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## City has no control over solar projects

BY ERIC FISHER  
PUBLISHER

Property owners adjacent to four proposed solar projects on Wilmington's doorstep found out last week there is nothing they, nor the city, can do to prevent them from coming.

Approximately 40 residents attended a town meeting at City Hall where city officials detailed the projects and explained how Illinois law currently prevents towns and counties from restricting them.

"None of these solar projects are within the city limits and we can't force them to annex," Mayor Ben Dietz com-

mented. "The project owners would have to want to annex but that isn't going to happen. Why would they want to pay more taxes when they have no need for city services? We really have no control over them."

Will County has already approved two of the four projects. In October 2018, Fleishman Solar, LLC along Route 53 north of Coal City Road presented a 45-acre project by Emeren Empowering Renewables and Cybress Creek Renewables. That project has been wait-listed and twice withdrawn.

On April 18 the county passed Wild Cat Solar 3 LLC/Kavanaugh to be installed

on S. 216th Ave. near Kangley's curve off Route 53, just east of the city line. New Energy Equity intends to place solar panels on 18 acres at that location.

Presently under county review are Champion Solar LLC, a 32-acre project by Trajectory Energy Partners located on South Water Street (Route 102) at W. Ballou Road; and a 48-acre solar facility at Rivals Road and Route 102 by owners Mark and Kimberly Hansen with applicant RPIL Solar 13, LLC. The Rivals Road project went before the Will County Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday.

All four projects are on land presently

zoned agricultural.

Dietz noted the city can comment on the projects with the county, but it has no authority in the approval process.

"Even the county has no ability to stop them," said Will County Board District 1 representative Katie Deane-Schlottman. "The way the state law is written they took away any control at the county and municipal levels. It's very frustrating to me that even at the county level we have no say."

Deane-Schlottman explained how Illinois Public Law 102-1123 (HB4412) effective Jan. 27, 2023, defines the param-

**SEE SOLAR PROJECTS PAGE 2**



Photo by Eric Fisher

THE BUS BARN for Illinois Central Bus Company in Wilmington was destroyed by fire last week. Firefighters from 11 area departments assisted Wilmington in the Tuesday evening blaze in the 300 block of North First St. At least a dozen vehicles, including nine small buses, were also totaled.

## Fire destroys bus barn

BY ERIC FISHER  
PUBLISHER

Wilmington firefighters didn't have to go far to find out they had a big fire at 8:22 p.m. Tuesday, June 25.

They were at the station when smoke and flames could be seen above the tree tops coming from the west side of town. Right away the 9-1-1 call to 300 N. First St. was upgraded to a full commercial box cart alarm.

"There was no hesitation that a full alarm would be needed," commented Fire Chief Tim Zlomie. "A commercial box brings in a lot of resources to help fight a big fire like this. It's a good sized building and it was already pretty involved."

Nine departments, including Braidwood and Coal City, were dispatched to the scene while two others—Manteno and East Joliet—were on standby at the Wilmington station.

When first responders arrived,

flames were shooting through the roof of the bus barn for Illinois Central School Bus company. The building was unoccupied when the fire started.

"There was heavy fire coming from the east end of the building which is where there is a maintenance shop," Zlomie said. "We're pretty certain that is the place of origin but the cause is still undetermined at this time."

Between the maintenance shop to the east and the offices to the west were nine small buses, one full size bus, a mini van and a pickup truck parked inside. The vehicles were a total loss but firefighters did protect the office quarters.

"The offices suffered heavy smoke, heat and water damage," Zlomie commented. "The whole building had a lot of damage just from the intensity of the heat."

A Minooka ladder truck attacked

the fire from overhead while firefighters kept flames from spreading down below. On occasion a 55-gallon drum could be heard exploding.

The chief said at one point, with the building a total loss, firefighters were pulled out in a defensive move.

"It was to make sure everyone is kept safe. We could fight it from above and we pretty much had it contained so there was no longer a need to keep people at risk."

Firefighters remained on the scene six hours putting out hot spots and assisting fire investigators.

Zlomie credited Wilmington police officers and ESDA personnel for being there to help too.

Firefighters from neighboring departments included Braidwood Fire, Channahon Fire, Coal City Fire, Elwood Fire, Manhattan Fire, Minooka Fire, Morris Fire, Plainfield Fire and Troy Fire.

## June weather was nearly picture perfect

The month of June ran the gamut from very hot to downright chilly. The month started out at a balmy 82 degrees and ended at 89 degrees.

The highest daily temperature was 97 degrees on June 16. However, temperatures were in the 90s more than a third of the month.

Overnight, on June 11, temperatures dipped down to 49 degrees, but rebounded to 81 degrees the next morning.

The average temperature for the month was a pleasant 71.6 degrees.

Mother Nature dropped 4.24 inches of rain on the area during June. On June 23 alone, there was 1.25 inches of rain. The total precipitation for the year is 25.95 inches.

June 6, 25, and 26 brought thunderstorms. June wasn't particularly windy, with the highest wind gust of 34 mph on June 11. For the most part, June was a picture perfect month.



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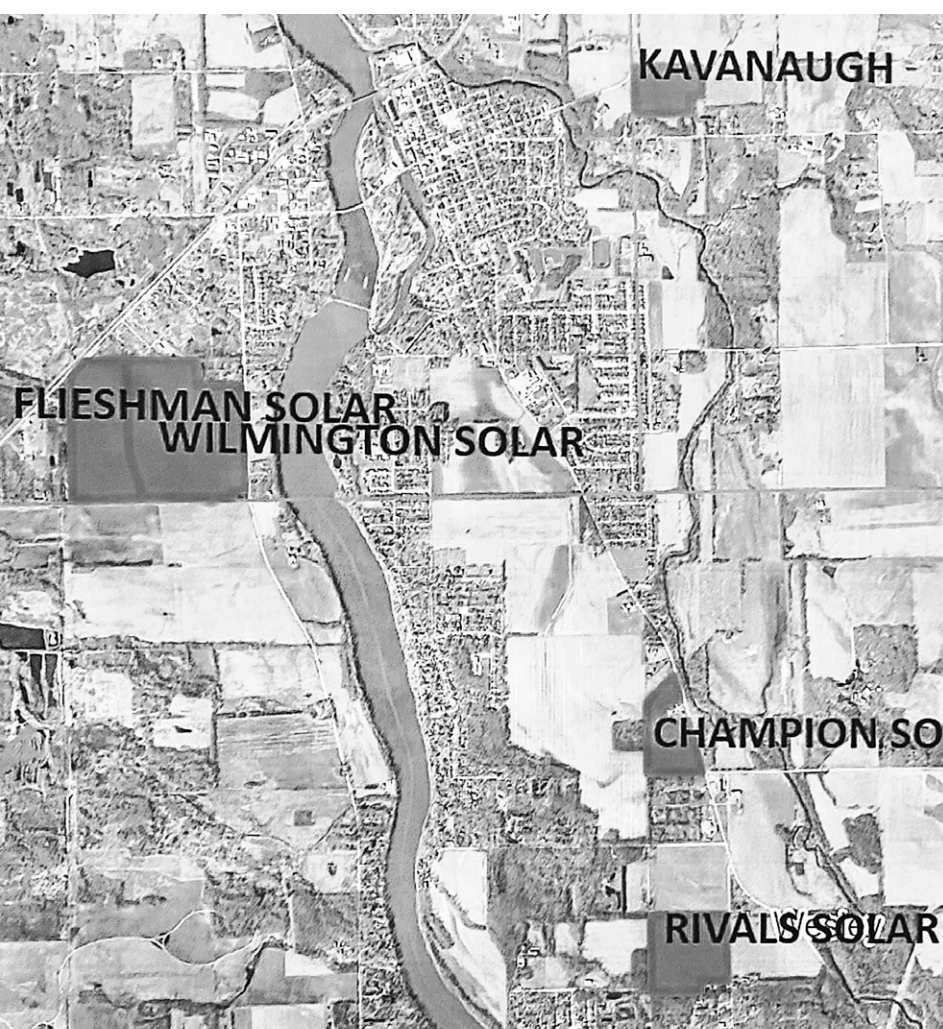
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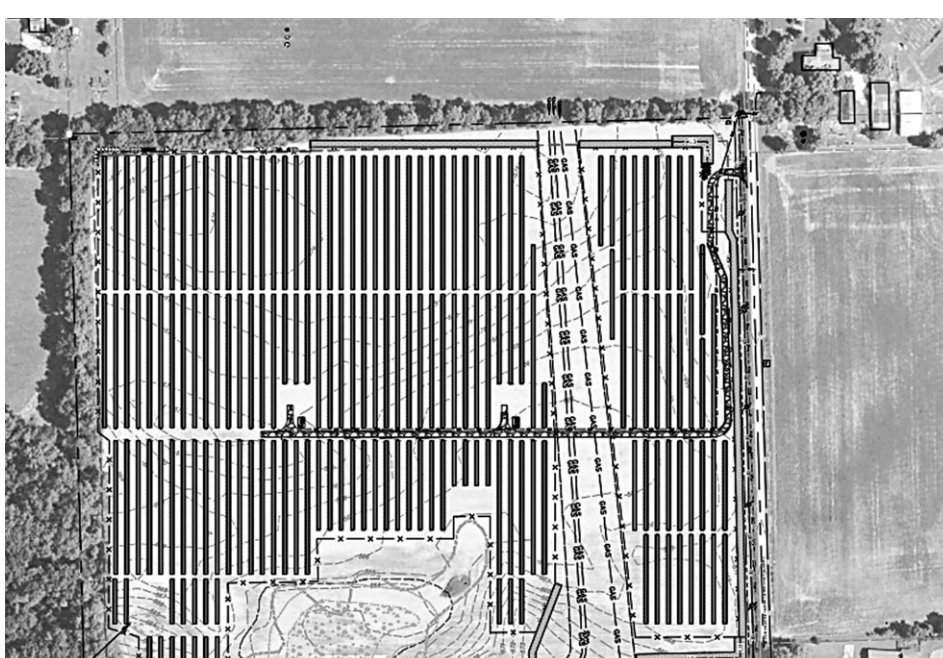
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A MAP SHOWS the locations of four solar facilities being proposed on farmland in unincorporated Wilmington. The Fleishman and Kavanaugh sites have been approved by Will County while the Champion and Rival projects are under review.



A COMMERCIAL SOLAR energy facility is being planned for 48 acres on the west side of Rivals Road just south of Illinois 102. The photo shows the layout of solar panels with Rivals Road on the right side. A hearing for the proposed facility was held Tuesday before the Will County Planning and Zoning Commission.

