

WHS Seniors of the Week return



'Cats bring ACE trophy back 'home'



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Vol. 49, Issue 37
1 section • 14 pages
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WILMINGTON, IL | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 | A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER (815) 476-7966



Photo by Eric Fisher
A LIFESTAR AIR AMBULANCE was called Wednesday afternoon to transport a homeowner who was severely burned during a house fire on Hickory Street in Resthaven. Wilmington first responders immediately called for Lifestar and set up a landing zone along Illinois 102 near the Wesley Township garage. In the photo Minooka FF/PM John Medlin, Wilmington FF/EMT Eli Howard, Minooka Lieutenant Chris Estensen helped to transport the victim from the Wilmington ambulance to the Lifestar stretcher. Helping in loading the victim into the helicopter are FF/PM Andrew Storbeck and FF/PM Matt Shroba.

Wilmington man injured in house fire

STAFF REPORT

Fire officials are investigating a structure fire in Wilmington that left one man hospitalized. On Wednesday, Sept. 20 just before 1 p.m., members of the Wilmington Fire Protection District

responded to a structure fire at 34340 S. Hickory Ave. While enroute, responding companies were advised of a severely burned patient outside of the residence at which time Lifestar medical helicopter was requested and the response was escalated to a Full Still assignment, bringing in additional

mutual aid. According to a press release from the WFPD, personnel arrived to find a one-story residence with the attic heavily involved in fire. Due to partial roof collapse on arrival, the fire attack was conducted from the exterior of the structure. One adult male patient, being the

sole occupant at the time of the fire, was found in front of the residence and advanced medical care was immediately administered. The patient was transferred by Wilmington EMS to Lifestar and flown to Loyola Medical Center. Wilmington Fire Protection District personnel were assisted by

several surrounding fire departments and agencies. MABAS Division 15 Fire Investigators and the Office of the State Fire Marshall assisted with the cause and origin of the fire. The incident is still under investigation.

Wildcat Royalty earns the spotlight



Photo by Eric Fisher

WHS ROYALTY—The Homecoming Court was introduced at half-time of the varsity football game Friday night. Chosen for the Homecoming Court were (from left) freshmen representatives Declan Moran and Ashlyn Warriner, senior reps Jonathon Mossell and Giana Stahulak, Queen Paige Eighner and King Talin Yakima, senior Reprs Emma Grace Strong and Bryn Bianchetta; and sophomore reps Melia Hincerick and Sam Payne. Missing are junior reps Sara Falcon and Kyle Farrell, along with senior reps Cade McCubbin and Logan Adermann. See parade pictures on page 2 and sports coverage on pages 13-14.

Wilmington firefighter killed in motorcycle accident in Braidwood

STAFF REPORT

An accident claimed the life of a Wilmington Fire Protection District firefighter over the weekend. The incident happened in Braidwood shortly before 9 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 22, when firefighter paramedic David Pollack was involved in a motor vehicle accident along Route 129 while off duty. According to a Go Fund Me posted by friends and family, Pollack was traveling on his motorcycle in the 34000 block of Route 129/Washington

Street when he struck a tire that was sitting in the roadway and was thrown from the motorcycle. Pollack sustained unsurvivable injuries as a result of the accident. According to a release by the WFPD, Pollack became a member of the Fire District in January of 2018 as a Firefighter Paramedic and was currently assigned as a Shift Leader at Station 2. He was also a member of

SEE POLLACK, PAGE 2

Lakewood Drive home damaged by lightning strike

STAFF REPORT

An early morning lightning strike on Monday is suspected of causing extensive damage to a home in the 1900 block of Lakewood Dr., Wilmington. The Wilmington Fire Protection District responded to a structure fire at 1927 Lakewood Dr. at 6:17 a.m.

Monday. Upon arrival, smoke was seen inside the first floor of the two-story residence and the response was escalated to a

SEE FIRE, PAGE 2



City earns funds for body cams, comprehensive plan

BY MARNEY SIMON EDITOR

The city of Wilmington will utilize grant funding from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to help secure equipment for the Wilmington Police Department, as well as

to invest in the city's economic future. The city is the recipient of an Administrative Operations grant in the amount of \$250,000, awarded by Gov. JB Prizker. The allocation of those funds was announced in August. Eligible costs include personnel, supplies, and con-

sultant fees that are for public safety and economic development, as well as public safety equipment not exceeding \$5,000 per item. City administrator Jeannine Smith explained the funding earlier this month during the meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

"This is a quarter-million dollars, it's a new grant awarded by the governor for economic development purposes. There are some specifics... and some very open interpretations. The title of the grant is for public safety and econom-

SEE GRANT, PAGE 2

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