Storment) Ore. She was raised in Mt. Vernon and moved to the Wilmington area with her family, graduating from high school and later relocating to Coal City. Doris retired from Johnson & Johnson in Wilmington where she worked in manufacturing. She attended Coal City United Methodist Church.

Doris had a special relationship with her two sisters, Carol Robinson and Evelyn Jones, and also with her nephew, Bob Robinson, and niece, Carrie Held, both of whom offered special support to her in recent years.

Survivors include her two children: Charles (Toni) Peitzmeyer, of Edwardsville, IL and Russelle (Brent) Holsinger, of Columbus, OH; four grandchildren: Mary,



Carly and Zac Peitzmeyer and Will Holsinger; three great-grandchildren: Max, Kylor and Zoey; one sister, Evelyn (the late Jim) Jones, of Springfield, IL and several nieces and nephews.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Carol Robinson.

Cremation rites have been accorded, and the family will receive friends for a memorial visitation at Reeves Funeral Home, 75 N. Broadway St., one block north of IL Route 113, in Coal City on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024 from 9 a.m. until the time of the memorial service at 10:30 a.m.

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

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

Nancy Calhoun

WILMINGTON— Nancy M. Calhoun, 87 and a lifelong resident of Wilmington, passed away Monday, Sept. 9, 2024 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee.

Born July 30, 1937 at home in Wilmington, Nancy Mae was a daughter of Golden and Avia (Mansfield) Howard. She was raised and educated in Wilmington and attended the Wilmington Public Schools. On Aug. 15, 1953, Nancy married Albert Louis Calhoun in Joliet and together they made a home and raised their family.

Nancy made her career with Johnson and Johnson Personal Products, where she dedicated 27 years of loyal service before her retirement. Beyond her professional life, she was a member of St. Rose Church in Wilmington, giving back to her community through her more than 30 years of volunteer work with Kuzma Care Cottage. She was also an active Cub Scout leader during her children's early years and proudly contributed to the Wilmington VFW Auxiliary through her past membership.

A woman of many talents and passions, Nancy had a unique love for raising rabbits, which she exhibited locally and at the State Fair. Her dedication to this passion spanned over two decades as a member of the rabbit association. A true testament to her spirit, she earned a black belt in Jujitsu and actively competed in tournaments—a remarkable achievement that highlighted her strength and determination.

Nancy will be remembered for her fierce independence, strong will, and unwavering dedication to her family, friends, and community. Her legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched, and she will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Survivors include two children: Michael (Donna) Calhoun of Braidwood and Juanita Yeates of Wilmington; grandchildren: Pam (Bill) Raber of Columbia, SC, Katherine (Brandon) Johnson of Peoria, IL, Samantha (Nicholas) Montgomery of Mesa, AZ, Theresa Yeates



of Kankakee, Rhonda (Don) Thomas of Seymour, TN, Patrick Jr. (Ashley) Calhoun of Toledo, IL, Christina (Phil) Russell of Stewardson, IL, Albert Calhoun of Wilmington and Victoria (Steven) Erickson and Katrina Calhoun, both of Dwight; (19) great grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; one sister, Mary Schmidberger of Dwight and two sisters-in-law: Barb Howard and Donna Howard, both of Wilmington, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Nancy was preceded in death by her parents; husband Albert in 1982; three sons: Jerry Calhoun, Phillip Calhoun and Patrick Calhoun; four brothers: Wesley (Mary Ellen) Howard, Donald Howard, George Howard and Larry (Daphne) Howard; three sisters: Ethel (Bill) Neese, Martha Lavada (James) Scholey and Sophie (Tony) Surtasky, and brothers and sisters-in-law.

Cremation rites have been accorded. The family will receive friends for a memorial visitation at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 East Kahler Road in Wilmington on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Funeral services will follow in St. Rose Catholic Church, 604 S. Kankakee Street in Wilmington at 11:30 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be presided with Rev. Sebastian Gargol presiding.

Inurnment will be in Oakwood Cemetery, Wilmington where Nancy will be laid to rest with her late husband, Albert.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Nancy's memory to Kuzma Care Cottage, 635 S. Main Street, Wilmington, IL 60481.

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

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

Jeff Mills

COAL CITY— Jeff "Bodean" Mills, 58 of Coal City, and formerly of Wilmington, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024 at his home.

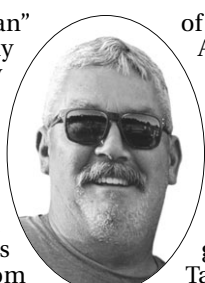
Born on May 23, 1966, in Joliet, Jeffrey is a son of Bonnie (nee Cooling) and the late Thomas Kane Mills. He grew up in Wilmington, where he received his education and graduated from Wilmington High School with the Class of 1985. Bodean began his career with Laborers Local #75 at Long Concrete in Wilmington and later transitioned to Brieser Construction, ultimately working with JM Electric.

Bodean was known for his generous spirit and dedication to the community, having volunteered as a firefighter with the Wilmington Fire Department and coaching girls travel softball for many years. In addition to holding the title of "Coach Jeffy" he was the embodiment of the phrase "Jack of all Trades," always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. Remembered as 'strong as an ox', Bodean's vibrant spirit could be summed up in words like bold, extraordinary, magnificent, and certainly "The Man." Witty and full of life, he could rarely keep a straight face, bringing smiles to those around him. He was not only a wonderful father but also a guiding light and father figure to many, leaving behind a legacy of love that resonated deeply with friends and family alike.

An avid lover of the outdoors, Bodean found joy in lake life and cherished time spent at the family home in Florida. He was a devoted dog dad to his beloved pets: Sophie, Diesel, Lilly, Zeke, and the late Zoey. His warmth, reliability, and strong character left a lasting impression on everyone he met.

Bodean's legacy as a true-life coach, embodied being a devoted husband, father, and papa, as well as best friend to many. He was not only a bonus dad to many but also a shining example of kindness and support. Whether it be in the Dunkin' drive thru, around the lake community or at the kids school, Bodean will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. His love and guidance will continue to resonate within the hearts of his family and friends.

Survivors include his mother, Bonnie



of Wilmington; wife, Lyndsay; kids: Andrew (Sabrina) Glastetter, Nicholas (Sadey) Glastetter, Logan Mills, Jayda Mills (Aidan Kay), Ava Mills and Abigail Mills, and later in life a father figure to Austin (Alyssa) Fatlan and Christian (Faith) Matheny, as well as so many others; five grandchildren: Maverick, Kinsley, Taytum, Hayden and Harper; two brothers, Thomas "Cork" (Mira) Mills and Richard Mills; one sister, Cindi Mills (the late Bill Bailey); three uncles: Jerry (Kari) Mills, Dave (the late Yoshi) Cooling and John (Carrie) Cooling; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Greg and Kathy Hill; two sisters-in-law: Lisa Hill and Burgundy (Chuck) Lander; nieces and nephews: Nikki Mills, Becky (Jay) Erk, Tommy (June) Mills, Blake Mills, Cody (Anna) Mills, Jenny Mills (Jake Vance), Josh Bailey, Jeremy (Tori) Bailey, Madison Lander and Cameron Lander (Fiance' Ashleigh Coster), and numerous great nieces and great nephews, as well as countless friends.

Jeff was preceded in death by his father, Thomas; one niece, Erika Bauermeister and two aunts, Terri Limbach and Bobbie (Harold) Hall.

The family will receive friends for a visitation at Reeves Funeral Home, 75 North Broadway (one block north of Illinois Route 113) in Coal City on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024 between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Cremation rites will be accorded at the conclusion of the visitation and a memorial service will follow Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in the funeral home. Rev. Josh Miller from Assumption Catholic Parish will preside, and Jeff will be laid to rest in Braceville-Gardner Cemetery.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Jeff's memory to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland or to Megan's Mission Foundation.

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

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

Marlene Gurney

COAL CITY—Marlene Gurney, 74, of Coal City, formerly of Cicero, IL, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, Sept. 13, 2024, at Ascension St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet.

Born Oct. 31, 1949, in Chicago, Marlene was a daughter of Ernest and Lillie (Pickett) Olson. She was raised and educated in Chicago, and on Nov. 29, 1966, she married Robert "Dan" Gurney Sr. and together they would make their home in Cicero.

Marlene's priority in her life was that of being the best wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother to her family. She was the matriarch of her family, always ensuring that her children knew they were loved and taken care of. Marlene was inseparable from her husband, doing nearly everything together as a team. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star at Berwyn Lodge #839 and made time for herself on Thursdays to go bowling with her sisters. Marlene and Dan moved to Wisconsin in 2005 after Dan retired but moved back to Illinois in 2011. She will be most remembered for her feisty, determined spirit and her devotion to her family.



Survivors include her two children: Christine Gurney-LaChance, of Coal City and Robert "Dan" (Jenice) Gurney Jr., of Lake City, FL; eight grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren; two brothers and two sisters: Darlene (Steve) Preston, of Ocala, FL; Denise (the late Tom) Tennant, of Forest View, IL and Dennis and Dean Olson, both of Wisconsin; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Marlene was preceded in death by her parents; her beloved husband, Dan Gurney on May 26, 2017; one sister, Shirley Olson, and two brothers, Ronald and Robert Olson.

