

WHS students
of the month



Winning despite
the big hurt



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FINAL FOUR 'CATS



Photo by Eric Fisher

THE WILMINGTON WILDCATS take the field during Saturday's 3A state quarterfinal playoff game at Du-Pec. The Cats won 22-13 and will be playing this Saturday at Lombard at 1 p.m. against Montini Catholic, seeking a victory and a trip to Bloomington for the state championship contest for the second year in a row. Wildcats ready for the challenge include (from left) Floyd McKendrick (10), Declan Moran (44), Zach Ohlund (59), Ryan Nelson (25), Kurtis Brassard (22), Logan Van Duyne (55), Jack Cutter (54), Will Wilson (62) and Nate Cupples (17).

One win away from returning to state

BY ERIC FISHER
PUBLISHER

For the sixth time in school history, the Wilmington has reached

the Final Four in the football playoffs.

The Wildcats (12-0) have one more game to win to reach the state championship game. But unlike

last year's 2A title, they'll have to get there in the 3A bracket.

Were the Wildcats denied anything by getting moved up to 3A this year? Not really when you consider that four of the past six semi-final appearances have been in 3A. Are the 'Cats capable of winning Saturday's semi-final at Montini Catholic, we won't know that until 48 minutes and four quarters tick away starting at 1 p.m.

The hosting Broncos (10-2) will be tough to beat with a football history that includes six 5A state championships and three seconds before dropping down to 3A last year. Wilmington is the first school they'll play this season with a smaller enrollment than their own.

Their losses during the regular season were to 8A Marist and 7A Fenwick while they defeated seven others, of which three became playoff qualifiers.

"There's no doubt we're going up against a great program at Montini. Coach Bukovsky does a great job and they come from a great league. But we've got a shot even though we're going up there on their field, and that's always tough," commented Wilmington coach

Jeff Reents.

Expect the Broncos to pass the ball with senior quarterback Israel Abrams (#7) operating out of a spread offense. The 6'2" sophomore is impressive from the shotgun position, throwing for over 200 yards and multiple touchdowns twice this season.

Their roster includes 20 wide receivers, including speedsters juniors Nicholas Harris (#5, 6'-2") and Cristian Harkins #13, 6'-2"). When they do run the ball it's often handed to seniors Josiah James (#3, 6'0", 178) and Jeremiah Peterson (#6, 5'11", 205).

They average 29 points per game while Wilmington has averaged 40.83 points per game. On defense, the two teams are almost even, holding opponents to 9.5 ppg for Montini and 9.9 ppg for Wilmington.

The Broncos are stacked up front with their shortest lineman being 6'0" up to 6'3 and 300 pounds. They will tower over all of the Wildcat linemen.

But Montini is just like any other team in that they can turn over the ball. That happened twice against Princeton in the quarterfinal which the Broncos won

24-7.

Still, they gave up 140 yards rushing to Princeton which bodes well for the Wildcats who gained 313 yards against a hard-hitting DuPec team, and that was without All State running back Kyle Farrell.

Will the Wildcat senior be back for the Montini game? That's what every Wildcat fan would love to happen. Farrell was wearing a boot the entire time of the DuPec game and odds are he was itching to get back in.

Farrell didn't become a standout by standing on the sidelines and we're hoping for his return. Reents said Saturday it was too early to tell and it may become a game time decision as to whether he will start.

Nonetheless, all the 'Cats have to do is play like they did against the Rivermen. Once the 'Cats realized Farrell wouldn't return, they all stepped up, especially tailback Shawn James and the linemen and kept the ball moving. Ryan Kettman was his stellar self, staying on his feet after being hit to gain extra yards. He racked up 160 of hardest-earned yards all season and his team will

be counting on that to happen again at Montini.

Without Farrell his teammates were blocking a little harder, twisting a little longer for an extra yard or two, and piling on to pushing the ball a little further.

Wildcats just don't give up without a good fight.

And Wilmington's best defense is grinding up the clock while they have to ball. They've come this far by playing keep-away with the other team and that can't change.

Reents and Company will scout the heck out of Montini and the Wildcat faithful will show up in full force, even without Harleys, hoping for a win.

"We've got a lot of work to do this week and we'll keep assuring them that they've got a shot at making it to state. Now we need just one more win to get there," Reents said.

While Final Four 'Cats may have a nice ring to it, what sounds better is State Champion 'Cats and this team is capable of earning it.



Festive lighting downtown

Photo by Eric Fisher

CITY WORKERS Dan Seaton (left) and Michael Busby hang commercial grade Edison vintage outdoor string lights between the street lighting poles in Wilmington's downtown district. The city crew worked off and on over the past two weeks, when time allowed, suspending cable between the poles so the string lights could be added.

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Large turnout for a 50th class reunion



Photo courtesy Laurajane Photography

THE WHS CLASS of 1974 recently held a 50th class reunion with over 100 people in attendance. There were 57 classmates and their spouses who attended the Oct. 5 reunion at the Moose Lodge in Wilmington. They came from 11 different states including Texas and as far away as Hawaii. There were 120 graduates back in 1974 so for almost half of them to show up 50 years later was a pleasant surprise, noted Greg Van Duyne who helped to organize the event. He said a good time with food, music, drinks and fellowship was had by all. How many classmates can you identify?

Superintendent explains district's proposed tax levy increase

Kevin Feeney, superintendent of Wilmington School District 209-U, offers the following information when considering the tax levy increase being published on page 6 in this edition.

"As a result of the Wilmington School District being a (PTELL) taxing district, our district can only receive a limited inflationary increase in tax extensions on existing property. This year, the inflationary increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 3.4%.

"However, the school district is also responsible for capturing the taxes on all new property each year. The method taxing bodies use to capture all taxes on new property is to levy above and

beyond the CPI each year.

"By doing this, the school district can decrease the annual tax rate for all existing properties in the community.

"The Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) limits the amount of tax extensions (total taxes billed) for non-home rule taxing districts.

"Although the law is commonly referred to as "tax caps," use of this phrase can be misleading. The PTELL does not "cap" either individual property tax bills or individual property assessments.

"Instead, the PTELL allows a taxing district to receive a limited inflationary increase in tax extensions on existing property, plus

an additional amount for new construction, and voter approved rate increases.

"The limitation slows the growth of property tax revenues to taxing districts when property values and assessments are increasing faster than the rate of inflation. As a whole, property owners have some protection from tax bills that increase only because the market value of their property is rising rapidly.

"Increases in property tax extensions are limited to the lesser of 5 percent or the increase in the consumer price index for the year preceding the levy year.

"Your property tax bill is based on your property's equalized assessed value and the tax

rates, which are determined by tax levy ordinances filed with the respective county after being reduced by PTELL (for non-home rule municipalities and counties) and any applicable tax ceiling rates.

"If your property taxes increased, a way to determine why they increased is to compare this year's tax bill with last year's tax bill. If the assessed value of your property increased, then you need to contact your chief county assessment officer to find out why your property assessed value increased.

"If the tax rates shown on your tax bill are higher, contact the county clerk's office. They can explain why the tax rate

increased."

Some common reasons property assessments may increase include:

- The property values in your area are increasing.
- You made improvements to your property (e.g., an addition to your home; extensive remodeling; a new deck, porch, or patio; a new in-ground swimming pool).
- Your property's value was too low compared to other properties and this error has been corrected.
- Your property had a homestead exemption that has been removed.

WHS cheer team ready to compete Sunday

BY BROOKLYN FLORES
WHS STUDENT REPORTER

The Wilmington competitive cheer team has held a legacy as one of, if not the best, cheer programs in the ICE Conference.

The team, coached by

Jeannine Bejlovec, has been sectional champs six times as well as state champs twice, in 2016 and 2019, and state runner ups in 2021. The team has been conference champions for six consecutive years and state qualifiers for 15 consecutive years.

The Wildcat cheerleaders are approaching what is bound to be another successful season, with sideline cheer coming to an end and the start of the competitive cheer season.

There are some big distinctions between sideline and competitive cheer.

"Competitive cheerleading is a whole other sport than sideline. I'd think that if someone watched us on the sidelines as opposed to us competing they would see how hard it truly is," said Wildcat cheer captain Jamie Cahill.

While sideline cheer is focused on getting the crowd fired up and cheering on the football team, on the other hand, competitive cheer is when the cheerleaders perform against other cheer teams and get scored by judges.

The cheerleaders are given 2 minutes, 30 seconds to display their hardest skills and try to earn the highest score.

Scores are determined by a rubric and scored out of 100. The rubric consists of difficulty and execution of motions, jumps, stunts, and tumbling as well as crowd projection.

With their first competition coming up fast, the team has been working hard to perform a routine they are proud to display.

Cahill, said, "Some ways we prepare for the season is longer practices for stunt clinics. We also have 3-4 hour choreography days and clean up days for our routine to fix any mistakes."

This year's captains include Cahill, Sara Falcon, Erica Maynard and Kaylen Hansen.

Falcon shared her thoughts about the season saying, "This year will be very different especially because we have six seniors and three freshmen as opposed to last year having five seniors and four juniors. So it's definitely an odd comb but the freshmen have handled it very well." Falcon also said, "The bond is something that is always

amazing on the cheer team and even with the senior - freshmen age gap it's stronger than ever."

Hansen added, "We have all worked very hard and we had alot of new people come onto the team. It's been a lot of adjusting and learning new skills but we will do well."

Cahill thanks her coach, Jeannine for always believing in the team and preparing them well each year for every competition.

"Thank you Coach Jeannine, you have been an

amazing coach for the last four years, and to my team, remember to not back down and I believe we will do great things this season!"

Be sure to get a spot to watch and support these talented athletes perform at their very first competition of the year. The team will take the mat at 12:50 pm, then again at 2:29 for their game day routine this Sunday, Nov. 24, during the Wilmington Invitational.



Photo by Alyssa Ohlund

NON-STOP PRACTICING—Members of the sideline cheer team at WHS perform Saturday in front of Wildcat fans who attended the football quarterfinal game. Members of the squad will transition to the Competitive cheer season with their first competition Sunday at WHS.

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to Title 3, Article 9, Section 15, of the Property Tax Code, the Annual Assembly of the Township Assessors and their Deputies with the Supervisor of Assessments will be held Monday, December 9, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Will County Office Building, County Board Room, 302 North Chicago Street, Joliet, Illinois. The purpose of this meeting is to assemble all assessors and their deputies for consultation and instruction in uniformity of their functions for the 2025 assessment year.

SIGNED THIS 11th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024.
Dale D. Butalla CIAO-M, IAAO-P
Supervisor of Assessments

Triangle Mini Storage
gives notice of disposal

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Possible Sale and Disposal
To: Dwayne Walker
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 goods.
It is in space 108 at Triangle Mini Storage, 24616 W Stripmine Rd, Wilmington, IL 60481.
Potential sale will take place online.
Listing Date: Nov. 22, 2024 12:00 pm
Ending Date: Dec. 6, 2024 12:00 pm
Location: selfstorageauction.com
Auction ID 456204.
This notice is being given by Anthony Miceli of Triangle Mini Storage.
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Eric D. Fisher, publisher

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WORKERS COMPENSATION

Charity for fun and profit, the Soldiers' Widows' Home

Ten years ago, the last remaining piece of the old Soldiers' Widows' Home was demolished, even after it had attained landmark status. It is just too far gone to save. The Home is a legend in Wilmington history, but that does not mean it was without its faults, especially in the early days. Today we look at the controversial woman who headed up the Home in its earliest days.



TIME WAS....
Sandy Vasko

Florence Jamison Miller was an influential member of the Women's Relief Corps, and had high hopes of being the first matron of the home when it was built in 1895. When a Mrs. Leslie was appointed, Ms. Miller was greatly disappointed. With further lobbying of the board however, Flo Jamison Miller, as she wished to be called, replaced Mrs. Leslie in 1897.

Flo became the queen of Wilmington society. In fact, rumors spread that she was spending appropriations meant to help the widows, on partying and high living. Her response to this was unusual. She decided to give a party, inviting all the members of the board of directors, and the officers of the Women's Relief Corps (W. R. C.) and Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) to prove how well her institution was doing.

We read on December 30, 1904 in the Wilmington Advocate, "Dept. Commander of G. A. R.,

Robert Mann Wood, Dept. President of W. R. C., Mrs. Nettie McGowan, Dept. President Ladies of G.A.R., Mrs. V. McClure, Asst., Adj. General G.A.R. Charles A. Partridge, Chief of Staff W.R.C. Mrs. Ida E. Palmer, Dept. Counselor W.R.C., Mrs. M. M. Kyle, General W.C. Newberry, Pres. Trustees Soldiers' Widows Home, and Mrs. M. K. Baxter, Sec. Trustees Soldiers' Widows Home, were guests of Mrs. Flo Jamison Miller for dinner on Wednesday evening, and took part in the campfire."

Her lobbying efforts paid off and in January of 1905 it was announced, "Resolved: That we find nothing to criticize, much less to condemn, to the management of the Soldiers' Widows' Home, and that we approve and endorse the management and administration of the Trustees and Matron of this institution."

Flo celebrated by increasingly holding ever more elaborate doings. In April of that year we read of the Easter celebration. "Easter was appropriately observed at the Soldiers' Widows' Home by a fine musical treat. Burch's Orchestra furnished instrumental music while the choir from St. Rose's Church furnished beautiful vocal selections. The orchestra of six pieces was one of the best ever heard in this city, and from two o'clock until five provided a rare treat for the members

of the Home and the friends invited to hear them."

One year later, 1906, she was again being accused of the same old thing. Again she was investigated. We read, on May 25, 1906 "The State Board of Public Charities are in special session at the office of the President of the Board in Chicago today for the purpose of hearing evidence and investigating the charges made against Mrs. Flo Jamison Miller, Superintendent of the Soldiers' Widows' Home in this city. "Three months later Flo was again acquitted of all charges.

