

**BERKOT'S**

# Terminal, continued from page 1

Freight Mobility Plan as part of the Wilmington Freight Cluster.

## Nearby property

The Will County P&Z Commission will also review a map amendment request during the Dec. 3 hearing to rezone 1.93 acres of vacant land immediately west of 25109 West Lorenzo Road, Wilmington.

Scope Investments, LLC, wants to rezone the parcel of vacant land from Agricultural to I-2 General Industrial.

The request aims to unify the zoning district of the parcel with an adjacent property owned by Scope, which currently operates as a truck terminal under I-2 zoning. The zoning change would allow for a new access road west of its current entry due to a planned Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad overpass on Lorenzo Road.

The overpass construction will eliminate the existing ingress and egress points for the terminal, necessitating the proposed changes.

The need for truck terminals is anticipated as the Elion 55 Lorenzo Road warehouse complex continues to expand. The City of Wilmington is currently reviewing a proposal for Project Gemini, a 1.5 million sq. ft warehouse with traffic that could peak at 800 trucks per day.

Additionally, proximity for both sites to major transportation routes, including the I-55 interchange, further supports its suitability for industrial use.

The commission will consider both requests Dec. 3.

# Cook a turkey,

continued from page 1

I pulet in 81 owrs and elt

Carlos Flocs

First, I go hunting in woods for turkey. Next, we cut it up and put sesining on it and put it in a pot and put it in the ovin. Last, I cook it and eat it. yume.

Joseph Dziuban

First, I go to trget to buy my big big turkey. Next, I cut up and we put my turkey in the uvin. Last, I tak my turkey ven I et the turkey

Ellie Gillie

First, I go go go to lille turkey. Next, we put turkey to slep. Last, I cook it for 100 hours tak it et it.

Juan Gonzalez

First, I hunt my turkey in the foris. Next, we put pup-per and sult in turkey in the ovin. Last, I put my turkey on a plat.

Aryattall

First, I go to jerl and git a turkey Next, I cut it up and pt it in the uvin. Last, I tac it aert and I etet

Caroline Langusch

First, I got to torgit to buy my turkey. Next, put stufin in the turkey. Last, I cook the turkey then bonuputee.

Roman K.

First, I hunten for turkey. Next, I cucit an juopit. Last, put it on a palnt.

Lucas Tworek

First, I go to torgit get my turkey. Next, I cac it in the uvin. Last, I tac the turkey out.

Zinno Piclan

First, I got to trgit to buy my turkey. Next, we put it in the ovin for 10 minis at 4 drges. Last, we eat it.

Journey

First, I go to Meijer to buy my turkey. Next, we put butter and an apple in the pan and put it in the oven. Last, I cook it for 6 hours and put in on a turkey plate.

Mrs. Harris

PS. - Happy Thanksgiving to all readers of the Free Press Newspapers.

# Council plans hearing for changes to TIF district for Project Gemini

BY ROSE PANIERI  
STAFF WRITER

The council approved the final plat for Ridgeport Logistics Center, which is part of the larger Project Gemini project which will include a 1.65 million square foot office/warehouse distribution facility.

As part of Project Gemini, Wilmington City Council previously approved a request by Adar RPLL, LLC and ADAR Ridgeport Industrial Partners, to expand the site of Elion Logistics Park 55, that includes changes to the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district to include a parcel at 30955 S. Kavanaugh Road (PIN 03-17-21-300-023-0000).

At its Nov. 19 meeting, the council approved an ordinance calling for a public hearing and Joint Review Board meeting on Dec. 3. The purpose of the meeting will be to consider adjusting the boundaries of the TIF District by adding certain property from the Redevelopment Project Area for the TIF District to allow further development of the Elion Logistics Park 55.

The hearing will be held Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. at Wilmington City Hall council chambers, 1165 S. Water St.

A copy of the TIF Plan Amendment has been on file with the city since Aug. 23, and is available for review and may be obtained from city administrator, Jeannine Smith by emailing jsmith@wilmington-il.com or by calling (815) 476-2175. You may also make an appointment at 1165 S. Water St., between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

## South Park upgrade costs

The council approved payment to Double G Excavating, Inc. of Wilmington for work completed at the entrance to the South Island park in the amount of \$157,526.

Engineers at Chamlin & Associates inspected the work, indi-

cating that all work had been performed and has been completed in general compliance with city standards and contract requirements.

The project included, among other jobs, the hot mix asphalt surface course for \$33,750. General earth excavation was \$29,015. The foundation for the Gemini Giant foundation was \$12,500, and the Route 66 sign foundation ran \$3,300.

Jeannine Smith, city administrator, said cameras will be installed as part of the South Island Park project.

“There are already cameras installed in North island Park,” she said.

## Tax levy approved

The council approved an ordinance for the levy and collection of taxes for the city of Wilmington for fiscal year beginning May 1, 2024 and ending April 30, 2025.

That the sum of \$1,379,433 be and the same is hereby levied and assessed upon and against all property within the city, subject to taxation, according to the valuation of said property as the same is assessed and equalized for state and county purposed for the fiscal year May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025.

The taxes will fund the various funds, agencies, and departments of the city of Wilmington, including the general corporate fund, police pension fund, health/disposal fund, the Emergency Services & Disaster Agency (ESDA) fund, Federal Insurance and Contribution Act and Illinois Retirement Fund (IMRF), auditing and accounting fund, Liability and Worker's Compensation insurance fund, motor fuel tax fund, and bond and interest fund.

## Ordinance abating tax levy

The council approved an ordinance abating the tax levied for 2024 to pay the principal of and interest on \$6,530,000 general obligation bonds.

The ordinance (24-11-19-02) was adopted on April 21, 2020, and did

provide for the issue of \$6,530,000 general obligation refunding bonds. The city pledged revenues in the 2020 Alternate Bond Fund created under the ordinance for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the bonds up to and including Dec. 1, 2028.

- The council approved the Heritage Corridor Destinations Certification and Renewal request. Specifically, the city will renew its “certified tourism agency” designation.

- The Council approved IMAJE Records, Inc. contract for Mike and Joe to perform at the 2025 Let Freedom Rock Festival to be held June 27. The cost will be \$5,500 for 150 minutes of music between 8 and 11 p.m.

- The council approved the hiring of a temporary part-time fiscal clerk at city hall. The position is for three months, with 16 to 24 hours per week with flexible scheduling. The starting rate for the position is \$25.02/hour. A detailed job description and application is available on the City of Wilmington website [www.wilmington-il.gov](http://www.wilmington-il.gov).

The clerk will have frequent interaction with residents, developers, vendors, and contractors.

## Cost to improve city hall

The council approved payment of \$23,568 to Conley Excavating for the pavement replacement and drainage improvements to the city hall drive through.

Other actions:

- The council approved payment of \$5,250 to Concentric Integration for work performed at the water reclamation plant.

- The council approved a quote for \$1,375 to Lee's Rental for a bathroom trailer for the Gemini Giant's ribbon cutting event that will be held Nov. 30 from at 1 p.m. at the entrance to the south island park.

# Vote on solar farm postponed again

BY ROSE PANIERI  
STAFF WRITER

Though dozens of landowners anticipated a decision on a 3,600-acre solar farm in Custer and Reed townships, the Will County Board voted to table the issue until Feb. 20, 2025.

At its Nov. 21 meeting, board members voted 12-8 to once again delay a decision on the solar energy facility proposed by ACCIONA Energia, headquartered in Spain.

## Project history

ACCIONA presented plans for the solar energy facility to Custer and Reed townships during an informal meeting on Nov. 18, 2021.

The facility would be located in District 1 between Essex and Zilm roads from east to west, County Line and Smiley roads from north to south, with a substation at Smiley and Essex roads.

Once completed, the solar energy facility would have a 30 year lifespan, representing \$300 million in private community investment.

On Sept. 10, 2024, the Will County Land Use and Development Committee rejected a special use permit for the proposed facility, the largest ever submitted for approval to the county board.

On Sept. 19, the Will County Board ended up tabling the proposal until Nov. 21, when it was again postponed until February 2025.

## Supporters and detractors

On Thursday residents packed the board meeting awaiting the opportunity to share their opinion.

The majority asked the board to reject the solar energy facility, cit-

ing issues such as runoff polluting private wells, plummeting property values, loss of productive farmland and threats to the environment.

Supporters cited the creation of jobs, tax dollars, and the benefits of green energy.

“This is all about money—not money for us, but money for a foreign company,” Patricia Malcolm said. “I am very concerned because my home is 215 feet from the proposed site. The community elected you [the county board] to take care of us.”

Resident Peter Cristodolos refuted previous claims that soil in the area is of poor quality, not suited for agriculture.

“It's a sandy soil everything grows wonderful,” he said. “What do you think is going to happen when they take away the corn? This is China trying to do this to us, trying to take away our food supplies.”

Dante Domenella, speaking on behalf of ACCIONA, touted the benefits of the facility, including job creation and economic growth. Though detractors claimed the soil will be useless after the duration of the project, Domenella said the facility is not permanent, and land can be returned to agricultural status.

In addressing the issue of well contamination, Domenella noted the effects of agriculture on the environment, noting that agricultural giant, Monsanto, dumps tons of chemicals on the fields for the raising of crops.

“It's difficult to drive a car when you're looking in the rearview mirror, you'll

get into an accident” Domenella said to detractors. “You have to look out the windshield.”

Closer to home, Mark Mitchell, superintendent of Reed-Custer Community Unit School District 255-U, spoke in favor of the facility.

“Review the tax benefits to the local taxing bodies.” He said. “The projections of \$1 million the first year, and \$800,000 every year after, for a total of \$24 million over life of the project,”

Mike Newbrough, whose land would be leased by ACCIONA, shared his opinion that the corporation has done its due diligence, meeting legal requirements, codes and statutes in planning the solar facility.

“If you own a farm and you want to grow bees and have honey, and the neighbor's kid is allergic to bees,” he said. “do they have the right to tell you, ‘No, you can't have bees, you can't have honey?’”

After interjecting a “rebuttal” to Newbrough from the back of the courthouse, Peter Christodolos was urged to return to the podium.