Per Marlene's wishes, cremation rites are being accorded and she will be laid to rest at a later date with her husband.

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

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

Darla Hutton

COAL CITY—Darla Rose Hutton, 76, and a lifelong resident of Coal City, passed away Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024 at Serenity Nursing and Rehabilitation in Morris.

Born Jan. 10, 1948, in Joliet, Darla was a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Vaira) Stehlik. She graduated from Coal City High School with the class of 1966, and on May 17, 1969 she married Ronald L. Hutton with whom she would share 42 years of marriage until he passed away in 2012. As a young woman, Darla worked for APSCA at the Joliet Arsenal Army Ammunition Plant, and later held employment with Heap Insurance Company in Morris and with Belletini's and Testa's IGA grocery stores in Coal City.

But her role of wife and mother was most important to Darla. She was an active participant in her daughter's activities growing up, providing tech crew support for dance recitals and even traveling abroad with the dance company. Her family would also enjoy many trips to the Area Number One Outdoor Club in Wilmington, creating many foundational memories. Later Darla retired from working to become a full-time grandma, devoting her time to grandchildren.

In her spare time, she kept active with her regular Thursday night bowling league at Riverfront Lanes in Wilmington and golfing at High Point Golf Course in Essex and Wolf Creek Golf Course in Pontiac. Darla's die hard support of the Green Bay Packers and the Chicago White Sox will be remembered by many, but her love and



support of her family will be her true legacy.

Survivors include her daughter, Ronette (Mike) Ksiazak, of Coal City; three grandchildren: McKenzie and Caden Hennessy and Jaxon Ksiazak; one brother, Joe Stehlik, of Nevada; three sisters-in-law: Angie Hutton, of Morris; Joyce (Louie) Bohlander, of New Lenox and Marilyn (Jerry) Sutter, of Sebastian, FL and numerous nieces and nephews.

Darla was preceded in death by her parents and husband; two daughters, Mindy and Michelle Hutton; three brothers-in-law: Jimmy Hutton, Roger (Cheryl) Hutton, and Bruce Hutton; one nephew, Bruce John Hutton, and her cousin and dear friend for many years, Marie Swanson.

The family will receive friends for a visitation at Reeves Funeral Home, 75 N. Broadway St., one block north of IL Route 113, in Coal City on Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024 from 11 a.m. until the funeral service at 1 p.m. Interment will follow at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, where Darla will be laid to rest with her husband.

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

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

Neva Weymer

Neva Weymer, beloved mother, sister, grandmother, aunt and friend, passed away peacefully, leaving behind a legacy of love, warmth, and cherished memories.

Neva was the devoted mother of three children: Elizabeth, George, and Paul, who adored her dearly. She was the loving wife of the late George Joseph Weymer, with whom she shared many happy years. Neva was also a proud grandmother to her four grandchildren: Samantha, James, Timothy and Grace Harvey, who brought her immense joy and love.

Born to Alberta Marietta (née Bullock) Murray and Marion "Shorty" Perigo Vote, Neva grew up in Southern Indiana alongside her siblings, Loretta Lacy (Vote) and Paul (Marion) Vote. Her father, Marion, worked as a Draftsman for Peabody Coal Company and the Tecumseh Mine in Boonville, IN. Alberta started Neva and Loretta in dance lessons early in life, and the two sisters performed in numerous talent shows and county fairs across Indiana, fostering Neva's lifelong love for the arts.

As a young high school girl, Neva worked at her grandparents' restaurant, Bullock's Café, a popular stop on Route 66 known for great food and community spirit. During her high school years, Neva was well-liked by her peers and was elected Cotton Ball Queen at the annual Cotton Ball, a distinction that highlighted her charm and popularity.

After the family moved to Wilmington, Neva completed high school before pursuing higher education at Kendal and Northern. She earned a teaching degree and taught grade school for a few years, but soon found her true passion in production work, serving as a production assistant for small companies in the



Chicago area. Neva's life was filled with many interests and talents. She was an avid reader, an exceptional cook, and loved dancing and the fine arts. Her children often begged her for their favorite dishes, which she prepared with love. She was also a passionate sports fan, cheering on college basketball teams and enjoying Chicago Bears games with her late husband, George Joseph Weymer.

Neva was deeply committed to her family and community. She was a Den Mother for young George's Cub Scouts and a constant presence at her children's sports events. As an active member of the Spencer Highlands Association, Neva served as secretary, participated in the card parties, bake sales and organized many of the Spencer Highlands Beach Parties, bringing neighbors together in joyful celebration.

Neva was also a loving mother-in-law to Elizabeth's husband, Timothy Francis Harvey, and George's wife, Neimko Weymer, welcoming them warmly into the family.

In addition to being a devoted mother and grandmother, Neva was a special aunt to Brenda, Cathy, Stephanie, Samantha, Jason, Jon, Josh, Patrick, Jackie and Katie, all of whom held a unique place in her heart.

Neva's generosity, kindness, and dedication to her loved ones will be fondly remembered by all who knew her. Her spirit lives on through her children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and the many lives she touched throughout her life.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024, at Transfiguration Catholic Church, 348 W. Mill St., Wauconda. Inurnment followed in Transfiguration Cemetery, Wauconda.

Lady Panther season comes to end

The Reed-Custer Middle School "A" softball team ended their season in a regional loss to Wilmington, 19-7.

Reed-Custer's Macey Steichen pitched four innings with one strikeout, two walks and gave up 15 hits.

Izzy Monroe went 2-for-3 and had two stolen bases. Avery Vanek went 2-for-2 with one walk. Ava Poralish went 1-for-3 and had one RBI.

On Wednesday RCMS defeated Shabbona 8-1.

Avery Vanek went 2-for-4 with a double. Izzy Monroe went 1-for-4 with one RBI.

Macey Steichen pitched seven innings for RCMS with six strikeouts, three walks and gave up two hits.

The Lady Panthers complete the season with a 4-11 record.

OBITUARIES

William Bowker Jr.

WILMINGTON—William "Billy" Bowker Jr., 67, of Wilmington, passed away Sept. 12, 2024 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee.

Born June 21, 1957, in Joliet, William Paul was a beloved son of William and Helen (Fink) Bowker. He was born and raised in Wilmington, and graduated Wilmington High School with the class of 1976. During high school William began working at Hauck Oil, working alongside his father. His professional journey continued as a truck driver before he eventually joined the Local 75 Laborers Union, where he proudly worked until his retirement.

William enjoyed doing yard work and riding his scooter around the neighborhood. His greatest passion was riding his motorcycle—he loved nothing more than taking joyrides around town, feeling the wind and sun on the open road. Known and loved by many, William had a way of leaving a lasting impression on all who knew him. His presence will be deeply missed, but his memory will forever live on in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know him.

Survivors include two sisters, Delena Boze and Delma (Don) Wills; one brother,



Rob (Cherie) Bowker and his brother-in-law, Jeff Hollis. He was cherished by several cousins and numerous nieces and nephews, and his special family by choice: Dave (Ann) Hill, Brittany (Lawrence) Painter, Jake (Lexi Bucciarelli) Hill and Colter Jakob Hill.

William was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Mavoureen Hollis; one brother-in-law, John Boze and his niece, Patty Crum.

Cremation rites have been accorded, and graveside services will be held at Oakwood Cemetery, 700 Williams St., in Wilmington on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024 at 11 a.m.

Donations may be made in William's name to the charity of the donor's choice. A graveside service will be held at Oakwood Cemetery in Wilmington on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024, at 11 a.m.

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

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

Jettisoning coal as an electricity source

Dear EarthTalk: Where do we stand in jettisoning coal as an electricity source?

- K.N. via email

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Before dinosaurs roamed the earth, large plants grew and died in swampy forests. In the eons that followed, layers of rock and dirt covered the plants, and heat and pressure turned them into a substance high in carbon and hydrocarbons: Coal.

The history of coal mining is a dark tale of child labor, black lung disease and an untold number of miners blown up in mining accidents. Research started in 1980 found that acid rain was caused by burning coal, and thus coal's negative impact on ecosystems became clearer as well. This spurred industries into action and \$1 billion was spent on air pollution control equipment.

Yet, 44 years later, coal remains the world's largest source of electricity generation, with coal demand hitting a historic high in 2022. In 2023, two-thirds of coal-burning plants in the works were in China, which accounts for 60 percent of global coal usage.

Despite the known risks, it has proven challenging to get away from this energy source, partially due to the difficulties presented by clean energy sources.

Solar power, or light from the sun that is converted into energy by photovoltaic cells, is restricted by geography—its use is impacted by weather, clouds and tree cover. Wind power may not be cost-competitive in areas that lack wind, and ideal sites to set up wind turbines are often in remote areas.