## Enter babies now for Catfish Days contest

Route 66 Old School Brewing will again be sponsoring the Catfish Days Baby Contest on Saturday, July 27. All entries must be made now before July 15.

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

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

certificate.

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

Photos will be categorized by the age of the child. Preliminary judging will be by photo only. Finalists will be notified by phone and email by July 20. Only finalists will be notified.

Finalists will come to RT66 Old School Brewing at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 27 for final judging. Final judging will be based on personality not wardrobe.

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

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

## Solar projects, continued from page 1

eters counties can review commercial solar proposals but as long as they meet the state's requirements, the county must approve them. Lawmakers in Dec. 7, 2023 increased the timeframe for counties to hold a public hearing from the date an applicant has filed from 45 to 60 days, but mandates a county has 30 days after all hearings to approve of the projects.

"The law was written by people who don't know jack about agricultural and the concerns of rural communities," Deane-Schlottman said. "There's 57 solar projects being proposed in Will County right now and a million questions about each one of them. Are these companies leasing or owning the property? Are they U.S. companies or foreign-owned? Will they be responsible for the maintenance or will that be hired out? What materials are being used? Noise levels? Fire safety...the list goes on."

She feels those questions and more should be answered before counties have to meet the 60-day deadline required by law.

"It's crazy what these companies are offering the land owners...\$30,000, \$40,000, even \$50,000 per acre to lease their land. I don't blame the landowners for saying yes because that's more than they can make from farming," Deane-Schlottman said.

One solar facility in particular hits home for Deane-Schlottman. She said it will be outside the backyard of her Shorewood home. "Literally it's being planned on land adjacent to my subdivision. It's land that was proposed residential and now it's going to be a solar facility. I won't call them solar farms because they do not intend to farm a thing."

She shared her frustration of sitting through a 4-5 hour County Board meeting hearing public opposition to solar projects and then in the end it gets passed anyway. She knows of three permits the county denied and now all three of the applicants have filed lawsuits against the county.

"I'm not against solar energy. I just want answers to the questions people like you are asking. Might it be better to have solar on a smaller scale and rooftops without taking away good farmland? How can it be done and they be good neighbors? We need better answers. Until then, I am a hard "no" on solar."

Deane-Schlottman said the best thing to do is to submit opposition, or support, in writing to the County Board and Planning and Zoning. "Put your concerns in writing and send it so it becomes part of the application

process. The County Board will see that and take that into consideration."

She also encouraged residents to write state lawmakers urging them to revise the law, that includes local reps Anthony DeLuca (195 W. Joe Orr Rd Suite 201, Chicago Heights, IL 60411) and Senator Patrick Joyce (179 S. Wall St., Kankakee, IL 60901).

"Put the pressure on your reps to make changes and give us some local control," Deane-Schlottman said. "They keep coming and coming and we have no ability to stop them. That's disruptive to local planning and mapping out a future for many towns. That needs to change."

Mayor Dietz noted how the Wild Cat project is in the Wilmington Facility Planning area earmarked for future residential. "Now we have to block off that property for 20 years. There are concerns if there will be an impact on home values. Will potential developers have those concerns too and look elsewhere?"

That was just one concern shared by residents, along with safety concerns like increased levels of heat for homes nearby, glare from solar panels, possible radiation and the condition of the land when eventual deconstruction of the solar facility is done. One neighbor across from the Wild Cat site asked if anyone studied the impact it will have on wildlife. A creek along the acreage is used by deer, turkey, waterfowl and other animals.

"Your concerns need to be part of the record during these hearings," Deane-Schlottman reminded residents. "We are making it as difficult as possible for these applicants and we will continue to fight them but we need opposition in writing. It always comes down to a vote and if you're opposed to having solar panels out your back door then tell county and state officials in writing. Your voices do matter but must be heard on paper or email."

Dietz said the city has shared its opposition with the county while knowing it has no control. While annexation would be ideal,

increasing the city's tax base, that won't happen unless the landowners want to annex.

### Carbon Hill getting a second chance

The Village of Carbon Hill met last night to reconsider an annexation agreement for a large-scale solar energy system on its north border.

The is the second time BAP Power Corp of Aliso Viejo, CA, doing business as Cenergy Power, an Illinois corporation, has approached the village to annex 42 acres owned by Scott and Keith Giordano.

The village board came up one vote short of passing the agreement earlier this year. But now that it's apparent the solar facility will be approved by Grundy County under state mandate, the project is back with a offer sweetened for the small community.

Cenergy Power is offering the village an upfront contribution of \$400,000 in two installments. The solar utility would also offer Carbon Hill residents a minimum 30% utility bill credit, resulting in a reduction in electric expense for every homeowner. The credit would apply to costs associated with the transmission and distribution portion of their bill.

In addition, the village would receive an annual contribution of \$35,000 on Aug. 1 of each year for the life of the 20-year project. That contribution would be adjusted by the village's portion of the Grundy County Real Estate Tax Bill for the solar facility. For example if the total tax bill were \$5,000 and \$1,000 was attributable to the village, the contribution would be lowered by \$1,000 to \$34,000 for that year.

Cenergy Power would still have to meet state regulations for natural screening around the property, pay all tap-on fees as a sewer and water user, and designate an easement for future water and sewer lines on the west end of the property.

The agreement requires a vote of two-thirds of village trustees to pass.

### Happy Independence Day!

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### Attorney Meents files Wandless estate claim

### PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE  
OF JOHN MILFRED WANDLESS,  
Deceased; NO. 2024 PR 359  
**CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given of the death of John Milfred Wandless, Letters of Office as Independent Administrator was issued on June 24, 2024, to Brian Wandless, whose address is 101 Daniels Street, Wilmington, Illinois 60481; whose attorney is Meents Law, P.C., 25158 West Eames Street, Unit A, Channahon, Illinois 60410. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432, or with the representative, or both, on or before January 13, 2025, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 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 by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

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](http://www.illinoislegalaid.org).

Brian Wandless  
Independent Administrator of the Estate  
of John Milfred Wandless, Deceased

Frank J. Meents  
Meents Law, P.C.  
25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A  
Channahon, Illinois 60410  
Telephone: (815) 534-9515  
Facsimile: (815) 534-9516  
Attorney Code: 06298859  
E-mail: [frank@meentslaw.com](mailto:frank@meentslaw.com)  
Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, July 3, 10 and 17, 2024.

### Attorney Meents files Tousignant estate claim

### PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE  
OF LOREN EUGENE TOUSIGNANT,  
Deceased; NO. 2024 PR 312  
**CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given of the death of Loren Eugene Tousignant, Letters of Office as Independent Executor were issued on June 13, 2024, to Patricia Bryant, whose address is 282 May Road, Dunlap, Tennessee 37327; whose attorney is Meents Law, P.C., 25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A, Channahon, Illinois 60410. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432, or with the representative, or both, on or before December 20, 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 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 by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

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Patricia Bryant  
Independent Executor of the Estate  
of Loren Eugene Tousignant,  
Deceased

Frank J. Meents  
Meents Law, P.C.  
25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A  
Channahon, Illinois 60410  
Telephone: (815) 534-9515  
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Attorney Code: 06298859  
E-mail: [frank@meentslaw.com](mailto:frank@meentslaw.com)  
Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, June 19, 26 and July 3, 2024.

### Attorney Meents files Case estate claim

### PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE  
OF CLYDE JUNIOR CASE,  
Deceased; NO. 2024 PR 337  
**CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given of the death of Clyde Junior Case, Letters of Office as Independent Executor was issued on June 24, 2024, to Tina M. Calhoun, whose address is 1309 Sunset Drive, Wilmington, Illinois 60481; whose attorney is Meents Law, P.C., 25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A, Channahon, Illinois 60410. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432, or with the representative, or both, on or before January 13, 2025, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 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 by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

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Tina M. Calhoun  
Independent Executor of the Estate  
of Clyde Junior Case, Deceased

Frank J. Meents  
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25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A  
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### Aspire-DAJI PROPERTIES, LLC files to dissolve

### PUBLIC NOTICE CLAIM NOTICE

Pursuant to 805 ILCS 180/25-45 and 805 ILCS 180/25-50, Notice is hereby given that Aspire-DAJI PROPERTIES, LLC was dissolved on June 4, 2024. Any and all claims against the company, its members, employees, agents, or their transferees must be delivered to the Office of Frank J. Meents, Attorney for the company, Post Office Box 578, Channahon, Illinois 60410, on or before June 21, 2029. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Frank J. Meents  
Post Office Box 578  
Channahon, Illinois 60410  
Telephone: (815)534-9515  
Facsimile: (815)534-9516  
Attorney No: 06298859

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Eric D. Fisher, publisher



# Robert Waterman, Wilmington's gift to California

Wilmington and California share very few things. One is the famous Route 66, but most people would be hard pressed to think of something else. But look far enough back in history and we discover that we shared Robert Whitney Waterman, 17th Governor of California.



TIME WAS....  
Sandy Vasko

Waterman was born in 1826 in Fairfield, New York to a family of eight children. He was a hard worker from an early age. At the age of 13, in 1839, he moved to Newbury, Illinois to join a brother as a clerk. He eventually moved to Geneva where he clerked and was postmaster.

In 1850 he sold his assets, left his wife and child, and headed west to join another brother prospecting for gold. The story goes that he befriended Brigham Young on the way. After one year of finding nothing, Waterman returned to his family in Illinois, who by then had settled in Wilmington.

While in Wilmington, and also money orders that would be good in England, Ireland and Scotland. The second says the he is "Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Glass and Tin Ware, boots and Shoes, Ready-Made clothing, etc. The highest price paid for country produce." He was also publisher of one of Wilmington's first newspapers, the Wilmington Herald.

Also in 1854 he was instrumental in founding the Republican Party in Illinois, and in 1856 he was one of two Illinois delegates to the national convention of the Republican Party held in Bloomington, Illinois. The other was Abe Lincoln.

In the 1860 census he was listed as the third richest man in Wilmington, just behind William Small and

Archibald McIntyre. During the Civil war, his Empire Store became the civilian headquarters for war relief. He encouraged the ladies aid groups to put boxes in his place to collect everything a soldier needed, from warm socks to feathers, which would be made up into pillows and blankets for the Army hospitals. Governor Yates appointed him to inspect the conditions at Bird's Point, Missouri hospital. Mr. Waterman then conducted regular inspections of military hospitals throughout the war. He did this using his own money for transportation and lodging.

His patriotism was shown here at home. We read on June 25, 1862, "R. W. Waterman Esq., has raised a flag staff on the Empire building, from which the stars and stripes will float on the Fourth. Long may it wave."