“If I do something that is going to affect the people around me—if I put something in my garden that's going to contaminate the wells of my neighbors, then there's a problem,” he said.

Vincent Burke, a landowner, shared his thoughts on green energy.

“I've heard the term solar farm. This thing is no more a farm than a cemetery is an amusement park.” Burke said. “Please vote today on this issue. We've had enough continuances and time spent on

this thing. Enough wasting our time.”

## Power of the state

Despite the anticipation among supporters and detractors alike, Land Use Committee Chair, Frankie Pretzel (District 2, R-New Lenox) made a motion to postpone the decision. He said he wants to give ACCIONA the opportunity to address issues with landowners.

Pretzel also noted that rejecting the solar energy facility proposal would most likely result in a lawsuit, since the state of Illinois has taken away the power of county boards to reject approved green energy projects.

In addition to Pretzel, Joe VanDuyne (District 1, D-Wilmington) agreed the decision should be postponed until February.

“What I can say is I've had verbal conversations with them [ACCIONA] for quite some time and they're willing to continue to work with all the landowners in this area to make this project more acceptable for them,” VanDuyne said.

Katie Deane-Schlottman (District 1, R-Joliet) disagreed with postponing the issue until February.

“I do not think the solar company is going to make enough concessions to make the project palatable,” Deane-Schlottman said. “People have been waiting for an answer and deserve one from their county board. The solar company has already had one extension. I'm not in favor of the project. The only concession I would support is the project completely withdrawn.”

## Happy Thanksgiving!



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## 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 )  
 ) SS.  
COUNTY OF WILL )  
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, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder or bidders the following-described real estate:

LOT 403, IN SEVENTH ADDITION TO LAKEWOOD SHORES, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 1, IN TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, AND IN RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED MAY 17, 1961, AS DOCUMENT NO. 929059, IN WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Commonly known as: 324 SUMAC STREET, WILMINGTON, IL 60481  
Description of Improvements: Single Family  
P.I.N.: 08-24-01-303-038-0000

Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County.

In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act.

Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State.

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:  
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10700 ABBOTT'S BRIDGE RD SUITE 170  
DULUTH, GA 30097  
P: 708-668-4410 X 52109

Plaintiff's Attorney

MIKE KELLEY  
Sheriff of Will County

Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wed., Nov. 13, 20 and 27, 2024.

## Village of Symerton passes tax levy ordinance

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Legal Public Notice of the Village of Symerton, Will County, Illinois, pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/1-2-6: A TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR THE VILLAGE OF SYMERTON was approved and passed by the Village Board of Trustees after a public hearing held on November 11, 2024.

A copy of the ordinance can be viewed by contacting the office of the Village Clerk, Village Hall, 18385 W. Commercial Street, Symerton, Illinois during regular working hours at (815) 476-6266.

Dated this 11th day of November 2024.

Eli Geiss, Mayor  
Published in the Free Press Advocate on Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2024.



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Display Advertising: Friday, noon  
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Eric D. Fisher, publisher

# What to believe? Your eyes or the Net?

I would be lying to you if I said that I never did research on the Internet. I do use many trusted sources for information. I think we all do. But how many times have you used Google Maps to find your way, and it took you in circles? Or the net recommended a restaurant and when you got there it had been closed for ages.

Today, while doing research on the internet about Symerton, a place well known to Wilmingtonians, I came across the following description on a website called Best Places of that tiny burg.

About Symerton, IL: Located in the Chicago, IL metro area is a big and interesting place with lots of history and things to do. It's in the northeastern part of Illinois, right by Lake Michigan. This city started as a small trading post in the early 1800s and quickly grew because it was a good spot for transport and trade. Over the years, it became known for big buildings, busy ports, and



Sandy Vasko

lots of factories making all kinds of goods. Living in Symerton, IL is a great experience. The small-town atmosphere provides a unique sense of community and belonging that you can't find in larger cities. There are plenty of outdoor activities to take part in year-round such as fishing at Lake Symerton, enjoying the nearby parks and trails, or even just going for a leisurely walk around town. The cost of living is relatively low and there is plenty of opportunity for growth and prosperity. With friendly locals, plenty of local businesses, and diverse cultural attractions, Symerton offers something for everyone. Mega metro area set in the Lake Michigan coast and plains of the Great Lakes region. Primary industries include diverse economy and tourism. Noteworthy features include shoreline. No, my friends, that is not the Symerton we know and love. The real description can be found in what you are doing now, i.e.

reading a newspaper. Let's look at what Symerton was really like back in the day. Florence Township started as a farming community as soon as it was settled in the 1830's. There was never a trading post there, but when the Wabash Railroad came through in 1880 a small hamlet quickly appeared at the place where the railroad stopped. In 1883 this one sentence appeared in the Wilmington paper, "Symerton is crying loudly for an elevator." They got one, and a creamery besides. The Symerton Station proved immense value to the locals. Like; "Two carloads of posts arrived at Symerton on last Saturday, one load of which was for Thomas Baskerville, who intends to use them in building some new fence on his farm." Imagine how many wagon loads that would have taken to haul a box car full of posts. 1883 saw two creameries start business, only to fail just a few months later. It prompted the editor of the Wilmington newspaper to write. "And now Symerton wants a tile factory. Better have one in every cowshed. Any enterprise in this country that is

seen to be making a dollar or two profit is sure to give rise to competing concerns until the business is ruined." In 1885 a man named Moran came to town. He was enterprising, owning a general store and an entertainment hall "Moran, at Symerton, sells the best grades of teas and coffees in Will county, and his prices are 10 to 20 per cent lower than the old-style store price." And, "There was a sort of housewarming and oyster supper out to Symerton on Wednesday night, at Moran's new hall. The guest joined in the dance with a zest seldom witnessed, and wished Symerton could afford a new hall, weekly, all winter." And, "To the Patrons of the "Advocate" - We wish to announce to the people of Symerton and surrounding country that Moran's new store there is now stocked with a supply of groceries, dry goods, crockery, lamps, glassware, boots and shoes, notions, etc. all new, bright stock, bought for case, (no cheap shoddy goods handled) which certainly is something few stores in Will county can say. Nothing held out as a bait, but standard goods sold on a small margin." "That his goods (especially his flour, one of the most staple articles of food,) may be known to have given satisfaction, his success as a merchant in Braidwood is conclusive evidence, his standing there being second to none. We bespeak for him a large business in his new venture (or rather extension), and we know whereof we speak when we say that he is well qualified to attend to it." However, and this may surprise you, I have yet to find Lake Symerton, a shore line, evidence of large buildings or factories. I guess I will just have to keep looking. Happy Thanksgiving, gentle readers.



A BIRD'S EYE view of Symerton. Still no lake in sight.

## Utility bill gifting will help families in need

The city of Wilmington introduced a way to "gift" someone by covering the cost of their utility bill. The holiday utility bill gift certificate program is designed to assist those who wish to donate to individuals in need, or gift a friend or loved one. Donations of any amount can be made using any accepted payment method through city hall. Donors may specify a resident to receive the gift or ask the staff for a recommendation, which will remain anonymous, to direct their gift. A gift certificate will be sent to the specified resident, and the donation will be applied directly to the designated account. Donors may remain anonymous. For additional information or to participate in the Utility Bill Gifting Program, please call (815) 476-2175 Ext. 1.

## Three will vie for city mayor's seat

BY STAFF REPORT

There will be a three-way race as to who will serve next as mayor for the City of Wilmington. Candidates turned in their election petitions last week for the April 1, 2025 Consolidated Election. Up for four-years terms are the positions of mayor, city clerk, and four alderpersons. Those seats are currently held by Mayor Ben Dietz and alderpersons Ryan Jeffries (First Ward), Ryan Knight (Second Ward), Jonathan Mietzner (Third Ward, and Thomas Smith (Fourth Ward). Candidates for the consolidated election will be

Mayoral candidates:

- Ben Dietz
- Roy Strong
- Jayson Walinski
- First Ward Alderman**
- Ryan Jeffries
- J. Marty Orr
- Second Ward Alderman**
- Ryan Knight
- Bob E. Thomas
- Third Ward Alderman**
- Jonathan Mietzner
- Fourth Ward Alderman**
- Thomas J. Smith
- Jacob Ragan

Each candidate will be provided a questionnaire regarding some of the top issues they will face if they win the election. The results of the questionnaire will be published closer to the election.

## Lunch at 209-U schools

- Mon., Dec. 2:** Hot dog on bun, nacho and cheese, baby carrots, mandarin orange Jell-O, milk
- Tue., Dec. 3:** BBQ on bun, fritos, celery sticks, vanilla ice cream, strawberry cup, milk
- Wed., Dec. 4:** mini

- chicken tacos, corn, salsa, mixed fruit, milk
- Thu., Dec. 5:** french toast sticks, sausage patty, hash brown, banana, milk
- Fri., Dec. 6:** chicken noodle soup, caesar salad, bosco stick, apple slices/PB, milk



ANNA MORGAN



EMILY HUGHES

## 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 Anna Morgan and Emily Hughes who completed our questionnaire.

**ANNA MORGAN**

*What do you plan to pursue upon graduation?* Getting my bachelor's degree in forensic science.

*What is one thing most people don't know about you?* My favorite season is winter.

*What teacher or staff member has influenced you the most?* Mr. Ivanoff, because he has helped me gather my decision for my future schooling and has taught me many life lessons that will guide me through becoming an adult.

*What has been your favorite extracurricular that you've participated in?* Definitely basketball, because my team is like one big family and we always have each others' back.

*What's your favorite thing on the lunch menu?* Potato soup and turkey sliders.

*One thing you refuse to eat?* Seafood

*Advice you would give to underclassmen?* Always try your hardest academically and don't slack. Just because you think you have four more years of high school ahead of you, it will effect your outcome as

your senior year comes around.

**EMILY HUGHES**

*What do you plan to pursue upon graduation?* After graduation I plan to attend Olivet Nazarene University majoring in biology.

*What one thing most people don't know about you?* I broke my elbow when I was 7.