Hydropower, which takes advantage of the movement of waterways, can be less practical in areas where wind slows the current or drought dries up reservoirs. Despite this, technological advances and advocacy against climate change bring greater hope to improvements implementation of renewable energy sources.

The COP28 and G7 agreements are a formal capture of that hope. COP28, which occurred at the end of 2023, resulted in a call from the United Nations for governments to speed up their transition away from fossil fuels. G7 followed shortly after, as the U.S., Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United Kingdom came together and signed a deal to end the use of full-strength power plants between 2030 and 2035.

Critics argue that too

much leeway is given to countries heavily reliant on coal, but it is a strong signal from industrialized democracies that the transition away from coal should be a priority.

Consumers can help the movement away from coal by opting for renewable energy sources, either by selecting them from your utility's offerings or installing your own solar panels (or wind turbines) where you live or work.

If electricity generated by burning coal is the only option where you live, make your home and office as energy efficient as possible and do your best to reduce the amount of electricity you use.

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

The Editors of EarthTalk apologize for the misuse of a DuPont trademark and regret any confusion we caused in our column of July 21, 2024. For an updated, corrected version of the article, please check out the following link: <https://lemagazine.com/expanded-polystyrene-ban/>



DESPITE MAJOR EFFORTS underway to transition to renewables, coal still remains the world's largest source of electricity.

WILMINGTON CHAMBER

4th

AUTUMN FESTIVAL OF CRAFTS

October 13

FREE ADMISSION - FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

NORTH ISLAND PARK
10:00AM - 4:00PM
RAIN OR SHINE



JURIED CRAFT SHOW
FOOD TRUCKS
WINE GARDEN
LIVE MUSIC
VINTAGE ITEMS
PUMPKIN PAINTING

FOR MORE INFORMATION & VENDOR APPLICATIONS

www.wilmingtonchamber.org/crafts



Braceville All Town Garage Sale

Braceville's All Town Garage Sales will be held Saturday, Oct. 5, from 8 a.m. to closing. Get your basements, closets and garages cleaned out and have a big sale. The more the merrier. Nothing like getting rid of your junk and making a little money.

Braidwood Presbyterian Women to host scrapathon

The Braidwood Presbyterian Women will be holding their annual Fall Scrapathon Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the church on 106 S. Lincoln Street.

The cost is \$40. This year's theme will be pumpkins. Delicious food will be served throughout the day along with some great raffles and door prizes.

Anyone interested in signing up and reserve your spot before they are gone please call or text Elizabeth Bell at 405-820-5944.

PEOPLE WHO READ NEWSPAPERS ARE
EDUCATED VOTERS
It all starts with newspapers

Dr. William M. White
Family Dentistry
- New patients
- Emergency visits welcome
All forms of insurance accepted

267 S. Broadway, Co
Call (815) 634

Coming Soon
New Wilmington Office

YOUR NEW HOME
DESERVES THE
BEST PROTECTION

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

Contact me today and get the protection you deserve.

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & its Operating Companies, American Family Life Insurance Company, 6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53785
©2020 19714-421-14732130

Gerald Gresham
815-729-3570
815-476-6364
teamgresham@amfam.com
Email: ggresham@amfam.com

BEAT THE HEAT!

Enjoy year-round comfort with a reliable and energy-efficient home cooling system.

Finance your new AC System for as little as **\$50** per month

\$100 INSTANT REBATE!

A/C CHECKUP \$89⁹⁹

BREEZE-AIR
Local, Trusted Company
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
413 Davy Lane, Wilmington
Call (815) 476-6615

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
BBB Rating: A+

Spend the day with the Goose Lake Prairie Partners.
Bring lawn chairs, blankets, bug spray, sun hats and enjoy the day!

26th Annual Prairie Day - September 21, 2024

Prairie Grove Picnic Area* at Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area
5010 North Jugtown Road, Morris, IL 60450
From 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Sponsored by Dresden Clean Energy Center
Assisted by the Goose Lake Prairie Partners & the GLPSNA Staff

*Events of the Day – 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- Falcon Show and Tell, with Richard Escutia.
- Illinois Conservation Police Wildlife Mobile Exhibit with Conservation Police Officer Wessels assisting.
- Jackie & Gerrik Grove explaining Animal Rescue & Rehab.
- Louis P. Aiello, Jr. teaching from the American Indian Traveling Exhibit
- Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Staff giving Program Information on Midewin
- IDNR Fisheries – Learn basic casting techniques & play casting games.

*Special Performers

- Dave DiNazo's Traveling World of Reptiles for children of all ages.
10:30 a.m.-11:40 a.m.
- Nick Bartholomew - Illinois Storm Chasers
12 Noon - 1:00 p.m.
- Prairie Wagon Rides with Chris Danek.
See Ticket Agent for Free Tickets & Ride Schedule.
- Urban Fisheries Clinic – Youth Casting demonstrations with IDNR handouts & giveaways.
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Park Amenities

- The Prairie Partner Gift Shop and Food Tent (Brats, Hot Dogs, & Hamburgers) will be available in the Prairie Grove. We accept cash or check.
- The Jug Town Picnic Area, Butterfly Barn, and Park Trails will be open
- Miss Brenda's Little Schoolhouse in Prairie Grove

Visit gooselakeprairie.org and Goose Lake Prairie Partners Facebook page for more information. There is no rain date for this event.



Prairie Blazing Star

A Raffle for the Insects.

- "An Insect Backpack" raffle will be held at 2:30 p.m. in the Gift Shop tent. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each & six for \$5.00. Ticket sales are in the Gift Shop until the drawing. (More information on our website)
- Winner may pick up the Insect's Backpack Prize after the 2:30 p.m. drawing. The Pack must be picked up by October 5 or another winner will be drawn.

NOTE : Cragg Cabin Will Not be open but take a peek in the windows. The Visitor Center is closed indefinitely.



Driving Directions: Take Route 47 South of the Illinois River to Pine Bluff Road; East about 5 ½ miles to Jugtown Rd. Watch for park sign. Take I-55 South of Kankakee River; take Lorenzo Rd West 6 ½ miles; watch for park sign. Turn North on Jugtown Rd. Continue on to the Prairie Grove.



Photos courtesy Charlie Boyd
The CONSTELLATION Midwest Fire Training Academy near Morris offers unique buildings for training including this one that is set afire allowing for entry and live fire behavior. Students from 24 area departments got first-hand experience Sept. 8 during the annual PowWow 2024 classes.



THE LATEST TOOL for firefighters performing a wilderness search and rescue is the use of drones to cover wooded areas and corn fields where access can be difficult. Teaching drone usage during the fire training academy was Jessica Boyd.



PUMP SIMULATOR—The Chief Shabbona Firefighters' Association uses a simulator to train new firefighters on the operations of pumps and related controls. The course was offered Sept. 8 as part of the Pow Wow 2024 fire school for area departments.

Pow Wow 2024 focuses on firefighting training

STAFF REPORT

Over 50 area first responders gained valuable training experience during an annual academy hosted by the Chief Shabbona Firefighters' Association.

On Sunday, May 8, firefighters, EMTs, and trainees from more than 24 agencies took part in training designed to heighten their skills and arm them with information on emergency response.

The Chief Shabbona Pow Wow Fire School once again brought attendees through courses from basic firefighting to specialized emergency response at the Constellation Midwest Training Center near Morris.

Instructors and students from Coal City, Wilmington and Braidwood fire districts joined with those from other departments for the annual training event, which dates back to 1971.

There were 17 instructors who directed recruits and veterans alike on basic firefighting techniques, the



BUILDING ENTRY during the Pow Wow 2024 fire training included firefighting and hose handling techniques while entering a smoke-filled room.

operation of pumps, building comprehension and wilderness search and rescue.

The basic skills training course covered fired safety, fire behavior, use of ladders, hose handling techniques and live fire behavior including a flashover simulator.

Braidwood Fire Board member Charlie Boyd said the fire training academy is unique in that it offers situations that individual departments cannot replicate like the fire flashover and a pump simulator that has all the controls of a regular fire engine.

The simulator allowed instructors to discuss the types of pumps, pump controls, establishing water supply from a draft and hydrants and relaying pumping operations. It also allowed for troubleshoot-

ing of common problems.

Under the building comprehension class, firefighters learned about general architecture and features of single and multi-family dwellings, for flats and duplexes, townhomes and apartment structures.

The wilderness search and rescue program offered training for dealing with a missing person situation in urban, rural and wooded areas. Search operations have to include the recognition of weather, environmental concerns, appropriate clothing, PPE equipment and the mitigation of incident hazards. It also outlined instruction for boots on the ground search techniques and land navigation.

Boyd said participants earned eight hours of continuing education credit.

Methodist church to host dinner with music

Coal City United Methodist Church (6805 E. McArdule Road) invites you to join them for an evening of music and dinner on Saturday, Oct. 5, beginning at 5 p.m.

A piano concert by Clare Everitt, talented and accomplished pianist, will cover many genres of music...Debussy to Adele. The dinner will include ham & beans, corn bread, beverage and dessert. The cost for the evening is \$15 per person. Everyone is welcome and invited to attend.