He was a man of action as well, we read on April 27th, 1872, "Two fellows entered the grounds of R. W. Waterman, Esq., on Saturday night, and robbed him of all the peaches on one fine tree - not content with this, and giving their appetites whet up for fruit, they concluded to try grapes the next night, but R. W. was "around" with a gun full of mustard seed and coarse salt. He got sight of them at last, and blazed away. He says it was fun just to see those ducks "Get up and git," each with a hand on the rear of his breeches, and howling as though they were half killed. All this is very nice, but we cannot but censure Mr. Waterman for not having loaded his shooting iron with buck shot, and fired to bring down his game. There is nothing in this wide world



A PHOTO OF Robert Waterman from 1854.

so mean as a fruit thief, and the man who brings one to grief should receive the thanks of the whole town." In 1873 Waterman sold out his holdings in Illinois and once again tried his hand at getting rich in California. In 1880, while residing in San Bernardino, Waterman discovered a silver mine a few miles north of Barstow, California, then called Grapevine. In 1881, he formed a mining partnership with John Porter called Waterman and Porter, with 3/4 of the interest owned by Waterman. A stamp mill settlement about four miles away was named Waterman. The Southern Pacific Ralroad came through Waterman in 1882 and 100 men were employed at the mill and mine. The mine produced 40,000 tons of ore (\$1.7 million worth) before it closed in 1887 after silver prices declined. In 1886 Waterman was elected Lieutenant Governor and became Governor upon the death of Governor Washington Bartlett. His nickname was "Old Honesty," because he would not tolerate drunk-

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ROBERT WATERMAN'S business cards from 1854.



A PICTURE OF Robert Waterman riding a flume at his silver mine.



Vacation Bible School students of Grace Lutheran Church and First United Methodist Church donated non-perishable food to Kuzma Care Cottage last Friday.

## VBS collects food for Kuzma Care Cottage

On Friday, June 28, children attending Vacation Bible School at Grace Lutheran Church collected and packed donations of food for Kuzma Care Cottage of Wilmington. Vacation Bible School, a joint effort between First United Methodist Church and Grace Lutheran Church, was held from June 24 through June 28. Susan Trimby coordinated the program under the direction of Harriet

Cross, Pastor of First United Methodist Church, and John Gerke, Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church. "The two churches have a great working relationship," BettyLou Linke, VBS volunteer said. "We work together on programs like this and the monthly senior luncheon." During the VBS the children participated in Bible stories, music, science, math, crafts and more.

Participating children also learned the importance of giving to the less fortunate. Kuzma Care Cottage's mission is to provide emergency food to residents in need. The organization also assists families in low-income brackets as well as individuals on fixed income or unemployed persons. For information about Kuzma Care Cottage, call (815) 476-2030.

## "Jesus & Me" for children program

The First Methodist Church and Grace Lutheran Church will be hosting J.A.M., "Jesus and Me," a non-denominational program which will not focus on teaching doctrine or theology for children ages four through 10. "The program will focus on Old Testament stories and life and love of Jesus," BettyLou Linke, program coordinator, said. The first session will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, beginning July 10 at First United Methodist Church, 401 Kahler Road. During the month of August, J.A.M. will take place at Grace Lutheran Church, 907 Luther Dr. The program includes singing, crafts, stories, and videos. Snacks are included. There is no charge to attend. The program is a cooperative effort between the two churches, offering quality children's programs through out the year. Please call BettyLou Linke at (815) 735-0910 to register your child.



BettyLou Linke, a member of First United Methodist Church will help coordinate the J.A.M. program that will begin on July 10 at Grace Lutheran Church. Both churches work together to provide the program.

### Questions about Medicare?

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Free Press Newspapers readers

# SOUND-OFF

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## Biden should resign

COAL CITY—As a lifelong Democrat I urge President Joe Biden to do the right thing and step down from any nomination to get re-elected. After his poor performance during the debate, my guess is there are other Democrats who doubt that Biden can not win against Trump. President Biden showed his age during the debate, stumbled on his own policy, failed to counter attack and even seemed confused at times. As a man of integrity he needs to realize his time in public office needs to end and step aside so stronger candidates can beat Trump. The last thing this country needs is for Trump to get re-elected as he is a liar and threat to Democracy. President Biden has lost the confidence of his party and the people. This election is too important to loose and there are so many good programs the Democratic Party needs to continue.

## Thanks for reporting

WILMINGTON—I'm enjoying some of the investigative reporting like the article about solar farms. I don't think solar power or wind power are a bad thing, but the way they're going about snatching up land is just plain wrong. It's good to hear some truth. Thanks for that. L.J.

## Before you rent

BRAIDWOOD—If anyone is wanting to rent apartments in Braidwood, especially on Reed St., they never fix anything. I would really check everything out before you sign on the dotted line.

## Clinton did too

SHADOW LAKES—In regards to Letter to the Editor in last week's paper. "If Trump is the best the Republicans can do than God help us" by Ellen Dick-Ferrera, Sullivan IL. She claims that the secret service and his entourage was charged \$800 a night and \$3 for a bottle of water to the government. Well guess what, your memory is lacking because Clinton did the same thing. Dan Hill

## We all pay

COAL CITY—Our president and chief of Homeland Security are claiming that the southern border is secure, because only 2,400 migrants are crossing the border daily and that does not include the migrants that are being picked up in their own country by taxpayers paid airplanes and flown to the U.S.A. and being dropped off at different cities. So guess who is going to put up all the money to support all the migrants with their free housing, food, clothes and medical needs? Our taxes will rise like a helium balloon! Will our leaders want a raise in pay because of inflation? If you can't figure out who pays for everything then you have the wisdom of a broken door knob.

## Two of a kind

WILMINGTON—I'd like to thank the caller from Coal City who gave us a tutorial on flag etiquette. You said flags of foreign countries shouldn't be flown here. I assume that includes the confederate flag since the United States defeated the Confederacy in a war. We defeated Hitler's Germany and we don't fly the Nazi flag here. Oh wait, the guys that fly the Confederate flag usually own a Nazi flag too.

## Trump tariffs

SHADOW LAKES—Did anyone else catch the part in the presidential debate where Trump talked about the tariffs. He practically admitted that was the reason for the prices of everything going up. And he also said that Biden wouldn't get rid of the tariffs because it brings billions of dollars in tax money for the government. And we all know who really pays the tariffs. Tariffs is just word for taxes. Bottom line is Trump imposed the tariffs that made everything very expensive. Biden kept it going because he likes to have money to finance his spending frenzy. People need to open their eyes and see reality.

## Deposit for the future

WILMINGTON—About these solar farms coming to town. I think property owners and the companies should have to pay yearly into a fund that can be used to take care of any environmental problems. In 20 or 30 years the company could be out of business or the project is sold two or three times over. And when the life of these solar panels expire there should be a fund already set up to cover the cost of cleaning them up or repairing the land. The people who own the land now could be long gone too and the neighbors are left with wasted land, or possible contamination of our water wells.

## End is near

SHADOW LAKES—To all you people who obviously are un-christian, the Trumpers, the Biden people, the world troubles, the wars, the disease, if you read the Bible you would understand that we are in the end time. I don't care what you say or do in the Sound-off column, nothing is going to change the second coming of Jesus Christ. Dan Hill

## World was watching

WILMINGTON—Well America saw the real Joe Biden last week. No TelePrompTer, no puppet master pulling his strings, but worst, our enemies were watching. If you are a bad guy do you hit us now under Biden or wait for Trump knowing he's going to hit back hard?

## Poor were poorer

DIAMOND—Trump has his big yapper going all the time except for the things that make him look bad. Like the national debt he racked up onto the wallets of everyday Americans due to his tax breaks for the wealthy. When Trump became president the national debt was \$20 trillion and four years later, it increased to \$28 trillion. That became the highest ratio of public debt/GDP since WWII. What's more, when Trump's term was over in January, 2021, there were fewer jobs, higher unemployment rate, higher murder rate, higher consumer price index, higher tariff deficit, higher home prices, more people without health insurance than four years before. The rich were richer, the poor were poorer and the middle class struggled like never before. But you don't hear about these negatives because Trump not only won't acknowledge them, he downright lies about them. And before the vicious days of MAGA, the general strategy of politicians was to emphasize the positive as much as possible and to promise an uplifting future for our democracy. It would be nice to go back to those kinder, gentler days.

## Dangerous Dimwit

BRAIDWOOD—Trump, a convicted felon on 34 counts, has invaded our living rooms again and I say 'get out' to the blowhard of deadly rubbish. According to fact-checker Daniel Dale, Trump lied 30 times which means on average he lied on every topic. For example, Trump's response to climate change is that he would provide the "cleanest air, cleanest water." Liar. During his presidency Trump rolled back more than 100 EPA standards causing degradation of air quality. But the gravity of climate change is much more than clean air and water revealing that Trump doesn't know what he's talking about. When it

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comes to Covid, CDC statistics show that the death rate was highest during Trump's presidency when confusion reigned due to Trump's denial that a problem existed. And who can forget the press conference at which Trump advised people to ingest bleach? Trump is dangerously stupid and his repeated remarks that he "aced" a cognitive test is another whopper which was meant to cover his own shortcomings.

## Bloodbath to come

WILMINGTON—Of the many threatening utterances by Trump during the presidential debate, what was his deadliest proclamation? Behaving just like a dictator would, Trump declared that he would not accept the election results if he's not pleased with the outcome. CNN repeatedly asked the question and Trump repeatedly sidestepped it but finally gave his answer. This is apparently what Trump meant when he warned on March 16, 2024 that there would be a "bloodbath" if he doesn't win the election. In other words, another insurrection? Another bloody coup? It sounds likely and it's what happens in dictatorships and third world countries, but it has never happened in the United States of America until Trump came along. Trump has dragged us down, down, down into the abyss. But what would you expect from a sexual predator who is also a convicted felon on 34 counts? Irene

## A liar with no shame

WILMINGTON—It's hard to debate a liar who is a convicted felon on 34 counts, who is liable for sexual assault and who is indicted on other serious crimes in Georgia, Florida and Washington for which he has yet to stand trial; especially a liar who claims that abortion supporters kill full-term babies outside the womb; especially a liar who denies that he described our nation's fallen heroes as "suckers and losers" and blames his opponent for the remark; especially a liar who has no shame which is why every statement he makes must be fact-checked. Furthermore, this liar increased our national debt by \$8 trillion giving tax cuts to the wealthy and under his presidency our nation lost 2.9 million jobs. Because this liar promises to become dictator if elected, we recognize him for the demon that he is who should never be allowed to run for public office.

## Better than a liar

WILMINGTON—Many people are suggesting that Joe Biden should step aside from running for President after his poor debate performance. I agree that it wasn't one of Biden's best debates. But what about the other guy? He lied 30+ times and never answered direct questions asked by the moderators. And the moderators were useless since they decided to not fact check Trump because they knew he would scream rigged and fix. Time for term limits and age limits in all three branches of government.

