Details on page 7.



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WILMINGTON, IL | WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2025 | A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER (815) 476-7966



'ENEMIES"—Actor Austin Butler walks a gravel road near a field of high corn on Saturday on the Hazelton farm. Thank goodness the corn was beyond "knee-high by the fourth of July" as it was ideal for the scene in the movie.



ACTOR AUTOGRAPH—Jeremy Allen White stops to sign a T-shirt for a fan on Saturday during a stop in Wilmington.

Production crew sneaks into town to film new spy thriller

BY ROSE PANIERI STAFF WRITER

enhouse plants half-price at Greenhouse Whitmore Ace Hardware in Wilmington, but that's not why actors Jeremy Allen White and Austin Butler showed up in town during the July 4th weekend.

In the wee hours of July production trailers began arriving to the plaza on Water Street, fronted by the former Valle's Produce Whitmore Hardware, with Wee Sip Liquors in the middle.

The actors didn't do

much shopping, but the fine folks at Whitmore were thrilled nonetheless.

They had their film trucks parked in the lot next to us," the hardware store's Facebook page announced Saturday. White and Butler were

in town to film a spy thriller, *Enemy*. The movie features White as a detective hunting down a contract killer played by Butler. Why did they choose to film near Wilmington? It's a wellknown fact that contract killers and cornfields go together like mustard and Chicago dogs.

crew have been filming in and around Chicago since May. What began as a 32day production schedule has gone into overtime.

White and Butler have been spotted unwinding at a variety of Chicago hotspots, including Wrigley Field, where they watched the Cubs defeat the Colorado Rockies 3-1 on

A glimpse of fame

It just so happens that Ashley Shell Van Tilburg works at Wee Sip, and like the good folks at Ace, had a bird's eye view of the com-

In fact, the duo and ings and goings of the crew. The arrival of the entourage was a mystery she was determined to solve.

"I actually wasn't really sure who they were at first." Van Tilburg said. " I didn't recognize their names. When I googled them and realized who they are and what they played in, I realized I did like them as

actors. Breanna Desper also braved Saturday's heat and humidity for a chance to

see her favorite actors. "Austin Butler makes me feel nostalgic, since he

SEE FILM CREW PAGE 2



GROUP PHOTO—Actors Jeremy Allen White and Austin Butler (center, back) stand behind a group of fans in the parking lot in front of the former Belletini Foods grocery store on Saturday evening. A caravan of trucks and escort vehicles used by the crew for the filming of "Enemies" stopped in Wilmington after recording a scene on a Wilmington farm. White and Butler approached spectators, suggesting they take a group photo before the movie crew moved on.

Annexation of solar land tabled again

BY ROSE PANIERI STAFF WRITER

Once again, Wilmington City Council held a public hearing for the proposed annexation of approximately 100 acres located along Illinois 53 and Coal City Road.

The ultimate purpose of the annexation will be to obtain a special use permit for two separate solar farms for review by the Will County Board at a later date.

A decision was withheld at the June 17 council meeting as Cypress Creek Renewables and Emeren, neglected to advise Custer Township of the annexation in writing as legally

Their efforts to notify Custer Township proved easier said than While Custer Township Highway

Commissioner Bill Marquardt was successfully advised of the annexation, correspondence sent to Custer Township representatives returned to sender, as there is no mail receptacle at the address where the notices were sent.

"It doesn't stop us from having

this hearing," city attorney Brian Jack Plese shared he's in favor of Wellner said. "It doesn't stop us from having a solar energy plant as a taking action on the annexation."

Background

The tract of land in questioned consists of approximately 152 acres, and is owned by James and Laurie Fleishman of Verona. For the 152 acre parcel (PIN no. 03-17-35-300-002-0000), annual taxes are \$4,353 per year, and if the annexation is approved, the property will continue to be zoned agricultural.

Another 20-acre tract of land intended as part of the solar plant is already zoned within the boundaries of the city of Wilmington.
Wilmington's Planning and

Zoning Commission already recommended annexation of the farmland to be leased to the corporations with two conditions 1) No battery storage will be permitted on the property, and 2) A solid fence be installed on property lines adjacent to residential properties.

The corporations returned to city hall on June 17 to answer questions from the public. Some residents liked the idea of solar plants. Others did not.

Jack Plese shared he's in favor of neighbor. He believes solar energy is the way of the future. "It takes 377 gallons of water per person to generate electricity," he said. "Aquifers are going dry."

Jay Plese, on the other hand, is opposed to the solar plants. In addition to questioning the zoning and the fact that the corporations didn't plan to use union labor, Plese expressed concern about road dam-

"I've been a farmer all my life, and an educator," he said. "I do not like solar fields. You're going to be using Coal City Road, which is a partnership road. I want to know what's going to happen with that road."
Union labor? Yes, please

At the June 17 council meeting, Ryan Anderson of Cypress Creek Renewables, said union labor would not be used to build the plant, much to the dismay of several council members and residents.

By the time July 1 rolled around, he had changed his tune.

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 2

Pet patrol gets a little easier for Wilmington PD

Department will be able to identify lost pets, potentially reuniting them with their owners quicker, thanks to a recent donation by a group of car enthusiasts.

Subies of the Corn NFP. registered nonprofit, donated microchip readers to both the Wilmington and Coal City Police Departments. These contributions were made in honor of Subaru Loves Pets®, a nationwide initiative dedicated to improving the lives of animals.

The universal handheld microchip readers will allow officers to quickly scan and identify lost pets in the field, even dur-

The Wilmington Police ing weekends, holidays, or artment will be able to after business hours when veterinary clinics closed.

> providing enforcement the ability to access a pet's microchip data, lost animals may be reunited with their families faster and more efficiently.

'Getting lost pets back to their families quickly is crucial, and we're grateful to support our local police departments with tools that help make that easier," said J. Mykel Hill, president

SEE PET CHIP READER PAGE 2





SALE VALID 7/10-7/16/25

CHECK OUT OUR WEEKLY AD AT BERKOTFOODS.COM



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Check Out Additional Items on Page 9 in

our Digital Ad!



Blue Bunny Novelties 6-9 Ct. Single Price: \$3.99



CoffeeMate Liquid Creamer 64 oz

Single Price: \$6.99



Kraft Shreds, Chunks or Crumbles 5-8 oz

Single Price: \$3.49



Daisy Dips 16 oz or Squeeze Sour Cream 14 oz or- Single Price: \$2.79



YOU'RE INVITED! The Wilmington Fire Protection District will host an open house for its new Fire Station #1 on Saturday, July 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The station is located at 201 N. Kankakee St. where the old Booth Central School once stood. The new station took just under a year to complete, having broken ground in mid-June 2024. Total cost for the project came in under budget at \$8.7 million, including architectural, project management and equipment costs. Fire Chief Tim Zlomie noted that no bonds were issued and no local taxes were raised to fund the project after an agreement was made in 2010 with the developers of RidgePort, the warehouse project at Lorenzo Road at Interstate 55. The open house will include tours of the building and light refreshments.

Pet chip reader, continued from page 1

of Subies of the Corn.

This donation came at critical time, as Fourth of July celebrations can be an incredibly stressful experience for pets.

Loud fireworks and unfamiliar crowds often cause pets to become frightened and run away, leading to a spike in lost animal reports around this time of year. By providing local police départments with microchip readers, Subies of the Corn is helping ensure that lost pets can be quickly scanned, identified, reunited with their families during one of the busiest and most chaotic times for

Subies of the Corn, also known as "SOTC," originated as a Subaru Enthusiasts Car Club in 2017 and evolved into an Illinois nonprofit corporation in August 2023. SOTC operates as a 501(c)(3) public charity, aligning

with the Subaru Love

Promise. The organiza-

animal shelters and first

responders.

Olsen petitions for name change of minor

PUBLIC NOTICE

TWELETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the matter of the petition to change the name(s) of ISABELLE SOPHIA EDGEWORTH to the new name of ISABELLE SOPHIA OLSEN, Case No. 25MR000281 NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the request of: Erin Nicole Olsen to change the name of minor, Isabelle Sophia Edgeworth, who shall appear 60432 at 9:00 a.m. on the 8th day of August, 2025 before the judge assigned to hear said matter, and then there present a petition requesting the name of Isabelle Sophia Edgeworth be changed to Isabelle Sophia Olsen.

/s/ Erin Nicole Olsen, Petitioner Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, July 9, 16



A PET CHIP READER was recently donated to the Wilmington Police Department to help officers identify lost pets. The donation was made by Subies of the Corn, a nonprofit made up of Subaru enthusiasts. Club president J. Mykel Hill (left) and secretary/treasure Christine Hill present the reader to Wilmington patrolman Hunter Imhof.

tion's core mission is to host enjoyable and charitable events for Subaru enthusiasts in the Chicago Southland area, with the primary aim of benefiting others.

Since its inception in 2017, Subies of the Corn and its dedicated members have raised over \$13,000 for local and national charities, collected over 6,400 toys for Toys for Tots, and donated over 1,100 pairs of socks, 250 toiletry kits, 75 drawstring bags, 50 towels, and 50 washcloths to assist those experiencing homelessness.

Subies of the Corn and its members have also collected and donated over 4,100 pounds of food

addressing issues of food insecurity and contributed to environmental sustainability by collecting/recycling over 11,000 plastic grocery bags, diverting over 165 pounds of plastic from landfills.

Additional information about Subies of the Corn can be found on their website at https://subies ofthecorn.org.

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Edward **Jones**`

Attorney Park files

Thompson 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 ROBERT H. THOMPSON,

CLAIM NOTICE

TO: CREDITORS, CLAIMANTS, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES Notice is hereby given of the death of ROBERT H . THOMPSON who died on 12/8/2024, a resident of Lockport, IL 60491. The Representative for the

estate is: Rosemary C. Thompson, 15612 W. 163rd St., Lockport, IL 60491.
The attorney for the estate is:

Lydia K. Park, 140 S. Municipal Drive, Sugar Grove, IL 60554.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before January 9, 2026 Claims against the estate may be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, River Valley Justice Center, 3208 West McDonough, Joliet, IL 60431 or with the Representative, or both. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney

within 10 days after it has been filed.
On June 30, 2025, an Order Admitting the Will to Probate and Appointing the Representative was entered. Within forty-two (42) days after the effective date of the original Order Admitting the Will to Probate, you may file a petition with the Court to require proof of the validity of the Will by testimony or witnesses to the Will in open Court, or other evidence, as pro vided in Article VI 5/6-21 (755 ILCS 5/6-21).

Within six (6) months after the effective date of the original Order Admitting the Will to Probate, you may file a petition with the Court to contest the validity of the Will as provided under Article VIII 5/8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1).

The estate will be administrated without Court supervision unless an interested party terminates independent supervision administration by filing a petition to terminate under Article XXVIII 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4).

Attorney for Executor Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, July 9,16 & 23, 2025

Attorney Wysocki files

Wilkinson 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 PATRICIA A. WILKINSON,

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Patricia A. Wilkinson, Letters of Office as Independent Administrator was issued on June 23, 2025, to Timothy R. Wilkinson, whose address is 1107 Pearson Drive, Joliet, IL 60435; 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, River Valley Justice Center, 3208 West McDonough Street, Joliet, IL 60435 or with the representative, or both, on or before January 3, 2026 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

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.illi noiscourts.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.

Timothy R. Wlkinson Independent Administrator of the Estate of Patricia A. Wilkinson Deceased

Marilyn L Wysocki Joliet, Illinois 60435 Telephone: 815-534-9515 Facsimile: (815) 534-9516

Attorney Code: 06198698 E-mail: MLWysocki@MeentsLaw.com Published in the Free Press Advocate, Wednesday, July 2, 9 and

Attorney Meents files Lindmark 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 ALGOT CLARENCE LINDMARK,

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death ALGOT CLARENCE LINDMARK. Letters of Office as Independent Executor was issued on June 13, 2025, to Alan C. Lindmark, whose address is 206 Santos Avenue, Minooka, Illinois 60447; 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 26, 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

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 n-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit www.illinoislegalaid.org. Alan C. Lindmark

Independent Executor of the Estate of ALGOT CLARENCE LINDMARK,

Frank J. Meents 25158 W. Eames Street, Unit A Channahon, Illinois 60410 Telephone: (815) 534-9515 Facsimile: (815) 534-9516 Attorney Code: 06298859

E-mail: Frank@MeentsLaw.com
Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, June 25, July 2 and 9, 2025.