*What teacher or staff member has influenced you the most?* Why? Mr. Farrell, because of how much he helped me with math junior year.

*What has been your favorite extracurricular that you've participated in?* Track, it has taught me a lot about myself, helped me learn discipline and helped me become the person I am today. I've had so many opportunities and experiences thanks to Wilmington High School's track and field program.

*What's your favorite thing on the lunch menu?* Definitely the chicken patty, but you have to add barbecue sauce.

*One thing you refuse to eat?* Black bean salad.

*Famous person dead or alive you would like to meet and why?* Zach Bryan, his music has helped me through a lot of hard times in my life and meeting him would be an amazing experience.

*Advice you would give to underclassmen?* Always remember to have balance with your academic and social life. Doing this will make high school so much easier.

## 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.

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# Free Press Newspapers readers

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## The leaf vac

WILMINGTON—Whatever happened to the leaf vac? The city took away a worthy public service, one of the few services we get for our tax dollars. Did the city lower our taxes when they took it away? Of course not. Now, all we see are leaves piling up in the streets and people neglecting to clean them up. City hall should never have gotten rid of it.

## No RR control

BRAIDWOOD—When are the people of Braidwood going to wake up and understand that the City of Braidwood has absolutely no control or say so over what happens on the railroad tracks that runs through town. The only people who can do anything about it is our federal legislators. The state or city can not regulate how long a crossing is blocked for, nor can a police department or local government fine the railroad. So quit beating the crap out of the local officials on Facebook over the blocked crossing issues because you're taking the hammer to the wrong people. The local folks are trying to address it as best they can but that's all they can do. Start beating on the doors of your federal legislators if you want something done.

## Proud of Coalers

COAL CITY—Big shout out to the Coal City High School football team for a great season.

## Loved the fireworks

COAL CITY—I just wanted to write in to thank whoever was responsible for the firework displays this Coaler football season. It was such a treat and so fun to see all the smiles on all the kids and adults' faces for both the home and visiting teams. I'm sure it wasn't cheap, so please know it didn't go unnoticed.

## Half the story

BRAIDWOOD—It's nice to see that the three or four so-called "Braidwood Truth Seekers" only like to show half of the story and not the full picture. They FOIA tons of information, yet they only share what they feel will benefit their personal agenda and witch hunt. If they really wanted to be truthful, they'd share everything, and not just a fraction. There's two sides to every story. Don't try to embellish to make yours seem more believable.

## They're listening

COAL CITY—Not to beat a dead horse, but another angle to consider regarding the over-the-top vulgarities and insults that were yelled all football season: It was all heard crystal clear on the live streams. Embarrassing for Coaler fans and athletes alike.

## Hitachi's assessment

COAL CITY—A lot of discussion has been made about GE Hitachi tax assessment. There has not been a single question about why there is such an enormous discrepancy between Grundy County's

assessment of the property and the School Board's assessment? The difference is almost 50-fold. How did the school board do this calculation and why isn't that being discussed? "We believe it's higher" isn't an explanation. Either Grundy County does not know how to assess properties, or the school board has made a gross error and taxpayers are paying the legal costs. In either case, why has no one asked a simple question to an unbelievably large calculational discrepancy.

## What did we expect?

SHADOW LAKES—So far half of trump picks for his administration are a bunch of clowns, including child molesters to global warming deniers. But then what are we to expect when a convicted criminal is to run the country. Let's just hope that food prices go down some, but with trump's tariffs coming I doubt it.

## The DOJ disgrace

WILMINGTON—You gotta love these Liberals that write in or talk in to this Sound-off saying how the DOJ is going to be corrupted. The Department of Justice is already corrupted, look what they did to Donald Trump. Remember the lap top? The Russia hoax that didn't exist the impeachment. How about that lady that claimed that she was raped by him in a popular New York department store but really doesn't know the year. There is so many things they have done. Let's not forget about Brett Kavanaugh being unfit for the Supreme Court, remember that one where he was at a high school party and touched Blasey Ford. But Neither Blasey Ford or anybody could even testify that Brett Kavanaugh was even at the party. The Department of Justice is a disgrace right now. Donald Trump will straighten it out. Tom

## No minorities

SHADOW LAKES—About 40% of the U.S. population is made up of Hispanics, Blacks, Asian and other minorities. So far in Trump's picks for his administration the only person resembling a minority is a poppet wannabe white supremacy's named Marco Rubio. Don't tell me this wasn't a racial election.

## Positive for city

BRAIDWOOD—Why is it that whenever something good or nice for our community gets announced, the small group of negative naysayers take to their self-idolized Facebook page and turn it into a political issue. Why can't these people be happy that our city wants to do something positive for the residents. If you're so miserable with everything in this town, why are you still here? It's a shame that Braidwood has residents who continuously act like this because they have personal daggers out for a few people who bust their hind ends to get things done in this town.

## Make a splash

BRAIDWOOD—It would be amazing to see a splash pad built in Braidwood. My

Sound-Off is a 24-hour phone line provided to give readers a chance to voice their opinions. The Free Press Newspapers reserves the right to edit remarks for taste, length, personal attacks, racism, threatening, calls for boycotts and libel. The comments stated are the opinions and ideas of the callers and not that of the newspaper. Information may not constitute the actual events or facts of a particular topic. Submissions by email to: [courant@fpnusa.com](mailto:courant@fpnusa.com) with "soundoff" in the subject line or visit [www.freepressnewspapers.com](http://www.freepressnewspapers.com), or call 815-634-0317. Please state the town in which you are calling from or in regards to. Mail comments to Sound-Off, 271 S. Broadway, Coal City, IL 60416 or 111 S. Water St., Wilmington, IL 60481. There can be only one submission of 250 words or less per person during any given week.



family has been asking for one for several years since we moved here. Regardless of who gets it done it would be fantastic to see. It's a shame though that some people on Facebook and in town just want to turn it into a negative political issue. Come on folks, if something positive is coming to our town then let's get behind it and support it instead of bashing the people who are trying to get it done.

## Splash pad

BRAIDWOOD—A single mother of three young ones I think it would be great to have a splash pad in our town. Not everyone can afford a membership to a rec club and a beach. This isn't a political issue, it's a need issue.

## The Trump dance

SHADOW LAKES—Who would have thought the Trump dance is now the biggest touchdown dance in sports. Try it Irene maybe it will burn off some of your hate.

## Pritzker doesn't care

ILLINOIS—I see where our Illinois Governor, I'm sorry I mean Chicago/Cook County governor, sent out a warning to the Trump Administration that they will have to go through him to get to his people. Doesn't he really mean go around him to get to his people? That would probably be more difficult. I don't know who Pritzker thinks he is kidding. We all know that he only cares about Chicago/Cook County and maybe a couple other counties, other than that the rest of the state is a wasteland to him. Interesting thing happened this election that did not make any of the left-wing liberal news stations. Almost every county south of Springfield voted to secede from the State of Illinois. Attorney General Kwame Raoul stated that it is illegal for them to do that. I did a little research and it is not illegal for them to secede but it is a difficult process to achieve. The Governor could care less anyway.

## Don't cry

MORRIS—Oh here we go again, Morris is playing Joliet Catholic for the semi finals in the class 5 playoffs. Now Morris people will be complaining about having all the Catholic schools that they have to play and this and that. Kids transfer all the time throughout the state to play sports but not these crybabies. Go Joliet Catholic, beat Morris.

## Sending a message

## Commentary

# What seniors need to know about Medicare Part D

BY KENNETH THORPE

Congress recently made a number of changes to Medicare's "Part D" prescription drug benefit. The changes were part of President Biden's signature legislation, the Inflation Reduction Act.

The legislation was intended to make it easier for seniors to afford their medicines. Some of the changes will indeed help seniors. But other changes could inadvertently raise seniors' costs, reduce their access to medicines, and stifle the development of new treatments.

With open enrollment underway through Dec. 7 this year -- every senior should know about the Inflation Reduction Act and how it has impacted Medicare.

First, the good news. Seniors using insulin now have their costs capped at \$35 each month. This has already made a huge difference for those living with diabetes.

Starting next year, seniors' yearly out-of-pocket Part D drug costs will be capped at \$2,000. Seniors will also have the option to spread these costs out over the entire year through a new program called the "Medicare Prescription Payment Plan."

Both of these changes can help seniors who rely on multiple brand-name medicines and those on fixed incomes.

But right now, very few enrollees are aware of this new program. Medicare could do more to alert seniors to this new feature, especially since seniors interested in this benefit will need to opt in.

During open enrollment season, seniors should consider contacting their Part D insurers if they'd benefit from spreading out their pharmacy costs. Because of the Inflation Reduction Act, Medicare can now set prices on some covered drugs for the first time ever.

Unfortunately, this policy has had some unintended effects on the development of new medicines. Thus far, it has already resulted in the discontinuation of at least 36 research programs and 22 experimental drugs.

The Inflation Reduction Act has also resulted in higher premiums for seniors. This year, standalone Part D plans were on track to cost 21% more than they did last year, on average. As a result, many seniors switched to lower cost options.

The number of plans available has also dropped, down about 25% since 2020. Because of the law, many insurers have also shifted some medications to "non-preferred" or "specialty" tiers that require higher out-of-pocket costs, restricting beneficiaries' access to previously covered drugs.

Some insurers have also created rules that make it harder to get the drugs your doctor recommends, like making patients first try cheaper options. It is important that seniors learn about these changes -- and the impact they're having on their access to medicines.

Kenneth E. Thorpe is chairman of the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University. He is chairman of the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease.

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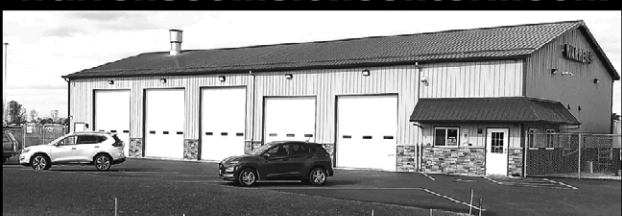


## Methodist Church to host Italian Beef carry-out dinner

Coal City United Methodist Church, 6805 E. McCord Rd. will hold an Italian Beef Carry-Out dinner on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Each meal will include an Italian beef sandwich, cheesy potatoes, and a brownie for \$15 per meal. All proceeds will go to the church's building fund.