## Long waiting list

COAL CITY—I recently saw a conversation on Facebook about how long some have been on the waiting list to be a member of the Coal City Area Club. Some have been on the list over 20 years and when they checked their current status their

number was even higher than the last time they checked. I always wondered if anyone even monitored that list or actually allowed anyone to join. There's no way no spots have turned up after that many years. People have passed away, moved away or just quit paying their memberships.

## Were no guns

SHADOW LAKES—I'm calling about an article in the June 26 issue titled Horrible Person, by Irene. You need to buy a dictionary Irene and learn how to use the correct words. In your article you mention an insurrection. An insurrection by definition are armed people. Nobody had arms or guns for you in that protest. The other word you used, that bloody coup three years ago was not a coo. A coup is when you overthrow the existing administration.

## We are one

WILMINGTON—I would like to thank the city of Wilmington for their annual Let Freedom Ring fireworks event. The bands are always really good, there are many choices of food on the island and in the amazing restaurants nearby and the fireworks are always spectacular. I am very honored and blessed that I am able to be a sponsor and give back to the community that's been my home for 23 years and most importantly continue to honor the legacy of my beloved Linda and Roger. It truly breaks my heart that the weather didn't cooperate so the Rotary could have its car show, something that has continued to be hard in recent years. The rotary is working very hard to raise funds to build a park that all children can have access to. Even though she was disabled, Linda could go on a slide and swing and many children with disabilities aren't that fortunate and the Rotary wants that to end. I doubt I will live long enough to see the park become a reality but pray I can see them break ground. Every day I see and hear our motto "We are Wilmington, we are one." Blessings to all. Sheri Michael

## Wake up voters

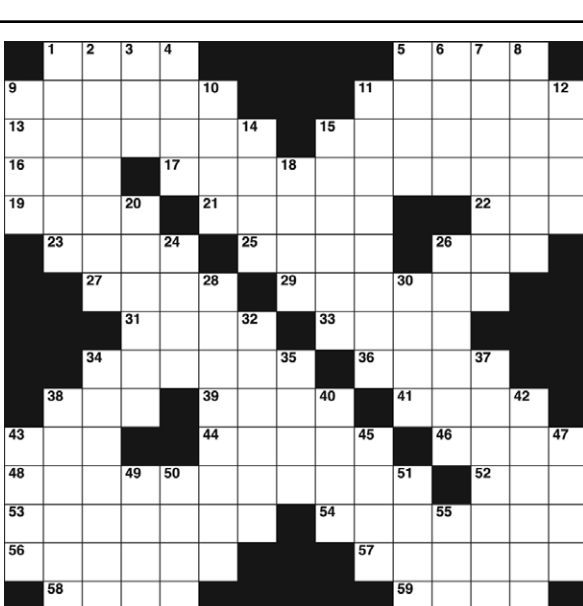
BRAIDWOOD—Everyone better now wake up! I can't understand why anyone follows Trump. You MAGA folks don't see that this is a man who wanted to be president because he saw it as the ultimate power and he could do anything he wants. The Supreme Court today has historically gone against the Constitution and set him free! Here is a power-mad narcissist who admires the dictators in North Korea, China and Russia. These are all countries who do not like American freedoms. If Trump gets back in, we will have the newest dictator and we will start to lose freedoms. We will all probably lose our Social Security as well. Trump has said he wants to be a dictator and wants to execute his enemies. Why would anyone follow and put this madman on a pedestal? You think he is for America? You think he would help you? All he wants from MAGA people is the votes to get back in our White House. After that, he will no longer need you. Beware.....we are in serious trouble. You may think Biden is too old, but at least he is decent. Vote for honesty and decency, not insanity, dictator ship and loss of FREEDOM!

## Hop on the bus for the Renaissance Faire

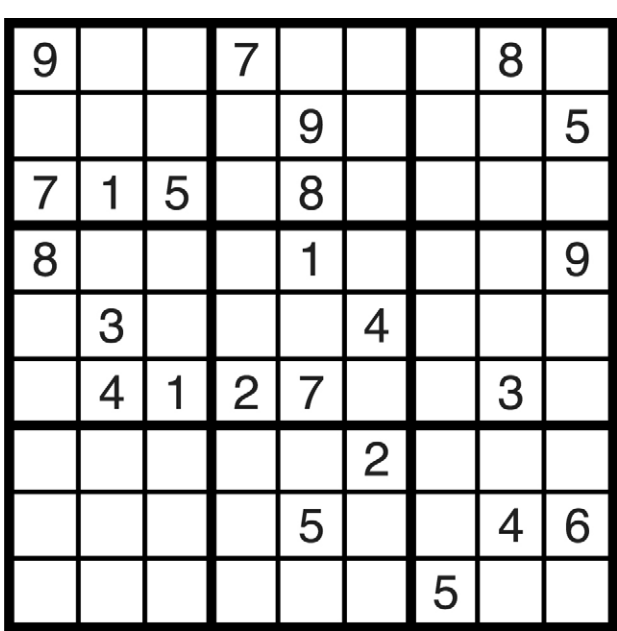
The Wilmington Public Library District invites families to embark on a journey to the Bristol Renaissance Faire in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Join us for a bus trip on Saturday, July 20, for a day filled with adventure. The bus will depart promptly at 8 a.m. from the library and returning to the library by 5 p.m. Revel in the enchanting atmosphere of the Renaissance era, featuring jousts, performances, artisan crafts

and delicious treats. Tickets are priced at \$35 for ages 13 and up, and \$10 for ages 12 and under, and this includes transportation. Lunch is on your own, but fear not, as the Faire boasts an array of delectable options to satisfy every palate. Registration has begun, and there are limited seats available! For more information contact the library at 815-476-2834.

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- CLUES ACROSS**  
1. Six (Spanish)  
5. Invests in little enterprises  
9. Large dung beetle  
11. Gored  
13. Partially paralyzed  
15. Still a little wet  
16. Legal field media company  
17. Not working  
19. 500 sheets of paper  
21. Church structure  
22. Sheep disease  
23. Small drink of whiskey  
25. Weaving tradition  
26. Pestilence  
27. Body part  
29. Nabs  
31. Places to stay  
33. Witnesses  
34. Looked for  
36. Arranges  
38. Political action committee  
39. Middle eastern nation (alt. sp.)  
41. Hair-like structure  
43. Parts producer  
44. Greek city  
46. Subway dwellers  
48. Norm from "Cheers"  
52. Clean a floor  
53. Vied for  
54. Canned fish  
56. Inspire with love  
57. Sent down moisture  
58. Wrest  
59. Partner to carrots
- CLUES DOWN**  
1. Mounted  
2. Assign  
3. Wrath  
4. Self-immolation by fire ritual  
5. Parts of an organism  
6. Person from England  
7. Tropical plants of the pea family  
8. Body part  
9. Practice boxing  
10. Containers  
11. Contrary beliefs  
12. Bleached  
14. Pre-Islamic Egyptian  
15. A group of similar things ordered one after another  
18. Innermost spinal cord membranes  
20. Cassava  
24. A restaurant's list of offerings  
26. Annoy constantly  
28. Orchestra  
30. Z Z Z  
32. Astute  
34. Highly decorated tea urn  
35. Teach to behave  
37. Endurance  
38. Urinating  
40. Barbie friend dolls  
42. Repents  
43. Man-eating giant  
45. Jewish calendar month  
47. Accelerated  
49. Husband of Sita in Hindu  
50. Lump of semiliquid substance  
51. Lying in wait  
55. Cease to exist



**SUDOKU - Here's how it works:**  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle.



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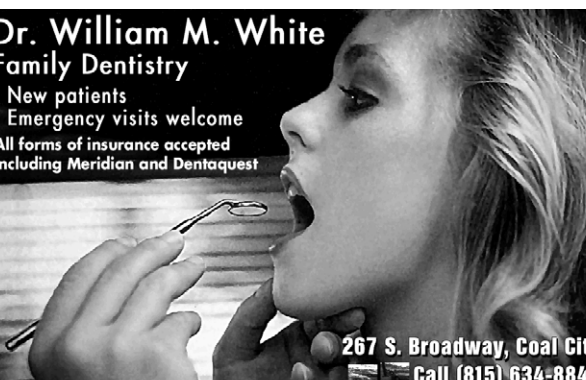
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## Times have changed in the Illinois Senate

During the last couple weeks of the spring state legislative session, Senate President Don Harmon got whacked twice by allies, including Gov. JB Pritzker, but still managed to keep his cool.



Rich Miller

On May 14th, the pro-choice powerhouse group Personal PAC issued a blistering press release blasting the Senate super-majority for an "unacceptable decision" to strip abortion services from the governor's birth equity bill, which banned co-pays and other added insurance costs for most prenatal and postnatal care.

Gov. Pritzker quickly chimed in, saying if the House-approved bill was indeed stripped of abortion coverage, he wouldn't sign it.

Eleven days later - the day before the Senate took up the state budget package - an internal administration talking points memo was mistakenly sent as a blast text message by a member of Pritzker's staff to House Democrats. The incendiary blast text was sent shortly after the Senate Democrats, in consultation with the Republicans, amended a House bill reforming the Illinois Prisoner Review Board.

The Senate's bipartisan amendment included requirements like live-streaming PRB hearings, which the Pritzker administration claimed at the time would cost a fortune and, according to the mistakenly

only texted memo, was actually part of a plan to undermine the state's Mandatory Supervised Release (MSR) program because hearing officers would be intimidated into not releasing deserving prisoners while being video streamed.

"This is a right-wing wolf in disingenuous transparency clothing," the administration's text told HDems. "It eliminates MSR by design. And it's appalling that senate democrats [sic] are so eager to please their Republican friends that they would undermine justice and push to keep people incarcerated who, by measure of actual law, should be out on MSR."

There was real fear in the building that the accidental broadside could derail the budget.

Through it all, though, Harmon didn't overreact. The entire budget package cleared his chamber with far more Democratic support than it received days later in the House. Things

could've been so much different.

"It did not trouble me in a way it may have in the past," Harmon told me last week after I asked if he had matured over the years.

The Senate, he pointed out, eventually "passed the birth equity bill, and in the form it was passed." He later added, "I think there were some misunderstandings that could've been resolved by a telephone call."

And Harmon said of the PRB amendment imbroglio: "We weren't intending to pick fights. It was a bit of a surprise to me the level of engagement and the way it happened. I'd much rather work with the governor to make this work than to spin our wheels for nothing." He said he'd be "happy" to have a conversation with the governor to "make sure all voices are heard" going forward.