It is not clear whether the ladies of the home suffered because of mismanagement. Not a week went by without several deaths at the home. But this was probably normal, given that most of these women were in the last years of their life.

In 1907 the daughter of an infamous Illinois governor, Thomas Ford, was found living in poverty in Lincoln, Illinois. A hue and cry went up all over the state about that disgrace. It was determined that Wilmington should be her new home. We read October 25, 1907, "Mrs. Anna Davies, a woman who comes from a family notable in the history of this State, is expected to enter the Soldiers' Widows' Home in this city as soon as she is able to be removed from the hospital in Lincoln, Il. The aged lady, who is now penniless, is the daughter of the late Thomas Ford, Governor of this great state of Illinois from 1842 to 1846, and is eligible owing to the fact



A PHOTO OF Flo Jamison Miller, the controversial matron of the Soldiers' Widow's Home.

that her father was a soldier in the Black Hawk War and that her grandfather was killed in a battle with the Indians in 1802. Governor Deneen and the State Board of Public Charities decided that the State owed her utmost consideration."

Flo Jamison Miller was in her glory and made the most out of taking care of this poor old lady, ever mindful of the notoriety she herself was getting in the newspapers as "the most charitable woman in the state."

While Flo was in the spot light, her husband Scott was nowhere to be seen. He apparently lived at the home with Flo but did not participate in the running of the institution. Her daughter Zola became the princess of "good society" in Wilmington. She married into the well-to-do Wilmington family, the Donohue's. And like her mother, was known for her parties and entertainments.



LEXI NEVE



JESSICA SCHNITTGER

WHS seniors of the week

BY BROOKLYN FLORES
WHS STUDENT REPORTER

Each week the Free Press Advocate features members from the Wilmington High School class of 2025. This week we're featuring Jessica Schnittger and Lexi Neve who completed our questionnaire.

JESSICA SCHNITTGER
What do you plan to pursue upon graduation? Early elementary education

What is one thing most people don't know about you? I spend most of my free time with my grandma

What teacher or staff member has influenced you the most? Why? Mrs. Georgeff. she's always there for me and gives advice on everything I do.

What has been your favorite extracurricular that you've participated in? Band, it's such a community and everyone is super supportive.

What's your favorite thing on the lunch menu? Mac and cheese or mini tacos

One thing you refuse to eat? Anything with mustard on it.

Famous person dead or alive you would like to meet and why? Marilyn Monroe, she always came off as super sweet and I'd just like to talk to her.

Advice you would give to underclassmen? Don't let yourself get caught up on small stuff, there's so much to live for and so much to love in life.

LEXI NEVE
What do you plan to pursue upon graduation? I plan on going to JJC for psychology.

What one thing most people don't know about you? I have a love for baking.

What teacher or staff member has influenced you the most? Why? Mosier, because as much as I bug her she has always had faith in me.

What has been your favorite extracurricular that you've participated in? Musical.

What's your favorite thing on the lunch menu? Mac and cheese

One thing you refuse to eat? I hate beans

Famous person dead or alive you would like to meet and why? Billie Elish. She is my favorite music artist and her music has made such a big impact on me throughout my years of listening to her.

Advice you would give to underclassmen? Focus on school and do not slack behind, also don't take things super seriously, everything will go as planned as time goes on.

WHS spotlights Students of the Month



Courtesy photos

EVERY MONTH WILMINGTON teachers and staff choose two representatives from each class for students of the month for good deeds and showing leadership skills. Seniors chosen for October are DJ Freeman and Nolan Moran.



THE WILMINGTON JUNIOR students of the month for October are Kacey Kennedy and Nathan Kirchner.

Wilm. Library to host Christmas decor exchange

The Wilmington Public Library will host a Christmas Decoration Exchange and Giveaway on Wednesday, Dec. 4, to get everyone in the holiday spirit. Participants may begin to bring in items on Nov. 20 for the exchange.

When you drop off your unwanted Christmas decorations (in good, used condition please), you will receive an early entry ticket to come and "shop" from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (you may also come anytime before 1:30 p.m., but the first hour is reserved for the exchange participants only).

If you bring in five items then your ticket will show that you may take five items, etc... The exception to this is that there will be a 10-item limit regardless if you bring in more than 10 items.

From 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. anyone is invited to come and choose a few new Christmas decorations for FREE. Any leftover items will then be donated to a non-profit

organization to give away. There will also be refreshments and Christmas music to enjoy.

October weather was nearly perfect

October was as close to perfect as an autumn month can possibly be.

The average temperature was 59 degrees, and many days in the 70s and even the 80s. In fact, Oct. 6, temperatures climbed to 88 degrees.

On Oct. 17, we got a taste of winter with mercury plummeting to 31 degrees. There were seven days that dropped into the 30s at night, but daytime temperatures remained unseasonably mild.

There were only a couple of days with measura-

ble rainfall, one of them being Oct. 25, when the area got .35 inches of rain. With temperatures falling to 46 degrees, we got our first taste of a blustery autumn.

October was pleasantly breezy, with pleasant, summery breezes for the most part. The windiest day was Oct. 13, when wind speeds reached 26 mph.

Total rainfall for the month was .61 inches, bringing the total precipitation for year to 36.82 inches for the year.



WHS STUDENTS of the month for October from the sophomore class are Declan Moran and Cooper Holman.



WHS FRESHMEN REPRESENTATIVES that were chosen for students of the month for October are Kelly Tatera and Jonathan Leonard.

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Last minute ideas

BRAIDWOOD—After reading last week's soundoff "Too late" I felt empowered and not afraid to make my comments as many have felt over the last five years. You can see the stress by an individual with the upcoming election in April. This same individual has a lot to lose in April 2025. I agree with the individual who did the "too late" soundoff. This same individual has been in position five years and seven months and now we're pushing to get things done especially using others' ideas who are no longer with the city because of this same individual. The recent idea I heard was the administrator is now pushing for a splash Pad. When this idea was brought up before his comment was it's too expensive and the city can't afford it. But now we have the money, moving money from where? Using the banned COVID money all municipalities received?

Election info missing

BRAIDWOOD—After talking with people that had picked up petition packets in city hall, there are questions on how the packets were put together by the city clerk. There was no mention on when packets were available to circulate, how many signatures were needed, where to pick up petition packets, what positions were up for election and terms, filing dates of petitions and where to file and no information of who to contact with questions. "The city clerk is the Local Election Official. Was the 2025 Local Election Guide looked at, doesn't see to be? There should have been a cover sheet with all this information along with websites and phone numbers for the State Board of elections and Will County Elections. There is a Candidates Guide on the State Board of Elections website that people could get answers to their questions. Might be time to print the local Elections Guide.

Be careful

BRAIDWOOD—To one of Braidwood's mayoral prospectives, be careful who you allow to help you with your campaign. You'd hate to have a vocal supporter who is known to push people in the opposite direction because of their self-entitled, opinionated, foot stomping, temper tantrum, wagon circling rhetoric. You'd hate to lose the election because one of your biggest supporters gives the rest of the residents a migraine from their constant whining and complaining.

Monkey Power

WILMINGTON—Only two weeks have passed with Trump as president-elect and already his dictatorship is forming. Matt Gaetz is the adolescent playboy Trump has chosen for Attorney General indicating Trump has no intention of appointing a qualified person to a position with any significant power. Gaetz will carry water for Trump, obey Trump's every command and basically serve as Trump's pet monkey. In essence, Trump would be in charge of the office of Attorney General, not Gaetz. The American people were warned about Trump's insatiable lust for power over and over again but nevertheless voters marched to the polls like lemmings to the sea. What were they thinking as they were voting? Exit polls indicate they were hoping their wallets would grow big and fat. But weren't they listening to Trump's

right-hand man, Elon Musk, who warned voters that they can expect economic hardships unless they belong to the super-rich? Yes, if Elon Musk has anything to do with the way Trump runs things, everyday people will be counting their pennies just the way Musk demands of his workers. On the other hand, Harris would have solidified the middle class which Trump ignores. But it's too late now. Come on now, did you really believe Trump would be honest with you? Irene

Thoughtful and sweet

GARDNER—Thought we could all use something uplifting during this time of disgrace in our country. So, I would like to thank the Coal City Early Learning Center, Grade School, Intermediate School, the Gardner Grade School, the CCD classes from Sacred Heart Church in Kinsman, and S. Lawrence Church in Wilmington for all the beautiful handmade cards for the Veterans in the area for Veteran's Day this year. We've been doing this project now for six years at Sacred Heart Church and we're still going strong. Our parishioners sign cards and the kids make cute handmade ones. We had cards for the Veteran's home in LaSalle and Manteno, the assisted living/nursing homes in Morris and the two in Dwight. We gave cards to the Coal City library for their celebration on Veteran's Day and to the high school for their Veteran's breakfast. We also had cards for the Legion Hall in Gardner and the VFW in Dwight. My grandkids and I went to LaSalle, hand delivered some cards and dropped off donations from our parishioners. We also stopped by the VFW and the Legion Hall to drop off some cards on our way back. The Veterans really enjoy seeing the kids and love the cards. We had over 400 kids' cards along with regular ones. I read every handmade card. They were so thoughtful and sweet. The kids really get it. We've already started our Christmas Card Project and we'll give cards to both Veterans homes along with all the residents of the Morris and Dwight homes. We'll also give cards to all of the VFW's and Legion Halls we can. Final note - these Veterans are not suckers and losers. They are our finest and we thank them for their service. God bless our service members and may God help us through these next four years. Donna Gabehart

It's havoc here

BRAIDWOOD—As we witness the ugly behavior of Trump and Republicans in general these days, we turn away in disgust. This is worse than the political free-for-all during Trump's first term. And wait until Project 2025 kicks in which will deal a further devastating blow to our country. Citizen behavior will be dictated by the regulations in the 922-page rule book which are appropriate for a totalitarian state rather than a democracy. Remember Big Brother? Family structures and behaviors will be outlined such that, if implemented, would send us back 70 years or so into the 1950s. Yes, things were simpler in the 1950s and Republicans think they can control us that way while Trump and his kleptocracy go about plundering, grifting and hoisting the national debt beyond the record level Trump incurred upon the people last time. Historians tell us that chaos is what dictators use to dominate the population. This is what Trump wanted for sure but is it what voters wanted?



West River Road

WILMINGTON—As a person that travels this road every day, and sometimes multiple times a day, it is heartening to see Wilmo PD running radar there. However, they are out there at exactly the wrong time. Weekdays between 5 and 6 a.m. it is like the Indy 500 out there with speeds of at least 75 mph in a 45 mph zone. Have never seen the PD out there at that time, never. The Gemini Giant would be paid for in no time with little effort there by the PD.

Grateful Veteran

COAL CITY—Thank you to the staff and students of the Coal City High School for hosting the veterans breakfast on Nov. 8. The choir and band did a great job playing the service songs. The food was delicious and the service was outstanding. A Grateful Army Veteran

Not his people

Our governor was on the news and he said that President Trump had better not try to take away any constitutional rights of his people, that the president would have to go through him. The only thing wrong with his statement is that the we are not his people. He works for all Americans and not one person in the state of Illinois is owned by our Governor. We are not his slaves. Our governor owes an apology for thinking when he was voted into office that he owned the citizens of Illinois. The governor's job is to protect the lives of all, not to protect any criminal activity and personally I believe our governor enjoys watching all the crime in Illinois which violates his oath of office.

Whining Democrats

COAL CITY—The Democrats have lost the election and now they are crying, whining and pouting because they lost their power. So now they are going to try to prevent every part of President Trump's agenda. But didn't the Democrats state that they believe in aiding everyone and the rule of law? But how soon they forgot about the people committing crimes and how they gave more aid to migrants than the its citizens. But Democrats believe they can give away tax refunds any way they want or impose laws against all to prevent them from having a decent life. Democrats talk with a split tongue and

there was a song that fits the Democratic agenda which is Two Faces Have I, by Lou Christie.

Own zip code

CARBON HILL—Diamond should get their own post office and zip code. They aren't even in Coal City. Carbon Hill doesn't have their own.

Peace will return

Irene wrote that Donald Trump gave Valimir Putin from the Soviet Union the OK to slit the throats of the Ukrainian people. Well Irene, you obviously watch too much MSNBC and CNN because there were no wars in the Ukraine when Donald Trump was president. The Middle East was relatively peaceful. He was the architect of the Abraham accord that brought peace to the Middle East. And then other people speak out and say there will be no checks and balances. How about the Inflation Reduction Act? It did nothing but build something for Democratic donors for Green Agenda Projects. How about the two car chargers that cost over \$300 million each? They had \$600 million and only got two of them. I love reading the sound-off column but I'm just surprised there are so many stupid people in Coal City and the surrounding area. Tom

Tax will continue

MORRIS—I said months ago the Governor Pritzker announced he was eliminating the 1 percent state wide grocery tax that the towns are going to put it right back on which they are doing right now. How stupid does he think he is? Pritzker wants all the illegal immigrants in here. Dick Durbin isn't any better. When is Coal City and Morris going to put that 1 percent grocery tax back on? They'll do this because they need the money but then they give out these 4, 5 or 6 percent pay raises every year to the city and county and employees and teachers make a fortune as it is including the administrators.

Put Kamala in now

WILMINGTON—I think Kamala should step down and let Biden be the 47th president for two months so she can use her newfound immunity powers to send Trump to Guantanamo. Everything is fixed.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR ELWOOD CCSD 203

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Elwood CCSD 203, for 2024 will be held on December 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the IMC of Elwood School at 409 North Chicago Avenue, Elwood, IL.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Mr. Tim Page, Superintendent of Elwood CCSD 203, at the Unit Office at 409 N. Chicago Avenue, Elwood, Illinois, 60421, telephone (815) 423-5588.

- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended for 2023 were \$8,845,194.95.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$9,596,000. This represents an 8.5% increase over the previous year.

- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2023 were \$0. The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2024 are \$0. This represents a 0% decrease over the previous year.

- IV. The total property taxes extended for 2023 were \$8,845,194.95.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$9,596,000. This represents an 8.5% increase over the previous year.

Jennifer Wedic, Secretary Board of Education
Elwood CCSD 203, Will County, Illinois

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR COAL CITY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

The Coal City Board of Education will approve a proposed property tax levy for Coal City Community Unit School District Number 1 for **2024** on Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Coal City High School Learning Resource Center located at 655 West Division Street, in Coal City, Illinois. This notice is to inform the public of the opportunity for comment on this matter.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Jason Smith, CSBO, 550 S Carbon Hill Road, Coal City, Illinois, 815-634-2287.

The corporate & special purpose property taxes extended for **2023** were **\$27,785,667.00**

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for **2024** are **\$34,249,023.00**. This represents a **22.9517%** increase over the previous year.

The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for **2023** were **\$3,770,067.00**.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for **2024** are **\$3,734,728.00**. This represents a **0.93736%** decrease over the previous year.

The total property taxes extended or abated for **2023** were **\$31,625,734.00**.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for **2024** are **\$37,983,751.00**. This represents a **20.1039%** increase over the previous year.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR WILMINGTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 209-U

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Wilmington Community Unit School District No. 209-U for 2024 will be held on Monday, December 9, 2024 at 6:15 P.M. at the Wilmington High School, 209U Wildcat Court, Wilmington, Illinois 60481.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Mr. Kevin Feeney, Superintendent of Schools, 209U Wildcat Court, Wilmington, Illinois 60481. Phone: 815-926-1751.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2023 were \$9,513,003.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$11,891,254. This represents a 25.00% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2023 were \$2,448,058.25.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2024 are \$2,449,700.00. This represents a .067% increase over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2023 were \$11,961,061. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$14,340,954. This represents a 19.90% increase over the previous year.

Illinois lawmakers trying to figure out what they should do next with Trump presidency looming

Just about nothing happened in the first week of veto session in the Illinois House and the Senate.

The Democratic legislative leaders are still trying to figure out what their members want to do in the wake of Republican President-Elect Donald Trump's victory and whether that can be done. Whether that action starts in the second and final week of veto session, or in the lame duck January session or in the regular spring session is still up in the air as I write this.

"We're going to have to do something," House Speaker Chris Welch told me, but he couldn't say what that "something" was just yet.

"I think it's important that we let the conversations happen. Those conversations have to happen so that we come to alignment on that."

Asked about Trump's economic message of consistently railing against inflation and promising no



CAPITOL FACTS

Rich Miller

income taxes on overtime, tips and Social Security, Welch said, "I think the economic message and what we've been through in this country was very important, and we're going to have to listen and acknowledge that."

"And as Democrats in Illinois, I think we've already done a good job of doing that, but we're going to have to continue to listen to the voters when it comes to that economic message. Listen, Trump won, and he won in a resounding way. We have to acknowledge that, and we have to be responsible."

Welch continued: "If we don't listen to voters here and make the necessary changes, particularly on the national level, quite frankly, I think nationally, they can do a lot more of what we've done here in Illinois. If we don't listen to the voters, we're not going to reverse what happened here on Tuesday."

When asked about the

projected massive budget deficit, the House Speaker said, "The Governor and I need to sit down and have some serious conversations about how we're going to approach next year's \$3.1 billion budget deficit and come to an agreement. I think it's important that we be in alignment and walk in the same direction on that, and we're prepared to do that."

Speaker Welch recently hired a new appropriations staff director. While praising the outgoing director, Welch said his new director Madeline McCune – a former House staffer who left to run the legislative shop for the Illinois Association of School Administrators – is drawing kudos from far and wide.

The House Democrats haven't been able to draft a budget during the past two sessions.

"I think she's going to take us to another level," Welch said of McCune. "There's a history there with the Senate team. There's a history with the Governor's team. And one of the things that we're going to have to do going into a very difficult budget year, we've got to work together. We have to all be clicking on the same page

and on all cylinders, and with Madeline there, we're not going to just not miss a beat, we're going to elevate our game."

Speaking of staff, Welch also acknowledged that he's telling his members to expect some significant changes in his operations during the coming year. "I have to acknowledge that we have to do things a little bit different," Welch said.

The House Democrats have had serious staffing shortages, under-qualified staff and major staff turnover problems. One of the reasons is a decades-old handshake agreement that the party caucus dollars are divided equally in both chambers, with the Senate getting more overall because their districts are twice as large as the House districts.

So, even though Welch has 78 members, his caucus is appropriated the same amount as the House Republicans, who have 40 members. And it receives less than the Senate Democrats, who have 40 members, and less than the Senate Republicans, who have a mere 19 members.

"We have to address that," Welch said. "And I'm gonna fight like hell to address that, because that's the way that I can address a number of my staffing issues."

"Where's the fairness and equity in that?" Welch rhetorically asked about the disparities. "And so, do know, as the leader of this chamber, that's one of the things that I'm laser-focused on. And the voters have spoken. They've elected 78 Democrats twice now, possibly more, and we're going to fight to make sure we have the proper resources to address the staff and the concerns."

Welch also promised to make further "necessary tweaks to elevate our game," in the coming spring session.

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

Chili and 100 turkeys

Fundraising supper going to make a lot of people happy

The Gardner Fire Department will hold its biggest fundraiser of the year on Friday, Nov. 22 that could have you extra thankful for the Thanksgiving Day feast.

Buy a raffle ticket, eat a bowl (or two) of chili, and you could head home a winner of a turkey.

That's because 100 frozen turkeys will be raffled with a new winner announced every 10 minutes starting at 6 p.m.

Last year, with the help of Berkot's Super Foods, the fire district was able to introduce the turkey raffle. The response was great so the fundraiser was brought back for a second time.

The chili supper will be held at the Gardner American Legion Hall, 426 Industry Dr, with doors opening at 4 p.m. There will lots of raffle baskets, a 50/50 raffle and a raffle for a portable generator, gun raffle and more.

For \$10 adults, and \$6 for senior citizens and kids under age 12, each person can have their fill of chili, drink, dessert and all the fun to be had.

The most important

part of the chili supper is just having a community event where neighbors can come out and be neighbors.

Gardner Fire Protection District must follow the same standards and regulations as a big fire department, like Chicago Fire Department. It periodically has to replace fire-fighting gear, air packs and tools because everything has an expiration date. Proceeds from the chili supper help offset those costs.

So support these dedicated first responders by eating some chili. And if you're lucky you'll have your Thanksgiving turkey to take home too.

Gas rising nationally, falls locally

Average gasoline prices in Illinois have risen 3.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.19/g Monday, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois.

Prices in Illinois are 21.0 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 27.8 cents per gallon

Wilmington Public Library to host Holiday bus trip

The Wilmington Public Library District invites adult patrons on a festive holiday bus trip on December 5, celebrating a nostalgic Christmas on State Street.

Participants will visit the historic Jacob Henry Mansion in Joliet for a day of guided tours, lunch and a special presentation by historian Dr. Leslie Goddard, who will share stories of Chicago's iconic holiday displays.

The trip is \$40 per person, payable upon registration. Patrons should arrive

at the library no later than 9:45 a.m., as the bus will depart promptly at 10 a.m.

- 10:30 a.m.: Tour of Jacob Henry Mansion
- 11:30 a.m.: Traditional pot roast lunch
- 1 p.m.: Christmas on State Street presentation by Dr. Leslie Goddard
- 2 p.m.: Tour of Old Central Church
- 2:30 p.m.: Departure back to Wilmington

Seats are limited. To reserve your spot, call the Wilmington Public Library District at 815-476-2834.

Chamber seeks entries for Christmas parade

The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce will host a lighted Christmas parade Saturday, Nov. 30. The parade will start at 5 p.m. at Wilmington Middle School and travel on Ryan to Water Street to the post office. Community groups and local businesses are invited to enter for free. This year's theme is "A Charlie Brown Christmas". We kindly ask that no entries feature no live Santa Claus as the Chamber has already received confirmation from the North Pole that Santa will be attendance.

Deadline to sign up by Saturday, Nov. 22. Information will be sent to parade entries including map with the lineup. For additional information contact Marty Orr at wilmingtongchamberparade@gmail.com. Line up at 4 p.m.

Organization/business: _____

Contact person: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Type of entry (float, equestrian, walkers, antique vehicle, decorated vehicle, if other, describe): _____

Is your entry political, No - \$0, Yes - \$50: _____

Total dimensions of entry (including vehicle pulling float, trailer etc): _____

If there will be any type of sound (siren, music, horns, etc) please describe: _____

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Pet adoption fees for veterans, active service members waived

Will County Animal Protection Services (WCAPS) is waiving all dog and cat adoption fees for veterans and active duty service members during November as part of their "Pets for Vets" promotion event.

"This November we are showing our gratitude for those who have served our country by making it easier than ever to adopt a new family pet," said WCAPS Administrator Anna Payton.

"I welcome any active duty servicemember or veteran to make an appointment to meet any of our very adoptable dogs and cats."

Adoptable pets can be viewed in advance on the WCAPS Petfinder website -

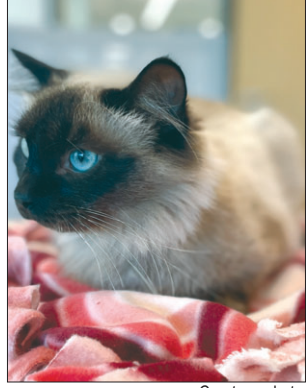


Courtesy photo
DAMON THE DOG is up for adoption at WCAPS, you can find more information at IL1035.petfinder.com.

IL1035.petfinder.com.
Appointments must be made in advance to meet adoptable pets. Appointments can be scheduled to visit available pets by calling 815-462-5633 or emailing adopt@willcountyyillinois.com. Adoption hours are from noon until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the WCAPS office located at 22452 Cherry Hill Rd. in Joliet.

Veterans and active duty servicemembers must provide military identification or a Veterans Administration card to qualify for the "Pets for Vets" promotion event.

Learn more about
WCAPS at [www.willcounty.
gov/animalservices](http://www.willcounty.gov/animalservices)



Courtesy photo
CINNAMON THE CAT is up for adoption at WCAPS, you can find more information at IL1035.petfinder.com.



Courtesy photo
KITKAT THE CAT is up for adoption at the Will County Animal Protection Service.



Courtesy photo
ADOPTABLE DOGS and cats from Will County Animal Protection Services, including Cinnamon, Damon, Wilma, and KitKat. Adoption fees have been waived in November as part of a "Pets for Vets" promotion event.

Providing a light for our children

The chaotic world we live in can often have parents scratching their heads about the best way to raise their children. Now, more people are turning to a concept called lighthouse parenting.

According to experts, lighthouse parenting combines important traits such as nurturing, loving and protecting while giving their children space to grow and learn on their own.

“[It’s like] a regular lighthouse that guides the ships from one place to another,” says Victor Mendoza, a behavioral health provider for OSF HealthCare. “That’s how it is with parenting. Just being there for your child and helping them get through difficult times. Sometimes [parents can] step in when they need to, and sometimes they let them try things out.”

The lighthouse parenting concept has been talked about for nearly a decade. It was coined by pediatrician Kenneth Ginsburg, MD, who literally wrote the book on the topic. But it has come to the surface again recently as a concept Dr. Ginsburg has described in interviews as “a return to common sense and what we know works.”

Mendoza says lighthouse parenting falls somewhere between two other styles — helicopter parenting and free-range parenting. A helicopter parent tends to hover, may be over-involved and is always evaluating risk that can prevent children from developing a certain skill. Free-range parents believe giving freedom promotes independence and self-confident children. For example, a helicopter parent might stand with their child on the tee-ball field, helping him or her get to the ball or run to the right base. A lighthouse parent might give their child some guidance before the game and watch the action from the sidelines.

"With lighthouse parenting, it allows your children a little bit of freedom," says Mendoza. "Obviously, you don't want to completely leave them in the dark and have them figure things out by themselves and not provide any sort of support. But just knowing when you have to step in and when you have to step back."

Mendoza says the biggest benefits of

lighthouse parenting include encouraging healthy boundaries, developing coping skills and creating a supportive relationship between parent and child.

And it's OK for your children to fall short of expectations from time to time.

"Letting them fail. Letting them learn from their mistakes. And allowing them to see if they can figure it out on their own," Mendoza says. "Having that dance with them in a way that we're going to move a little and we're going to step in a little bit. Sometimes we're going to move back a little bit. Just follow your gut."

Mendoza stresses that lighthouse parenting may not work for all parents and children. He says it's important to consider the child's age, needs, temperament and development. Lighthouse parenting is going to look different for younger children than school-aged kids or teens.

"Lighthouse parenting is not like this strict set of rules that you have to follow," Mendoza says. "It's like a guideline that you can incorporate into your parenting to help you be a more active parent or a more lighthouse parent and be there for your child."

Mendoza says the lighthouse parenting concept works in his practice. Some parents, he says, are willing to try a new style because of the way they grew up – in a home that lacked a good support system or parental involvement.

He adds children should understand that while they are loved, there are rules and boundaries for their behavior and actions.

