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WILMINGTON, IL |

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020

A FREE PRESS NEWSPAPER

Survey complete, but dam discussions just getting started

BY MARNEY SIMON

EDITOR

The final results are in, and the majority of those responded to the city of Wilmington's survey on the Kankakee River Dam said they'd like to see it taken out.

Students pack food

for the needy

But the survey is just the first step of a long journey to address the dam, and if it will ever be removed from its spot along the South Island. The survey results were

revealed during the Nov. 11 meeting of the Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Health and Safety Committee. The final

- Compete removal of the
- Construction of a rock
- Construction of a rockramp with canoe/kayak passage -
- Leave the dam alone -

Surveys were sent out with water bills in August. The surinterest earlier this year in pursuing changes to or removal of the dam, sparked by conversations initiated with the public by Alderman Ben Dietz and former Alderman Jake Tenn.

Since 1982, at least 16 people have lost their lives after being swept into the hydraulic roller dam.

The survey was based on guidance from a 2017 study, conducted by the Illinois Department Resources (IDNR), that compared the costs of changes at

"My understanding was that we would turn the dam over to the state at this point," Alderman Lisa Butler said after the committee reviewed the

But that thought was met with a resounding 'no' from Wilmington Mayor Roy Strong.

"No, no, no, no, no, no, no. Not yet," Strong said emphati-

Strong, who has been a vocal proponent of keeping the dam, said the survey was misleading, because the cost of dams dated October 2017 was turning the dam over to the the result of that meeting. That

He said that people naturally opted for the cheapest option, when in reality there might be ways to keep the dam that are far below the millions it would cost the city if the only other options were the ones available on the survey.

"The survey was kind of biased," Strong said. "It basically, it's saying, do you want to spend this money, and [the respondents] are saying no, we don't want to spend the money. That's what it's about. I couldn't agree with them more, do you want to borrow \$3 to \$5 million? Well, who is going to agree to that? I'm not going to agree to it either."

Strong said that while the survey worked to gauge public opinion on a handful of options, the next step would be to meet with the Army Corps of Engineers to see what steps the city can take to address safety at the dam.

favor of adding rip rap to the rap is a viable option. face of the dam in an effort to someone get pulled in.

"I think we can get rock in there for a lot less, maybe \$150,000 or something, we might be able to do that, get rip rap in there," he said

a regional permit application seeking approval from the Army Corps of Engineers and IDNR to add rip rap to the face of the dam, proposing the placement of approximately 500 cubic yards of rip rap in the scour hole below the dam to the submerged hydraulic jump (boil), reduc-ing or eliminating the undertow and improving public safe-

One year prior, Strong, the city engineer and city administrator met with State Senator Sue Rezin and representatives of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to discuss the city plan for the river dam.

An IDNR Office of Water Resources report on the options for the future of the Kankakee River and millrace they're saying it is but they're

report was the basis of this year's dam survey.

That report indicated that adding fill to the face of the dam would likely require a detailed individual permit application to the Corps of Engineers because of the placement of a large quantity of fill into a waterway of the United States

The individual permit has come with an Illinois Environmental Agency Water Quality certifi-

Also per that report, the city would have to provide an engineer's structural design, a hydraulic design so that the dam system passes the 100year flood test, an analysis of potential options for future spillway capacity increases, and development of a detailed early warning and emergency evacuation plan for a dam breach.

Still, Strong argued to the Strong has long been in committee last week that rip

> "I think we have more options here than just that surey," Strong said. "If we had rip rap, even if they fall in there, they could get out. So, for a minimum amount, we could make it safe.'

Regardless of what the city In 2018, the city submitted ultimately decides, Strong said nothing should move ahead until there is a solid picture of what's to come.

"If they did take the dam down, we need engineering,' Strong said. "Exactly what is going to happen when that dam comes down. Because right now, anything could happen. We don't know. Right now behind the Rustic, it's seven to eight feet deep. What's going to appen when that goes down? Is it going to be down to two feet, what are we going to do with that dirt in that canal?

"I think we need to step there next," he continued. "If they (the state) do take over the dam, what's next, what's the process when it's all taken out, what are we left with, is the canal going to run at all,

SEE DAM. PAGE 2



SAFETY FIRST — Orange sawhorses are seen on the ground in front of the dam along the Kankakee River in Wilmington. The city is working through options for dam safety once again. A survey sent this fall to residents indicates that many folks would like to see the dam removed. The city is looking into adding concrete barriers near the dam to keep people away.

Interchange projects at Lorenzo, Route 129 ready for public input

BY MARNEY SIMON

It's been nine years since the Illinois Route 129 ramp from southbound I-55 was shuttered.

Now, with plans to add a new interchange at Route 129 and a second at Lorenzo Road in the works, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has opened the comment period for the public to weigh in.

The comment period is open through mid-December for the proposed

Lorenzo Road is under the jurisdiction of the city of Wilmington, while Route 129 is a state road.

Phase 1 of the study was initiated in 2008, but in 2013 the project was absorbed into the Phase 1 study for the Expressway. The Illiana Expressway project was put on hold in 2015. In 2018, the I-55 study for Lorenzo

Illiana study and moved ahead on its lead to dangerous highway conditions

The study aims to address three two alternatives for both interchanges. basic needs for the area:

Improve safety

• Improve regional and local travel

The interchange improvements at Lorenzo Road will address Wilmington's Elion Logistics Center and the proposed BNSF intermodal facility.

The Route 129 exit will allow for access to Route 129 both to and from the southbound I-55 lanes. Access to those lanes has was shut off nearly a decade

According to the study documents, traffic through the region has continued to increase. Estimated traffic volumes for the year 2050 show that the current interchanges would suffer from congestion by

Road and Route 129 was pulled out of the that time if not addressed, which could

The public outreach seeks input on

The proposals for Lorenzo Road include two modified trumpet deigns. In • Improve facility condition and the first, traffic entering Lorenzo Road from southbound lanes of I-55 would utilize a loop ramp, while traffic entering I-55 from Lorenzo Road would use the same exit, with the ramp making a northsouth split.

The second option would keep the current Lorenzo Road exit from southbound lanes as is.

The two options for Route 129 are a standard diamond, and a diverging dia-

None of the proposals would involve any change to the Kankakee River bridge

SEE I-55, PAGE 2

Dist. 209-U sells building trades home

Project went unfinished due to pandemic

BY MARNEY SIMON

The novel coronavirus pandemic put a dent in the plans of the Wilmington High School building trades class as they aimed to complete last

year's home project.

But, the Wilmington
School District 209-U was able to find relief when it comes to unfinished project.

On Nov. 9, the board of education approved the cash offer sale of the unfinished home in the amount of \$135,000.

"I think that's a great outcome for our district, Superintendent Dr. Matt Swick told members of the board. "The buyer is a developer who is going to refinish that house and I'm sure re-sell it at some point. So, we're making \$10,000 more than we had advertised for."

That home, which is parconstructed Winchester Green Drive including foundation, walls and roof, was closed up after the shut down for the pandemic began back in March.

After discussions when

SEE HOUSE, PAGE 2





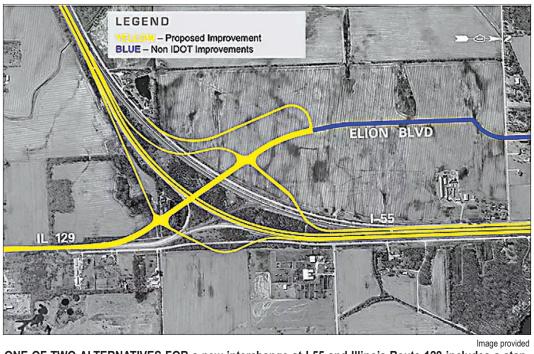
Environmental impacts being studied include wetfloodplains, prairie lands, farmland conversion, historic resources, threatened and endangered species, noise, right-of-way, and residential and commercial relo-

Once the public comment period ends, IDOT will announce the preferred alternative, followed by a public Completion of this phase of the project is expected in mid-2021, which will be followed by final design and construc-

The state of Illinois has allocated \$112.7 million in the Fiscal Year 2021-2026 proposed highway improvement program for these improvements, which includes design

In 2017, a freight study conducted in Will County showed \$623 billion in freight value moves through or in and out of Will County every year. The Will County Center for Economic Development (CED) said that represents 3.5% of the U.S. gross domestic product, and that \$65 billion worth of freight activity either starts or ends in Will County

Wilmington at Lorenzo Road is one of 17 freight clus-



ONE OF TWO ALTERNATIVES FOR a new interchange at I-55 and Illinois Route 129 includes a standard diamond design, with exits and entrances for both north and southbound I-55 traffic, with a connection to Elion Boulevard after Route 129 ends. The exit ramp from southbound I-55 lanes at Route 129 was removed in 2011.

ters in Will County.

Closure of the Route 129 ramp from southbound I-55 happened in 2011. At the time, the interchange served roughly 4,700 vehicles per day.

Local municipalities were told the ramp was scheduled to be replaced, however, the overpass was removed with no date in sight to build a new

Traffic toward Braidwood was rerouted to Route 113, where a temporary light to help control traffic remains in use today. Interested parties can

online at www.i55lorenzoil29outreach.org, or via email LorenzoIL129Study@gmail.co

comment on the project

Comments can also be sent via mail to:

Bureau of Programming Attn: Anna Kutryn, PE 201 West Center Court Schaumburg, IL 60196-1096

Comments will be accepted through Dec. 14, 2020.

Dam

just guessing. I think that's where we need to be, where our options really are."

The city's liability coverage related to incidents at the dam was limited to \$500,000 in 2018. The city has taken

some action to improve safety at the dam.

Two years ago, the city created an exclusion zone along the west bank of the South Island, prohibiting people from entering the water. The police were also empowered to write up tickets for those who ignore the signs and enter the zone anyway. Last week, the city

announced that they may be purchasing up to 11 concrete Jersey barriers for placement along the roadway in the park to keep people away from the dam.

Currently the only obstruction to keep folks away from the dam are signs and wooden sawhors-

House

the school year picked up again, the district decided the best course of action was to sell the not-yet-completed house. While the building trades class continues with its regular inclass curriculum, the home building portion has been suspend-

ed for this school year. The building trades program has been available at WHS for

Building trades students have been constructing one singlefamily home per year on property owned by the school district

Upon completion, those homes are sold. While the sales are always a potential for the district to make a profit, it's also a unique opportunity for those students to gain valuable hands-

Pandemic plea throughout the state: Please stay home

Mitigations remain in place as Grundy positivity rate tops 25%

STAFF REPORT

As a second wave of COVID-19 outbreaks continue to sweep across the state, Illinoisans are being urged to stay home as much as possible for the remaining days of

The pandemic plea is not a renewal of the stay at home order from the spring, rather a call to limit outings in hopes of once again slowing the spread

At the close of last week, Grundy County's seven day rolling test positivity rate topped 25% and the number of new cases was just short of 500 according to the Illinois Department of Public Health

On Monday, Nov. 9, the state health agency reported a total of 1,557 cases had been identified in Grundy County. On Nov. 16, the case count was

In Will County, the seven as of the close of last week was

Will County is now reporting a total number of cases since the pandemic began of 29,859, with 485 deaths.

Both counties remain at an orange warning level as it saw increases in four of eight indicators the state uses in determining if a county is

activity or if there are warning signs of increased risk.

Each of the state's 11 regions have resurgence mitigations in place that are aimed at slowing the spread, however the numbers are not showing improvement.

Will County is included in Region 7, while Grundy County sits inside Region 2.

Gov. JB Pritzker has given warning that if mitigation measures are not followed and the metrics don't begin to show improvement, more drastic actions will be needed.

With many community leaders choosing not to listen to the doctors, we are left with not many tools left in our toolbox to fight this. The numbers don't lie. If things don't take a turn in the coming days, we will quickly reach the point when some form of a mandatory stay-at-home order is all that will be left," Pritzker said last week.

At particular concern is the number hospitalizations. As of Sunday, 5,581 hospital beds were in use by COVID-19 patients and according to methods for dealing with the Pritzker just 1,100 intensive care beds are open across the results, hospitalizations, and state. On a regional level about loss of life," the Mayors Caucus 65% of ICU beds are in use.

If we wait to take action day rolling test positivity rate until our hospitals are full, it approaches, state officials conwill be too late, and countless patients — COVID patients as well as those with all the other ailments and injuries that bring people to the hospital will die unnecessary deaths, because there aren't enough beds or people to staff them," Pritzker said in his daily press briefing on Monday.

Ventilator usage is also up

experiencing stable COVID-19 with 514 in use as of late few months could be difficult Health (IDPH). A number of ed. The health center will not Sunday. Utilization on a regional level was most recently reported at 22%.

State officials also indicatconcerns about proper staffing as health care workers are being forced into quarantine because of virus exposure in the community.

Public health officials continue to urge citizens to wear face coverings and maintain appropriate social distance when in public, and to practice good hygiene including frequent hand washing and sani-

These steps along with others like gathering limits and limiting non-essential travel outlined by Metropolitan Mayors Caucus as ways to help flatten the COVID curve.

"While each of our 275 member municipalities is unique, they all agree that it is critically important that we come together in the days and weeks ahead to combat the coronavirus pandemic. Endorsing these strategies is one of the most coherent current increase in positivity stated in a Nov. 16 release.

As the holiday season tinue the call for individuals families to rethink and plans that Thanksgiving include travel and mixing households.

IDPH director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said people should consider virtual get-togethers and food drops on family member's doorsteps.

Ezike indicated the next

ones for Illinoians. 'Just how bumpy it really

gets depends on each of us,

she said. "Let's hang in there together and be all in for Illinois. Tuesday, announced 12,601 new cases of COVID-19 and 97 additional deaths, including three people

in Will County. All three deaths were in people over the age of As of Nov. 17, IDPH is reporting a total of 597,849 cases in Illinois, including 10,875 deaths. The age of cases ranges from younger than one

to older than 100 years. The preliminary sevenday statewide positivity for cases as a percent of total test from Nov. 10 though Nov. 16 is

about COVID-19, call the hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov.

Getting Tested

As a second wave of COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations surge people of all ages are seeking testing, and its resulting in a flood of phone calls and misuse of hospital emergency rooms.

More than million COVID-19 tests had been administered in the state of Illinois as of Monday, and more than 175,440 of those occurred in the previous 48 hours. As the virus resurges in the ststae, more and more Illinoians are searching for testing sites.

available Testing is through local hospital systems, as well as sites staffed by the Illinois Department of Public medical clinics and even some pharmacies offer COVID test-Protocols at each location

are subject to change based on available resources, and the availability of results differ from site to site. Medical professionals are

seeing many asymptomatic people turning to their local hospital emergency department with the hope of seeking quick testing, and they want to remind people emergency rooms should be reserved for A simple internet search of

COVID-19 testing sites yields multiple returns, but before heading out to get tested individuals should understand the protocols at various locations typically outlined online.
Locally testing locations

include: • Will County — The Will

County Health Department hosts free walk-in clinics throughout the week at two county locations.

All locations will test from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Lewis University will have testing each Tuesday and Thursday except holidays at 1 University Dr., Romeoville (at the Fieldhouse in the back). This location is walk-in, firstcome-first-served.

Walk-in testing is also available at Governor's State University Grants Office, 1 University Parkway, University Park, each Wednesday except holidays.

Will County Community Health Center is providing ČOVID-19 testing to anyone who wants to be testcollect any money at the location. If you have insurance, a small administrative fee may be billed directly o your insurthe by Illinois Department of Public Health to cover the cost of processing the sample at the laboratory.

Will County also hosts testing by appointment in Romeoville and Joliet. Site information can be

found online at www.willcountyhealth.org. · Morris Hospital outpa-

tient drive-thru testing is available by appointment only Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 150 W. High St., Morris (corner of Lisbon and High streets). A physician order is required and a scheduling representative from the hospital will call once the order is received from the physician. Results are typically available in three to six days.

Morris Diamond-Coal City Campus Convenient Care, 1450 E. Division St., Diamond. Walk-in testing is available Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Requires an exam with a convenient care provider who determines if testing is appropriate based on patient's medical history and symptoms. An exam with a provider does not guarantee a COVID test will be done. Results for those tested are typically available in three to six

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR THE ELWOOD COMMUNITY **CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT #203**

A public hearing to approve the proposed tax levy increase for the Elwood Community Consolidated School District #203, Will County, Illinois, for 2020 will be held on December 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Education meeting room, 409 North Chicago Avenue, Elwood, IL.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Cathie Pezanoski, Superintendent, Elwood Community Consolidated School District #203, 409 North Chicago Avenue, Elwood, Illinois, 60421, telephone number of 815-423-5588.

- The total property taxes extended for 2019 were \$2,839,969.30.
- III. The proposed total property taxes to be levied for 2020 are \$4,062,105.00, including all new property.

There are no property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2020. Elwood Community Consolidated School District #203 has no construction debt.

Toys for Tots

Custer Protection District is proudly teaming up with the U.S. Marine Corps. Reserve for this year's Toys for Tots Program. Area residents who wish to participate, can drop off a new unwrapped toy at the Custer Fire Station 21750, Hwy 113, Wilmington. between the hours of 9 a.m. 5 p.m., from now until Dec. 11, 2020 at 5 p.m.

In-person or online communication your way.



Dean A Shepherd, AAMS® Financial Advisor 311 W Baltimore St

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Edward **Jones**`



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Eric D. Fisher, publisher

Marney Simon, editor

On both sides, teens and crime

I have heard many adults describe the wild times of their youth and mur-"That's young and stupid." We were all

young and stupid at one time, some of us were lucky and our

level of calling law enforcement. Today we look at teenagers and the law.

Our first story involves an innocent young man who got involved in a man hunt. From May 26, 1868, "On last Friday two convicts made a singular attempt to escape from the penitentiary. They were at work in the boot and shoe manufactory of Mr. F. Mack, and the foreman, Mr. Butler, being unwell, laid down in his office a moment to rest, during which time - not over ten minutes - these two convicts, assisted by some of their fellow

brought to the city." "On that day Mr. Mack happened to drive the load himself. When he had left the prison and reached the open prairie, his strange freight after a vigorous pursuit of bail by a justice of the peace,

prisoners, were boxed up and



Sandy Vasko

their boxes with large knives in their hands and told him arrest or gave an alarm they would take his life.

wagon, he turned and drove rapidly to the residence of Mr. Wm. O'Brian,

stupidity did not reach to the one of the guards of the prison, who, fortunately, happened to be at home. In company with Mr. O'Brian, Mr. Mack then pursued the convicts, and soon captured one of them."

"The other still continued to run and threatened to kill any who should attempt his arrest, when he came near Mr. Albert Stevens, a young man about seventeen years old, who was practicing with a revolver. Mr. O'Brian requested him to shoot the ferocious convict, which he did, wounding him in the shoulder so that he was easily captured. They were both returned to their right." quarters in the prison.'