"In the end, we're judged by what we produce, not the rough drafts in between," Harmon said. "The partnership with the governor, responsible budgeting has been a real anchor here for all of us I think. And again, my priorities going into any session are to do the best I can to make sure the members of our caucus have the opportunity to advance legislation that's important to them, and to make sure we adopt a responsible, balanced budget. So, I try to focus on those things and not worry about the politi-

cal flame-throwing that just seems to be part of our process."

Harmon and the governor didn't start off on the best terms. The two were old allies, but their top staffs just did not mesh well, to say the least. But, Harmon told me that things started to change toward the end of the 2023 spring session.

"I think the challenges we faced in passing the budget last year have solidified the relationship between the Senate staff and the governor's staff and demonstrated our ability to work well together," he told me.

Harmon wouldn't specify what those "challenges" were, but it's pretty obvious what he meant.

Last year, House Speaker Chris Welch agreed to a budget deal with the other two leaders. An announcement was made, but then Welch got heat from his caucus and needed to find more money for his members. Rather than walk away, Harmon and Pritzker and their staffs worked with Welch to find a solution.

Former House Speaker Michael Madigan wouldn't have been nearly as accommodating, to say the least. Making accommodations and overlooking attacks just weren't his thing. Times have indeed changed.

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

## Slight rise in gas due to holiday

Average gasoline prices in Illinois have risen 2.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.82/g Monday, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois.

Prices in Illinois are 8.3 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 6.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has risen 1.4 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.77/g.

In the immediate area, we're at the high end, with Braidwood running \$3.82/g across the board. Wilmington ranges from \$3.38/g at Mohsen to \$3.92/g in town. Coal City's gas was \$3.76/g at one Shell and \$3.79/g at the other Shell.

Further afield prices are lower. In Morris, expect to pay \$3.28/g at BP, all the way up to \$3.79/g at Amoco. In Bourbonnais, gas is \$3.29/g at Gulf and \$3.51/g at Speedway.

"As we approach July 4, motorists have seen the national average price of gasoline inch up ever so slightly for the third straight week," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

"While the increases have been fairly tame, with oil continuing to hold above \$80 per barrel, we could continue to see the national average climb slightly. For many Americans hitting the road for the July 4 holiday, prices in most areas are very com-

parable to what we saw last July 4. However, with Hurricane Beryl now formed in the Caribbean, we're reminded that gas prices could experience some jolts in the second half of the summer should a storm threaten refining capacity in Texas or Louisiana."

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Illinois was priced at \$3.17/g while the most expensive was \$5.19/g, a difference of \$2.02/g.

## Elwood church to host Bible School

The Elwood Community Church will host a free Vacation Bible School starting July 29 to Aug. 2, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The school will be for ages pre-k (potty trained) through entering fifth grade.

Online registration will be available at elwood-church.org. For further information or to volunteer please call (815) 423-5113.

## Robaus earns dean's list

Northern Illinois University announces its spring 2024 Dean's List students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Alissa Robaus, of Diamond, who is majoring in ELED-General Elementary Educ. achieved this honor. Robaus is a graduate of Wilmington High School.

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# Sweet lemonade can bring about life lessons

ELAINE FISHER-OHLUND  
FOOD FOR THE SOUL

I was scrolling social media when I came across a post about a lemonade stand. They offer a taste of summer at the most basic level, operated by enterprised youngsters.

This stand was at the Dickover's residence. Sisters Brooke, 11, and Hailey, 8, decided to open their first business and I wanted to check it out.

As soon as I turned onto their street I could see them jumping up and down at the end of their driveway. They had smiles from ear to ear with a giant sign that read "Lemonade for sale, we accept tips".

Once they realized it was Zach and I, their smiles grew even bigger. Hailey spoke up first, "Hi Laney, are you here for lemonade?"

"Well of course I am here for lemonade, give me your best drink please." Both ran back to the stand and got right to work. They must have discussed who would be doing what because they worked in unison without getting in each other's way.

Brooke was in charge of pouring the drinks and securing the treats. Hailey was in charge of the money. I thought this was so fitting because if you know the Dickover sisters, Brooke is the nurturing sweet heart who will probably grow up to be a mom of 10. She lives to serve others with kindness and sweet gestures. Hailey on the other hand, would give a bully a run for their money if they took hers.

Brooke handed me my drink, Hailey gave me my change and a synchronized "thanks Laney," came from the both of them with giant smiles on their faces.



Courtesy photo  
THE DICKOVER sisters Brooke (left) and Hailey set up their lemonade stand. Making a profit of \$67.

I must say it was the best lemonade I have ever had. Might I add with a lemon slice on top. I went to bed that night admiring their enterprise.

The next time I saw them I had to ask, "So what was it like starting your first business?"

Brooke smiled, "it was fun." Hailey added "and a lot of hard work." She explained that they had to make the sign, make sure they had enough change, collect the ingredients, make the lemonade and clean up afterwards.

"So who was the boss?" I asked.

They both said "me" at the same time.

Brooke said, "well we worked together."

Hailey gave me somewhat of an eye roll. But I understood. It can be a challenge to work with family but leaning on each other's strengths to accomplish a goal can be a beautiful thing.

My final question, "what was the most important thing you learned from

owning your own lemonade stand?" They both stopped for a minute to think about it.

Hailey spoke up first "well when we were nice to people and said please and thank you, we got bigger tips." Hailey has always been a clever girl. After the money they spent for the lemonade they made a \$67 profit that day.

I think it's safe to say, encouraging your kids to get out on a hot day to start a lemonade stand teaches them a plethora of lessons. Responsibility, hard work, understanding money and kindness. Working with family also teaches you patience and working together, anything is possible.

So if you see a lemonade stand in your neighborhood, please stop and support it. It's definitely worth the smiles on their faces and the lessons that come from it.

I would like to add one more thing. As we approach the election season I encourage you to

spend the same amount of time focusing on your own community too. As many hours we spend watching the grand show or posting argumentative memes on social media, the same amount of hours should be focused on making a difference in your town and the people that live in it.

Supporting local business, donating to the food drives, going to a city hall meeting or just simply taking time out of your day to help a kid in the community thrive.

Starting with your community will be the key to big changes I hope. Or at least that is where you will see the change through your effort and action. Happy summer readers.

Brooke and Hailey's sweet lemonade recipe

Ingredients  
• 6 cups water divided  
• 1 cup granulated sugar

• 1 cup fresh-squeezed lemon juice, seeds removed, pulp may remain  
Directions

Combine 1 cup water and 1 cup sugar in a small saucepan. Place over medium-low heat and stir until sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat and set aside, allow to cool for 10 minutes.

Pour 1 cup fresh-squeezed lemon juice into a pitcher. Add sugar/water mixture (simple syrup).

Add remaining 5 cups water and stir well. Pour over ice and serve, or transfer to refrigerator and allow to chill several hours before serving.

## Forest Preserve to host Something's Fishy

The Forest Preserve District of Will County is hosting Something's Fishy at the Environmental Education Center, Channahon on Saturday, July 20, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Meet a wide variety of river fish. Examine their scales and bones indoor and then hike to their habitats to try to spot them in the water. Free, ages 12 or older. Register by July 19.



Left to right: Samantha Olson, Kelly Olson, Dr. Garrett B. Smith, Grace Smith, Sherry Yakima, Dayna Vargocko. Not pictured: Alea Vargocko and Sara Daniels

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# OBITUARIES

## Felicia L. Alberico

WILMINGTON—Felicia L. Alberico, 76, of Wilmington, passed away Sunday, June 30, 2024 at Ascension St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet.

Born Sept. 20, 1947 in Springfield, TN, Felicia Lane was a daughter of William Moore and Hilda Marie (Hayes) Nunley. She was raised in Wilmington and graduated from Wilmington High School with the class of 1965. On Feb. 14, 1976, Felicia married John Thomas Alberico, and Tom preceded her in death in 2004.

Felicia dedicated her career to public service, working as a project manager first with the Corps of Engineers and later with the Department of Energy. More recently, she found joy and fulfillment working in the Rectory at St. Rose Catholic Church in Wilmington, where she was a member of the parish.

In her leisure time, Felicia found peace and happiness in the outdoors, particularly through gardening and landscaping. She loved taking walks, indulging in shopping excursions, and cherished her winter retreats in Florida. Music was a constant source of joy in her life, reflecting her vibrant spirit and enjoyment of social gatherings. Those who knew her remember her fondly for her warmth, humor, and zest for life.

Above all, Felicia cherished her family and relished moments spent with her nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-

nephews.

Survivors include her siblings: Faye (the late Rayburn) Frey, of Tennessee; Patricia (Ken) Wise, of Wilmington and Leslie (Sandra) Nunley, of Tennessee; one sister-in-law, Lindy Nunley, of Wilmington and numerous nieces and nephews.

Felicia was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Tom; one brother, William Robert Nunley and two nephews, Justin Hannum and Jason Alberico.

The family will receive friends for a visitation at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 E. Kahler Rd. in Wilmington on Saturday, July 6, 2024 from 9:30 a.m. until time of funeral service at 11 a.m. Pastor Harriette Cross will officiate, and burial will follow in Oakwood Cemetery, Wilmington where Felicia will be laid to rest with her late husband, Tom.

Preferred memorials in lieu of flowers may be made as gifts in Felicia's memory to the American Lung Association or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Family and friends are encouraged to log onto [www.BaskervilleFuneral.com](http://www.BaskervilleFuneral.com) to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Felicia's memorial page online through social media.

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



## Lester Rury

SOUTH WILMINGTON—Lester William Rury, 83, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at his home in South Wilmington.

Lester was born on May 13, 1941 in Sparta, IL to his parents, Marby and Paul Rury. He graduated from Gardner-South Wilmington High School with the class of 1959. He met his future wife, Karen, in high school and they were married Nov. 4, 1961. They share five children: Carina, Chris, Craig, Curt and Collette.

Lester worked for Caterpillar in Joliet. Following his June 1, 1998 retirement, he worked part time as a gate guard at the South Wilmington Firemen's Beach and Park Club.

Lester was a member of the United Methodist Church of South Wilmington and had served on the Board of Trustees. He was also a past member of the South Wilmington Grade School Board of Education. He coached many youth baseball teams from minor league through colt league.