**RELIABLE, FAST & AFFORDABLE
INTERNET SERVICE**

Mention this ad and receive
FREE INSTALLATION—Call Today!



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



The Brandon Pink Foundation, Project Pinky; Brandon's Ride

**The Brandon Pink Foundation
Suicide Prevention Fundraiser**

**Join us on October 5th, 2024
From 9am - 4pm**

**Location: Top Fuel Saloon Parking Lot.
275 S Hickory St Braidwood, IL 60408**

Crafts & Venders, Raffles/50/50, Music & More
Restaurant & Grill will be open serving food.
Bring the family out and show your support.

If you would like to sign up to join the ride visit us on
Facebook @ Project Pinky Brandon's Ride or projectpinky.org
If you are interested in helping or donating call 815-210-4623



Project Pinky started as a memorial ride for Brandon Pink in order to bring awareness of the epidemic of suicide around the country, and especially here close to home. We wish no other families have to feel the pain, loss, and grief we have had to experience.

Our site offers resources, both national and local.

Someone is always listening.

If you are in crisis, please call 9-8-8



CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

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

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

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

Cost

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

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

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Large one bedroom apartment in Gardner for rent. On second floor with private entrance \$625 per month. One year lease required. One month deposit required. Water, sewer and garbage included. Tenant pays electric. Available October 5. No dogs. No washer, dryer connection. Criminal background check needed. Text preferred. 815-277-6018. cc37

BOATS

Selling 1998 StarCraft 1709. Fish and Ski with 115 Mercury and trailer. Minn Kota Power Drive v2 bow mount trolling motor, with quick release and protective cover to clear the way for comfortable riding on the cushioned bow. Hummingbird 587 ci HD down imaging depth/ fish finder with GPS. Integrated ladder on swim platform to easily board the boat. Transom saver for smooth towing. \$6,000. Call or text 815-347-7760.

DUPLEX FOR RENT

Two bed, one bath. Washer, dryer, stove, and refrigerator included. Central air. Utilities not included. \$850/month plus \$1,000 security dep. No pets and no smoking (firm). Email Jill @ islandcityrentals55@gmail.com for an application. cc38-40

SHOP YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES!

GARAGE SALES

Braceville All-Town Garage Sales. Saturday, October 5 from 8AM-4PM or later. Lots of sales. Watch for signs. Food and drinks available in front of the school. cc38-40

Coal City - 1023 S. Mason St. Thurs., Sept. 19, 10AM-1PM & 3:30PM-6:30PM, Fri., Sept. 20, 12PM-6PM, Sat., Sept. 21, 8AM-Noon. Womens, juniors, plus size clothes. Tween girls and boys clothes. Men's shoes, decor & much more. cc38

Coal City - 255 West 4th St. Multi-Family. Thurs., Sept. 19, 4PM-6:30PM, Fri., Sept. 20, 8:30AM-6PM Sat., Sept. 21, 8:30AM-4PM. Household items, lamps, bedding, assorted fall & Christmas decor. Baskets, women's and men's clothing, Halloween costumes. ca38

HOMES FOR RENT

Coal City, 85 W. Center Street. 3BR, 1BA, all appliances included, 1 car attached garage. \$1,150 a month with 1-yr lease, first-last & security dep., credit checks. Call Terri 815-712-7848. cc38-41

Wilmington, 1 BR, stove, refrigerator (courtesy), \$850 mo. Security deposit, first month's rent and lease. No smoking, no pets. Utilities not included. 815-931-9537. ck35-38

HOMES FOR RENT

Two bed, one bath. Washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator, and shed included. Utilities not included. \$1,200/month plus \$1,000 security deposit. No pets and no smoking (firm). Email Jill @ islandcityrentals55@gmail.com for an application. cc38-40

LOST & FOUND

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Hall Rental - Available for parties, showers & meetings. Seats 100 people, full kitchen available. If interested call New Hope Presbyterian Church in Coal City, 815-634-8332. ch 27a-tfn

PETS

Large Selection of Dog and Cat Food, treats, accessories, health aids, clothing, Birthday treats, wall art, jewelry, gifts, greeting cards and Home of Fritters for Critters Pet Treats. New! Brew and Chew Dog Treats. Trinity Barkery 240 W. Baltimore Wilmington, IL 60481 815-476-5104 slewis@trinity-services.org. ch22b-tfn

WE ♥ OUR READERS

SERVICE & REPAIRS

FIREWOOD, Cherry BBQ firewood \$169. Dry, seasoned, oak firewood \$169, mixed woods \$149, plus delivery. **CAMPING & BBQ FIREWOOD**. Quick, friendly service. 815-260-0108. cc37

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

Relief is just a phone call away. Let me clean your house. Senior discount. 815-388-7743. cc35-38

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

STORAGE

KELLY ROAD STORAGE BOATS*RV*TRAILERS OUTSIDE STORAGE 27040 KELLY RD. Wilmington, Corner of Kelly and Blodgett (old Carpies Cove) 815-405-7337. ca37-40

GRUNDY COUNTY'S #1 HOME SELLER

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

SEE EVERY HOME ON THE MARKET AT **C21.COM**

(815) 942-9190

21
CENTURY 21
Coleman-Hornsbey

99% Customer Satisfaction Rating

STORAGE

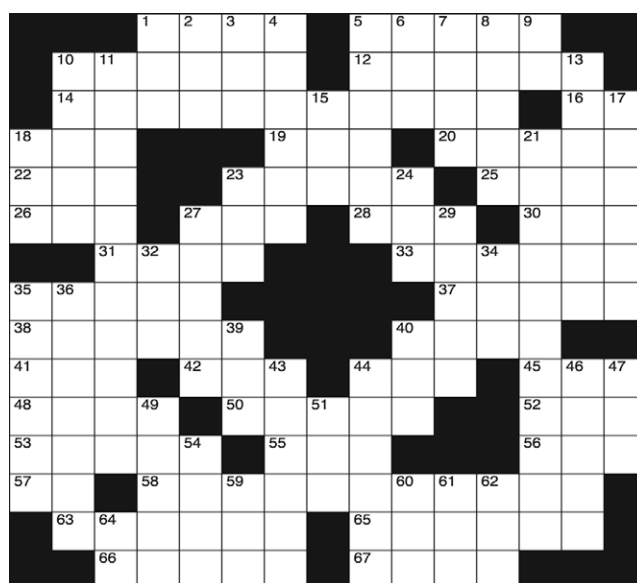
PUBLIC STORAGE
Clementine's Closets
815-530-0200
- No Deposit -
Starting at \$50
515 Davy Lane, Wilmington

WANTED

WANTED SCRAP METAL

- Farm Machinery
- Garden Tractors
- Snowmobiles
- Appliances
- Anything Metal

Free pickup 7 days 815-210-8819



CLUES ACROSS

1. Wrest
5. Russian river
10. Grupo Montparnasse founder
12. One who quits prematurely
14. Related to the nature of being
16. Early multimedia
18. Indigenous Tibetan religion
19. Tease
20. J.M. __, Irish dramatist
22. Pounds per square inch
23. Surrendered
25. Notable Dallas Cowboy
26. Dash
27. Man who behaves dishonorably
28. British Air Aces
30. Data executive
31. Spiritual leader
33. Flower cluster
35. Of the cheek
37. Tears down
38. Uncoordinated
40. Touches lightly
41. Soak
42. Founder of Babism
44. Not good
45. Inches per minute (abbr.)

48. Type of casino game
50. Skills assessments for adults
52. Check
53. Gives a job
55. Fifth note of a major scale
56. Small, faint constellation
57. Thou
58. Reduce
63. Another recording
65. Removes for good
66. Jill and Catherine are two
67. Cruise

CLUES DOWN

1. Greenwich Time
2. Metropolis
3. Complete
4. Scheduled
5. One who obeys
6. Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects
7. Days (Spanish)
8. Unsaturated hydrocarbon radical
9. Region of the U.S. (abbr.)
10. Tributary of the Alabama River
11. One who eliminates

13. Ballroom music
15. Officer in the Book of Mormon
17. Denies
18. Barrels per day (abbr.)
21. Make vital
23. Former NFLer Newton
24. Kashmiri tribe
27. Indigenous S. American person
29. Capacitance unit
32. MLB great
34. Taxi
35. Boggy
36. Artist's workroom
39. Feline
40. Prosecutors
43. Freshwater perches
44. Young ladies
46. Whittles
47. Licensed for Wall Street
49. Type of gene
51. Express displeasure
54. Fly high
59. Norwegian krone
60. Investment account
61. Chinese surname
62. Language
64. By the way (abbr.)

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

JSI CABINETRY **QUARTZ** **SKYLINE CABINETRY**

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

(815) 790-1235

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

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

CubCadet **GRASS HOPPER**
YOUR NEXT MOWER®

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

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

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

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

LIFTED
SPRAY FOAM INSULATION
CONCRETE RAISING

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

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

SHOP LOCAL!

WILMINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
EST. 1958

616 Davy Lane Wilmington

Landscape Supply
Shwood, IL

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

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

FULL COLOR

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

Customized to your liking.
Competitive prices.

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

Mini Storage
CLEMENTINE'S CLOSETS
515 Davy Lane, Wilmington

Affordable Clean, Secure Monthly Rentals

No Deposit Required 815-530-0200

VIKING ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION CORP.
Now Offering IL Public Adjuster Services

FREE PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

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

Licensed Insured Bonded

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

Godley Park District accepting bids for
New 2024/2025 Mini Van

PUBLIC NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID

Godley Park District
500 S. Kankakee Street
Godley, IL 60407
Re: 2024/2025 Mini Van

The Godley Park District (the "District") is accepting bids for the purchase of a NEW 2024/2025 Mini Van and Standard Manufacturer's Warranty. Specifications and Contract Documents may be obtained beginning September 11, 2024 at the District's Administrative Office, 500 S. Kankakee Street, Godley, IL 60407, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Each bid must be placed in a sealed, opaque envelope with the Bidder's name, the date and time of the bid deadline and marked "Sealed Bid: – Godley Park District 2024/2025 Mini Van", and addressed to the Godley Park District, 500 S. Kankakee Street, Godley, IL 60407, **Attention Ken Sorensen, Executive Director**. Bids will be received until **10:00 a.m. on October 4, 2024**, at which time the bid proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Godley Park District Administration Center, 500 S. Kankakee Street, Godley, IL 60407.

The Godley Park District Board of Park Commissioners reserves the right to waive all technicalities, to accept or reject any or all bids, to accept only portions of a proposal and reject the remainder without disclosure for any reason. Failure to make such a disclosure will not result in accrual of any right, claim or cause of action by any Bidder against the District.

Bids shall not include federal excise tax or state sales tax d. An Exemption Certificate will be furnished by the District on request of the Bidder, for use in connection with this purchase only.

The Vendor selected will also be required to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and executive orders including but not limited to those pertaining to equal employment opportunity.

The District encourages women and minority business firms to submit bids and encourages bidders to utilize minority businesses for supplies, equipment and services.

Ken Sorensen, Executive Director
Godley Park District

Published in the Braidwood Journal on Sept. 18, 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICES
Because it's your right to know

Felix Township Treasurer's report on file

PUBLIC NOTICE

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT
Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements
For the Fiscal year ending March 31, 2024

The following is a statement by the Treasurer of Felix Township, Grundy County, Illinois, aforesaid of the amount of Public Funds received and expended by his Funds on hand at the commencement of said fiscal year, the amount of Public Funds received and from what sources received and the amount of Public Funds expended and for what purpose expended during the fiscal year foresaid. This statement is being published in compliance with ILCS 15/1

John P. D'Arcy, Treasurer:
General Corporate Fund (Town Fund)

Cash Balance, April 1, 2023.....	\$230,152
Cash Receipts:	
Property taxes.....	\$112,573
Illinois Replacement Income Taxes.....	2,576
Interest Income.....	6,619
Other Revenues.....	1,323
Interfund Transfer.....	—
Total Cash receipts.....	123,090
	353,242
Cash Disbursements.....	93,850
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Disbursements.....	93,850
Cash Balances, March 31, 2024.....	\$259,391

General Assistance Fund

Cash balance, April 1, 2023.....	\$35,533
Cash Receipts:	
Property Taxes.....	\$1,055
Illinois Replacement Income Taxes.....	—
Interest Income.....	703
Other Revenues.....	—
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Receipts.....	1,758
	37,291
Cash Disbursements.....	11,409
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Disbursements.....	11,409
Cash Balances, March 31, 2024.....	25,882

Road and Bridge Fund

Cash Balances, April 1, 2023.....	\$361,192
Cash Receipts:	
Property Taxes.....	\$292,409
Illinois Replacement Income Taxes.....	16,315
Interest Income.....	7,093
Motor Fuel Tax.....	45,693
Other Revenues.....	7,821
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Receipts.....	369,332
	730,523
Cash Disbursements.....	446,341
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Disbursements.....	446,341
Cash Balances, March 31, 2024.....	\$284,183

Bridge Fund

Cash Balances, April 1, 2023.....	\$371,118
Cash Receipts:	
Property Taxes.....	\$1,054
Illinois Replacement Income Taxes.....	—
Interest Income.....	8,844
Other Revenues.....	—
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Receipts.....	9,898
	381,016
Cash Disbursements.....	—
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Disbursements.....	—
Cash Balances, March 31, 2024.....	\$381,016

Cash Disbursements

Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Disbursements.....	11,409
Cash Balances, March 31, 2024.....	25,882

Road and Bridge Fund

Cash Balances, April 1, 2023.....	\$361,192
Cash Receipts:	
Property Taxes.....	\$292,409
Illinois Replacement Income Taxes.....	16,315
Interest Income.....	7,093
Motor Fuel Tax.....	45,693
Other Revenues.....	7,821
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Receipts.....	369,332
	730,523
Cash Disbursements.....	446,341
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Disbursements.....	446,341
Cash Balances, March 31, 2024.....	\$284,183

Bridge Fund

Cash Balances, April 1, 2023.....	\$371,118
Cash Receipts:	
Property Taxes.....	\$1,054
Illinois Replacement Income Taxes.....	—
Interest Income.....	8,844
Other Revenues.....	—
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Receipts.....	9,898
	381,016
Cash Disbursements.....	—
Interfund Transfers.....	—
Total Cash Disbursements.....	—
Cash Balances, March 31, 2024.....	\$381,016

Cash Disbursements Detail

AT&T.....	3,179
Biros Enterprises.....	18,774
Brandt & Assoc.....	4,150
Chamlin & Assoc.....	22,475
Core & Main.....	27,771
D Construction.....	121,568
Denler.....	21,759
Ford Motor Credit Co.....	35,041
Grainco FS.....	2,654
Grundy Co. Treasurer.....	21,158
Grundy County Highway Dept.....	3,793
Homer Tree Service.....	71,439
Internal Revenue Service.....	7,882
Law Offices of Ancel Glink.....	31,232
Len Fioritto.....	4,200
Menards.....	4,000
Mike Beshoar Tree Service.....	6,350
Sorling Northrup.....	11,118
Stott Contracting.....	5,425
TOIRMA.....	12,155
Tri-County Management.....	9,600
Wermer, Rogers, Doran & Ruzon.....	11,000
Paroll 0-\$25,000.....	58,674
Misc.Vendors (under \$2,500).....	36,205
Total Disbursements.....	551,600
Employees Under \$25,000: Ralph Brooks, John O. D'Arcy, John P. D'Arcy, Chad Grunwald, Michael Kavanaugh, Sherrill Knorr, Kyle Oakes, Melissa Osen, Dylan Skubic, Alan Tjelle, John Trotter, Bill Waliczek, Megan Wharrie, Ryan Wharrie.....	—

Published in the Coal City Courant on Sept. 18, 2024.

Florence - Wilton Multi Township
Treasurer's Report

PUBLIC NOTICE
Florence - Wilton Multi Township Fund
County of Will

Annual Treasurer's Report
Fiscal Year April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

Revenue Summary: Property Taxes \$9,607, Landfill Fees \$2,524, Interest \$1,400
Expenditure Summary over \$1,000 = Mary Tamez \$4,680, US Taxes \$3,186, Fed 941 \$1,009
Misc. under \$1,000.00 = \$2,719
Beginning Balance.....\$68,377
Revenues.....\$13,531
Expenditures.....\$11,591
Ending Balance.....\$70,317

Subscribed and sworn on this 11th day of June, 2024.

William Long, Treasurer,
Florence-Wilton Multi Township

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024.

Florence Township Annual Treasurer's Report

PUBLIC NOTICE

Township of Florence
County of Will

Annual Treasurer's Report
Fiscal Year April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

Town Fund & General Assistance

Town Fund:

Income Summary: Property Taxes \$52,503, Replacement Tax \$20,774, Landfill fees \$27,365, Misc. \$75
Expenditure Summary: over \$2,500: Road & Bridge \$46,000, US IRS \$11,867, Cruitt Solutions \$10,824, A. Robbins \$10,110, Wm. Long \$7,240, TOIRMA \$5,851, J. Siebert \$4192, Misc under \$2,500 = \$8,713.
Compensation Summary: Salaries 10,000 and above, A. Robbins, W. Long.

Salaries Below \$10,000 = D. Beeson, J. Siebert, K. Dillon, S. Siebert, J. Butcher

General Assistance Fund

Revenue Summary: Property Taxes \$2,943
Expenditure Summary: Misc under \$2,500 = \$1,085

Summary Statement of Accounts

	Town Fund	Gen. Assist
Beginning Balance.....	\$72,553.00	\$35,177.00
Revenues.....	\$100,717.00	\$2,943.00
Expenditures.....	\$104,797.00	\$1,085.00
Ending Balance.....	\$64,473.00	\$37,035.00

Subscribed and sworn on this 11th day of June, 2024.

William Long, Supervisor
Florence Township

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024.

