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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2020 | A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER

Unit 1 navigating pandemic guidelines

BY ANN GILL EDITOR

From the first day of school the Unit 1 School District has been navigating the guidelines of the pandemic.

Over the past 15 weeks, district officials have been monitoring cases, contact tracing and adjusting to meet the ever-changing guidance and direction put forth by public health officials.

About three weeks ago, at the recommen-

ation of the district's Citizens Advisory Committee, Unit 1 Superintendent Dr. Kent Bugg started sending out weekly updates to parents outlining the district's current cases of COVID-19.

As of Tuesday the district was reporting 16 positive student cases in the past 14 days [Nov. 11-24] and five staff cases—four involving certified staff and the other being support personnel.

Among the current student cases 10 are high schoolers and out of the six other students five have high school age siblings that have test-

ed positive.

Both student and staff cases are down from the prior 14 day period that saw significant increases after Halloween weekend.

According to Bugg, the prior 14 day reporting period [Nov. 6-19] there were 30 student cases—22 of those at the high school, and nine staff cases—seven among certified staff and two support staff.

"Our data continues to show that we are holding very strong at grades PreK-8, and although the high school numbers are still concerning, they are starting to trend in the right

direction. The high school administration's contact tracing efforts continue to show that these positive cases are being transmitted predominantly in social settings outside of school, the workplace of the students, or from another infected family member. Our data also continues to show that our mitigation strategies in school are effective, which is a testament to the diligence of our students, faculty and staff," Bugg shared in his message to parents.

On the topic of contact tracing, Bugg

SEE GUIDELINES, PAGE 2



Photo by Ann Gill

FIRST GRADE STUDENTS in Tiffany Stewart's class at Coal City Early Childhood Center are giving thanks this holiday season and joining the staff of The Coal City Courant in wishing readers a safe and happy Thanksgiving. Class members [seated, row one]: Landon Hardy, Aubrey Roach, Jack Gagliardo and Reed Clements. Kneeling in the middle row are Keslyn Hawkins, Reagan Stygar, Dante Morales and Skylar Crist. Standing: Haven Coldwater, Ayden Magna, Dylan Perino, Miah Farley, Paisley Edmonds and Grace Reyelts.

IDPH reports hundreds of new Grundy COVID cases

STAFF REPORT

A resurgence of COVID-19 is impacting Grundy County, and the county's only hospital says it has witnessed a 400% increase in coronavirus admissions since the beginning of the month.

Morris Hospital announced last week it was nearing capacity as COVID-19 hospitalizations were increasing. Mark Steadham, the hospital's president and CEO, reported the facility had 80 inpatients as of Nov. 17 and half had COVID-19.

"The situation is very serious and well beyond anything we experienced last spring," Steadham said in a Nov. 18 press release.

As of Nov. 20, the Illinois Department of Public Health [IDPH] reported the county's seven day rolling positivity rate was at 23.4%, the highest of the 20 counties that make up the North Central Region [Region 2].

In its weekly update, published last Friday, the Grundy County Health Department reported the total number of positive cases had reached 1,869, on Tuesday afternoon the IDPH had the total case count at 2,539 cases—a 35.8% increase in under five days.

As of its report, the local health department was following 391 people how had recently tested positive and are in isolation, as well as their close contacts.

Grundy County's public health administrator Michelle Pruim reports the health department is continuing its efforts to talk to individuals who have tested positive and their close contacts within 24 hours of lab notification. However, residents often learn of their lab results before the health department.

"Residents are encouraged to follow isolation and quarantine guidelines even before hearing from the health department," Pruim said.

Per CDC guidelines, persons awaiting test results should isolate and close contacts should quarantine for 14 days since their last encounter with a sick individual.

Grundy County is among the 101 counties in the orange warning level, just one was downstate county was shown in the blue based on COVID data from Nov. 8-14. During that time period, Grundy County was at warning level in three of eight metrics used by the state to determine if there are warning signs of increased virus activity. At that time the county's ICU bed availability was within target limits at 31.8%. Data from last week is due to be released this Friday.

The health department website has recently been updated to include resources related to data, guidance, symptoms and testing. Updated information can also be viewed on the IDPH website.

In its daily report published Tuesday, IDPH reported five virus related deaths in the county—one male in his 60s, two females and one male in their 80s and a male in his 90s. The newly reported deaths bring the total number of deaths to 16 since the start of the pandemic.

To help slow the spread of the virus, state and local officials

SEE COVID, PAGE 2

Turkey time

First graders share tips for cooking the 'perfect' bird

In preparation for the Thanksgiving holiday the following turkey recipes were submitted by first grade students in Tiffany Stewart's class at Coal City Early Childhood Center. The submission of student's turkey recipes began some time ago with first grade teacher Ann Quinzio-Zafran who suggested the tradition continue after her retirement.

What you should know is each submission, with some writing prompts from their teacher, appear as written by the students who are just learning the art of writing and these recipes are 'not' kitchen tested.

Get a turkey from the store. Before you can cook it you need to defrost and season. Cook the turkey at 250 degrees for three hours. The turkey is done when the timer goes off. You can eat biscuits with the turkey. For dessert you can eat brownies.

—by Austin

Get a turkey from the store. Before you cook it you need to hete the ovin. Cook the turkey at 110 degrees for 20 minits. The turkey is done when you eat it. You can eat mashed potato with the turkey. For dessert you can eat piye.

—by Brysen

Get a turkey fum the frm. Before you cook it you need to sttuf it. Cook the turkey at 70 degrees for 1 wr. The turkey is done when you cut it. You can eat piy with the turkey. For dessert youc an eat brine.

—by Jack

Get a turkey stop before you cook it you need to pel. Cook the turkey at 51 degrees for 20. The turkey is done when we et. You can eat with the turkey. For dessert you can eat turkey.

—by Skylar

SEE TURKEY, PAGE 13

The season for giving

BY ANN GILL EDITOR

'Tis the season for giving, and giving thanks. In the coming week individuals across the country and around the world will have an opportunity to give a little something to the

groups and organizations that have made an impact in their communities.

A number of noted days are ahead, but there is one that celebrates the spirit and generosity of giving — Giving Tuesday, recognized on social media under the hashtag

#GivingTuesday.

Observed on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, #GivingTuesday is a drive to promote charitable giving and benevolence.

This day of giving was established in 2012 by New York City's 92nd Street Y in

partnership with the United Nations Foundation in response to the commercialism that comes immediately after the fall holiday.

Since its inception #GivingTuesday has inspired millions to give back and support the causes they believe in.

#GivingTuesday has developed into a global movement and in 2019 it inspired hundreds of millions of people to get involved. The initiative raised \$511 million in on-line gifts with total financial gifts coming in at \$1.97 billion.

Along with the financial

support #GivingTuesday generates much more for worthwhile

provided, generates worthwhile

SEE GIVING, PAGE 13



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Coal City abates property tax

STAFF REPORT

In advance of the town's annual tax levy approval, the Coal City Village Board made good on a deal it struck six years ago. With adoption of the levy, the district annually approves and files abatement ordinances with the Grundy County Clerk and Recorder calling on the county to exclude the values of two properties the town annexed in its path to

the Prairie Oak Estates Subdivision. After months of discussion and negotiation the village entered into an annexation agreement with the Coal City Area Club Board of Directors, the terms allowed the village to take in a 300-foot wide strip of club owned property along a two mile strip adjacent to Dresden Road. The village needed the land to install a force main in order to service the sanitary sewer

needs of the subdivision. In turn, village officials agreed to annually abate the village portion of the property tax. There was also a \$50,000 payment to the club and a few other concessions in order to move forward. A similar agreement was stuck with the owners of what is know as the Cullick Farm located just north of North Street. The trust overseeing the land agreed to

annex a 300 -foot wide strip of its property into the village as part of the subdivision sewer project back in 2014. An abatement ordinance was also approved by trustees to abate the property tax on the Cullick Farm and will be submitted to the county clerk as well. The Village Board is scheduled to adopt the town's 2020 property tax levy when it meets December 9.

Guidelines

explained the process begins as soon as building administration is notified of a positive case.

At that point, administrators collect the positive case's class schedule along with seating charts provided by teachers and if the student is a bus rider the bus seating chart is also obtained. Based on seating charts the distance is measured in each direction from the positive case's desk.

If desks/students are within six feet of the positive case, they are identified as close contacts and if they were present in the room during the preceding 48 hours of the positive cases symptoms beginning they are defined as close contacts and excluded for 14 calendar days beginning from the date of close contacts test.

The process also involves

determining if staff were within 15-feet of the positive case for 15 minutes or more. All positive cases are reviewed to look for connections between previous positive cases and close contacts to the newly identified positive cases and close contacts.

The information obtained is shared with the superintendent, who then provides the findings to the Grundy County Health Department for further guidance and any necessary action.

"Although we understand the inconvenience that student exclusion can cause for parents, it is imperative that we continue to follow the guidelines closely to keep our students and staff safe," Bugg said.

In his latest correspondence, the superintendent began sharing the number of students and staff who are excluded due to a close contact. This comes at the request of district staff.

The daily average of quarantined students this week is 31.5 at the early childhood center and intermediate school, 30 at the elementary school, 38.5 at the middle school and 71.5 at the high school.

Last week the number of quarantined students at the high school was 106.5 and 51 at the middle school. This week's numbers are down at all buildings.

As for staff, those numbers are down as well. The high school currently has six staff members in quarantine. There are four at the elementary school, 1.5 at the early childhood center and middle school and one at the intermediate school.

The new data includes close contact with someone who tested COVID positive, students and staff who are symptomatic and those with a member of the immediate household who is symptomatic.

A close contact, as identified by the Illinois Department of Public Health [IDPH] is "anyone [with or without a face covering], who was within 6 feet of a confirmed case of COVID-19 [with or without a face covering], for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period during the infections period."

The infections period of close contact begins 48 hours before the onset of symptoms [for a symptomatic person] or 48 hours before a positive sample is collected.

"The Grundy County Health Department's position is that they are not going to hold our staff members accountable for formally logging the whereabouts of themselves and their students for every minute of every day. Instead, in the case of a COVID positive staff member or student, we rely on personal conversations with our staff members and out classroom

seating charts to conduct of contact tracing responsibilities," Bugg said.

The number of cases fluctuate from day-to-day and each positive case results in a message coming from the building level principal and the superintendent to his staff.

Communication to families comes based on the district's Return to School Plan, a guideline that is now in its 15th week of implementation. The district continues to follow the guidelines outlined in its plan, as well as those put forth by IDPH, the Illinois State Board of Education and local health department.

In response to the state's move to Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation's on Nov. 20, the district has put a pause on all extra and co-curricular activities that take place outside the regular school day.

As the district entered the holiday break, Bugg asked families to do their part to

limit and slow the spread of the virus.

"As I am sure you are aware, the COVID metrics for our county are still trending in the wrong direction, which is why we still need your assistance to assure our schools can continue to offer in-person learning opportunities for our students," Bugg said, noting its important for parents to reinforce the use of face-masks, social distancing and hand washing.

"By enforcing proper mitigation strategies outside of school, we enhance our chances of continuing to offer the face-to-face instructional and extra-curricular opportunities that we believe are invaluable to the academic and social/emotional health of our students," Bugg said.

Students will be back in class on Monday to finish out the final 3.5 weeks of the first semester of the school year.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR THE VILLAGE OF COAL CITY, SPECIAL SERVICE AREA NUMBER TWO

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Village of Coal City Special Service Area Number Two for 2020 will be held on December 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Coal City Village Hall, 515 S. Broadway in Coal City, IL and may additionally be attended remotely via Zoom video conference.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Ms. Pamela Noffsinger, Village Clerk, at 515 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 815-634-8608 or pnoffsinger@coalcity-il.com.

II. The property taxes extended for Village of Coal City Special Service Area Number Two for 2019 were \$38,107.00.

The proposed property taxes to be levied for Village of Coal City Special Service Area Number Two, for 2020 are \$151,474.17. This represents an approximately 297.5% increase over the previous year.

COVID

continue to encourage residents to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth, maintain a six-foot distance from others, wash hands frequently, and stay home when if possible.

Testing is available throughout the county, and protocol at each location is subject to change based on available resources.

In its Nov. 18 release, Morris Hospital reported its testing capabilities have significantly diminished in the past two weeks due to a supply shortage. The existing supply of rapid tests is being reserved for admitted patients, all other specimens are sent out with results typically being received within 2-5 days.

IDPH offers daily testing

CC Library remains open

While Grundy County is now in Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation the Coal City Public Library will remain open but all in-person classes such as Anime Club, exercise class, and Storytimes will be cancelled beginning Friday, Nov. 20 until further notice.

There is a limited number of people that can visit the library at one time. Patrons are asked to limit visits to 30 minutes or less. Curbside pickup and porch dropoffs are still available. Exercise classes will be posted on Facebook at 9 a.m. Monday thru Friday.

Digital services and resources are available 24/7 thru the website at ccpld.org.

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from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mission Boulevard Soccer Complex, 640 Mission Blvd., Joliet. Testing sites open every day for everyone regardless of symptoms, and additional sites closest to our reading area including Aurora and Bloomington.

The Aurora location, 2450 N. Farnsworth Ave., is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. while daily supplies last. Located at 1106 Interstate Dr., the Bloomington site is open daily while supplies last from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

IDPH testing sites will be

closed on Thanksgiving Day.

Testing will also be available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 28 at Minooka Community High School South Campus, 26655 W. Eames St., Channahon. Testing will be provided on a first come, first serve basis while supplies last.

IDPH in conjunction with the Grundy County Health Department will host a drive-thru testing site in the parking lot of Coal City High School on Sunday, Dec. 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Happy Thanksgiving

Tammy Johnson, AAMS®
Financial Advisor



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Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing via Zoom virtual conference capability or in person and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Ms. Pamela Noffsinger, Village Clerk, at 515 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 815-634-8608 or pnoffsinger@coalcity-il.com.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2019 were \$1,767,694.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes for 2020 are \$1,901,387. This represents a 7.56% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2019 were \$760,503.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2020 are \$849,341. This represents an 11.68% increase over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2019 were \$2,528,197.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2020 are \$2,750,728. This represents an 8.80% increase over the previous year.

- Thank You -

We want to thank all our friends and neighbors who sent cards, brought food and gave their support to our family during our time of grief. You don't know how much it meant to us. Thank you to the Coal City United Methodist Church, Pastor Brad Shumaker, Shannon D'Agostino, Clare Everitt for the heartfelt service and all their prayers and Reeves Baskerville Funeral Home. Our church family is so wonderful, you are all very much appreciated.