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to everyone who came out to support the American Legion Koca Post 039 1st Annual Veterans event held Nov 16.

It was a great success thanks to your generous donations. Proceeds will go to VETERANS in need and to the Reed-Custer Scholarship Fund. We look forward to seeing you back for our next one.

Bill Kiley, Commander

## Veto session ends without Trump proofing

In the wake of Donald Trump's national victory and his losing margin dropping to 11 points in Illinois from 17 in two prior races, state legislative Democrats here have different views on how their party should proceed.

Sen. Julie Morrison (D-Lake Forest) told my associate Isabel Miller last week that Illinois Democrats have "forgotten about the people in the middle."

"I think we have done a lot of really good, progressive things," Sen. Morrison said. "But sometimes I think we have the tendency to not think about the people in the middle."

Rep. Kelly Cassidy (D-Chicago) told Isabel that stepping back from progressive social issues is not on the table.

"There's compromise, and then there's erasing the existence of people," Rep. Cassidy said.

The leaders at the top, however, have been talking about "Trump-proofing" Illinois since election day.

So, Isabel and I spent last week watching House Bill 5164's progress in the Senate.

Commonly called the "name-change bill," the legislation would cap the cost of name changes in the state, halve the state residency requirement to three months and allow certain people to ask that their name change be exempt from public disclosure. The bill passed the House 67-39 in April, but was never assigned to a Senate committee.



**CAPITOL FACTS**  
Rich Miller

Why did it stall out in the Senate? Well, the bill includes several justifications for keeping the records out of the public eye, including that the person seeking the name change is transgender, has survived domestic or intimate partner abuse, or gender-based violence or human trafficking, or is a refugee, or has been granted special immigrant status or asylum, etc.

The measure is supported by Equality Illinois, the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault, the ACLU and Planned Parenthood Illinois Action, among others.

Newspapers like the Chicago Tribune originally filed in opposition, as did the Illinois Press Association. Newspapers make money off public notices, of course, but they also stand on general principles of public disclosure with things like this, and they claimed that the legislation would get rid of the publishing requirement for everyone, not just these folks.

Somehow, despite all the hot buttons, the bill

managed to mostly escape the outrage machine throughout the spring, summer and fall.

A large number of people, including at least some Democrats, believe that the party's stance on transgender rights and immigration hurt them this year.

Other Democrats, including Gov. JB Pritzker, have strongly insisted that the party cannot now back away from supporting vulnerable populations simply because of partisan political considerations.

The bill was scheduled for its first Senate committee vote on Wednesday, Nov. 21. As Isabel reported at the time, the far-right Illinois Family Institute sent a blast e-mail to its followers ahead of the hearing claiming the legislation would "make it almost impossible to find illegal immigrants with a criminal history and/or those who have committed crimes while on American soil, for the purpose of deportation."

The group also claimed that those who benefit from the legislation include, "Those who have committed rapes and murders who don't want law enforcement to find them; A man who is pretending to be a woman and a woman who is pretending to be a man."

Some Democrats waved off the claims as fearmongering falsehoods

and the bill passed the Senate Executive Committee on a partisan roll call, with 9 Democrats voting for it and 4 Republicans opposed.

But when it came time for the full Senate to vote on the bill and send it to the governor, the chamber decided to set it aside.

The bill's sponsor, Sen. Ram Villivalam, claimed that he had the votes to pass the bill, regardless of Republican opposition and increasing pressure exerted by the IFI. He said some technical process issues were raised during the hearing and the decision was made to fix those before proceeding.

"It's just making sure that on the administrative side, on the implementation side that each of the different entities that are involved are able to communicate with one another about these petitions," Sen. Villivalam said.

Whatever the case, there was no "Trump-proofing" vote during veto session. That'll have to wait until at least early January when the General Assembly returns for its lame duck session.

By then, the governor's office hopes to have at least some additional bills for the legislature to work on.

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

## Registration underway for annual Holiday Hustle 5K

It's time to sign up for the annual Holiday Hustle 5K Fun Run/Walk which will be held Sunday Dec. 1 in Coal City.

Proceeds from the race will benefit Susan's Mission which focuses on Special Olympic Team Sports and the inclusion of all. It is their mission to bring awareness to not only Special Olympics as individual events, but team ones as well.

The Morris nonprofit was founded two years ago and have been hosting a Christmas Holiday Basketball tournament each December at Saratoga school. This is their biggest event and is expected to grow each year.

Last year they had 22 teams from around Illinois come and compete in their tournament.

The race will start at Babe's Tap, 755 S. Broadway St., Coal City and travel south on Broadway St. to Reed Rd., left and loop through Cardinal Transport and then back north on Broadway.

There is a non-refundable entry fee for early registration which is \$30 and if you register Nov. 22 or later it will be \$35. Walk up registrations are available but note that it will cost \$35. Participants are guaranteed a T-shirt, medal, and swag bag if registered early.

Babe's Tap will also be providing each participant

the opportunity to have 1 free drink (alcoholic or non) and a bowl of chili.

This is a "Fun Run" and holiday attire is encouraged. Although it is a Fun "Run" this does not mean you must run it. Walking is also permitted.

Children are also encouraged to join in on the fun. Awards will be presented to each participant and the overall top male and female finisher in each of seven age divisions.

Race start time will be 11 a.m. and packet pickup starts at 10 a.m. at Babe's Tap (755 S. Broadway St.)

Register at RunSign Up.com/2024HolidayHustle.

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[www.angelsofhopeinc.org](http://www.angelsofhopeinc.org)



## 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.



## 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.

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# OBITUARIES

## Pauline Daniell

WILMINGTON—Pauline Daniell, 95, of Wilmington, passed away peacefully at her home on Friday, Nov. 22, 2024, surrounded by her loving family.

Born at home on Jan. 16, 1929, in Coles County, IL, Pauline Evelyn was a daughter of Orvine and Freda Fern (Wagonner) Thomas. She grew up in the small town of Etna, IL, where her roots in kindness and hard work were cultivated. On Dec. 1, 1945, Pauline married the love of her life, Gerald "Squirt" Daniell, in Mattoon, IL. Together, they began their journey in Mattoon before settling in Wilmington in the early 1950s, where they built a loving home and life.

Pauline balanced her roles as a devoted wife and mother with a strong work ethic. She worked for Braun Sales in Wilmington and later joined The Free Press Newspapers, where she worked until the age of 90. Pauline's dedication extended beyond her professional life into her community. She was an active and faithful member of the First United Methodist Church in Wilmington, where she was a cherished participant in the sewing circle and a regular contributor to church dinners, sharing her culinary talents.

Known for her sweet and generous nature, Pauline had a way of making everyone feel cared for. She was always ready with a helping hand and will forever be remembered as an exceptional cook, creating countless meals from scratch with love. Pauline and Squirt shared a lifetime of adventures, from traveling together to exploring the open road on motorcycle trips. The pair also enjoyed crafting, creating beautiful pieces that reflected their shared creativity and teamwork.

Above all, Pauline's greatest joy was her family. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who enriched the lives of those she held dear. Her legacy of love, kindness, and generosity will continue to inspire all who knew her.

Pauline's warm spirit and her ability to bring joy to others will be deeply missed,



but her memory will live on in the hearts of her family and friends. She leaves behind a life well-lived and a legacy of love that will endure for generations to come.

Survivors include three sons: Danny (Pat) Daniell and Roger (Susan) Daniell, both of Wilmington and Tommy Daniell, of Las Vegas, NV; her daughter-in-law, Barbara Daniell, of Bourbonnais, IL; 12 grandchildren: Casey Daniell, Ryan (Lucy) Daniell, Molly (Nic) Friedhoff, Rachel Conforti, Nathan (Suzy) Daniell, Abigail (Will) Barry, Anna Burton, Amy (Jon) Baker, Rachel Bradley, Blake (Aja) Daniell, Liberda (Scott) McAllister and Gerald (Katarina) Daniell; 21 great-grandchildren: Jack, Wyatt, Tessa, Siena, Nathan Jr., Claire, Chloe, Penny, Kip, Allie, Andie, Behr, Ava, Elizabeth, Dillon, Aria, Blake, Violet, Daniell, Hazel and Siren, and numerous nieces and nephews, as well as loving friends.

Pauline was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Gerald (1999); son, Gary (2009); grandson, Kyle Daniell (2020); great-granddaughter, Sabrina Conforti (2021), and two brothers: Dewey (Elsie) Thomas and James "Bud" (Ruth) Thomas.

Cremation rites have been accorded, and the family is planning a celebration of Pauline's life and memorial for a later date.

Pauline will be laid to rest in Oakwood Cemetery, Wilmington alongside her late husband, Gerald.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Pauline's memory to the First United Methodist Church, 401 E. Kahler Rd., Wilmington, IL 60481.

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

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

## Francis J. Jirousek

CUSTER PARK—Francis J. Jirousek, 89, of Custer Park, passed away comfortably at his home on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024.

Frank was born Sept. 6, 1935 in Braidwood, the son of Frank and Kate (Vaira) Jirousek. He graduated from Reed-Custer High School and received a Business Degree from Joliet Junior College. He worked most of his life at Roper Corporation in Kankakee as the Director for the Data Processing Department, leading the cutting edge of the first computers in the United States, back when they were as big as your living room. He was always surprised to see the capabilities of the Smart Phones today in comparison.

Frank was a member of the Immaculate Conception Church and an Honorary Life Member of the Knights of Columbus, both in Braidwood. He began as an Altar Boy when he was in 4th grade and always enjoyed "getting out of school" when he was asked to serve during the week for the occasional funeral with his cousin, Hugh "Chewy" Mulligan. He lived his life to serve others and was a visionary for his children and the community by serving as president of the Grade School Board of Custer Park.