Lester loved attending his children's and grandchildren's sporting events, recitals, concerts and plays - anything they participated in. He loved hunting and fishing, and enjoyed his dream trip, fishing in Alaska. He lived a life of faith and loved

sharing it with his family and others.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; his five children: Carina (Walter) Debelak, Christine Rury, Craig Rury, Curt Rury and Collette (Michael) England; his six grandchildren: Rachel Debelak, Renae (Frank) Turner, Trevor (Jaclyn) Debelak, Paige (Camden) Coe, Braden Woods and Alic Gill; his two great-grandchildren, Ian and Lucas Turner; his brother, Paul (Cindy) Rury and his brother-in-law, Mick (Mary) Stellano.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Marby Ervin; stepfather, Elmer Ervin; father, Paul Rury; stepmother, Mary Rury; brother, Laverne Rury; mother-in-law, Jean Stellano and father-in-law, Clement "Bud" Stellano.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory. Interment immediately followed at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Braidwood.

Memorial donations may be directed to a charity of the donor's choice.

For more information and to visit his online guestbook, please log on to [www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com) or find them on Facebook.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, 401 E. Main St., Braidwood was entrusted with arrangements.



## Rebecca S. Bishop-Miller

BURBANK—Rebecca Sue "Becky" Bishop-Miller, 78, late of Burbank, and formerly of Joliet, Orland Park and Manteno, passed away on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at Burbank Rehabilitation Center, with her family by her side.

Born along with a twin sister on Dec. 24, 1945 in Chillicothe, OH, she was the daughter of Frederick R. and Juanita (Davidson) Sigrist, and was a graduate of Jackson High School, in Jackson, OH, with the class of 1963. She later attended Columbus Business College in Columbus, OH.

Becky enjoyed a rewarding career in the insurance industry beginning with Nationwide Insurance in Jackson, OH, in 1962, and working for them in Columbus, OH, Huntington, WV and Orland Park, IL, as a district sales secretary. Becky held an insurance broker's license and also worked as an insurance manager in automotive sales, and manager of an insurance agency.

She enjoyed being a mother and homemaker while her children were young and the career she loved most was being a Mom.



Surviving are her children: Scott Andrew (Annmarie) Bishop, of Oak Lawn; Sarah (Victor) Rodriguez and Josiah (Mindy) Miller; four grandchildren: Julia Bishop, Saydi Coveny and Lacey and Mya Rodriguez; her twin sister, Roberta L. "Bobbi" (James "Cam") Kirk; one brother, Fred R. Sigrist and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Ronald Thomas Bishop and Joe A. Miller; her parents and one brother, Alfred "Al" Sigrist.

A Memorial Gathering for Becky Bishop-Miller will be held Saturday, July 13, 2024, from 2 p.m., until the time of services at 3:30 p.m., at the Fred C. Dames Funeral Home, 3200 Black Road, Joliet. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in her name to First United Methodist Church of Wilmington, 401 Kahler Rd., Wilmington, IL 60481.

For more information, visit her Memorial Tribute at [www.fredcdames.com](http://www.fredcdames.com).

Arrangements are being made by Fred C. Dames Funeral Home in Joliet.

## Daniel Butler

GODLEY—Daniel G. Butler, 64, of Godley, passed away unexpectedly of a heart condition at Morris Hospital, on June 18, 2024.

Dan, AKA Car Show Dan, always had a passion for cars and shared this through restoring vintage cars, being a member of multiple car clubs and participating in numerous car shows. Also, he was a Trustee at the Village of Godley for twenty years and involved in the Route 66 Preservation Team.

Dan is survived by the love of his life, Cindy Trainer; his canine companion Chevy; two sisters, a brother-in-law, three nephews, a niece, five great nephews, and a great niece.



A Memorial visitation will be held at RW Patterson Funeral Home, 401 East Main Street, Braidwood, from 3 - 6 p.m. on July 14, 2024, followed by a celebration of Dan's life at Godley Water District in Godley Park, 440 S Center St. Godley IL.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Heart Association.

For more information and to visit his online guestbook, please log on to [www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com) or find them on Facebook.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Homes & Crematory 401 E. Main St., Braidwood is entrusted with arrangements.

## Janet Struck

MORRIS—Janet Lynn Struck (nee Schock), of Morris, passed away peacefully at her home on June 25, 2024 with her family surrounding her side after a courageous battle with cancer.

Janet was born in Joliet on March 22, 1962 to the late George and Annette Schock (nee Zambon). She was raised and educated in Coal City and graduated with the class of 1980.

Janet started her career in sales with Modern Woodman Insurance. She then went into the billing side of the business with different companies in the area throughout the years. She made the decision in 2017 to switch career paths and accepted a position as a Deputy Clerk with Grundy County under the direction of Kay Olson. Janet emphasized that this was the best career decision she ever made.

In her younger years, Janet could often be found camping and fishing with her oldest son, Brian, at the Miner's Outdoor Club. More recently, Janet loved attending extracurricular events that her children and grandchildren participated in over the years. Janet was an avid Chicago Cubs fan and enjoyed watching games with her family. She also enjoyed crafting, specifically crocheting. She had a true passion and innate ability to plan parties and entertain her family and friends. Janet would bake cakes for all occasions, and she was also known for her delicious Easter Bunny Rice Krispie treats and coffee cakes. Janet enjoyed going to garage sales with her husband, Larry, on weekend mornings.

Janet loved spending holiday seasons

with her family. Every year she displayed a beautiful Christmas village in her kitchen for all to see.

Janet is survived by her loving husband of 34 years, Lawrence (Larry) Struck; sons: Brian (Katie) Aichele, Phillip (Demi) Struck and Gregory (Melissa) Struck; four grandchildren: (Drake and Remi Aichele, and Gannon and Gracelyn Struck); three siblings: Kevin (Kathy) Schock, Jean (Mark) Lissy and Kenneth (Gina) Schock; brother-in-law, Jeffrey (Kimberly) Struck and several nieces and nephews, special friends: Suzan Hendry, Randy and Robin Smith, Deb Esposito (nee Mulligan), along with her "bonus sons."

Janet was preceded in death by her parents, George and Annette Schock; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Joseph and Elizabeth Struck.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Janet's memory to Lightways Hospice of Joliet and the Coal City Food Pantry.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, June 30 from 4-7 p.m. at Fruland Funeral Home, 121 W. Jefferson St., Morris. Funeral services will be held at Fruland Funeral Home on Monday, July 1 at 1 p.m. with Pastor Steve Larson officiating. Interment to follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Morris. Cremation rites have been accorded.

For more information and to sign the online guestbook go to [www.frulandfuneralhome.com](http://www.frulandfuneralhome.com).

Fruland Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



## Shawn Scheel

WILMINGTON—Shawn Scheel, 67, of Wilmington, passed away Saturday, June 29, 2024 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee.

Born Aug. 25, 1956 in Joliet, Shawn Russell was a son of Alice (nee Henkelman) and the late Vernon "Skip" Scheel. He was raised and educated in Wilmington and graduated from Wilmington High School with the class of 1974. Shawn worked as an operator for several years with Glidden-Durkee in Channahon, RKW in Orion, IL and Henkelman Excavating in Prophetstown, IL. He transitioned to truck driving, and was employed by 84 Lumber in Lemont, IL and Williams Concrete in Coal City. He was also a familiar face at The Rustic Inn in Wilmington where he bartended.

Shawn was an avid Chicago White Sox supporter, making several trips to Arizona for their Spring Training, and took great pleasure in taking rides on his Harley Davidson or going fishing. He was also a great fan of Jeopardy and made the most of his free time metal scrapping. Shawn was a big supporter of Wilmington Wildcat Football, and will be remembered for his scaffolding bleachers in the North Endzone and for being the first to fire off the booms after Wildcat touchdowns. His celebrations weren't originally embraced by the school administration, but now the booms are a staple of Wildcat home games.

But it was with family and friends where Shawn was most happy. He had a special relationship with his mother, rarely missing a morning cup of coffee or their afternoon beer together. And Shawn was close with all of his nieces and nephews, as well as their children, and will be affectionately remembered as "Uncle Orner."

Survivors include his mother, Alice Scheel, of Wilmington and six brothers and

sisters: Shane (Madonna) Scheel, Sherl Randles, Scott (Kay) Scheel, Sonja Castillo, Stacy (Adam) Egizio, and Sloan (Jennifer) Scheel; 10 nieces and nephews: Leya (Jon) Mitchell, Cort (Kayla) Scheel, Stephanie (Scott) Cherney, Amy Castillo (Jeremy Wells), Emily Castillo, Dallas (Mitch) Bastillo, Kelly (Noah) Kirst, Madison Scheel (Brad Abderhalden), Ava Scheel, and Jodi Yapp (Noel Meekma); and 12 great-nieces and great-nephews: Chloe, Nicholas and Anthony Wells, David Shawn Castillo-Neese, Ian, Lincoln and Finn Mitchell, Ruby and Vera Scheel, Nora and Vivian Cherney and Mato Bastillo.

Shawn was preceded in death by his father, Vernon "Skip" Scheel; one sister, Sally Scheel; two brothers-in-law, Jason Randles and David Castillo and one great-nephew, Noah.

Cremation rites are being accorded, and the family will receive friends for a memorial visitation at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 E. Kahler Rd., in Wilmington on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2024 from 12 p.m. until the time of memorial service at 2 p.m. The family invites you to wear White Sox, Blackhawks, or Harley Davidson attire in memory of Shawn.

Private inurnment will be at Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery in Wilmington.

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

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

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

## ACE 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



A LARGE CROWD formed Saturday outside Whitmore Ace Hardware store in Wilmington for an Ace Hardware 100th anniversary celebration. The parking lot was lined with vendor tents where people could sample food off the grill, enter drawings for tools, a Traeger grill, gift cards and more. One popular tent was the kids craft center where youngsters could complete a project. There was a tent where kids young and old could get friendly with a reptile, stop for flavored shaved ice and more.

## Coal City Baptist church to host Alzheimer's caregiver support group

If you or someone you know is caring for a loved one with memory problems, you are invited to attend a caregivers support group that meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Coal City, 4470 E. Route 113 in Coal City.

This meeting is for caregivers only. For additional information, please contact Becky Haldorson at 815-791-2658.

Alzheimer's caregiver support groups have many benefits for both caregivers and patients. Caregiving takes a heavy toll on the caregivers' mental and physical health and the health of the patient with dementia is directly related to the health of his or her caregiver: the healthier the caregiver, the healthier the patient, and vice versa.

Support group participants, value support groups as a place to learn

more factual information about dementia. Increased education about dementia makes caregivers more effective: they are better able to respond to patients' needs when they understand and can anticipate them.

Furthermore caregiver depression decreases as caregiver education about dementia increases, and when caregiver depression decreases, patient outcomes improve.



# Benson named Firestarter for June

When he first joined Morris Hospital in 2010 as a radiologic technologist in the Imaging Services department, Brandon Benson had his sights set on working in the Cath Lab some day, the area of the hospital where physicians perform tests and procedures to diagnose and treat cardiovascular disease.