Florence Township Road & Bridge
Treasurer's Report

PUBLIC NOTICE

Township of Florence
County of Will

Annual Treasurer's Report
Fiscal Year April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

Road & Bridge, County Aid & Bridge, Building & Equipment Funds

Road & Bridge Fund:

Revenue Summary over \$2,500 = Landfill \$66,930, Property Tax \$58,367, ARPA Grant \$53,164, Town Fund \$46,000, Replacement Tax \$23,888, Don Nugent \$2,500, Misc. under \$2,500 = \$1,410
Expenditure Summary over \$2,500: Grosso Constr. \$50,600, Mac Truck Sales of Decator \$46,000, VCNA Prairie Mat. \$19,754, Grosso Trucking \$15,467, J.R. Castle Constr. \$9,678, Johnston Trucking \$7,876, TMS International \$7,760, Jones Parts & Serv \$7,255, US IRS \$6,825, Norwik Tank \$6,490, John Long \$5,325, Heritage FS \$3,817, Jeff Issert \$2,629, Misc, under \$2,500 = \$1,752.80

County Aid & Bridge Fund

Revenue Summary: Property Taxes \$9,096, Interest \$1283
Expenditure Summary: over \$2,500 = Brieser Constr. \$15,000
Expenditure Summary: under \$2,500 = 0

Buiding & Equipment Fund

Revenue Summary: Double "G" Constr. \$20,000, Property Taxes \$8,338
Expenditure Summary over \$2,500: Manteno Ford \$36,047
Expenditure Summary under \$2,500 - 0

Summary Statement of Accounts

	Road & Bridge Fund	County Aid	Building & Eq
Beginning Balance.....	\$105,172	\$97,542	\$27,211
Revenues.....	\$252,260	\$10,379	\$28,338
Expenditures.....	\$207,007	\$15,000	\$36,047
Ending Balance.....	\$150,425	\$92,921	\$19,502

Subscribed and sworn on this 11th day of June, 2024.

William Long, Supervisor
Florence Township

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024.

Braidwood Plan Commission to consider
annexation of seven properties

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON MAP AMENDMENT AND ANNEXATION
CITY OF BRAIDWOOD PLAN COMMISSION
BRAIDWOOD, ILLINOIS

On **October 7, 2024, at 7:00p.m.**, a public hearing will be held by the Plan Commission of the City of Braidwood at the Braidwood City Hall, 141 W. Main Street, Braidwood, IL 60408, for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony as to the map amendments and annexation of seven (7) properties located in the Prairie View Subdivision described below.

It is requested that all properties described below will be granted a map amendment to R-1 zoning district after being annexed to the City of Braidwood. An accurate map of the properties proposed to be annexed to the City is on file with the City Clerk.

All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard.

By order of the Corporate Authorities of the City of Braidwood, Will County, Illinois

/s/ Sarah Weaver
City Clerk

Properties

- 543 Anndon Street, Braidwood, IL 60408; PIN: 02-24-06-404-009-0000; Legal Description: LOT 2 IN PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD MERIDIAN, ACCORING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 29, 2001 AS DOCUMENT NO R20001082117, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
- 548 Anndon Street, Braidwood, IL 60408; PIN: 02-24-06-403-005-0000; Legal Description: LOT 35 IN PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 29, 2001 AS DOCUMENT NO. 2001-82117, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
- 945 Mabel Court, Braidwood, IL 60408; PIN: 02-24-06-403-002-0000; Legal Description: LOT 32, IN PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 29, 2001 AS DOCUMENT NO. 2001-82117, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
- 956 Mabel Court, Braidwood, IL 60408; PIN: 02-24-06-402-011-0000; Legal Description: LOT 28 IN PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 29, 2001 AS DOCUMENT NO. R2001-82117, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
- 984 Mabel Court, Braidwood, IL; 60408 PIN: 02-24-06-402-009-0000; Legal Description: LOT 30 IN PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 29, 2001 AS DOCUMENT NO. R2001-82117, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
- 954 Mary Lane, Braidwood, IL 60408; PIN: 02-24-06-401-005-0000; Legal Description: LOT 14 IN PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 29, 2001 AS DOCUMENT NO. R2001082117, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
- 976 Mary Lane, Braidwood, IL 60408; PIN: 02-24-06-401-004-0000; Legal Description: LOT 15 IN PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 29, 2001 AS DOCUMENT R2001-82117, EXCEPT THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS BENEATH THE SURFCE AND THE RIGHT TO MINE AND REMOVE THE SAME, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
- OUTLOT A, Mary Lane, Braidwood, IL 60408; PIN: 02-24-06-401-001-0000; Legal Description: OUTLOT A OF PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION IN THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 SECTION OF 6 TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF WILLAND STATE OF ILLINOIS
- OUTLOT B, Mabel Court, Braidwood, IL 60408; PIN: 02-24-06-403-001-0000; Legal Description: OUTLOT B IN PRAIRIE VIEW SUBDIVISION, BRING A SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 9, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 29, 2001 AS DOCUMENT NO. R2001-82117, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Published in The Braidwood Journal on Sept. 18, 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
KENNETH DELMAR RICHARDS, DECEASED)
TO: KENNETH LARAWAY RICHARDS) No. 2024 PR 568

**Rights of Interested Persons During Independent Administration:
Form of Petition to Terminate Administration**

A copy of an order is enclosed granting independent administration of decedent's estate. This means that the executor or administrator will not have to obtain court orders or file estate documents in court during probate. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless an interested person asks the court to become involved. Under section 28-4 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person may terminate independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk of the court. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. However, if there is a will which directs independent administration, independent administration will be terminated only if the court finds there is good cause to require supervised administration; and if the petitioner is a creditor or nonresiduary legatee, independent administration will be terminated only if the court finds that termination is necessary to protect the petitioner's interest.

A petition in substantially the following form may be used to terminate independent administration: In the Circuit Court of the Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois (Or, In the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois)

In re Estate of Kenneth Delmar Richards, Deceased No. 2024 PR 568
Petition to Terminate Independent Administration_____ on oath states:

- On _____, 2024, an order was entered granting independent administration to as independent (executor) (administrator)
- I am an interested person in this estate as (heir) (nonresiduary legatee) (residuary legatee) (creditor) (representative)
- The will directs independent administration. (does) (does not)
- I request that independent administration be terminated.

(Signature of petitioner)

Signed and sworn to before me _____, 2024

Notary Public
"Strike if no will."

In addition to the right to terminate independent administration, any interested person may petition the court to hold a hearing and resolve any particular question that may arise during independent administration, even though supervised administration has not been requested (755 ILCS 5/28-5). The independent representative must mail a copy of the estate inventory and final account to each interested person and must send notice to or obtain the approval of each interested person before the estate can be closed (755 ILCS 5/28-6, 28-11). Any interested person has the right to question or object to any item included in or omitted from an inventory or account or to insist on a full court accounting of all receipts and disbursements with prior notice, as required in supervised administration (755 ILCS 5/28-11).

PROOF OF SERVICE

The undersigned, being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says that he served the NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF RIGHTS IN INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION via publication in the Braidwood Journal for three consecutive weeks on Sept. 18, 2024, Sept. 25, 2024 and Oct. 2, 2024.

/s/ Frank J. Meents

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
KENNETH DELMAR RICHARDS, DECEASED)
TO: KENNETH LARAWAY RICHARDS) No. 2024 PR 568

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned, being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says that he served a copy of the Oath and bond, Order Declaring Heirship and Order Appointing Representative of Decedent's Estate; and Letters of Office entered on September 6, 2024, upon the above referenced parties via publication in the Braidwood Journal for three consecutive weeks on Sept. 18, 2024, Sept. 25, 2024 and Oct. 2, 2024.

/s/ Frank J. Meents

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

KENNETH DELMAR RICHARDS, Deceased;) No. 2024 PR 568
ORDER DECLARING HEIRSHIP

After considering the evidence concerning heirship the court declares that the following are the only heirs of the decedent:

Name	Relationship	Minor/Disabled Person	Post-Office Address
Naithan K. Richards	Son	Not a Minor Not Disabled	900 Louise Lane Peotone, IL 60468
Kenneth Laraway Richards	Son	Not a Minor Not Disabled	Address Unknown
Kenda N. Rochnowski	Daughter	Not a Minor Not Disabled	894 Arrowhead Dr. Elwood, IL 60421

September 6, 2024 /s/ Judge Derek Ewanic

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
KENNETH DELMAR RICHARDS, Deceased;) No. 2024 PR 568
ORDER APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVE OF DECEDENT'S ESTATE -
INTESTATE

On the Verified Petition of Naithan K. Richards for issuance of letters of office, it is ORDERED that:

- Letters of Office as Independent Administrator are issued to Naithan K Richards.
- This matter is continued to September 5, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., for status via Zoom.

September 6, 2024 /s/ Judge Derek Ewanic

Frank J. Meents
Meents Law, P.C.
25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A
Channahon, Illinois 60410
Telephone: (815) 534-9515
Facsimile: (815) 534-9516
Attorney Code: 06298859
E-mail: frank@meentslaw.com

Published in the Braidwood Journal on Sept. 18, 25 and Oct. 2, 2024.