He also helped to create the Custer Park Volunteer Fire Department in 1964 and had many an adventure in our tiny community with occasional fires and the Railroad Bridge Train Wreck of 1969, in which he was the first on the scene. When he retired from Roper, he was able to travel with his wife to Europe many times, but his favorite times were his annual trips to



Hawaii with his wife and daughter, Kathy and son-in-law, Stan. They tried to go every year and made it there 35 times. He loved his two grandsons and felt a "second wind" when they were born, as he had more time to spoil them. He attended all of their soccer games and because of his passion for music, his heart burst when they both joined the school band.

Nothing in the world made him happier than spending time with "The love of his life," his wife, Diane and his family.

Surviving are his wife, Diane (Campbell), who he married April 17, 1957 in Braidwood; three daughters: Karen (David) Soberski, of Orcutt, CA; Pam (Pat) Mullandy, of Limestone, IL and Kathy (Stan) Anton, of Custer Park; two grandchildren, Peter and Keith Mullady and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and son, Tony Jirousek.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2024 at Immaculate Conception Church. Interment followed in Braceville Gardner Cemetery in Braceville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be directed to Home Helpers of Kankakee, Lightways Hospice or Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

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

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

## Marilyn Kerr

WILMINGTON—Marilyn Kerr, "Red," 81, of Wilmington, passed away peacefully on Thursday morning at her home on Thursday evening, Nov. 21, 2024 with family at her side.

Born on Nov. 6, 1943, in Portland, OR, Marilyn Marie was a daughter of Cleo Clinton and Esther June (Daniell) Cummins. She spent her early years in Lerna, IL, before her family relocated to Wilmington, where she graduated from Wilmington High School. On May 25, 1963, Marilyn married John E. Kerr, in the Baptist Church in Wilmington. Together, they built a life of love, raising their family and contributing deeply to their community.

Marilyn was the first female real estate agent in Wilmington, and had a long and fulfilling career where she dedicated 35 years to helping families find homes. In addition, her entrepreneurial spirit led her to establish Kerr Management Consultants, Inc., a business she nurtured over three decades in Wilmington, which continues as a proud family-run endeavor.

Marilyn was deeply committed to serving her community. She actively participated in Girl Scouts for many years, guiding and mentoring young women. Her faith was also central to her life, and she was a devoted member of the First Christian Church in Wilmington.

Beyond her professional and community endeavors, Marilyn was an extremely patriotic soul that found joy in creativity and nature. She was an accomplished quilter and seamstress, cherished her time spent reading, and loved tending to her garden. Above all, Marilyn's greatest joy was her family. Her unwavering love, support, and dedication to her loved ones remain her most enduring legacy.

Marilyn will be remembered as a



woman of kindness, strength, and generosity, who left an indelible mark on her family, friends, and community. Her memory will forever inspire those who were blessed to know her.

Survivors include her loving husband of 61 years, John; two daughters: Dyanna (Robert, III) Swisher, of Godley; and Deborah Rutherford, of Wilmington; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one brother, Kenneth (Pamellen) Cummins, of Plano, IL; one sister, Linda (the late Larry) Riley, of Effingham, IL and one brother-in-law, David Lynch of Flint, MI, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Phyllis Lynch and four grandchildren in infancy.

Cremation rites have been accorded, and the family will receive friends for a memorial visitation at Baskerville Funeral Home, 700 E. Kahler Rd. in Wilmington on Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024 from 1 p.m. until time of memorial service at 3 p.m. Pastor Jason Pace from First Christian Church will officiate, and Marilyn will be privately laid to rest in Oakwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Marilyn's memory to the wounded-warriorproject.org; Salvation Army, donate.salarmyncil.org/give or [www.graceonwings.org/donate](http://www.graceonwings.org/donate) Grace on Wings (Charity Air Ambulance) in Indianapolis, IN.

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

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

## Sharon Kimmey

BRACEVILLE—Sharon Kay Glenney Kimmey "Nonnie," 77, of Braceville, passed peacefully in her home after her long-fought courageous battle with cancer. She was surrounded by her devoted husband of 50 years and her loving family.

Born on Christmas Day in 1946, at St. Joseph's Hospital, Joliet, she was the cherished daughter of Richard P. and Margaret Mary (Doyle) Glenney, of Wilmington. Sharon was a graduate of St. Rose Catholic Grade School in Wilmington and Wilmington High School class of 1964, and Stevens Career College, Chicago. While at Stevens Career College, Sharon was offered employment with both The Chicago White Sox and WGN news station in special promotions reporting. She instead chose to raise her beautiful family. A resident of Wilmington for 45 years, she lived in Braceville for the past 32 years. She was the owner and operator of Accurate Transcription Service for 20 years; she was also employed at The Free Press Advocate for many years.

A proud Irishwoman, Sharon was a descendant of Will County farming pioneers and was raised on the family farm on Ballou Road in rural Wilmington. She loved her family and enjoyed watching her grandchildren perform in Irish Dance competitions, competitive gymnastics, soccer, baseball, football, and horseback riding. Known as Nonnie by her loving grandchildren, she loved hosting parties and dinners for the whole family. Many laughs and good times were held in Nonnie's kitchen over the years. She also



enjoyed reading, shopping, boating, and playing euchre and bunco with her friends.

She is survived by her loving and doting husband, Robert M. "Butch" Kimmey, who she married on Dec. 19, 1975; two daughters, Kerry (Paul) Kosinski and Kristin (Daniel) Leasure, both of Coal City; one son, Kevin, of Michigan; nine grandchildren: Allison (David), Megan, Andrew, Christopher, Michael, Paul, Sheyenne, Nicholas, and Kaleb; two great-grandchildren, Adam and Everett Scott; one sister, Mary Ellen (Kenneth) Byford, of Manhattan and numerous nieces, nephews, and Irish cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; infant twin sons, Robert and Richard; one brother, Richard M. Glenney; two sisters, Maureen Glenney Justice and Patricia Glenney; maternal grandparents, Michael F. and Margaret (Nugent) Doyle and paternal grandparents, Richard and Mary (O'Mara) Glenney.

The family would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Gustafson at Hope and Healing Cancer Services, New Lenox, and Sharon's entire care team at both Ascension St. Joseph's Hospital, Joliet, and Lightways Hospice for the beautiful care she received.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A private celebration of Sharon's life will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to We Care of Grundy County in Morris.

## Kevin J. Kociss

GARDNER—Kevin J. Kociss, 69, of Gardner, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2024 in Morris.

Born Jan. 9, 1955 in Morris, Kevin John was a son of John and Marilyn (Hansen) Kociss. He was raised and educated in Gardner and graduated from Gardner South Wilmington High School with the class of 1973. He completed his education at the United Electronic Institute of Iowa in 1975, and on Nov. 25, 1978 he married Nancy Dinelli at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in South Wilmington. Together, Kevin and Nancy would continue to make their home in Gardner where they shared over 45 years of marriage and raised their family. He worked for People's Gas, Light and Coke Company in Elwood as an instrument technician for 33 1/2 years until he retired in 2009.

Kevin was famous for his daily rides about town, following the same route everyday to see what was going on about town. He would also take a drive through the South Wilmington Fireman's Club where he was a long time member. Kevin started his day with the newspaper, beginning with the comic section, and always completing the daily crossword. He was proud of being from Gardner, being a life time member of the Church of Hope in Gardner and would annually volunteer with the Elbow Benders to help make the sauce for the Spaghetti Supper supporting the GSW Little League Association. Kevin was an avid sports fan, cheering on the Chicago Cubs and Bears from his recliner, and took great pleasure in NASCAR races.

He was generally a quiet man, but generous with his time and talents. Kevin worked hard to provide a good home, carefully maintaining his lawn to his high standards. He loved his family dearly, particularly his grandchildren, and found being a devoted husband, father, and grandfather to be his greatest accomplishment.



Survivors include his wife, Nancy Kociss, of Gardner; two children, Morgan (Mike), of Gardner and Keegan, of Mokena, IL; three grandchildren: Donovan Paul, Annabelle June, and Briann Carolyn, as well as three bonus grandchildren: Zach, Lily, and Tyler; two brothers, Kurt (Tracy) Kociss, of Gardner and Kerry Kociss, of Dwight, and two sisters, Kim (Gerry) Von Qualen, of Gardner and Kelly Kociss, of West Chicago, IL; brothers and sisters-in-law: Phil Dinelli, Donna (Dave) Mehochko, Lou (Karen) Dinelli, and Carol (Sam) Rissman; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Kevin was preceded in death by his parents, John and Marilyn Kociss and his mother and father-in-law: Albert and Anna Dinelli; one sister-in-law, Judy Dinelli, and one nephew, Justin VonQualen.

The family will receive friends for a visitation at Reeves Funeral Home, 203 N. Liberty St., in Gardner on Friday, Nov. 22, 2024 from 1 p.m. until the time of prayer service at 4 p.m.

Cremation rites will be accorded following the services.

Honorary pallbearers will be: Bobby Crater, Craig Patten, Deb Hill, Chris Phillips, and heavenly friends: Daryl Crater and Annette Pellens.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made as gifts in Kevin's memory to the Church of Hope in Gardner and to the Gardner Fire Department.

Family and friends are encouraged to sign the online guest book at [www.ReevesFuneral.com](http://www.ReevesFuneral.com), upload photographs, and share Kevin's memorial page via social media.

Services and arrangements have been made under the direction and care of Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes and Crematory in Gardner.

## Jacqueline Kurz

MORRIS—Jacqueline Loretta Kurz, 89, of Morris, passed away Friday, Nov. 22, 2024, at Advent Health Hinsdale Hospital.

Born on Nov. 7, 1935, in Chicago, Jacqueline was the beloved second child of Elmer Arnold William and Rose (Antonelli) Harder. Raised in the vibrant Hyde Park neighborhood, Jackie often reminisced about her childhood adventures, from walking to the Lake Michigan shoreline to cool off in the summer heat to the unforgettable air raid drills during World War II, when the city would go dark. She attended Yale Elementary School and graduated from Parker High School.

On July 9, 1955, Jackie married the love of her life, Robert R. Kurz, at Hope Lutheran Church. Their union was blessed with two children, Robert Roy Kurz Jr., born in 1957, and Cory Ann Kurz, born in 1960.