June went from chilly to hot

June was a mixed bag as far as weather was concerned. The month started out chilly, with a high of only 43 degrees on the first day of the month.

The chill ended abruptly when the mercury hit 94 degrees on June 22, 23, and 26. Up until that time, temperatures were idyllic, hovering around the 70s and 80s.

One-third of month hit 90 degrees or higher. The average temperature was 75 degrees.

June was short with total liquid precipitation at 3.53 inches, bringing the yearly total to 11.72 inches. Typically rainfall in June is 4.6 to 5.2 inches. The soggiest day was June 18, with 1.19 inches of rain.

In total, it rained eight days of the month, mostly in the first half. This region is on the dry side compared to downstate Olney which had 8.46 inches of On June 3, winds gust-

ed to 34 mph.

Film crew, continued from page 1

was a staple in my childhood, playing shows like the Carrie Diaries," Desper said. "Jeremy Allen White has peaked my interest as I got older because he plays some interesting, disorderly, and unpredictable characters like in the shows Shameless and The Bear."

Desper had little idea the actors were coming to Wilmington. Though she didn't score an autograph, she did have the opportunity to talk to one of the film's crew members, who clued her in on a couple of details.

"He said they're filming a movie called Enemies," Desper said. "They needed a back road for a scene. They pulled out a map and picked Wilmington.'

Award winning actors

White is best known for his portrayal of Carmen "Carmy" Berzatto in the Chicago-based series, The Bear. He's a two-time Emmy winner for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Comedy Series. Butler portrayal of Elvis Presley in the movie *Elvis*.

BAFTA award, and was also nominated for an Oscar for On Saturday, July 5, Van Tilburg dropped her children off at the nearby McDonald's. She decided to join the crowd waiting for the actors to return from filming. It

For his performance, Butler won a Golden Globe and

looked like fun 'So, I stuck around and chatted with everyone since it's a small town and we kind of know everyone," Van Tilburg said. "I suddenly wanted to meet the guys, and I waited for them to pull up.'

Down to earth guys

It was well after dark when White and Butler returned in the film's production van. Saturday was a scorcher, and the duo had been filming near dusty cornfields in the When they noticed their stalwart fan base dripping

sweat on parking lot asphalt, the actors volunteered to take a group photo with their admirers.

"They had to be really hot, hungry, tired, but they took the time to greet everyone," Van Tilburg said. "A CVS employee had told me they were really great people. For them to take the time to greet everyone and pose for a photo was super great.' Both Van Tilburg and Desper were grateful for a once

in a lifetime opportunity, though both secretly harbored a wish for a conversation with the stars, possibly a bit part 'I was not able to communicate with either celebrity,

or get an autograph," Desper said. "It would have been miraculous if I could. They did grace us with a group photo and that was enough."

Council, continued from page 1

"Last time I answered there would be no union labor." Anderson said. "That just came from my inexperience and my separation from those actual agreements."

He said there will undoubtedly be "some union

labor." However, at this point he said he doesn't have exact numbers.

Overweight trucks

Mike Adams, who lives in the vicinity of the proposed solar farms spoke about the likelihood of overweight trucks traversing Coal City Road. He suggested construction traffic use River Road.

'I have a truck, and I was told that I can't bring a trailer," Adams said. "I can only have my truck down there." The project's civil engineer William Sawyer addressed

There will be a pre-construction survey," Sawyer said. "We look at it, we document it. It's all done before a

single truck is out on the roads.' Wellner reassured the council and residents. "If they damage it, they will repair it," he said.

Vote taken Though the Custer Township "mail blunder" didn't

hold things up, a couple of alderpersons threw the proverbial monkey wrench into the works by voting

against annexation. Councilmen Ryan Knight and Kevin Kerwin both nixed the annexation request. Normally, had all alderpersons been present at the

meeting, the annexation request would have passed by the two-thirds required. However, Rachel Conforti and Todd Holmes were

absent. Even with Mayor Ben Dietz voting to approve the annexation, it didn't pass. A motion to reconsider the issue on July 15 was

agreed. The annexation requests were both tabled until the July 15 council meeting.

South Island Park playground

The council voted to waive competitive bidding and approve a construction agreement between the city and Team REIL, Inc.

of

playground will begin no later than September, with completion by Nov. 30. The cost of the project

is \$449,918.

Software renewal The council agreed to

Installation

\$30,790.73 to Springbrook Software of American Fork, UT. This amount represents the annual fee for the city's software programs.

Blodgett Road improvements In conjunction with

Channahon, the council approved needed resurfacing and improvements.

Wilmington Park District to hold hearing for

Appropriation Ordinance PUBLIC NOTICE

The Wilmington Park District, Will County, Illinois, will hold a public hearing for its 2025-2026 annual Appropriation Ordinance on July 22, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Park District Office located at 315 N. Water Street Wilmington, Illinois. A draft of said Ordinance is available for public inspection at the Park District's Office at 315 N. Water Street, Wilmington, Illinois, during its regular business hours, beginning June 26, 2025. /s/ Kirsten Van Duyne

Kirsten Van Duyne, Park Director Wilmington Park District Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, July 9, 2025.



The Free Press Advocate

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Eric D. Fisher, publisher

The Free Press Advocate, Wednesday, July 9, 2025, page 3

Enter by July 15...

Baby contest returning as part of Catfish Days

Route 66 Old School Brewing will birth certificate. again be sponsoring the Catfish Days Baby Contest on Saturday, July 26. All entries must be made now before July 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

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 19. Only finalists will be notified.

Finalists will come to RT66 Old

School Brewing at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 26 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

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

Library program to reflect on the S.S. Eatland disaster

The Wilmington Public itime tragedies. Library invites you to dive into history this summer with presentations that explore unforgettable moments from the past.

Join us Saturday, July 19 at 1 p.m. as historian David Nelson, Director of Remember the Eastland, shares the gripping story of the S.S. Eastland disaster, one of the deadliest mar-

Nelson, the grandson of Eastland rescuer Elmer Nelson, will shine a light on the ship's hidden design flaws, the ignored warnings, and the heartbreaking day in 1915 when the Eastland capsized in the Chicago River, claiming 844 lives. Reserve your spot by calling 815-476-2834.



Catfish Days coloring contest

The Catfish Days coloring contest is back! Boys and girls through age 10 can com-plete an entry in the Catfish Days coloring con-

It's free. Use this page as your entry or more copies are available at The Free Press Advocate, 111 S. Water St., Wilmington or at Rt 66 Creamery, 507 E Baltimore Street; Wilmington. The 2025 "Catfish Days Fever—A weekend

of disco" coloring contest is open to children residing in Wilmington in the age ranges of: Ages 5 and under; ages 6 through 8; and ages 9 All entries must be dropped off no later

than Tuesday, July 22 at 4 p.m. at The Free Press Advocate or at Rt. 66 Creamery and receive a FREE small soft serve cone during regular business hours. Entries may be completed in watercolors,

crayons, makers or pencils. Please indicate the child's name and age, parent's name and phone number where winners can be notified. One entry per person.

Winners will be contacted by phone. By submitting to the Catfish Days coloring contest, all entries become property of the Wilmington Catfish Days Committee and may be posted in sponsoring businesses.

Prizes in each age group will be awarded at

3:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 27, on the North Island at the entertainment stage.

Sponsored in part by The Free Press

Advocate, 98.3WCCQ, QRock 100.7, and the

Child's Name

Wilmington Chamber of Commerce.

Child's Age __

Parent's Name

Phone number

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Free Press Newspapers readers

To voice your opinion 24 hours a day, go to www.freepressnewspapers.com or call 815-634-0317 Sound-Off is a 24-hour phone line provided to give readers a chance to voice their opinions. The Free Press Newspapers reserves the right to edit remarks for taste, length, personal attacks, racism,

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

Submissions by email to: courant@fpnusa.com with "soundoff" in the subject line or visit www.freep

ressnewspapers.com, or call 815-634-0317. Please state the town in which you are calling from or in regards to. Mail comments to Sound-Off, 271 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481. There can be only one submission of 250 words or less per person during any given week.

Legal local stops
BRAIDWOOD—To the person complaining about semi-truck traffic on Division Street. You do realize that semis are allowed to use that street for local deliveries, local construction, etc., right? There's several areas in town that are currently doing construction so there's going to be a lot of semi trucks going up and down that road. I'm sure you have no idea where these trucks are going to or coming from, so don't just assume that they are all using the roadway illegally and that the police aren't doing their jobs.

Tax and spend

BRAIDWOOD—Illinois Democrats approved Gov. J.B. Pritzker's record-setting \$55.2 billion budget with around \$1 billion in new taxes. Everyone is now paying a bigger tax on cell phone service at 8.65%. Illinoisans already paid the highest wireless taxes in the country, now we are going to have to pay even more. Rent a Airbnb or Vrbo in Illinois and you'll have to pay a hotel tax for that family vacation. There's the tax increase on tobacco products to 45%. Now Pritzker and the Democrats are proposing a \$1.50 delivery tax on nearly every package shipped to Illinois homes for the fall session or next spring. Do you see the pattern here? Pritzker and the Democrats continue to spend more because they are taxing us more. See what will happen if he runs for

Demise of DOGE

WILMINGTON-As we celebrate the demise of DOGE, we realize that Musk wasn't the problem after all. He was merely the cover for the evil of Trump who continues to inflict hardships upon ordinary folks. The young, the old and the sick are threatened by Trump's big, ugly bill while billionaires will add another gold-plated toilet seat upon which to rest their sculpted rumps in this current version of the gilded age. We are about to be catapulted backwards into a time of inadequate healthcare when the term 'pre-existing conditions' could mean a death sentence. Democrats rescued us years ago from those awful days and now Republicans are dragging us back into that hellscape once again. Remember how the crippled and broken bodies lined the halls of Congress 15 years ago as they begged for passage of good healthcare? And remember the lies spread by Republicans about 'death panels' which never came to be? Democrats came through with what the people needed with the help of Senator McCain's thumb. But the perfect irony is that rural hospitals will shut down due to Trump's ugly bill and deprive Trump's very supporters of medical services. Should we say they deserve it? Yes, Trump supporters deserve the worst that Trump is flinging out across the landscape. But of course, life isn't fair and debris will be hurled helter skelter. Perhaps it is you or I or someone we love that will sadly be struck down.

Government overreach

COAL CITY-It amazes me how a elected official gets a little power and it goes straight to their head. They become instant experts on everything, especially what's best for us! Coal City is a small rural community, not Plainfield, or Naperville. For the village board to harass a longtime upstanding resident and small business leader is unacceptable. They want to fine him \$750 a day he is in violation of ordinance. His crime...he has been growing & selling vegetables from his home. Now this didn't just happen over night, he's been doing this for several years with no problems. He even gives a lot of proceeds to local churches, and the needy in the community. Now he built a sign and put it in his front yard, to advertise. Just because it is 2 inches too big for the code. The village says there should be no signage in residential areas. What about all the political signs every 2-4

years. The village board should be more concerned about all the empty stores on Broadway St. than a homeowner selling veggies from his lawn. Diamond is growing with at least four new businesses and almost 100 proposed homes. Talk about government over reach! The village board should be ashamed.

Truckin' on Kennedy

BRAIDWOOD-Why do truckers think they can do whatever they want? Just because they have jobs to do doesn't mean they can just go down any road and destroy the peace. There's a law that says only a truck with so many wheels can go down Kennedy Road and it surely isn't 17. Anybody know what the limit is? Next time I'm calling the police.

Noisy motorcycles too

WILMINGTON—If our city council is real concerned about the noise from engine breaking, how about the noise from motorcycles that can be heard from a mile away?. I'm not anti-motorcycle, but why do they have to be so noisy?

Stars should shut up WILMINGTON—Movie stars and

recording artists that make millions of dollars from the public going to their movies and/or concerts should keep their mouths shut on their political views or stop the whining when the public stops going to their movies or attending their

Silence is golden BRAIDWOOD—Roosters, dogs and

junkyards. The rooster starts crowing at 4:15 a.m., the dogs start barking at 5:30 a.m. and then someone starts working on their vehicle with a hammer at 11 p.m. This is not right. Please, if this pertains to you and you know who you are, have some respect for your neighbors.