COALER SPORTS



Photo by Amy Walker

THE GO TO MAN for the varsity Coalers is Landin Benson who ran for two touchdowns and 153 yards against Streator on Friday. He is pictured here taking the handoff from quarterback Connor Henline.



Photo by Amy Walker

ON THE LINE for the Coalers this season is junior Donnie Ladas who has done a good job of pressuring opponents. The Coalers, with a 2-1 record, will host Lisle (0-3) on Friday.

Streator no match for 'scary' Coalers

BY JIM SHELTON
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

From the opening kickoff, the Coalers (2-1) struck fear in the minds of the Streator Bulldogs (1-2), scoring 35 points in the blink of an eye.

Coal City cruised to a 56-6 win in the conference opener Friday in Streator.

Logan Natyshok returned the opening kickoff 71 yards to the Streator four yard line.

The sophomore was rewarded on the next play with a touchdown pass from his sophomore teammate Connor Henline, making his second start.

"Getting that return really set the tone. We were able to punch it in but throughout the night, being able to see all three phases do a great job was encouraging to see," said head coach Francis Loughran.

"We were in control from the start, but seeing a lot of good things really made a big difference for

us."

Mason Garner recovered a Bulldog fumble on their first possession and Henline connected with Gabe McHugh for a 25 yard touchdown strike.

Next it was Landin Benson's turn to get in on the fun, scoring on a 35 yard run.

Henline found a wide-open Gavin Berger for his third touchdown pass of the first seven minutes, a 47 yarder. The sophomore finished 5-for-8 for 92 yards.

"Henline did a great job making his reads. The last two games, zero turnovers for our offense and that starts with him."

"He's really been able to command the offensive attack and run game.

It's not an easy task for a sophomore, but he's done it."

Brody Widlowski made an impact on special teams once again, with his second punt return touchdown of the season. His 53 yarder closed out a 35 point opening frame for the visitors.

Benson had three rushes of 30 or more yards, none more impressive than his 55 yard tackle-breaking burst down to Streator's one yard line, punching it in on the next play late in the first half.

Not to be outdone, the Coaler defense found the endzone just before half as McHugh went untouched down the sideline for a 65 yard pick-six.

Natyshok added a 10 yard touchdown run in the third before Streator finally got on the board with four mins left on a two yard touchdown pass.

"I was really happy again with our defensive line. Alec Waliczek, Cade Poyner, Emmett Easton, Donnie Ladas did a great job. In the secondary, Brock Finch and Noah Houston had strong performances," said Loughran.

"We were concerned with their deep passing." The Bulldogs only had one completion over 14 yards. Offensively, the Coalers only ran 27 plays but scored

on six of those, a percentage that any coach would take.

"Poyner commanded the offensive line along with Will Johnke. The carries that Benson and Natyshok had showed a lot of efficiency."

Benson finished with 153 yards on just nine carries, averaging 17 yards a touch.

Ayden Housman added six carries for 28 yards and Natyshok tallied 25 yards on three rushes. McHugh had 37 yards on two catches and Rey Gonzalez recorded a four yard grab.

Garner, Easton and Poyner all made five tackles to lead the way. John McHugh, Jake Cerutti and Keigher (fumble recovery) all had four tackles, Ladas added three and Waliczek tallied two.

Also in on a stop were Finch, Widlowski, Carter Gill, Ethan Olson, Hausman, Rowan Fitzpatrick and Trace Wilson.

Coalers to host winless Lisle in home opener

BY JIM SHELTON
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

For the first time since last season's opening round playoff game, the Coalers will play in front of the home fans, welcoming the 0-3 Lisle Lions to the new turf.

Lisle has scored just 14 points total in their first three games but has faced some stiff competition in Seneca and Wilmington.

"They have one level, but Cory Dillard is a great offensive coach. We have to be prepared for the deep ball. They are young, but I think they play hard," said Loughran.

"They are able to play good fundamental

offense/defense so we'll need to be prepared."

The Coalers have found their stride the last two weeks, outscoring the opposition 109-12. Zander Meents could return this week at quarterback, but if he can't go, Henline has thrown five touchdown passes the last two weeks and has shown command of the offense. The team has confidence in either guy and is excited to finally be playing at home.

"It will be good to be able to welcome another team and just prepare for that. I think these guys are ready. It's a different atmosphere being at home and these guys have really been anticipating this."

CCMS 8th graders add two more wins as playoffs approach

The Coal City Middle School A baseball team edged Saratoga 11-10 on Thursday to improve their record to 14-2 as they head toward the final stretch of the season.

Both teams had their offenses going on Thursday at Coal City Middle School, but Coal City eventually prevailed 11-10.

Coal City collected 11 hits, while Saratoga had nine. The Coalers got things going early with a 4 run, bottom of the first inning. Rylan DeMichele smacked an RBI double and then scored on a passed ball. Carter Wix homered to left field, and Jaxon Ksiazak singled, each scoring one run. An error, and a tag up by DeMichele helped Coal City extend their early lead in the second.

Connor Rodriguez started the game and surrendered four hits and six runs (three earned) over four innings, striking out six and walking three. Jace Ratazak hurled the final 2 innings to earn the save in relief.

DeMichele, Maddox Meents, and Caleb Hall each collected two hits for Coal City. Wix and DeMichele each drove in two runs. Wix, Ksiazak, Phoenix Senodenos, Kiptyn Dearth, and Jonah Micetich added hits in the win.

Bishop McNamara 6 Coal City 13
Rylan DeMichele hit two home runs and drove in four as the CCMS erased an early 2-run deficit to defeat Bishop McNamara on Tuesday at home.

DeMichele homered in the second and third innings. Coal City won thanks in part to seven runs in the second inning. Jonah Micetich singled, scoring one run, DeMichele homered to center field, scoring two runs, Carter Wix doubled, scoring one run, Jaxon Ksiazak singled, scoring one run, and Ethan Lanphier doubled, scoring two runs.

The Coalers took the lead for good in the bottom of the first inning after DeMichele doubled, Kiptyn Dearth walked, Connor Rodriguez stole home and Ksiazak singled, each scoring one run.

Maddox Meents earned the win on the bump allowing four hits and six runs (two earned) over four innings, striking

out six and walking five. Kiptyn Dearth came on to hurl two innings of zero-run ball in relief of Meents. The pitcher surrendered two hits, striking out two and walking none.

Coal City accumulated 13 hits in the game. DeMichele was 3-3 with 2 homeruns a double and 4 RBI. Ksiazak, Micetich, and Meents each collected 2 hits. Lanphier (double, 2RBI), Wix (double, RBI), Rodriguez, and Phoenix Senodenos added hits in the win.

The Coalers wrap up the regular season this week with home games vs Pontiac (9/16) and Streator Northlawn (9/18) and end on the road at Prairie Central on Thursday.

CC 7th graders end impressive season

The Coal City seventh grade baseball team finished their season with an overall record of 14-1-1. Saturday they played a double header, first game they defeated Gardner South Wilmington 11-2.

The third inning Coal City took a huge lead scoring eight runs that promised them the win.

Carter Shain pitched for the Coalers five innings with four strikeouts, two walks and gave up two runs.

Coaler Derek Maxwell hit two doubles for two RBIs. Griffin Ratazak went 2-for-2 with four RBIs and one walk. Liam Ratazak went 2-for-3. Carter Shain went 2-for-2 with one RBI.

"Great way to end an outstanding season. They won the IVC Championship and put up some impressive numbers. In 16 games we outscored our opponents 170-34. I'm looking forward to what this group will do for our program in the future," said Coach Nate Wills.

Coal City defeated MVK 12-5. MVK was the first to put a run on the board but Coal City was hot in the second and third scoring 12 runs total to win.

Coaler Jaxon Shats pitched two innings with six strikeouts, four walks and gave up three runs. Griffin Ratazak relieved him for two innings with four strikeouts, three walks and gave up two runs.

Derek Maxwell went 2-for-2 with one RBI and a double. Mitchell Jensen went 2-for-3 with two RBIs. Ty Gigler and Colby DeGrush went 1-for-1 with two RBIs each.

On Friday Coal City defeated Dwight 6-4.

"Nice effort by the guys tonight, Chase Clubb was outstanding on the mound in his first start of the season. Threw a lot of strikes and guys made plays behind him. Lot of fun coaching against Mickey McDowell, who I coached and have known since he was born. He does a great job with his team," said

Coach Wills.

Chase Clubb started pitching and finished the game with five strikeouts, two walks and gave up four runs.

Coalers Derek Maxwell and Cody Allen each had a double.

On Thursday, Coal City defeated Saratoga 13-0.

Coaler Liam Ratazak had a four inning perfect game. He threw 47 pitches, 37 for strikes.

Derek Maxwell had a triple, two RBIs and went 2-for-3 at bat.

On Wednesday, Coal City tied Herscher 3-3.