Thank You
The family of Rick "Red" Miller



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News and Advertising: Monday, noon

E-mail: News & News Photos: news@fpnusa.com
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Eric D. Fisher, publisher
Ann Gill, editor

Unit 1 Schools recognize 29 kids as Students of the Week



NOEL RUNNELS
Middle School



RILEY WALKER
Middle School



GRACE HUNT
Intermediate School



KINLEY NEARY
Intermediate School



PHOENIX SENODENOS
Intermediate School



JACQUELINE DODGE
Intermediate School



HUNTER MEYER
Intermediate School



RYDER PORTERFIELD
Elementary School



JACKIE ROBLES SERNA
Elementary School



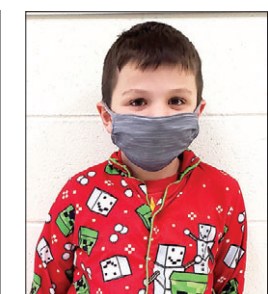
ALAINA HULBERT
Elementary School



AUBRIE KAVANAUGH
Elementary School



BEN MANERING
Elementary School



MITCHELL BORDEWIK
Elementary School



CHASE CLUBB
Elementary School



FELICITY JACKSON
Elementary School



ZACKERY BABCOCK
Elementary School



KAHLER POPOVICH
Elementary School



DANTE MORALES
Early Childhood Center



BRAELYNN JURINEK
Early Childhood Center



AUBREIGH CAISE
Early Childhood Center



PIPER KUBINA
Early Childhood Center



JESSE GILBERT
Early Childhood Center



KAMDEN KERR
Early Childhood Center



LAITYN SCHOTT
Early Childhood Center



MORGAN MUTZ
Early Childhood Center



JAMES BRAINARD
Early Childhood Center



GUINEVERE DIAZ
Early Childhood Center



JACKSON HICKS
Early Childhood Center



ZAYDEN WELCH
Early Childhood Center



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Natural gas is a colorless and odorless fuel. For safety reasons, a chemical odorant called mercaptan is added for easy detection of a suspected natural gas leak. This odorant has a distinctive "rotten egg" type odor. Natural gas odors should be reported immediately.

¿Hay olor a gas? ¡Actué rápido! El gas natural es un combustible incoloro e inodoro. Por razones de seguridad, se le agrega un aromatizante químico llamado mercaptano para que se pueda detectar fácilmente. Este aromatizante tiene un olor característico a "huevo podrido." Los olores a gas natural deben informarse de inmediato.

If you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air:

Si detecta este olor en el aire, por mínimo que sea:

- Do not try to locate the source of the smell.
No intente localizar la fuente del olor.
- Leave the area immediately and alert others.
Abandone el área inmediatamente y alerte a los demás.
- Avoid using any sources of ignition, such as cell phones, cigarettes, matches, flashlights, electronic devices, motorized vehicles, light switches or landlines.
Evite usar cualquier fuente de ignición, por ejemplo, teléfonos celulares, cigarrillos, fósforos, linternas, aparatos electrónicos, vehículos a motor, interruptores de luz o teléfonos fijos.
- Call Nicor Gas at **888.Nicor4U (642.6748)** or **911** once you are out of the area and in a safe place.
*Llame a Nicor Gas at **888.Nicor4U (642.6748)** o al **911** una vez que esté fuera del área y en un lugar seguro.*

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Box is free

COAL CITY—In response to "Too much candy," it was mentioned that you can buy flat rate boxes at the post office to ship candy to the military overseas. The post office does not charge for flat rate boxes. You pay postage but you do not pay for the boxes, they are free.

Make it safe

CHICAGO—To the Editor: Sometimes doctors have to deliver bad news to their patients. Unfortunately, because of Covid-19, the physicians of Illinois implore you to reconsider your holiday plans this year. Large gatherings of family and friends inside a home or restaurant are not a good idea. Nor is playing that traditional Thanksgiving football game with a bunch of people you haven't seen in a long time. We are experiencing yet another dramatic increase in the number of Covid cases and our Illinois hospitals are filling up with patients. We know how much you want to celebrate, but your doctor wants you to stay healthy by avoiding situations that increase your risk of contracting the coronavirus. Sadly, that means staying away from your loved ones who may be most vulnerable to this deadly virus. Although many may be suffering from Covid-19 fatigue, it's important to stay particularly vigilant to protect against the spread of the coronavirus this holiday season. That means wearing a face covering in public places, keeping a physical distance from people who are not in your household, and washing your hands often and thoroughly. Enjoy the holidays safely and please consider a virtual gathering via computer or telephone. Robert W. Pantone, MD, President, Illinois State Medical Society.

Be safe

COAL CITY—According to the World Health Organization, since 1983 until now 32 million have died worldwide from Aids HIV. It's been 40 years since the Aids virus epidemic. Even after billions of dollars have been spent on medicines to keep people alive "worldwide." A new 38 million cases in 2019 were infected, 37 thousand in the US have been newly infected. Covid 19 is also a virus. We will eventually get a vaccine but like the flu Covid 19 will be with us for many years until the next virus comes along. Many Covid 19 carriers are not ill themselves and don't know they have the virus. That is why it's important to wear a mask in public. Please do! Think about it herpes, influenza, measles, mumps, ebola, rabies, shingles, chicken pox, common colds, all viruses. Antibiotics work for bacteria infection not for viruses. Be safe! Pray if you know how.

Where's Kwame?

BRAIDWOOD—Observation. With four more indictments in the Madigan/ComEd bribery case you don't see Illinois State Attorney General Kwame Raoul involved. Didn't we elected him to lead the state against corruption and fair justice? Just goes to show the Democrats take care of each other by looking the other way and not getting involved. Another sign of corrupt Illinois.

Unfair attacks

COAL CITY—The Trump haters got their wish. Here is a man that basically has done nothing wrong but the lynch mob will keep attacking him forever. He's done nothing but good for America. He has a Jewish son in law-daughter and Jewish grandchildren yet they call him racist.

News Max reruns

SHADOW LAKES—My name is Dan Hill and I am watching some reruns on News Max about how the left attack Trump supporters marching in Washington D.C. which you could not find nor could I find on CNN or any other liberal news program. In my opinion it's like fighting a war. You have to fight lethally to prevent the other side from attacking you. And the left has been attacking lethally. This has to stop. These Democrat states, Democrat mayors do nothing about it. All they want to do is restrain the police. And I can bank your money on it, if that ever happened here I will fight back, because when it comes to somebody sucker punching someone like in that news Max reported and shown live that man had a right after being physically attacked to use lethal force.

Do-nothing Durbin

SHADOW LAKES—I listened to Dick Durbin speak at the big tech hearings and I can truthfully state that a six year old child would ask better questions. Censorship is a violation of the constitution of the USA and Dick Durbin doesn't seem to think what big tech is doing is violating any law. So maybe he should just go back and sit at his desk and collect his money from the taxpayers for doing nothing for his salary like he has been doing since he became a senator. When has he done anything for the people of Illinois? He did agree on the sanctuary laws which are also a violation of the laws of the state. Who does Dick Durbin work for, people in the USA illegally and people that censor the news or the oath of office he took to protect the laws of the USA and the American citizens lives.

Beware America

DWIGHT—One thing I want to remind people of is a statement from Ronald Reagan when he was president. He said "I'm here from the government and I'm here to help" Beware.

Collect those signs

WILMINGTON—The election is over and Biden and Kamala obviously won. So why not take those Trump signs down in your yard. It's time to move on Trump supporters because we're going to have some respect in the White House for the next four years.

Misguided party

WILMINGTON—The Democrat party has stated that they are the party of the people and that the people come first. But if this is true then why has the Democrat leadership been shipping employment overseas to foreign countries putting American citizens out of work and then condemn President Trump for bringing all the jobs back from overseas and increasing American citizens employment? The stock market had a boom but under Democrat control the stock market never went anywhere. When fuel prices skyrocketed but under President Trump the fuel prices dropped because our nation became fuel independent. Can someone please explain how the Democrat party is concerned about Americans when they seem to have been working on behalf of foreign countries instead of working for its citizens and their rights. What type of deal was made with China during the Obama administration with Joe Biden? Does anyone really believe that the democrat leadership really cares about any American citizen or the USA?

Make a difference

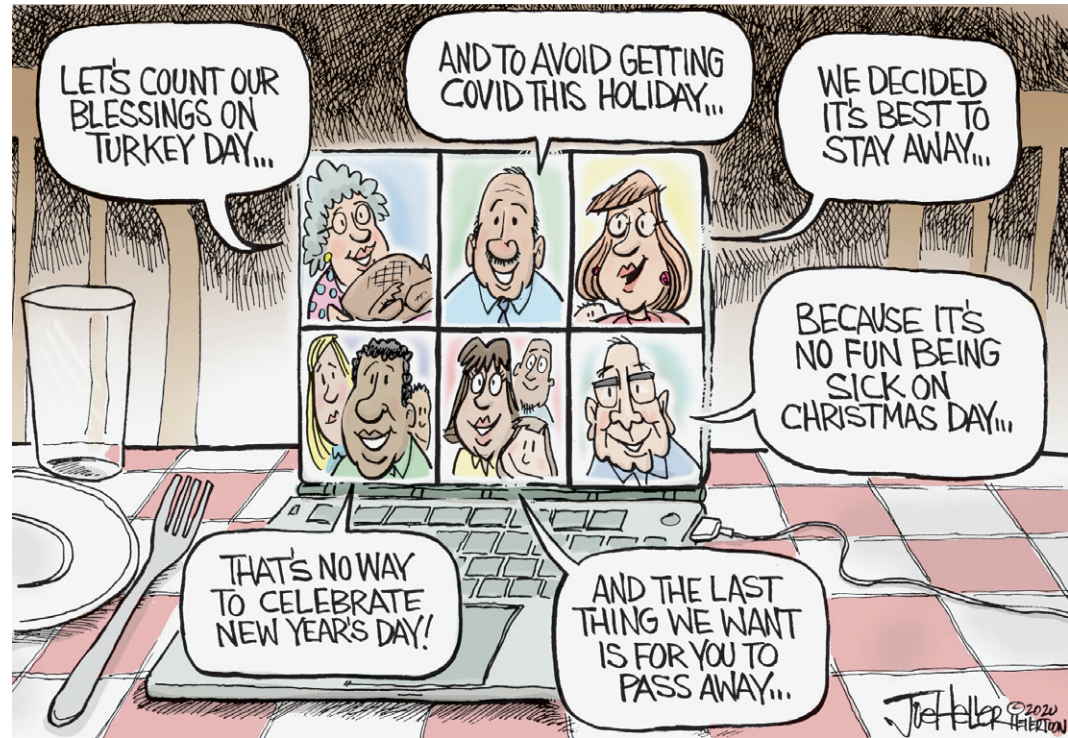
WILMINGTON—Be sure to follow Kuzma Care Cottage on Facebook, a wonderful group of volunteers who are helping to feed Wilmington residents in need. From time to time an anonymous "Donation Angel" appears who does matching \$ gifts for donations. For every \$ donated, and using Northern IL Food bank, Kuzma can buy \$8 of food for every \$1 donated. Another matching gift program coming soon and you can make a difference by helping to feed others. Love thy neighbor.

Trump's trip to Egypt

BRAIDWOOD—Joe Biden was named president-elect by almost all of the networks and state election results. This was about two weeks ago. Trump refuses to concede. He loses lawsuit after lawsuit. It appears that Trump went to Egypt to vacation at "D-NILE."

Across the nation

COAL CITY—If you're at all interested in the mess in California read Michael Anton's new book "The Stakes, America at the Point of No Return." He examines the left liberal one party Democrat state run by super wealthy Big Tech and Hollywood oligarchs. California housing most unaffordable in the nation. San Francisco highest homeless rate in nation. 900 for every 100,000 citizens. Tent camps on sidewalks for homeless drug addicts and mentally disturbed. Freeways and highways deteriorating from heavy traffic. Electric power framework a mess. California pays the highest state income tax, sales tax and gas taxes in the US to fund "welfare" benefits that go to 55 percent of states immigrants and 30 percent of its natives. With federal taxes factored in many middle class workers are forking over 50 percent of income to tax collectors. Now that Democrats



are in charge are we going to become like California on a national scale?

Happy is healthy

SHADOW LAKES—In 1994 at 44 years old I had a massive heart attack as these doctors called it. I don't know what is massive and what isn't. Six weeks later I had to get a quadruple bypass. So I exercise and watch my diet. And at that time I was into coil target shooting which every time you pull the trigger you get 24 pounds of recoil on your shoulder. I was very happy doing it. My doctor Theresa (?) at now St. James but Olympia fields Osteopathic told me happy people live longer. So you go ahead and do what you want to do even though other doctors said not to. It is the same thing with these Covid lockdowns. If you are a happy person you will survive things. If you are unhappy you will not. And here I am now at 71 years old and still doing what I like to do.

America's chumps

COAL CITY—Before the election Joe Biden said that some American citizens were chumps but that didn't bother the people who voted for him to be president. If Joe Biden is able to file presidential mandates the people that voted him into office will find out they are the real chumps. Since the rules he will put out will effect every American citizen and that will destroy the USA and the freedom that all Americans enjoy no matter what political party you prefer. If things change the voters of Joe Biden will still be ungrateful for everything they do they would prefer to be chumps rather than to have freedom.

Sad Thanksgiving

BRAIDWOOD—Americans have a lot of things to be thankful for at Thanksgiving but the Senate isn't one of them. Republican Senate Leader McConnell has no conscience and neither have most Senate members. During a recent televised appearance, McConnell giggled uncontrollably and proudly. Why? For his role in blocking the passage of the second round of sorely needed Covid-19 legislation to help small businesses, the unemployed and those who will be evicted from their homes. McConnell, who happily named himself the Grim Reaper, is delighted when he and fellow Republicans cause suffering toward others and they are amused when they abandon hard-working, self-employed entrepreneurs of the nation's Main Street that keeps our economy going. Renee K.

Election interference

SHADOW LAKES—I have a question. Why is it the Democrats and the whiners from Custer Park whine constantly about Russian interference when Trump won the election in 2016. But I haven't heard anything from the whiners in Custer Park or the Democrats or the liberal media about how Big Tech has interfered with this election. Can somebody answer me in the next sound-off or I'll give you my phone number 708-227-8870 the name is Dan Hill, thank you.

Take a bow

COAL CITY—Congratulations to South Dakota. The population infected by Covid-19 in proportion to population as a whole makes South Dakota's infection rate worse than any nation on earth. Take a bow, Governor Noem. You promised your citizens the freedom not to wear a mask and what you've given them instead is the world's greatest potential to catch the plague.

Kurt K.

Shut the heck up

SHADOW LAKES—Dan Hill, Dan Hill, Dan Hill. There your name has been printed giving you the attention you so dearly need for this week. So now you can go into the kitchen and pour yourself a nice cup of shut the heck up. PS. Go Joe.

It's like reality TV

COAL CITY—Quoting Mitt Romney on Trump: "It is difficult to imagine a worse more undemocratic action by a sitting American President." In America being undemocratic is being unpatriotic, un-American, and sad. All

the noise from Trump is theater, reality TV, not truth. The lies about votes have been proven untrue over and over again. Why the theater? To get voters like you, Dan Hill, to question democracy, the voting process, and to obstruct Biden in his presidency. We know it is reality TV, a show not real because when Trump's attorneys get into court their tune changes. They can get disbarred for lying to a judge, so they admit, yes there were Republican poll watchers in the room among other things. Trump and his minions can lie on TV because you have accepted the lies for 4 years. You, the Republican party and Trump are attacking Democracy because you believe in power over the will of the people. Sad and shame on you. MD

Stop the hate

COAL CITY—Over the last 4+ years, hate and violence has increased extensively without guidance from the Executive Branch to quell it. In fact, the opposite was condoned. We, as the United States, function much better when we can agree and compromise. Yes, disagreement is great; it is often needed for our Democracy to function properly like our forefathers envisioned it to be. It is time for the haters to let go and help find a solution (compromise) to whatever bothers them. Now, after the election, I look forward to the US being a respected world power again instead of portraying itself as a dictatorship as it has progressed to be. We, as citizens of the United States, can help stop the hate. Let's do it.