Mendoza preaches patience when it comes to introducing a new parenting style. "It takes some time to practice and get used to it. So just be patient with yourself as a parent," he says. "Don't beat yourself up if you didn't get it right, or you felt like you didn't do a good job. That's what lighthouse parenting teaches you – learning from our mistakes and allowing yourself to engage in that lighthouse parenting and do it as best as you can."

For more information regarding behavioral or mental health support, visit the OSF HealthCare website.

Will Co. residents receive over \$2.7 million in federal assistance

WILL COUNTY - Will County residents who experienced damages or losses from the July 13-16 severe weather have received \$2,792,102 in assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Individual Assistance Program since a disaster was declared for the county in September.

This milestone comes as the application window for assistance from FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) ends Dec. 13.

"This federal funding has helped hundreds of Will County residents recover financially from this severe weather event," said Will County Executive Jenniffer Bertino-Tarrant. "I appreciate the efforts of our federal and state partners in supporting long-term recovery after these storms."

Federal assistance became available on September 20 after a Major Disaster Declaration was issued for Will County. Since the declaration, 2,500 applications for assistance have been filed for costs incurred during the July storms, including home repairs, temporary housing, property damage, and emergency purchases.

"With 2,500 registrations for federal assistance having occurred in Will County, this funding represents a crucial step in helping our residents recover and rebuild after the severe

Hike the heron rookery

The Forest Preserve District of Will County is offering a Take It Outside Hike—Winter Walk from 2-3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8 at the Lake Renwick Heron Rookery Preserve, Plainfield.

Take It Outside Challenge participants are invited to join a hike to connect with fellow Goosechasers while collecting points, tips and tricks.

The hike will be no more than 3 miles. The challenge's Fall Frolic runs through Dec. 14. Register for the hike by Dec. 7 under the event calendar at ReconnectWithNature.org.

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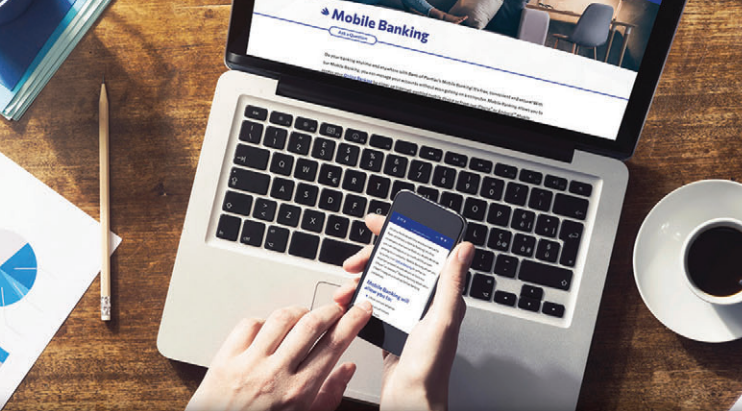
2 WINNERS OF \$500 ON 12/10/24
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5K RUN AND WALK

Iron Bridge Trail - Midewin
2 miles North of Welcome Center

Sunday, November 24th
Check-in: 8am-9:45am
Race: 10am

*T-shirt included in entry fee!

*For every adult fee, choice to add
on a youth (13 and under) for \$20.

Register today at www.islandparkdistrict.com or www.runsignup.com

OBITUARIES

Ruth Ann Cooper

MCKINNEY, TX— Ruth Ann Cooper (Haaser), 94, of McKinney, TX peacefully passed on Nov. 13, 2024. Beloved wife of Hugh E Cooper for 68 years and survived by her children: Linda Weaver (Jeff), Pam Brunk (Jamie), Tina Nelson (Steve), Brian Cooper (Annie), Randy Cooper (Lisa); 12 Grandchildren (Jessica, Jill, Jaclyn, Tim, Olivia, Ryan, Aaron, Josh, Kelsey, Logan, Andrea, Kiefer); and eight great Grandchildren (Cooper, Maggie, Annabelle, Rynanne, Taylee, Ella, Connor, Palmer).



Ruth is preceded in death by her husband Hugh, and her three elder siblings, Anna Marie, Margaret and Bud. Raised in Bucyrus, OH, after high school graduation she enrolled in Stevens College to pursue a career in fashion design. Her college career was shortened when she met the love of her life, Hugh Cooper. After just three dates, Hugh proposed to "Ruthie"; the couple knew they would be life partners and were married on Sept. 1, 1952. Ruth was the foundation for the family,

working tirelessly to build a home, take care of her five children and to give unwavering support to her husband Hugh. From the very beginning, when Ruth hand sewed her wedding gown to her peaceful passing, she paid the closest attention to everything she did; from maintaining the house to preparing delicious and beautiful meals for the family.

Her husband's professional life afforded Ruth the opportunity to live in many places in the US, evidenced by her five children being born in four different states. Ruth loved gardening and took pride in her flowers, winning multiple Garden Club awards. She was a lover of cruises and visiting Europe to connect to her German ancestry. A lover of birds, she always had bird feeders for her little friends, with her favorite being hummingbirds.

Given distances and in lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made to Hidden Springs Memory Care, McKinney, TX.

Barbara Tryner

WILMINGTON—Barbara Jean Tryner, 91 of Wilmington, passed away peacefully on Wednesday morning, Nov. 13, 2024 at The Cottages of New Lenox.



Born on Feb. 23, 1933, at the family home in Kankakee, Barbara was the eldest of six children born to Weldon Overton and Rufina Octavia "Billie" (Yott) Dyer. Barbara was raised in Wilmington, and graduated from Wilmington High School with the Class of 1951. A woman of great dedication, Barbara's early career began at the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant, followed by a devoted chapter dedicated to raising her family and caring for her home. Her professional journey later led her to the First National Bank in Wilmington, where she held numerous roles before eventually serving as the bookkeeper for the Law Office of Tryner and Francis, from where she formally retired.

A member of Island City Baptist Church and the P.E.O., Barbara embodied the spirit of community through service. She offered her time as an election judge and found joy in volunteering at Kuzma Care Cottage, contributing her kindness and dependability to those in need.

Barbara was an avid reader whose favorite pastime was settling in with a good book and a glass of rum and coke. She found joy in music and embraced opportunities to travel, collecting cherished memories along the way. Shopping trips with her sister Donna and daughter Vicki were special occasions, and a stop for ice cream, a simple pleasure she adored.

Family was the heartbeat of Barbara's life. She was never happier than when surrounded by her grandchildren, always ready with a full cookie jar and an abundance of juice boxes to delight them. Her relationships with her siblings were deeply cherished, full of laughter, shared stories, and unwavering support.

Survivors include her children: Vicki (Bruce) Witczak of Marseilles, IL and John Tryner and Amy (Daniel) Potempa, both of

Wilmington; her daughter-in-law, Colleen Schumacher of Wilmington; six grandchildren: Sue Ellen Schumacher (Eric) Welps and Michael (Elvina) Schumacher, both of St. Charles, IL; Lauren Witczak and Jacqueline Witczak (Matthew Greathouse), both of Ottawa, IL; and Alex Potempa and Molly Potempa of Wilmington; four great grandchildren: Braylen Zajda, Joey Welps, Rya Schumacher and Connor Welps, with another expected; one sister, Donna (Skip) Bolz of Wilmington; three sisters-in-law: Barbara Dyer, Karen Dyer and Marilyn (Rex) Webb and numerous nieces and nephews.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Joseph J. Tryner (October 3, 2015), daughter Cheryl Schumacher; son, Richard Schumacher; grandsons: Timothy Schumacher and Brian Schumacher and four siblings: Beverly, Ronald, Donald and Richard.

Cremation rites have been accorded. The family will receive friends for a memorial visitation at Island City Baptist Church, 120 Vine Street in Wilmington on Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. until time of memorial service, 12:00 p.m. A private family inurnment will follow in Oakwood Cemetery, Wilmington, where Barbara will be laid to rest with her late daughter Cheryl and near her late husband Joseph.

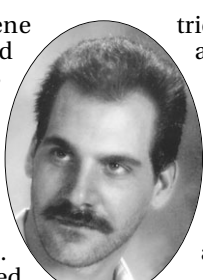
Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Barbara's memory to Kuzma Care Cottage, 635 S. Main Street, Wilmington, IL 60481.

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

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

Daniel Westrick

DIAMOND—Daniel Gene Westrick, 64, of Diamond, passed away Sunday, Nov. 17, 2024 at his home in Diamond.



Born Jan. 28, 1960 in Auburn, IN, Daniel Gene was a son of Herman and Betty (Nodine) Westrick. He was raised and educated in Wilmington and graduated from Wilmington High School. After high school, Daniel attended Cosmetology School to be trained as a hair stylist. He worked for many years in the industry, most recently at C'zar Salon in Naperville, IL. He also worked for several years at Joe's Flower Shop in Lisle, IL.

Daniel was truly creative and his artistic flair was evident at an early age. He showed an appreciation for art while in school, through art class and working on set productions, and as an adult he enjoyed painting watercolors. Daniel loved all artistic mediums, from painting to theatrics and music, they brought him great joy. He was a simple man, with an eccentric side, whose direct, bold nature and sharp sense of humor will be truly missed.

Survivors include his partner of 31 years, Stephen Davis, of Diamond; one sister, Christina Fiedler, of Joliet and one brother, James Westrick, of California; and his niece and nephew: Nicole and Joshua Fiedler.

Daniel was preceded in death by his parents, Herman and Betty, and one brother, Gary Westrick.

Per Daniel's wishes, cremation rites are being accorded and no services are being planned at this time.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book at www.ReevesFuneral.com upload photographs, and share Daniel's memorial page via social media.

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



DIAMOND—Charles W. "Bill" Tabler Jr., 63, of Diamond, passed away on Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024 at his home due to injuries sustained in a house fire.

He was born on Jan. 25, 1961 in Morris, to Charles W. Sr. and Ramona (nee LeRette) Tabler. He was raised with his brother and sister in the Morris area, attending Immaculate Conception Catholic School and graduating from Morris High School class of 1979. He served his country honorably in the United States Navy and later became a journeyman electrician for Local #177 of Jacksonville, FL working for over 30 years.

Bill married Betty Ann Vasickanin on June 10, 1989 in Georgia. Together they raised five children including a set of triplets and eventually made their home in Diamond. A devoted father, he enjoyed taking his kids to the Morris Bakery before going out fishing with them. He was a talented baker with a specialty in chocolate chip cookies. Bill was a fan of Notre Dame Football and local trivia nights. He was a proud papa to his three grandchildren and enjoyed taking them to school and attending their activities. He was also fond of his granddogs, Huck, Bree, Raye, Ozzie, Baby Yoda, Vader and Leah.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Betty; his mother, Ramona Tabler, of Morris; his children: Charles (Marisol) Tabler, of Sierra Vista, AZ; Andrew (Megan) Tabler, of Coal City; Daniel Tabler, of

Charles W. Tabler Jr.



Diamond and Abigail (Grant) Van Haelst, of Coal City; his grandchildren: Ayden Tabler, Celia and Skyla Tabler and a baby girl on the way; his brother, James E. (Pam) Tabler, of Joliet and his sisters: Lee Ann (the late Joel) Franklin, of Morris; Peggy (Daniel) Edmier, of Carmel, IN; Cyndi Hughes, of Rensselaer, IN; Roberta (Kevin) Kane, of Villa Park and Valerie Hooper, of Wheaton. Bill loved and was loved by Dee (Don) Borchelt, Kathleen, Gregory and Caitlin Twarog, Judy (the late George) Wheat, numerous aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

He was preceded in death by his son, Alexander G. Tabler; his father, Charles W. Tabler Sr. and his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Joseph and Delores Vasickanin.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024 at Ferrari Funeral Services, 1044 Ferrari Drive, Coal City. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 12:30 p.m. at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church, 215 S. Kankakee Street, Coal City. Inurnment will be private at Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Morris.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guestbook at www.ferrarifuneral.com. Ferrari Funeral Services in Coal City is entrusted with arrangements.

Alexander G. Tabler

DIAMOND—Alexander G. Tabler, 26, of Diamond, IL, passed away on Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024 at Morris Hospital due to injuries sustained in a fire at his home.

He was born one of a set of triplets on Sept. 9, 1998 in Chicago, the son of Charles W. "Bill" Jr. and Betty A. (nee Vasickanin) Tabler. The triplets joined two older brothers and the family eventually made their home in Diamond. Alex loved to swim in the backyard pool. He enjoyed fishing with his family, going to car shows and he especially loved watching the Pixar movie "Cars." He also liked attending Joliet Slammers Baseball games. Most of all, Alex was a loving son and brother.

He is survived by his mother, Betty; his grandmother, Ramona Tabler, of Morris; his siblings, Charles (Marisol) Tabler, of Sierra Vista, AZ; Andrew (Megan) Tabler, of Coal City; Daniel Tabler, of Diamond and Abigail (Grant) Van Haelst, of Coal City; his nephew and nieces: Ayden Tabler, Celia and Skyla Tabler and a baby girl on the way; his uncle, James E. (Pam) Tabler, of Joliet and his aunts: Lee Ann (the late Joel) Franklin, of Morris; Peggy (Daniel) Edmier,

of Carmel, IN; Cyndi Hughes, of Rensselaer, IN; Roberta (Kevin) Kane, of Villa Park and Valerie Hooper, of Wheaton. Alex was blessed with numerous aunts, uncles and cousins, from both sides of the family.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles W. "Bill" Tabler Jr.; his paternal grandfather, Charles W. Tabler Sr. and his maternal grandparents, Joseph and Delores Vasickanin.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024 at Ferrari Funeral Services, 1044 Ferrari Drive, Coal City. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 12:30 p.m. at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church, 215 S. Kankakee Street, Coal City. Inurnment will be private at Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Morris.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guestbook at www.ferrarifuneral.com. Ferrari Funeral Services in Coal City is entrusted with arrangements.