Our next story involves a placed on the wagon with a number of other boxes filled young man who had not even with boots and shoes, to be reached his teen years. From youngster distinguished himbuggy and was only captured

came forth from three of four hours."

"The buggy and horse stolen belonged to Mr. E. B. Shaw, of this city (Joliet), and if he attempted an was taken from in front of Mr. Granger's House, where Mr. Shaw had momentarily left it. The little cub when found, was "As soon as several miles away and had they had left the stopped with a farmer for the night, having first told him that his father had just bought the horse and that he was taking him home. The little fellow is a tramp and claimed to be from Chicago, and is about nine years old and small for his

> Hopping a freight was a common infraction of the law. November 23, 1876, "One young gentleman of Irish extraction, aged about 15, was marched into the calaboose on Saturday evening for jumping a moving railroad train - a common trick of the hoodlums about town now-a-days. A sympathizing son of Israel (a Jewish person) came near sharing the "lonely cell" on the same occasion. Serves 'em

Young love is the cause of the next criminal deed. From February 1, 1879, "James Hanley and James Broderich, July 15, 1876, "A precocious the two young ruffians who shot and nearly killed Miss self in the town of Homer a few Sullivan on the public highway days ago. He stole a horse and near Braidwood last fall, and were at the time, released on

were Friday morning taken to Joliet by Deputy Sheriff Stewart. Bail was taken by State's Attorney Flanders, in the sum of \$1,200 each for their appearance when wanted by the circuit court, which is now in session. This shooting was done, it is claimed, because Miss Sullivan refused to dance with one of the indicted parties at a ball, and was in all respects an aggravated

The young ladies in this story, while in trouble, let fear overwhelm them. "Freda January 20, 1911, Kempa, aged 17, and Stella Maxwell, aged 18, two Joliet young ladies were arrested Tuesďay in Lemont, and placed in the jail there for having fur garments in their possession which it is said were taken from a dance hall in that "The young ladies for fear

of public scorn chose death to disgrace, and Wednesday evening during the absence of the jailer deliberately set fire to their clothing, turning their bodies into living torches. When discovered they were horribly burned and later placed on a train and taken to Joliet where they both died Thursday. The former young lady was well known in Florence where she had resided with her sister, Mrs. A. Roush, for several months.'

WHS seniors of the week

BY BRIDGET KNOWLES WHS STUDENT REPORTER

Each week the Free Press Advocate features seniors from the Class of 2021. Wilmington seniors this include week Daniel Sanders and Evelyn Shepherd.

Daniel Sanders

What do you plan to pursue upon graduation? I plan to attend JJC to get my paramedic degree and become a firefighter/paramedic

Do you have a hobby you're good at? I enjoy lifting and personally I'd say I'm pretty good at it.

What is one thing most people don't know about you? I have a deformity in my chest called pectus exca-

What is one skill you wish you had but don't? I wish I had the ability to jump high.

What is your favorite thing to eat? I would say anything seafood, I'm a big fan of seafood.

I want to give a shout out to (favorite staff mem*ber*)... Mr. Tyler, best teacher in my opinion at WHS. Very laid back guy and he will keep you on the right path if you choose to listen to him.

Famous person (dead or alive) you would like to meet and why? Russell Orhii would be the one guy I'd want to meet. He has been an inspiration to my fitness journey and that journey has changed me.

If you could create a class, what would it be? Affiliate marketing class

Funniest memory from high school? I don't think I have a funniest memory from high school, every experience you get to be around your friends and the staff at WHS are enjoyable

What advice would you give to underclassmen? Enjoy the time you have in high school. I know people tell you that all the time that it flies by, but it really does. Enjoy all of your friends in high school, you never know what will happen after high school. Set a goal in life, whether it has something to do with sports or a future job, but once you set that goal, chase it. Don't let anyone change your mind and do what you need to do.



DANIEL SANDERS



EVELYN SHEPHERD

Evelyn Shepherd

What do you plan to pursue upon graduation? I plan to go to college and study social work and psychology.

Do you have a hobby

you're good at? I like painting and watching Harry Potter movies. What is one thing most

people don't know about you? I'm a vegan.

What is one skill you wish you had but don't? I wish I could understand math but I cannot, Sorry Mr. Barnes.

What is your favorite thing to eat? Pasta for sure I want to give a shout

out to (favorite staff mem*ber*)... Drew Tyler Famous person (dead or

alive) you would like to meet and why? Ruth Bader Ginsburg because she's a queen. Oh, or Juice Wrld If you could create a

class, what would it be? A class on how to respect women. Yeah.

Funniest memory from high school?

What advice would you give to underclassmen? Walk on the right side of the hallway and if you're a freshman don't date a senior.

Students volunteer in feeding starving children



WHS NATIONAL HONOR Society and Tri-M Music Honor Society members recently spent the morning packing food at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora. Students from the two organizations earned volunteer hours while help children from around the world. Feed My Starving Children partners with donors who fund nutritious MannaPack meals, has volunteer groups like NHS and Tri-M come in daily to pack them and then ships them to countries with starving children. Students who participated include (from left) Ben Kavanaugh, Becca Horton, Rachel Wandless, Keegan Parsons, Jack Narine, Emily Watson, Emily Dooley, Ellen Dooley, Eren Overmyer, Gabrielle Mathus, Apryl Proffitt, Alee Vargocko, Payton Koopman, Evelyn Shepherd, Jake Plese, Kinsey Roth and Haley Crescenti.

BURKINA

WILMINGTON NHS and Tri-M members work together to pack food for people all around the world at the Feed My Starving Children facility in Aurora. Work was completed while social distancing. Helping are (from left) Ben Kavanaugh, Ellen Dooley, Gabrielle Mathus, Eren Overmyer and Emily Dooley.

We've tripled our giving!

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- Pneumonia

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You're fired

CUSTER PARK-What's so hard about conceding an election? It's pretty certain that Joe Biden has won the presidency. Yet loser Trump is refusing to concede and instead is forcing millions of dollars to be spent on legal proceedings that will end up going nowhere. Come on ex-president Trump, just admit you've been fired by America's voters.

Election questions

SHADOW LAKES—What I'm very surprised at in my lifetime of voting is that the liberal media has already confirmed Biden as President-elect. He has also been on TV announcing some of his plans as President-elect when states have not confirmed their votes yet. So how can he be President elect? It's simple, liberal media is projecting this without any confirmation. There were 100,000 votes that showed up in Pennsylvania with the only part of the ballots that were filled out was for president, nothing else, and they were all for Biden, which raises some questions. In Michigan, 140,000 votes were mysteriously found and these were all mailed in and it happened right after Biden had his campaign there. If you remember back when Al Gore ran for president it took 30 days before he was actually confirmed the loser. So the liberal media is really jumping at something because they want Biden. Why? I don't know. Dan Hill

Celebration will end

COAL CITY—All the people who are enjoying the election of Joe Biden for president had better enjoy celebrating now. When he gets through enforcing the things that he is going to do after the inauguration, the people that elected him president will discover that their lives will also be affected by the new rules which they will also have to obey. And when the employment is taken over by China again and all their taxes will rise, then maybe you can say to yourself, what have I done, my children will not be able to live the American dream. But every person from foreign lands will have the American dream handed to them on a silver platter while Americans become third class citizens and have to cater to every foreign country. Good luck trying to survive while government employees live on easy street.

America going to pot

COAL CITY—I read voters in Arizona, Montana, New Jersey and South Dakota approved to legalize recreational marijuana. Now 15 states as well as Washington D.C. allow recreational marijuana use and 36 permit for medical usage. Oregon residents voted to decriminalize possession of small amounts of harder drugs like cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine. It's like a sledge hammer is being taken to the war on drugs. Brain specialists will confirm using those drugs causes brain damage. Next the users will be wanting their marijuana for free.

Sold out America

WILMINGTON—According to the news media we have a president named Joe Biden. They say he is a great world leader, so let's take a short look at his resume. Joe Biden was involved with giving over \$1 billion to Iran. Joe Biden may have some ties with his son's involvement with the Chinese corporation. Joe Biden stated on the news that he demanded the individual in

Ukraine be fired that was investigating this corporation while his son was on the board of directors or Ukraine would not receive any aid from the USA. The individual was fired from the investigation within six hours and Joe Biden bragged about this on the news. He is truly a great leader that sold out the USA once and he will sell out our country again so that the Democrat party in Washington DC can play mommy and daddy to American citizens. Everyone should go get a dictionary and look up the words traitor and

What a fake

WILMINGTON—Did you see Trump lay a wreath at the tomb of the unknown sucker?

Like a vacation

BRAIDWOOD—Gov. Pritzker gets on TV to announce that COVID numbers are going up so what happens next? We have state offices, yes with all those government paid workers, close up before the day this through. The DMV locked up its doors, now the court system is talking

about closing down. That's like giving all those employees a paid vacation at a time when this state can least afford it. If these state agencies are going to close then the governor should force them all to take furlough days.

Hand them over

WILMINGTON— I don't know why Trump won't give Biden the daily intelligence briefings, it's not like he reads them.

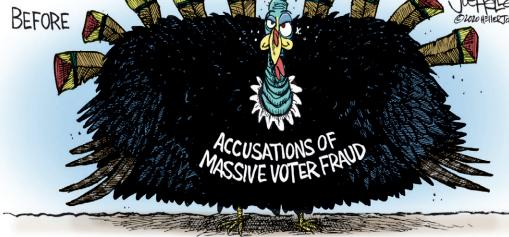
Check red states

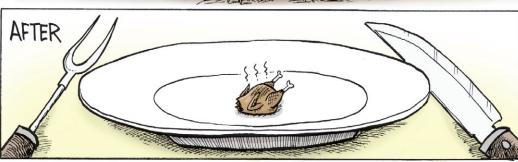
WILMINGTON—Why isn't the GOP suing states that Trump won? Maybe there were ballots illegally cast for the president in

Life flows by

COAL CITY—It is easy to be pleasant when life flows by like a song, but the man worthwhile is the one who will smile when everything goes dead wrong. For the test of the heart is trouble and it always comes with years and the smile that is worth the praises of earth is the smile that shines their tears.

An avid President Trump supporter





PLUCKED

Winter is coming

COAL CITY—I read that 33 million Americans are unem ployed. Thanks to an extra \$600 per week in expanded unemployment benefits some of them got more money from unemployment than their old wages. But Congress let that supplement expire in August and the jobless are facing a desperate sit uation as their savings quickly dwindle. White-color layoffs are mounting. Many had been able to work from home. Corporate America is tightening its belt in anticipation of a rough economic winter. Europe is going into lockdown. What's happening in Europe is a leading indicator for the USA for sure to anticipate a rough economic winter.

No blue wave

COAL CITY—The Democrats spent \$1 billion to win the election. The Blue Wave did not happen. Their plan was to take over the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives by 10-12 seats. We remain a very much divided country. There seems to be something sinful spending that kid of money on an election while many are struggling to make ends meet. Trump voters still make up half the country. Political polling is a fraud

Still lying

COAL CITY—Donald Trump ran for president twice in the last five years. Both times he lost the popular vote by millions of votes. Due to the electoral college he served the last four years as president, but this time he lost. He told us a few weeks ago that we were rounding the curve on the coronavirus. He failed to mention that around the curve are the hospital and the cemetery. Trump, unfortunately, is not man enough to accept reality and admit he lost. The whiny lowlife continues to make up unfounded lies about the election and thus underminds our democracy, but that is exactly what his benefactor Mr. Putin wants him to do.

Why invoke God?

WILMINGTON—It's Saturday and I'm watching the rally for Trump and these people keep invoking God, but if He was really on their side wouldn't Trump have won?

Biden the actor

SHADOW LAKES-Why is it the day after the election Biden is standing in front of a blue wall with the printing presidentelect? That has never happened in my voting history. Also, CNN always had a little news print on the bottom of how bad the Coronavirus is. After they announced Biden won you can no longer see it there. Does anyone have an answer? Maybe Biden waved a magic wand and it's gone? After all, he is quite an actor.

Letter to the editor

The costs of failing to protect our planet

the health of humanity is inextricably tied to the health of nature. As explorers, we have witnessed the wonder of our world's biodiversity firsthand. However, we have also seen the threats it faces - and the clear correlation between pronatural security abroad and strengthening our national security at home.

During Geography Awareness Week, it is appropriate to consider how actions on the other side of the planet can affect us here in the United States. When tropical forests are destroyed, fisheries collapse, coral reefs die off, or elephants are killed by ivory traffickers, this 'nature loss' has catastrophic impacts that can ripple across the globe. There is much uncertainty in this world, but one thing is clear: America's security and prosperity depend in part on protecting our planet's eco-

logical integrity and stopping There is no question that criminals from robbing its nat-

ural resources for profit. The past year has driven home the costs of failing to protect our planet. We've seen record breaking hurricanes and wildfires, and our health and economy are suffering from a new disease that, like other pandemics, originated from the exploitation of wildlife and nature.

The good news is we have effective and affordable solutions to address these problems, starting with U.S. government investments in international conservation. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and conserving nature can help us prevent many future challenges. As a new political era dawns, enhancing our natural securitv should be among America's top priorities. Thank you,

Ashlan

Philippe



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It pays to get a flu shot



Anita Goulding of Trinity Services. The staff and clients at Trinity Services recently held a flu shot day at its Buchanan Street facility when 52 people were vaccinated. For each shot Oak Knoll Financial will donated \$5 to each of three local charities including the Christian Help Association, Kuzma Care Cottage and the Caring Closet. Goulding said this is the third year in a row Trinity Services has held a clinic on site, making it convenient for workers and clients. "We can't afford to have the flu spread through our facility so it makes more sense to get vaccinated. Plus the incentive by Oak Knoll Financial in donating to the community helps too," Goulding said. Anyone who recently has been vaccinated can bring their receipt to Oak Knoll at 207 S. Water St., Wilmington through Dec. 31

Springfield moves to fine people \$50 for not wearing masks

BY GREG BISHOP THE CENTER SQUARE

Potential fines for businesses that don't follow COVID-19 masking mandates have been in place for months across the state, but some municipalities are taking the mandate further, including the city of Springfield

Springfield will now issue fines to people who don't wear a mask when required.

The Springfield city council held back a resolution that requires bars and restaurants with indoor dining to have 25 percent capacity and require patrons to answer a questionnaire. Local officials are allowing indoor dining despite Gov. J.B. Pritzker's blanket prohibition he's issued in regions across the state because of increased COVID-19 positivity

While Springfield leaders held back the resolution laying out the local guidelines to allow indoor service, it passed a mandate, not just for businesses, but for individuals with a \$50 fine if they are caught by police without a mask inside a bar, restaurant or retailer.

Springfield Mayor Jim Langfelder said the ordinance requires individuals to wear a mask while indoors at a bar, restaurant or retailer. He said the civil penalty will be in place as long as necessary and enforcement is immediate.

"Right now a restaurant can be cited, right now," Langfelder said. "The addition is really the \$50 per violation for the individual.

Alderman McMenamin said the ordinance cuts through having multiple steps for immediate enforcement.

"I think this is trying to get right to the police officer eyeballing the violation, someone being maskless, and writing the citations," McMenamin

McMenamin attempted to amend the measure to remove an exemption for someone who claims to have a medical condition, but that provision remains in the ordinance.

Illinois Retail Merchants Association's Rob Karr said the move puts the onus on the individual, not the business

"You can't physically detain them, you open your selves up to a lot of different charges of discrimination, Karr said. "So it is where it belongs, having the enforcement done by law enforce-

ment and on individuals." Karr said he'd like to see a statewide mandate, but urged other communities to follow

Illinois Municipal League Executive Director Brad Cole applauded the city for the

Springfield is believed to the first municipality in Illinois to pass such a measure.

Illinois facing long-term deficits, growing bill backlog

BY PETER HANCOCK CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD - A new

report from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget shows that without significant new revenue, spending cuts or a combination of both, the state will face a budget deficit of \$3.9 billion in the current fiscal year and continuing deficits of \$4 billion or more in each of the next five

It also projects that the state's backlog of unpaid bills could grow to as much as \$33 billion by fiscal year 2026, up from the current backlog total of about \$7.8 billion, if lawmakers do not make structural

"Sizeable deficits in the general funds budget are projected for fiscal years 2022 through 2026, ranging from \$4.8 billion in fiscal year 2022 and falling to \$4.2 billion by fiscal year 2026," the report stat-

The report does not actually predict that those deficits will occur. Instead, it is intended to show what would happen under the state's current revenue structure and spending obligations.

The report, which was released late Friday, Nov. 13, attributes much of the current fiscal year's deficit to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in dramatic revenue losses for state and local governments

throughout the country. But it also notes that vot-

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Pritzker's proposed constitutional amendment to allow for a graduated income tax on the Nov. 3 ballot - which would have allowed higher tax rates to be levied on people with state will have fewer tools at its disposal to address its ongoing "structural" budget deficits.

Revenue officials had estimated that passage of the budget to balance would harm amendment would have brought in an additional \$1.2 billion during the last six months of the current fiscal year, and roughly \$3.2 billion per year after that. But the rejection of that amendment now means lawmakers and the administration will have to look elsewhere for solutions.

'Looking ahead to the fiscal year 2022 budget [which begins July 1, 2021] and recognizing that Illinois continues to face significant financial challenges, there are limited ways to address the structural deficit of the state budget in the absence of the tax rate structure flexibility that would have though, how much the state been provided under the could raise through such changes in the proposed constitutional amendment," the would be enough to address report stated.

advised state agency directors to prepare for a 5% budget reduction this year, and to make plans for a potential 10% cut in fiscal year 2022, which begins July 1. But the report says even that would not be enough to close the gap between anticipated revenues and expenditures, and that Pritzker is unwilling to make

ers' rejection of Gov. JB deeper cuts, which means he will have to seek legislative approval for some form of tax

According to the report, one of the options being considered is some form of tax higher incomes - means the increase or elimination of corporate and business tax "loop-

> "As the cuts that would be required to bring Illinois' education and human services programs and damage essential areas of the state's economy, the Governor continues to believe that cuts alone cannot be the solution and revenue adjustments need to be considered as well," the report states. "The Governor will work with the legislature to identify corporate and business tax loopholes that can be closed and tax adjustments that can be made that will minimize the impact to lower-and middleclass families while ensuring that Illinois can meet its finan-

> cial responsibilities.' unclear, remains measures or whether that the state's long-term revenue problems.