Says a lot

SHADOW LAKES—I'm listening to Joe Biden say that this is the most fair election in the history of the United States. So I guess this election exonerates President Donald Trump because if the Russians interfered the first time, why didn't they interfere this time? Can Gary Weidner answer me this question? Dan Hill

Ignoring state order

MORRIS—So the whole state is supposed to be on no indoor dining. Why are the restaurants open in the city of Morris? Why aren't the police closing them for allowing indoor dining? What is wrong with the Grundy County Health Department? They should go and inspect these restaurants and close them down. Also, all we need is more truck traffic around Morris. I see they are going to have a Love's truck stop on Brisbin Road off US Rt. 6. That is ridiculous. Anything for money. Please wear a mask.

History correction

WILMINGTON—Hey Dan, sorry to hear about your heart condition. So might I suggest you refrain from reading the sound-off page. From my own experience some of the sound-offs, including yours, get my heart rate elevated. Take care. I called to correct your history of the 2000 election. Gore was not declared the loser because the Supreme Court stopped the vote count in Florida and declared Bush the winner. It turned out that Gore won Florida by 500 votes but the project for a new American century decided we needed to invade Iraq and take their oil so the fix was in. And this plan was in place before September 11, 2001. In fact it was rejected by Daddy Bush so the neo contributors had to wait to start their war mongering until the next Republican president was in place. In closing, I wish you good health in these uncertain times. Stay safe.

Can you do better?

WILMINGTON—This is a question for all the people who display a Pritzker sucks sign. Is that all you've got? Or do you have any ideas or plans you could impart to the governor so as not to suck. Maybe one of you should run for office instead of using a crude insult that changes nothing.

Destroying freedom

SHADOW LAKES—Some people in the USA that decided to cast their hatred against a man that brought plenty back to the USA and decided that the American citizen should come first before any individual in any other country. They had no real reason for their hatred but acted like spoiled brats that want the government to be mommy and daddy so they can get everything free. If everything is free to everyone who is going to fill the shelves or do any of the work? That answer is people from foreign lands that will take over the USA. It was not really hated but a plan to take over the USA and destroy freedom. The people that went along with the hatred and propaganda did not seem to be able to look past the idea of receiving everything free. When everything they already have is free and that's called freedom not government control of freedom.

Thank You!

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THE ON BROADWAY Dancers from Broadway Dance Center in Coal City will present the company's 8th annual Christmas show this weekend. Due to the on-going pandemic, the dance company filmed the production and invite the community to drive-in to see the show on their big screen located in the Ace Hardware parking lot at 2025 E. Division St. Ticket information can be found at showtix4u.com/event-details/42677. The show was filmed at various locations in the villages of Coal City and Diamond.

Courtesy photo

Signed, Sealed, Delivered

On Broadway Dancers to host drive-in Christmas show to benefit families in need

STAFF REPORT

The letters are signed, sealed and ready to be delivered, but it will take a visit from Santa's elves to ensure the jolly old elf gets his letters on time.

As a kick-off to the holiday season, the On Broadway Dancers are taking their annual Christmas show to the screen to share a story of coming together as a community.

"Signed, Sealed, Delivered," is an original production that puts a spotlight on the community as two elves arrive in town to pickup the letters addressed to their boss who has been deemed non-essential due to the pandemic.

The tale they tell makes it clear their boss—a key symbol of the season—is essential.

Determined to get the message of Christmas out and do their part to spread a bit of holiday cheer, the On Broadway Dancers are taking a new direction by presenting their annual Christmas show as a drive-in movie.

As a result of the on-going pandemic, the dancers were unable to have live audiences in the Coal City Performing Arts Center. So with the guidance of studio owner and artistic director Kim Scerine, they set out to put their show, "on film."

"It's something different and allows people to get out



THE LETTERS ARE ready to be delivered, but it will take a visit from Santa's elves—Jake Scerine and Caleb Swick—to ensure they arrive to Santa in time for Christmas. On Broadway Dancers annual Christmas show "Signed, Sealed, Delivered," will be presented Nov. 28 at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

and do something while still remaining safe," she said.

The dancers and actors that narrate and help tell the story have been filming scenes throughout the community since mid-October. The final touches were being added this week ahead of the show set for Saturday, Nov. 28.

The dancers will appear throughout the 60-plus minute show that highlights a number of local businesses, as well as a few surprise cameo appearances.

Area residents have likely seen a couple of elves roaming the streets and playing in the Hope Helps All-inclusive Park, or maybe Snoopy and Olaf fighting in front of Campbell

Memorial Park. The process to put the show together has found the dancers visiting area businesses after hours and even shutting down a portion of South Broadway Street for an evening.

When traditional plans are no longer an option, Scerine said, "you look for other opportunities, and find a way to do it."

It took a village to get the show from page to screen, and everyone involved in the dance company notes how grateful they are to the business and community leaders who helped make it happen over the past eight weeks.

"Everyone has been so wonderful providing access to

their facilities, and being workable. What we all have in common is that we are all in this together," Scerine said.

Even when changes come at the last minute, you adjust and move forward and that's just what she did when the state's new Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation's went into effect and forced her to move the drive-in from the high school parking lot.

The drive-in will be held in the parking lot of Ace Hardware, 2025 E. Division St., located directly behind the dance studio. Shows are at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. and tickets can be obtained at showtix4u.com/event-details/42677, a link to the site is also available on the studio's social media page at Broadway Dance Center. A limited number of tickets are still available.

All proceeds from this year's Christmas show, along with any donations received will go to support local families in need this holiday season. To date, the shows have generated over \$37,000 that has been put toward food, clothing and gifts assistance to area residents.

Scerine said the annual Christmas show is always a highlight of the year for the dancers and studio staff, and seeing first had the impact the shows have on those who come to watch and those who benefit from the generosity of audience members.

Promfest hosting virtual Festival of Trees



Courtesy photo

PREPARATIONS ARE UNDERWAY for Coal City Promfest's annual Festival of Trees and due to the on-going pandemic, the popular event will be virtual this year. The annual fundraiser is presented by the Promfest Committee. Several decorated holiday trees will be up for raffle along with holiday decorations and gift items including a flat top grill. The virtual raffle will be open Dec. 2-6 and the link to the raffle items will be available through the Promfest's Facebook page at [facebook.com/CoalCityFestivalofTrees](https://www.facebook.com/CoalCityFestivalofTrees).

A new way to reflect and remember

STAFF REPORT

An Angel of Hope stands in the center of Coal City's Campbell Memorial Park, a place for reflection and remembrance.

For 14 years the angel statue has served as a symbol of hope for all parents whose children have become angels, a place for bereaved parents to find peace, comfort and healing.

The local statue was brought to the community by Angels of Hope, Inc., and each year on Dec. 6, they invite the community to gather around the angel for a candlelight remembrance vigil.

As the day of remembrance approaches, the organization's board of directors has announced its decision to cancel this year's vigil in light of the on-going coronavirus pandemic.

"Our priority has always been and will continue to be a beacon of hope to those that have lost a child, but we must take into consideration the health and safety of our guests, supporters and community," said Angels of Hope board member Nicole Lusson.

"We recognize that many look forward to Dec. 6 every year as a time to reflect, remember and celebrate the memory of a child," she noted.

Although the traditional evening ceremony will not be held, the organization's members encourage the public to continue with the tradition of placing a single white flower at the base of the angel in honor of a lost child.

Through the generosity of Matt Baskerville, of Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes, single flowers will be located near the angel should individuals be unable to bring one for placement.

The concept for the angel



statue is taken from Richard Paul Evans' best-selling book, "The Christmas Box," in which an elderly woman grieves the loss of her daughter at the base of an angel monument. Although the story is mostly fictional, the monument once existed and is believed to have been destroyed by floods. A statue was later commissioned by the book's author in response to accounts of parents seeking out the angel as a place to grieve and heal.

Coal City's statue is the 69th nationwide and was dedicated to the community in October 2006.

"Although there will not be an organized event this year, Campbell Park remains a place for you to reflect, remember and cherish the memories of our children in the days and years to come. We wish you faith, love, grace and most of all hope," Lusson said.

Santa's mailbox going up in Campbell Memorial Park

The Letters to Santa mailbox will appear in Campbell Memorial Park on Monday, Nov. 30 and remain there until Dec. 18.

Santa's elves will collect all of the letters and forward them to Santa, who will reply back to the children. Parents are asked to enclose a stamped, self addressed envelop to assist Santa in getting a response letter back to their child.

Santa's mailbox has been a project of the GFWC-IL Coal City Junior Woman's Club for more than 30 years.

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Illinois expecting 400,000 initial doses of vaccine

Reader poll indicts half reluctant to get vaccinated

STAFF REPORT

SPRINGFIELD — After Pfizer submitted its application for a COVID-19 vaccine to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration last week, Illinois public health officials have continued preparing locations to store and distribute the vaccine that could be released to frontline hospital workers in a matter of weeks.

Pfizer announced Friday, that it planned to submit its COVID-19 vaccine application for emergency approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration — a process that could take between two and four weeks, Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said.

On Friday, Ezike said she expects the state will receive about 400,000 doses of the vaccine in the first round of distribution.

“That is the number that we’re working with to identify how we will partition that out for the first phase,” she said.

The big question is whether Illinoisans will show up to get vaccinated.

The Free Press

Newspapers polled readers and found that 50% said even if they were offered the vaccine free today, they would avoid getting a shot. That comes at a time when the daily positivity rate for the coronavirus is setting record increases. Among the 31% who said yes was a retired nurse who said she’d be the first in line under the advice of infectious disease doctors. Another 19% in the survey said they would wait three months to see if there are any side effects.

“Hell no,” responded a long-time subscriber. “There’s not been enough research on side or long term effects or effectiveness. Remember thalidomide?”

Most agree more research is needed on long-term effects, among other aspects of the vaccine.

General Gustave Perna, chief operating officer of Operation Warp Speed, which is the Trump administration’s national program to manufacture and distribute a COVID-19 vaccine, said that as soon as FDA approval is granted, the next day they would start shipping out vaccines.

Dr. Moncef Slaoui, Operation Warp Speed’s chief science adviser, said hopefully people will start to be immunized within 48 hours from the

approval. Under the state’s COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Planning Guide released in October, the first vaccine doses released will be given to front line hospital workers and first responders.

Ezike said the hospital workers set to receive the vaccine in the first rounds include staff who are not health care professionals, such as the cleaning and food staff.

Essential workers outside of hospitals and at-risk individuals, including people 65 years of age and older, will be next in line to receive the vaccine in the first phase of distribution when limited doses are available, according to the vaccination planning guide.

Ezike said the initial doses of the vaccine will be distributed through hospitals in each of the 11 regions of the state.

State public health officials are also identifying freezer storage locations, since Pfizer’s vaccine must be kept at 94 degrees below zero.

“We’ve also ordered 20 separate contraptions that can hold vaccines at that ultra-cold level. So those 20 freezers, if you will, will be placed in all of the 11 regions to make sure that there is access for every part of the state to the vaccine,” Ezike said.

Pharmaceutical company Moderna could seek emergency approval for its COVID-19 vaccine application with the FDA by the end of the month, Slaoui said.

Unlike the vaccine under FDA review from Pfizer, Moderna’s vaccine can be shipped and stored long-term at standard freezer temperatures of 4 degrees below zero, for six months.

On Saturday, the FDA also issued emergency approval for a second anti-body therapy treatment for mild-to-moderate COVID-19 infections in adult and pediatric patients.

During Monday’s news conference, Ezike said the government has already provided the state with about 8,500 doses, and that the treatment is meant to be given early in the infection to help prevent hospitalization for high-risk and older individuals.

“We have teams that are working right now to discuss the equitable distribution of this very important resource. We are going to make sure that, in terms of communication, the public is aware of this resource and who are the appropriate candidates,” she said.

Sarah Mansur of Capitol News Illinois contributed to this report.

Coronavirus versus flu: how to tell the difference

Dear Savvy Senior,

Can you explain the differences between the coronavirus and seasonal flu? I’m 70-years-old, and usually get a standard flu shot, but would like to find out what else I can do to protect myself this winter.

Worried Senior

Dear Worried,

Great question! Because of the dual danger of Influenza (flu) and COVID-19, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently warned that this fall and winter could be the worst ever for public health. Understanding this, knowing the differences and similarities between the viruses, and knowing what you can do to protect yourself is the best way to stay healthy and safe through this difficult time.

Flu vs COVID

Because many of the symptoms of flu and COVID-19 are similar, it may be hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone, so testing may be needed to help confirm a diagnosis. With that said, here are some similarities and differences you should know.

For starters, seasonal flu symptoms come on pretty quickly, whereas COVID-19 develops gradually over a period of a few days and then either fades out or gets worse. Common shared symptoms include fever, sore throat, muscle aches, cough, headache, fatigue and even chest pain. Pinkeye and a dry cough are associated with COVID-19, while it’s now thought that a fever is more likely with the flu, as are diarrhea and nausea.

Many people are having their temperatures taken these days before entering public spaces. But fever occurs in only half of COVID-19 cases. Fever does not rule out COVID-19, but the absence of fever makes flu unlikely.

You’re also unlikely to have a runny or stuffy nose with the flu, but you may with COVID-19. What sometimes happens within the nose with COVID-19 is loss of smell and, often as a consequence, loss of taste, too.

To learn more about the similarities and differences between flu and COVID-19, visit the CDC website at

CDC.gov/flu/symptoms/flu-vs-covid19.htm.

How to protect yourself

While there is currently no vaccine available yet to prevent COVID-19, the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. So, stay home as much as you can. If you have to go out, wear a mask and keep at least 6 feet away from other people. And every time you come home, wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds.

There’s also evidence that suggests that people who are deficient in vitamin D may be at higher risk of getting COVID-19, than those with sufficient levels. So, make sure you take in around 800 to 1,000 international units (IUs) of vitamin D from food or supplements daily, and get outside as much as you can.

And to help guard against the flu this year, you should consider getting a flu shot that’s specifically designed for people 65 and older. The “Fluzone High Dose Quadrivalent” or the “FLUAD Quadrivalent” are the two options that provide extra protection beyond what a standard flu shot offers. You only need one flu shot, and if you haven’t already gotten it, you should do it now because takes up to two weeks to build immunity after you receive it.

Pneumonia vaccines

If you haven’t been vaccinated for pneumonia, you should also consider getting the pneumococcal vaccines. Both flu and COVID-19 can lead to pneumonia, which hospitalizes around 250,000 Americans, and kills around 50,000 people each year. But these numbers could be much higher this year.

The CDC recommends that all seniors, 65 or older, get two vaccinations – Prevnar 13 and Pneumovax 23. Both vaccines, which are administered one year apart, protect against different strains of the bacteria to provide maximum protection. Medicare Part B covers both flu and pneumonia shots.

To locate a vaccination site that offers any of these shots, visit VaccineFinder.org and type in your location.

State’s first time unemployment claims drop

The Illinois Department of Employment Security reported 46,800 first-time unemployment claims for the week ending Nov. 14. That’s a decrease of 20,358 from the week prior. Nationally, there were 742,000 first-time claims for the week, an increase of 31,000 from the previous week.

IDES reported the state’s unemployment rate fell 3.6 percentage points to 6.8% for the month of October, prior to increased mitigations taking effect. The September unemployment rate was revised upward from the preliminary report, from 10.2% to 10.4%, according to IDES’ release of data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The state’s unemployment rate was 0.1 percentage point lower than the national unemployment rate of 6.9% for October. The nation-

al rate decreased 1 percentage point from the previous month.

Gov. JB Pritzker said Thursday, Nov. 19H that although state workers prepare to work from home amid Tier 3 mitigations, it shouldn’t affect staff at IDES, who “continue to whittle down any backlog” in unemployment claims.