Mary Int-Hout

BRACEVILLE—Mary Frances Int-Hout (Bottino), 98, passed away on Monday, Oct. 21, 2024 in Braceville.

Born on Jan. 12, 1926 in Joliet, she was the daughter of Pete and Jane (nee Clellan) Bottino.

She is survived by two sons, Gregory

and Christopher; daughter, Pietertje; granddaughter, Kait; grandson, Kurt and great-grandson, Teo.

Cremation rites have been accorded. R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory have been entrusted with arrangements.

Health dept. offering vaccinations

The Grundy County Health Department is now offering Moderna Covid vaccinations for the '24-'25 season by appointment. Appointments are offered every week on Tuesday and Thursday 8 am-4:00 pm. Residency is not required.

For questions or to make an appointment, call the Grundy County Health Department at 815-941-3404. For more information on Covid-19 please visit www.cdc.gov/COVID.

Remember our veterans by sponsoring a wreath

Sponsor a wreath for one of over 90,000 veterans' graves at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, 20953 Hoff Rd, Elwood. The wreath laying will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14.

The ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. Wreaths are placed after a 20-minute 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: Wreath Project, C/O Will Farm Bureau, 100 Manhattan Rd., Joliet, IL 60433.

Sponsorships are being collected through Nov. 21 for the year 2024 campaign. Order online at Wreaths Across America website and include cemetery ID: ILALNE or group number ID: M00085P.

Grave specific sponsorship

Complete a separate form for each veteran. Sponsors who attend the wreath laying on Saturday, Dec. 14, can 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 \$17 or two for \$34 _____

Family: four wreaths for \$68 _____

Business: 10 wreaths for \$170 _____

Corporate: 100 wreaths for \$1,700 _____



Happy Heavenly Wedding Anniversary
To my wonderful husband...
The BEST 63 years of my life.
Love and miss you.

The Reed-Custer High School Class of 1974 50th Class Reunion

Date: Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024
Time: 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Venue: TOP FUEL SALOON
275 South Hickory Street
Braidwood, IL
(Former Knights of Columbus Hall)

TOP FUEL is a full restaurant and bar; where you will be able to purchase your own food & beverages if desired. A room with chairs & tables will be available for our class to gather, catch up and share past memories & good times with each other. No other provisions will be provided. If you have any questions, please call:
Sherri Favero Lestina 815-250-8883

Feed the birds this winter with homemade suet

As the weather turns cooler, some birds start migrating to warmer locations. But many of our backyard birds stay right here in Illinois.

Believe it or not, some birds, like dark-eyed juncos, migrate to our backyards for winter because it is warmer here than the far northern areas where they live the rest of the year. Yes, even our coldest, snowiest days feel like a warmer retreat for those juncos!

But just because some birds have adapted to survive cold Illinois winters doesn't mean their needs stay the same as in the warmer spring and summer months. Just like we shouldn't wear our summer sandals in the snow, birds' bodies and behaviors change too.

They grow extra feathers to provide insulation, like you putting on a thick, warm coat when you play outside. They also eat meals with more fat and protein that provide extra calories birds need to keep up their energy.

We can't really help birds grow extra feathers, but we can provide a great

winter food source — suet! Suet is a fatty protein source mixed with seeds, nuts or fruit.

That sounds a lot like the protein bars you might eat before sports practice! But don't just unwrap a bar and leave it outside. Birds need a special blend. You might already have everything you need to make suet bird feeders for your feathered friends.

To get started on making a suet feeder of your own, start by gathering your ingredients and supplies. Here's what you will need:

- 1 1/2 cups lard or vegetable shortening
- 3/4 cup natural peanut butter or sun butter (chunky variety)
- 3 1/2 cups bird seed (stores offer lots of mixes to choose from)
- 1 cup quick oats
- 1/2 cup cornmeal
- Dried fruit
- A large, microwave-safe bowl
- Measuring cups
- A spoon

Place the shortening in the bowl. Melt in the microwave. Stir in the peanut butter. If it's too

hard, briefly microwave and try stirring again.

Once the peanut butter is well-blended, add the rest of the ingredients.

As the suet cools, it will start to harden, like your protein bar snack. Before it hardens, you can mold it into all kinds of shapes.

Get creative with things you already have around your house. Press it into an empty can or get fancy with an old jarcup. If you finish off a jar of peanut butter making the recipe, you can fill it right back up with suet. Just remember to add a stick for a perch!

Form into balls or use cookie cutters to make fun shapes. Remember to add a string so you can hang them in shrubs or from a bird feeder pole.

Once your suet feeder cools and hardens, hang it outside. Watch for hungry visitors. Which birds visit the most? Grab a bird book or look them up with a smartphone app.

Pro tip: Once the season turns to spring and summer and the weather is consistently warm, it's time to put the suet away. It can get melty or even moldy in the heat. Stick to just a seed mix instead.

The above was provided by www.reconnectwithnature.org administered by the Forest Preserve District of Will County.



Photo by Heather Van Zyl

A SUET feeder made from a teacup.

Veterans offered help to overcome suicide

Illinois is home to 537,000 veterans, including 49,000 women. At least 700 veterans are homeless, and 7% live below the poverty line on any given day.

In 2021, 6,392 veterans across the U.S. lost their lives to suicide, according to the 2023 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report.

These numbers highlight the urgent need for accessible support, ranging from housing and health services to financial assistance and job opportunities, all of which can help prevent suicide by addressing root causes of distress.

If you are in crisis, and contemplating suicide or self-harm, please do the following:

- Dial 988 and press 1
- Text 838255
- If you have hearing loss call TTY: Dial 711 then 988

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Orland Park (708) 403-1110
Joliet (815) 722-0011

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Gardner Fire Protection District's Annual Chili Supper & Turkey Raffle

November 22, 2024

Turkey Raffle
100 Frozen Turkeys & Chickens
Raffle starts at 6:00 pm

Raffle Baskets

\$1.00 Drafts

Portable Generator Raffle

50/50 Raffle

Adults \$10.00
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Santa Claus will be visiting Festival of Trees
Sat., Dec. 7 & Sun., Dec. 8
3:30-4:30pm



COAL CITY HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR CLASS PRESENTS
Festival of Trees

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

DIAMOND BANQUET HALL
55 S. DALY STREET, DIAMOND

Free Admission - Raffles - Entertainment - Refreshments

What to expect - Festival of Trees
Come see the beautiful trees and displays plus buy your raffle tickets for a chance to win one! There will be refreshments and entertainment for all ages to enjoy. All proceeds go to Promfest to give the high school students a safe after prom party.

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A Merry Day on Jefferson

Saturday, November 23rd

Come shop local vendors from 9am-Noon

United Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
309 E Jefferson Street
Gardner, IL

Talk about tennis balls effecting the enviroment

Dear EarthTalk: I often find old tennis balls in a nearby park, likely lost by dog owners. What is the collective effect on ecosystems of all these tennis balls?

-- June Jackson, via email

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Tennis balls, primarily made from rubber and synthetic materials, do not biodegrade and can persist in the environment for years. Made with a combination of rubber and felt, they contribute both litter and microplastics to our ecosystems.

Natural and synthetic rubber production is resource-intensive, often leading to deforestation and pollution in areas where rubber plantations are cultivated. The manufacturing process also consumes significant energy, and once discarded, tennis balls contribute to growing

plastic waste in ecosystems. While some tennis ball recycling initiatives exist, such as efforts to repurpose used balls into playground surfaces or dog toys, the majority still end up in landfills or scattered in natural spaces.

Also, when left in nature, tennis balls can present hazards to wildlife. Animals may ingest pieces of these balls, mistaking them for food. The felt cover on tennis balls can shed fibers over time, especially in wet or harsh conditions, potentially releasing microplastics and other synthetic particles into the soil and waterways. Studies on synthetic materials in the environment have shown that these particles can disrupt soil health and are increasingly found in water systems, where they accumulate and impact marine life.

Fortunately, some manufacturers are developing more eco-friendly alternatives. Wilson Sporting Goods, for example, introduced the Trinit Ball, which is designed to last longer and comes in a recyclable, unpressurized paper container, a step toward reducing both



Photo by Roddy Scheer

WHEN YOUR DOG'S tennis ball gets left behind in the bushes or woods, it can wreak havoc on the surrounding ecosystem.

waste and production impacts. However, these sustainable options are not yet widespread in dog toy collections, so responsible disposal and use are still crucial for pet owners who want to minimize their environmental footprint.

If you want to discard your dog's old tennis balls responsibly or you pick up others' long forgotten ones left behind on walks-take them to a nearby tennis center that hosts a collection bin from RecycleBalls. This innovative company takes apart old tennis balls

and repurposes their constituent parts into a wide variety of other applications.

While one or two tennis balls left behind might seem inconsequential, the cumulative impact is not. Retrieving and disposing of used tennis balls properly or opting for eco-friendlier toys-can help reduce this environmental impact and keep natural spaces cleaner for everyone.

EarthTalk® is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. EarthTalk. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

VFW to host free Thanksgiving Dinner

VFW Post 5422 will be hosting a Community Thanksgiving Dinner. This dine-in only meal will be served on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, from noon to 3 p.m. at our building in Wilmington.

Dinner is free of charge and open to all. We invite you to join us, not only for a great meal, but also a great time with

some great folks.

Reservations are not necessary, but if you would like to sign up, so we can estimate a head count, you may contact Connie Cerutti (815) 351-8975 or there is a sign up sheet at the bar.

If you would like to donate a dish for this meal, please contact Connie.

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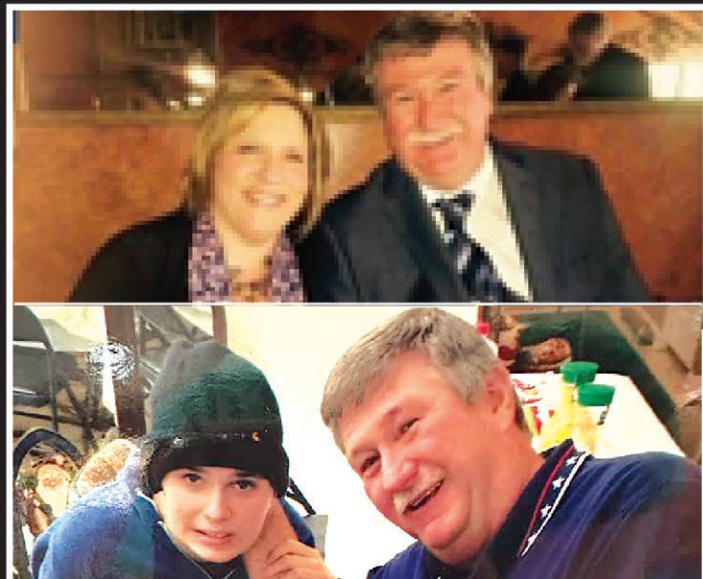
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BUM'S AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY CAN HELP TACKLE SOME OF THE EXPENSES FOR THE TABLER FAMILY

Due to the tremendous response from our community, Bum's Tavern and Other Local Businesses are working together to help support the Tabler Family. Bum's Tavern will sponsor the Monday Night Football Fundraiser where 25% of all dine-in food and non alcoholic beverage sales will be donated to the Tabler Family - a local family who lost everything in a tragic house fire, including two family members.



WEEK 1

Monday, Nov. 18

Matching Sponsors

Jerry Hallahan - State Farm
Lori Bonarek Realty

WEEK 2

Monday, Nov. 25

Matching Sponsors

BDR Properties
On The Rocks

WEEK 3

Monday, Dec. 2

Matching Sponsors

Weber Micetich Chiropractic
Salon Suites

WEEK 4

Monday, Dec. 9

Matching Sponsors

Bank of Pontiac
City Lights

WEEK 5

Monday, Dec. 16

Matching Sponsors

Cardinal Transport
West Flooring

Support these local businesses that support our community!

FIELD GOAL DONATION

25% of all dine-in food and non alcoholic beverage sales will be donated to the Tabler Family by Bum's Tavern. Plus, two local businesses will match the donation each week!

TOUCHDOWN DONATION

Pick a football to help get the family needed items.

QUARTERBACK DONATION

Donate for a chance to win a liquor basket*
*Liquor basket winner must be 21 or older.

follow us on **facebook**

Check our upcoming events and specials!

WED., NOV. 20

RIB NIGHT
5 p.m.

25% of Tips donated to Tabler family

THUR., NOV. 21

Football! POT ROAST DINNER

\$1 Wings
25¢ per wing donated

FRI., NOV. 22

FISH FRY
5 p.m.

Happy Hour
4-7 p.m.

SAT., NOV. 23

PRIME RIB DINNER
Crab Eggroll
Appetizer
5 p.m.

DJ DEFCUTDON
8 p.m.

SUN., NOV. 24

Football!

\$1 donated for each **BLOODY MARY** for a cause

MON., NOV. 25

Tabler Football Fundraiser

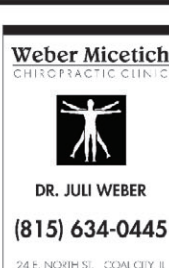
TUES., NOV. 26

SINGO
7 p.m.

Happy Hour
4-7 p.m.



790 N. Sixth St., Carbon Hill
(815) 634-0148



Coal City Community Unit School District No. 1 annual financial report

PUBLIC NOTICE

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS SUMMARY FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

Copies of the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

will be available for public inspection in the school district/joint agreement administrative office by November 30 annually.