Kudos to dancers

WILMINGTON—I wanted to praise the Finale Studio for a wonderful performance at the Rialto Theater last week. The dancing was superb and the choreography outstanding. Easy to see why they have won many contests. The kids were adorable and the Dance Dads and babies cute. The only damper was the whistling of the person right in front of me. There were other whistles around the auditorium too. Someone told me that is was a new thing to show appreciation for the dancers. I was jarred every time she whistled. I found it annoying, ear piercing, and rude. I urge teachers could suggest to parents that this disrupts the show and does not encourage the dancers. It is a shame that something so good was ruined by uncaring audience members. Kudos to all the teachers, dancers and choreographers, and dance moms and dads for such

Bigger things

COAL CITY—I am so shocked and disappointed of our village officials so making such insane accusations at Ralph Brooks about his garden. It's a beautiful garden that he has been growing for years and he is very generous with sharing his crops with those in need. There's nothing wrong with selling some of it for very cheap prices. It takes a lot of hard work to a garden kept up like he does. City has become a dying town due to no business and no seeming to even try to encourage any to come to our town. We have all the beautiful cement pots and benches on the main street but no reason to even spend time uptown because there's nothing to see but empty buildings and parking lots that certainly were not needed. Yet our village council and administrator have focused on one of the few decent things in town. Take a ride around this town and I guarantee there are many unkept yards and buildings and abandoned cars that are in violation of our so-called ordinance codes.

Why OK now?

BRAIDWOOD-Looking at the new police chief's contact it appears that he is going to receive \$125,000, five weeks vacation, 48 hours personal time and 15 sick days. We had another previous appointed official who was given a similar generous package when they were appointed and half the town lost their minds. Where are these same people at now? If they were so against it for one person, then why aren't they against it for another one?

lust a trickle

COAL CITY—What is the secret of the big, ugly bill? It amounts to trickle-down economics and that's not good because it means a downpour of goodies for the rich while the middle class dwindles and the poor scramble. Trickle-down is a favorite of Republicans. Reagan pushed it but his presidency suffered from budget deficits because he gave tax breaks to the wealthy and spent too much on defense. Clinton pulled us up into unparalleled prosperity when he not only balanced the budget and with the \$128 billion surplus also paid off some of the national debt. A powerful middle class emerged instead of the vulgar rich stealing from the desperately poor. President Öbama left office with a budget deficit but it was only half of what it was when he entered. It definitely can be said that Democrats have a better record on the economy than Republicans. It's noteworthy that the last Republican president to balance the budget was Eisenhower who did it by taxing the rich and the corporations at a high level.

Rules of the road

BRAIDWOOD—The Braidwood and the police department needs to crack down on people driving golf carts to and from the Braidwood Recreation Club. They are driving on Rt. 53, which is a state route, or driving on the sidewalk between McDonald's and the club, both of which are against state law and city ordinance. The only legal way to get a golf cart to and from the Braidwood Recreation Club is on a trailer. Maybe the City of Braidwood needs to enhance their golf cart ordinance to mirror the City of Wilmington's ordinance which requires every golf cart owner to have a safety inspection performed by the police department, the owners to sign a sheet indicating they have received, understand and agree to abide by the rules, and an official approval sticker from the police department displayed on the vehicle before a golf cart or side-by-side can be driven on local roadways.

MAGA puppet WILMINGTON—When

MAGA bunch realize that their guy is nothing more than a puppet controlled by the Project 2025 architects. Project 2025 is their baby and their guy doesn't even know what is in it. They just tell him what to sign. This man needs a real cognition test, but not by the doctor who probably faked his 6'3 and 224 pound physical measurements. But keep drinking the Kool-Aid, Trumpers. The midterms cannot get here soon enough.

Abandoned Vehicles

cracking down on the abandoned vehicles, Braidwood is looking much better. My one concern is that the code enforcer is playing favorites. The past city administrator has a van that has sat in his driveway for four years and hasn't moved with no license plates. The van has not moved in more than seven days as the ordinance requires. Shouldn't the code enforcer be towing this vehicle?

Like the transparency BRAIDWOOD—I would like to thank

the current city council for being so transparent, professional and open to comment. It is so refreshing to go to or listen

council meeting and actually here reports from the administrator and the council members. The previous year's council members and the administrator would say that there were many good things happening but would not tell the public what they were. The council and administrator reported we had all this money in the bank. Come to find out the council was not doing audits as required by law How do we really know the money should have not been used for something else? am sure that these and many more questions will be answered concerning important issues that were not addressed by the previous council as this council settles in.

Short attention span

WILMINGTON—Most people except MAGA's know the president doesn't read documents. It takes too long for his short attention span. Every document that bears his signature is hardly legible. It is said he has a third grade vocabulary. His math on the big beautiful bill does not add up. He stared at an eclipse without sunglasses. He thought we fought Japan in WW1. There truly was one child left behind.

Appreciated

WILMINGTON—I thought everyone would like to know that Hardees gives discounts to senior citizens and also military I went this morning for breakfast and when I got up to pay my bill the young lady said you get a discount which took almost 80 cents off my bill. I was very surprised that they do that. At McDonald's, all they want to do is give money to Ronald McDonald's house constantly asking if you want to round up your bill.

My kind of neighbor

COAL CITY—I'm calling about the article in the July 2 paper about the gentleman, Ralph Brook who has been doing a garden in his yard for many years and donates to many people and churches and whoever needs it and he is being harassed. If I had a neighbor like that he would be welcomed to the community. Instead you are giving him a hard time You should be ashamed of yourselves.

Always closed

WILMINGTON—The other day I was downtown and decided to go to the Historical Society and see what kind of things they have in there. They had a sign on the door due to the road construction they are closed. I thought that was a really poor excuse because you could still access the museum. It seems like that museum is never open. I know people who go downtown all the time and the place is never open even though they claim they are open every Saturday but they never are. People come into town and want to go to the museum but it's never open.

Enforce the law

BRAIDWOOD-I would like to know why law enforcement here in Braidwood does not enforce the law when there are fireworks. They are illegal in Illinois. Friday and Saturday night it was like World War III outside but they, like many others, just turn a blind eye because it's the Fourth of July. So if you go by that premise would it be OK for everyone to get loaded and get in their cars and play demolition derby? Because drinking and driving is against the law so why don't they just turn a bind eye to that as well? Why doesn't Braidwood implement fines if caught like other cities? Have some consideration for others around you. Last year was pretty quiet because fines were put in place in Plainfield and Naperville and other cities which was also on the news. So catch up Braidwood. Everyone should not have to deal with your illegal nonsense. Enforce the law.

Not real news

WILMINGTON—Have I got news for

you. FOX isn't and that's the truth.

61. Gloomy 62 Grads wear one

64. Jaguarundi cat

4. Fixed charges 5. Electronic communication

Artilleries

CLUES DOWN Snakes do it Hormone

Turkey

Farley 8. Burning

63. Between south and southeast

3. The standard monetary unit of

7. "Strangers on a Train" actor

who takes

9. Makes ecstatically happy 10. Greek liqueurs11. Tropical Old World tree

25. Immunized against disease

28. Court case: ___ v. Wade 29. Supervises interstate com-

13. Someone

26. Old world, new 27. Honorable title (Turkish)

vengeance 17. Style of cuisine

24. Select

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CLUES ACROSS

- 8. Charlize Theron flick "___ Flux" 12. More frostv
- 14. Disfigure
- 15. Sky color
- 16. A thoroughfare in a town or city
- 18. Actress de Armas 19. Spend time in a relaxed way
- 20. California peak 21. Lodging option

26. Keeps an ear warm

30. Babies (Spanish)

- 22. Small amount of a thing 23. Expresses sorrow

31. A conceited and self-centered

- 49. One point north of northeast 50. Pointed end of a pen
- 42. Evading 44. Minute, one-celled unit

33. Pouches

34. Hip joints

51. Extreme

57. Doctors' group

60. A way to allow

58. Member of U.S. Navy

59. Mens' fashion accessories

39. A place to bathe

32. No seats available

46. Losing one's hair 47. A country in W Africa

56. Norse personification of old

- 37. Commentator Coulter 38. Encourage

35. Not divisible by two

41. Early

36. Twelve

- 40. Plumbing fixtures

- 42. One point north of due east
- 43. King of Thebes 44. Short-tailed martens
- 45. Impose a penalty on
- 47. Consort of Poseidon
- 48. A way to lessen 49. Brooklyn hoops team
- Female of a horse
- 53. Do as one is told 54. A way to prepare meat 55. Unit of measurement
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Processed foods, a threat to the environment

Dear EarthTalk: Is the processed foods are more prevalence of processed foods an environmental

– Lori P., via email



Warm supermarket bread. Mouth-watering hot dogs. Fizzy, sweet soda. Processed and ultraprocessed foods (UPFs) are pervasive in American diets. In fact, the U.S. leads the world in UPF consumption, with over 60 percent of our daily caloric intake coming from these manufactured products. Despite their popularity, many people remain unaware of the conseenvironmental quences of these convenient foods.

What exactly sets these processed variants apart from wholesome foods? According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), processed foods are altered from their natural state through processes like canning, dehydrating heating. Ultra-

extreme, consisting mostly of substances and additives extracted from foods, such as fats, starches and preser-

vatives. These products usually bear little resemblance to their original ingredients and are what most people imagine when they think of "processed

Marco Springmann, Senior researcher at the University of Oxford's Environmental Change Institute, explains, "If you processed some food at home, the chances are you expend more energy doing that, as the process isn't as streamlined as a big facto-

In other words, preparing minimally processed foods at home may require more energy than industrial production, which relies on highly efficient systems. However, the long-term environmental impact of UPFs expands beyond just energy consumption.

The abrupt rise in UPFs threatens agrobiodiversity, or the variety in animals and plants used in the farming and food sectors. UPF production increases the demand for a narrow selection of high-yield crops—mainly rice, wheat, and corn—despite the exis-



THE UBIQUITY OF processed foods in the U.S. and elsewhere is not just a problem for human health but also for the environment.

plants.

This issue is further exacerbated by the widespread use of these limited crop species to feed livestock raised for processed meat production. Reducing agrobiodiversity diminishes the variety of consumable foods; during periods of underproduction or climate unpredictability, this could lead to issues in food

UPFs also contribute to environmental degradation through waste production: These products are often packaged in singleuse plastics such as wrappers, bottles and contain-

tence of over 7,000 edible ers. Each year, about nine million metric tons of plastic enter the oceans, where they can persist for centuries, breaking down into harmful microplastics that contaminate ecosystems.

In addition, UPFs carry large water footprint, especially soft drinks, which require hundreds of liters of water for production, processing and packaging. They also require vast amounts of land, release greenhouse gases, and lead to eutrophication (the overflow of nutrients in marine settings).

Our eating habits do make a difference: the food supply chain leads to 26

percent of human-caused greenhouse gas emissions globally. But together, Men whether researching planet-healthy food alternatives or reducing reliance on sin- Children gle-use plastics, being environmentally conscious is a powerful step in deciding

our planet's future. EarthTalk® is a 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. Send questions question@earthtalk.org



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Free 'Patriotic' concert in Wilmington Sunday

The Wilmington Area Battlefield Community Band will perform the third concert of the 18th season on Sunday, July 13, at 6 p.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park.

Arrive early and order dinner from "Truckin Delicious" food truck! Please bring a lawn chair, mosquito spray, snacks, shade as the band performs the following music in a beautiful outdoor setting.

This concert's theme is "Patriotic and Americana" with line-up

Star Spangled Banner soloist, Kirsten Klein

You're a Grand Old

American Barndance Echoes from

Aura Lee

Beyond the Riverbend INTERMISSION Washington Post marches with kid conductors!

Best of the West Battle Hymn Epic America the Beautiful

Veteran's Memorial and water and relax in the Park is located at the intersection of Williams and Vine Streets - across Oakwood Cemetery and Island City Baptist Church.

The Wilmington Area Community Band is a volunteer group of local musicians from ages 13 up. In the event of rain or excess heat, our alternative concert location is Wilmington High School and signs will be posted at the park.

Food & Fun at Forked Creek Preserve

The Forest Preserve is hosting "Fun and food trucks" on Friday, July 11, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Forked Creek Preserve at Forsythe Woods in Wilmington.

Enjoy food, drinks, lawn games, live music by Michael C. Hayes and more. Smokin' Z BBQ and Rt. 66 Old School Brewing will be on site. The 2025 series is sponsored by Old National Bank. All ages; free entry. Food available for purchase.