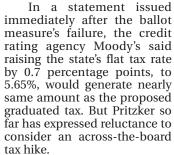
Illinois 126 to close

The Illinois Department of Transportation announces that repairs to the Canadian National Railway crossing on Illinois 126, just east of Illinois 59 in Plainfield, will require a full closure now through Nov.

detour will direct vehicular traffic to Illinois 59, 135th Street/Pilcher Road and Essington Road. Truck traffic will be detoured to Illinois 59, U.S. 30, northbound Interstate 55, Weber Road exit, southbound Interstate 55 and Illinois 126 exit.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this

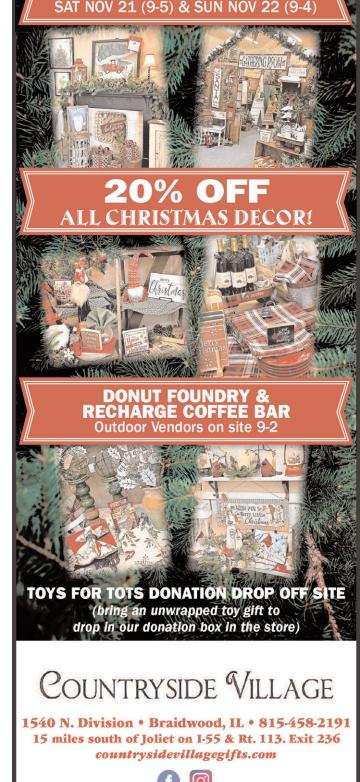
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"There's a lot on the table. We've got to look at cuts first, and we're all looking at that" Pritzker said during his daily COVID-19 briefing in Chicago Monday. "I think those cuts will be somewhat painful, and then we'll consider all the other options about what we need to do in order to get to balance for FY21 and moving

Another short-term option is to borrow from the Federal Reserve's Municipal Liquidity Facility, which lawmakers authorized during their special session in May, but the GOMB report notes that would only add to the state's debt obligations, and the projected budget deficits in future years.

The report also notes that zker remains honeful that the federal government will provide another round of economic stimulus to help troubled state and local governments offset the revenues they have lost during the pandemic. But it also acknowledges that federal aid will not solve Illinois' ongoing budget prob-



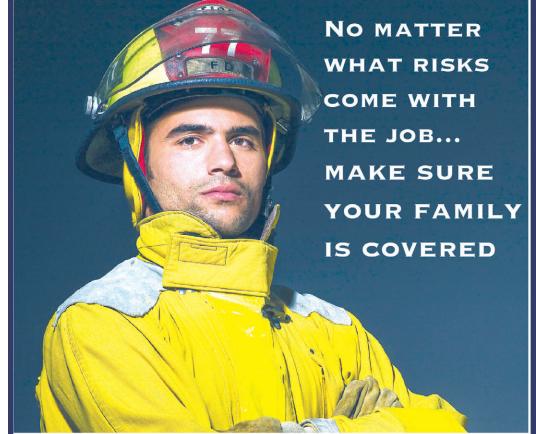
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Post 1336 observes Veterans Day

The Free Press Advocate, The Braidwood Journal, The Coal City Courant, Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2020, page 6

Tropical storm Eta with 50 mph winds and flooding rain couldn't stop the Floridian Club of Sarasota and St. Juvin Post 1336 Veterans of Foreign Wars from sponsoring a Veterans Day luncheon for 24 vets and guests. Veterans and guests enjoyed lunch and a patriotically deco-

rated cake along with the camaraderie usually found when vets gather. Post 1336 past commander Charlie Brown and his wife,

Coal City's St. Juvin Post and the Floridian Club also sponsor a monthly veteran's coffee and doughnut event at the Venice, FL housing development.

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How to track down old friends online

SAVVY SENIOR

Jim Miller

I'm interested in tracking down some old friends I've lost touch with over the years but could use some help. What websites can you recommend that can help me find them? Tracking Tom

Dear Tom,

Thanks to the Internet, tracking down long-lost friends from many years ago is relatively easy to do and, in most cases, it won't cost you a cent. Here are some tips and online tools to help you get started.

Before you begin your search, a good first step is to jot down any information you can remember or find out about the people you're trying to locate. Things like their full name (maiden and married), age or birth date, last known address or phone number, old e-mail address, names of family members, etc. Knowing details can help you turn up clues while you search.

After you compile your information, a good place to start your search is at social media sites like Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram. And search engines

like Google and Yahoo.

When using search engines, type in the name of the person you're searching for in quotation marks, for example, "John Smith." You can narrow your search by adding other criteria like their nickname or middle name, the city or

their occupation. If your initial search

comes up empty, you can also people searches like AnyWho.com, Intelius.com or WhitePages.com. These sites will provide a list of potential matches from across the U.S. Because many people

share the same name, these sites will also supply details to help identify the right person, perhaps including their age, prior hometowns, names of relatives, colleges attended or employer. While these sites are free

to use at a basic level, they charge a small fee for providing certain details like the per-

information. WhitePages, however, sometimes provides home phone numbers for free.

Here are a few other niche people-finding websites to help you with your search.

To look for old high school classmates, try

state they may live in, or even Classmates.com. This site has contact information only for people who have registered with it. But even if your friend hasn't registered, it could provide contact info for another classmate who remains in touch with your friend.

Another option is to check out your high school alumni website. Not every school has its own site, but some do, and you can look for it by going to any search engine and typing in the name of the school with the city and state it's located in. You can also search at AlumniClass.com, a huge hosting site for thousands of high schools across the U.S.

If you're looking for old visit SavvySenior.org.

alumni directory on the school's website. You might be able to access your friend's contact info by completing an online registration. Or, try calling or emailing your alumni relations department and ask them to pass on your contact info to your friend.

If you're looking for someone you served with in the military, Military.com offers a free "Buddy Finder" service that has a database of more than 20 million records Military.com/buddy-finder. You can also search for free at G I s e a r c h . c o m , TogetherWeServed.com and VetFriends.com.

If you can't find any current information about the person you're searching for, it could be that he or she is dead. To find out if that's the case, use obituary databases such as Tributes.com and Legacy.com, which has a newspaper obituary search tool from hundreds of U.S. newspapers.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or

Library to host family reading night

The Coal City Public Library will celebtate a Virtual Family Reading Night with the theme "Dig Deeper: Read, Investigate, Discover."

Join the library staff as it observes the state of Illinois' Family Reading Night virtually.

Complete at least three of the activities on the Choice Board posted on their Facebook page beginning at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19 to receive a small prize bag of goodies.

Google forms must be filled out by Tuesday, Nov. 24 at 8 p.m. to receive your prize. Register only if you want to do the craft and the Secret Decoder, so the library can get the supplies. Otherwise, participants can stop in to pick up a recording sheet. Activities to choose from include Masked Readers who will read a story and you guess who the reader is, crafts, escape room and

CCPLD also offers digital resources that are fun, interactive and educational such as ABCMouse.com, only available in library; BiblioBoard, Novelist Plus, and TumbleBooks. These resources can be accessed from the library website at www.ccpld.org using a CCPLD library card. For more information call the library at 815-634-4552.

Woman's Club makes birthdays brigher



GFWC-IL COAL City Junior Woman's Club collected items for Birthday Bags for Advocate for Children's Week in October. Some of the items the bags held were cake mixes, frostings, cake plates, napkins, small toys, bracelets, birthday badges, as well as other items to assist parents in having a birthday party for their child. These bags were donated to Help for Hope. Coal City Juniors are "making a difference" in the lives of others. Anyone wishing to help make a difference in our community are welcome to join. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month September-June at 6:30 p.m. in person and virtually. Pictured are Marsha Vaughn, Coal City Junior member and Cathy Milne of Help for Hope.

claims remain high in Illinois

BY CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

As the number of infections and hospitalizations for COVID-19 are setting daily records, new unemployment claims continued pouring in to the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

During the week that ended Saturday, Nov. 7, IDES reported, 67,158 workers filed first-time unemployment claims, down roughly 9% from the previous week, but still more than six times the number who filed such claims during the same week a year ago.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, 338,899 Illinois workers were receiving continuing unemployment benefits during the week, down about 1% from the previous week.

In addition, another 9,726 people filed initial claims for Unemployment Pandemic Assistance, a federally-funded program for gig workers, independent contractors and others who don't normally qualify for traditional unemployment

Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker noted that the PUA system has been plagued by fraud nationwide, and he blamed federal officials for failing to enact adequate controls to prevent

Unemployment Make a Difference Day



FOR MAKE A Difference Day, the GFWC-IL Coal City Junior Woman's Club collected new socks and underwear for those in need. They collected 149 pairs of socks and 58 pairs of underwear and delivered them to Help for Hope. Seats and Feet's: Coal City Juniors will continue to collect new socks and underwear as well as blankets and throws. There will be a collection bin at the Coal City Library or contact any club member to donate. Items will be collected through Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021. All donated items will be delivered to Help for Hope. Everyone is encouraged to show kindness to others through giving. Pictured is Marsha Vaughn (left), Coal City Junior Club member and Cathy Milne from Help for Hope.

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Braidwood Lions to collect used Christmas lights

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

Collection bins will be located inside Whitmore Ace Hardware in Braidwood and Coal City, and inside Braidwood City Hall until

31st. The strands of lights will be recycled by the

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

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

As the cold comes, warm up with a Hot Whiskey

ward to cold weather, but I do look forward to the first Hot Whiskey of the year. This week we will take a look at a drink with no "official" recipe, many regional variants, and a legend that has survived every winter for over 200 years.

The Hot Whiskey is technically a Hot Toddy that calls for whiskey, it becomes a Hot Toddy when a spirit other than whiskey is used. The recipe below works with nearly any dark, aged spirit. Aged rum, brandy, and cognac are all popular spirit options in the Hot Toddy.

The "hot" anything is

more of a platform than it is a recipe. The platform traces its roots back to a time when nearly all cocktails were served hot. A few cocktails may have been served at room temperature, but most were served hot. Why? Because in the era before commercially available ice, there were simply no other options.

Hot Toddy-type cocktails were popular during the Colonial era, and were often prepared in large batches to be served to weary travelers in early American inns and taverns. The hot drinks of this era likely used brandy, or dark rum which was acquired via trade

Meanwhile, the Irish were enjoying Hot Whiskey using their own Irish whiskies, and the Scots were doing the same. Is there a "best" whiskey for the Hot Whiskey? There

sure is, and it's the whiskey in your cabinet. Use your favorite if you have one. If you do not have a favorite, use bourbon. Bourbon is great in the Hot Whiskey because it pairs well with honey and brings natural vanilla/oak flavor notes to the

If you decide to use scotch or Irish whiskey, used acter and are better suited to whiskey or pure lemon juice.

hot drinks. For example: most something sweet, and something sour. In a Hot Whiskey, the sweet comes to us through the honey, and the sour is the fresh lemon juice.

Sure, there is no ice to dilute the Hot Whiskey, but the drink has plenty of dilution due to the hot water. Speaking a quality "tempered" mug. of the hot water, there are some advantages to mixing a drink with hot water. The main advantage to using hot water is the dissolvability of granulated sugar and honey. In a cold drink, granulated sugar simply will not dissolve. This is why simple syrup is used in most cold drinks as opposed to granulated sugar or raw honey.



Brian Rung

honey if you are not a fan of honey. Sugar works quite in Hot Whiskey, be sure to use a "dark" sugar. Brown sugar or demerara sugar will bring a nice complexity to the drink and will not overpower the whiskey. The hot water does a great job of taming ingredients that

something blended. Blends would normally overpower a are typically smoother in chardrink, such as a lower quality

How hot should the water The same general mixolo- in the Hot Whiskey be? It gy principles that work in cold should be hotter than warm, drinks will also work well in but not boiling. I guess the optimal temperature for the whiskey cocktails are spirit, Hot Whiskey would be "simmering", about to boil. This way the water will be hot enough to dissolve your honey or sugar, and will be at a nice warm temp long enough to finish the drink.

> Start your water in a saucepan on the stove, serve in

> If you have a Hot Toddy/Hot Whiskey fan in your family, you may have noticed their crockpot filled with whiskey, water, honey, apples, cinnamon, oranges, cloves, and you name it. The sky really is the limit here, the recipe below is merely a jumping off point for your own version of Hot Whiskey. Any combination of the aforementioned ingredi

ents will work, I also add a dash is a delicious way to dissolve Whiskey.

If you are serving a group, heat enough water to fill the mugs. Once your water is heated, add the water to the mugs and follow the recipe below. When serving Hot Whiskey, garnish each mug music. Hang in there, and with a lemon wheel or lemon remember that with each setwedge, and a cinnamon stick Whiskey with a cinnamon stick

drink.

I get it. Winter is coming, and that means shoveling sidewalks, disappointment in college football teams not named Clemson or Alabama, and two solid months of Christmas ting of the sun we are one day Stirring the Hot closer to the end of 2020.

I'll drink to that.

The classic Hot Whiskey is of Angostura Bitters to my Hot the honey or sugar into the built and served in a preheated tempered mug.

Combine in mug: 3/4 cup hot water 1 1/2 oz. whiskey

2 to 3 teaspoons honey 2 to 3 teaspoons fresh lemon juice

Stir until honey dissolves Garnish with lemon wheel and cinnamon stick

Until next week, enjoy responsibly.

USE IT or **LOSE IT**

As this year comes to a close, vour vision care benefits may also expire.

Now is the time to book an appointment with Dr. Emily or Dr. Gregory and take full advantage of your insurance benefits. Hurry before the new year arrives!

* Ask if your vision benefits may also be used toward Maui Jim, Kate Spade and other designer sunglasses





501 S. Locust St. (Rt. 50) · Manteno

Democrats cancel veto session

Speaking of sugar, go

BY CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD - The fall veto session of the Illinois General Assembly that was scheduled to begin this week has been canceled amid a worsening COVID-19 pandem-

leaders Democratic announced their decision to cancel the session, prompting Republicans to question the motives behind that decision. House Speaker Michael

Madigan and Senate President Harmon, both Democrats, said that the decision was made out of concern for the safety of lawmakers, staff, their families and the general public, although they left open the possibility that it could be rescheduled if public health conditions improve.

Lawmakers typically hold a brief session in the fall to deal with any legislation from the regular session that was vetoed by the governor. This year's

session was scheduled to run Nov. 17-19 and Dec. 1-3.

This year, however, there were no vetoes to deal with, largely because the regular session was severely shortened due to the pandemic, which reached its initial peak in April and early May. The House and Assembly officially comes to Senate held a brief, four-day special session in late May,

Since early October, however, cases throughout the state have been rising sharply to levels exceeding those of the early pandemic phase, particularly in Region 3 of central Illinois, which includes the capital city.

Even though there were no pressing veto issues to deal with, the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus had hoped to use the veto session to advance its agenda of racial justice and equity reforms across a wide ated income tax amendment range of issues - an agenda on that both Harmon and Madigan said they would sup-

But Senator Kimberly Lightford, D-Maywood, the Senate Majority Leader and chair of the ILBC, said those issues would have to wait until it is safe for the General Assembly to convene.

General The 101st an end on Jan. 12, the day before the next session begins and newly-elected and reelected lawmakers are sworn into office. If the committee does not conclude its work before then, Republicans will have to petition again to form a new committee in the next General Assembly.

Democratic Gov. Pritzker, who had hoped to use the veto session to get legislative approval for significant budget cuts in the wake of the failure of his proposed gradu-Election Day, expressed disappointment over the cancellation.



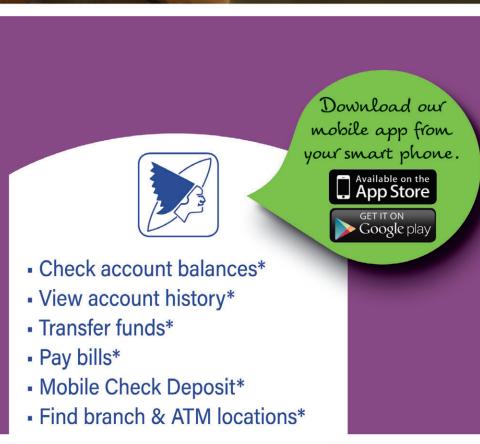
Run dates: Nov. 23 & 25 to 19,300 homes





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OBITUARIES

_ Connie J. Adams_

BRAIDWOOD—Connie J. Adams (nee Fielder), 63, of Braidwood, passed away Monday, Nov. 16, 2020 at the Joliet Area Community Hospice Home in Joliet.

She was born Feb. 8, 1957 in Joliet. Connie married Harry "Jim" Adams on Feb. 28, 1976 in Wilmington. She previously taught Sunday School and Kindergarten at the Christian Faith Center in Wilmington. She was a member of the Christian Life Assembly in Diamond. Connie enjoyed making jewelry, shopping and her two

Adams; one son, Todd Adams, of Custer Park; arrangements.

her mother, Margaret (nee Sullivan) Fielder, of Wilmington and one brother, Mark (Donna) Fielder of Braidwood.

Robert Fielder and one brother, Bob Fielder.

at Oakwood Cemetery in Wilmington.

online guestbook, log on to www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com.

Surviving are her husband, Harry James 401 E. Main St., Braidwood is in charge of

Charlie Hart ____

Hart, 83, of Braidwood and formerly of Westchester, IL, passed away Friday, Nov. 13, 2020 at Morris Hospital. Born Oct. 3, 1937 in Waukesha, WI, Charles Owen was a son of Francis "Frank" and Ida Elizabeth (Bolland) Hart. He moved to Westchester at an early age with his family where he was raised and educated. Charlie graduated

BRAIDWOOD—Charlie

from Proviso High School with the class of 1955 and went on to honorably serve in the United States Army. On Oct. 30, 1960, Charlie married Karen Čompton in Westchester and together they made their home and raised their family in Westchester until moving to Braidwood after his retirement.

Charlie worked as a lineman for Commonwealth Edison and retired after 37 years of faithful service. He was a charter member of Westchester Community Church; belonged to CECO Recreation Club, where he served on the board for more than 25 years; was a member of Midwest Street Rod Association (MSRA) and was currently serving on the coun-

cil for the City of Braidwood.

One who truly enjoyed being retired, Charlie remained active with various hobbies. He was an avid purist woodworker, who leaves behind countless handmade white oak pieces both big and small. In addition he cherished his 32 Ford three window coupe street rod, and took pleasure in being in the yard and gardening. Charlie will be missed over early morning coffee meetings with the guys, and afternoon

Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Karen; son, David (Tina) Hart, of Port Orchard, WA; two daughters, Julie Hart, of Wilmington and Tracy (Jeffrey) Markey, of Westchester; eight grandchildren: Katelin (Colt) Monroe, of Wilmington; Christine (Damien) O'Brien, of Australia; Martin Patrick, of Kentucky; Bobby Markey and Olivia Markey, both of Westchester and Tad Campbell, Zachary Campbell and Preceding her in death were her father,

Cremation rites have been accorded. Private services will be held. Inurnment will be

For more information and to visit her

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory,

Hanna Campbell, all of Washington; three great-grandchildren: Revan, Luke and Anabelle; one brother, Jon (Betty) Hart, of Sun City, AZ; four brothers-in-law and sisters-inlaw; one niece, Elizabeth (Kevin) Drum and nephew, Peter (Linda) Hart, in addition to more than 100 nieces and nephews on Karen's

side of the family; numerous great-nieces and great-nephews, as well as cousins including his cousin, Jim Hart, of Oquawka, IL who was like a brother to Charlie. Charlie was preceded in death by his par-

ents and one son, Brian Hart on Nov. 5, 2013. Per Charlie's wishes, green flameless cremation rites have been accorded.