Individuals wanting to review this form should contact:

Coal City CUSD 1

550 S Carbon Hill Rd Coal City, IL 60416 1663

815-634-2287

8 am to 4 pm M-F

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, 2024

will be posted on the Illinois State Board of Education's website at 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, 2024

		Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Debt Services	Transportation	Municipal Retirement/Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention & Safety
Local Sources	1000	24,847,412	4,464,367	3,626,635	1,708,036	1,177,315	35,635	537,979	448,564	358,863
Flow-Through Receipts/Revenues from One District to Another District	2000	34,020	0		0	0				
State Sources	3000	1,843,459	0	0	1,449,655	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Sources	4000	1,401,116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Receipts/Revenues		28,126,007	4,464,367	3,626,635	3,157,691	1,177,315	35,635	537,979	448,564	358,863
Total Direct Disbursements/Expenditures		26,165,046	3,539,278	3,630,216	2,897,486	848,555	2,590,416		96,210	46,014
Other Sources/Uses of Funds	(2,000,000)		0	0	0	0	9,000,000	7,831,073	0	0
Beginning Fund Balances without Student Activity Funds - July 1, 2023		16,935,231	2,942,505	4,303	2,377,480	694,279	565,712	1,013,077	1,037,638	416,156
Other Changes in Fund Balances		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balances without Student Activity Funds - June 30, 2024		16,896,192	3,867,594	722	2,637,685	1,023,039	7,010,931	9,382,129	1,389,992	729,005
Ending Fund Balances (all sources) with Student Activity Funds - June 30, 2024		17,190,036	3,867,594	722	2,637,685	1,023,039	7,010,931	9,382,129	1,389,992	729,005

PAYMENTS TO PERSON, FIRM, OR CORPORATION OVER \$2,500 EXCLUDING WAGES AND SALARIES

Person, Firm, or Corporation	Aggregate Amount	Person, Firm, or Corporation	Aggregate Amount
All In Gear	3,150	LEAF	69,132
Amalgated Bank Of Chicago	3,630,216	LearnWell	6,636
American Capital Financial Services	48,993	Lite Construction INC	661,960
American Express	16,125	Logoworks	3,512
American Funds	156,657	Mack and Associates P.C.	17,750
Amplify Education Inc	67,125	Macmillan Holdings LLC	9,860
Apple Financial Services	79,282	McCullough Implement Co	68,555
ArbiterSports LLC	44,740	Micetich, JACK	3,000
Arnie bauer Chevrolet	18,945	Midwest Bus Sales	45,000
Bank Of Pontiac	2,860,409	Midwest Event Solutions LLC	5,500
BMO Financial Group	959,972	MNW Telecom Inc	14,711
BP	15,349	Morris Hospital	7,150
BSN Sports	21,953	Naperville Psychiatric Ventures	4,805
Camelot Therapeutic Schools LLC	335,926	Nation Trade Supply, LLC	10,271
CharacterStrong	3,899	NCS Pearson, Inc	29,073
Cinder Ridge	4,044	Neuco, Inc	8,780
Coal City Comm. Unit #1 HSA Advance	3,000	NextEra Energy Services	612,248
Coal City High School Activity Fund	15,735	Nicor Gas	96,517
Coal City Middle School Activity Fund	5,328	Northern Life	2,500
Coaler Creations	6,929	Old Second National Bank	237,290
Collective Liability Insurance Cooperative	268,911	OMNI TPA Company	73,950
College Board	23,486	Pavement Systems, Inc.	5,820
Committee For Children	8,084	Phoenix Industrial Cleaning Inc	9,430
Computer Logic Group, Inc	10,768	Phoenix Learning Systems	2,670
Connexion	6,386	Piano Network	13,466
Conserv FS, Inc	14,777	PowerSchool Group LLC	17,987
Construction & Geotechnical Material Testing, Inc	2,970	Prairie farms	63,658
Cordogan Clark Consulting Services, Inc	696,558	Precision Control Systems Inc	52,843
Crisis Prevention Institute, Inc	5,943	Proven IT	39,631
D Construction, Inc	1,038,186	Public Consulting Group, Inc	16,322
Davidson, Amanda	6,708	R.L. Sohoh General Contractors Inc	41,929
Direct Fitness Solutions, LLC	228,004	Rebel Athletic	6,288
Edlio, LLC	15,277	Reliance Standard Life Insurance Co	67,843
Educational benefit Cooperative	3,492,530	RevTrak	2,647
Educational Environments	25,826	All American Sports Corp	20,277
Eisenhower Cooperative	10,990	Risk Program Administrators	9,215
Elan Photography	6,290	Rival 5 Technologies	60,547
Elim Christian Services	112,239	Riverside Technologies, Inc	83,702
Elliot Electric Inc	11,215	Riverside Work Force Health	6,705
EMS Ling Inc	13,043	Ryan's Collision Service	5,225
Excel Edge	2,975	Savvas Learning Company	391,285
FairCom	5,000	Scholastic Education	19,293
First Eagle Bank	82,855	School Pass	17,190
Five Star Technologies Group LLC	10,320	SEIU Local #73	13,257
Flinn Scientific INC	2,582	Serv-Pro Of Frankfurt 9329	47,007
Follet School Solutions	4,881	Sistek Sales & Service	38,275
Franczek P.C.	17,022	SMG Security Holdings LLC	9,528
Frontline Technologies Group LLC	16,958	Smith Painting Services, Inc	82,130
Fun & Function	9,319	Soil And Material Consultants, Inc	2,996
Garvey's Office Products	25,582	Southwest Mechanical Inc	10,068
Gina's Motorsports of Monee	14,560	Sprout educational Services P.C.	22,670
Glade Plumbing and Piping Co.	52,967	Stalker Sports Floors	9,225
Glenn B. Stearns	15,000	State Disb. Unit	11,504
Gordon Food Service, Inc	495,501	Sunbelt	65,538
Grainco FS Inc	8,659	SwiftReach Networks, LLC	2,956
Grand Prairie Transit - Lockport	11,628	Telesolutions Consultants, LLC	4,200
Green River Lines Inc	4,200	Terra Engineering LTD	24,038
Grundy Area Vocational Center	677,090	The Autism Helper, Inc	5,750
Grundy County Collector	4,942	The Sandner Group	12,565
Grundy County Special Education Coop	67,017	Thompson Electronics Company	34,251
Grundy Supply	168,248	Tiles In Style LLC	270,005
Guardian Life Insurance Company	362,945	Timberline Billing Service, LLC	3,513
Harmonic Design, Inc	3,535	Top Youth Services	6,980
Harris School Solutions	13,881	Tradera Financial Services	128,947
Health E-Pro	6,445	Trane US INC	4,514
Hillmann Pediatric Therapy P.C.	23,227	United rentals	19,500
Hobart Service	7,811	VALIC	22,325
Horace Mann life Insurance Co	16,252	Valley Fire Protection Services, LLC	3,728
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	9,850	Vertigo	8,185
HPS LLC	3,932	Village Of Coal City	187,244
I.E.A	115,479	VSP	35,039
IASA	2,927	Vucsko, Stephanie	3,000
Ideal Environmental Engineering Inc	7,848	Wet Solutions, Inc	10,305
ILC	8,695	Whitmore Ace Hardware	4,976
Illinois Association Of School Boards	12,174	Whitt Law LLC	151,004
Illinois Central School Bus LLC	2,814,506	Wilmington Overhead Door	3,949
Illinois Central - 8 Conference	3,000	Xperience Cheer, LLC	3,310
Illinois State Police	6,500		
Imagine Learning	3,960		
Independence Plus Inc	6,825		
Interquest Detection Canines Of ChicagoLand	3,195		
ITR Systems	17,549		
IXL Learning	25,983		
Johnosn Controls Fire Protection LP	2,782		
Joliet Public Schools	15,737		
King Music	25,204		
Kriha Boucek LLC	5,832		
KS StateBank	22,174		

Coal City Community Unit Schol District No. 1

GROSS PAYMENT FOR CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000	Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999	Edgar, Zachary Edwin	VanDuynes, Meagan
Acosta, Angela	Aichele, Katie Loraine	Fatigante, Thomas	Kathleen
Anderson, Kiana	Bajit, Becky	Fincher, Robin M	Veronda, Sarah
Berger, Tiffany	Bell, Sarah	Fiske, Mark A	Villafuerte, Hayley
Bohac, Felicia	Bohac, Sara	Forkal, Darcy	Vironda, Jill
Bontrager, Lynnae N	Brimm, Andrew T	Fritz, Traci M	Walgren, Kailee Joan
Bova, Amy	Clark, Valerie Rene	Gaffigan, Amy N.	Watson, Lori
Carboni, Gregory A	Connolly, Hope Ann	Gerber, Cindy	Wilkinson, Abigail
Conrad, Brittany	Dekruiff, Willow	Gemenz, Amy M	Wren, Aimee L
Cox, Amanda	Drey, Kathryn E	Hall, Tricia	Salary Range: \$90,000 and over
Draino, Tarra	Egan, Belinda Patrice	Halliday, Emily	Bornet, Cristin
Druse, Cheryl	Egan, Martin R	Hanley, Brooke	Bruzzo, Terese M
Elliott, Jenifer Sue	George, Melissa A	Harseim, Britt	Bunton, Ryan
Feeney, Peggy Ann	Gletty, Griffin D	Housman, Rebecca	Carlson, Tracy L
Ganser, Michael	Gubelman, Danielle Marie	Keppner, Colin Joseph	Castle, Tyler
Gutierrez, David M	Hancock, Todd M	Kinzer, Emily Ann	Cowherd, Betsy
Heavener, Charles	Hayse, Emily J	Kiper, Keith B	Davidson, Amanda
Henderson, Heather	Hill, Samantha Michele	Kodatt, Ann	DePersia, Cecilia
Himes, Rebecca	Jackman, Ashley	Krippel, Jean Marie	Foley, Amy L
Ingalls, Nicholas D	Jacobs, Savannah J	Loughran, Francis	Friddle, Elizabeth
Isenhower, Haley E	Kren, Michael	Ludes, Katie Lynn	Haab, Kimberlee
Jackman, Julie R	Lange, Mikayla M	Malsky, Amanda L	Hamilton, Lori A
Jackson, Amanda N	Macholz, Adam S	Marsaglia, Margaret	Hitchcock, James
Kempes, Lauren Christine	Marsala, Kassandra Lynn	Elizabeth	Horrie, Gina
Krause, Anna H	McGrath, Cassie R	Matsko, Ashley N	Kennell, Harlan
LaGioia, Chiarina	Minnick, Sonja R	McCleary, Steven	Kenney, Jennifer A
Lefevre, Brittany E	Mullen, Jaclyn Marie	Merrill, Amy	Kostbade, Michael
Luttrell, Megan L	NOVAK, Rachel A	Micetich, John Jack	Krippel, Lucas Ryan
Lutz, Margaret M	Perry, Matthew Russell	Micetich, Joseph P	Larson, Chad
Mailhiott, Christopher	Pfeifer, Michael E	Mikula, Corey	Larson, Jackie
Martino, Jennifer	Ppercell, Thomas G	Monbrun, Rodney Charles	Leman, Matthew
Catherine	Rivera, Joey	Muscato, Jennifer	Leve, Andrew
Mccoy, John W	Schultz, Cristina	Nicholson, Neil	Looper, James
Mettille, Lindsey Arianna	Smolich, Mackenzie B	O'Donnell, Riane	Mark, Jacqueline
Nicola, Bethany Nicole	Speed, Taylor Jo	Owensby, Brea M	Masters, Mark
OKeefe, Marla	Strunga, Kristen	Patten, Amanda	McMurtrey, Pamela
Pratl, Lauren E	Sweeney, Tara E	Petersen, Branden	Miller, Tanya
Rakes, Sandra	Taylor IV, Richard	Peterson, Allison M	Moir, Lori
Regennitter, Jay N	Thelo, Grace M	Phillips, Angela	Munsterman, Jennifer
Roether, Kaylee D	Vucsko, Stephanie	Quigley, Sarah	Ness, Jennifer
Schoonover, Tyler	Warner, Craig M	Rhodes, Jennifer L.	Painter, Michelle R
Scott, Michael A	Watters, Lindsey	Roudis, Angela M	Painter, Todd
Sheldon, Linda M	Wiltz, Nicole Marie	Sanburg, Sandra	Piatak, Gina
Sieben, Anne C	Salary Range: 60,000 - \$89,999	Schmitz, Tracy S.	Quigley, Joshua
Southall, Sarah	Aldridge, Veronica	Siefken, Amy H	Rink, Jennifer
Stone, Cameron	Anderson, Allison M	Smith, Andrea Dawn	Roseland, Andrea
Swink, Sofia H	Baer, Benjamin	Sobieck, Michelle Louise	Schmitt, Brad
Terres, Ann E	Boresi, Bradley	Sobin, Kaitlin F	Sinkular, David
Terrel, Robert	Boresi, Nicole	Sondgeroth, Kimberly J	Skubic, Shelby
Vaira, Nicole M	Brncich, Julie Marie	Spicer, Casandra A	Smith, Jason
Vandergrift, Emily R	Cade, Kate	Sthay, MaryKay	Spencer, Christopher
Wozniak, Connie D	Cyrkiel, Sarah	Stith, Julie Marie	Stafford, Arthur E
Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999	Czernicki, Kaitlyn	Swink, Sharon	Steichen, Kelly S
Dehler, Charissa Marie	Dimitrijevic, Abby	Thetard, Katherine Jean	Stewart, Tiffany
Schoonover, Lauren	Dransfeldt, Erin Lynne	Traxler, Jessica	Terrel, Constance
Elizabeth	Duffy, Jillian	Trotter, Taryn B	Togliatti, Tricia
		Unger, Jeremy	Welch, Tara
		Urquiza, Melanie	Wills, Greg
		Vahle-Reck, Stephanie	Yedinak, Kerry