Jackie's career reflected her adaptability and dedication. She began as a crossing guard for the Chicago Police Department before working at Chicago Kent Law School for 15 years. Later, she transitioned to a role as office manager for Filler, Weiner, and Zaner Commodities, where her organizational talents shone. After retiring from the hustle of downtown Chicago, Jackie and Bob moved to Morris, in the Goose Lake area, embracing a quieter yet active lifestyle.

Even in retirement, Jackie's love for engaging with others led her to the Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau. She found joy leading tours and bus trips, often accompanied by Bob, and sharing her enthusiasm for exploration and connection.

Jackie and Bob shared a remarkable love story, spanning 63 1/2 years of marriage until Bob's passing. Their deep bond was a testament to enduring love and partnership.



Jackie will be remembered for her vibrant spirit, her love for storytelling, and her commitment to family and community. Her legacy is one of kindness, strength, and a life lived to the fullest. She leaves behind cherished memories and a reminder to find joy and purpose in every chapter of life.

She is survived by her loving son, Robert and wonderful daughter-in-law, Lori, of Homer Glen; three grandchildren: Alexis Kurz (Jason Hoefferle), Amanda Kurz and Robert Kurz; four Goddaughters: Margie, Mari, Laura and Darcey and many cousins, as well as friends. In addition, Jackie was blessed with wonderful neighbors.

Jacqueline was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Cory Ann Kurz; husband, Robert R. Kurz Sr.; brother, Elmer Jr. (Donna) Harder, brother-in-law, Thomas Kurz and sister-in-law, Dorothy Flynn.

The family will receive friends for a visitation at Reeves Funeral Home, 75 N. Broadway, one block north of Illinois Route 113 in Coal City on Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2024 from 10:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. A procession will then depart the funeral home to Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL, where committal services will be held at 1 p.m. and Jackie will be laid to rest with her late husband, Bob.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Jacqueline's memory to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Memorial Squad, P.O. Box 6, Elwood, IL 60421.

Family and friends are encouraged to log onto [www.ReevesFuneral.com](http://www.ReevesFuneral.com) to sign the guest book, and upload photographs.

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

# OBITUARIES

## Brenda Bumpous

BRAIDWOOD—Brenda Jo Bumpous (nee Evans), 75, of Braidwood, passed away Thursday, Nov. 21, 2024 at Morris Hospital.

Born Sept. 10, 1949, she was the daughter of Donald LeRoy and Virginia Rose (nee Taylor) Evans. Brenda previously worked as a manager at McDonald's and also a receptionist at Dr. Milton's office.

Surviving are her husband, Paul Bumpous; son, William "Bopper" (Shawn) Welsh III, of Wilmington; four grandchildren: Whitney (Austin), D.J. (fiancé Miranda), Marcus and Zach; three great-grandchildren: Bentley, Bryson, and



Beckham; son-in-law, John Harvey, of Braidwood; sister-in-law, Susie Evans, of Wilmington and nieces and nephews: Jake (Alyssa) Evans Jill Zacha, Dawna Ward and Anita Ward and great-niece and nephew, Jace Zacha and Ashlee (Alex) Clubb.

Preceding her in death were her parents; daughter, Melissa Lee (nee Welsh) Harvey; brother, Wally Don Evans and sister, Donna (Charles) Ward.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Services will be private.

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

## Carolyn Morrow

WILMINGTON—Carolyn Morrow, 82, of Wilmington, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024 at the Lightways Hospice Home in Joliet.

Born Aug. 10, 1942 in Taylorville, IL, Carolyn Sue was a daughter of Glen and Sarah (Gatlin) Burkhardt. She was raised in Taylorville and Peoria, IL until her family relocated to Joliet.

Carolyn attended Joliet Junior College, and on July 2, 1960 she married Douglas Neil Morrow, Sr., with whom she would share 52 years of marriage. She was a dedicated employee of Stepan Chemical Company in Elwood, as an accounting secretary for 21 years, until she retired in 2000.



eight grandchildren: Danielle (Josh) Kolesar, Michelle (Glen) Kuta, Bryan Dunkin, Stephanie Fink, Alan Morrow, Benjamin Morrow, Kyle Palmer, and Katie Palmer; five great grandchildren: Raynen Palmer, Marley Rose Palmer, Madison Marie Palmer, Liam Kuta, and Bennett Kolesar; brother and sisters: Ann McFall of Orlando, FL, Glenda (the late Richard) Severns of Washington, IL and David (Linda) Lass of Taylorville; brothers and sisters-in-law: Gerald (the late Norma) Morrow and Keith (Julie) Morrow, both of Channahon, IL, Warren (the late Carol) Morrow of Plainfield, IL, Donna McMillan of Minooka, IL, Madlyn Burkhardt of Washington, Elizabeth Morrow of Tangier, IN, and Betty Oxford of Norris City, IL; as well as numerous numerous nieces and nephews, special cousin, Linda Reavis, and dear friends: Kay Cole, Sharon Peters, Marylou Brashler, Pat Acred, and Pamela Baker.

Carolyn was a very active woman, finding great pleasure in exercise and fitness, and was a strong advocate for people afflicted with Lupus. Carolyn was also fascinated by discovering her family heritage and participated in a local genealogy club.

Always an active mind, she could often be found working on crossword and Sudoku puzzles or reading and sewing. Carolyn had quite the zest for life, broadening her horizons by travelling as much as possible, and enjoyed expressing herself by singing and dancing. As an active community member, she was a member of Abundant Life Fellowship Church in Wilmington and was a volunteer at Kuzma Care Cottage.

Above all else in her life was her role as wife, mother, and grandmother. Carolyn loved being with her family, who were always at the forefront of her mind and held close in her heart. She treasured the blessed 52 years she had with her husband until he passed away in 2012, and giving as much of herself to her children and grandchildren as was possible. Carolyn will be remembered fondly for the love she shared with others and her joyous spirit.

Survivors include four children: Douglas N. Morrow, Jr., Tammy Dunkin, and Lisa Fink, all of Wilmington, and Jeffrey (Laura) Morrow of Elmhurst, IL;

Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Doug Morrow; one grandson, Jeremy Fink, and one great granddaughter, Miley Rose; two sisters, Mary Lou Birtas-Calvillo and Becky Trandicosta-Banuelos, and two brothers, Glen Burkhardt and Robert Oxford.

Private graveside services were held at Wesley Cemetery in Wilmington, where Carolyn was laid to rest with her husband. A Celebration of Life will be held at Abundant Life Fellowship Church, 23632 Illinois Route 113, in Wilmington on Dec. 7, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

Preferred memorials may be made as gifts in Carolyn's memory to Abundant Life Fellowship Church.

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

Funeral services and arrangements are being made under the direction and care of Reeves & Baskerville Funeral Homes and Crematory in Wilmington.

## Erik Toler

OSWEGO—Erik Thomas Toler lost his battle with pancreatic cancer peacefully on Nov. 13th, 2024, surrounded by the ones who loved him the most. Erik was born Dec. 14th, 1979, to Thomas Toler and Trudy Toler (Lawrence).

Erik graduated from Reed Custer High School in 1998 where he was a dedicated athlete. During Erik's high school career, he met Lorrie Roudis of Morris, and they married in 1999 and went on to have four children.

Erik had a passion for helping others. He spent many years of his life serving as a firefighter and emergency medical technician. When he was not working in the emergency field, Erik loved helping others by being a handyman, fixing any problems friends and family had. He later went on to become a local union laborer then transitioned into the plumbing field.

Erik was a man of nature. He loved camping, hunting, hiking, swimming, and anything outdoors. Erik was a kid at heart. His goofball sense of humor, ear-to-ear smile and infectious laugh was a blessing and joy to all who encountered him. Family was most important to Erik. He loved spending time with them as much as possible. In 2018, Erik met his wife Kathy Trevino, whom he married in 2020.

Erik was strongly dependent on his faith, walking closely with the Lord. He was a loved member of his church family and was always willing to serve at any opportunity available. One of his favorite scriptures was Philippians 1:6 "Being con-



fident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." This verse is the legacy Erik wanted to leave.

He is survived by his wife Kathy Toler; his children: Olivia Toler 26, Owen Toler 21, Elijah Toler 12, and Leah Toler 10; step-daughters: Olivia Trevino 24, Marissa Armstrong 28 and son in law Chris Armstrong; grandchildren: Parker and Cameron Armstrong; his mother and step father, Gregory and Trudy Lawrence; his brother Russ Toler, sister-in-law Candance Toler; nieces: Taylor Toler, Morgan Toler, and nephew Ryland Toler; his sister Tara Mueller (Toler), brother-in-law Nicholas Mueller and niece Ellie Mueller; stepbrother Christopher Lawrence and maternal grandmother Diane Rohlfs-Briddick.

Erik is preceded in death by his father Thomas Toler; paternal grandparents John and Betty Toler; maternal Grandfather August Rohlfs and stepsister Christine Cully.

Erik's memorial service will be held on Nov. 30th 2024 at Resurrection Church of the Fox Valley, 4054 Fox Valley Center Dr., Aurora IL. Visitation will be from 10am-12pm, with service to follow that is open to all. Erik's burial will be held at Oakwood Cemetery in Wilmington which will be closed to family and close friends.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Pink Heals of Joliet, PO Box 933, Channahon IL 60410 in honor of Erik's life.

## Sen. Rezin introduces legislation to protect Illinois' energy infrastructure

In an attempt to address growing concerns about Illinois' energy demands and potential national security risks, State Senator Sue Rezin (R-Morris) has introduced legislation to prohibits data centers owned by foreign adversaries from operating in Illinois unless they generate their own power on-site, ensuring they do not strain Illinois' energy infrastructure.

"With Illinois already facing an increased demand on our energy grid due to rapid data center expansion, we must take action to secure our infrastructure and prevent potential threats," said Sen. Rezin.

"This legislation ensures that foreign-owned data centers from known adversaries do not compromise our energy stability or burden Illinois residents with increased utility costs."