“We’re trying to have similar rules for state government as we have for offices, for example, in our mitigation plans,” he said. “There obviously are certain circumstances where you can’t ask people to do that because we have a duty to serve people in our state. So, we don’t expect that there will be any ramping down of people who are serving those who are seeking unemployment benefits.”

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If you have any questions, please email us at ccpromfest@gmail.com

Deck your halls sipping on a Hot Buttered Rum

Over the weekend we decided to break out the Holiday décor, and decorate. A quick glance at my Facebook feed confirms that my wife and I are not the only ones that have made the decision to deck the halls a bit earlier than usual.

It's time to hang the outside lights, setup the tree, and arrange the garland on the mantle. While you are decking your halls, reach all the way to the back of the spice cabinet where the Christmas spices are hiding. It's time for the first Hot Buttered Rum of 2020.

This year's Holiday season is going to look a bit different than previous Holiday seasons, but that doesn't mean that we can't treat ourselves to delicious Holiday cocktails. The Hot Buttered Rum is a Christmas classic that nearly everyone has heard of, but not everyone has tried.

A reason that many revelers shy away from Hot Buttered Rum is that many of the recipes online are too labor intensive and are simply overkill in terms of ingredients. At the end of the day, the only ingredients that need to be in a Hot Buttered Rum are rum, butter, sugar, and your choice of holiday spices.

Hot Buttered Rum is not nearly as popular as it was a generation ago. Visit any thrift store in America and you will find a selection of old mugs from the 60's and 70's with the words "Hot Buttered Rum" printed on the side. The fasci-

nation with this drink goes back further than that.

In fact, this love affair began over 200 years ago in the Colonial US. The ingredients in Hot Buttered Rum are representative of the trade routes of the time, all coming together in a delicious warming drink.

One place that Hot Buttered Rum has remained popular is New Orleans. Mardi Gras is held during a season that can resemble what most of know as winter, and some years it will be rainy, windy, and even downright cold.

Every bar and restaurant in New Orleans will have their own take on Hot Buttered Rum on the menu for the patrons that come in out of the cold. It may not be the first drink that you think of when you think of New Orleans, but if you find yourself there in the fall or winter, order a Hot Buttered Rum. You will be pleasantly surprised.

More than likely, you're not going to New Orleans for Christmas. Neither am I, at least not this year. Let's take a look at what we're going to need to elevate our Hot Buttered Rum game at home.

We will start with the butter. Use a "soft" butter, preferably real butter. Real butter melts into the drink leaving a



THE SUNDAY COCKTAIL
Brian Rung

warm, rich texture. Sometimes margarine and other altered butter substitutes leave an odd taste when melted, and will not give the consistency that you need.

The ideal sugar in Hot Buttered Rum is brown sugar, or demerara sugar. Cane sugar can be used, but it lacks the depth and the complexity of darker sugars. The right sugar will melt into the butter leaving you with a perfect butterscotch/caramel flavor.

A good rule of thumb for Hot Buttered Rum is to use "baking" spices as opposed to sugar from a packet that is meant for tea or coffee.

Speaking of baking spices, this one calls for both cinnamon and nutmeg. Don't skimp on either one, especially the nutmeg. After all, nutmeg is one of those spices that "tastes like Christmas" and also happens to pair well with aged rum.

Vanilla extract is extremely potent, start with a few drops and work your way up from there. The vanilla notes should complement the other spices, not overpower them.

Allspice is also potent, so go easy. Don't skip the allspice though, I promise you will miss it if it's not there.

Last but not least, the rum.

Any dark rum will work in the Hot Buttered Rum, but some will work better than others.

Dark Jamaican rum is best suited for Hot Buttered Rum, look for Appleton Estate, Myer's Original Dark, or Coruba. Aged demerara rums will also work, such as El Dorado 12 Year, or Pusser's Navy Rum which is a blend of demerara and Jamaican rums.

Steer clear of light rum, as well as high octane over-proof rums in this one.

Keep the preparation simple. Start with a warm mug, add the butter and spices. Mix or muddle the spices into the butter, it's even ok to partially melt the butter at this point. Once the spices and butter are mixed, add the rum. Give it a quick stir, then top with hot (but not boiling) water.

Hot Buttered Rum is built and served in a preheated tempered mug.

Combine in mug:
1 small slice soft butter
1 teaspoon brown sugar
1 dash ground cinnamon
1 dash ground nutmeg
1 dash ground allspice
Vanilla extract to taste (start with 2-3 drops)

Muddle spices and butter in mug

Add 2 oz. dark rum
Add 5 oz. hot water
Stir and serve
Until next week, enjoy responsibly.

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Driver service facilities close again

Secretary of State announces license extensions

If your driver's license is about to expire don't panic because you've been given an automatic extension.

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White announced last week after closing drivers license facilities that expiration dates for driver's licenses and ID cards will be extended until June 1, 2021. This extension also includes those who have February, March, April and May 2021 expiration dates.

White is encouraging the public to take advantage of online services while offices are closed due to the worsening COVID-19 pandemic. Drivers facilities are scheduled to reopen Dec. 7.

Commercial drivers license [CDL] holders and commercial permit holders are excluded from this extension due to federal requirements.

"The health and safety of employees and the public remains paramount and face-to-face transactions potentially increase the further spread of the virus," White said. "We have extended expiration

dates to assist people during this difficult time. I am also encouraging customers to consider using online services which are available for many office transactions."

Transactions that can be conducted online at www.cyberdriveillinois.com include:

- Renewing a license plate sticker;
- Renewing a valid license for qualifying drivers;
- Renewing a valid ID card for those age 22-64 [seniors 65 and older have free, non-expiring IDs];
- Obtaining a driver record abstract;
- Filing business service documents, such as incorporations and annual reports; and
- Customers with issues involving administrative hearings may contact adminhearings@ilsos.gov

Those who are eligible for online driver's license renewal will receive a letter from the Secretary of State's office with a PIN necessary for online renewal. Those whose driver's licenses or ID cards expired between Feb. 1, 2020 and Jan. 31, 2021, who qualify for online renewal should receive their PIN letter in December 2020 or January 2021.

Those whose driver's licenses or ID card expire after Feb. 1, 2021 will receive their PIN letter approximately 90 days before their expiration date.

White noted that 18 CDL facilities will remain open for CDL written and road exams and include the location at 1111 Blatt St., Bradley.

"Commercial truck drivers provide essential services by ensuring goods can be transported safely and efficiently throughout the state and country during this pandemic," White said.

CDL driving tests are be appointment only by calling 217-785-3013.

"During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been the only government agency open statewide offering in-person transactions. We have remained committed to serving the public. Protecting the health and safety of our residents is my top priority, and this is the guiding principle of our decision making," White said.

All other Secretary of State departments are open to serve the public. Check www.cyberdriveillinois.com for more information.

St. Rose C.C.W. meetings to resume

The St. Rose Council of Catholic Women will resume its regular meeting schedule with the next meeting planned for Monday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. in the school gym.

Unfortunately, the Christmas party cannot take place due to current restrictions.

Please enter at the rear outside door of the gym for check-in procedures. All current safety precautions will be

observed and enforced.

Following a winter break in January and February, regular meetings will be held March 2, April 6, May 4 and June 1 which will end the meeting year.

Anyone with questions can contact any officer including Laura Rusiniak (630) 302-2681; Pat Stromquist (815) 476-6199 or Marlene Akins (815) 476-6186.

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The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) invites you to learn more about and comment on the alternatives considered to improve the interchanges of Interstate 55 at Lorenzo Road and at Illinois Route 129 (IL 129) in Will County. Instead of hosting a regular public meeting, IDOT will share details on the project and encourage public participation until December 14 through a new interactive website.

The website is available now through December 14, 2020 and can be accessed at:

I55LorenzoiL129Outreach.org

Purpose of the site is:

- To present and discuss the alternatives carried forward
- To obtain public input on the alternatives carried forward and potential impacts

At the new interactive website, the public can watch a video about the project, view exhibits, and leave comments. In addition to the website, IDOT's outreach efforts will include a newsletter mailed to impacted residents and the opportunity to ask questions to IDOT staff over the phone by calling (847) 705-4569. Comments received by December 14, 2020 will become part of the official public outreach record.

Individuals without internet access may contact Anna Kutryn, P.E., Project Manager, at (847) 705-4569 for more information about the project.

All written correspondence regarding this project should be sent to:

Illinois Department of Transportation
Attn: Anna Kutryn, P.E.
Bureau of Programming
201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, IL 60196-1096

Email: LorenzoiL129Study@gmail.com
Project website: I55LorenzoiL129Outreach.org

The conducted outreach will be accessible to people with disabilities. Anyone needing special assistance including Spanish interpretation should contact the Project Manager as noted above. Persons who will need a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations should notify the Department's TTY/TTD (866) 273-3681. It may take at least five (5) days to provide accommodations.

OBITUARIES

Richard R. Malone

COAL CITY—Richard R. “Bob” Malone, 66, of Coal City, passed away Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 at Morris Hospital after a courageous battle with cancer.

Bob was born on Feb. 6, 1954 in Joliet to Richard K. and Dorothy J. (nee Stark) Malone. His parents were both deaf and as a result, sign language was Bob's first language. He served proudly in the United States Marine Corp during the Vietnam Era and was stationed several places, including Okinawa, Japan. He married Christine M. Cherven, who was his friend's sister, and who he had known since they were kids, on June 16, 1979 in Joliet. Known as “Bob the Builder” to many, Bob was a Building Official at different times for both the city of Braidwood and the Village of Coal City.

A lover of the outdoors, Bob relaxed by going fishing and camping. He was very social and enjoyed sitting in his beloved garage with the door open visiting with anyone who passed by or drove up. He was an avid amateur pool player and won many trophies over the years. He went to Las Vegas for a pool tournament and met many professional players which he took delight in. He lived on Diet Pepsi, chocolate milk shakes and brownies. He made the most amazing pineapple dip to share. Bob was very family oriented and was a devoted husband, dad, papa and brother. Because of this, Christmas was his favorite holiday. He adored decorating his and Christine's home to the



limit, and with his full beard, he made a very convincing Santa Clause. He was a Chicago Bears Football fan and was known to wear their jersey every game when they were on a winning streak until they lost no matter how dirty the jersey got. Bob's sense of humor is what his family will always treasure.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Christine Malone; his daughter, Amanda (Emily) Wiczorek, of Braidwood; his son, Steven (Tinley) Malone, of Coal City; his grandchildren, William “Zeke” and Isabelle Malone; his sister, JoAnn (Bruce) Bauer, of Midland, TX; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins and his best friends, Donny Ellis, Darrell Olson and Bob Davis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard and Dorothy Malone.

Memorials in Bob's name may be directed to the American Cancer Society, 17060 S. Oak Park Ave., Tinley Park, IL 60477.

Funeral Services will be held privately for the family. Those wishing to participate in Bob's services will be able to view a video on the Ferrari Funeral Services Facebook Page. Bob will be laid to rest at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guestbook at www.ferrarifuneral.com

Ferrari Funeral Services of Coal City are entrusted with arrangements.

Henry A. Marshall

MISSOURI—Henry A. Marshall, “Hank,” 80, of Stoutsville, MO, passed away Nov. 11, 2020 in Stoutsville, MO.

He was born in Wilmington on May 6, 1940. He attended St. Rose School and graduated from Wilmington High School in 1958. He attended Quincy College (now Quincy University) and received an associate's degree from Joliet Junior College. He also received All American Honors for football as a running back for JJC in 1960. He earned a bachelor's degree in general and physical sciences from Northern Illinois University. He also studied at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks.

Hank taught at New Lenox Junior High from 1963 through 1968 and coached the boys basketball team through many undefeated seasons. He also taught at Wilmington High School from 1968 through 1974 where he coached varsity boys basketball and fresh-soph football. Hank was one of the founding fathers for the Wilmington Pop Warner football program (Wilmington Bobcats) in 1970. He was also instrumental in starting the Ritchie, IL chapter of the Izaak Walton League. Hank ran Marshall Construction Company from 1968 through 1974. He joined Carpenter Local Union #1092 in Seneca, IL in 1974, worked out of Millwright Local Union #722 in Salt Lake City, UT, and retired from Millwright Local Union #2158 in Moline, IL. He spent numerous years working as a Craft Labor Supervisor for Westinghouse performing maintenance outages on steam turbines at nuclear power plants throughout the



country. Hank retired to Stoutsville near Mark Twain Lake where he purchased the Dry Dock Sportsman's Lounge, Steakhouse, and Motel in 2002 and operated it along with his wife, Kanyarat (Tanya) through present. He also purchased land in 2007 and developed the Dry Dock Campgrounds in Stoutsville which now boasts 95 campsites on 27 acres. Hank spent his last few years splitting his time between Stoutsville and Hua Hin, Thailand.

Hank is survived by his beloved wife of 13 years, Kanyarat; his three sons with Anita Huston (nee: Vandermark): Jeffrey, of Paris, MO; Steven (Erika), of San Jose, Costa Rica and David (Candise) of Paris, MO; his three step-children; Rathnok, Naracha and Nattasorn, all of Thailand; sister, Irene Heselton (Gerald), of Encinitas, CA; brother, Frank (Tami), of Rembert, SC and sister, Patricia Weiger (Mark), of Naperville, IL. He was adored by his 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by both his parents, Hiram and Catherine Marshall, formerly of Wilmington; his sister, Anne (Richard) Fine and his brother, Robert. He was also preceded in death by Kelly Dougherty (Jeff's wife).

As per Hank's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded.

Memorials may be made to Kuzma Care Cottage, 635 S. Main St., Wilmington, IL 60481 or Senior Citizens Community Center, 112 E. Marion St., Paris, MO 65275.

Michael Fritz

GENEVA, IL—Michael Anthony Fritz, 40, of Geneva, IL, passed away peacefully Nov. 20, 2020.

He was born in Geneva to Virginia Marie (O'Connor) and Leonel Carl Fritz on June 6, 1980.

Mike loved watching Jimmy Stewart movies, Home Alone, The Little Mermaid and Back to the Future. He enjoyed listening to Elvis and the Glenn Miller Orchestra. He often announced his presence at his brothers' sporting events or plays with an exuberant yell or laugh. His nieces and nephews fondly remember playing “dodge Uncle Mike's swinging arms” whenever he came over to visit.

Mike's favorite restaurant was Corfu which he enjoyed after mass at St. John Neuman's of St. Charles. He attended prolife rallies and living rosaries with his mom. Mike also spent many Saturdays working with his dad at JA Air Center of DuPage Airport laughing at any “choice language” he overheard.

The last eight years he resided and flourished at the Marklund Hyde Center of Geneva, IL surrounded by friends and his second family. He loved riding a bike, camping, swimming, or attending movies with his Marklund friends and almost always with his friend, Bobby Hilsabeck by his side.



The youngest of four boys, Mikey was adored by his brothers: Carl (Heidi) Fritz, Tim (Gina) Fritz and Matt (Traci) Fritz. He was a beloved nephew to Donald (Teresa) O'Connor, Tom, Maureen (Tom L.) O'Connor, David (Martha) O'Connor, Pat (Rose) O'Connor, Gene O'Connor, Kathy O'Connor, A. Joseph (Carol) Fritz, John (Gloria) Fritz, Leon (Teresa) Fritz, Donna (Gerald) Bernicky and Robert Fritz and was a wonderful uncle to Colin, Samuel, Molly, Eli, Amelia, Wyatt, Theo and Henry. Mikey will fondly be remembered by friends, family and all who encountered his joyful smile. Mike's light is impossible to extinguish and his loss will be felt by all.