Coal City Community Unit Schol District No. 1

GROSS PAYMENT FOR NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000	Salary Range: Less Than \$25,000	Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999
Acord, Rebecca	Harvey, Shian J.	Barkley, Stephanie Luann
Aldridge, Klarissa	Helland, Sara F	Barla, Paula Jeanette
Anderson, Jewel	Henline, Mikayla R	Bleifeldt, Carol
Barkley, Carmella	Hertz, Kristi Jean	Budde, Carol L.
Barnard, Margaret Carol	Hiles, Susanne M	Caher, Shannon
Barnard, Richard B	Holcomb, Madison E	Carlson, Karen K
Berger, Gavin C	Hood, Alissia	Charles, Tara
Bergmark, Renee	Housman, Avah K	Clampitt, Keegan
Berta, Colleen A	Hunter, Heather A	Eikey, Cheri D
Bianchetta, Jaimie	Hutchings, Janet	Endrst, Jennifer M
Bitner, Tiffany Marie	Jerb, Daniel	Fisk, Derek
Blanton, Megan A	Johnson, Griffin M	Green, Nolan
Blazekovich, Haley P	Johnson, Lisa	Hancock, Susan
Brumfield, Emma	Johnson, Lori J	Harmon, Donna
Buck, Trey M	Joly, Lisa M	Hill, Michelle
Burba, Alexandra L	Jones, Aislinn Ruth	Hossack, Yolanda
Cabral, Crista	Kainz, Holly	Huston, Andrea Marie
Carpenter, Alison B	Kaplan, Donna M	Ripplinger, Daniel
Cary, Caitlyn A	Kargle, Aimee N	Roach, Hayleigh A
Chapin, Carole J.	Kasky, Hailey R	Roach, Stacey
Charles, Emma B	Kavanaugh, Jennifer M.	Rodriguez, Adam
Chernesky, Eliana A.	Kessler, Ronald A	Rodriguez, Roberto M
Chernesky, Teresa	Kinder, Melody A	Rose, Rachel A.
Colavecchi, Joseph D	Klepce, Kelly	Roseland, Lance
Coldwater (Wilkins), LisaR	Kmatz, Lauren	Rouse, Kirk
Colegrove, Cassandra T	Kodatt, Abigail F.	Rowader, Sarah E
Connor, Adeline Jane	Kolnicki, Corinne B	Sage, Jessica L
Coster, Hannah	Kostbade, Isabelle	Salmon, Lindsey A
Cullick, John	Kozlowski, Mary	Sawyer, Deborah K.
Cvitanovich, Jacklyn N.	Krug, Gina M	Scerine, Kim
Dagostino, Shanan D	Kuder, Amy Renee	Sheridan, Celeste
Davidson, Kilen Jo	Lardi, Kristina	Shirkey, Hannah
Davito, Katherine L	Larson, Sydney E	Shirley, Shannon
Davy, Kristina	Lepic, Mary Ann	Sieger, Cherie
Dearth, Kelly A	Leve Jr., Roy E.	Skubic, Frank
Deluca, E Gail	Lewis, Austin M	Smith, Alexander
Depodesta, Amie	Long, Kathryn	Smith, Tricia Lynn
Diamond, Danielle M	Ludes, Dylan J.	Smith, Zoe E
Donnelly, Ethan R.	Ludes, Gabriel	Solecki, Lorena
Dorazio, Krystena A.	Mahfeldt, Janet L.	Spoto, Emily
Doogan, Sara E	Manietta, Shannon L	Stanford, Shawna L
Dorazio, Brody A	Marma, Danielle J	Stellano, Holly M
Dransfeldt, Kennedy	Matthews, Hillary	Tapley, Debra L
Drinkwine, Raquel J	McCleary, Kevin H	Terrel, Joseph
Druse, Richard	McClennan, Christina L	Tibble, Emmaline J
Durkee, Brianne L	McDowell, Jerry Alan	Togliatti, Kristen M
Eaton, Amanda	McGoldrick, Jason M.	Tremer, Samantha T.
Elledge, Tammy S	Menard, Stephen A.	Tucker, Jori L
Elldred, Tammy S	Mendoza, Aaron E	VanDuynes-Mueller, JulieA
Endrst, Brenda Gail	Meyerhoff, Ashley	Vestal, Gavin D
Erhard, Kristen A	Micetich, Joel P	Vigna, Pamela S
Fatigante, Joseph M	Michalak, Alexandra M	Waliczek, Alec D
Fearday, Rachel A	Montana, Sloane P	Walsh, Julie Kristine
Feeney, Bridget T	Neal, Mercedes	Washington-Mosley, JudyM.
Feeney, James O	Newman, Alexandra M.	Watson, Benjamin S
Finch, Zachary S	Norris, James M	Watson, Joseph T
Florian, Joseph J	Okeefe, Shaela	Webster, Ryan M
Foot, Alecia A	Olson, Terri L	White, Chad A
Fritz, Theodore V.	Onsen, Lenny	Wickiser, Wyatt J.
Garner, Mason S	Palmer, Jessica R	Widowski, Jonathan B
Gill, Hunter W	Paraday, Sheri A	Widowski, Joseph B
Giordano, Jessica	Partney, James E	Widowski, Joseph
Elizabeth	Patten, Elainea	Wilkins, Cassandra E
Gubelman, Don E	Patten, McKenna G	Williams, Grace E
Haddon, Cindie	Pavey, Alyssa J	Williams, Ross E
Hall, Jennifer Lynn	Pens, Gina Elizabeth	Wills, Nate
Hamilton, Mason D	Perino, Matthew A.	Wills, Stacey
Hanley, Cindy Lou	Peters, Nicholas J.	Wolles, Jeremy M
Harney, Laura Moree	Phillips, Donald	Wysocki, Lisa A
		Young, Dylan M
		Zoellick, Rachel K

Published in the Coal City Courant, Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024.

Sheriff's sale of 324 Sumac St.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF WILL) SS.

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

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A, THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-3, Plaintiff,
vs.
JOSEPH SACZEK; LAKEWOOD SHORES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS;
No. 23 FC 1211

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Public notice is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment entered in the above cause on the 22nd day of August, 2024, MIKE KELLEY, Sheriff of Will County, Illinois, will on Thursday, the 5th day of December, 2024, commencing at 12:00 o'clock noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street,

Senior volleyball players honored at WHS



Photo by Elizabeth Strong
WHS VOLLEYBALL senior Cole Drown is escorted by her parents Casey and Stacy Drown. Cole has been involved in volleyball and basketball all four years, but unfortunately suffered a season ending injury. After graduation Cole plans to attend college and major in veterinary medicine.



Photo by Elizabeth Strong
WHS VOLLEYBALL senior Maggie Lidnsey, escorted by her parents Scott and Jenny Lindsey, has played volleyball for four years. She is a member of NHS, the Interact Club and Best Buddies. After graduation Maggie plans to attend college to major in education and play volleyball.



Photo by Elizabeth Strong
WHS VOLLEYBALL senior Skylar Knight is escorted by her parents Ryan Knight and Whitney Krepps. Skylar has played volleyball, basketball and softball. She is also the NHS public relations officer, is in Best Buddies, Interact Club, the Math Team and is a baseball stat girl. Skylar plans to attend a four year university where she will play volleyball and earn a Bachelor's degree in nursing with the goal of becoming a Pediatric ICU nurse.



Photo by Elizabeth Strong
WHS VOLLEYBALL senior Reese Van Duyne, escorted by her parents Dave and Megan Van Duyne, has played volleyball for four years, and she ran track for two years. She has also been in Interact Club and Lead for four years. After graduation Reese plans to go to college and play volleyball.

WHS sports schedules

BOYS BASKETBALL

Varsity

Dec. 4	@Iroquois West	6:45 p.m.
Dec. 6	host Reed Custer	6:45p.m.
Dec. 10	@Manteno	7 p.m.
Dec. 11	host Momenca	6:45 p.m.
Dec. 13	@Herscher	7 p.m.
Dec. 17	@Coal City	6:45 p.m.
Dec. 20	@Lisle	6:45 p.m.
Dec. 26, 27, 28	@Seneca	TBA
Jan. 4	@Morris	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 7	host JCA	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 8	host Dwight	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 10	host Peotone	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 11	@Grant Park	1:30 p.m.
Jan. 15	@GSW	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 17	@Streator	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 18	host Westmont	12:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	@Reed Custer	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 24	host Manteno	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 28	host Herscher	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 31	@Clifton Central	7 p.m.
Feb. 4	host Coal City	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 7	host Lisle	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 12	@Indian Creek	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 14	@Peotone	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 18	host Streator	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 20	@Beecher	7 p.m.

Freshmen

Dec. 2	@Reed-Custer	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 5	host Manteno	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 5	host Manteno B game	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 12	host Coal City	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 12	host Coal City B game	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 18	@Bishop Mac	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 19	@Lisle	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 19	@Lisle B game	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 4	@Morris	2 p.m.
Jan. 9	@Peotone	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	host Streator	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 15	host Reed Custer	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	@Manteno	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	@Manteno B game	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	@Herscher	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 29	host Bradley	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 30	@Coal City	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	host Lisle	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	host Lisle B game	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 6	host Dwight	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	@Streator	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	@Seneca	9 a.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Varsity

Nov. 18	@RC Invite w/ Morris	8 p.m.
Nov. 20	@RC Invite w/Reed Custer	5 p.m.
Nov. 21	@RC Invite w/Grace Christian	5 p.m.
Nov. 23	@Reed-Custer Invite	TBA

GIRLS BASKETBALL (CONT.)

Varsity

Nov. 26	@Grace Christian	6 p.m.
Dec. 2	host Reed Custer	6:45 p.m.
Dec. 5	@Manteno	7 p.m.
Dec. 7	host Clifton Central	12:30 p.m.
Dec. 9	@Herscher	7 p.m.
Dec. 12	@Coal City	6:45 p.m.
Dec. 14	@TBA	9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Dec. 16	@Onarga w/Iroquois West	TBA
Dec. 18	@Iroquois West	TBA
Dec. 19	host Lisle	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 9	host Peotone	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 11	host Grant Park	11:30 a.m.
Jan. 13	@Streator	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 14	host Beecher	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 16	@Reed-Custer	7p.m.
Jan. 22	@GSW	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 23	host Manteno	7 p.m.
Jan. 27	host Herscher	7 p.m.
Jan. 30	host Coal City	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 3	@Lisle	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 6	@Peotone	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 8	host Morris	12:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	host Streator Senior night	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 11	host Dwight	6:45 p.m.

Competitive Cheerleading

Nov. 24	host Wilmington Invitational	8 a.m.
Dec. 14	@Lincoln Way Central	TBA
Dec. 22	host ICCA Cheer Invite	8 a.m.
Jan. 11	@ICCA Champ	TBA
Jan. 15	@Coal City I-8 Conference	7 p.m.
Jan. 26	@Marian Catholic	TBA
Feb. 1	@IHSA Sectional	TBA
Feb. 7, 8	@IHSA State Fin.@Bloomington	TBA

Wrestling Varsity

Dec. 10	host Wilm. Triangular w/Seneca	5:30 p.m.
.....and Plano	5:30 p.m.	
Dec. 12	@Reed Custer ICE quad vs. RC	5:30 p.m.
.....and Hers.	5:30 p.m.	
Dec. 13	@Pontiac Girls Invite	4 p.m.
Dec. 13	@Clifton Cent. Girls only	5 p.m.
Dec. 14	@Pontiac	9 a.m.
Dec. 19	@Dwight w/Pontiac	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 20	host Wilm. Triangular w/Sandwich, Bishop Mac	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 27, 28	Abes Rumble Porta Super Duals	9 a.m.
.....@Bank of Springfield Center	9 a.m.	
Jan. 9	@ICE Quad @Coal City	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 10	@Princeton Invite	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 11	@Princeton Invite	10 a.m.
Jan. 16	host ICE Quad w/Streator & CC	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 17	@Reed Custer Comet Class	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 18	@Reed-Custer Classic	9 a.m.
Jan. 21	host Clifton Cent. kids club	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	@Manteno Wilm. vs Mant	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 25	host ICE Conf. Tourn.	9 a.m.

Wildcat Self Storage gives notice of disposal

PUBLIC NOTICE

To: Robert Bogert
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. It is in storage unit 49 at Wildcat Self Storage, 131 School Street, Wilmington, IL 60481, which is currently rented by Robert Bogert.
Sale, either individually or by lot, or disposal will take place on:
Date: November 22, 2024
Time: 10 a.m.
Location: Wildcat Self Storage, 131 School Street, Wilmington, IL 60481.
This notice is being given by Eric Kempes of Wildcat Self Storage. Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Nov. 13 and 20, 2024.

Attorney Lynch files Welch 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 STEPHANIE R. WELCH, Deceased; No. 2024PR272
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Stephanie R. Welch. Letters of Office were issued to Darlene May whose address is 910 Bittersweet Lane, Shorewood, Illinois 60404 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, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 6th day of May, 2025, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.
Jennifer M. Lynch
For the Estate of Stephanie R. Welch, Deceased
BY: Jennifer M. Lynch
1861 Black Road
Joliet, IL 60435
815-725-8000
Atty No.: 06275404
Published in the Free Press Advocate, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 13 and 20, 2024.