Since becoming part of Morris Hospital's Cath Lab team in 2016, Benson has made an incredible impact on patients, co-workers and physicians. He has a reputation for being a knowledgeable, dedicated, professional, kind, extraordinary individual who gives so much of himself daily that he's been called the "backbone" of the Cath Lab. Benson was selected as Morris Hospital's Fire Starter of the Month for June.

"Brandon always exhibits a can-do attitude," says Jori Christensen, Director of Cardiovascular Services at Morris Hospital. "He's a great critical thinker and trouble shooter. He's



Brandon Benson

level headed and stays calm in critical situations. He has strong bonds with physicians, and he's a great advocate for patients."

Benson said he always felt that working in the Cath Lab would be rewarding and interesting, and that has certainly proven to be true for the Coal City resident.

"In many cases, we have the ability to turn the worst day of someone's life

into a positive outcome," Benson said. "There aren't too many instant gratifications like that in healthcare. The teamwork and critical care that comes with the Cath Lab has always been exciting to me."

Danielle Skelton, a registered nurse in the Cardio Diagnostics department, nominated Benson for Fire Starter of the month, stating that Morris Hospital is "blessed to have such an extraordinary employee who gives so much daily."

"Brandon provides extraordinary care to patients with his vast knowledge base and inspires others through his leadership and illuminating characteristics," said Skelton. "He is so humble that he does not even realize how much of a positive impact he makes every day."

In recent years, Benson has taken on additional roles and responsibilities, including mentoring and educating new employees. Due to his calm demeanor, critical thinking, and valu-

able input, he was recently asked to serve on the team that is preparing for the upcoming Cath Lab upgrade.

When reflecting on the dream job that he worked so hard to secure and now has made such a monumental impact, Benson said he enjoys working with the physicians and his co-workers, interacting with patients, and being close to home. His greatest reward comes in knowing that he is helping patients and their families.

"When patients come to us, they're pretty stressed because they're concerned about the outcome," he said. "It's nice to be able to put them at ease, make them comfortable, and help them get through it."

In early civilizations, fire starters were individuals who had the important job of keeping the flame alive. With over 1,400 employees, Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers is the largest employer in Grundy County.

## State Tech dean's list

Reilly Hauert, of Elwood, was named to the dean's list at State Tech in Linn, MO for the spring of 2024. To be placed on the dean's list, a full-time student must earn a semester grade point average between 3.5 and 4.0 on a 4-point scale.

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Shorewood, IL 60404  
teamgresham@amfam.com  
Email: ggresham@amfam.com

in f

## Catfish Days Craft Show and Flea Market

A craft show and flea market is planned for Saturday, July 27, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the downtown antique district during the Catfish Days festivities. This is an excellent way for you to show and sell your wares. No electricity will be available.

Set-up can begin as early as 6:30 a.m. after checking in at North Water and Van Buren street. Vendors must arrive by 8 a.m. and remove all vehicles by 8:40 a.m. or your spaces will be forfeited.

The non-refundable cost is \$35 for 10-foot x10-foot spaces postmarked on or before July 13; \$50 postmarked July 14-20. Do not mail after July 20. Spaces paid for the day of the event will be \$65. Fresh food vendors who prepare food on site pay \$100 for a 10'x20' space and contracts must be submitted by July 20. Food vendors must also be permitted by the Will County Health Department so be sure to contact them.

All interested parties, including Wilmington non-profit organizations, must pay for a space.

Complete the contract below. Detach and return it with a check made payable to Women of Wilmington. Mail to: Women of Wilmington, PO Box 13, Wilmington, IL 60481. Email questions to the-womenofwilmington@gmail.com. Post dated checks will not reserve a space. Confirmations will be emailed the third week in July.

Catfish Days Committee and Women of Wilmington will not assume liability for any losses, damages or injuries sustained by exhibitors or spectators.

\*\*\*\*\*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

List what will be sold: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How many spaces? (Circle one): 1 2 3 4 5

## Fossil Ridge Library News

### Adult Programs

Bingocize Mondays and Fridays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Each session begins with a warm-up and ends with a cool-down. Participants rest while numbers are called for the bingo game, complete exercises or health education questions, rest during number calling, and so on. This pattern is continued until a Bingocizer wins the game. Exercises can be completed either sitting or standing.

### Children Programs

Free lunch for our Youth, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fossil Ridge Public Library has partnered with the Illinois Food Bank to provide summer lunch for kids through grade 12. Individual meals will be delivered every Tuesday and Thursday and served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Registration for each day is required. The program will run through Thursday, Aug. 8.

**Monday, July 8-Family Movie Matinee.** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (2023), 1:30-3:30 p.m. Join us for a family movie afternoon. You can bring your own snacks or enjoy some light snacks from us.

Registration is required for all programs at the library. For more information call 815-458-2187.



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# CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

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

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3 wks. - \$25; 4 wks. - \$29\*  
\$1.00 Extra per line for bold or caps on classified  
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### GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE!!!! Wilmington, 1913 Bruning Dr. Sat., July 6, 8AM-1PM. Miscellaneous household items. Furniture for small spaces. Loveseat, Coffee table, small dinette set w/2 chairs. Many other items as well as some tools and other car repair items such as a creeper and hydraulic jacks. cc27

### GOODS FIREARMS

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

### HELP WANTED

Position Available. The Reed Township is looking for an Assessor. Applicants must have their CIAO that is up-to-date and must be a resident of Reed Township. Send resume and current certificate of eligibility to perform Assessor duties to: Reed Township, PO Box 77, Braidwood, Illinois 60408 or email to: Supervisor@reedtownship.us by Friday, July 12, 2024 at 4:00pm.

### HELP WANTED

The Reed Township Mosquito Abatement District will be hiring a Seasonal Field Technician. Application and Job Description are available by contacting (815)458-6538. ch27-28

Wanted: Cleaning Service to bi-weekly clean the common areas of an apartment complex in Braidwood. Email resume or work history to nwasser922@gmail.com. cc26-27

### HOMES FOR RENT

Country house for rent. 3BR, 1 1/2 BA. Washer & dryer included. All utilities included except TV services. First, last, security deposit required. Pets negotiable. 815-405-6134. cc25-28

Wilmington, 1 BR, stove, refrigerator (courtesy), \$750 per month, security deposit, first month's rent and lease. No smoking, no pets. Utilities not included. 815-931-9537.

### LOST & FOUND

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

### MISCELLANEOUS

10 foot Jon Boat with accessories, \$75. Antique pitcher pump, \$25. Yard rake, \$20. Call 815-474-3099. ca27

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### REAL ESTATE

**SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE OF 93 SMALLMOUTH LN, WILMINGTON, IL 60481 (Townhome).** On the 18th day of July, 2024, to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: **PNC Bank, National Association Plaintiff V. Unknown Heirs and Devises of Elizabeth A. Wiechern, deceased, Unknown Claimants and Lienholders Against the Estate of Elizabeth A. Wiechern, deceased, Unknown Claimants and Lienholders Against the Unknown Heirs and Devises of Elizabeth A. Wiechern, deceased, Shadow Lakes II Association, Joan Wiechern and William P. Butcher, as Special Representative of Elizabeth A. Wiechern, deceased Defendant.** Case No. **23 FC 0870** in the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: **ANSELMO LINDBERG OLIVER LLC, 1771 W. Diehl Rd. Suite 120 NAPERVILLE, IL 60563 P: 630-453-6960 F: 630-428-4620** PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., June 26 & July 3, 10, 2024.

### REAL ESTATE

**SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE OF 903 ARROWHEAD DR, ELWOOD, IL 60421 (Single Family).** On the 11th day of July, 2024, to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: **LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC Plaintiff V. LACILLIA T. JONES AKA LACILLIA T. ALEXANDER; JEROME C. ALEXANDER; MEADOWBROOK SUBDIVISION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION; VILLAGE OF ELWOOD; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendant.** Case No. **22 FC 1070** in the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: **INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION 120 W. MADISON STREET SUITE 718 CHICAGO, IL 60602 P: 312 444-1122 X102** PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., June 19, 26 & July 3, 2024.

### REAL ESTATE

**SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE OF 1222 PARK DR, WILMINGTON, IL 60481 (Single Family).** On the 11th day of July, 2024, to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: **LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC Plaintiff V. JACQUELINE HAMBRICK; O'DEKKIRK, ALLRED AND ASSOCIATES, LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant.** Case No. **23 FC 0783** in the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: **INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION 120 W. MADISON STREET SUITE 718 CHICAGO, IL 60602 P: 312 444-1122 X102** PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., June 19, 26 & July 3, 2024.

### REAL ESTATE

**SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE OF 1803 ROBERTS STREET, WILMINGTON, IL 60481 (single family).** On the 11th day of July, 2024, to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: **Planet Home Lending LLC Plaintiff V. Cody England; United States of America; Unknown Owners and Non Record Claimants Defendant.** Case No. **23 FC 0783** in the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: **INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION 120 W. MADISON STREET SUITE 718 CHICAGO, IL 60602 P: 312 444-1122 X102** PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., June 19, 26 & July 3, 2024.



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Courtesy photo

A NEW SIGN with hang at the entrances into Wilmington recognizing the 2024 WHS baseball team who recently finished third in the state. The city council drafted a proclamation honoring the Wildcats, presenting it during the June 18 meeting. Team members include (kneeling, from left) Kyle Farrell, Shawn James, Lucas Rink, Cade McCubbin and Drew Jackson. Standing are Joe Cortese, Mayor Ben Dietz, Zach Ohlund, Ryan Kettman, Reid Juster, Ryan Smith, Joe Allgood, Jake Castle and coach Mike Bushnell.

## Opponents for a good cause



WILMINGTON STATE CHAMPIONS Joe Allgood (left) and Brendan Moran played against each other during the 50th annual All Star High School game known as the Shrine Game in Bloomington, IL. The former Wildcat linebackers were selected for the five-day event ministering to the children of Shriners Children's Hospital with team practices daily, a cookout, Miracle baseball game, event banquet, concluding with a Saturday morning game at Tucci Stadium on the campus of Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington. Moran, playing for the Red team, defeated Allgood on the Blue team, 21-13. But in the end the score didn't matter as they helped to raise funds for childhood medical needs.

## City council honors state Wildcats

BY ROSE PANIERI  
STAFF WRITER

Mayor Ben Dietz and aldermen honored members of the Wildcat High School Baseball Team and coaches during the June 18 city council meeting.

The Wildcats took third place in the IHSA Class 2A State Championship games on June 6.

The WHS baseball team shutout Sterling Newman Catholic 4-0 on June 1 to erase a 19-year absence of bringing home a state baseball trophy for the high school, finishing the season with a 28-2 record, including a 25-game winning streak and new school records in pitching.