Mike was preceded in death by his father, Leonel Carl Fritz.

Services will be private
In lieu of flowers, donations in Michael's name to Marklund Children's Home, 1 S. 450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, IL 60134 would be appreciated (www.marklund.org/get-involved-2/make-a-donation/).

Friends and family are welcome to sign his guestbook at www.clancy-gernon.com.

Arrangements have been made by Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee.

Lorraine M. Cody

ST. LOUIS, MO—Lorraine M. Cody 90, of St. Louis, MO, formerly of Coal City, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2020 at Delmer Gardens-West in Town and Country, MO.

Born Oct. 4, 1930 in Coal City, Lorraine Mae was the daughter of Joseph J. and M. Bridgid (nee Ryan) Testa. She was raised in Coal City and graduated from Coal City High School with the class of 1948. On Nov. 24, 1957, Lorraine married Edward A. Cody, of County Carlow, Ireland at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church in Coal City. Lorraine held employment for many years at Dierberg's Market as a bakery clerk. She was a member of St. John Bosco Catholic Church in St. Louis and Local 655 of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

Survivors include her two sons: Kevin (the late Cheryl) Cody, of Overland Park, KS and Brian (Jeanne) Cody, of Chesterfield, MO; five grandchildren: Kaitlyn Cody and Lauren Cody, both of Overland Park, KS; Noel (Sarah) Cody, of Brooklyn, NY; Lea Cody, of Arlington, VA; and Bridgid Cody, of Salt Lake City, UT; one brother, John (Linda) Testa, of Port Washington, WI; three sisters-in-law: Arlette Testa, of Morris; Rhoda Cody, of England and Eithne Cody, of County Carlow, Ireland and nieces and



nephews: JoEllen (nee Testa) Fish, Claudette (nee Testa) Schmitt, Edward Testa, Mike Testa, Mark Testa, Shawn Testa, Jennifer Swincicki (nee Testa), Peter Cody, Mary Cody, James Cody, Cecilia Chisolm (nee Cody), Emily Cody, Michael Cody, Colman Cody, Caitriona Cody, Muireann Cody, Justin Cody, and Philip Cody; as well as numerous cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Edward; brothers: Joseph (Rose) Testa Jr., James Testa and brothers-in-law: Patrick (Maureen) Cody, Seamus Cody, Michael Cody and Gerald Cody.

A private family interment will be held at Braceville-Gardner Cemetery where Lorraine will be laid to rest with her husband, Ed.

In lieu of flowers the family requests preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Lorraine's memory to a charity of the donor's choice.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book, upload photographs, and share Lorraine's memorial page by logging onto: www.ReevesFuneral.com/obituary/Lorraine-Cody.

Funeral services and arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Home, Ltd. Coal City.

Frances Rolando

COAL CITY—Frances Rolando, 93, of Coal City and formerly of Goose Lake, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2020.

Born April 1, 1927 at the family home in Rockville Township, Kankakee County, Frances Eloise was a daughter of Arthur and Ina Pearl (Rice) Anderson. She was raised and educated in Ritchie before moving to Custer Park with her family. At the age of 16, Fran went to work at the paper mill in Wilmington during World War II. On Nov. 15, 1946 she married Clarence Rolando in Morris, and together they made their home in Goose Lake. Clarence and Fran opened the Western Auto store of Coal City in 1960, which they owned and operated for the following 30 years. Today the business continues to be operated by the family as Rolando's Furniture and Appliances.

Fran was an active member of Coal City United Methodist Church, and belonged to the Evening Star Circle. A woman of strong work ethic, Fran kept active until recent years maintaining her home and yard, as well as assisting in raising both her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In her free time she enjoyed working puzzles and took pleasure in wine tasting.

Survivors include her children: C. Donald (Deb) Rolando, of Braidwood and John (Sherry) Rolando and Cathy Smith, both of Coal City; four grandchildren: Craig Smith (Shelley Fieldman), of Dwight; Kelly Smith, of Marion, IA; Lindsey Rolando (Chris) Baron, of Riverview, FL and Hannah Rolando, of Coal



City; six great-grandchildren: Mackenzie and Zach Smith, Elijah Smith and Camden, Emma and Alex Baron, and brother-in-law and sisters-in-law: William (Dorothy) Rolando, of Mazon; Ruby Green, of Wilmington; Florence Mitchell, of Morris and Shirley Rolando, of Diamond, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Fran was preceded in death by her parents, Arthur Anderson and Pearl Cooper; step-father, Thomas Cooper; husband, Clarence; sister, Marion Brown and her son-in-law, Gene Smith.

The family will gather at Reeves Funeral Home in Coal City on Saturday, Nov. 28, 2020 from 9 a.m. until the time of private services at 11 a.m. Reverend Brad Shumaker from Coal City United Methodist Church will officiate. Burial will follow in Oakwood Cemetery, Wilmington where Fran will be laid to rest with her late husband, Clarence.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Fran's memory to the Coal City United Methodist Church, 6805 E. McArdle Rd., Coal City, IL 60416

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Fran's memorial page online through social media by logging onto: www.ReevesFuneral.com/obituary/Frances-Rolando

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

Helen Drechsler

MORRIS—Helen Louise Drechsler (nee Lane), 100, passed away peacefully on Nov. 19, 2020 at Park Pointe Place in Morris.

She was born Sept. 6, 1920 on a farm in Sullivan, IL, owned by her parents, Bert and Lovica Lane. Louise, as she was known, was a devout Christian, wife, mother and grandmother who was quietly outspoken. She began her academic and music education by walking miles to “country” schools in the Sullivan area with her sister, Wilma where they took piano lessons together, at ages 8 and 10. Both became very proficient playing the piano and or the organ.

Louise graduated from Sullivan High School in 1937, went on to Northern Illinois University then transferred to and graduated from University of Illinois in 1942 with a degree in music education. She could play many instruments, beautifully sing any song and had the innate ability to develop those talents to her children and future students. Louise met Russell Drechsler at U of I at an Interfaith Convention at Lake of the Woods in Mahomet, IL. Russ was a United Church of Christ member while Louise belonged to the Christian Church. They were married Aug. 15, 1942 and served their churches throughout their lives. Russ was drafted by the US Army in the fall of 1942. Louise followed Russ to his military base assignments, located mostly on the West Coast where she worked a variety of jobs, including the infamous Harry and Davids. Russ went overseas mid 1943 and while overseas, their first daughter, Janet, was born on Sept. 9, 1944. Russ came home to his family on Christmas Day, 1945. The Drechsler family grew while residing in the Buckley-Loda, IL in 1945 where Linda was born in '47, Vern in '49 and Diane in '53.

In 1963, they all moved to Braidwood. In addition to being a great mother, Louise chose



to substitute teach, gave piano lessons, lead the musical programs at their churches and ultimately be a fulltime music teacher while at Reed-Custer School system in Braidwood, where Russ was the school administrator.

Louise and Russ relocated to Atlanta as Russ contracted long term ALS. Janet and Linda, both medical nurses, lived in Atlanta and could offer great assistance in caring for Russ. Louise continued to be a substitute music teacher, a typist at a large insurance company and again, organized and lead the musical program at the Methodist Church. Louise pursued a handicapped van, after Russ was confined to a wheelchair, to take him everywhere all the time. It was amazing to watch her commitment to his happiness. Russ passed in 1995.

Louise continued to live and flourish in Atlanta until 2007 when she moved to Morris, where she lived with her daughter, Diane and husband, Neil Romines for 10 years. In Morris, Louise played the piano for various functions including nursing homes, and was a volunteer at Morris Community Hospital. Louise was the last living member of both her and Russ' family.

She is survived by her children: Janet (Carl Basmajejan), of Sioux Falls, SD; Linda (Jim Collier), of Stone Mountain, GA; Vern and Patty Drechsler, of Neenah, WI and Diane (Neil Romines), of Fairfield Bay, AR; also 8 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. Her life's philosophy was: “I always felt that God would not give me more burden that I could handle.” She handled it well.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Private services were held.

For more information and to visit her online guestbook, log on to www.rwpatterson-funeralhomes.com or find them on Facebook.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

James K. Grady

COAL CITY—James K. Grady, 69, of Coal City, passed away Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020 at Morris Hospital.

James, or Jimmy as he was known to his loved ones, was born on May 8, 1951 in Chicago to Daniel Sr. and Helen (nee Krasnopolski) Grady. He grew up with his close family in the Chicago area and graduated from St. Rita of Cascia Catholic High School. He received his 45 year pin with the Heat and Frost Insulators Local #17. He moved to the Goose Lake area in 1984 and was a long-time member of the Goose Lake Association Board of Directors.

Jimmy enjoyed living at his lake home and was a perfect host to family and friends. His home was a gathering place where he could share the beauty of the outdoors with those he cared for. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was known affectionately to many as “Moe.”



With his bright white hair and beard, Jimmy was an excellent Santa Claus at Christmas time and played him at many local events.

He is survived by his sister, Kathleen Grady, of Coal City; his nieces, Tama (David) Kovar, of Coal City and Kelly (Douglas) Fite, of Morris; and his great-niece and great-nephews: David Kovar Jr. and Alysia and Daniel Fite.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Daniel Sr. and Helen Grady; his brother, Daniel Grady Jr. and his sister, Eileen Grady.

Funeral services will be private. Cremation rites will be accorded following the service.

Friends and family are encouraged to sign the online guestbook at www.ferrarifuneral.com

Ferrari Funeral Services of Coal City are entrusted with arrangements.

Patricia Kelly

WILMINGTON—Patricia Rose Kelly, 74, of Wilmington, passed away Friday, Nov. 20, 2020 at her home.

Born Feb. 25, 1946 in Joliet, Patricia was a daughter of Robert and Harriet (nee Beebe) Alexander. She was raised and educated in Joliet, and graduated from Joliet Central High School. Patricia married Donald Eugene Kelly, and they were blessed with five children. She devoted her life to being a loving wife and mother, and later took great joy in being a grandma and great-grandma. Patricia enjoyed going to casinos and playing bingo, traveling with her husband, and loved going to McDonalds for two apple pies for a dollar.

Survivors include two children, Donald (Bonni) Kelly, of Wilmington and Tina (David) Gombosi, of Monroe, WI; five grandchildren: Austin (Ashley) Kelly, of Woodridge; Dustin and Ashley Kelly, both of Wilmington; Kimberly (Dustin) Helgestad, of Janesville, WI and Chase Gombosi (Karissa Studer), of Lakewood, CO; two great-grandchildren, Henry and Harper Helgestad; three brothers: Jack (Stevie) Alexander, of Crest Hill; Donald (the late Delores) Alexander, of Wilmington and Charles



(Pam) Alexander, of Arizona; several nieces and nephews, and two grandpuppies: Ashes and Gaby.

Patricia was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Donald; three children: Donald Jr., Tracy Lynn, and Kimberly Ann; one granddaughter, Skylar Marie, and six brothers and sisters: Robert Alexander, Eunice Loomis, Barbara Meyer, William Alexander, John Alexander and Thelma Grzincic.

A private family visitation will be held, and cremation rites will be accorded. Patricia will be laid to rest with her husband and daughter at Woodlawn Memorial Park I in Joliet at a later date.

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

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book, upload photographs, and share Patricia's memorial page by logging onto: www.BaskervilleFuneral.com

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

OBITUARIES

Lavern Lutz



MORRIS—Lavern (Levy) Roy Lutz was called home to our Lord on Nov. 18, 2020 at Morris Hospital. He passed away receiving kind and compassionate care, with his wife, Jackie, at his side. They were together and comforting one another every day of their 67 years of marriage.

Levy was born on March 18, 1928, in Morris to Frank and Agnes (Dick) Lutz. He was the middle son of German immigrants, and he took pride in the hard-working spirit of his family. As a child of The Great Depression, Levy learned to value hard work and frugality. He led by example in these areas, always working to provide the best possible life for his wife, Jackie, and his four sons: Lawrence, David, Stephen and Michael. He later went on to teach his granddaughters about saving money and being thankful for what they have, telling and retelling stories about gardening with his mother instead of grocery shopping, eating "ketchup soup," and catching squirrels to survive the depression. He led a life of hard work and diligence, and his example and lessons will live on for generations.

Beginning in 1951, Levy served in the United States Army and spent two years as a private first class stationed in Germany. He drove tanks for the army and had the unique experience of being able to return to the country from which his parents had come and act as a peacekeeper and as a rebuild. He also loved telling of his adventures in the army – driving tanks down the Autobahn and hopping trains to Switzerland on his nights off to see original productions of the Sound of Music.

Upon returning to Morris after his time in the service, Levy married the love of his life, Jacquelyn (Jackie) on May 10, 1953. They went on to be married for 67 years. They faced the wonders and the challenges of life together, side by side. Here in Morris, they raised four sons. The wrangling and guiding and teaching required to nurture Larry, Dave, Steve and Mike should be all you need to hear to understand the strength of Levy and Jackie both as individuals and as a couple.

And nurture and raise them well, they certainly did. Lavern took great pride in his four sons, the men they grew into and the successes they achieved. He loved spending time with his boys. In 2010, Levy and all four sons were blessed to travel to Germany together. Together they were able to visit extended family and tour the country that meant so much to their father. Levy kept in contact and relationship with his German extended family all throughout his life. His German heritage was important to him, and he was so thankful to be able to share it with his sons. All four sons showed love and dedication to both of their parents all throughout their lives.

In his later years, upon becoming a grandpa to six girls, a softness came into his life and into his heart that Levy embraced with open arms. While he was never one to gush, he was the first one to show up at a basketball game, no matter how far away, or at every performance of a theater production. He took so much pride in his granddaughters, and he gave his girls confidence by encouraging their ideas and their talents, cheering for them, and pushing them to grow.

As his great-grandchildren came into the picture, he loved getting to know them, spending time showing them his garden and his flowers. He spent hours looking through old pictures of past fishing exploits, describing the fish in detail, answering as many questions as each child asked.

During his working years, Levy worked at The Federal Paper Board in Morris for 36 years. He then went on to work at Commonwealth Edison, where he worked for 10 years before his retirement. During these 46 years, he worked hard and took pride in his work. Everyone who knew him, knew that his work ethic was strong and that he could be trusted to be responsible and excellent.

Throughout his life, Levy was an avid fisherman. He loved spending time in his fishing boat, usually with his sons, out on the water, and would proudly come home to describe his many, impressive catches. These amazing catches earned him the nickname "Levy Lutz the Living Legend." With his catches, Levy hosted fish fry nights for his extended family, and he cooked up beer-battered walleye that would make anyone's mouth water. He was a master of his craft.

Levy also took great pride in his both his vegetable garden and his flower gardens. The gardens flourished, and he was happy to be able to share what he grew. The flowers in his yard were beautiful and brought smiles to the faces of all who went past. In fact, they were so beautiful, they inspired his daughter-in-law, Molly, a second-grade teacher, to create a field trip every fall and spring, walking from the Immaculate Conception School three blocks away to view Mr. Lutz's beautiful flowers. He looked forward to these visits every year.

Levy is survived by his four sons: Larry (Toni) Lutz, Dave Lutz, Stephen (Paula) Lutz, and Michael (Molly) Lutz; his six grandchildren: Sarah (John) Musick, Erica (Chris) Haan, Stephany Lutz, Michelle (Colton) Kelly, Kate (Brit) Andros and Kristen (Chris) Madigan and his 10 great-grandchildren: Ava Haan, Colin Haan, Zachary Haan, Mason Haan, Elijah Musick, Benjamin Musick, Anthony Andros, James Andros, Clare Madigan and Keira Madigan; he is also survived by many cousins and countless friends.