Due to the current restrictions of the pandemic, a private family memorial service will be held at Coal City United Methodist Church with Reverend Brad Shumaker officiating.
Those wishing to participate in Charlie's

memorial are welcome to join the live streamed service available on Charlie's memorial page, Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 beginning at 11 a.m. Charlie will be laid to rest in Abraham

Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood with full military honors at a later date. Preferred memorials may be made as gifts

Charlie's memory to Westchester Community Church, 1840 Westchester Blvd., Westchester, IL 60154 or to a charity of the Family and friends are encouraged to sign

the guestbook, upload photographs, join the live stream memorial, and share Charlie's memorial page online through social media by logging onto: www.ReevesFuneral.com/obituary/Charlie-Hart

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

Joyce Brimer____

WILMINGTON—Joyce Antoinette Brimer (nee Righton), 79, of Wilmington, passed away Friday, Nov. 13, 2020 at home.

Born April 14, 1941 in Chicago, IL, she was the daughter of Stanley and Petronella (nee Proncketis) Righton. Joyce married Donald A. Brimer on Aug. 20, 1960 in Chicago. She was previously an administrative assistant for Lemont School District. Joyce enjoyed her card club and attending her grandkids sporting events. She was a member of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Wilmington.

Surviving are one son, Daniel (Dawn) Brimer, of Wilmington and two daughters, Dawn Peatross and Susan (Karl) Ruraede, both 401 E. Main St., Braidwood is in charge of of Wilmington; five grandchildren: Lynsey arrangements.

Marshall, Tyler and Madison Brimer and Kelsey and Kendall Peatross; one greatgrandchild, Kaelen Kelly; two sisters, Audrey Manley and Wynn Righton, both of Lockport, IL.

WWW.FREEPRESSNEWSPAPERS.COM

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, Donald A. Brimer (Jan. 2, 2009); one son, Richard Brimer and son-in-law, Randy Peatross.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial service will be held at a later date. For more information and to visit

online guestbook, log on to www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory,

₋ Edward L. Pierard —

COAL CITY-Edward L Pierard, 85, and a lifelong resident of Coal City, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 at Riverside Rehabilitation

Center in Kankakee.

Born April 18, 1935 in Coal City, Edward Louis was a son of Ernest Joseph and Talia (Farrero) Pierard. He was raised in Coal City; graduated from Coal City High School with the class of 1953, and later went on to earn his Associates in Applied Science from Joliet Junior College.

Edward honorably served in the United States Army, as well as the United States Corps Reserves from 1957-1963. On Sept. 23, 1961 Edward married Lorraine Novotney in St. Stephen Church in Streator, and together they made their home and raised their family in Coal City. Ed was a member of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church in Coal City and retired from Exelon in 1992, following 33 years of faithful service.

Remembered for his sharp sense of humor and financial savviness, Ed took pleasure in automobiles and computers, as well as watch-

Survivors include his loving wife of 59 years, Lorraine; four children: Mark Pierard, of Summerville, SC; Aaron Pierard, of Rumford, RI; Monique Pierard Freeman, of Joliet and Brandan Pierard, of Bloomington, IL; five grandchildren: Michael Pierard, of Rumford; Derek Freeman, of Joliet; Justin Pierard, of Bloomington; Mason Freeman, of Joliet and Talia Pierard, of Bloomington; brother, Ernest Pierard, of Santa Fe, NM and several nieces and nephews, as well as dear friends, Pete Giaudrone and Tom Fedash.

Edward was preceded in death by his par-

ents; son, Jason Edward in infancy (1970); sister, Alice Fedash Pierard and brother,

> Green flameless cremation rites have been accorded.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2020 at 11 a.m. in Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church, 215 S. Kankakee St. in Coal City. Reverend Robert Noesen will preside.

Due to current pandemic guide-lines, face masks will be required for attendees and measures of safe social distancing practices will be in order. The funeral home staff will assist the family not to exceed the safe number set forth for the service. Those wishing to participate in Ed's servic-

es remotely are welcome to join the live streamed service available through a link on his memorial page beginning at 11 a.m. on Nov. 25, Burial with full military honors will follow

in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, where Ed will be laid to rest with his son, Jason. Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Ed's memory to the Assumption Catholic

Church Building Fund, Joliet Area Community Hospice or to Mercy Home for Boys and Girls. Family and friends are encouraged to sign the guest book, upload photographs and share Ed's memorial page online through social logging media www.ReevesFuneral.com/obituary/Edward-

Green flameless cremation services and memorial arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves Funeral

Homes, Ltd. in Coal City.

Wanda Lou Johnson

ELWOOD-Wanda Lou Johnson, nee Button, 82, of Elwood, surrounded by love from her four adult children and while holding her husband's hand, breathed her last breath in comfort and peace and was welcomed into the presence of God on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 at 11:50 a.m. Wanda was born in Joliet on Oct. 6, 1938 to Vernon and Lucille (Walker) Button and grew up in the Ridgewood neighborhood. She and her loving husband of 61 years, Gerald (Jerry) Dennis Johnson, raised their family in Elwood. Wanda has been under hos-

pice care at Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will

County since January 2020. An inspiration to all who knew her for her

kindness, gentleness and integrity, Wanda graduated from Joliet Central High School in 1956. She then worked as an executive secretary at the United States Atomic Energy Commission and married the love of her life on Sept. 18, 1959. Together, she and Jerry grew a successful family grocery business that included JV Supermarket on Cass Street in Joliet, Festival Foods in Bourbonnais, and Food Expo stores in Kankakee and Streator. An accomplished bookkeeper and business administrator, Wanda's favorite career was as wife, mother and grand-

In addition to her husband, Jerry, Wanda is survived by their children: Susan (Christopher) Markgraf, Sharon (Cedric) Hentsch, Sandra (Mark) Chellios and Steven (Melanie) Johnson,

as well as her brother, Donald Button and brother-in-law, Ronald (Kathryn) Chaplin. She is the beloved grandmother of Matthew (Asia Burnett) Markgraf, Lindsy (Tyler) Chambers, Sarah (Adam Necklaws) Markgraf, Alex Johnson, Kyle (Malai) Chellios, Brittany Hentsch, Corinne (Kory) Mitcheff, Kali Hentsch and Hannah (Marcus Melancon) Johnson. Her beloved great-grandchildren provided Wanda with great joy. They are: Carson Chambers, Ellie Johnson,

Charlotte Chambers, Fitz Chellios, Griffin Markgraf, Mika Melancon and Briar Chellios. Wanda is also survived by many dear nieces and nephews. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Wanda is preceded in death by her parents, Vernon and Lucille Button; mother and fatherin-law, Verner and Corinne (Allendorf) Johnson; sister, Kathryn Sue (Button) Chaplin granddaughter, Lindsy

Funeral services were held on Monday, Nov. 16, 2020. Private Interment followed at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in

Memorials are appreciated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, www.stjude.org or the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org.

Wanda's arrangements were entrusted to Forsythe Gould Funeral Home in Manhattan, www.forsythegouldfh.com.

Joe A. Silvey -

ESSEX-Joe A. Silvey, 80, Essex, passed away peacefully, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 at his home.

Born June 6, 1940 in Xenia, IL, he was the son of Leslie and Mary (nee Cope) Silvey. He was a Veteran of the United States Army Reserves. He served on the former RUCE School Board and was a member of the Coal City United Methodist Church and was the former treasurer of the parsonage

committee for the Essex. Braceville at South Wilmington Methodist Churches. Joe was very active within his community, where he also served on the Essex Village Board, was a trauma coordinator for the Essex Ambulance, as well as a secretary, treasurer, EMT and Fireman for the Essex Fire District. If you knew Joe, you knew he had a love for gardening and will forever be remembered for his massive vegetable

He also had a love for sports and was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan. His children were his pride and joy; when they were in their youth he was passionate about coaching little league and the County West Soccer Association. Joe will be missed by many, but will never be for-

Surviving are his wife of 58 years, Pamela (nee Wells) Silvey, who he married June 1, 1962 in Flora, IL; two sons, Todd (Jo Beth) Silvey, of Elgin, IL and Brock (Justine) Silvey, of Evanston, IL; one daughter, Robin Egerton, of Mulberry, AR; seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, one sister, Fayeanne (Dale) Baker, of Farina, IL; one sister-in-law, Joy Silvey, of Leadbetter, KY and numerous nieces and nephews.

ents and his brother, Edward Silvey.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Private committal services will be at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in his name to the Coal City United Methodist Church or to Joliet Area Community Hospice Home would be appreciated.

For more information and to visit his online guestbook, log on to www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com or find them on Facebook.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, 401 E. Main St., Braidwood is in charge of arrangements.

Frances Strobel

WILMINGTON—Frances Strobel, 80, of Wilmington, passed away Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee.

Born Oct. 28, 1940 in South Amboy, NJ, Frances was a daughter of William Edward and Ruth Ann (nee Conner) Klegman. She was raised and educated in Coal City and graduated Coal City High School with the class of 1958. On Nov. 12, 1960, Frances married Douglas Strobel in Coal City. She was a member of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Wilmington and was active

with the County Line Kickers, line dancing group. Frances was a former board member of the Wilmington Public Library and remained a longtime supporter of the library. After high school, she was employed at the Joliet Arsenal and later in life enjoyed working with her sister, Peggy at Western World Racing Hut. She was accomplished at crocheting and enjoyed sharing her work with family and friends. She enjoyed playing tennis, gardening, cooking, and was dedicated to sending birthday cards and cards of celebration to those she knew and

loved. Survivors include her husband, Doug; three children: Reverend Scott (Reneé) Strobel, of Lockport, NY; Sandra (Ron) Van Epps, of Northfield, IL and Amy (Patrick) Burke, of Macomb, IL; 11 grandchildren: Douglas (Holly) Strobel, Michael (Ashalea) Strobel, Timothy (fiancé Hope) Strobel, Wesley (Anja) Strobel,

Jacob Strobel, Annika Strobel, Kaitlyn Strobel, Krista (fiancé Alex Bloom) Van Epps, Zachary Van Epps, Joseph Burke, and Edward Burke; three great-grandchildren: Clayton, Kira and Nathanael; two sisters, Patricia (Ron) Fox and Kimberly (Dave) Brown: one brother, James Klegman and three sisters-in-law:

Debbie Klegman, Ilene Kelgman

and Sheri Friddle, as well as

numerous nieces and nephews. Frances was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers: Donald (Carol) Klegman, Thomas Kelgman and William "Jersey" Klegman and two sisters, Cathy Broderick and Margaret "Peggy" Ragain.

Per Frances' wishes cremation rites are being accorded and memorial services are being planned for a later date. Frances will be laid to rest at Mount Olivet

Cemetery in Braidwood. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Frances' memory to Kuzma Care Cottage, Our Caring Closet, or to the Wilmington Fire

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

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

₋ Ronald Parsley ₋

WILMINGTON—Ronald Parsley, 62, of Wilmington, passed away Monday, Nov. 9, 2020 at his home.

Born May 29, 1958 in Smithville, TN, Ronald Earl was a son of Travis M. and Elvirda "Judy" (nee Saylors) Parsley. He was raised and educated in Wilmington and graduated from Wilmington High School with the class of 1976. On Oct. 2, 1976, Ronald married Kimberly Ann Jessen in Wilmington. Ronald had a passion of music and loved playing

Survivors include his wife, Kim Schleeter; daughter, Melissa (Michael Holland) Parsley, of Manchester, TN; two grandchildren, Michael and Morgan Holland; siblings: Terry (Pat) Parsley, of Michigan; Pam (McClure) Cantrell, Travis E. (Shelly) Parsley and Regina (Jeff) Stone, all of Smithville, TN, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Ronald was preceded in death by his parents, one grandson in infancy, Matthew Holland and his niece, Charity

Per Ronald's wishes, cremation rites are being accorded and private family services are being planned for a

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Ronald's name to the American Cancer Society.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book, upload photographs, and share Ronald's memorial logging www.BaskervilleFuneral.com/obituary/Ronald -Parsley

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

The Free Press Newspapers will limit hours of operation as Covid-19 positivity rates continue to climb. We are an essential business and intend to continue print operations as normal. However, we encourage you to call 815-476-7966 or 815-634-0315 before visiting either of our offices. Odds are we can service you over the phone. If not, we will arrange it so we can still conduct your business. We appreciate your understanding and please wear a mask everywhere you go

Bison Crawl brings worldwide audience to Midewin

On National Bison Day, bison enthusiasts learned America's National Mammal in a virtual crosscountry learning expedition from the Prairie State to the Treasure State.

The USDA Forest Service's third annual "Bison Crawl" included live presentations Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie in Wilmington, the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Montana and from nearby First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park.

The first stop on the virtual education tour was at the spotting scopes along old historic Route 66 at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. Forest Preserve District of

Will County Community Partnerships & Outreach Coordinator Ben Hecke and NTP Visitor Information Assistant Jasmine Lyons reported live from the Henslow Trail. They used mobile devices to show three bison grazing far off in the dis-

"It's just a beautiful day out here and everyone is happy to see bison on National Bison Day," Hecke said. "Jasmine tells me the entire herd might be headed this way.



approached, the expedition went to First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park in Ulm, Montana. From the edge of the cliff that is known to be the largest buffalo jump in the world, Park Manager Clark Carlson-Thompson said the jump was critical to human survival for hundreds or years.

"A buffalo jump is a site that was used by native peoples to harvest large numbers of buffalo, usually entire Carlson-Thompson explained. "This spot has forever been known as a place of and gathering. Thousands of pounds of meat, hides; bones for tools and more were harvested. It looks just like a hill and as we get closer and closer to the cliff, it just appears out of nowhere.

Carlson-Thompson said that the jump was used for at least 600 years, starting at the year 900. The jump was used by 13 tribes from all over.

'From Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and even up into Canada." Depending on the specific spot, the buffalo jump is 20 to 50 feet tall. In some spots, bison bones are up to 22 feet deep. He said that most recent carbon dating is from

The next stop was the USDA Forest Service's Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Great Falls, Montana. Supervisory Interpreter Jeff LaRock said bison were essential to the expedition of Captain Mêriwether Lewis and William

They came here knowing that there was this creature called the bison, although many of them had never seen one before and had only heard about them," LaRock said.
"They found their first sign of bison less than two months after they set out in 1804, but it wasn't until two months after that when Private Reuben Field

Essex Community Club (Formerly Essex Lions)

Sunday, November 22

7 a.m.-Noon

Essex Lions Community Hall

217 Parls St., Essex, IL

Menu includes: Pancakes, french toast, biscuits & gravy, eggs (any way), bacon, sausage, hash

browns, toast, milk, orange juice and coffee.

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Lions Hall always for rent, call 815-405-5020
Essex Historic Museum open across the street

Pancake Breakfast



Clockwise, from top left: Midewin NTP Public Affairs Officer and Public Services Team Leader Veronica Hinke explains that female bison horns are c-shaped; Clark Carlson-Thompson, park manager of First Peoples Buffalo Jump and Tower Rock state parks, looks out on one of the most historic buffalo jumps in the world; bison are visible through spotting scopes along old historic Route 66 at Midewin NTP; Supervisory Interpreter Jeff LaRock at The Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center. Photo by Allison Cisneros / The Nature Conservancy in Illinois

bagged the first bison. It was a bull. They dragged it back from the river. The meat filled two

LaRock said bison hide was used as waterproof material for packing gear; for sleeping and winter clothing. "Even bison dung was used for creating a hot flame with not a lot of smoke," LaRock said. "Lewis thought it 'imparted a spicy flavor to the meat.'

Interpreter Faulkner described bowls made of bison ribs, pudding made of bison blood enhanced with berries and bone marrow Pemmican, dried meat, was popular. Hair and cattail fluft stuffed mattresses and more. This way of life lasted for

hundreds of years," Faulkner said. "Today, the bison are making a comeback thanks to partnerships with Tribal Nations and local, state, and federal partnerships."

Back in the Prairie State NTP Management Specialist Kelly Gutknecht told about the bison project there.

'Bison were introduced five years ago, and the point is to see if the bison can help improve diversity of native vegetation during restoration,' Gutknecht said. "Through natural seed dispersal and more we hope to see increases in grasses like big bluestem Indian grass and more.

Tallgrass Prairie National organize the Bison Crawl each year to bring together dozens of government and non-profit organizations that offer in-person or virtual education programs for the public.

Morris Hospital COVID testing supply is limited

limited testing supplies with increased demand for testing, Morris Hospital has asked providers on its medical staff to limit COVID testing orders to those who need it most: symptomatic patients and those at high risk for compli-

'Right now, there is a very high demand for COVID testing," says Kimberly Wolfer, of Laboratory Director Services at Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers. "Due to our limited testing availability, we are unable to serve as a testing resource for all situations, especially in the case of concerns exposure."

Wolfer says the recent increased demand for testing has also slowed test results. 'We have a limited allocation of rapid tests each week and at this time have to reserve the rapid tests for patients being admitted to the hospital or having pre-surgical testing," explains Wolfer. "The rest of our COVID collections have to be sent out to a reference laboratory, and the results are currently taking 5-6 days. Previously, we were seeing a 2-3 day turnaround for test results that were sent out."

Morris Hospital continues operate its outpatient COVID drive-thru testing site on the hospital main campus for patients who have a physician's order. After the physician's order is received, a Scheduling representative from Morris Hospital calls the patient to schedule the appointment. The drive-thru testing does not accept selfreferrals or walk-ins.

COVID testing is also done at Morris Hospital's urgent care locations only if the provider determines testing is appropriate after evaluating the patient's medical history and symptom severity

In an effort to balance and a separate charge for ted testing supplies with COVID-19 testing if testing is ordered. Both get billed to insurance.

Morris Hospital's urgent locations are Channahon, Diamond-Coal City Campus, Morris and Yorkville. The rapid test is not being used at these locations at this time.

"Our immediate and convenient care centers are not the same as state testing sites where people can come just to get tested for COVID," explains Smith, Director of Immediate Care Occupational Medicine at Morris Hospital & Healthcare asymptomatic people who are seeking testing because of provide walk-in care for patients with mild to moderate injuries and illness, including flu-like symptoms. Having exam with immediate/convenient care provider does not guarantee a COVID test will be performed. It's up to the discretion of the

provider." Morris Hospital also advises that the hospital emergency department should be reserved for those who are in need of emergency medical

Remember our veterans by sponsoring a wreath

Sponsor a wreath for a veteran's grave at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood. The wreath laying will be held on Saturday, Dec. 19.

The ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. Wreaths are placed after a brief ceremony. Volunteers of all ages are needed to help place wreaths, dress appropriately for the cold.

Sponsorship is a tax deductible donation and may be made for a specific veteran or any veteran.

Complete the form below. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Wreaths Across America and mailed to: Will County Farm Bureau, c/o OCP Wreath Project, 100 Manhattan Rd., Joliet, IL 60433 Group# IL0013P

Sponsorships are being collected through Nov. 24 for the year 2020 campaign. Donations after Dec. 2 will be for 2021. Order online at Wreaths Across America and include cemetery ID: ILALNE. For updates pertaining with wreath placement and coronavirus precautions visit the Facebook page: Wreaths Across America Abraham Lincolhn National Cemetery.

Grave specific sponsorship

Complete a separate form for each veteran. Sponsors who attend the wreath laying on Saturday, Dec. 15, may place the wreath on that specific grave.

Veteran's name:
Section and grave marker (required):
Contact phone number (required):
Will you be there to place the wreath yourself: Yes_No.

Non-specific grave sponsorship

One wreath at \$15

Family: four wreaths for \$60

Business: 10 wreaths for \$150

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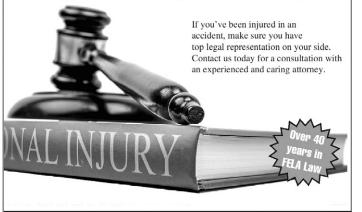
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New doctor joins **Morris Hospital**

Local internal medicine physician Dr. Olga Peplos has merged her independent practice with Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers. The partnership allows Dr. Peplos more time to focus on patient care, while Morris Hospital oversees the business management responsibilities associated with her practice.

As a result of the affiliathrough a medical exam. The tion, Dr. Peplos is now seeing cost includes a physical exam patients at two locations: the

Morris Healthcare Center of Morris Hospital at 1300 W. Dresden Drive in Morris and the Morris Hospital Diamond-Coal City Campus, 1450 E. Division St. in Diamond.

Dr. Peplos has served on the Morris Hospital Medical Staff since 2001. She received her medical degree the University of Athens Medical School in Greece and completed an internship at St. Joseph Hospital in Chicago. Dr. Peplos completed a three-year internal medicine residency at the Illinois Masonic Hospital in Chicago.



Dr. Olga Peplos, a local internal medicine physician, merged her independent practice with Morris Hospital & **Healthcare Centers.**

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Invasive beetles attacking our forrests

Dear EarthTalk: Where I live in Southeast Michigan, an invasive insect called the Emerald Ash Borer is wreaking havoc on our forests. Are other parts of the country dealing with this pest or others that are killing large numbers of trees? – John D., Sterling Heights,

In a growing number of U.S. states, residents have been dealing with a different kind of quarantine that began back in the early 2000's and continues on today. But this one involves wood, not people, and the perpetrator is a beetle, not a virus.

The problem started in 2002 when the Emerald Ash Borer, an exotic green beetle that probably hitched a ride to the U.S. with wood materials from Asia, began decimating ash forests in Michigan. Since then, this little invader has killed hundreds of millions of ash trees across 35 U.S. states and five Canadian provinces.

Ecosystems where these ash trees play a pivotal role are decimated, while forest products industries and property owners in these areas are also worse off. And wood coming out of affected regions is being quarantined to make sure it



isn't harboring the invasive pest before being shipped out to other parts of the country or

While the Emerald ash borer is found almost exclusively on ash trees, several other invasive bugs are also plaguing other types of forests across the continent.

Asian long-horned bee-Spotted lanternflies, Banded elm bark beetles, Brown spruce long-horned beetles, Common pine shoot beetles and European oak bark beetles are just a few of the bugs preying on our native

A new Asian gypsy moth strain is another emerging factor. Insects live in specific threat to U.S. coastal forests. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) warns, "If established in the United States, Asian gypsy moths

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9

3

9

could cause serious, widespread damage to our country's landscape and natural resources.'

In May 2020, Washington governor Jay Inslee issued an emergency order in response to the infestation. These moths have wrought havoc before, and scientists have offset infestations using a special kind of moss on different East Coast strains.

Hopefully similar measures are that a measure can counteract impacts on the West coast soon as well. There are many factors driving the spread and growth of harmful species to trees in North America.

Clothing imported from China, wood brought from Canada, sugar transported from Brazil, and much else of what we consume here that comes from abroad brings with it the transport of species, whether on purpose or by accident, with potentially catastrophic effects.

Climate change is also a environments based on weather, and their ranges expand and breeding seasons increase as global temperatures rise.

Mountain pine beetle numbers, for example, have grown rapidly in recent decades due to the warming climate. Cold winters that usually drive beetles to hibernate, protecting pine forests for a spell, are growing shorter.

Beetles can now complete



Courtesv Photo by B Smith, FlickrCC

THE EMERALD ASH BORER hitched a ride on wood from Asia decades ago and has decimated ash forests in 35 states and five Canadian provinces.

two reproductive cycles in the except by buying wood prodexpanded warm seasons, leading to increased tree mortality in affected regions. If warming continues at the current rate, trees won't be able to adapt fast enough to survive.

There's not much individuals can do to prevent the spread of invasive tree pests Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for

ucts produced by local logging operations or wood lots. Likewise, procure firewood from local sources, as many pests hitchhike into new terrain on firewood in back of the family station wagon.

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https//earthtalk.org. Send questo: HYPERLINK "mailto:question@earthtalk.or g" question@earthtalk.org.

JJC closes campus

Joliet Junior College closed its campus Monday due to the surging positivity rate among COVID-19 tests in the region.

The following message was shared by JJC President Dr. Judy Mitchell on Friday

As the IDPH reported today, Will County's positivity rate is 18.6%, and with Governor Pritzker's emphasis on stay-at-home advisories for high rate regions, it is incumbent on us to do the right thing and support the health and well-being of our community and state.

The college will further limit campus activity to slow the spread of COVID. This such as testing services) to

• Closure of college campuses to the public starting Monday

• Employees will work remotely to support virtual campus operations

 Essential employees will provide on-site support to complete the semester

Academic Affairs is working through curriculum with on-site lab classes to enact the appropriate action plan for each class to complete the semester.

Student Development will provide virtual services (and some in-person appointments meet the needs of students.

Braidwood Lions Club to sell Christmas Trees

Club will once again be holding their annual Christmas Trees Sale fundraiser beginning Sunday, November 22nd. The club's stand will be located in the Whitmore Ace Hardware parking lot in Braidwood.

Balsam trees ranging in height from 6 to 9 feet along with small and large size decorated wreaths, grave blankets, small & large size grave pillows, and artificial gravesite flower vases will be for sale. Lions club house brooms,

heavy duty brooms and whisk brooms will also be available for purchase.

Hours are Monday

Answers:

A.

. sugar

В.

insulin

?

testing

D.

The Braidwood Lions Friday, noon - 7 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., while supplies last.

> Sales will be closed on Thursday, November 26, for Thanksgiving and will resume on Friday, Nov. 27. All proceeds from the tree sales will go back into the community in the form of the various community activities and humanitarian services that the Braidwood Lions Club provides throughout the year.

For more information please call (815)791-8093 or visit www.braidwoodlionsclub.org."

62

35. Brew

54. Status

36. Winged horse

46. Austrian river

50. Connected with

55. Dean residence

57. Boxing's GOAT

actress Susan

62. Facilitates hearing

64. A team's best pitcher

65. Patti Hearst's captors

61. Get some color

56. Egyptian city

41. A usually malignant tumor

47. A reminder of past events

59. Straits along the Red Sea

60. "The Partridge Family"

2

Soduko puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can

appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the

numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more

CLUES ACROSS

SUDOKU - Here's how it works:

numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle

- 1. Autonomic nervous system
- 4. At or near the stern
- Adenosine triphosphate 10. Polynesian garland of flowers 45. Alfred , American actor
- 11. Chinese revolutionary 12. Green veggie
- 13. Large group
- 15. Swiss river
- 16. Semiaquatic mammal 19. Wrongdoers
- 21. Home to Disney World 23. Spanish doctors
- 24. Newborn child 25. Absence of difficulty
- 26. Large, stocky lizard 27. Earned top billing
- 30. A long wandering and eventful 63. Commercials journey
- 34. Water (French)

- 2. More informative
- 5. Supervises flying
- 8. Lockjaw 9. Indian city
- 14. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 17. Sun up in New York
- 20. Stood up
- 22. NBA legend Willis
- 28. Exercise regimen __-bo 29. The 8th month (abbr.)
- 1. Speak up 31. Paulo, city
- 3. Where passengers sit 4. Gathered
- 6. Home of the Blue Javs
- 7. Public statement of regret 41. Canned fish
- 13. Patriots' Newton
- 18. Eggs in female fish
- 27. Calendar month (abbr.)

- **CLUES DOWN**
 - 32. Tall deciduous tree
 - 33. Affirmative 37. Notified of danger
 - 38. NFL game days 39. Archaic term for "to"
 - 40. Plant pores
 - 42. Phil __, former CIA
 - 43. Connects with 44. Of the skull 47. Time zone (abbr.)
 - 49. Hindu goddess 51. Land
 - 52. Pitching stat
 - 53. Field force unit 58. Lakers' crosstown rivals

48. When you hope to get there

A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to diabetes. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = I)

14 7 13 1 A. Clue: Sweet stuff

20 15 14 22 В. Clue: Hormone that regulates glucose

6 15 **26** 3

Clue: Checking something

13 22 26 D. 6

Clue: Concerns wellness

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to diabetes.

TMORNIO

Answer: Monitor

Guess Who?

I am a musician born in California on November 18, 1962. I have been the lead guitarist for a heavy metal band for several decades, and I was ranked #11 on Rolling Stone's All-Time Best Guitarists list.

HISWELL KITK HAMMEII

DIABETES WORD SEARCH

U G N Ε N Н Α C W G D Υ A Ε T C T T N C Ε S 0 C S S G 0 S L 0 S L W Ε C U A Н Т Ε T 0 A P Н R Н Ι A М T Н R C Ε F F N E M Ι 0 G R М L Н V Α G G L E E P В R K T V W 0 N R D Y C C F 0 B 0 0 0 C F M R H D Ι P A 0 L L L A Н R D Н N C R B 0 Н Y D R Т E S Y W Α Ι E U Ι N T N R G Н F В В U K Т Α T E E A C Ι Ε 0 S 0 М 0 Y C N S Ι Ι K E N G B N Ι L U S N Ι 0 A B Ε C Ε S S Y E T Н W K Α E Ι Ε 0 Ι N E Y R 0 T 0 D L L P G R C C D E E D D L T 0 Т М Υ S C Ι Α М Α S N Н Y U V K 0 Н 0 K L Y Α K K R R Ε N 0 G A C U L G S Ι S 0 T Ε K U N E T Y E D E D N 0 Ι A D Н M S R Κ R R V B 0 D R Ι E S W Н L 0 G C A L 0 L K Т F R C Ε R A В Y 0 D U Т 0 S Т Α L Α S N Ε E E R Т

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

ACETONE ADRENAL ADVERSE ANTIBODIES ASYMPTOMATIC AUTOIMMUNE BASAL RATE **BLOOD CALORIES CARBOHYDRATES DEHYDRATION ENDOCRINOLOGIST** EYE DISEASE FRUCTOSE **GLUCAGON GLUCOSE HORMONES** INSULIN KETOSIS **LANGERHANS** LEVEL **NEUROPATHY PANCREAS**

SWEETENER

Think before you shoot

Deer hunters better know how to process own meat BY SHAWN LONG Sports Writer

Deer hunters may want to think twice before pulling the trigger this weekend when the first of the split firearms sea-

The impact of the coronavirus pandemic has meat lockers already backed up few, if any, are willing to process deer meat.

Barney Faletti, owner of Faletti Meats in Wilmington, typically processes deer for hunters but up until last week he is turning hunters away. Faletti processed about 40 deer the previous two weeks

but was so backed up with butchering beef, pork and chicken that he was forced with drawing a line. "We're so busy despite the

COVID pandemic I can't keep up with processing meat for my year-round customers,' said Faletti. In the past Faletti's would

have as many as three butch-

ers processing deer. In about 20 minutes they'd skin a deer and process the venison into steaks, chops, backstraps and roasts. The rest would be ground into venison hamburg-Faletti Meats would

process as many as 150 deer during a normal year. This year with the way COVID-19 is keeping more people at home, Faletti's is busy selling more beef, pork and chicken for the

"I had a guy in here Thursday begging for me to process his deer. He drove 45 minutes and said he was in no hurry to get the meat. I explained I just don't have the time these days and I was sorry but it's hard to find an hour and a half to do a deer by myself when I have to take care of my regular customers.'

The only other place the Free Press Newspapers could find still processing deer was S&I Lisbon Locker, about a 40minute drive in Newark, IL.



DON'T SHOOT BEFORE you know where you're going with the deer. There have been deer processing facilities that have shut down their operations for the season because they were not able to keep up with the rush. There are other deer processing plants but they may not be within 10 minutes.

S&J Lisbon Locker said that as of now, they don't intend to put a cap on the number of deer they will accept.

In addition to processing the venison they make jerkey and salami sticks as well.

'We book it in and they tell us how they want it cut," said Guerrero. "We cut it, skin it and make whatever people want. It usually varies. A lot of people will take their cuts, their steaks, chops and roast, and a lot of people do cheese and jalapeno sticks.

Guerrero, daughter of the owner Sandy Marlat, estimatthey have already processed around 80 deer for bow hunters. Their four-person operation has so far been

Julie Guerrero from the able to keep up but they are down several large meat packbracing for the rush of the shotgun deer season Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

"I personally think that a lot of new people are out hunting because of COVID," added Guerrero. "I think we're going to get buried. I think we've already gotten more from bow season than we have in past

Guerrero, who has been at S&J Lisbon Locker for the last 16 years, notes last year they processed around 250 deer.

They've already had several out of state hunters arrive with deer as they are having a hard time finding other meat lockers not backed up with the processing of beef and pork. When the coronavirus shut-

ing plants back in the spring, farmers turned to smaller meat lockers to process their livestock. Most are still booked through 2021

We have customers that come from Wisconsin," commented Guerrero. "In previous years, we've had a guy come up here to hunt from Alabama, his brother lives here but he makes the trip back to come and get it. There are quite a few that come from the city. It just

The best advice is to call butcher shops and meat lockers and check if they're accepting deer before heading into the field.

Free vouchers to visit national forests now includes fifth graders

The USDA Forest Service will expand its Every Kid Outdoors program to offer fourth- and fifth-grade students and family members free access to more than 2,000 sites on national forests and grasslands for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

A new voucher is available for download now through August 31, 2021.

"The year's events have made it harder for many students to get out to their local National Forest and to use their Every Kid Outdoors Annual 4th Grade Pass as intended," said Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen. "We hope the added time will encourage millions of families to use their free pass to get out to their National Forest, connect with nature, and experience the mental and physical benefits of the great out-

Every Kid Outdoors is a federal public lands partnership created to inspire fourthgrade students and their fami lies across America to recreate explore cultures, discover connections to nature and spark a lifelong passion for America's great outdoors.

The program focuses on children ages 9-11 who, research shows, are beginning to understand the world around them, and are unique ly receptive to engaging with nature and the environment By focusing on this age group year after year, the program aims to ensure every child in the United States has the opportunity to create a lifelong connection to America's big backyard.

To obtain a free 5th Grade Voucher, visit the Every Kid Outdoors website, click on the "Hey, fifth graders!" banner, and download a voucher.

Will County building closed

The Will County Office utmost importance. We Building is now closed to the public. With the number of coronavirus cases rapidly rising across the state of Will County Executive Denise Winfrey has closed the county office building to the public.

Residents are urged to contact any office within the county building by telephone or via e-mail to inquire how to handle any application, transaction, etc. This decision follows the Illinois Department of Public Health's new recommendations to work from home when possible, participate in only essential activities, limit any gathering to 10 people, and only travel if necessarv "The number of positive

cases for COVID-19 has response to the COVID-19 risen dramatically," Winfrey said. "The health and wellness of our county employees and our residents is of

want to do everything we can to protect people which includes encouraging the public to wear a mask at all times, wash your hands often, and to maintain social distance. Closing our office building to the public is a responsible move to help limit the spread of this highly infectious virus.

Statewide, the IDPH reports COVID-19 hospitalizations, including patients in Intensive Care Units and on ventilators, are at the same levels as the first peak of the virus earlier this year.

We must all take these statistics seriously and not let down our guard," Winfrey added.

For more information about the IDPH and its crisis, visit the website at www.dph.illinois.gov/covid1

476.796

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EWS

Crucial information about your community comes from your local newspaper. During times of crisis access to local information is essential. We work hard every week to bring you the latest local developments... news that's important to all of us.

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We need subscribers to help fill the void. Please subscribe now so we can continue to be the watchdogs of local government, the provider of breaking news, the promoters of local organizations and cheerleaders of local sports teams.

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Display
r - Thurs., 4 p.m.
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- The Prairie ShopperThe Braidwood Journal
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t cc46b-50a

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Coal City - 125 E. Blackstone, 1 BR, stove/refrigerator, furnished, no pets, good location, newly remodeled. \$650/mo. plus 1 month deposit, 1 year lease. 815-634-8800.

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815-462-5633. fr/tfn

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County

fr47b-48a

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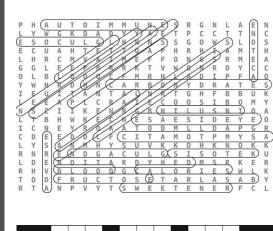
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Publisher Eric Fisher 815-476-7966 ext. 209 for details.

Some restrictions may apply including advertisements placed in our Nov. 11 Veterans special section



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The one person who could turn the tide against Madigan

by Rep. Bob Morgan (D-Deerfield) earlier this month that he will not vote to reelect Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan in January, the opposition numbered eight House Democrats, with at least a few more privately leaning their They'll need 13 or 14

Democrats, depending on final general election results, to deprive Madigan of the speaker's gavel. So, they may need some help to get over the

And there's one person outside the House who may have enough votes to tip the balance either way.

And, no, it's likely not Gov. JB Pritzker. Not yet, anyway.

Pritzker controls no votes in the House. He can't just push a button and make something happen in that chamber.

Perhaps if he had followed through on his 2018 promises to supplant the moribund state party with a true statewide political organization for all Democrats at all levels, he might have some buttons to push. But he didn't, and the pandemic intervened and here

Whatever the case, a governor directly confronting the into the House House Speaker has never worked here. Others have tried. All have failed. A governor's opposition would, as it has in the past, give Madigan something external and concrete to push back against in accomplished and order to distract from his internal problems.