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WHS 50th reunion set for July 19

The WHS Class of '75 will hold their 50-year class reunion at the Wilmington VFW on July 19, from 6:30 pm.

All classmates, spouse/guests and friends are invited to attend. There will be a \$25 per person cash fee at the door. Bring memorablia to share.

The evening before, July 18, there will be an informal get-together at Haydens Crossing at 7 p.m. and for Sunday, July 20 at Symerton Tap.

A tour of the high school has been arranged for 4 p.m.

on July 19 for those interested. Ongoing updates are available on the Wilmington

High School Class of '75 Facebook page.

Casino Bus Trip New Buffalo, MI July 16, 2025

Cost: \$45 per person. Gives you \$10 towards food & \$15 towards slot play.



and paid by July 9.

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Pritzker's new running mate threw several punches

Mitchell has strong had detractors ever since Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle elevated the young Black man out of obscurity and backed him for Illinois House in 2012.

CAPITOL FACTS

Rich Miller

Preckwinkle chose her for working families, for trusted aide Mitchell over appointed Rep. Kimberly du Buclet (D-Chicago). Preckwinkle's move upset a lot of people in that part of the world because the du Buclet family's local influence had been strong for decades and Mitchell was not a born South Sider.

As a result, I somewhat derisively referred to Mitchell as "The Chosen One" in a story I wrote for my subscribers back in the

Mitchell's first House primary race was a proxy battle between Preckwinkle and the Jesse Jackson family, and man was that close race ever heated. He was a brassy, highly educated amateur boxer who didn't take any guff whatsoever. Mitchell then went on

to win two successive Democratic primary races against a Chicago Teachers Union-backed candidate. The enemies list grew as Mitchell fought all opponents tooth and nail. The complaints really

started to fly in 2019 when he was chosen as one of newly elected JB Pritzker's governors. Statehouse denizens (most of them white men) who were accustomed to deference were shocked at Mitchell's in-your-face negotiating style and fierce loyalty to his boss. I lost count of the number of white men who reached out with stories about the brash Pritzker lieutenant.

But, hey, Mitchell helped pass a lot of bills. He drove some very powerful folks up a wall during the intense negotiations over the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act, but the bill got

Now that he's been chosen as Gov. Pritzker's

running mate. I asked Mitchell last week if he believes he has bridges build.

proud to have been a tough negotiator in some very, very difficult rooms, trying to get the best deal for Illinois and

taxpayers. I'm not going to apologize for that,' Mitchell said. But Mitchell said he's a

"different person" since he left politics in 2023. "Are there times when I spoke when I should have listened? I think the answer is absolutely.' Mitchell pledged to be far more open in the future.

have a conversation, wants to reach out, wants to do well on behalf of the people of Illinois, I'm going to greet them with an open "And I'm going to remember to listen more than I speak. And I'm really

"Anybody who wants to

excited to work with everybody, even people with whom we may have had some past friction." Mitchell was a fearless boxer back in the day, and he audaciously used "The Chosen One" moniker I

two charity fights. Asked if he still boxes, Mitchell said, "I do not. I've been off for a few months. I had a wrist injury, but I'm hoping to start back next Friday.

gave him when promoting

I jokingly wondered aloud whether his wrist injury was from breaking somebody's skull. "I did not," he said. "I don't spar often anymore,' Mitchell said, alluding to the fact that he was getting a bit too old to spar. "But I still love to hit the bag and love shadow boxing. It's how I relax."

And now he's "The Chosen One" all over again as the billionaire governor's running mate and possible successor should Pritzker win the presidency or is appointed to a Cabinet position.

Mitchell has a lot of

work to do. But he seems committed to pulling this

Asked what his role would be in the upcoming campaign, Mitchell said, "My role is going to be to go everywhere, to talk to everyone, to articulate the issues across the state of Illinois, to meet people in their houses, at their churches, on the stoop in the town square. And ultimately, it's going to be to articulate the message that the governor is putting forward about continuing the progress we've made over the last seven years, protecting that progress, investing in the jobs of the future, and making sure that we have a 21st Century education and health care system that people can afford. That's gonna be my

If Pritzker does somehow move up, or even if he doesn't and retires, Mitchell will need the support of powerful people



CHRISTIAN MITCHELL

groups in 2030 who thoroughly despised him when he was a deputy governor. The Chosen One" will

then have to stand on his However, he's always

been "The Chosen One" for good reason.

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

Grundy Bank's ice cream social returns

Grundy Bank makes a syrup, brownie chunks, return with their annual Ice Cream Social in the Morris bank's courtyard from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. on Friday, July Grundy Bank invites

residents, summer camps, and the local summer groups to join them for an exciting, fun-filled day with family and friends. Attendees need not worry about choosing just one flavor and/or toppings. This event is a wonder-

ful opportunity to relax and savor the summer days alongside the community. Grundy Bank eagerly anticipates seeing everyone there and reminds everyone to bring their sweet tooth! Representatives from

the bank will be serving up delighted sweet treats such as root beer floats and ice cream sundaes all for \$.25 cents a scoop. Unlimited toppings will be offered such as Oreo's, M&M's, chocolate and strawberry sprinkles, whipped cream and more!

Grundy Bank has partnered with Sweet Tooth, a local candy shop in downtown Morris, to offer the choices of chocolate and vanilla ice cream.

Last year we raised \$387.83 that benefited We Care of Grundy County "Back to School" program, which will help with providing school supplies for those children in need. We would love to meet or beat that amount this year!

'Since the early 1980s, this cherished event has brought together kids and adults to enjoy delicious treats and be able to enjoy time with family, friends and the community. We would like to invite the community out to celebrate another year yet of sweet summer memories and community spirit," said Kevin Olson, President & CEO of Grundy Bank.



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Food Court, Lions Beer Garden & Knights of Columbus Council

#1574 Concession Stand Open 103.1 FM WCSJ Live Remote Broadcast & Giveaways

5 to 7pm (next to the Constellation Energy Entertainment Stage) 5 to 9pm Christian Life Assembly Outreach & Photo Booth (hospitality

5 to 10:00pm

Carnival Opens - Pay One Price for Unlimited Rides *all night* Lions Club Bingo (under the Lions pavilion) \$0.25 a card 6 to 10:00pm Braidwood Fire Department Fire Prevention Booth & 6 to 9pm

Equipment Displays

7:30 to 10:30pm Constellation Energy Entertainment Stage: "The Baked Potatoes" 60's-70's-80's-90's Rock & Roll

FRIDAY, JULY 18th

5pm to 11:30pm Food Court, Lions Beer Garden & Knights of Columbus Council

#1574 Concession Stand Open

5 to 9pm Christian Life Assembly Outreach & Photo Booth (hospitality area) 6 to 9pm Braidwood Fire Department Fire Prevention Booth & Equipment Displays

6 to 11:00pm Carnival Open: Pay One Price for Unlimited Rides *all night*

Lions Club Bingo (under the Lions pavilion) \$0.25 a card 6 to 10:00pm 6 to 7pm 101.7FM River Country Live Remote Broadcast, Prize Wheel & Giveaways

(next to the Constellation Energy Entertainment Stage)

8:00p to 11:30pm Constellation Energy Entertainment Stage: "Anthem" Classic Rock & Beyond

SATURDAY, JULY 19th

9:00am - 5pm Flea Market, Arts & Crafts Show (south end of the city park) 10am - Noon Annual Summerfest Baby Contest (under the Lions pavilion) 10:00am - 2pm Summerfest Car Show (east side of the skate park)

DJ Jeff Saltzman (car show area, east side of the skate park) 10:00am - 2pm 12pm - Midnight Food Court, Lions Beer Garden & Knights of Columbus Council #1574 Concession Stand Open

DJ George - Chi-City Enterprises (next to Constellation Energy 12 to 4pm Entertainment Stage)

Ignite Christian Church Baby Changing/Feeding/Cooling Station &

12pm to 9pm Outreach Booth (north of the hospitality tent)

Annual Summerfest Pie Eating Contest (under hospitality tent) 1:00pm

Carnival Opens: Pay one price and ride unlimited from 1pm - Midnight

1 to 5pm OR 6 to 11pm

1 to 9pm Christian Life Assembly Outreach & Photo Booth (hospitality area) 2 to 4pm Lions Club Bingo (under the Lions pavilion) \$0.25 a card 2 to 9pm Braidwood Fire Department Fire Prevention Booth & Equipment Displays

Entertainers-R-We Balloon Animals & Face Painting (under the 2 to 4pm hospitality tent)

Kroll Farms Petting Zoo (north side of the Bingo pavilion) \$2.00 4 to 7pm

Animal Feed Cups

4:00 to 7:00pm Chicagoland's FREE Country 98.3 & 102.3 Live Remote Broadcast & Giveaways (next to the Constellation Energy Entertainment

6 to 10pm Lions Club Bingo (under the Lions pavilion) \$0.25 a card 8 to 11:30pm Constellation Energy Entertainment Stage: "Whiskeyfist" Country & Rock With A Kick!!

SUNDAY, JULY 20th

9:00am - 5pm Flea Market, Arts & Crafts Show (south end of the city park) Noon to 10:30pm Food Court, Lions Beer Garden & Knights of Columbus Council

#1574 Concession Stand Open

Hometown Proud Parade: Main & Mitchell Street to RC 1:00pm Elementary School (S. Walker Street)

> Grand Marshal: Freak from Top Fuel Saloon Carnival Opens: Pay One Price for Unlimited Rides from 2 to 6pm

OR 6 to 10pm

2 to 10pm

** Purchase or redeem an unlimited ride wristband from the Carnival Midway ticket booth on Sunday 7/20 prior to 6pm and receive a chance to win one of two bicycles!! Winners must be present to win. Drawing will be held at 6:30pm at the Midway ticket booth. Bicycles provided courtesy of A&A Attractions. *

2 to 4pm Entertainers-R-We Balloon Animals & Face Painting (under the hospitality tent)

2 to 4pm Lions Club Bingo (under the Lions pavilion) \$0.25 a card DJ Roy Gregory's Summerfest Country, Rock & Blues Dance 2 to 6pm Party (next to Constellation Energy Entertainment Stage)

2 to 9pm Ignite Christian Church Baby Changing/Feeding/Cooling Station & Outreach Booth (north of the hospitality tent)

2 to 8pm Braidwood Fire Department Fire Prevention Booth & Equipment

Dave DiNaso's Traveling World of Reptiles (under the Lions 4:30 to 5:45pm

pavilion)

Lions Club Bingo (under the Lions pavilion) \$0.25 a card 6 to 9:00pm 6:30 to 9:30pm Constellation Energy Entertainment Stage: "Midlife Crisis" Pop, Rock, Motown & Funk Party Classics

9:30pm **ANNUAL SUMMERFEST FIREWORKS DISPLAY** **Pre-Sale Carnival Ride Tickets** & Armbands On Sale Now!

TURNING FOR 2025**

Good For The Entire Festival!!!

Mega Pass wristbands may be utilized for the entire duration of the festival during Carnival Midway hours. Mega Pass wristbands MUST remain on the person's wrist for the duration of the festival and are non-transferable.

*Pre-Sale Mega Pass: \$70.00 each.

Mega passes purchased at the Carnival Midway

ticket booth cost \$80.00. Save \$10.00 by buying ahead!!

Participating Pre-Sale locations in Braidwood:

Berkot's Super Foods - Whitmore Ace Hardware - Braidwood City Hall Rockin Robin's Salon - Hairagain Salon - Fossil Ridge Library - Midland States Bank (Diamond) - Clip & Sip Hair Salon (Godley) - Shelly's Hair Salon (Godley)

** Pre-Sale Wristbands: \$25.00 each.

See Daily Schedule of Events for Carnival Hours & Wristband Session Times. A wristband purchased at the Carnival Midway ticket booth cost \$28.00 each.

Carnival Midway Provided By A&A Attractions

No Refunds on pre-sale purchases or tickets/armbands/mega passes purchased at the carnival midway ticket booth

Thurs., July 17 at 3 p.m.