Six Wildcats were named Illinois Central Eight All-Conference players, including Lucas Rink, Cabe McCubbin, Kyle Farrell, Reid Juster, Ryan Kettman, and Zach Ohlund who was named ICE offensive player of the year with 46 RBIs, nine home runs and .424 batting average.

The city of Wilmington honored the team's victory with a sign recognizing

their success as third place winners in the 2024 IHSA Baseball Class 2A. Team members autographed the sign.

"The team autographed one of the signs that the city will be donating to the Wilmington Foundation of Excellence to help raise funds for their scholarship program," Mayor Dietz said. "Updated signage coming into town will be installed in the coming days."

Head coach Mike Bushnell and assistant coaches Tim Hooker, Chad Farrell, Nick Dziuban, Will Jansen, and Sean Micetich, were recognized for their excellence in their sport.

Wildcat team members: Jake Castle, Shawn James, Drew Jackson, Dierks Geiss, Ryan Smith, Kyle Farrell, Cade McCubbin, Brendan Moran, Mikey Baskerville, Joe Cortese, Zach Ohlund, Joe VanDuyne, Joe Allgood, Reid Juster, Lucas Rink, and Ryan Kettman, were honored for their impressive season, and the example they set men set for future generations of students.

## Electronics dropoff coming to Wilmington

Will County's free electronics drop-off event will be held Thursday, July 11, from 5-7 p.m. at the Wilmington City Hall parking lot, 1165 S. Water St.

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

Items accepted include: Televisions, monitors, printers, computers (desktops, laptops, note-

books, tablets), electronic keyboards, fax machines, videocassette recorders, portable digital music players, DVD players, DVD recorders, video game consoles, small scale servers, scanners, electronic mice, digital converter boxes, cable receivers, satellite receivers, cell phones, computer cable, portable digital assistants (PDAs) and zip drives.

Electronic items contain materials that can be recycled countless times.

# ILLINOIS' LARGEST FAMILY DERBY

NECA/IBEW Local 176 AQUA Illinois...  
WVLI 92.7 WFAU 95.1 WIVR 101.7 WYUR 103.7  
Sponsored By: DAILY JOURNAL FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1903

## JUNE 28 - JULY 7, 2024

GREEN TAGS for 2024 GRAND PRIZE Boat, Motor & Trailer Courtesy of Local #176 • WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED  
TAGS MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM FISH, AND ANGLER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING FISH FRESH OR ALIVE  
NIAA For More Information call 815.304.4569 or log onto [www.kankakeefishingderby.com](http://www.kankakeefishingderby.com)

### 4 FISH \$1000 CASH

DAILY JOURNAL  
FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1903

#### BIG BOARD CONTEST

1ST, 2ND, 3RD place prizes will be awarded on the basis of weight for nine species of fish caught in the Kankakee River: Walleye, Smallmouth, Northern, Largemouth, Crappie, Channel Catfish, Flathead Catfish, Rock Bass or Roughfish. Ties decided by date and time of surrender at Weigh Station or draw if necessary. Grand Prize Fish, as selected by the Tournament Committee. Qualifying weights: Smallmouth 2lb, Walleye 6lb, Northern 8lb and extraordinary catches in other species are considered.

#### BONUS TAGS

All previous years tagged fish caught from June 1 - June 27. Prize \$50.00 in merchandise at the weigh station where presented by a registered angler. Any combination of 2 tags = \$100.00 bonus.

#### "Sparky" Boat Motor Trailer

N.E.C.A./I.B.E.W. Local 176

#### MAJOR SPONSORS

- \* NORTHERN ILLINOIS ANGLERS ASSOCIATION
- \* DAILY JOURNAL
- \* MILNER BROADCASTING ENTERPRISES & LCC
- \* UNITED DISPOSAL \* I.D.N.R.
- \* N.E.C.A./I.B.E.W. LOCAL #176

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY: Angelo's Bait & Tackle, Aqua Illinois, Elliott's Bait and Tackle, The Free Press, Rose Gianotti, Kankakee River Trading Post, Reed's Rent All, North WalMart Supercenter, South Walmart, and Nancy Witholt.

## Kankakee River Valley Fishing 2024

#### \$500 CASH PRIZES

In Memory of Steve & Angie - Tyler Martin  
Solidarity - Kankakee Federation of Labor  
Red, White & Blue - Angie Strickland, Trustee, Village of Bourbonnais  
APRA - Arcene Post Baiting Association  
Aqua Man - Aqua Illinois, Inc.  
Mr. Lifetime - Bradley-Bourbonnais Sportsman's Club  
Fisher Sportsman - Bradley-Bourbonnais Sportsman's Club  
Mayor Shane - Bourbonnais Citizens Party & Mayor Paul Shaw  
Big Daddy - Bourbonnais Township  
J.R.'s Walleye - Family of J.R. Black  
JAWS - Dr. Fred Walchowski  
Cub River - First Trust Bank of Illinois  
Hook 24 - Hobbsen Heating & Sheet Metal  
Jerry Forbes - Bourbonnais Friendship Festival  
Shirley - Kankakee County Building Trades  
Baby Huey - Arcene Park American Legion Post  
Core Const. & Dred - Paul Nelson  
COTD - Bob & Sam Thomas  
A Fish Named Don - Kankakee Truck Equipment  
Black Top - Kankakee Valley Construction Co.  
Himmler - L.A. Bianchi Agency  
Earl Stine - Schoen's Heating & Cooling  
Jackhammer - Laborers Local 751  
Levi's Lumber - Levi's Garage  
Go-Rite - Liberty Fire Equipment  
In Memory of Jack Dugan - Lisa Dugan  
MAC - Absence Anchor Club  
Foreign Warrior - Kankakee WFAU #1857  
Jean Alice - Northern Illinois Anglers Association  
Grandpa - North Elmhurst Anglers Association  
Spot Light - Outdoor Electric, Inc.  
Mr. Ringgold - Pharoah's Flowers of Kankakee County  
Big John - Proce Painting  
Joe - Rose & Sons  
Dumpster Diver - United Disposal  
"Dad" - Chas - Limestone Park District  
Ed's Legacy - Family of Ed Muldady  
CPH Hedy - Manteno Sportsman's Club  
Klem - Heschel Auto Tint  
CFL Sully - CSE Bismarck  
Reel Justice - State's Attorney Jon Reave  
Benny - Bounce With Us  
Tall Timber - Kankakee Forest Preserve  
Mc. White - Kankakee River Valley Whitebait Unlimited  
T-Bird, In Memory of Tracy Telle - The Telle Family  
Migrator - Kankakee Delta Wildcat

#### MAJOR PRIZE DONORS

Faber Financial - David Faber - \$2,500 Cash  
Classified - Daily Journal - \$1,000 Cash  
Money Saver - Daily Journal - \$1,000 Cash  
HomeFinder - Daily Journal - \$1,000 Cash  
Headline - Daily Journal - \$1,000 Cash  
Guzzie Gills - Heritage FS - \$1,000 Cash  
Bob's Bass - Nucor - \$1,000 Cash  
Smart Bass - Sheet Metal Workers Local 265 - \$1,000 Cash  
Adjust II - Koehler Chiropractic - \$1,000 in Services or \$250 Cash  
Adjust II - Koehler Chiropractic - \$1,000 in Services or \$250 Cash

#### \$500 MERCHANDISE

Reyno - Touring, Inc. - \$500 Gift Certificate  
Red-X-Out - \$500 Gift Certificate  
Abba - Massage - \$500 Massage Package  
Sgt. Genny - Overdrive - \$500 Fishing Merchandise  
Jean Alice - \$500 Gift Certificate  
Tad-Pod - Colonial Shades - \$500 in Merchandise  
Mr. Ringgold - \$500 in Merchandise  
Larry - Reed's Rent All - \$500 in Merchandise  
Pride Pio - Richards Building Supply - \$500 in Merchandise  
Lynne - \$500 in Merchandise  
All Power Anglers - \$500 Merchandise or Service

#### Hook an Old or Early Tag for \$50 in Merchandise June 1-June 27 • NIAA

"Lasso A Double" \$100 CASH BONUS Northern Illinois Anglers Association

#### DERBY DOLLAR DAYS - \$100 CASH

Fri. June 28..... Rough Fish - Buffalo Roamin Day - X-line Sportsman's Club  
Sat. June 29..... Largemouth Bass - Large Lunker Day - Diamond Indoor Trap & Pistol Range  
Sun. June 30..... Smallmouth Bass - Smallie Searchin Day - Kankakee River Trading Post  
Mon. July 1..... Rock Bass - Rock Mining Day - Nancy Witholt  
Tue. July 2..... Flathead Catfish - Bordertown Guns Channel Catfish - Dr. Walchowski  
Wed. July 3..... Northern Pike - Pike Plugging Day - Reed's Rent All  
Thur. July 4..... Crappie - Crappie Jigging Day - APBA  
Fri. July 5..... Walleye - Walleye Day - Daily Journal  
Sat. July 6..... Any Species Excluding Catfish and Rough Fish - Kids Corbin Day - Kankakee Sportsman's Club

#### REGISTRATION STATIONS ONLY

- Reed's Rent All, 907 N. Indiana Ave., Kankakee
- Walmart, 505 Riverstone Pkwy., Kankakee
- Walmart Supercenter, 2680 N. St. Rt. 50, Bradley
- Or online at [www.kankakeefishingderby.com](http://www.kankakeefishingderby.com)

#### REGISTRATION & WEIGH-IN STATIONS

- Kankakee River Trading Post - Off Route 102 on Alford Road by the Kankakee River State Park
- Angelo's Bait, 708 W. Baltimore St., Wilmington
- Elliot's Bait and Tackle, 975 N. 5th Ave., Kankakee

Fish can be checked in at weigh stations during their normal business hours.  
If a tagged fish is caught after hours, call 815-304-4569 - leave a message with name, phone number, fish species and tag number. Surrender the tagged fish to a weigh station the following morning.

# JOLIET SLAMMERS

FRONTIER LEAGUE PARTNER LEAGUE

## NEXT HOMESTAND: JULY 2-7

- JULY 2: BARBIE NIGHT
- JULY 3: INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION POSTGAME FIREWORKS
- JULY 4: MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT Presented by JDog Junk Removal & Hauling
- JULY 5: HISPANIC HERITAGE NIGHT POSTGAME FIREWORKS
- JULY 6: MYSTERY BOBBLEHEAD GIVEAWAY
- JULY 7: CHRISTMAS IN JULY

## SUPERHERO NIGHT JULY 19

# GET LOCKED IN!

[jolietslammers.com](http://jolietslammers.com)