And if Pritzker's effort to dislodge Madigan failed, so would the remainder of his legislative agenda. Not to mention that Pritzker certainly hurt himself when he not so subtly threw resources Sen. Kimberly Lightford's way during her unsuccessful run for Senate President almost a year ago. Once bitten, twice shy.

There is definite pressure on Pritzker to act, though. As the saying goes, "governors own," so he'll wear the jacket in 2022 if Madigan is still standing and remains as spectacularly unpopular as he is

Maybe Pritzker could quietly do something at the very end to make it happen if the opposition is still slightly short, but don't expect anything before that unless something major happens with the feder-

Speaker's tion. But if Pritzker swings and misses, Madigan will still be around, Pritzker won't get anything the voters will not be pleased.

The dude spent a zillion dollars to get elected governor only to find himself in a dozen trick bags. Welcome to Illinois!

The one person outside the House who could make a real and immediate difference is U.S. Rep. Chuy Garcia.

As I've told you before, Garcia, the Chicago Teachers Union and Madigan came to an understanding not long after Garcia, with the CTU's backing, lost the city mayor's race in 2015. Madigan's 13th Ward carried Mayor Rahm Emanuel to victory, but that took an extraordinary amount of work in Madigan's Latinodominated area. Better to just cut a deal.

Since then, one after another of Congressman



Rich Miller

Rep. Silvana Tabares was appointed to the Chicago City Council in the neighboring 23rd Ward.

Rep. Villanueva then ran unopposed in a special election to replace resigned Sen. Martin Sandoval (Madigan's Senator) and Garcia's congressional aide Edgar Gonzalez was appointed to Villanueva's House seat. In between, Madigan successfully supported another Garcia staffer for a Cook County Board slot over Sandoval's daughter.

elected

appointed to the

General Assembly.

probably no bet-

ter examples of

Madigan's own

neighborhood.

Garcia ally Celina

appointed to the

House in the sum-

mer of 2018 when

Madigan loyalist

Villanueva

than in

There

or

Congressman Garcia has significant influence over at least three Chicago Democratic House members

(Gonzalez, Aaron Ortiz and his people into influential allies have been Delia Ramirez). But if he makes a strong statement either way on Madigan, several other progressives in the chamber could

very well follow his lead. Garcia, by the way, is also a member of Madigan's state party central committee. A few committee members have spoken out against Chairman Madigan, but Garcia has a stronger political organization and a larger public platform. He could make a real difference there, too.

But a deal is a deal and, in the long term, Garcia has the better end of it. Madigan gets newsletter, and CapitolFax. peace and Garcia gets more of com.

positions every time there's a path (or close to it, like when Madigan tried unsuccessfully to block Eva-Dina Delgado's appointment to the House this vear after Garcia and the CTU

supported someone else). that And probably explains why Congressman Garcia isn't returning my phone calls and texts these days to ask what he's planning

to do about all of this.

Rich Miller also publishes Capitol Fax, a daily political

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Illinois gas prices fall

the past week, averaging \$2.16/g Monday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 4,378 stations.

Gas prices in Illinois are 1.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 44.0 cents per gallon lower than a ago.According to

GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Illinois is priced at \$1.82/g Monday while the most expensive is

Illinois gas prices have \$2.79/g, a difference of 97.0

state is \$1.82/g while the highest is \$2.79/g, a difference of 97.0 cents per gallon.The lon in the last week, averaging analysis for GasBuddy. \$2.12/g Monday.

The national average is down 4.3 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 49.0 cents per gallon lower than a

fallen 3.1 cents per gallon in cents per gallon. weeks, GasBuddy data showed the past week, averaging The lowest price in the average gas prices rose last weeks, GasBuddy data showed week, unsurprising given the previous 18% jump in the price of crude oil on promising vacnational average price of gaso-line has risen 1.2 cents per gal-Haan, head of petroleum

> This year has been anything but normal and such news of promising vaccine results will likely rekindle gas likely to see prices inch up year.'

"For the first time in seven slightly again this week as gas stations continue to try to pass along the rise from last week to but ahead retail, Thanksgiving, prices should be mostly stable.

"For now. motorists shouldn't expect too many fireworks at the pump, but the upcoming release GasBuddy's Holiday Travel survey highlights some big changes motorists are making prices for a short while. We're for the last six weeks of the

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Wilmington Community Unit School District No. 209U files annual financial report

PUBLIC NOTICE

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS SUMMARY FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020

The summary must be published in the local newspaper.

copies of the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020 will be available for public inspection in the school district/joint agreement administrative office by December 1, annually. Individuals wanting to review this Annual Statement of Affairs should contact:

Wilmington CUSD 209U 209 Wildcat Court, Wilmington, IL 60481 815-926-1751 M-F, 8:00am-4:00pm School District/Joint Agreement Name Address Telephone Office Hours

Also by January 15, annually the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020, will be posted on the Illinois State Board of Education's website@ www.isbe.net

SUMMARY: The following is the Annual Statement of Affairs Summary that is required to be published by the school district/joint agreement for the past fiscal year

Statement of Operations as of June 30, 2020	atement of Operations as of June 30, 2020									
		Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Debt Services	Transportation	Municipal Retirement/Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention & Safety
Local Sources	1000	7,761,587	1,116,947	2,397,816	375,091	353,096	0	53,020	0	0
Flow-Through Receipts/Revenues from One District to	2000									
Another District		73,821	0		0	0				
State Sources	3000	2,817,694		0	841,753	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Sources	4000	1,998,259	750,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Receipts/Revenues		12,651,361	1,916,947	2,397,816	1,216,844	353,096	0	53,020	0	0
Total Direct Disbursements/Expenditures		12,812,006	1,980,660	2,445,619	1,530,693	438,340	0		0	0
Other Sources/Uses of Funds		14,964	0	0	0	0	0	(14,964)	0	0
Beginning Fund Balances - July 1, 2019		11,664,572	1,226,729	1,583,336	1,424,268	672,046	0	1,774,672	0	0
Other Changes in Fund Balances		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balances June 30, 2020		11,518,891	1,163,016	1,535,533	1,110,419	586,802	0	1,812,728	0	0

		(10)	(20)	(30)	(40)	(50)	(60)	(70)	(80)	(90)
Description	Acct No	Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Debt Service	Transportation	Municipal Retirement & Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention & Safety
RECEIPTS/REVENUES										
Local Sources	1000	7,761,587	1,116,947	2,397,816	375,091	353,096	0	53,020	0	0
Flow-Through Received/Revenue from One District to Another District	2000	73,821	0		0	0				
State Sources	3000	2,817,694	50,000	0	841,753	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Sources	4000	1,998,259	750,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Receipts/Revenues		12,651,361	1,916,947	2,397,816	1,216,844	353,096	0	53,020	0	0
Rec./Rev. for "On Behalf" Payments	3998	645,533								
Total Receipts/Revenues		13,296,894	1,916,947	2,397,816	1,216,844	353,096	0	53,020	0	0
DISBURSEMENTS/EXPENDITURES										
Instruction	1000	5,954,656				61,779				
Support Services	2000	4,040,845	1,980,660		1,530,693	376,530	0		0	0
Community Services	3000	12,450	0		0	31				
Payments to Other Districts & Govt Units	4000	2,804,055	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
Debt Services	5000	0	0	2,445,619	0	0			0	0
Total Direct Disbursements/Expenditures		12,812,006	1,980,660	2,445,619	1,530,693	438,340	0		0	0
Disb./Expend. for "On Behalf" Payments	4180	645,533	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
Total Disbursements/Expenditures		13,457,539	1,980,660	2,445,619	1,530,693	438,340	0		0	0
Excess of Direct Receipts/Revenues Over (Under) Direct Disbursements/Expenditures		(160,645)	(63,713)	(47,803)	(313,849)	(85,244)	0	53,020	0	0
Other Sources of Funds	7000	14,964	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Uses of Funds	8000	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,964	0	0
Total Other Sources/Uses of Funds		14,964	0	0	0	0	0	(14,964)	0	0
Excess of Receipts/Revenues & Other Sources of Funds (Over/Under) Expenditures/Disbursements & Other Uses of F	unds	(145,681)	(63,713)	(47,803)	(313,849)	(85,244)	0	38,056	0	0
Beginning Fund Balances - July 1, 2019		11,664,572	1,226,729	1,583,336	1,424,268	672,046		1,774,672		
Other Changes in Fund Balances Increases (Decreases)										
Ending Fund Balances June 30, 2020		11,518,891	1,163,016	1,535,533	1,110,419	586,802	0	1,812,728	0	0

OF REVENUES RECEIVED/REVENUES, EXPENDITURES DISBURSED/EXPENDITURES, OI AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020

				STATEMENT OF A		TELES.				
			,		SSE IS AND LIABIL UNE 30, 2020	IIIES				
				AO OI O	ONL 50, 2020					
		(10)	(20)	(30)	(40)	(50)	(60)	(70)	(80)	(90)
Description	Acct No	Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Debt Service	Transportation	Municipal Retirement & Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention & Safety
CURRENT ASSETS (100)										
Cash (Accounts 111 thru 115)		11,518,891	1,163,016	1,535,533	1,110,419	586,802		1,812,728		
Investments	120									
Taxes Receivable	130									
Interfund Receivables	140									
Intergovernmental Accounts Receivable	150									
Other Receivables	160									
Inventory	170									
Prepaid Items	180									
Other Current Assets	190									
Total Current Assets		11,518,891	1,163,016	1,535,533	1,110,419	586,802	0	1,812,728	0	0
CURRENT LIABILITIES (400)										
Interfund Payables	410									
Intergovernmental Accounts Payable	420									
Other Payable	430									
Contracts Payable	440									
Loans Payable	460									
Salaries & Benefits Payable	470									
Payroll Deductions & Withholdings	480									
Deferred Revenues & Other Current Liabilities	490									
Due to Activity Fund Organizations	493									
Total Current Liabilities		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES (500)										
Long-Term Debt Payable	511									
Total Liabilities		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reserved Fund Balance	/14	826,283	216,759	1,535,533	1,110,419	586,802				
Unreserved Fund Balance	730	10,692,608	946,257					1,812,728		
Investments in General Fixed Assets										
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances		11,518,891	1,163,016	1,535,533	1,110,419	586,802	0	1,812,728	0	0

SALARY SCHEDULE OF GROSS PAYMENTS FOR CERTIFIED PERSONNEL AND NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL FORD, CASEY N; DILLON, CORY A.; DIL-**Gross Payment for**

Certified Personnel Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000 ALLEN, ALYSSA A; ARBOGASH, JENNIFER M; BAILEY, STEPHANIE L.; BLACKBURN, DAVID P; BROOKS, MARIANNE C.; CAR-BONI, GREGORY; CORLETT, CHANTELLE

M.; COX, DEBRA L.; DALE, NATALIE R; FISHER, VIVIAN M.: FRANCIS, RITA K FISHER, VIVIAN M.; FRANCIS, RITA K.; FREDERIKSEN, ALANNA; FRITZ, THOMAS A; GILBERT, ALEXIS E; HERMES, CONNIE J.; HUSTON, BONNIE J.; ISSERT, DENISE M; JACK, MARY M.; JERBI, DANIEL J; JOHNSON, DIANE B.; JONES, MARNIE M; KILGORE, CASSANDRA L.; KREITZ, HEIDI J.; LAFOND, MATTHEW; LAWRENCE, TRACY R.; LETTON, MICHAEL J; LEVE, ROY F.; LOYELAND, JENNIEFER, MACABI TRACY R.; LETTON, MICHAEL J; LEVE, ROY E.; LOVELAND, JENNIFER; MACARI, LARRY E.; MATLOCK, BEVERLY J.; MEENTS.; KRISTI K.; PAPINEAU, CONNIE; PONTON, KALEY A; SALATO, MARYLOU; SEIBERT, JANET; SKOLE, JACK; SMOCK, STEVEN T; STICKEL, STEPHANIE M; TRAINOR, AMBER; VAN DUYNE, BRANDY J.; VAN DUYNE, LAURIE; WAKEFIELD, LAURA E; WELSH, KATELYN N; WILSON JAMES KATELYN N: WILSON, JAMES

Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999
CAREY, JESSICA L; DAS, MARY BRIANNE;
DINKINS, KELLY N.; FISHER, MICHAEL;
FOURNIER, CURTIS L; GIROT, TISHA W.;
ROBBINS, HOLLY A; SEILER, JULIE E;
WELCH, CAITLYN

Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999 ALLRED, RUSSELL A.; BENSON, CHRISTI; BILLINGSLEY, KRISTIN D.; BUSHNELL, MICHAEL; CAVANAUGH, KELLY A.; CRAW-

FORD, CASEY N; DILLON, CORY A.; DILLON, ERIC L; DILLON, LISA M.; DZIUBAN, NICHOLAS M; ENZ, SARAH A.; FARRELL, CHAD C.; FURBEE, TAMMY K.; GEISS, GRAHAM D.; GEORGEFF, ELLEN E.; HARRIS, DANA M.; HORTON, SARAH M.; IMHOF, JENNIFER L.; KARAVITES, BILL N; KEANE, BRIANNA D.; LANGUSCH, LISA M; LONG, KATIE A; MANDAC, MICHELLE M.; MATA, NOLA R; MAULDIN, AMY C. MEENTS. JENNIFER M. MAUPIN, AMY G; MEENTS, JENNIFER M.; MILLER, WARREN M; MORRIS, JENNIFER M.; MORRISON, DANELL L.; MOSIER, ELIZA-

BETH K.

NATYSHOK, LORIE F.; NOFFSINGER,
BRENNA J.; RICCOLO, MARGARET TAYLOR; RINK, ANGIE M.; SKELLY, KIMBERLY
A.; SMITH, TRACY D.; SNYDER, JOSEPH;
STETSON, LUKE; STRALOW, JULIE R.;
STRONG, NATHAN P.; SZEPELAK, LORI L.;
TKACH, ROBIN D.; TYLER, DREW M; UTZ,
TKACH, ROBIN D.; TYLER, DREW M; UTZ,
SUSAN A; VAN DUYNE, TARA M.;
VOLLMER, JODY A; WALSH, COLEEN A.;
WALSH, KATELYNN M; YERGLER, RACHEL;
ZILLER, CHRISTY L.
Salary Range: 60,000 - \$89,999
BARNES, KAHLON; BARNES, MEREDITH

BARNES, KAHLON; BARNES, MEREDITH K; BEJLOVEC, JEANNINE M; CHERVE-NY, BRENDA CRAIG; DOYLE, KAREN L.; DROWN, STACY; GOFF, BRIAN L; HAN-DKOWN, SIACY; GOFF, BRIAN L; HAN-LON, ED H; HANSEN, CURTIS B; HOR-RIE, VALERIE M; IVANOFF, TRAVIS; LANGUSCH, MARK W; MCGEE, WILLIAM E; MISON, JEFFREY R; SPICER, ADAM M; WARD, JINA M.; WILSON, WAYNE M.

Salary Range: \$90,000 and over DENNIS, VENITA M; FEENEY, KEVIN P;

MAUPIN, ROBERT SCOTT; MURPHY, PLESE, MAUREEN; PRENDERGAST, ROBERT L.; NORMAN, BETH R; RACHAEL; QUIGLEY, TRACY S; RAGAIN, REENTS, JEFFREY J; SWICK, MATTHEW MAGGIE K; READMAN, LARRY J;

Gross Payment for Non-Certified Personnel

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000 ADELMANN, WILLIAM A; BOLSER, ROBERT: BRUMMEL, STEVEN: CARVER. ROBERT; BRUMMEL, STEVEN; CARVER, MARY E; CASTILLO, SONJA J; CAVE-NAILE, KEVIN J; CHAVEZ, RENEE L; COMBES, FLOYD; COX, JAMES R; CZEMSKE, MADONNA M; DEMPSAY, CONNER L; DIEHS, SUMMER J; DIETZ, JESSICA; DINGILLO, CYNTHIA A; ESPOSITO, JUSTIN C; FARMER, SHER-REE D; FRANCIS, KATHERINE; GIROT, ACHARY S; GOLITOS BREFANNE M. ZACHARY S; GOUTOS, BREEANNE M.; GRESHAM, RUTH A; HANSEN, COLLEEN; HERMES, JOSEPH A; HINCH-COLLEER; HERMIES, JOSEPH A, FINCH-ERICK, BETHANI A; HIPES, LISA M.; HODGIN, DANA; HOOKER, TIMOTHY K; HORN, DANIEL; HUML, HAILEY A.; IZZI, KELLY M; JOHNSTONE, STACEY E; KNIGHT, LORI; LAMASTER, KELLY L; LEHNERT, KATHLEEN S; MANCUSO, KIMBERLY; MCLIN, MINDY; MEENTS, VI E A, MEI HODN, SANDY M, MELVIN, KYLE A; MELHORN, SANDY M; MELVIN, LALAR F; MIETZNER, JENNIFER J; MOM-PER. JANINE M: MOSSELL. MICHELLE

M; MURPHY, SCOTT T.; MURPHY, TINA Q; NUTT, PAIGE; O'LEARY, DANIEL T.;

PALMER, DANA; PEREZ, STEPHANIE C; PIGOTT, ERIN K; PLESE, JACKIE;

RACHAEL; QUIGLEY, TRACY S; RAGAIN, MAGGIE K; READMAN, LARRY J; REENTS, JORDYN E; REGGAINE, LISA C; ROGE, AMANDA K; SALAZAR, KRISTY L; SHELL, MARK J; SHELTON, PAMELA; SMITH, DAWN L; SMITH, DONALD R.; SOUTHALL, BARRY B; SWISHER, JEN-NIFER L; THOMAS, KELLY; VAN TILBURG, MICHALIA A.; VANDUYNE MEGAN; VANDUYNE, ROBERT J; WARD, BRANDON S; WILBURN, MARGARET A; WINKER, BRITTANY; WUCHTER, GIN-GER M; YANEZ, ALMA

Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999
CRAGG, SUSAN L; DAVILA, MARIAH
ANGELIQUE; HOLMES, LISA M; MANCU-SO, MELISSA A; MANN, JUDITH A; QUIGLEY, REBECCA S; REIGH, CHRIS-TINE L; ROTH, STACY J; SMOCK, GIN-GER R; SWIFT, MARTHA M.; SWISHER,

GER R; SWIFT, MARTHA M.; SWISHER, TYLER R; TURNER, KAREN J.

Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999

BEGLER, BRENDA C; BRANDT, JEFFREY C; BURNES, NANCY; FINLEY, RONALD P; KINKIN, JASON M; LETTERLY, JOEL P; PETERS, BONNIE S; SPECHT, SHEILA A.; STANTON, ANDREW; TRANBERG, SVEND D; VIANO, VALERIE S; VILLAFRANCO, FNRIQUE ENRIOUF

ENRIQUE
Salary Range: \$60,000 and over
BROWNLEE, TINA L; HABING, JAMES R;
MCCORMICK, MICHAEL L; ROARK, JODI

This page must be sent to ISBE and retained within the district/ioint agreement administrative office for public inspection.

ISBE 50-37 (07/2020)

School Business Services (217)785-8779 ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

be submitted as one file to avoid separating worksheets.

Note: For submitting to ISBE, the "Statement of Affairs" can

June 30, 2020 (Section 10-17 of the School Code)

SCHOOL DISTRICT/JOINT AGREEMENT NAME: Wilmington CUSD 209U 56-099-209U-26-06 RCDT NUMBER: ADDRESS: 209 Wildcat Court, Wilmington, IL 60481

COUNTY: Will Wilmington Free Press Advocate NAME OF NEWSPAPER WHERE PUBLISHED: YES X

	•
CAPITAL ASSETS	
574 777-775	VALUE
WORKS OF ART & HISTORICAL TREASURES	
LAND	1,594,964
BUILDING & BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	30,352,170
SITE IMPROVMENTS & INFRASTRUCTURE	
CAPITALIZED EQUIPMENT	173,874
CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS	
Total	32,121,008
NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED PER GRADE	

CAPITALIZED EQUIPMENT	173,874
CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS	
Total	32,121,008
NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED PER GRADE	
PRE-KINDERGARTEN	62
KINDERGARTEN	90
FIRST	77
SECOND	82
THIRD	75
FOURTH	93
FIFTH	90
SIXTH	106
SEVENTH	94
EIGHTH	105
SPECIAL	
Total Elementary	874
NINTH	104
TENTH	105
ELEVENTH	127
TWELFTH	96
SPECIAL	
Total Secondary	432

DISTRICT TYPE High School The statement of affairs has been made available in the main administrative office of the school district/joint agreement and the required Annual Statement of Affairs Summary has been published in accordance with Section 10-17 of the School Code. SIZE OF DISTRICT IN SQUARE MILES 9 MONTH AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE 1,086 NUMBER OF CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES 103 PART-TIME NUMBER OF NON-CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES 101 PART-TIME TAX RATE BY FUND (IN %)
EDUCATIONAL 2.7003 OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE 0.3817 **BOND & INTEREST** 0.9788 TRANSPORTATION MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT 0.0100 WORKING CASH FIRE PREVENTION & SAFETY TORT IMMUNITY 0.0135 SPECIAL EDUCATION 0.0000 OTHER DISTRICT EQUALIZED ASSESSED VALUATION (EAV) **EQUALIZED ASSESSED VALUATION PER ADA PUPIL** 221,805 33,250,646 TOTAL LONG-TERM DEBT OUTSTANDING AS OF June 30, 2020

PERCENT OF LONG-TERM DEBT OBLIGATED CURRENTLY

PAYMENTS OVER \$2,500, EXCLUDING	WAGES	AND SA	LARIES
WILLIAM ADELAMNN			86,436
AFFILIATED PARTS, LLCALEXANDER LUMBER OCMPANY			2.791
AMALGAMATED BANK OF CHICAGO			2,272,542
AMAZON COM			25,166
AMAZON.COMAMER. FAMILY LIFE ASSURANCE CO			28,990
ANG CUSTOM GRANITE & CABINETS			5.076
APPLE COMPUTER, INC			10,597
ATI PHYSICAL THERAPYAVALON PETROLEUM COMPANY			18 000
BANK OF AMERICA BUSINESS CARD			6,564
BANK OF AMERICA BUSINESS CARD BANK OF AMERICA BUSINESS CARD			11.736
BANK OF AMERICA BUSINESS CARD			2,690
BEGLERS AUTO REPAIR			2,550
BELLETTINI FOODSBERNARD FOOD INDUSTRIES,L INC			4,889
BILL'S DRYWALL, INC BLACKBOARD INCBLUE RIBBON MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES CO.			12,422
BLUE RIBBON MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES CO			4,478
BOOMBAH			14 085
BSN SPORTS INC			11,194
BYTESPEED, LLC			8 780
CAROLINA BIOLOGICAL SUPPLY CO			3,336
COMPUTER DISCOUNT WAREHOUSE CENTRAL RESTAURANT PRODUCTS			17 510
COMMERCIAL ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS, INC			66,382
CHG ALERNATIVE EDUCATION INC			
CITY OF WILMINGTON			2 632
CLEANFREAK.COM			2,526
COMCASTCONCRETE BY MANCUSO, INC			61.657
CONSERV FS INC			53,321
CONSERV FS INC CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY GAS DIV, LLC CONTROL ENGINEERING CORP.			2 888
COTG			11,563
COTG COUNTRY CLUB HILLS TECH & TRADE CENT COUNTRY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	ER		25,726
CASEY CRAWFORD			3 500
THE DECISION SYSTEMS CO. DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE			16,397
DISTRICT 209-U IMPREST FUND			30.351
EBS HEALTHCAREEBSCO			136,812
ECOLAR PEST FLIMINATION			4 321
ELIM CHRISTIAN SERVICES. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN. EDUC. SCHOOL INSURANCE COOPERATIVE			1 393 053
EDUC. SCHOOL INSURANCE COOPERATIVE			107,875
FLEET SERVICES			5 535
FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS, INC.			7,046
FULL COMPASS SYSTEMS, LTD. FUTURE TREE SERVICE.			8.400
GOLDSTAR LEARNING, INC			3,760
GRAYBAR			3,166
GRUNDY SUPPLY			36,767
HARCOURT OUTLINES, INC. HEALY, BENDER & ASSOCIATES, INC. HEARTLAND BANK & TRUST COMPANY			67,784
HEARTLAND BANK & TRUST COMPANY LAWRENCE C. HEIDEMANN			170,500
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES			14,382
IL ASSOC. OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS			20,337
ILLINOIS ASSOC. OF SCHOOL BOARDS IDEAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, INC.			4,005
ILL. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSOCILLINOIS CENTRAL 8 CONFERECE			3 000
ILLINOIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BUS. LLC			669.825
ILLINOIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BUS, LLC ILLINOIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BUS, LLC			15.409
ILLINOIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BUS, LLC ILLINOIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BUS, LLC ILLINOIS DEPART. OF EMPLOYMENT SECURI			64,509
ILLINOIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BUS, LLC ILLINOIS DEPART. OF EMPLOYMENT SECURI	TY		62,685
ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND			304,106
IMAGE SYSTEMS & BUSINESS SOLUTIONS INDUSTRIAL APPRAISAL COMPANY			7,110
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE			955,615
IL PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION			3,325
J LUCAS & SONS PAVING INC JOLIET PUBLIC SCHOOLS 86			9,400
KLEIN, THORPE AND JENKINS, LTD			11,108
KUCH FILTER CORPORATION			3 167
LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS LAKEWOOD SHORES IMPROVMENT ASSOC.			2,645
LUMBER LIQUIDATORS			142 200
MACK & ASSOCIATES			11,940
DR. THOMAS MADDEN			5,000 2 631
MENARDS - JOLIET			7,573
NAPERVILLE PSYCHIATRIC VENTURES			24,158
NAPERVILLE PSYCHIATRIC VENTURES NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOC			2,675
NAVIANCE, INC. NCS PEARSON, INC. NEXTEL COMMUNICATIONS			5,933
NEXTEL COMMUNICATIONS			9,044
NEXTERA ENERGY SERVICESOTIS ELEVATOR			7,672
OTIS ELEVATOR			181,304
PEPSI-COLA			48,541
PERFORMANCE FOODSERVICE-CHICAGO .			43,050
PEPSI-COLA PERFORMANCE FOODSERVICE-CHICAGO POWERSCHOOL GROUP LLC PRECISION CONTROL SYSTEMS, INC.			5,810
DDECISION DIDING INC			68 556
R & G CONSULTANTS LUCAS RAMPA RAPTOR TECHNOLOGIES, LLC			6,000
RIVERSIDE WORKFORCE HEALTH			6,018
RIVERSIDE WORKFORCE HEALTH SCHOOL EMPLOYEES LOSS FUND (SELF) SCHOOL SPECIALTY SCHOOL WEBMASTERS, LLC			37,184
SCHOOL WEBMASTERS, LLC			8,360
SHICK SUPPLY AND EQUIPMENT COSKYWARD ACCOUNTING DEPT			7 135
SOWIC			2,598,702
SOWIC SPECIALTY FLOORS, INC. SPORTSHUDDLE			8,234
STATE DISBURSEMENT UNIT			11,264
TEACHERS RETIREMENT FUND			24 169

PAYMENTS OVER \$2,500, EXCLUDING WAGES AND SALARIES

Published in the Free Press Advocate Wednesday, Nov 18, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICES Because it's your right to know

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TRI-K SUPPLIES, INC. 20,874
TROST EXCAVATING. 7,110
U.S. OMNI. 141,909
VERITIV OPERATING COMPANY-ADDISON. 10,962
WASTE MANAGEMENT 27,632
WASTE MANAGEMENT 3,396
WERDEN BUCK COMPANY 4,900
WHITMORE HARDWARE 13,137
WHITMORE HARDWARE 22,815
WILCO AREA CAREER CENTER 221,694
WILLOWGLEN ACADEMY-IL 37,385
WILMINGTON COMM. UNIT 63,633
WILMINGTON COMMUNITY UNIT DENTAL PLAN 9,623
WILMINGTON OVERHEAD DOOR COMPANY, INC. 2,766
WILMINGTON SUPPORT PERSONNEL 13,887
WINDY CITY COATING 5,600
WORKPLACE SOLUTIONS, LLC 4,040
ZITO MEDIA 34,389

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ZITO MEDIA

81.52%

Local Drug Take Back event a success

Local event collects 27 pounds of unused drugs

BY MARNEY SIMON **EDITOR**

Members of both the Wilmington and Braidwood communities gave a hand to law enforcement and local drug abuse prevention organizations in the effort to combat the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs last month.

The Wilmington Coalition for a Healthy Community and the Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition teamed up to host a drug take back event in Wilmington on Oct. 24. The event was held at the CVS in Wilmington, with assistance from the Wilmington Police Department.

The event was part of the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, hosted in April and October each year and spon-Drug by the Enforcement Administration.

Hill of the Wilmington Coalition for a Healthy Community updated members of the Braidwood coalition during their regular monthly meeting on Monday of the haul the event brought

"We had 27 pounds turned in that day," Hill said. "I guess from the take back bin at the police department, they ended

Triangle Mini Storage gives notice of disposal

PUBLIC NOTICE

To: Donna Spicuzza, Candace Roche, Danette Donovan, April Alexander, Alex Harris, Rebecca Coluzzi and Sean

Notice is hereby given that a possible sale or disposal of personal property will take place as allowed by the IL Self

Storage Facility Act 770 ILCS 95.
This property includes household

It is in space numbers 28, 79, 122, 123, 246, 379, 418 and 422 at Triangle Mini Storage, 24700 W. Stripmine Rd., Wilmington, IL 60481, which is currently rented by Donna Spicuzza, Candace Roche, Danette Donovan, April Alexander Alex Harris, Rebecca Coluzzi and Sean

Presler.
Sale, either individually or by lot, or disposal will take place on: Date: Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: Triangle Mini Storage, 24616 W. Stripmine Rd., Wilmington, IL

This notice is being given by Tony Miceli of Triangle Mini Storage.

Published in the Free Press

Advocate on Wednesday, November 11

up turning in over 40 pounds. So, we're glad for that because that's just medicine that's not addiction out there being abused and that's during COVID."

Hill said even better news is was there were some items that were refused — items that could instead be disposed of safely by the people who brought them in themselves. Hill said some folks even

asked to turn in medication

that was for their animals, but were referred to local medicine drop boxes or the police rather now collected nearly 13.7 milthan the Take Back event. That, she said, is a good sign that folks are actively

looking to clear their medicine cabinets of any potentially harmful substances that are no longer needed. 'We theoretically would have had more or could have

had more if we had accepted

everything that came in. But, not a bad take, 27 pounds for two hours," she said. According to the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, as many as 9.9 million Americans misuse controlled prescription drugs. A majority of those abused pre-

scription drugs were obtained

from family and friends, often

from the home medicine cabi-

Attorney Lynch files

Baldwin 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
SUE A. BALDWIN, Deceased; No. 20P828

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Sue A. Baldwin. Letters of Office

were issued to Sandra R. Silva whose address is 5309 Maple Glen Drive, Plainfield, Illinois 60586 as Independent

Administrator, whose attorney of record is Jennifer M. Lynch of June, Prodehl, Renzi & Lynch, L.L.C., 1861 Black Road, Joliet,

filed in the Circuit Clerk's Office, Will County Courthouse, 14 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60431, or with the rep-

resentative, or both, on or before the 18th day of May, 2021, 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

claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has

Published in the Free Press Advocate, Wednesday, Nov. 18, 25 and

BY: Jennifer M. Lynch

1861 Black Road

Atty No.: 06275404

Joliet, IL 60435

For the Estate of Sue A. Baldwin,

Claims against the estate may be

Illinois 60435.

Dec. 2, 2020.

Take Back Day helps to

Americans to prevent drug and overdose deaths.

Nationwide, the Oct. 24 National Prescription Drug Take Back Day brought in nearly a million pounds of unused, expired, and unwanted medications across the country, the largest amount ever collected in the program's

The DEA, along with its law enforcement partners, has pounds of expired, unused, and unwanted prescription medications since the inception of the National

> Elwood School Board approves draft levy

PUBLIC NOTICE

Elwood CCSD #203 Board of Education approved the 2020 draft levy for public display on November 10, 2020, a regular scheduled Board of Education meeting. This draft levy is available for the public to view on the Elwood School website at: www.elwoodschool.com, or you may stop by the school office at 409 N. Chicago Avenue, Elwood.

The Board of Education will approve the final levy at the December 8, 2020, regular scheduled Board of Education meeting.

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2020.

Attorney Lynch files Mahalick 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 BERNARD J. MAHALICK, Deceased; No.

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Bernard J. Mahalick. Letters of Office were issued to Jane E. Mahalick-Wilson whose address is 1292 County Road 3000 East, El Paso, Illinois, 61738 as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is Jennifer M. Lynch of June, Prodehl, Renzi & Lynch, L.L.C., 1861 Black Road, Joliet, Illinois 60435.

Claims against the estate may be

filed in the Circuit Clerk's Office, Will County Courthouse, 14 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60431, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 4th day of May, 2021 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 claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Jennifer M. Lynch

For the Estate of Bernard J. Mahalick

BY: Jennifer M. Lynch 1861 Black Road Joliet, IL 60435 815-725-8000

Atty No.: 06275404
Published in the Free Press
Advocate, Wednesday, November 4, 11 and 18, 2020

24-13-211-002-0000.

Initiative in 2010.

On Oct. 24, the public turned in 985,392 pounds almost 493 tons — of medication to DEA and 4,153 of its community partners at 4,587 collection sites nationwide.

'This year's event, with a record-setting 493-ton collection, is a sure sign that DEA's Take Back Day events continue to provide a vital public service that keeps loved ones safe an opportunity to rid homes of potentially dangerous unused, expired, and unwanted medications," said DEA Acting

> Symerton passes tax levy ordinance

PUBLIC NOTICE

Legal Public Notice of the Village of Symerton, Will County, Illinois, pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/1-2-6: A TAX LEVY ORDI-NANCE FOR THE VILLAGE OF SYMER-TON was approved and passed by the Village Board of Trustees after a public hearing held on November 9, 2020.

A copy of the ordinance can be viewed by contacting the office of the Village Clerk, Village Hall, 18385 W. Commercial Street, Symerton, Illinois during regular working hours at (815) 476-

Dated this 9th day of Novembe

Published in the Free Press

Advocate on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2020.

Attorney Lynch files Stepanovic estate claim

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARIKA STEPANOVIC, Deceased; No.

CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to creditors of the

death of Marika Stepanovic. Letters of Office were issued to Goran Kljajic, whose address is 16422 W. 146th Place, Lockport, Illinois, 60441 as Independent Administrator, whose attorney of record is Jennifer M. Lynch of June, Prodehl, Renzi & Lynch, L.L.C., 1861 Black Road, Joliet, Illinois 60435.

Claims against the estate may be

filed in the Circuit Clerk's Office, Will County Courthouse, 14 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60431, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 4th day of May, 2021 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. be mailed or delivered by claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Jennifer M. Lvnch

For the Estate of Marika Stepanovic, Deceased

BY: Jennifer M. Lynch 1861 Black Road Joliet, IL 60435 815-725-8000 Atty No.: 06275404 Published in the Free Press

. Galistieu in the Free Press Advocate, Wednesday, November 4, 11 and 18, 2020.

Every day is Take Back Day and we encourage the public to continue to address this urgent safety and public health

issue by using the thousands of existing drop-off locations throughout the year." In addition to the biannual national event, pre-

drop boxes at the CVS stores in Wilmington, Braidwood, and Coal City.

scription drugs can also be dis-

posed of locally year round at

IcedT by T files as new business

PUBLIC NOTICE

Assumed Name **Publication Notice**

Certificate 33640 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of Will County on Oct. 21, 2020 wherein the business firm of ICEDT BY T, (fashion apparel & accessories) located at 3408 E. Cumberland Ln. Crete, IL 60417 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address, is as fol-

Owner Name: Triniti Gilliam Owner Address: 3408 E.
Cumberland Ln., Crete, IL 60417
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have

hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Joliet, Illinois this 21st day of October, 2020.

Notary Public Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 11 and

18, 2020.

Elwood Board to review Deer Run TIF Fund

PUBLIC NOTICE

Village of Elwood Joint Review Board To

Hold Annual Meeting
The Joint Review Board of the Deer Industrial Park

Economic Development Project Area Tax Increment Financing District will conduct an Annual Meeting beginning at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 in the Village Hall Council Chambers at the Elwood Village Hall, 401 E. Mississippi Avenue, Elwood, IL 60421.

The purpose of this meeting is to

review the financial activity within the Redevelopment District during Fiscal Year 2020, as required by State Statute. To ensure full accessibility and equal par-

ticipation for all interested citizens, individuals with disabilities who plan to attend and who require certain accommodations in order to observe and participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of these facilities, are requested to contact Julie Friebele, Village Clerk at 815-424-1079 promptly to allow All interested parties are invited to

attend and provide their input. The hearing may be continued on said date to a future time, date and place without further notices being given. Published November 18, 2020 by Order of the Village of Elwood.

Julie Friebele Village Clerk

Village of Elwood

17-36-202-003-0000. 17-36-202-017-0000. 17-36-203-005-0000.