"Outstanding baseball game today. Both teams battled seven innings. Big hits, nice plays in the field, and pitchers threw well. Jaxon Shats with a two run triple to tie up the game in the sixth inning. Josef Smith had a tremendous outing coming in relief and keeping Herscher scoreless for four innings. It was a fun game to be a part," said Wills.



Fresh Hot Delivery



Benson Insurance Agency, Inc.



ALLEGRA Printing

Coal City Coalers Team Pride

#1 Sports Fans Weekly Internet Winner



Amanda Hazlett
Winner of a large 2-item Pizza, carry-out only

Must redeem by September 23, 2024

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

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

"Support Coal City High School Athletes"



FRESH HOT DELIVERY!



Greater Grundy County
Readers' Choice Awards
2015

39TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

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

ONLY \$28.99

Not valid with any other offer. Plus sales tax. Expires 09/30/24.

Gift Certificates Available

Order online at www.geospizza.net

634-8858

715 S. Broadway • Coal City



Photo courtesy Alyshia Nicholson

IT'S A TOSS UP who got to the ball first but Coal City's Jack Mohler was determined on taking possession.

Coal City kickers get the shutout

The Coal City soccer team defeated Serena Thursday night 5-0. Dylan Fatlan and Adrian Dames led the way with each scoring two goals and having one assist. Dane Noffsinger also contributed with one goal and one assist. Luke Munsterman added an assist on the night. The Coalers are now 7-2-1 on the season and will face

Plano next week.

Coal City traveled to Beecher and lost Wednesday afternoon by a score of 3-1. Adrian Dames had the Coalers only goal that was assisted by Dane Noffsinger. Carter Nicholson had a nice night in goal with 9 saves. Coal City will finish out their week with a home game against Serena Thursday night.

Coal City took their first defeat to a tough Lisle team in a shootout Tuesday night. The score ended in regulation 1-1. Adrian Dames scored the lone goal for the Coalers. The game went to the 6th PK kicker before Lisle was able to come out on top. Carter Nicholson had a nice game in goal with 9 saves.



Photo courtesy Alyshia Nicholson

TAKING CONTROL of the ball while being pressured by a Husker is Coal City's Colton Lemmons.

JV soccer team defeats Serena

JV Boys Soccer defeated Serena 3-1. Charlie Pfeifer had two goals, Decklan Castle had a goal and an assist, and Owen Peterson and Brady Noffsinger also had assists. Charlie Pfeifer was named man of the match.

JV boys soccer lost a tough match against a Beecher squad comprised mostly of varsity players 2-0. Tommy Poole had

7 saves, Christian Castillo had 2 saves, Jake Musterman was named man of the match.

The JV Coalers were able to secure a 1-1 tie thanks to a last minute goal by Owen Peterson, assisted by Colten Lynn. Christian Castillo had 1 save, Tommy Poole had 2 saves, and Louie Artega was Man of the Match

Lady Coalers fight to the end against Wildcats

The varsity Lady Coalers had no reason to hang their heads on Thursday after rallying against Wilmington to win the second game but losing by two points in the end.

Coal City battled back after dropping the first game 22-25. In a gutsy effort with several key serves, the Lady Coalers forced a third game by winning the comeback match 25-18.

The Lady Coalers were down by seven at one point in game three but rallied back to tie it 25-25. Wilmington scraped away the win by scoring the next two points.

Coal City has an overall record of 8-7 and 3-1 in ICE conference.

Sydney Larson had 37 setting assists, 14 service points with 2 aces, 1 kill and

1 dig. Emma Rodriguez had 11 kills, 11 digs, and 5 service points with 1 ace.

Ava Kenney had 9 kills, 6 digs, 5 service points with 3 aces, and 1 block. Addison Hodgen had 6 kills, 6 service points with 1 ace, and 4 blocks.

Abby Viano had 6 kills. Aylie Castle had 5 kills, 1 service point, 1 dig, and 1 block.

Lilly Feisley had 8 digs and 9 service points with 1 ace.

The JV Lady Coalers lost to Wilmington 10-25 and 15-25 bringing their overall record to 0-6 and 0-4 in ICE.

The Freshman Lady Coalers lost to Wilmington 15-25, 25-19, 21-25 bringing their overall to 2-4 and 1-3 in ICE.

Down the Bulldogs

The Varsity Lady

Coalers beat a tough Streator team 24-26, 25-16 and 25-18 earlier in the week.

Sydney Larson had 28 setting assists, 3 digs, 1 kill, 1 service ace, and 1 block. Emma Rodriguez had 7 kills, 8 digs, and 3 service aces. Addison Hodgen had 7 kills, 4 blocks, and 1 service ace.

Abby Viano had 5 kills and 2 blocks. Ava Kenney had 9 digs and 4 kills. Lilly Feisley had 5 digs.

Keirsten Gabehart 2 digs and 2 kills. Alaina Morales had 2 digs.

The JV Lady Coalers lost 23-25 and 17-25.

The Freshman Lady Coalers lost to Streator 25-14, 24-26, and 22-25.

Coal City will compete in the Manteno Classic on Saturday before hosting Reed-Custer on Tuesday.



Photo by Eric Fisher

DOUBLE COVERAGE—Lady Coalers Ava Kenney (left) and Lilly Feisley dive to return a short serve last week while battling Wilmington in a three-game set.

CC tennis squad dominates GC

The Coaler Lady tennis team looked strong last week against Gibson City, dispatching their opponents 9-0.

Becca Hall led the charge at #1 singles, striking her serve well and controlling the tempo of the match. Kyla Kohler was evenly matched at #2 singles, edging out a talented Gibson City player by 2 games in each set to nab the win.

Following suit with wins at singles was #3 Lanie Winke, #4 Sophie Smith, #5 Liv Weatherbee, and #6 Kamryn Hansen. In doubles action, Cam Planeta showed her might in serving at #1 doubles, landing several aces, setting up her partner Bridget for the put-away at the net. Some missteps in the first set cost them, but Cam and Bridget rallied to take the 2nd set 7-5 and ultimately the win taking the tiebreaker 10-7.

#2 doubles Kyla Stark and Fianna Gregory hit the gas and never looked back, winning 6-0 6-0, and #3 doubles Olivia Wilcock and Kate Promis took their first varsity win on the season.

Singles:

No. 1 - Rebecca Hall, Coal City def. Grace Steidinger, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 6-2, 6-1, -;

No. 2 - Kyla Kohler,

Coal City def. Natalie Aberle, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 6-4, 7-5, -;

No. 3 - Lanie Winke, Coal City def. Caylynn Embry, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 6-2, 6-0, -;

No. 4 - Sophie Smith, Coal City def. McKenna Odgers, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 6-1, 6-2, -;

No. 5 - Olivia Weatherbee, Coal City def. Charity Miguel, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 6-2, 6-3, #;

No. 6 - Kamryn Hansen, Coal City def. Hope Bodega, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 6-1, 6-4, -;

Doubles:

No. 1 - Camryn Planeta, Coal City - Bridget Feeney, Coal City def. Natalie Aberle, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley) - Kacey Robertson, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 4-6, 7-5, 10-7;

No. 2 - Kyla Stark, Coal City - Fianna Gregory, Coal City def. Grace Steidinger, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley) - McKenna Odgers, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 6-0, 6-0, -;

No. 3 - Olivia Wilcock, Coal City - Kate Promis, Coal City def. Caylynn Embry, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley) - Hope Bodega, Gibson City (G.C.-Melvin-Sibley), 6-0, 6-2,



Photo by Eric Fisher

DOUBLES PLAYER Cam Planeta keeps her balance after returning a volley at the net during a recent home match.

JV Coalers oust Streator Bulldogs

The Coalers JV team beat Streator 63-20 on Friday night. It was a dominant performance on the ground and with special teams all night.

Coal City's Aiden Scrogam had nine carries for 160 yards and three touchdowns. The O line, led by team captain Sean Bergin, opened up massive holes all night and Scrogam capitalized with the huge game.

Theo Fritz led the defense with nine tackles and had two rushing touchdowns as well. The Coalers also had rushing touchdowns from Cooper Morris and Braden Walker, as well as two kick return touchdowns, one each from Kole Carpenter and Carmine Conterez. With a couple of guys out, it was a next man up approach for the Coalers and a great team win.

Lady Coalers win in extra innings

The Coal City Middle School softball team defeated Minooka in extra innings, 3-1.

"Caylee Lynn was outstanding on the mound today and the big hit by Baldauf in the eighth helped us close out the game," commented Coach Brad Schmitt.

Caylee Lynn pitched all eight innings for the Coalers and had 11 strikeouts.

Lynn also went 2-for-4 and had a double. Kenslee Baldauf went 1-for-4 with one RBI.

On Wednesday, Coal City defeated Eureka 12-0.

It was big hits that did it for Coal City, Caylee Lynn and Kendall Shute had two doubles each. Ava Mills and Kenslee Baldauf each had one double. Lynn went 2-for-2 with four RBIs. Kendall Shute went 3-for-3 with three RBIs.