Senate Bill 3890, also known as the Data Center

Construction by Foreign Adversaries Act, requires Illinois' regulatory agencies to jointly assess any proposed data center's energy impact before allowing the construction of the center if it will be owned by a company tied to a foreign adversary. This assessment

aims to confirm that the facility's energy consumption is fully self-sustained, whether by on-site natural gas generation, battery storage, or renewable sources, so that no additional burden is placed on Illinois' energy grid.

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## Holidays are a good time to talk about final wishes

Strange as it sounds, introduce an unusual topic – advance directives. While most adults believe it's important to have advance care planning conversations, few have done so.

An advance directive is a legal document that outlines your preferences for medical treatment in case you become unable to communicate or make decisions for yourself. Having one is important because it provides clear direction to your physician and your family about what kind of medical care you want or don't want, even if you are unconscious or incapacitated.

The Illinois State Medical Society offers A Personal Decision as a free resource for the public to educate patients and their families about advance directives and help patients make their wishes known. This booklet provides Illinois patients with practical information about determining future medical care.

The advance directives booklet includes:

- A Living Will Form
- Statutory Short Form for Power of Attorney for Health Care
- Illinois Official Statutory Declaration for Mental Health Treatment Form
- Organ Donor Card
- Uniform DNR Advance Directive Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST)

Anyone can download this ISMS resource for free. Having an advance directive in place also helps alleviate the burden on loved ones when making decisions about your health care in a crisis situation. These documents will provide the guidance needed about your wishes for whether you want medical treatment in particular circumstances.

Download A Personal Decision and have that conversation with your loved ones this holiday season!

WEE SIP LIQUORS

10/28/24 - 12/10/24

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## back to Bethlehem

a journey through Bethlehem on the night of the birth of Jesus

**December 6th & 7th**

Friday 6:30-8:30 pm  
Saturday 5-8:30 pm

Island City Baptist Church  
120 Vine Street  
Wilmington, IL  
815.476.9750



## Gas price lowest since 2021

Average gasoline prices in Illinois have fallen 5.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.14/g, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,378 stations in Illinois.

Prices in Illinois are 16.2 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 23.0 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

In Wilmington, gas is \$2.99/g at Amoco up to \$3.12/g at BP. In Braidwood expect to pay anywhere from \$3.04/g (Casey's) to \$3.14/g (Marathon). In Coal City gas ranges from \$3.04/g at Shell, to \$3.07/g at BP.

If you're willing to travel, gas can be had for \$2.99/g at Casey's, up to \$3.09/g at BP in Morris. Bourbonnais has gas for \$2.84/g at Gulf up to \$3.09/g at Speedway.

"Ahead of Thanksgiving, motorists continue to be teased by the prospect of a \$2.99 per gallon national average, a level now seen in 32 states. But for the last few weeks, the stars just haven't quite aligned," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

"Some promotions ahead of Thanksgiving are pushing gas prices back

down, even as oil remains elevated. For now, we're just pennies away from the national average falling to \$2.99, but for a third year, we may again fall short. As Americans prepare to hit the road for Thanksgiving, we're seeing the lowest national average price of gasoline since 2021, with a far better economic picture than when gas prices were last this low."

The cheapest station in Illinois was priced at \$2.69/g Monday while the most expensive was \$4.59/g, a difference of \$1.90/g.

## Wilmington 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

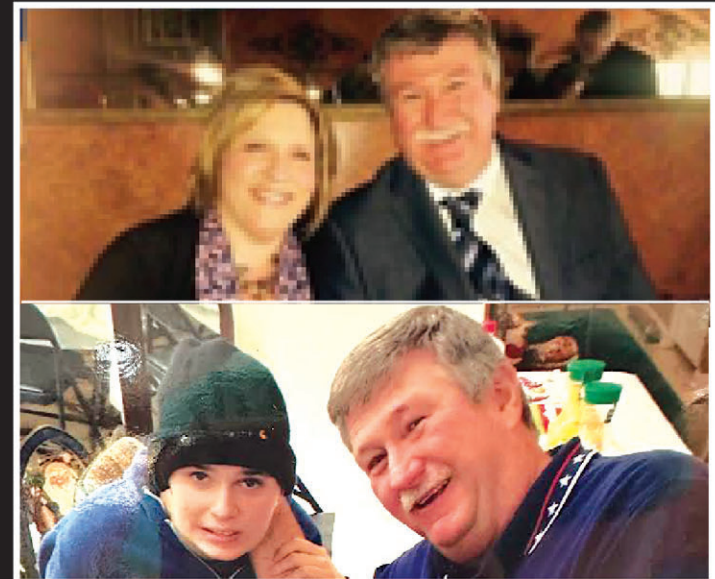
only).

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.

## 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. 27

LOADED POTATO WEDGES  
DJ DON  
25% of Tips donated to Tabler family

THUR., NOV. 28

CLOSED.  
Happy Thanksgiving

FRI., NOV. 29

POT ROAST DINNER  
Happy Hour  
4-7 p.m.

SAT., NOV. 30

BLACKENED PRIME RIB  
Loaded Mash & Veggies  
DJ DON  
8 p.m.

SUN., DEC. 1

FOOTBALL!  
\$1 donated for each BLOODY MARY for Tabler Family Meatball Sliders and \$1 Wings

MON., DEC. 2

Tabler Football Fundraiser

TUES., DEC. 3

LASAGNA W/GARLIC BREAD AND SALAD  
Happy Hour  
2-5 p.m.



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(815) 634-0148



# CLASSIFIEDS

## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

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

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

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

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Line Ads are up to 30 words (20¢ for each word over 30)  
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3 wks. - \$25; 4 wks. - \$29\*  
\$1.00 Extra per line for bold or caps on classified  
\*plus .0399% with credit card

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3BR, 2BA Duplex in Mazon. Attached 2 car garage, 1,360 sq. ft. No smoking, no pets. Utilities not included. Credit check. \$1,650 a month and \$1,500 non refundable move in fee. Available on or after 1/1/25. Call 815-252-2150. cc47-49

### GARAGE SALE

Sports Collectible Sale: Baseball, Football, Basketball, Hockey, Racing, Braidwood, 159 W. Reed Street (Inside). Friday & Saturday, December 6 & 7 from 8am-4pm. Listen to Trading Post on WCSJ. 815-278-6012. ck47-49

### HOMES FOR RENT

Wilmington, 1 BR, stove, refrigerator (courtesy), \$850 month. Security deposit, first month's rent and lease. No smoking, no pets. Utilities not included. 815-931-9537. ck48-51

### LOST & FOUND

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

### MISCELLANEOUS

Commercial buildings for rent or sale in Essex. 815-405-5020. ch43-50

### PETS

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### REAL ESTATE

SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE OF 324 SUMAC STREET, WILMINGTON, IL 60481 (Single Family). On the 5th day of December, 2024 to be held at 12:00 noon, at the Will County Courthouse, 100 W. Jefferson Street, Room 904, Joliet, IL 60432, under Case Title: 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 V. JOSEPH SACZEK; LAKEWOOD SHORES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendant. Case No. 23 FC 1211 in the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Will County, Illinois. Terms of Sale: ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours. No judicial sale fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. All payments shall be made in cash or certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Will County. In the event the property is a condominium, in accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) and (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the unit, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 11.03 (J) if there is a surplus following application of the proceeds of sale, then the plaintiff shall send written notice pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1512(d) to all parties to the proceeding advising them of the amount of the surplus and that the surplus will be held until a party obtains a court order for its distribution or, in the absence of an order, until the surplus is forfeited to the State. For Information Please Contact: ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 10700 ABBOTT'S BRIDGE RD SUITE 170 DULUTH, GA 30097 P: 708-668-4410 X 52109 PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Published in the Free Press Newspapers on Wed., Nov. 13, 20 & 27, 2024.

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### CLUES ACROSS

1. Long piece of squared timber
5. Emaciation
10. "Bewitched" boss Larry
14. Combining form meaning "different"
15. Current unit equal to 10 amperes
16. Older
17. Large, stocky lizard
18. Ringworm
19. Actor Pitt
20. Indian hand clash cymbals
22. Data at rest
23. Jeweled headdress
24. Indicators of when stories were written
- 27.

### Check

30. Cigarette (slang)
31. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
32. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
35. Delivered a speech
37. A place to bathe
38. Postmen deliver it
39. Surface in geometry
40. More (Spanish)
41. \_\_\_ and Venzetti
42. Exclamation at the end of a prayer
43. Hawaiian dish
44. Aggressively proud men
45. Fellow
46. Mark Wahlberg comedy
47. Mock
48. When you expect to get somewhere

ANSWER KEY



49. Songs
52. Pair of small hand drums
55. Play
56. Sword
60. Evergreens and shrubs genus
61. Filmed
63. Italian Seaport
64. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
65. Pores in a leaf
66. U. of Miami mascot is one
67. Snakelike fishes (Brit. sp.)
68. Pretended to be
69. Body part

### CLUES DOWN

1. Piece of felted material
2. Ancient Greek City
3. Aquatic plant
4. Potentially harmful fungus (Brit. sp.)
5. Body art (slang)
6. One who follows the rules
7. Ordinary
8. Honorably retired from assigned duties and retaining one's title
9. Relaxing space
10. Japanese socks
11. Indian city
12. Rip
13. Icelandic book
21. Satisfies
23. Where golfers begin
25. Small amount
26. Snag
27. Determine the sum of
28. A distinctive smell
29. Exposed to view
32. Stain or blemish
33. Small loop in embroidery
34. River herring genus
36. Large beer
37. Deep, red-brown sea bream
38. Partner to cheese
40. At a deliberate pace
41. Gurus
43. Of each
44. Angry
46. Popular beverage
47. Flower cluster
49. Blocks
50. Those who benefitted from efforts of relatives (slang)
51. Polio vaccine developer
52. A (usually) large and scholarly book
53. Popular soap ingredient
54. NBA'er Bradley
57. Popular movie about a pig
58. Musician Clapton
59. Not a sure thing
61. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
62. Father