Lavern was preceded in death by his mother and father, Frank and Agnes (Dick) Lutz; his elder brother, Frank Lutz Jr. and his younger brother, John (Johnny) Lutz. And Levy and Jackie have left behind a strong, tight-knit unit as a testament to their love of family.

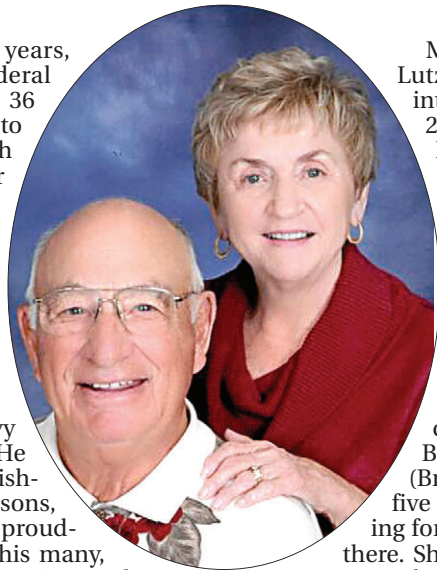
His loss will be deeply felt by both his family and by many in the community of Morris, of which he was such a proud member.

Private graveside services will be held at Mount Carmel Catholic Cemetery in Morris, where Levy will be laid to rest with his wife, Jackie.

In lieu of flowers, anyone wanting to honor Lavern's memory can make donations to the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of Morris, where Lavern was a devoted, lifelong parishioner, to the Christian Youth Center of Morris, which Lavern supported during his life, or to the Joliet Area Community Hospice, who cared for him so beautifully at his passing.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book, upload photographs, and share Lavern's memorial page by logging onto: www.ReevesFuneral.com

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



Jacquelyn Lutz

MORRIS—Jacquelyn (Jackie) Lutz (nee Button) went home into the arms of Jesus on Nov. 20 at Joliet Area Community Hospice, with her sons by her side, and her loving husband, Lavern having passed just two days previously. Jackie and Lavern lived their lives together for 67 years, and they were called home together to be with our Lord.

Jackie was born Dec. 2, 1930, in Morris and was the daughter of Charles Earl Button and Dorothy Button (Brooks). She was the eldest of five children, and her love of caring for others, of mothering, began there. She loved her siblings: Patricia (Patsy), Charles (Sonny), William (Bill) and Deborah deeply, and she intentionally stayed connected to her brothers and sisters all throughout her life. She eagerly looked forward to their visits and phone calls because she wanted to know they were well and hear their news. Jackie led a life defined by her infinite ability to love. To know Jackie was to be loved by her, and to feel that love tangibly and deeply.

Jackie began her own family when she married the love of her life, Lavern (Levy) Lutz on May 10, 1953. She was a devoted wife and then became a devoted mother to her four sons: Lawrence, David, Stephen and Michael. Her four beautiful, talented, and highly spirited boys gave their mother a run for her money, but Jackie was more than up to the task. She was strong and spirited herself, teaching and guiding and nurturing her boys into four strong men.

Jackie was one of the rare souls who can honestly say she lived her dream because her dream was to have a family and love them deeply every day of her life. Her pride in her sons knew no bounds. She was their biggest fan. She wanted to hear every detail of their sporting events and their days at work. She wanted to celebrate their successes and sympathize with them through their setbacks, and she was always there when they needed her. Jackie was a servant in exactly the way Jesus calls us to be. She loved her boys endlessly, and they knew that she did, and they were equally devoted to their mother.

As her sons, Stephen and Michael began families of their own, Jackie was blessed with six granddaughters, and these girls were given the gift of being loved by Jackie. She was fiercely and ruthlessly on their side in every situation. If one of them fell and scraped her knee on the sidewalk, she would scold that sidewalk for daring to hurt her granddaughter. If one of them was called for a foul in basketball, the referee and every spectator would get an earful. In her eyes, her girls could do no wrong.

When her granddaughters were little, she rocked them to sleep singing "Big Rock Candy Mountain," and she would feed them all the treats grandmas are supposed to sneak for their grandkids. As her granddaughters grew, she hosted sleepovers and shopping trips and spent long hours talking, watching sports, painting nails, and investing herself into their lives. Her investment was deep, and it has paid rich dividends. Jackie's ability to love unconditionally has been passed to each of them, and her legacy of love will continue on through many generations.

As her great-grandchildren came into the picture, Jackie was overjoyed to be able to hold the sweet babies and get to know them. No one,

not a single soul, loved babies more than Jackie. She would hold them and rock them and sing to them, and you were hard pressed to get a turn holding them once she had her great-grandbabies in her arms.

Jackie was also so much fun. She had a fantastic sense of humor and loved to laugh with people. And man, did she have a great laugh. It was infectious and joyful, and it was just another way she showed love, by brightening people's hearts. She was also a fantastically generous gift-giver. When Jackie gave a gift, her face would light up as she watched them opening the present, eagerly waiting to see the happiness she knew the gift would bring. She wanted everyone to be happy. Whether it was with a joke or a Christmas present or the perfect chocolate cake with vanilla icing or a listening ear, Jackie was there to raise spirits and soothe hearts.

In addition to loving her family, Jackie's light shone onto her community and her friends. She was involved at her church, the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of Morris, and valued doing her part to create a strong community for her children and grandchildren. Jackie was also very social. She made friends easily and loved them. They shared bowling nights and bridge clubs and lunches. She was intentional about scheduling time to see her friends, showing them that she cared.

During her working years, Jackie worked at the Grundy County Sheriff's Department, and she also worked as a beautician. She had a beautician's chair in her basement all throughout her life, and she gave haircuts to clients and family and friends. Her skill as a beautician stemmed from her love of caring for others, combined with her own elegant and classy style. She had impeccable taste, and she shared her style and grace with those around her.

Jackie is survived by her four sons: Larry (Toni) Lutz, Dave Lutz, Stephen (Paula) Lutz, and Michael (Molly) Lutz; her six grandchildren: Sarah (John) Musick, Erica (Chris) Haan, Stephany Lutz, Michelle (Colton) Kelly, Kate (Brit) Andros, and Kristen (Chris) Madigan; her 10 great-grandchildren: Ava Haan, Colin Haan, Zachary Haan, Mason Haan, Elijah Musick, Benjamin Musick, Anthony Andros, James Andros, Clare Madigan and Keira Madigan; her siblings: Sonny Button, Bill Button and Deborah Komer (Button); many beloved nieces and nephews and countless friends.

Jackie was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Levy; her mother and father, Dorothy and Charles Button and her younger sister, Patsy Sterritt (Button). And Jackie and Levy have left behind a strong, tight-knit unit as a testament to their love of family.

The loss of Jackie will be deeply felt by her family and by many in the community of Morris, of which she was such a proud member.

Private graveside services will be held at Mount Carmel Catholic Cemetery in Morris, where Jackie will be laid to rest with her husband, Levy.

In lieu of flowers, anyone wanting to honor Jackie's memory can make donations to the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of Morris, where Jackie was a devoted, lifelong parishioner, to the Christian Youth Center of Morris, which Jackie supported during her life, or to the Joliet Area Community Hospice, who cared for her so beautifully at his passing.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book, upload photographs, and share Jackie's memorial page by logging onto: www.ReevesFuneral.com

Funeral services and arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral Homes, Ltd. In Morris.

Marsha Barnes

VIRGINIA—Marsha Barnes, 60, of New Port News, VA, passed away Nov. 18, 2020 in Newport News. She was born March 19, 1960 in Joliet, IL to Ethel and William Neese Sr. Marsha was a housekeeper.

She is survived by her loving husband, Keith; her parents, William Sr. and Ethel (nee Howard) Neese; three sons: Clayton (Abigail) Barnes, of Florida; Erick (Michelle) Barnes and Curtis (Katie) Barnes, of Newport News; four granddaughters: Kaylee and Hannah Barnes of Newport News; Emma Barnes, of



Bradley, IL and Grace Barnes, of Alabama; one brother, Richard Neese, of Symerton, IL; one half-sister, Stephanie (Tony) Hildy, of Morris and two sister-in-laws, Diane Neese, of Bradley and Jessica Neese, of Essex.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Avia and Golden Howard and Rosalee and Herman Neese and two brothers, William Neese Jr. and Steven Neese.

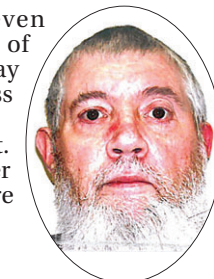
Private services were held on Monday, Nov. 23, 2020 in Newport News where she was placed in a mausoleum.

Steven D. Basham



WILMINGTON—Steven D. Basham, 66, of Wilmington, passed away Aug. 30, 2020 at Silver Cross Hospital in Joliet.

He was born Dec. 2, 1953 in Joliet. He worked for the ICG Railroad, Fisher Auto Parts in Wilmington and Tire Tracks in Wilmington.



Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Linda; son, Jeremy Basham, of Cumming, GA; daughter, Kristine Basham, of Coal City and grandson, Jonathan Voigt, of Coal City.

Steve was laid to rest on Oct. 16, 2020 at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood with full military honors.

Eva Marma

KANKAKEE—Eva Marma, 96 of Kankakee, passed away Monday, Nov. 16, 2020.

Born Aug. 10, 1924 in Kankakee. Eva was a daughter of Sylvester and Anna (Tverionas) Marma.

She is survived by many nieces and nephews, and will be deeply missed by Alice Faletti, Cathy Foile, Terry Livingston and Carol Huston

Eva was preceded in death by six sisters and two brothers.

A private graveside service was held in Braceville-Gardner Cemetery.

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

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

Keith O. Michael



WILMINGTON—Keith O. Michael, 77, of Wilmington, formerly of Brookfield, IL, passed away Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020 at his home.

Born June 12, 1943 in Berwyn, IL, Keith Orville was a son of Orville and Milda (nee Graunke) Michael. He was raised and educated in Lyons, and graduated from Morton West High School with the class of 1961. Following high school, Keith served honorably in the United States Air Force from 1961 until his discharge in 1965. On March 16, 1963, Keith married Judith Ann Pszczola at Zion Lutheran Church in Lyons. He and Judy made their home and raised their family in Brookfield until they relocated to Wilmington 16 years ago.

Keith worked as a tool and die maker for Electro-Motive Division in McCook until his retirement after 39 years of service. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Lyons and the Lyons Mustangs Athletic Club. Keith was a very active man that took great pleasure in sports. He coached and played softball, enjoyed going bowling and golfing, and practiced Aikido martial arts. Keith was an accomplished scuba diver and volunteered with the Lyons Underwater Recovery Team. He also liked to spend his time outdoors fishing and camping. Above all else was Keith's love of family and being able to be with them as much as possible.

Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Judy Michael, of Wilmington; four daughters: Michele Lantvit, of Bolingbrook; Pam (Rich)



Tworek, of Wilmington and Sheri (Brandon) Evans and Colleen (Robert) Henderson, both of Plainfield; 11 grandchildren: Nicholas Capozziello, Tyler Lanvit, Christopher Tworek, Morgan Lanvit, Madyson Lanvit, Nathan Tworek, Sydney Henderson, Ethan Evans, Payton Henderson, Nora Evans, and Lucy Evans; two great-granddaughters: Alivia and Sylvia Capozziello; numerous step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren, mother-in-law, Norma (the late Casimir) Pszczola, of Wilmington; one brother and two sisters: Nadine (the late John) Pankow, of Lyons; Donna (the late Wayne) Holous, of Lemont and Duane (Karen) Michael, of Lyons, and several nieces and nephews.

Keith was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, Norine in infancy, and one brother-in-law, Raymond (Stefa) Pszczola.

Per Keith's wishes, cremation rites are being accorded, and services will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made as gifts in Keith's memory to the Parkinson's Foundation or to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book, upload photographs, or share Keith's memorial page by logging onto: www.BaskervilleFuneral.com

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

Pedestrian killed on I-55

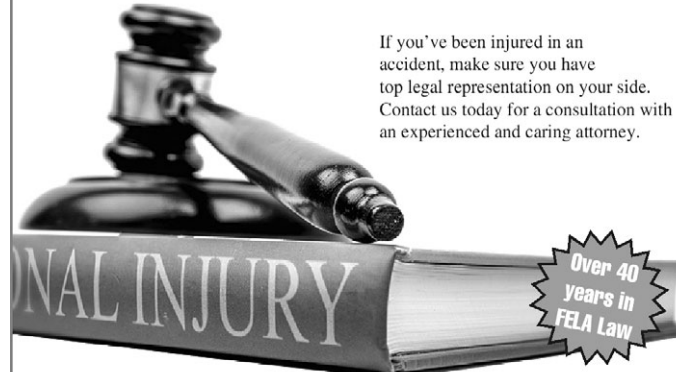
Traffic on southbound Interstate 55 near mile marker 269 in Will County was shut-down Monday after a man crossing the roadway was struck and killed.

Illinois State Police report the incident happened just after dark, at approximately 5:20 p.m., when Renold Bean, 58, of Romeoville, entered the southbound lane in an attempt to cross the roadway.

Bean was hit in the left lane by a 2018 Silver Chevrolet being driven by Mark S. Bouchard, 62, of Plainfield, IL.

Bean was transported by ambulance to a local hospital where he was pronounced deceased. The roadway was reopened at approximately 6:39 p.m.

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Feds indict Madigan's closest associates

On Page 9 of last week's federal indictment of four people accused of conspiring to bribe House Speaker Michael Madigan with favors from ComEd is this heading: "Defendants and Relevant Individuals."

But the first person listed is not one of the defendants. "Public Official A was the Speaker of the House of Representatives," the list begins.

The feds don't just throw these things together like some college freshman who's late with a term paper. Indictments, particularly in political cases, are often carefully crafted in order to send a message. So, it obviously ain't good when you're at the very top of the government's defendant list and you're not even a defendant.

It's also not exactly great when your former consigliere and most trusted friend Mike McClain is indicted along with other once-powerful people in your orbit for conspiring to bribe you.

And that's a big reason why we've seen so many House Democrats declare in the past several days that they will not vote to reelect Speaker

Madigan.

Quite a few people, including attorneys I've spoken with, appear to agree with McClain's lawyer that the feds are "attempting to rewrite the law on bribery and criminalize long-recognized legitimate, common, and normal lobbying activity into some new form of crime."

They may have a valid legal point. McClain and the others might be able to beat this rap. I don't know. I've seen others make that claim and fail.

But, c'mon, the stuff in the indictment isn't "common" or "normal," at least outside Madigan's 13th Ward.

The amount of time spent obsessing over 10 summer internships for kids in Madigan's ward (some of whom didn't even qualify) bordered on farce. My "favorite" part of the indictment was when ComEd was essentially warned not to count those interns against the number of patronage jobs the company was doling out to the ward.

And how many political organizations successfully install precinct captains into no-show contract jobs in this day and age? Also, how many

state legislators think they can install someone on a utility's board of directors?

Like any unfettered, unquestioned bureaucracy, they took their mission to an absurd extreme. And, this time, it resulted in indictments.

Up until now, Madigan has been the most adaptive and adept politician I've ever seen. You don't stick around for 48 years by remaining stagnant, I suppose.