Wilmington to hold public hearing on revising boundaries of Elion TIF District 2

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND JOINT REVIEW BOARD MEETING TO CONSIDER REVISING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA FOR THE ELION LOGISTICS PARK 55 (TIF DISTRICT NO. 2), AND AMENDING THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROJECT FOR THE ELION LOGISTICS PARK 55 (TIF DISTRICT NO. 2)

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at the hour of 7:00 p.m. at the Wilmington City Hall, Council Chambers, 1165 South Water Street, Wilmington, Illinois at the Wilmington City Hall, Council Chambers (the "Public Hearing"), in relation to revising the boundaries of the Redevelopment Project Area for the Elion Logistics Park 55 (TIF District No. 2) (the "TIF District"), by adding the property legally described in Exhibit 1 to the Redevelopment Project Area for the TIF District (the "Redevelopment Project Area Amendment"), so that the newly added property may be redeveloped as set forth in the proposed amended Redevelopment Plan and Project for the TIF District, and the proposed amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and Project for the TIF District, that would amend the Redevelopment Plan and Project to address and accommodate redevelopment of the TIF District within its revised boundaries (the "TIF Plan Amendment"), pursuant to the provisions of the "Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act," 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-1 et seq., as amended (the "TIF Act"). A copy of the TIF Plan Amendment has been on file with the City since August 23, 2024, is available for public inspection and may be obtained from Jeannine Smith, City Administrator for the City of Wilmington, by email at jsmith@wilmington-il.gov, by telephone at (815) 476-2175, and by appointment at 1165 South Water Street, Wilmington, Illinois 60481, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. A copy of the TIF Plan Amendment is enclosed with the copies of this Notice that are being mailed to the affected taxing districts, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and the Public Member (Kevin Kirwin) of the Joint Review Board. Jeannine Smith, City Administrator for the City of Wilmington, 1165 South Water Street, Wilmington, Illinois 60481, (815) 476-2175, jsmith@wilmington-il.gov, may be contacted for further information. Pursuant to the TIF Act, the Joint Review Board for the TIF District (the "JRB") is being convened to review the proposed Redevelopment Project Area Amendment and the TIF Plan Amendment for the TIF District. Pursuant to the TIF Act, the JRB consists of one (1) public member (Kevin Kirwin) and one (1) representative from each of the following taxing districts: Wilmington Township, Wilmington Fire Protection District, Wilmington School District 209-U, Joliet Junior College District 525, Island Park District, Wilmington Public Library District, Will County, and the City of Wilmington. Pursuant to the TIF Act, the meeting of the JRB will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 p.m. at the Wilmington City Hall, Council Chambers, 1165 South Water Street, Wilmington, Illinois. Those taxing districts with representatives on the JRB are hereby notified of said JRB meeting. The JRB's recommendation relative to the proposed Redevelopment Project Area Amendment and the proposed TIF Plan Amendment for the TIF District shall be advisory and non-binding, and shall be adopted by a majority vote of the JRB and submitted to the City within thirty (30) days after the first convening of the JRB. Failure of the JRB to submit its report on a timely basis shall not delay the Public Hearing, nor shall it delay any other step in the process of approving the Redevelopment Project Area Amendment or approving the TIF Plan Amendment for the TIF District. Prior to and at the September 24, 2024 Public Hearing, all interested persons, affected taxing districts and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity may file with the City Clerk written comments to and may be heard orally with respect to any issues regarding the proposed Redevelopment Project Area Amendment or the proposed TIF Plan Amendment for the TIF District. Written comments are invited and can be sent in advance of the Public Hearing to Jeannine Smith, City Administrator for the City of Wilmington, 1165 South Water Street, Wilmington, Illinois 60481, or by email to jsmith@wilmington-il.gov. The Public Hearing may be adjourned by the Mayor and City Council without further notice other than a motion to be entered upon the minutes of the Public Hearing, fixing the time and place of the subsequent Public Hearing.

EXHIBIT 1
Property Proposed to be Added to TIF District
TRACT 1 THE N 181.31 FT OF THE S 906.55 FT OF THE W 840.83 FT OF THE SW1/4 OF SEC. 21, T33N-R9E. REM ADJ DIV PER PET.#2004-199 NDA, in Will County, Illinois.
PIN: 03-17-21-300-023-0000

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Nov. 20 and 27, 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE

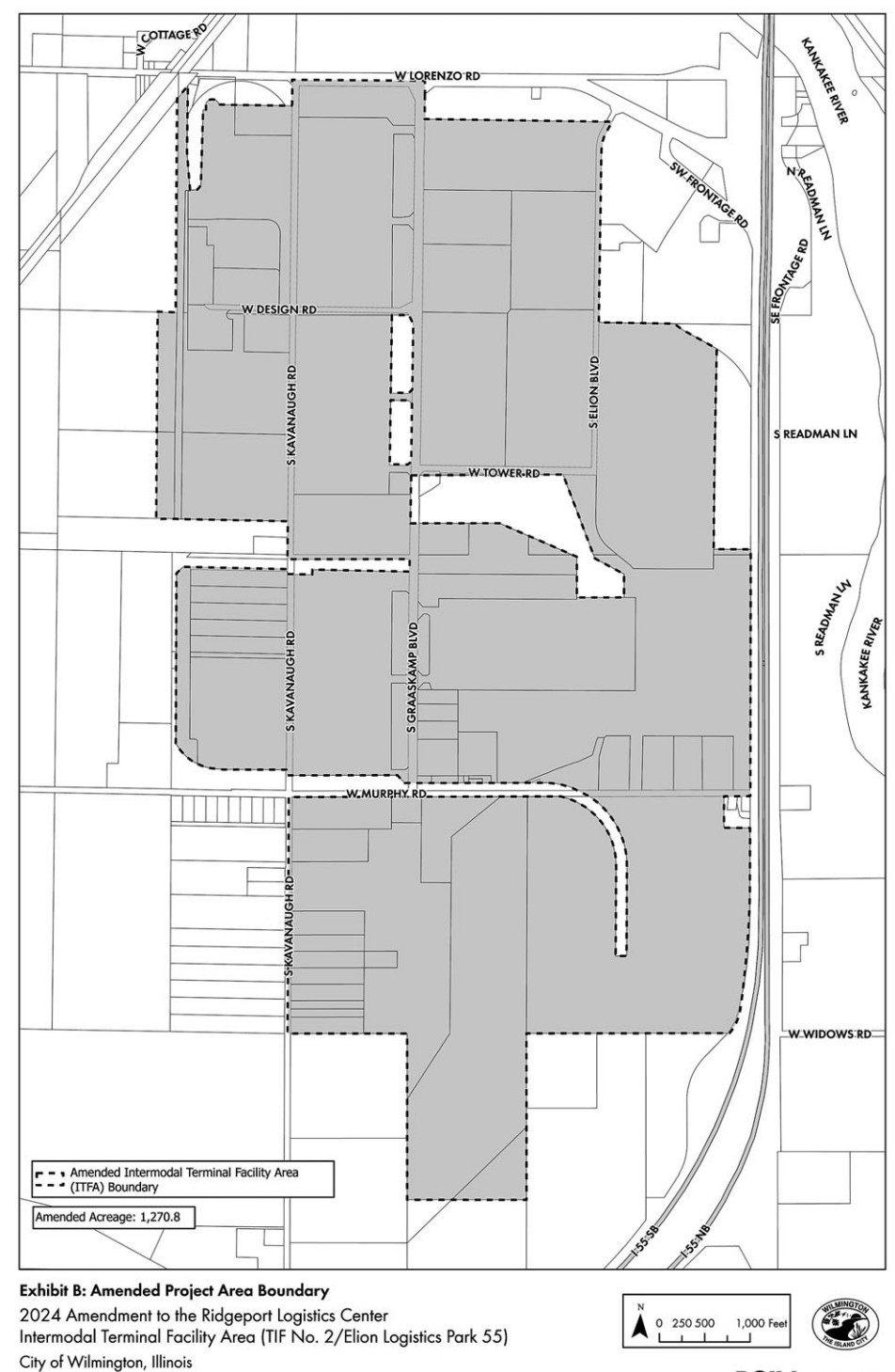
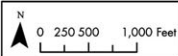


Exhibit B: Amended Project Area Boundary

2024 Amendment to the Ridgeport Logistics Center Intermodal Terminal Facility Area (TIF No. 2/Elion Logistics Park 55)
City of Wilmington, Illinois
August 2024



WILDCAT SPORTS



Photo by Alyssa Ohlund

WILDCAT SHAWN JAMES celebrates after pulling down a pass against DuPec during Saturday's game. Unfortunately the play was called back due to penalty. Nonetheless, James rushed for a total of 82 yards during a 22-13 victory.



Photo by Alyssa Ohlund

WILMINGTON JUNIOR Ryan Kettman slips away for a touchdown against DuPec during Saturday's playoff game on the road. Kettman rushed for a total of 160 yards, scored two touchdowns and made two interceptions in a 22-13 victory.

Injury doesn't stop the 'Cats

BY ERIC FISHER
PUBLISHER

In a hard-fought quarterfinal clash, the Wilmington Wildcats defeated the DuPec Rivermen, 22-13, on Saturday in Pecatonica, advancing to the Final Four in the 3A playoffs.

There were some big hits on both sides of the ball with a major blow for the Wildcats happening on the first play from scrimmage. That's when all-state running back Kyle Farrell went down with an ankle injury.

Despite the early setback, the Wildcats showcased resilience, leaning heavily on their defensive pressure and run game to secure the win.

The Wildcats opened scoring in the first quarter with a 2-yard rushing touchdown by Shawn James, setting the tone for Wilmington's run-focused offense. By half-time, Wilmington had extended their lead to 14-7, thanks to Ryan Kettman's 2-yard touchdown and his successful 3-yard conversion run. DuPec responded with a 31-yard touchdown run by Cooper Hoffman, keeping the score close.

The third quarter saw both teams exchanging scores. Hoffman's 18-yard touchdown pass to Jaxon Diedrich brought DuPec within one point, but Kettman's second touchdown—a 13-yard rush—followed by a 3-yard conversion run by James, helped Wilmington pull ahead 22-13, a lead they maintained through the final quarter.

Wilmington coach Jeff Reents acknowledged the emotional impact of Farrell's injury on the team.

"I'll be honest, when Kyle went out, I think our kids thought to themselves, 'It's Kyle, he'll be

back,'" Reents shared. "But as the game went on, they realized maybe he's not coming back. Still, our success carried us through the second half."

Reents credited the offensive line for adjusting effectively and helping Wilmington control the game. "Our kids were frustrated at the beginning, but they stepped up. I give a lot of credit to our offensive line. The guys did a great job up front, and Coach Barry made some key adjustments."

Wilmington controlled the ground game with 313 rushing yards on 58 carries, led by Kettman's 160 yards and two touchdowns on 29 carries. James contributed 82 yards on 18 carries with a touchdown.

Wilmington's defense tallied three sacks for a total of 10 yards and forced two interceptions, both by Kettman, whose defensive presence proved pivotal in stalling DuPec's offense.

The Rivermen managed only 41 rushing yards on 12 attempts against Wilmington's defense.

Overcoming adversity

Wildcat lineman Logan Van Dwyne commented on the team's reaction to Farrell's exit. "I think everyone felt we had to double our efforts out there once Kyle went down. Losing one of our main running backs so early in the game could have been a huge loss. We all thought, 'What more can I do? Let's dig in for our running backs and get the job done.'"

Van Dwyne noted that Kettman's ability to take hits and keep pushing forward inspired the rest of the team. "When you see other guys trying extra hard, we all key in on that and try even harder too," he said.

Kettman praised his teammates for their ability to rise to

the occasion, emphasizing the importance of team effort in Farrell's absence. "We knew we had to step up as a team. Kyle's a big contributor, and without him, we had to play for each other," he said. "Shawn [James] held his own. He's a great player and stepped up big today against one of the biggest lines we've seen all season."

Kettman also played a key role defensively, securing two interceptions thanks to pressure from Wilmington's defensive line. "We play as a team," Kettman explained. "Our D-line and linebackers were able to get to the quarterback, making him rush throws. That 'in-your-face' pressure forced DuPec into mistakes and helped me get those interceptions."

A major factor in Wilmington's success was controlling the clock and keeping the ball away from DuPec's potent offense.

"They started moving the ball in the third and got a quick touchdown," Reents noted. "But as long as we kept bringing the ball along, I was happy with that because it regained our momentum."

After overcoming both injury and a tough opponent, Wilmington has determined to keep fighting.

As Van Dwyne said, "We've come this far—we're not giving up just yet."

Wilmington's run attack also included 59 yards for Hunter Osipavicius in five attempts and 12 hard-earned yards by quarterback Lucas Rink in six tries. Rink completed one of three passes for 10 yards, a big catch by Ryan Nelson that resulted in a first down.

There were plenty of defen-

sive heroes besides Kettman with his five tackles and two interceptions. Nelson finished with four tackles, Zach Ohlund three including a sack, Declan Moran a big sack and a tackle and two each for Joe Van Dwyne, Logan Van Dwyne, Nate Cupples and

Osipavicius. Also making tackles were Will Wilson, Reid Waldon, Declan Proffitt, Ryan Schrage and James.

Wilmington will travel to Lombard this Saturday to take on Montini Catholic High School at 1 p.m.



Photo by Alyssa Ohlund

WILDCAT SOPHOMORE Declan Moran is about to tackle DuPec quarterback Cooper Hoffman for a loss during Saturday's game. Moran and the Wildcats pressured Hoffman all game including this stopper which had Moran getting up punching air.



Photo by Eric Fisher

CATS CIRCLE DUPEC opponent with ball for the takedown. Ryan Nelson (25), Zachary Ohlund (59), Nate Cupples (17) and Ryan Kettman (3) make a big stop during Saturday's quarterfinal playoff game. The Wildcats defeated DuPec, 22-13.



Photo by Eric Fisher

JUST OUT OF REACH for Wildcat Ryan Nelson during Saturday's game against DuPec in the 3A quarterfinal victory. Nelson did receive a pass for 10 yards later in the game.