THANK YOU TO OUR OFFICIAL **SUMMERFEST SPONSORS**

PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSORS Constellation Energy-Braidwood Station, Berkot's

Super Foods, Kozol Bros. Inc., Braidwood Park District, Mastodon Travel Center, Mad Bomber Fireworks Productions

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS

D" Construction, Inc., Top Fuel Saloon, R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, Whitmore Ace Hardware, Camping World-Braidwood, Northern Illinois Steel Supply Co., LRS Waste Management Services, QRock 100.7, Braidwood Fire Department, Braidwood Police Department, City of Braidwood, Braidwood Journal-Free Press Newspapers

SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS

Morris Hospital-Braidwood Clinic, Polk-A-Dot Drive In, Casey's General Store, MJS Communications, LLC., Arnie Bauer Chevrolet GMC, West Flooring Company, South Wilmington Sportsmen's Club, Midland States Bank, Subway, R&R Septic & Sewer Service, Inc., Busey Bank, Financial Plus Credit Union, M. Gingerich, Gereaux & Associates, Hexagon Real Estate, Stewart Spreading Inc., Water Well Solutions Illinois, LLC.

BRONZE LEVEL SPONSORS

Anderson Tax Service, J&C Travel Inc., Findlay Real Estate Group, D'Orazio Ford, Village of Godley, Jensen Electric, Inc., Elite Rehabilitation Institute, Sun Motel, J&S Vinyl Designs, Ultimate Rides, Geo's Pizza, A&E Septic, JM Custom T-Shirts & More

ASSOCIATE SPONSORS

(Various community groups, organizations & agencies who provide support, activities and events during the festival)

Braidwood Knights of Columbus Council #1574, Braidwood Baseball/Softball Association, Braidwood American Legion Koca Post #39, Braidwood Area Historical Society, Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition, Fossil Ridge Public Library, RC Gridiron Club,

Reed Township Mosquito Abatement District, Braidwood E.S.D.A., Will County Sheriff's Auxiliary Police, 1st Presbyterian Church of Braidwood, Ignite Christian Church, Christian Life Assembly Church

Thank You!

SPECIAL NOTICE

For safety reasons, NO PETS will be allowed on festival grounds in the carnival midway, food *court,entertainment area, flea market areas, parking lots or baseball field areas regardless of size, temperament or leash.

Only certified ADA service dogs will be permitted. No Face Coverings Allowed On Festival Grounds. Standard PPE medical masks which cover the nose & mouth only will still be permitted. Anyone found wearing a face covering on festival grounds which obscures their identity, other than a standard PPE medical mask, may be asked to leave.

Visit www.braidwoodlionsclub.org for all your Summerfest information, entry forms and more. Like Us On Facebook For Even More Exclusive Summerfest Information And Updates

.Carolyn R. Henke

COAL CITY—Carolyn R. Henke, 80, of Coal City, passed away on 2025 at The Tuesday, July 1, Gardens at Park Pointe in Morris. She was born on Oct. 6, 1944

in Springfield, to Charles and Virginia (nee Norman) DeLay. She was educated in Coal City, graduating from Coal City High School class of 1962. Carolyn married Donald Henke on Oct. 12, 1963 at the Coal City United Methodist

Church. Together, Carolyn and Don raised their family of three daughters and became devoted grandparents and greatgrandparents.

Carolyn retired after many years, working as a secretary in the Department of Energy for the State of Illinois. She was a member of the New Community Christian Church in Morris. Carolyn enjoyed spending her time tending to her flower gardens. She was a lover of sweet treats of any kind including cookies and pastries. She liked playing card games such as Euchre and especially Uno with her great-grandkids. The outdoors and travel provided much fun for Carolyn and Don. They enjoyed walking, fishing and sitting by the fire at the Coal City Area Club, going on many bus trips all over the United States and they loved their time spent each

November in Ft. Myers Beach, FL. Many

evenings, Carolyn and Don just liked "tooling" around the streets of Coal City.

She is survived by her three daughters: Karen (Lou) Dinelli, Janet (Darryll) Miller and Lisa (Dave) Heelan; nine grandchildren: Kristen Henke, Ryan (Erin) Onsen, Kayla (Brandon) Paulsen, Katelyn (David) Young, Dalton (Alexa) Onsen, Jake (Meredith) Larson, Caeley Larson, Lyndsay

Larson and Scott (Sonia) Dinelli; 14 greatgrandchildren; her brother, Larry (Cherie) DeLay; her sisters, Sharon (Mike) Dudley and Barb (Wes) Parkhill and a brother-inlaw, Ron Henke.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Donald Henke; her parents, Charles and Virginia DeLay and a sister in infancy, Esther DeLay. Funeral services were held Saturday,

July 5, 2025 at the Ferrari Funeral Chapel, 1044 Ferrari Drive, Coal City. Pastor Kevin Yandell officiated. Cremation rites were accorded follow-

ing the services. Private inurnment was held at Braceville Gardner Cemetery. Family and friends are encouraged to

sign the online guestbook at www.ferrari-Ferrari Funeral Services of Coal City were entrusted with arrangements.

James A. Krug

COAL CITY-James Aaron Krug, 49, of Coal City, passed away peacefully at home on June 27, 2025. Born June 18, 1976, in Joliet, he was the cherished son of Jimmie Dean and Mary Ann (née Frederiksen) Krug. James had a lifelong passion for sports. He spent time in

karate, but football was where his heart truly was. He proudly represented Coal City on the football team throughout all four years of high school, graduating with the Class of 1994. He later pursued higher education at Joliet Junior College and Olivet Nazarene University. James was employed at United States Cold Storage in Wilmington. He will be remembered for his kind spirit and remarkable ability to connect with those around him, leaving a lasting impression on everyone who met him.

He leaves behind his loving parents, Jimmie Dean and Mary Ann Krug of Coal City, who were a constant source of love and support throughout his life. Closest to his heart was his daughter, Mia Ann Krug of Ottawa-the light of his world who brought him endless pride and joy, and whom he truly adored. He is also deeply missed by his devoted girlfriend, Lisa Kelly, whose presence brought comfort, love, and companionship.

James is survived by his aunts and

uncles: Nancy Carter, Jackie Krug, Doug and Cheri Sutton of TX; Cindy and Mike Conroy of AZ; Lark and Deb Frederiksen of Verona, IL; LeAnn Havekos of FL; and Michelle and Don Wilson of Shorewood, IL. He is also survived by his great-aunts and great-uncle, Elenor Bowman and Ethel McConnell, as well as Jerry and Angie Krug of Godley, IL, and

many dear cousins. Preceding him in death were his beloved grandparents, James and Joan Krug, Earl and Lois Frederiksen, and Betty Vilt. He was also preceded by several aunts, uncles, great-aunts, and greatuncles, including Alice Riddenback, John and Suzanne Frederiksen, Don and Jerri Krug, Gary and Doris Krug, and Ed McConnell.

Cremation rites have been accorded and entrusted to R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory in Braidwood, IL. A celebration of life will be held at a later

To share memories or offer condolences, please visit James's online guestbook at rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com or find them on Facebook.

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

Gary Hansen

Reddick, passed away Thursday, June 26, 2025 at his home.

Born Nov. 16, 1954 in Morris, he was the son of Gaylord Hansen and Gladys (nee Smith) McLaughlin. Gary loved cars, fishing, and listening to rock music.

Surviving are one daughter, Stacey (Mike) Harrison, of Ponte Vedre, FL; sister, Gayle (Wayne) Smith, of Coal City; brother, Gordon Hansen, of Wilmington; granddaughter, Rhianna Hansen, of Pontiac; niece and nephew, Megan Hansen and Christian Smith; great-nephew, Declan

REDDICK-Gary L. Hansen, 70, of Smith; special friend, Kathlyn Kirkland and numerous cousins and friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents and son, Erick Hansen.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Inurnment will be private.

For more information and to visit his online guestbook, please log on to www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com or find them on Facebook. R.W. Patterson Funeral Home &

Crematory, 401 E. Main St., Braidwood is entrusted with arrangements.

Gas almost \$1/g cheaper downstate

under \$3 per gallon of gas in states surrounding Illinois while locally, the average gasoline price remained \$3.39/g, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois.

Prices in Illinois are 5.9 cents per gallon higher than a month ago.

Despite cheerful prognostications on the prices of gas, prices remain stagnant here, with gas running from \$3.18/g at BP up to \$3.24/g at Love's in Wilmington.

Nothing has changed in Braidwood, with gas hovering at \$3.49/g at Marathon up to \$3.59/g at

In Coal City, expect to pay \$3.25/g across the board, with Morris ranging 19/g at Casey's, up to \$3.29/g at Citgo. As \$4.49/g.

to contact them.

Holiday travelers paid usual, Bourbonnais is cheapest, but not by much this week, with gas at \$3.14/g at Gulf, up to \$3.19/g at Circle K.

"Nearly every state saw average gas prices decline for the second straight week, even as the nation celebrated July 4 with the lowest national average for Independence Day since 2020," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

"If tensions in the Middle East remain contained and the Gulf is spared from major hurricanes, the odds are improving that the national average could dip below \$3 per

The lowest price in the state Monday was \$2.45/g while the highest was

PEO Chapter GK to meet July 14

PEO Chapter GK will meet on Monday, July 14, at the home of Star Beeson at 7 p.m. for social time with meeting starting at

'Tractors for a Cure' planning Aug. 16 ride

On Saturday, Aug. 16, Tractors for a Cure, Inc. will hold a memorial ride honoring Jerry and Lorraine Davidson, who have made significant financial donations to the organization.

The ride will leave Symerton Park at 1:25 p.m. sharp, and all participants must register no later than Wednesday, Aug. 6.

The \$100 tractor entrance fee will include a pork chop dinner at Symerton Tap following

Those who don't own a tractor may register for the people mover or as wagon rider participants. The fee is also \$100. The cost for children 12 and under is \$25, and includes a hot dog meal. Additional meal tickets are \$25. There will be raffle prizes for participants who paid the full registration price of \$100.

The ride will travel the countryside of Symerton, and Elwood Wilmington area, ending at Symerton Tap at 4:30

Registration forms are available at Symerton Tap, 18332 W. Commercial St., Symerton, the Village of Symerton, 18385 Commercial St., Symerton, or the Will County Farm Bureau, 100 Manhattan Road, Joliet. You may also visit the Tractors for a Cure Facebook page.

Any year tractors may participate, and the event will be held rain or shine.

Tractors for a Cure, Inc., is a not-for-profit organization that raises funds for a cure for cancer. The organization is located in Peotone. Since 2011, Tractors

for a Cure has donated over \$649,000 for cancer research to the American Cancer Society and St. Jude Children's Research

Illinois State Fair announces "Adventure Awaits"

Adventure Awaits at visit statefair.illinois.gov or the 2025 Illinois State Fair.

The theme for this year's fair sets the tone for an unforgettable journey through all that makes the Illinois State Fair a mustsee event-livestock competitions, jaw-dropping performances, thrilling carnival rides, delicious food, and nonstop entertain-This theme also sets

stage for one of Springfield's favorite traditions: the Illinois State Fair Twilight Parade, stepping off at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 7. The parade kicks off the 11-day celebration of Illinois agriculture, community, and creativity, winding through Springfield streets and into the heart of the fair-From high school

bands and community groups to classic cars and creative floats, the Twilight Parade is an annual tradition. The Illinois State Fair currently accepting parade entries through July

call the Special Events office at 217.782.0777.

The Twilight Parade is Highlights the perfect way to kick off this adventure," said Jerry Costello II, Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture. "This year's theme invites every fairgoer to discover something new, and it all starts with the parade.' There's a world of fun

waiting inside the gates," added Illinois State Fair Manager Rebecca Clark. 'We encourage families to grab a lemon shake-up, find their favorite curbside spot, and enjoy this timehonored tradition. We cannot wait for you to experience all the adventure the Illinois State Fair has to

The Twilight Parade will start at 5:30 p.m. in Lincoln Park and travel onto Sangamon Avenue, entering the fairgrounds through the Main Gate. From there, the parade marches down Main Street, turns left onto Grandstand 8. For more information Avenue, marching past the

Grandstand, through Lot 21.

Opening Thursday, 7:Fairgrounds August admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, free for kids 12 and under. Carnival rides open at

noon - all rides just \$3 all day on August 7. "Double the Fun' parking deal - pay to park on August 7, and return

with free parking on August 12, 13, or 14. Monsters Destruction roars into The Arena at 7:30 p.m. – plan ahead and enter through Gate 6 to avoid parade traffic. Tickets can be purchased

StateFair.Illinois.gov. The 2025 Illinois State Fair runs from August 7 through August 17 in Springfield. Stay up to date with all the latest news and announcements by connecting with us via Facebook and Instagram.