He began his career as a typical tough-on-crime, socially conservative, Southwest Side Irish Catholic. He's since become pro-choice, voted for both gay marriage and to abolish the death penalty and backed up the Black Caucus in its difficult years-long effort to block criminal penalty enhancement legislation. He spent years defending the

rights of trial lawyers, then pushed through a medical malpractice reform bill when the issue started hurting his members. He went after the public employee unions over their pensions when he felt he had to, then united all unions like never before when the state elected an anti-union governor.

At his most recent low point, Madigan quickly committed to "change the culture" in the House during the 2018 sexual harassment scandals. He saved his own skin at a time when lots of folks thought he wouldn't make it through.

But he has insisted since the ComEd scandal broke that he believes it's not only his right to help people find jobs and contracts, it's actually his duty. There would be no change to that particular cul-

ture he created. There'd be no "evolving" as he'd done on so many other issues. And for good reason.

Madigan's machine is old school. It runs on patronage. And he needs a lot of patronage to keep his huge machine humming. He's always on the hunt for opportunities, and his people love him for taking care of them and are fiercely and forever loyal.

But patronage is supposed to be a means to an end of running successful political campaigns, and it unfortunately appeared to become an end in and of itself.

The favors culture Madigan created led to

ComEd's deferred prosecution agreement, and that DPA led to last week's indictments of his close associates, and those indictments led to an even larger member revolt which appears, as I write this, to be about to remove the gavel from Madigan's hands.

The old-timers said that Dan Rostenkowski, George Ryan and others got themselves in trouble because they didn't change with the times. Madigan was supposed to be different. And he actually was for many years. Until now.

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



CAPITOL FACTS
Rich Miller

Braidwood Lions to collect used Christmas lights

The Braidwood Lions Club will be collecting used/non-working strands of Christmas lights starting Sunday, November 15th.

Collection bins will be located inside Whitmore Ace Hardware in Braidwood and Coal City, and inside Braidwood City Hall until January 31st. The strands of lights will be recycled by the Lions of

Illinois Foundation with proceeds to benefit the foundation's sight & sound services provided to local Lions Clubs.

A collection bin will also be available during the club's annual Christmas Tree Sale fundraiser, hours of operations. For more information please call (815)791-8093 or visit www.braidwoodlionclub.org.

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HELP WANTED
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UPSTAIRS
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GREG SPIEWAK.....	278-2772

JIM MASKEL.....	693-0180
JOELLYN JOHNSON.....	252-1724
KELLY PINA.....	823-6147
KIM GARRETSON.....	545-5723
LORRIE TOLER.....	715-5959
MARYANN SPIEWAK.....	708-289-4983
RODNEY BAUDINO.....	674-2583
SCOTT HUNT.....	584-6930
SHAWN HORNSBY.....	474-6670
SHERI SIMMS.....	955-0482
TAMI FERGUSON.....	325-0550
TERRI KIEF.....	474-1575
THERESA LAMB.....	735-8494
TOM WAWCZAK.....	735-2868
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COALER SPORTS

IHSA pauses all winter sports, activities until further notice

The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Board of Directors met for a special virtual meeting last week, when they decided to pause all winter sports and activities for now. "All IHSA sports and activities will cease by Nov. 20 for what we hope is a short-term pause," said IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson. "Given the rising COVID-19 cases in our state and region, we support the Governor's mitigations and believe it is imperative for everyone in the state to do their part in following them so that we can return to high school sports participation as soon as possible."

The Board will revisit the status of winter sports on Dec. 2, and again

at a regularly meeting Dec. 14, if necessary. "Taking into account the current state mitigations, the Board believes that early to mid-December will be the most reasonable target to review the status of winter IHSA sports and activities," said Anderson. "The Board is sensitive to the scheduling difficulties these delays create for athletic directors and coaches. However, our experiences this summer and fall lead us to believe that setting arbitrary start dates hinders the process even more. We realize it may seem redundant, but we have to preach patience as we await more data and direction from the state."

The Board was steadfast in their

desire to remind all athletes and athletic programs that adhering to the mitigations is vital to the hopes of safely playing high school sports in Illinois as soon as possible.

The Board provided the following participation clarifications to member schools:

Winter Season Start Date: Given the timing of the Governor's new mitigations, November 16 will not be recognized as the start date of the winter season, regardless of whether winter sport teams conducted any official tryouts or practices. A new start date will be established for each sport once winter sports can be conducted again.

Conditioning & Weight Training:

Conditioning and weight training before and after school are paused. Local schools will decide if conditioning and weight training programs that are a part of their academic curriculums continue or are ceased.

Open Gyms: Are paused and cannot be conducted at this time.

Outdoor Workouts: Outdoor workouts may be conducted in any sport in groups of 10 or less with masks and social distancing. Coaches are counted toward the 10. Use of sport-specific equipment is allowable with proper sanitizing practices.

One-on-One Skill Work: Per Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigations and with school approval, one-on-

one skill work between a coach and student-athlete is permitted for winter sports only, but is limited to one coach and one student-athlete per facility.

Activities: Practices and competitions may only be conducted virtually.

Non-School Participation: All sports organizations in the state, school or non-school, have been directed to abide by the Governor's mitigations. IHSA coaches cannot organize non-school participation in any fashion. IHSA by-law 3.100 will be in effect once winter sport seasons begin following this pause.

Community COVID closures announced as Tier 3 begins

STAFF REPORT

Hours after Gov. JB Pritzker announced the state would enter Tier 3 mitigations due to a resurgence of COVID-19, the village of Coal City issued notice it was closing village hall to walk-in traffic.

"The village is doing its part to adhere to the guidelines," Village Administrator Matt Fritz said.

Village staff will remain available by phone and e-mail, however no one will be allowed into the town's administrative offices and that includes the Coal City Police Department.

Payments for utility bills can be made at the walk-up box located at the front

entrance to village hall or the drive-thru drop box located at the southwest corner of village hall prior to the alley exit. Additionally, payments can be made online via the State Treasurer's e-pay payment system by clicking on the 'pay bill' button located at the bottom of the village's website at www.coalcity-il.gov.

In the early months of the pandemic the village hall had closed its doors to slow the spread of the virus, later re-opening to the public. Village board and committee meetings had also gone online and just recently went back to in-person sessions.

The request from Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health to stay home as moved those meetings back on-line.

Like it's neighboring community, the village of Diamond has closed its doors to walk-in traffic. The closure was made at the start of the pandemic and had remained in place out of precaution for the town's staff.

Mayor Terry Kernc and her staff continue to maintain office hours and are available by phone and e-mail for those needing to reach the village hall or obtain services.

In a message sent to residents last week, Kernc said, "we are all in this together and must help each other come out on the other side of this pandemic whole."

Service delayed one day

Residents in the villages of Coal City and Diamond are reminded that trash pickup will be delayed one day due to the Thanksgiving holiday, according to Environmental Recycling & Disposal.

Next week's yard waste collection is the last for the season. After that collection and until the first collection in April, the 95-gallon yard waste container can be used for additional refuse.

Turkey

Get a turkey from the stor. Before you cook it you need to stuff it. Cook the turkey at 425 degrees for 50 wrs. The tukey is done when wen the teceis yumey. You can eat mash Ptados with the turkey. For dessert you can eat ice cream and poi.

—by Hunter

Get a turkey proshesor. Before you cook it you need to unfe-sit, Cook the turkey at 3 degrees for 2 mins. The turkey is done when bes. You can eat corn with the turkey. For dessert you can eat iskrem.

—by Ayden

Get a turkey frm. Before you cook it you need to piuc of the fethrs. Cook the turkey at 3 degrees for 4 min. The turkey is done when it beps. You can eat corn with the turkey. For dessert you can eat piy.

—by Miah

Get a turkey stuwr. Before you cook it you need to stufin. Cook the turkey at 5 degrees for 5405. The turkey is done when you are done ckucin. You can eat Apple Piy with the turkey. For dessert you can eat isckrem.

—by Haven

Get turkey at the stor. Before you cook it you need to un frees it. Cook the turkey at 10 degrees for 20 minis. The turkey is done when you are done cooking it and cuting. You can eat mash putatos corn green beans stufing with the turkey. For

dessert you can eat pie.

—by Dylan

Get turkey fum frm. Before you cook it you need to stuff Cook the turkey at seven degrees for tem mis. The turkey is done when dins. You can eat bogley with the turkey. For dessert you can eat kak.

—by Landon

Get a turkey brn. Before you cook it you need to stuf. Cook the turkey at 20 degrees for 2:00. The turkey is done when 2:00. You can eat ris with the turkey. For dessert you can eat pucin piy.

—by Reed

Get a turkey for the famr. Before you cook it you need to pluck the feathers. Cook the turkey at 70 degrees for 10. The turkey is done when it beps. You can eat putad with the turkey. For dessert you can eat ice skrem.

—by Aubrey

Get a turkey stater. Before you cook it you need to stt it. Cook the turkey at 100 degrees for 5 min. The turkey is done when you are done cook it. You can eat greben with the turkey. For dessert you can eat apple pie.

—by Reagan

Get a turkey at a stor. Before you cook it you need to stuff it. Cook the turkey at 10 degrees for 1 min. The turkey is done when it is hot. You can eat corn with the turkey. For dessert you can eat ise ckrem.

—by Dante

Evening with Santa Claus files as new business

LEGAL NOTICE
Assumed Name
Publication Notice
Public Notice is hereby given that on November 16, A.D. 2020, 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 Evening with Santa Claus, located at 1051 Park Blvd., Morris, IL 60450.
Dated this 16th day of November, A.D. 2020.
Kay T Olson, Grundy County Clerk
Published in the Coal City Courant on Nov. 18, Nov. 25 and Dec. 2, 2020.

White Art On Canvas files as new business

LEGAL NOTICE
Assumed Name
Publication Notice
Public Notice is hereby given that on Nov. 19th, A.D. 2020, 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 White Art On Canvas, located at 5 Washington Drive, Coal City, IL 60416
Dated this 19th day of November A.D. 2020.
Kay T Olson, Grundy County Clerk
Published in the Coal City Courant on Nov. 25, and Dec. 2, 9, 2020.

Airete files as new business

LEGAL NOTICE
Assumed Name
Publication Notice
Public Notice is hereby given that on November 4, A.D. 2020, 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 Airete located at 2565 Indian Grass Rd. Morris, IL 60450.
Dated this 4th day of November, A.D. 2020.
Kay T Olson, Grundy County Clerk
Published in the Coal City Courant on Nov. 11, 18 and 25, 2020.

Demolition Wrestling Club files as new business

LEGAL NOTICE
Assumed Name
Publication Notice
Public Notice is hereby given that on October 22, A.D. 2020, 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 Demolition Wrestling Club, located at 402 Mondamin St., Minooka, IL 60447.
Dated this 22nd day of October, A.D. 2020.
Kay T Olson, Grundy County Clerk
Published in the Coal City Courant on Nov. 11, 18 and 25, 2020.

Attorney Black files Reyes estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE
No. 2020 P 107
In the Matter of the Estate of Alexander Reyes, Deceased
CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of Alexander Reyes. Letters of office as Independent Executor were issued to Steven Reyes, 22319 S. Eastcliff Dr., Joliet, IL 60404, whose attorney is FRANK J. BLACK, BLACK & BLACK, 201 Liberty Street, Suite 211, Morris, Illinois 60450.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Grundy County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington St., Morris, IL 60450, with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or, if mailing or delivery of a notice is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
STEVEN REYES
INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR
Frank J. Black
Black & Black Lawyers
201 Liberty Street
Suite 211
P.O. Box 148
Morris, IL 60450
815-942-0594
Published in the Coal City Courant on Nov. 25 and Dec. 2, 9, 2020.

Attorney Black files Sammy estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE
No. 2020 P 105
In the Matter of the Estate of Wallace Sammy, Deceased
CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of Wallace Sammy. Letters of office as Independent Executor were issued to Gary Matteson, 926 E. Jefferson St., Morris, Illinois 60450, whose attorney is FRANK J. BLACK, BLACK & BLACK, 201 Liberty Street, Suite 211, Morris, Illinois 60450.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Grundy County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington St., Morris, IL 60450, with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or, if mailing or delivery of a notice is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
GARY MATTESON
INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR
Frank J. Black
Black & Black Lawyers
201 Liberty Street
Suite 211
P.O. Box 148
Morris, IL 60450
815-942-0594
Published in the Coal City Courant on Nov. 18 and 25 and Dec. 2, 2020.

Attorney Fisher files Magnetta estate notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS - IN PROBATE
In the Matter of the Estate of Linda L. Magnetta, Deceased. Case No. 2019 P 94.
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Linda L. Magnetta of Minooka, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 14, 2019 to Julie A. McClelland as Independent Executor.
The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Grundy County Court House, 111 East Washington Street, Morris, Illinois 60450, with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, which is on or before May 25, 2021 or if mailing or delivery of this notice from the personal representative is required by Sec. 18.3 of the Probate Act of 1995, the date stated in that Notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the co-representatives and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated: November 25, 2020.
Julie A. McClelland, Independent Executor.
Jeffrey L. Fisher, Attorney at Law, Attorney No.: 06184265, 207 South Water Street, Wilmington, IL 60481. (815) 476-7635.
Published in the Coal City Courant Newspaper on Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 9, 2020.

Attorney Black files Bolin estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - IN PROBATE
No. 2020 P 108
In the Matter of the Estate of James E. Bolin, Deceased
CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE is given to creditors of the death of James E. Bolin. Letters of office as Independent Executor were issued to Donald E. Bolin, 7 Valley View Place NE, Iowa City, IA 52240, whose attorney is DONALD F. BLACK, BLACK & BLACK, 201 Liberty Street, Suite 211, Morris, Illinois 60450.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Grundy County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington St., Morris, IL 60450, with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or, if mailing or delivery of a notice is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
The designated resident agent for the Executor is Attorney Donald F. Black, 201 Liberty St., Suite 211, Morris, IL 60450.
DONALD E. BOLIN
INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR
Donald F. Black
Black & Black
201 Liberty Street
Suite 211
P.O. Box 148
Morris, IL 60450
815-942-0594
Published in the Coal City Courant on Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 9, 2020.

Village of Diamond board meeting dates for 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE
Approved 2021 Board Meeting Schedule
Listed below is the schedule of regular meetings for the 2021 calendar year of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners for the Village of Diamond. Regular meetings of the Mayor and Commissioners shall be held on the second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Tuesday in each month at six o'clock p.m. (6:00 p.m.). If a regular meeting falls on a legal holiday, the meeting shall take place on an alternate date as determined by the board.
The approved meeting dates for 2021 are as follows: January 12, 2021; January 26, 2021; February 9, 2021; February 23, 2021; March 9, 2021; March 23, 2021; April 13, 2021; April 27, 2021; May 11, 2021; May 25, 2021; June 8, 2021; June 22, 2021; July 13, 2021; July 27, 2021; August 10, 2021; August 24, 2021; September 14, 2021; September 28, 2021; October 12, 2021; October 26, 2021; November 9, 2021; November 23, 2021; December 14, 2021; December 28, 2021.
Published in the Coal City Courant on Nov. 25, 2020.