17-36-204-012-0000

17-36-304-022-0000

17-36-308-002-0000 17-36-300-002-0000. 17-36-310-002-0000. 17-36-401-018-0000.

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2020.

Coffee &

Newspapers

One wakes you up One opens your eyes

Attorney Boggs files Buhle estate notice

PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROSE BUHLE, DECEASED; 2020-P-516

PUBLICATION NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the

Notice is given to creditors of the death of ROSE BUHLE. Letters of Office were issued on October 16, 2020, to Eric Buhle as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is JANINE M. BOGGS at BOGGS & FILLENWARTH, LTD., 211 E.

Jefferson St., Suite A, Morris, IL 60450

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk at 14 W. Jefferson St., Joliet, Illinois 60432 or 3200 W. McDonough, Joliet, Illinois 60431 with the representative, or both, on or before May 4, 2021, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by 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 musi be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the representative's attorney with ten (10) days after it

Advocate on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 11 and

Published in the Free Press

Attorney Naughton files Jendrzejak 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

EUGENE A. JENDRZEJAK, Deceased, No. 20 P 842 **CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given to creditors of the eath of Eugene A. Jendrzejak. Letters of

Office were issued to Cora C. Stachvra 15929 S. Lorel, Oak Forrest, IL 60452, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is Michael R. Naughton, P.O. Box 10. Manhattan, Illinois 60442. The estate will be administered with

out court supervision unless under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (IL Compiled Stat. 755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested pe son terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Circuit Clerk. Claims against the estate may be

filed in the Circuit Clerk's Office, Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60431, or with the rep resentative of the estate, or both, on or before the 18th day of May, 2021 or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the repre sentative is required by Section 5/18-3 o 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

Michael R. Naughton #06180774 P O Box 10 Manhattan, Illinois 60442 815-478-3933

DEER CREEK ESTATES CMNT

Published in the Free Press Advocate, Wednesday, Nov. 18, 25 and Dec. 2, 2020.

3,409.22

3.638.48

1,035.18

Delinquent Property Tax List for Wesley and Wilmington Township

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENDED APPLICATION FOR JUDGMENT FOR SALE OF PROPERTIES UPON WHICH REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAXES AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS ARE DELINQUENT

I, Tim Brophy, County Treasurer and Ex-Officio County Collector of Will County in the State of Illinois, give notice that I will apply on the first Wednesday in December, 2020, the same being the second day of said month, to the Circuit Court of said County for Tax Sale, to be held at the Will County Office Building, 302 North Chicago Street, in the City of Joliet, in said County of Will for Judgment against properties described in the delinquent lists for the taxes, special assessments, interest and costs due thereon and that I will then and there apply for an order to sell the properties for the satisfaction of said general taxes, special assessments, interest and costs. Jakes give notice that an December 9, 2020 the special assessments, interest and costs. I also give notice that on December 9, 2020 the same being the Wednesday next succeeding the date of application, all the properties for the sale of which an order is made will be exposed to public sale at the Will County Office Building aforesaid in said County and State for the amount of taxes and costs due. Said Dating and each in said county and state of the anious of the ariset of the said Wednesday, the ninth of December, 2020 and will continue from day to day until all properties upon which general

taxes, special assessments, interest and costs remaining due and unpaid at the time are offered for sale.

TAKE NOTICE: In addition to the delinquent amount, the cost due on each property is \$10.00. In addition to the delinquent amount and costs, each person purchasing any property pursuant to any provision of the Illinois Compiled Statutes 35 ILCS 200/21-245, 35 ILCS 200/21-295, 35 ILCS 200/21-330, 55 ILCS 5/4-4001 shall also pay to the County Treasurer (Collector), fees of \$10.00, \$20.00, \$60.00, \$4.00 and (\$37.00 if back taxes are included in the certificate of purchase) for each parcel purchased prior to the issuance of any certificate of purchase. These amounts shall be included in the purchase price of the certificate of purchase.

All delinquent taxes for the year 2019 are changed interest at the rate of one and one

All delinquent taxes for the year 2019 are charged interest at the rate of one and one half percent per month, the first installment being delinquent after June 3, 2020, and the second installment being delinquent after September 3, 2020.

Following is a list of properties situated in some of the townships of the County of Will, State of Illinois, upon which the taxes remain due and unpaid, together with the names of the owners, as far as is known and the amount of tax thereon. Said taxes are for the levy year 2019, payable in 2020.

IN ORDER TO PURCHASE ANY PROPERTY AT THE SALE, each person desiring

to bid at the sale must register by November 23, 2020 with the Treasurer on the forms provided by him.

TIM BROPHY
WILL COUNTY TREASURER
EX-OFFICIO COUNTY COLLECTOR
DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAX LIST FOR 2019 LEVY WESLEY TOWNSHIP

'	SMOK BRUCE JOSHUA
24-01-100-007-0000	SMOK BRUCE JOSHUA
24-01-102-045-0000	LACH RADOSLAW JANINA
24-01-102-071-0000	NORTON DONALD
24-01-103-010-0000	BORMET WILLIAM
24-01-104-004-0000	SHOEMAKER LARRY J NANCY 1,081.75
24-01-302-002-0000	HOLMES CAROLINA
24-01-302-072-0000	LARSON DONALD K
24-01-303-007-0000	SYNOGA LILLIAN DARLENE
24-01-305-022-0000	FROST DONALD O TRUST2,254.34
24-01-306-024-0000	SLEDZ DANIEL
24-01-306-026-0000	OBERT JANET
24-01-306-058-0000	GREMINGER SUSAN
24-01-306-059-0000	GREMINGER SUSAN
24-01-306-068-0000	SLEDZ DANIEL
24-01-306-069-0000	SLEDZ DANIEL
24-12-200-007-0000	STEFANCIC ANTHONY TRUST709.40
24-12-200-008-0000	STEFANCIC ANTHONY TRUST357.85
24-12-202-006-0000	ARNOTT THOMAS R
24-12-400-006-0000	UGALDE PEDRO
24-12-403-001-0000	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR
	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR
	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR99.66
24-12-404-010-0000	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR
	BARABAN JOHN M KATHLEEN 1,233.37
	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR
24-12-405-002-0000	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR 1,465.48
	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR
	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR
	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR523.46
24-12-405-012-0000	ANDREANO SAMUEL J TR523.46
24-12-407-075-0000	UTKE DONALD B LYNN M 783.88
24-12-412-004-0000	ROCK RICHARD S
24-12-412-016-0000	POWERS SUSAN E
24-13-205-004-0000	BARNETT DONNA
	MCGINNIS TIMOTHY P TIMO130.92
	MCGINNIS TIMOTHY P TIMO
24-13-205-010-0000	MCGINNIS TIMOTHY P TIMO
24-13-205-058-0000	BARNETT DONNA
24-13-205-061-0000	PETITTI JOHN
24-13-208-052-0000	WB INVESTING LLC
24-13-209-022-0000	MURPHY SEAN P
24-13-209-023-0000	MURPHY SEAN P
24-13-211-001-0000	ANDREANO SAMUEL J LAND

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WILDCAT SPORTS

Wildcats, Comets put winter season on hold

STAFF WRITER

Basketball will have to wait as Reed-Custer and Wilmington High School join Coal City in announcing there won't be winter sports played

The local schools are going to abide by the Illinois Department of Public Health in taking COVID-19 safety precautions by waiting until the go-ahead is given.

Coal City sent a press release out Thursday saying they would be following the guidance of the IDPH and Illinois State Board of Education on the winter basketball season. Coal City basketball players will be working on no-contact skill development and conditioning until the sports are approved.

After the Illinois High School Association went forth with planning for the winter season on Wednesday, Oct. 28, Gov. Pritzker held a press conference the day after, stating schools

could face legal consequences if illness or injury results from playing in defiance of the state's guidance.

So far 34 schools have said they intend to start their seasons while 300 said no and 212 are

Reed-Custer athletic director Chuck Anderson explained the Comets will be following the IDPH.

"We're like everyone else," said Anderson. "It's like the rest of the schools in our conference, most of them and the area, we're just not

Anderson is hopeful for a more clear view on the season when the IHSA has a board meeting on Thursdav.

We'll hope to have a better direction on Thursday when everyone gets together but at this point in time, it's not feasible to move for-

What influenced the decision for many was insurance companies that are warning that coverage will be dropped if they don't abide by the

"I expect they'll push our season back," added Anderson. "Who knows what will happen but that's what I expect they'd do.

Wilmington athletic director Brian Goff said the liability issue was the exact reason the Wildcats are going to wait.

'It was 100% that," said Goff. "The insurance company told us, 'that's on you'. They said if you go against the Illinois Department of Public Health Guidelines, we can't be liable. We would be liable for that so we would lose tort immunity which means if somebody sued the school, we wouldn't be covered. Now, they're going after individual coaches. It's just not

The IHSA had a virtual board meeting on Wednesday to discuss Thursday's agenda. Representatives from the IDPH and governor's office have been asked to attend. They also invited the Illinois Principals Association, the Illinois Association of School Administrators, the Illinois State Board of Education and a coali-

made an effort to contact the Governor regarding school sports.

The Board hopes to create a dialogue and build a more collaborative relationship with all the entities involved with developing sports policy in our state as everyone tries to navigate

the myriad issues caused by the pandemic,

said IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson. The Board's decision to move forward with the IHSA basketball season was not meant to be adversarial. It was rooted in a desire to receive more direct communication and data from our state partners. They hope all the groups will see the mutual benefit of increased discourse and be represented at the meeting on November

The IHSA Board said that while the schools can start practicing on Nov. 16, they will be held to Level 1 mitigations from the IDPH All Sports Policy until at least Nov. 19.

They'll hope to have more direction after the meeting on Thursday.

Former Lady 'Cat coaches develop dream team of standouts

BY SHAWN LONG SPORTS WRITER

They'd be considered the best of the best when it comes to Wilmington High School girls basketball.

Four former Wilmington girls basketball coaches gave us their list of players who would make up an ideal dream

Don Roach, who coached the first girls basketball team at Wilmington in 1978 and went on to win a sub-regional in 1979 with a regional in 1980, compiling a record of 65-54 in his six years, had a list of girls he would have on his dream

Tonya Duncan

Roach said Duncan was their leading scorer from 1977-80 during the regional championship season when the Lady 'Cats went 20-6. They finished the season with a victory in the only regional championship the girls basketball program has had. Duncan was one of the top scorers, finishing with a little more than 600 points.

"She shot the heck out of the ball," said Roach. "We knew right away she was going to be our go-to gal. She was our leading scorer in every season she played for me.

Cindi Mills

In 1979, Mills was a guard on the second Wildcat team and became the second overall scorer next to Duncan.

She was very good at stealing the basketball.

"She was just a scrapper," said Roach. "She had hands. She would just pick your pocket and she set up a lot of easy baskets for herself."

Karen Kavanaugh

Kavanaugh was a senior and rebounding. when the Lady 'Cats won the regional title.

"She was first team All-Conference along with Duncan," said Roach "She was very good defensively. She was my point guard, honor roll student and she just handled the ball well and knew where to go all the time.

Debbie Vercelli & Lori Gresham

Vercelli and Gresham came in as freshmen during the first two seasons before reaching their junior seasons when the 'Cats won the region-

"They contributed heavily to what we accomplished. Both girls were really good defensive players. The Gresham girl, she'd run The through a wall for you to play

defense. She was always in somebody's face out on the court. Vercelli enjoyed doing all Cluver came to the program the dirty work in the lane."

Gresham tioned as honorable mention season. players for Roach. Gresham, Lori's younger

sister, came off the bench to hit three consecutive shots late during the regional championship game that ultimately helped them win. Mike Cluver, who coached

the Lady 'Cats from 1996-01, had a list of nearly 20 different Lady 'Cats he'd have on the team that were all All-Conference players and all top of the line athletes

Jenny Dezee

Starting with Jenny Dezee, who was the points leader back in the day and did everything. She would be his first pick

because she could do every-

She played every position," said Cluver. "And she had to because the way teams defended her it was a must. She was by far our best player so she'd get double and triple

From 1996-2000, Dezee led the 'Cats with 1,165 points, leading her team to 65 wins in her four seasons.

Dezee went on to play college basketball at Kankakee Community College. There she is listed on the rebounds list, snagging 330 boards from 2000-02. She also scored 669 points in her career.

Jackie Rader

Rader, who played for the Lady 'cats from 1996-98 was a center and a top scoring center. Cluver notes she was close to a double-double in scoring

"Iackie was Cluver. "She went into coaching at Coal City which didn't surprise me. She did well at all sports. That little group of Rader, the two Barr girls, they actually went to state in track.'

Stacie Hall

Hall, who Cluver nicknamed "Spud Webb" because of her small stature like that of the former NBA player Spud Webb (5-7), was the next girl selected.

Hall played point guard for the 'Cats from 1994-96 and she was an excellent outside shooter as she could knock down almost any shot.

She was probably the first premiere outside shooter. She went to state in the three point contest so she was really good at shooting the outside shots.

Hoffman was before but she used to be a great cenand ter, close to a double-double in Theresa Rodawold were men-scoring and rebounding for the

Kathleen York

York, who played for Cluver during his final two seasons, was a center, who was really good at scoring.

She too was very good at backing down the defender to score as she was close to a double-double season average as

"She wasn't as big as Rader but she was tall and she did a good job on the inside. She didn't have the same skill set as Rader did but she was very dominant on the inside.'

Darcy &Darthy Barr

The Barr twins main sport was track but they were fast Wing 2-3 defenders for Cluver during the 1996-98 seasons.

"They were really quick. They used their track speed and played really good defense

Bridget Smith

Smith was playing the same time as York and she was a point guard. She was really sound on both sides of the ball.

'She just played both ends of the court very well," he commented. "She didn't score that much but she did score and ran the show from the defensive side of the ball.

Jenny Quigley

Quigley, who played a forward 3-4 for Cluver from 1999-01, was very good at using her big body to get to the basket.

"Jenny was kind of the scorer my last couple of years," said Cluver. "She had good moves to the basket.

Colleen Keeley

Even though she was before Cluver's time coaching, she was like Quigley in that she could get to the basket very

"She was very much like Quigley," he continued. "She was the same size as Quigley and could box out the defender to get to the basket."

Kathy Martin

Martin was a center opposite to York, who was a very strong rebounder for the 'Cats. The York girl and Martin

were interchangeable. She didn't score a lot but she was a good defender and a rebound-

Vicki Ademczyk

Ademczyk was the point guard for the 'Cats from 1995-

She was quick defensively. could score and make passes for assists with ease.

"She was the point guard right before Rader and she was very unselfish. I couldn't get her to shoot enough. She could've been a better scorer had we not had a Rader and a Michelle Owens and a Molly

Jenny Mills

Mills was a point guard during Cluver's final year. "She was quick defensively and could get to the basket."

Michelle Owens Owens played a forward 4 for the 'Cats from 1996-98 and

she was so smooth around the basket and a great passer at

"She was the double-post with Rader and she did a lot of passing to Rader. She would catch and turn and then Rader would post up and we'd get the ball to her. They had a really good tandem going between the two of them.

Molly Daniel

Daniel, who was on that same team, played the other forward.

She was a consistent shooter and could hit the short shot with ease.

'Molly Daniel, boy she really came on her senior exclaimed Cluver. "I



FORMER WILMINGTON GUARD Colleen Keeley was a dream team selection for girls basketball.

in the post and she just developed into a really nice 10-12 foot jump shot at the high post area especially during ball

Sam Helfrich

Helfrich, who as on his last team, was very consistent on both ends.

'She was more of a rebounder than a scorer. She was definitely a team player."

Lady 'Cat coaches Stan Roeder and Andrew Johnson helped with a few more players from when they coached.

Jessoni Plese

Another girl that was picked to be on the team was Plese, who broke Dezee's record in 2005, setting a new record with 1,403 points.

Along with that, Plese was named a McDonald's for her performance during her senior season. Former girls coach Stan Roeder notes it is a very prestigious award.

Only a thousand girls get nominated in the entire nation." said Roeder.

Jessoni was a sound all around player who could do it

"She could do everything," continued Roeder. "She could handle the ball, pass, start the transition and she always drew the opponents' best defenders. They would double team her and she would find a way.

"As good of an offense player as she was, she was just as good on defense. She led the team in steals every year and always played tough."

Gina Vercelli

Vercelli played forward for the 'Cats during Roeder's 2003-05 run with them. Her leadership was the best.

'She was a great player and one of the smartest players I have coached. She would be able to make adjustments during the game that would put her in the stronger position either on offense or defense.' Gina could really go get

the rebounds. 'She was always our top

rebounder, one of our top scorers and had a great understanding of the game," added Roeder. "She was a great team-mate and leader.

Tara Spell Spell, who broke Plese's

played her a little more higher record in 2008 with 1,435 that's not why she deserves a points when the 'Cats were 10-14, is another girl deserving of Johnson. "She deserves a mena spot on the dream team.

Johnson said she had natural dling the ball.

"She was a dominant post player on both sides of the ball," said Johnson. "She scored a double-double in points and in rebounds every game. She was a great kid with a tremendous work ethic to match her skills."

Erin Murphy

Murphy, who played point guard for Johnson from 2008-11, was an all-around solid player, who worked hard for

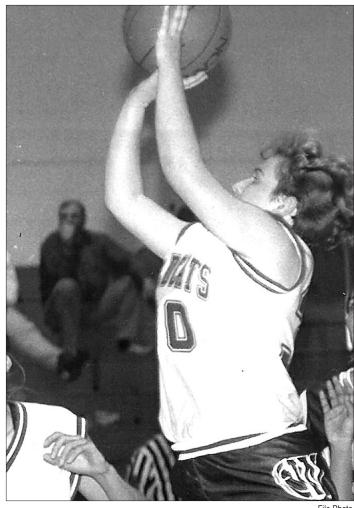
"Her stats were alright but kid to coach."

mention." tion because she was such a Tara's coach, Andrew bulldog when it came to han-

would hustle like crazy and was an effective perimeter shooter. She was an overall tough kid who outplayed her athletic gifts with IQ and sheer heart and determination."

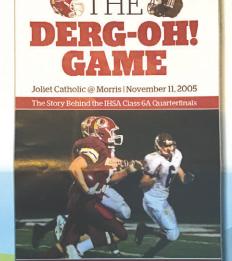
Johnson notes it may have had something to do with the way she grew up.

"It probably helped she was raised with two older brothers that I assume didn't really take it easy on her. Great



FORMER LADY 'CAT Stacie Hall (shooting the ball) was recently selected by former 'Cats coach Mike Cluver as a selection on the girls basketball dream team.

BOOK COMING THIS OCTOBER!



Get Behind The Scenes Accounts From Players & Coaches For Pre-Orders Contact Andy Peterson Via Facebook

Send Email To: TheDergOhGame@Gmail.Com