Adventure Awaits don't miss your chance to be part of it.



SIGN UP for a Forest Preserve District of Will County volunteer day. There are several local opportunities to make a difference with a couple of volunteer hours.

Forest Preserve District needs a few good volunteers

The Forest Preserve District of Will County has summer volunteer opportunities planned for July, August and September.

The District offers a range of opportunities that allow individuals to contribute their time, energy

and skills - often with just a few hours of commitment. "Most of our roles are short-term and easy to join, but they still make a mean-ingful impact," said Emily Kenny, the Forest

Preserve's volunteer servicsupervisor. These include helping at public programs and events, as well as weekly Habitat Management Mornings, which offer hands-on stewardship opportunities. Space is limited for all events, so early registration is encouraged. Seasonal, large-scale events also need

volunteers for a variety of a.m.-1

To stay up to date on current needs, email VolunteerServices@fpdwc. org. You will receive an autoreply with available openings, a volunteer waiver and information on partner organizations seeking "Volunteering in the

forest preserve isn't just about giving back - it's also about personal growth and community connection, Kenny said. Local volunteer oppor-

tunities include:

Saturday, July 26: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Kankakee Sands Preserve in Custer Township. Seed collection. Ages 8 and older.

Thursday, Aug. 14: 8-11 a.m. Evans-Judge Preserve in Custer Township. Brush control. Ages 10 and older. Sunday, Aug. 24: 10

p.m.

Dunes and Savanna Nature Preserve in Reed Township. Seed collection. Ages 8 and Wear clothes appropriate for the weather, getting

Sands Preserve in Custer

Township. Seed collection.

Thursday, Aug. 28: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Braidwood

Dunes and Savanna Nature

Preserve in Reed Township.

Seed collection. Ages 8 and

Sept. 4: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Kankakee Sands Preserve in

Custer Township. Seed col-

lection. Ages 8 and older.

September: Thursday,

Tuesday, Sept. 30: 10

m.-1 p.m. Braidwood

dirty and being near a fire for brush control events. Bring water and snacks. For more information visit the Volunteer page at reconnectwithnature.org/get-Kankakee involved/volunteer.

Wilmington will not assume liability for any losses, damages or injuries. Address: ___

Catfish Days Craft Show

and Flea Market

town antique district during Catfish Days. Spaces are assigned first come, first served with a limited number of spaces available. No electricity available.

Van Buren street. Vendors must arrive by 8 a.m. and

remove all vehicles by 8:40 a.m. or your spaces will be

spaces postmarked on or before July 12; \$50 post-marked July 13-19. Do not mail after July 19. Spaces

paid for the day of the event will be \$65. Fresh food

vendors who prepare food on site pay \$100 through until July 12 for a 10'x20' space. If paid after July 12 the

price will be \$150. Food vendors must also be permit-

ted by the Will County Health Department so be sure

profit organizations, must pay for a space.

emailed the week of the show.

All interested parties, including Wilmington non-

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

Catfish Days Committee and Women of

A craft show and flea market is planned for Saturday, July 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the down-

Check in as early as 6:30 a.m. at North Water and

The non-refundable cost is \$35 for 10-foot x10-foot

_____ State: _____ Zip Code:_ Contact Person:____ Signature: _

Email address: List what will be sold: How many spaces? (Circle one): 1 2 3 4 5



WWW.FREEPRESSNEWSPAPERS.COM

Wilmington's 2025 Catfish Days A Weekend of Disco July 24th - July 27th



Catfish Days Fair Grounds: North Island Park, 130 Bridge Street, Wilmington

CARNIVAL • LIVE ENTERTAINMENT • FOOD TRUCKS • MEDALLION HUNT • PARADE • CAR SHOW

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, July 24th

Family Night! Sponsored by Riverfront Lanes

9AM Medallion Hunt Clue (Facebook: CatfishDays)

6PM-11PM Carnival Open, \$25 Wristband Night! (Wilmington's North Island)

6PM St Rose's Dunk Tank- Free! (Wilmington's North Island)

6PM St Rose + Wilmington Coalition's Fear Factor (Wilmington's North Island)

6PM-8PM Live MC: Roy Gregory (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage) **6PM-8PM** Whimsy Face Painting by Jacqueline- Free! (Wilmington's North Island)

7PM National Guard's Obstacle Course (Wilmington's North Island)

7:30PM Adult's + Kid's Tug Of War- NO Pre-Registration Required (Wilmington's North Island)

8PM Live Entertainment: DJ Rob (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage) **8:30PM** Disco Costume Contest- No Pre-Registration Required (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage)

9PM-Midnight Bowling After Party- \$10 All You Can Bowl, Shoes Included! (Riverfront Lanes)

Friday, July 25th

Country Night!

9AM Medallion Hunt Clue

5PM-8PM Wilmington Park District's 'Pickled on Water Street' Youth Pickleball Tournament. Pre-Registration Required! (Wilmington's Public Lot on Water Street) **6PM-11PM** Carnival Open (Wilmington's North Island)

6PM-8PM Wilmington Park District's Hayrack Rides- FREE! (Wilmington's North Island)

6PM-11PM Beer Garden Open (Wilmington's North Island)

6PM River Valley Defense Arts Performance (Wilmington's North Island)

6:30PM Performance By Those Funny Little People (Wilmington's North Island) **7PM** Line Dancing with Doug Pfaff (Wilmington's North Island)

7PM Crosstown Exotic's Reptile Show- Free to Attend (Wilmington's North Island) **8PM-11PM** Live Entertainment: Hillbilly Rockstarz (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage)

8PM-12AM Wilmington Park District's 'Pickled on Water Street' Adult Pool Play-Pre- Registration Required (Wilmington's Public Lot on Water Street) **9:30PM** Firework's Show (Wilmington's North Island)

Food and Beverages

Experience a variety of delicious food and beverage options at Wilmington, Illinois Catfish Days. From classic festival treats to local specialties, there's something for every craving.

Located on Wilmington's North Island at 130 Bridge Street, Wilmington, IL 60481

Pam's Corn Dogs

Rich's Italian Beef

Pizza For U

Backdraft BBQ

Fast Eddie's Tacos & More Inc.

Keke's Donuts

Located at Wilmington's Water Street Parking Lot at 208 N Water Street, Wilmington, IL 60481

Buddy Macs Eat N Run Mels Tacos and More

Parking and Transportation

Finding parking at the festival is easy with multiple designated parking areas and bus shuttle services. Plan your visit ahead to make the most of your festival experience.

FREE Parking:

Wilmington's South Island at 110 S Park Street, Wilmington, IL 60481

Whitmore Ace Hardware at 1105 S Water Street, Wilmington, IL 60481

Wilmington City Hall at 1165 S Water Street, Wilmington, IL 60481

FREE Shuttle Bus Services brought to you by Illinois Central School Bus:

- Offered from all of the above locations!
- Run Times:
- Friday, 6PM-10PM
- Saturday, 10AM-10PM

Saturday, July 26th

Rock Night!

9AM Medallion Hunt Clue (Facebook: Catfish Days)

9AM-4PM Women of Wilmington's Craft Show (Downtown Wilmington, North Water Street)

10AM Skinner's Pet & Bike Parade (Starts at Wilmington Park District, and Ends at North Island's Main Stage)

11AM Route 66 Old School Brewing's Baby Contest (Route 66 Old School Brewing)
Noon-5PM Live MC: Roy Gregory (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage)

Noon-11PM Carnival Open! (Wilmington's North Island)

Noon-Midnight Beer Garden Open (Wilmington's North Island)

12:30PM Finale Dance Studio Performance (Wilmington's North Island)

1PM Wilmington High School's Spirit Line Performance (Wilmington's North Island) **And** Wilmington High School Spirit Line's Kiddie Camper's

Performance (Wilmington's North Island)

1:30PM Wilmington Park District Dancers Performance (Wilmington's North Island)

1PM-5PM Miller's Petting Zoo- FREE! (Wilmington's North Island)

2PM-5PM Whimsy Face Painting by Jacqueline- Free! (Wilmington's North Island) **2PM-5PM** Wilmington Park District's Youth Bean Bag Tournament (Wilmington's North Island)

3PM FREE! 'Saturday Night Fever' Movie Showing (The Mar Theatre - 121 S. Main) **4PM-7PM** Live Entertainment: Brian Weber (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage)

8PM Live Entertainment: No Decision (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage) **8PM-12AM** Wilmington Park District's 'Pickled on Water Street' Adult Bracket Pre-Registration Required (Wilmington's Public Lot on Water Street)

9:30PM Laser Light Show by Laser Encore (Wilmington's North Island)

Sunday, July 27th

The Finale!

8AM-Noon Wilmington's VFW Breakfast Buffet (Wilmington VFW - Post 5422)

10AM-4PM Rusty Nutz Car Show (Wilmington's North Island)

11AM Wilmington Park District's Color Fun Run, Registration Required at https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Wilmington/CatfishDaysColorFunRunAndWalk (Run begins at Wilmington Park District)

Noon-1PM Sensory Hour at the Carnival-Please register on our *Sensory Page* (Wilmington's North Island)

Noon-6PM Beer Garden Open

1PM-6PM Carnival Open, \$25 Wristbands Available! (Wilmington's North Island)

1PM Wilmington's Annual Catfish Day's Parade (Starts at Steven's Intermediate School, travels north on Water St. and Ends at Wilmington Park District)

2PM-6PM Live Entertainment: Rick Lindy and the Wild Ones (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage)

3PM Old School Brewing's 'Rock, Paper, Scissors Tournament' (Route 66 Old School Brewing)

3PM St Rose + Wilmington Coalition's Fear Factor Finals (Wilmington's North

3PM Color Contest Winners Announced (Wilmington's North Island, Main Stage) **6PM** Wilmington's Community Band- Jazz Through the Ages (Veteran's Memorial



Festival Hours

Thur., July 24: 6pm-11pm Fri., July 25: 6pm-11pm Sat., July 26: 9am-midnight

Sat., July 26: 9am-midnig Sun., July 27: 10am-6pm





Thank you to all of our sponsors!

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Gerald Gresham, Agent 1095 S. Water St., Unit C Wilmington, IL 60481 teamgresham@amfam.com (815) 476-6364

Summerfest carnival ride arm bands, mega passes on sale until July 17

It's time to buy lowing Braidwood Summerfest Carnival ride armbands early and save some money!

Ticket sales end Thursday, July 17 at 3 p.m. before the midway opens.

Unlimited ride arm-

bands are \$25 each, a savings of \$3 each when bought ahead of time. They will cost \$28 on the midway.

be used on one of the fol-

ride sessions: Thursday, July 17, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, July 18, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday, July 19, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., or 6p.m. to 11 p.m.; or Sunday July 20, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. or 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

A Mega Pass wristband is also being offered. They are \$70 each in advance. At the midway they will be sold for \$80. These special wristbands may be utilized These armbands can for the entire time of the carnival.

must remain on the person's wrist for the entire duration of the festival in order to be valid. But oh so much worth the savings of \$10 each.

The First Presbyterian Church of Braidwood is coordinating the pre-sale campaign and will receive a percentage from every presale ticket and armband sold in advance. Not only are you helping yourselves, you are also helping the

Mega Pass wristbands Braidwood Lions Club and the Presbyterian Church.

These pre-sale items are available at these fine locations until Thursday, July 18, at 4 p.m. in Braidwood: Berkot's Super Foods, Whitmore Ace Hardware, Hairagain, Rockin Robin's Hair Salon, Fossil Ridge Library and Braidwood City Hall. In Godley at Clip & Sip Hair Salon and Shelley's Hair Salon. In Diamond visit the Midland State Bank.



GRUNDY

It's time to schedule your child's PHYSICAL

SCHEDULE YOUR WAY TODAY! **ONLY \$45***

Contact your **Riverside Medical Group Primary** Care Provider or your local Riverside Immediate Care.

Riversidehealthcare.org or myRiverside mychart

QUICK. CONVENIENT. ACCESSIBLE.

For more information, riversidehealthcare.org or (855) 404-DOCS (3627).

*The \$45 is not billable to insurance and not applicable to patients with MEDICAID, Physicals include urine dip, but do not include other lab work or



Register now for CFD pickleball, youth bags tourney

Get your game on during the Pickled on Water Street pickleball tournaplanned during Catfish Days.