Claypool Drainage and Levee District reports on file

PUBLIC NOTICE
DRAINAGE NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commissioners of the Claypool Drainage and Levee District did, on November 10, 2020 present and file in the Circuit Court of Grundy County, Illinois, their Financial Report for said District for the period ended October 31, 2020. Objections to the report must be filed with the clerk of the court within 10 days after the first publication of this notice.
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that the Commissioners of the Claypool Drainage and Levee District did, on November 10, 2020 present and file in the Circuit Court of Grundy County, Illinois, their Certificate of Levy of Annual Maintenance Assessment for said District for the period ended October 31, 2020. The total amount of the annual maintenance assessment contained in the assessment roll is \$99,235.32. Objections to the Levy must be filed on or before December 10, 2020. A hearing to confirm the levy has been set for December 14, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. before the Circuit Court of Grundy County in the East Courtroom of the Grundy County Courthouse, Morris, Illinois.
Corri Trotter, Circuit Clerk
Robert Koerner, Terry Bitner and Joseph Brown
Commissioners of the Claypool Drainage and Levee District
Published in the Coal City Courant and Braidwood Journal on Nov. 18 and 25, 2020.

Foreclosure notice of 2375 Chestnut Lane

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 13TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY - MORRIS, ILLINOIS
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, PLAINTIFF, VS. MORRIS G SMITH; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.
20 CH 34
2375 CHESTNUT LANE, MORRIS, IL 60450
JUDGE
PRESIDING JUDGE
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU, Morris G Smith, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:
LOT 13 BOULDER HILL SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF A PORTION OF WEST HALF OF THE EAST 1/2 OF SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 34 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, RECORDED OCTOBER 15, 1986 AS DOCUMENT NO. 286039 IN PLAT CABINET F AT SLIDE 101; IN GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as: 2375 Chestnut Lane, Morris, IL 60450 and which said Mortgage was made by, Morris G Smith, Mortgagor(s), to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Grundy County, Illinois, as Document No. 577893; and for other relief.
YOU MAY STILL BE ABLE TO SAVE YOUR HOME. DO NOT IGNORE THIS DOCUMENT.
By order of the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Court, this case is set for Mandatory Mediation on January 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Grundy County Law Library; 111 E. Washington Street, Morris, Illinois. A lender representative will be present along with a court appointed mediator to discuss options that you may have and to pre-screen you for a potential mortgage modification. For further information on the mediation process, please see the attached NOTICE OF MANDATORY MEDIATION.
YOU MUST APPEAR ON THE MEDIATION DATE GIVEN OR YOUR MEDIATION WILL BE TERMINATED.
UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before December 18, 2020, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.
E-filing is now mandatory with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider.
If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit www.illinoislegalaid.org. If you are unable to pay your court fees, you can apply for a fee waiver. For information about defending yourself in a court case (including filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to www.illinoislegalaid.org. You can also ask your local circuit clerk's office for a fee waiver application.
PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
1 N. Dearborn St. Suite 1200
Chicago, IL 60602
Ph. (312) 346-9088
File No. 20-02668IL
13160137
Published in the Coal City Courant on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 25 and Dec. 2, 2020

Teague hopes to keep living her dream, signs to play softball at Ferris State

BY SHAWN LONG
STAFF WRITER

Coal City catcher Natalie Teague is not ready to hang up her cleats just yet as she has signed her letter of intent to play Division II softball at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan.

Softball has always been Natalie's cup of tea. She started when she was in tee ball and recreation ball. She didn't want to stop after that.

"I played rec ball until I was about eight," said Teague. "The rec ball season ended and I was like, 'dad I want to play more. And he was like, 'you can't really play more. Coal City only offers this much time but you can tryout for your first travel team.' That's when I got introduced to the big role of softball. That started everything."

While she also played volleyball and soccer, she loved softball that much more, and wanted to put her heart and soul into it.

"When I got into travel ball, I was like I want to focus on one sport and my parents told me, I couldn't do both. That's going to be a lot on your little body. I played volleyball but I wanted to spend a little more time preparing for softball."

Natalie had a tough time being a part of a travel team

but she didn't quit.

"In my first year of travel ball, I played on a very below-average team," she continued. "We didn't win one game. I was eight playing on a 10-U team. I was not as mature as the other girls. The girls were stronger, bigger, faster and so I kind of sat the bench my first year."

Even though her first two experiences on a travel team didn't go how she planned, she was hooked.

"I did make it but I was nine playing on a team with a bunch of 11 year olds and I just wasn't there. Every girl was hitting bombs, doing crazy plays and I was just not as good as everybody else."

That's when her dad suggested she start catching and it stuck into her mitt like a fast ball.

"I wanted to be a catcher and at first I was wondering if I wanted to do it because it seemed pretty hard but I worked a lot on that summer. The next year I played a third year of travel with the girls that were my age and I think the moment I found out I'm getting pretty good at this was after every single game. I'd get a compliment from the other team's coach."

Natalie had offers from other schools.

"So what I did is I made a little chart with my parents," commented Teague. "We sat



File Photo

NATALIE TEAGUE recently signed her letter of intent to play softball at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan. Teague will put on the Lady Coaler uniform one more time as they are all hopeful for a summer season this year.

down and we kind of just looked at 10-ish schools. They weren't all talking to the coach kind of thing but I kind of just narrowed it down to four or five things. Did they have my program? How far away are they from home? How is their softball team? How they ran the program? After narrowing it down, there was really no other option that was as close as Ferris."

Ferris State had her program while the campus and coaches made her feel right at home.

"I kind of wanted to be a diagnostic synographer," said Teague. "And they were one of the only schools that has a stable program. That was kind of my main thing. I went there and I absolutely loved the campus. The people were super nice. My coaches are great.

Everything just seemed like home so it was basically like a this is it kind of thing."

The four-hour drive is ideal for Teague.

"Originally, I wanted to be as far away as possible, slowly I was like, 'I don't want to go as far away' so I was kind of looking for a little less than four but then Ferris came and I was like I love the school and I'm going to sacrifice the closer to home thing and it's not too far. It's comfortable enough to where I'm kind of on my own."

Natalie will catch for the Bulldogs, who are a growing program after finishing 8-10 last season, and is looking to contribute in any way possible as a freshman.

"I'm hoping to contribute to that. I'm pretty excited about it. They are DII so they are thinking...obviously not in my time...of moving into D1 in the next 15 years."

Teague can help the Bulldogs, who batted .288 as a team last year, win some games. In her junior year, she led the Coalers with a .478 batting average, belting a home run with eight doubles and 22 RBIs.

And while she can hit the ball, the biggest thing that drew them to her was how loud she gets on the field of play during the game.

"They came out and they saw a travel game and they

really liked how, as a catcher, I'm one of the loudest and most annoying catchers. But I think it's extremely important and it really helps and they definitely agreed with that. That's one of the most things that they were super excited about. They liked a little bit of everything but the most of it was the catching aspect."

Teague has a 4.2 GPA at Coal City High School so she knows what it takes academically to succeed.

"I did actually have a problem with my time management for the longest time, but once I hit high school, was like I need to get this stuff done so I'd do it before practice or stay up late. Whatever I had to do to get my homework and studying done, I'd do it."

Natalie's coaches are planning for a spring start. "As long as the COVID numbers don't completely skyrocket, they're going to try to get some games in."

While Teague won't get to play her first season, she will get to watch and see how things are done for a season before taking over the catching duties as a sophomore.

The Coal City senior will have one more summer season of softball with the Lady Coalers. Then, it's off to Big Rapids, Michigan to play softball at Ferris State University.

Past coaches recognize standout volleyball Coalers

BY SHAWN LONG
SPORTS WRITER

Coal City volleyball had many stellar years in their program's history and it was mainly because they had the best players to come through Coal City High School. Most of those athletes went on to play in college.

Imagine if coaches formed a team with all of those girls on it.

They would never get beat.

Two former Lady Coaler coaches had little trouble picking who they thought would make the team.

Former Lady Coaler coach Barb Jansen, who led the Lady Coalers to third place at state, two sectional titles and nine regional titles, compiled an overall record of 360-91 from 1985-98.

Jansen was able to come up with a list of players who would easily make any dream team.

Jansen, who was nicknamed "The Sergeant" by the football coaches, said she remembered how well the parents and fans followed the team.

"The parents were so supportive. They all dressed alike. They wore Coaler plaid and they did cheers in the bleachers."

Jansen also remembers how they used to go back-and-forth with Wilmington year in and year out.

"They had good athletes and they'd just figure ways to keep pounding it at you and they did," added Jansen. "We had our hands full with Wilmington a couple different years. We usually won but there were disappointing losses too."

Wilmington was one of their rivals but the most competitive one was Reed-Custer,

who really gave the Lady Coalers a run for their money.

"They gave us a handful too. It was a conference match and they beat us 15-1 in the first game. In the second game, we went in and we beat them 15-2 and then we won the third game so it was quite hotly contested at times. They were a big rival and so was Lisle High School. They all had good teams and they were well disciplined."

Stacey Grey

Jansen began with setter Grey, who set for one of her early teams. She liked her because she could execute well.

"She just believed in what she had to do and she did it," said Jansen.

Cara Togliatti

Cara was an outside hitter for Jansen, who was a phenomenal jumper.

"She had a leap that...she could climb the net and get up there and power down the ball."

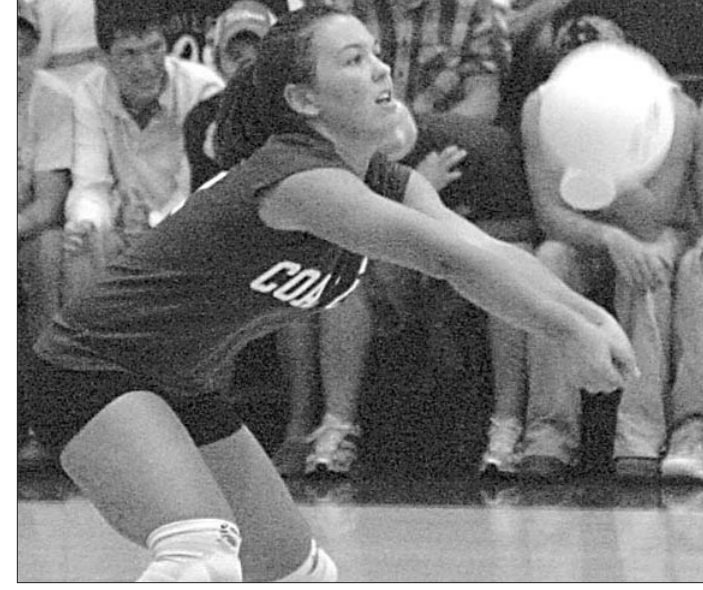
Jill Christensen

Jill was a lot like Cara. Both could jump and were excellent at their positions. Jill and Cara played on the 1991-92 team that placed third in state with a 39-1 overall record.

"They were both big leaguers on the team that advanced in the state series."

In that 1991-92 season, the team's only loss was to the powerhouse Wheaton (St. Francis), who was coached by Peg Kopec, the legendary coach that had 1,047 wins.

"They had club players from all over and they could draw them from any place because they were a private school," she continued. "And they had good year after year. We ran up against them four out of five years. We beat our first round opponent Lexington and then we had to play St. Francis and we lost.



File Photo

DEFENSIVE SPECIALIST Brittni Manietta was selected to be on the Coal City volleyball dream team. Manietta was one of the top attackers during her time at CCHS.

Then, we played Breese (Mater Dei) and beat them for third place.

Megan Finger

Another setter was Finger, who humbly came back from a bad injury to help the Coalers win third place.

"It wasn't what she had planned on her whole life," added Jansen. "But that's what she ended up doing. She came back from a back injury and sat in the bleachers, setting the balls to her teammates. That took dedication that she was trying to be a good teammate and be better."

Finger had adjusted

Finger went on to play volleyball at Northeastern University.

Stacy Skubic & Tanya Longest

Both girls were defensive specialists on the 1991-92 team.

"They did an outstanding job," added Jansen. "They both kept the ball in play."

Ali

Franciskovich

Jansen, who is 69, picked Allie Franciskovich as a middle blocker.

"She was pretty much unstoppable at the net and she did a great job of blocking the ball as well."

Allie joined Megan Finger at Northeastern University.

Melinda Powell

Powell was on the third place team and really impressed Jansen with her character.

"She was my lone senior on the 92 team and she did what was really right. She was a really good leader and I think very highly of her."

Chrissy Kapinus

Kapinus was on the 1989 team that went 21-10 winning a regional.

"Chrissy was a really good hitter back in the early days."

Michelle Frazier-Painter

Jansen noted Frazier was one of the best middle blockers, who played for her from freshmen year on.

"She was a freshman in my first year at Coal City," added Jansen. "I pulled her up to varsity and she was incredible. She was only 5-3 and she could block anybody. She was

just a ballifier and she could get up at the net and stuff anybody.

Jansen remembers how Frazier slowed down Seneca's top hitter.

"Seneca had a really good hitter and I said Michelle, you've got to take care of Cindi and she did. Boom, boom, boom."

Michelle would have done anything for her coach.

"My girls would have run through a wall for me. Michelle in particular would have run through a dozen brick walls for me."

Julie Scerine

Scerine played for Jansen in 1989 and was a good defender.

"She could get to almost any ball. Some people think diggers are a dime and a dozen but they're not."

Kristi Scerine

Kristi, Julie's cousin,

played outside hitter for Jansen in 1987.

"She was in the early days before they all got super serious but she was good."

Stacy Scubic

Scubic played defensive specialist for Jansen in 1992.

"She was one of the diggers on the team that went to state. She did a good job."

Heather-Peters Steffens

Peters was a standout on the 1994 team that went 30-9 and a sophomore on the state team.

"She was a good player. She played outside hitter. She got the job done and could make some plays when we needed them."

Jen Smoots

Another standout player for Jansen was Smoots, who played outside hitter.

"She could jump like nobody's business and she could pound the ball. Her technique was very good. She was a go-to player."

Alana Wojciechowski was also named to the dream team.

Jennifer Piskule-Lindsey, who coached the Coalers to two regional championships, compiling a record of 141-119 in her seven years of coaching, had a few girls in mind that would make the cut.

Ashli & Amanda Agamy

The first of her selections included the Agamy twins, who played a big part on some of the teams in the early 2000's.

"Ashli and Amanda were twin towers," said Lindsey. "They were just smart players and knew the game. They were just great team players."

Nicki Marczeski

After the twins, it was Marczeski that stole the spotlight. She was one of the better outside hitters for Lindsey's team.

"I remember moving Nicki up as a sophomore. She was just a workhorse. 'Worked

hard at increasing her volleyball skills. She always gave 100 percent too. She was a great long jumper for track and I think that skill transferred over into an awesome vertical jump for volleyball."

Lauren Popovich

Next on the list was Popovich, a setter that manned the front row.

"Lauren was one of the tallest setters I've had throughout the years. She was a presence in the for me in the front row."

Kayla Mahaffey

Mahaffey was one of the most dominant hitters.

"She was one of my taller middle hitters," added Lindsey. "She had a powerful swing and killer serve."

Dana Trotter

Dana was good at everything in the early 2000's. She did it all.

"Dana didn't have the height but she had the vertical and strength to make herself a front row asset. She was also dominant in the back row because she had had hustle and would get to the ball for digs."

Other players worth a mention on the dream team include: Kassie Aldridge (setter, 1,115 assists), Kelsey Mikula (setter, 707 assists), Mackenzie Bugg (setter, 679 assists), Brittney Halliday (678 assists), Lauryn Polakovic (setter, 616 assists), Kelee Mahaffay (OH, 518 kills), Emily Halliday (OH, 350 kills), April Veronda (MB, 277 kills), Brittni Manietta (MB, 224 kills), McKenna Fitzpatrick (MB, 143 blocks), Nicole Borgetti (OH, 111 blocks), Jessica Polakovic (MB, 90 blocks) and Kennedy Clayburn (MB, 67 blocks).

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