District is registering players for a youth and adult tournaments to be played in the public parking lot in the 200 block of North

Sign-up fee is \$20 for single youth player or \$30 for a two-person team. Adult fee is \$30 each or \$45

The youth tournament will be Friday, July 25 from 5 hosting a youth bags tour-

adult tourney to follow from 8 p.m. to midnight. The adult bracket will conclude on Saturday with play The Wilmington Park being 8 p.m. to midnight. There will be enter-

tainment both nights with Jake Vaughn playing Friday 6-8 p.m. followed by DJ Derek from 8:30 to 11:30 On Saturday from 8:30 11:30 p.m. Nashville

on stage. There will be food vendors in the lot too.

Electric will be performing

p.m. to 8 p.m. with the nament as part of the Saturday, July 26, Catfish Days fun.

> Two player teams can pre-register with a \$20 per team fee or anyone without a team will be paired up with someone at \$10 per person.

> Competition will be held on the North Island Park from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. with \$50 awarded for 1st place and \$25 awarded for 2nd and 3rd place.

Register for either The Park District is also tournament at www.island parkdistrict.com

Free electronics, scrap metal drop-off in Wilmington

electronics drop-off event will be Thursday, July 10, from 5-7 p.m. in the parking lot at the city hall, 1165 S. Water St., Wilmington.

All electronic items (broken or obsolete) are electronic mice, digital accepted. Items include: televisions (limit 2), comand including desktops, laptops, notebooks, tablets, ereaders), printers, electronic keyboards, fax machines,

portable digital music players (iPods, MP3s), CD/DVD/Blu-ray players, DVD players/recorders, video game consoles, small scale servers, scanners, converter boxes, cable receivers, satellite monitors receivers, computer cable, computer speakers, portable digital assistants

(PDAs) and zip drives.

types of telephones, calculators, camcorders, cell phones, CB radio/CB scanners, digital/SLR cameras, digital photo frames, digital projectors, electric lawn mowers, electric scooters, fans, GPS devices, handsfree phone headsets, Instapot, microwaves, power tools, radar detectors, radios, rice cooker, shredders, stereo receivers, string lights, toasters and toaster ovens, UPS/battery backup devices and vacuums (stick, robot, canister) and

tollway responders. Also accepted small scrap metal items including cookie sheets, pots and pans, car jacks, chains, keys, copper pipe and fittings, nuts, bolts, screws, hand tools, metal door knobs, silverware, tool boxes, watches, wire hangers, wire screens and more.

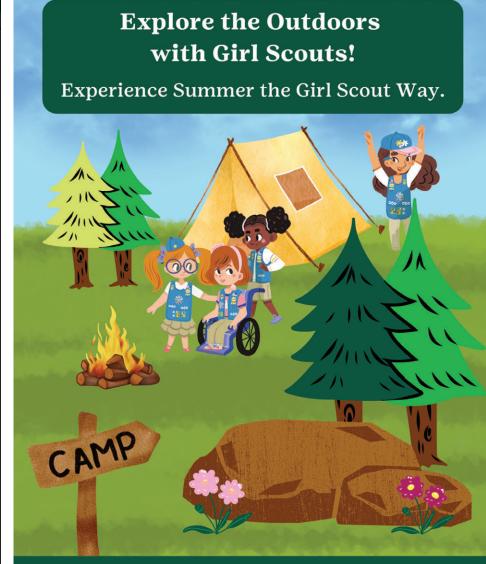
Participants reminded to remain in their vehicles at all times, show ID by holding it to the window for staff to see and then allow staff to remove items without assistance from each vehicle.



Lake Renwick migratory bird viewing will take place from 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays, through Aug. 9 at the Lake Renwick Heron Rookery Nature Preserve, Plainfield.

See nesting herons, egrets, cormorants and possibly bald eagles. The preserve has controlled access during nesting season to minimize disturbances to nesting birds, so the only way to view these amazing creatures at Lake Renwick during this time of year is to attend a viewing

Volunteers and staff will be at the viewing platform and visitor center to answer questions. Bringing your own binoculars or spotting scope is recommended. Free for all





Scan the QR code or visit us at girlscout.info/grundy to learn more and save your spot today!



Wilmington Fire Protection District Budget and Appropriations ordinance

PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE NO. 25-06-001

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE BUDGET AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE WILMINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of said WILMINGTON FIRE PROTEC-WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of said WILMINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT have prepared or caused to be prepared in tentative form, a Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, and the Secretary of this Board has made the same conveniently available for public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to the date hereof; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held as to such Budget on June 18, 2025, and as said District lies within Will County, Illinois, notice of said hearing was given at least thirty (30) days notice prior thereto by publication in a newspaper published in Will County and having general circulation within said WILMINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, and all other legal requirements have been compiled with

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WILMINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, in the County of Will and State of Illinois:

SECTION 1: That the following budget containing an estimate of revenue and expenditures and the appropriations contained therein be and the same is hereby adopted as the Budget and Appropriations for said WILMINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT for the fiscal year ending on April 30, 2026; and the following sums of money, or as much thereof as may be authorized by law, is here-by appropriated to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the WILM-INGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT for its fiscal year ending April 30, 2026, for the respective objects and purposes, as hereinafter set forth, namely:

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS
Cash on hand at beginning of fiscal year

Donations

Taxes received in this fiscal year (social security)	\$60,127.99	
Taxes received in this fiscal year (pension)	\$352,221.82	
County tax adjustment	\$24,722.67	
Personal property replacement tax	\$26,000.00	
Service Fees	\$900,000.00	
Foreign Fire Tax	\$43,000.00	
Ambulance fees	\$1,100,000.00	
Interest income	\$12,000.00	
Grants	\$14,500.00	
Tower Rental	\$25,800.00	
Waste Management	\$14,000.00	
Annual services fees (Ridge Port)	\$220,000.00	
Fire Recovery	\$15,000.00	
Old Headquarters Sale	\$700 000.00	
Total Estimated Receipts	\$8,229,309.29	
CORPORATE FUND		

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES BUDGETED

APPROPRIATED

.....\$3,671,120.69

Contractual	\$200,000.00\$240,000.00
Full Time Salary	\$551,250.00 \$661,500.00
Dispatching Fees	\$60,000.00 \$72 000.00
Medical Insurance	\$174,000.00 \$208,800.00
Maintenance-Equipment	\$6,000.00 \$7,200.00
Maintenance Radio & Pagers	\$1,250.00 \$1,500.00
Maintenance-Vehicles	\$40,000.00 \$48,000.00
Maintenance-Building	\$6,250.00 \$7,500.00
Maintenance-Office Equip	\$6,250.00 \$7,500.00
Utilities	\$25,000.00 \$30,000.00
Gas & Oil	
Office Supplies & Postage	\$1,250.00 \$1,500.00
Operating Supplies & Tools	\$3,750.00 \$4,500.00
Uniforms	\$5,000.00 \$6,000.00
District Signs/Supplies	\$750.00\$900.00
Office Equipment	\$2,500.00 \$3,000.00
Fire Equipment	\$58,059.57 \$69,671.48
Radio Equipment	\$1,000.00\$1,200.00
Vehicle Purchase	
Improvements to B & G	\$5,000.00 \$6,000.00
Training	\$12,500.00 \$15,000.00
Public Education	\$2,500.00 \$3,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$6,250.00\$7,500.00
Administrative Expenses	\$20,000.00 \$24,000.00
Loan Payment	\$550,000.00 \$660,000.00
Personnel Benefits	\$20,000.00\$24,000.00
Grant Expenditures	\$7,250.00 \$8,700.00
Building & Equipment Fund	\$1,200,000.00\$1,440,000.00

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for corporate purposes

.\$3.457.67

TOTAL EST. CORP. EXPENSES\$3,059,267.24

AMBULANCE FUND			
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	BUDGETED APPROPRIATED		
Contractual			
Full Time Salary	.\$551,250.00 \$661,500.00		
Dispatching Fees			
Medical Insurance	.\$174,000.00 \$208,800.00		
Ambulance Billing Fees	.\$250,000.00\$300,000.00		
Maintenance-Equipment	\$18,000.00\$21,600.00		
Maintenance Radio & Pagers	\$3,750.00\$4,500.00		
Maintenance-Vehicles	\$40,000.00\$48,000.00		
Maintenance-Building	\$18,750.00\$22,500.00		
Maintenance-Office Equip	\$18,750.00\$22,500.00		
Utilities			
Gas & Oil	\$45,000.00\$54,000.00		
Office Supplies & Postage	\$3,750.00\$4,500.00		
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES cont.			
Operating Supplies & Tools	\$11 250.00 \$13,500.00		
Uniforms			
Medical Supplies	\$40,000.00\$48,000.00		

District Signs/Supplies	\$750.00\$900.00	
Office Equipment		
Radio Equipment	\$1,000.00 \$1,200.00	
Medical Equipment	\$64,281.65 \$77,137.98	
Vehicle Purchase	\$75,000.00 \$90,000.00	
Improvements To B & G	\$5,000.00 \$6,000.00	
Training	\$12,500.00 \$15,000.00	
Public Education	\$7,500.00\$9,000.00	
Miscellaneous	\$18,750.00\$22,500.00	
Administrative Expenses	\$60,000.00\$72,000.00	
Loan Payment	\$550,000.00\$660,000.00	
Personnel Benefits	\$20,000.00\$24,000.00	
Grant Expenditures	\$7,250.00\$8,700.00	
Building & Equipment Fund	.\$1,200,000.00\$1,440,000.00	
Donations	\$3 457.67 \$4 149.20	
TOTAL EST. AMBULANCE EXPENSES	.\$3,952,489.32\$4,742,987.18	

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the proceeds of a special tax

for ambulance service purposes and are in addition to all other Fire Protection District taxes as provided by law.

AUDIT FUND BUDGETED

<u>APPROPRIATED</u>

APPROPRIATED

.\$95.089.52

Audit Expense		
TOTAL AUDIT EXPENSE .	\$21.089.65	\$25.307.58
	. ,	,
The foregoing appropriations	are appropriated from the a	bove revenue source

ESTIMATED EXPENSES

ESTIMATED EXPENSES

including the general property tax for audit purposes

SOCIAL SECURITY BUDGETED

.\$79.241.27

including the general property tax for social security purposes.		
TORT/LIABILITY		
ESTIMATED EVDENISES	DUDGETED	ADDDODDIATED

TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY EXPENSES ...\$79,241.27

Liability Insurance Expense

Workinerrs Compensation Expense	.φ120,000.00	φ 144,000.00
Legal Fees	\$15,000.00	\$18,000.00
Salary (30%-Chief, D/C,Lts, FF/Medic, Kurtz	z	
Contract)	.\$535,000.00	\$642,000.00
Total Tort/Liability Expense	.\$765,000.00	\$918,000.00
Liability Insurance Expense	\$95,000.00	\$114,000.00
Workmen's Compensation Expense	.\$120 000.00	\$144 000.00
TOTAL TORT/LIABILITY EXPENSES	.\$765,000.00	\$918,000.00
The foregoing appropriations are appropriate	ted from the a	above revenue source

including the general property tax for liability insurance purposes.

PENSION

ESTIMATED EXPENSES	BUDGETED	<u>APPROPRIATED</u>
Pension		\$412 725.37
TOTAL PENSION EXPENSES	\$343,937.81	\$412,725.37

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for pension purposes

RE-CAP OF ESTIMATED BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS for the fiscal year 2025/2026

BUDGETED

APPROPRIATED

	DODGETED	ALL NOL NIATED
CORPORATE	\$3,059,267.24	\$3,671,120.69
AMBULANCE	\$3,952,489.32	\$4,742,987.18
AUDIT	\$21,089.65	\$25,307.58
SOCIAL SECURITY	\$79,241.27	\$95,089.52
TORT/LIABILITY	\$765,000.00	\$918,000.00
PENSION	\$343 937.81	\$412 725.37
TOTAL	\$8,221,025.29	\$9,865,230.35
SECTION 2: It is estimated that no	cash will be on	hand at the end of said

fiscal year. SECTION 3: All unexpended balance of any item or items of any general

appropriation made by this Ordinance may be expended in making up any deficiency in any item or items in the same general appropriation made by this

SECTION 4: If any item or any portion thereof of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

PASSED in lawful session of the Board of Trustees of said WILMINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT on June 18, 2025.

Attest:

/s/ Jesse W. Cruitt President, WILMINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Secretary, WILMINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

/s/ Robert Bland

Published in the Free Press Advocate, Wednesday, July 9, 2025.

Coal City Library seeks bids for parking lot improvements

PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids will be received by the Coal City Public Library District for "2025 Parking Lot Improvement" and is further described as follows: the removal and replacement of Hot Mix Asphalt pavement in the parking facilities located on the south side of the Coal City Public Library. The improve-ments include HMA Surface Removal, HMA Leveling Binder, HMA Surface Course, and Paint Pavement

Course, and Paint Pavement Markings.

Bids shall be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. at the office of the Coal City Public Library, at 85 N. Garfield, Coal City, IL 60416 on Tuesday, August 5, 2025. Proposals will be opened and publicly read in the Annex located at 70 N. Irving, Coal City, IL 60416 at that time.

Plans and specifications may be accessed on-line at: www.chamlin.

accessed on-line at: www.chamlin.

Full-size plans and specifica-tions are available from Chamlin & Associates, Inc., 221 West Massociates, Inc., 221 West Washington Street, Morris, Illinois 60450 at the non-refundable cost of \$50.00 per set. Bidders are advised that this Contract will be subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act.

Bidders are advised that this Bidders are advised that this Contract will be subject to the Illinois

Steel Products Procurement Act. The successful Bidder shall provide at least 40% of all labor required for the completion of this project.

Bids may be held by the Coal
City Public Library District for a period
not to exceed 30 days from the date of the opening of Bids for the purpose of reviewing the Bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders, prior to

awarding of the Contract. The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids and to waive any informalities in the bidding. BY ORDER OF:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COAL CITY PUBLIC
LIBRARY DISTRICT Published in the Coal City Courant on July 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2025.

Attorney Schmidt files Fleming estate claim notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS 2025-PR-48 In RE Estate of

Cathryn L. Fleming, Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Cathryn L. Fleming, whose address was 20 N Carbon Hill Rd, Coal City, IL. Letters of office were issued July 2, 2025 to Christina K Fleming, 5518 Amber Way, Johnsburg, IL 60051, whose attorney is Charles Schmidt, 117 W
Washington, Morris IL 60450.
Claims against the estate may
be filed in the Circuit Clerk's office or

with the representative or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not lication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Claims may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Grundy County Courthouse, 111 E. Washington St. Morris IL 60450, or with the representative through her attorney, or both. Any claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and the attorney within 10 days after it is filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To efile, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit https://efile.illinois courts.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. Charles L. Schmidt #6207698

Law Office of Charles L. Schmidt, Ltd. 117 West Washington Street Morris, IL 60450 (815) 942-0701 grundylaw@gmail.com
Published in the Coal City

Courant on July 9, 16 and 23, 2025.

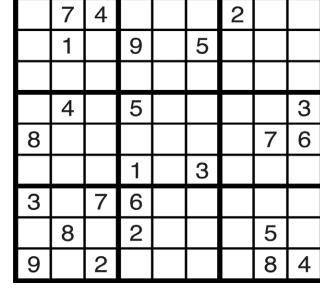
Dial 9-8-8 for mental health help

988 is a confidential lifeline and available 24/7. If

you or someone you know is struggling with thoughts of suicide or facing a mental health or substance use crisis, help is just a call or text away. Life can throw us unexpected challenges, and sometimes it can make you feel overwhelmed. You are not alone, help is here. Call or text 988 to be connected with

a trained, compassionate crisis counselor who can help you navigate difficult times. This message is brought to you by the Illinois Department of Human Services and the Free Press

Newspapers.



LASSIFIED

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

Deadlines Classified Ads & Classifed Display Ads Fridays - 5 p.m.

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.

The Free Press Newspapers will be responsible for the first

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

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

caps on classified *plus .0399% with credit card

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



CITY OF BRAIDWOOD PART-TIME ZONING CLERK POSITION

The City of Braidwood is currently accepting applications for the position of Part-Time Zoning Clerk. This position is 24 hours per week and reports directly to the City Administrator, Mayor, and Finance Commissioner.

Responsibilities: The Zoning Clerk will perform a variety of administrative and clerical duties related to zoning, planning, and general office support as needed. Key areas of responsibility include:

- Zoning and planning Code enforcement
- Land use regulations
- This position provides essential support to

the City Administrator and the Planning and Commission by assisting in the implementation and enforcement of: City ordinances

- Zoning codes
- Land development policies

Applications are available on our website at www.braidwood.us or in person at City Hall. Additional information about this position is available on our website under Job Posting. The deadline for accepting applications is Monday, July 14, 2025, at 3:00 PM.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Coal City, 550 W. Daisy Place Apt. #4, 2 BR, 1 BA, nice kitchen, w/d connection, stove & refrigerator, \$975/mo. No pets. 815-941-4832.

GARAGE SALE Coal City - 20 N. Carbon Hill

Road (kitty corner from CC High School) Sat., July 12 - 9am to Noon. FREE Garage Sale -Christmas tree & decor, hospital bed, Hoyer Lift, Hoover steam vac, lamps, crystal ware, pots/pans, house decor, Yonana Machine, towels & linens, games, summer hats & , yiassware and box treadmill, even fun stuff, glassware, queen spring, exercise bike. Furniture available, priced reasonably - sofa/chair/ottoman set, beautiful bookcase set, nice credenzas/TV stands, end tables.

Road. Thurs., & Fri., July 10-11. 8am to 3pm. Antiques. Nautical decor, fishing equipment, lots of household items. ca28

25630 Cottage

Wilmington,

HELP WANTED CNA

Offering classes. days, evenings and weekends. Home health nurses needed. CNA instructor needed. Call for class dates, 630-771-1162 630-771-9069, or www.spectrumnursescna.com cc20-39

HOMES FOR RENT

Wilmington, updated charming 2 BR, 1 BA, home for rent in a nice neighborhood close to a park. Detached 2 garage, fenced yard, W/D, C/A. No smoking. \$1,400/mo., 1st and last security deposit. 815-476-7278. cc28-30

MISCELLANEOUS Martin 12 string with case,

\$450. Epiphone G400 with case, \$300 (black). Squier telewith case, (natural). Fender acoustosonic 100W amp, \$200. Alto Spec-PÁ 200W, \$200. trum 2 guitar stools with backrests, \$35 each. Epiphone Les Paul Studio with case, \$300 (burgundy). Guitar rack holds 5 guitars, \$50. Call Bob 815-458-3010. cc26-29

Precious 140 pieces. lection, Call 815-685-6868. ca28-29

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PETS Large Selection of Dog and Cat

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

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REPAIRS

Roofing Mike Collins re-shingles and gutter cleaning, aluminum gutter screen, no repair to small or too big. Free inspection. prices. Lic #104.007296 Ask for Mike at 815-730-1303. ch21-46

Julie's Remodeling

Siding, soffit, roof repairs, painting, seamless gutters, fencing, removal. lawn care. Complete Handyman service! Bonded and Insured, 20 yrs., Call Lee 815-791-5731.

STORAGE

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

SFRVICE &

REPAIRS

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

WANTED TO BUY

815-549-5136. cc21-32

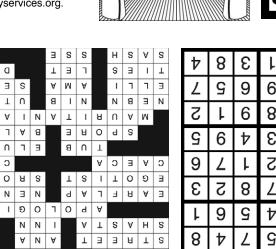
Cash paid for fossils for old fossil collections. Call Pat 630-632-9292. cc25-28

WANTED

WANTED **SCRAP METAL**

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

Free pickup 7 days



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In The Good Old Summer Time

viving the first heat wave of the summer, I got to thinking about summertime in the 19th century, so let's set the scene. Houses for the most part had little



insulation; the octagon house excluded. Window screens had not been invented, and without electricity, fans were hung from the ceiling and operated with a pull rope. Garbage pick-up did not exist.

First the house was readied for summer. The carpets were taken up and those pesky flies usually

Establish

a Lasting

Legacy

Taking legal action to

for your loved ones, and

followed while you can

your own terms is

Estate planning

important.

probate

Simple wills

make these decisions on

Trust administration &

protect your assets, provide

ensure your final wishes are

and Loving

the next winter. after being given a good beating. windows were opened fully whenever possible. The heavy velvet damask and curtains were

taken down and replaced with the lighter lace curtains. These lace curtains served several practical purposes aside from looking lovely. The open work lace allowed light and air to pass through, but acted as a semi-screen to keep the larger bugs out. However,

stored away for managed to get in,

The following article appeared in the August 30, 1875 Wilmington Advocate. "FLY.... The fly season is here at hand, and it will only cost you three onions to try the experiment of keeping your picture frames, looking glass frames, etc., from being spotted over by flies. The receipt is three onions boiled in water. Paint your frames over with the liquid, and the originator says the flies will never dirty them again. Whether this remedy is warranted the author of receipt has divulged."

Whenever possible a "summer kitchen"

built. This was a small building near the main house, which contained a large stove, usually a six burner. All the baking, canning, and everyday cooking was done there in an effort to keep the house cooler.

In July 1878, after an incredibly long heat spell the Advocate carried the following warning.

"The use of vegetables

little There was garbage created by households, as packaging consisted of paper, which was burned in the stove, glass jars that were saved to be reused for canning, or tins, which were taken to the tinsmith to remake into something useful such as candleholders. But there was organic garbage such as fruit and vegetable peelings, eggshells, and fish and meat scraps and bones. This is the very stuff, that those cholera-carrying flies

The present heated term will long be remembered as one of the most protracted experienced hereabouts in many years. The mercury in the shade has been at blood heat on several days, and probably the end is not yet. Under the circumstances, people cannot be too careful as to the matter of diet and drinking water."

"Our city has thus far been remarkably healthy, and with proper care it will probably remain so. As a measure of precaution; first of all, let cleanliness be observed; not only in regard to the person but about the premises. Allow no decayed vegetable or animal matter about the yard to superinduce disease. A few bushels of lime might be judiciously used about sinks and outhous-

should be guarded, while fruits that are not thoroughly ripe ought not to be indulged in at all. Leave ice water alone, and remember that in drinking water 'tis better to drink but a few swallows at a time and at frequent intervals than it is to drink a pint at once in such weather as the pres-



To keep cool these days is no easy task. But if you dress cool half of your battle is won. Try a suit of our Genuine B. V. D. Athletic Union Suits. They are cool and comfortable and the price is only \$1.00 a suit. We also carry in stock Genuine Paros

Knit 2-piece and Union Suits, 50c and \$1.00

WHITE CAT KLOSED KROTCH

Union Suits at \$1.00 and \$1.50.

Very Special

We have just received an assortment of Men's Open Mesh, Fabric and Ribbed Union Suits in all sizes. These go at 50 cents per suit while they last.

MOTTA'S CASH STORE WILMINGTON BRAIDWOOD

We give Cash Discount Tickets.

AN AD FROM July of 1914 advertising union suits.

ent. These few hints may which actually kept the be regarded as "a stitch in time" that may save health and perhaps life itself in many instances.'

Next, we turn to summer clothing. During the first part of the 19th century cotton was very expensive, as the cotton gin had not come in to existence. Most fabrics were linen, wool, or a combination of both called linsey-woolsey.

Surprisingly, men wore wool "union suits" (onepiece undergarment) both summer and winter. It was claimed that it kept you warm in the winter and insulated you from heat in the summer. Over this some type of suit was worn, usually made of wool as

Ladies also wore a won piece undergarment, but usually made of linen, a much cooler choice. They wore long skirts with several layers supported by a The hoop "hoop skirt." skirt was made of a series of bone hoops connected with strips of cloth vertically. It took practice to learn to sit in one of these, but in summer it provided a dead air space around the body,

ladies quite cool.

During that July hot in 1878 Independent came up with a 'man on the street" interview for the newspaper. Editor Conley warned "Don't look for much local matter during this temper-Other comments

"How's your appetite?" Ye gods! Such weather!" "Such weather as this is only fit for the Southern

Confederacy. Ads during the hot spell read; "Stilwell is the boy that can set up a good, cool drink of root beer, that will reach the right spot.' And "If you will eat ice cream this weather get only the very best-otherwise

known as Mrs. Watson's."

A popular gathering place in the summertime was the artesian well located on the east side of the river just south of the railroad trestle. Cool water spouted from the bank year-round. Eventually a horse trough was built, and a pipe inserted into the hill to channel the water to it. Try to stay cool, take care of yourselves gentle reader.

Phone: 815-476-7635



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