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Wilmington Park District

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Sat., Nov 30th  
2 - 7 PM

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1-3PM GEMINI GIANT WELCOME HOME!  
2-7PM - CHRISTKINDLMARKET  
3-6PM - KIDS KORNER OPEN  
3-7PM LATE NIGHT SHOPPING DOWNTOWN  
5PM - CHAMBER HOLIDAY PARADE  
5:45PM - TREE LIGHTING & SHOWCATS  
6-7PM - SANTA PICTURES

KIDS KORNER - NEXT TO THE SCOOP @ JACKSON ST.  
CHRISTKINDLMARKET - DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT  
SANTA PICS & TREE LIGHTING - CLAIRE'S CORNER  
GEMINI GIANT - SOUTH ISLAND ENTRANCE

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Local Newspapers are **IMPORTANT**

Any Way You Look At It



*Joliet American Legion Band*  
*Sounds of Christmas Concert*

*Rialto Square Theatre*  
Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 pm  
(doors open at 1 pm)

TICKETS ARE FREE IN EXCHANGE FOR A  
GENEROUS DONATION OF NON-PERISHABLE  
FOOD AND/OR PAPER PRODUCTS

TICKETS AVAILABLE

Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> Noon - 4:00 PM  
*American Legion Post 1080 (Ingalls Ave)*

Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 AM - 4:30 PM  
*Rialto Theatre Lobby*

Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> 10 AM - 2:00 PM  
*Rialto Theatre Lobby*

Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
*American Legion Post 1080 (Ingalls Ave)*

\* Donation Recipient ... Daybreak Center Joliet, IL

## Honoring 100-year- old veteran

THE JOLIET AMERICAN Legion Band took the opportunity to pay recognition to one of the greatest generation's finest, Betty Peterson (100 yrs) on Veterans Day. In 1942 at the age of 18, Betty boarded a train to Chicago to join the Navy, thus being assigned to a duty station in Portsmouth, VA where she honorably served as a Shop Clerk for two years. As tribute was read by the band's emcee Gary Picha, presentation of a WWII plaque was made to Betty by the JALB Color Guard, Navy Veteran Veronica Konow. Additionally, WWII Veteran Ted Micci (103 yrs) presented our country's colors during the playing of Stars and Stripes Forever at the conclusion of this ceremony.

*You're Invited!*

*Wilmington Women of the Moose*

## CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW

Sat., Dec. 7 • 9am - 3pm  
32050 W. River Rd., Wilmington

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

# Matching Angels

Double the impact of your donation!  
The first \$4,000 in donations received  
through December 15th will be matched.  
Mark your donation "Angel Fund" and  
mail to:

Kuzma Care Cottage  
635 S. Main St., Wilmington IL 60481  
or donate online at:  
[www.kuzmacarecottage.org](http://www.kuzmacarecottage.org)

**KUZMA**  
Care Cottage

## Holiday Hustle 5K

50/50 Raffle

2024

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1st

Do you have what it takes to finish this 5K? Sign up today to receive a medal, swag bag, and bragging rights! Santa will be there too!!

 SUSAN'S MISSION  
Our vision is to fulfill her mission.

This year's proceeds will benefit  
**SUSAN'S MISSION - Special Olympic  
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Follow us @CoalCityHolidayHustle

# WILDCAT SPORTS



Photo by Eric Fisher

**HOLD ON**—Wilmington junior Lexi Strohm is fouled while driving the lane against Reed-Custer.

## Lady ‘Cats rebound to win three in a row

The Wilmington girls basketball team is off to a 3-1 start, placing third in the Comet Classic season opening tournament.

After losing to Morris 56-24 on the first night, the Lady ‘Cats have won three in a row.

Against the Redskins, Lady ‘Cats Skylar Rossow and Sami Liaromatis did their best to try to avoid the loss. Rossow posted seven points plus six rebounds, while Liaromatis scored eight points in addition to nine rebounds.

Wilmington recovered on Wednesday night with a 34-30 victory over Reed-Custer.

The Lady Comets stayed within striking distance of Wilmington through three quarters before the ‘Cats pulled away in the end.

Wilmington led 16-15 at the half before going on an 18-15 run to win it.

Liaromatis led with 10 points while Anna Morgan chipped in with seven, Rossow six, Nikki Quigley five, Alaina Clark

four and Melia Hincherrick two.

Wilmington won against Grace Christian Academy on Thursday with 40 points and they decided to stick to that point total again on Friday. The Lady ‘Cats enjoyed a cozy 40-23 victory over the Rosary Royals.

Wilmington's success was the result of a balanced attack that saw several players step up including Melia Hincherrick with 10 points, eight rebounds and two steals. Morgan contributed eight points in addition to four steals.

Wilmington finished with 17 offensive rebounds which made the difference.

Wilmington upended Grace Christian Academy with points to spare, 40-23.

Liaromatis, went 8 for 20 en route to 20 points plus six rebounds and two steals. Rossow had six points in addition to 10 rebounds and four steals.

Wilmington finished the game with 20 offensive rebounds.

The Lady ‘Cats will host Reed-Custer on Dec. 2.



Photo by Eric Fisher

**LOOKING TO PASS** the ball during last week’s win over Reed-Custer is Wilmington’s Skylar Knight.



Photo by Eric Fisher

**SHOOTING FOR THREE** for the varsity Lady ‘Cats is sophomore Sami Liaromatis.

### Triangle Mini Storage gives notice of disposal

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

**Notice of Possible Sale and Disposal**  
To: Dwaynel 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.

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

### Attorney Wysocki files Giardina 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 JOYCE E. GIARDINA Deceased;  
No. 2024PR651

**CLAIM NOTICE**  
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Joyce E. Giardina. Letters of Office were issued to Evan J. Giardina whose address is 310 S. Reedwood Drive, Joliet, Illinois as Independent Administrator, whose attorney of record is Marilyn L. Wysocki, 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 20th day of May, 2025 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.

Marilyn L. Wysocki  
For the Estate of Joyce E. Giardina Deceased  
BY: Marilyn L. Wysocki  
1861 Black Road  
Joliet, IL 60435  
815-725-8000

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

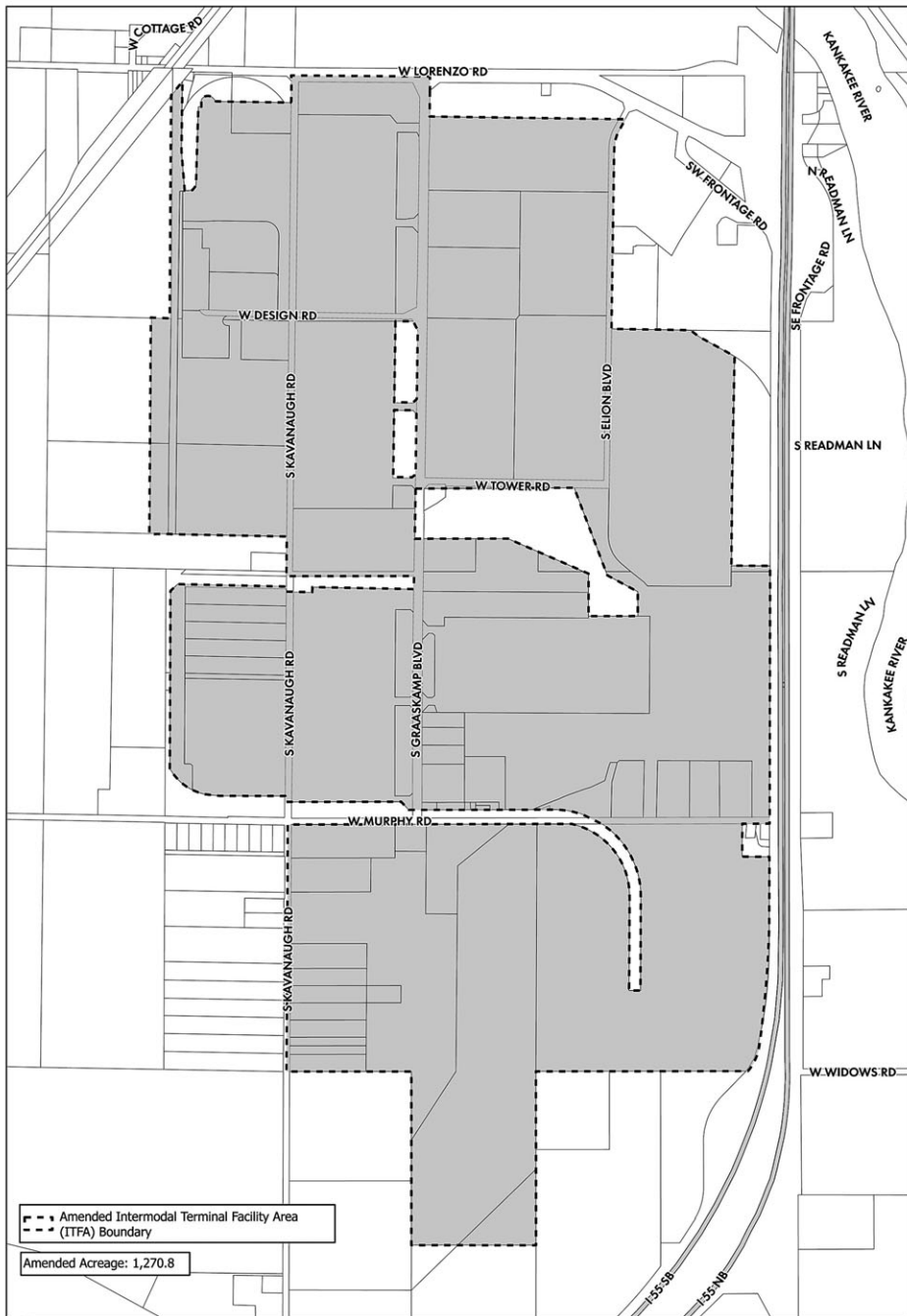
#### PUBLIC NOTICE

**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 AFTER DIV PER PET.#2004-199 NDA, in Will County, Illinois.  
PIN: 03-17-21-300-023-0000



**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 Eric Fisher

**PRESSURING THE MONTINI** quarterback are linebackers Ryan Nelson (25) and Zach Ohlund (59) during Saturday's final four game. Ohlund had five tackles and two assists.



Photo by Alyssa Ohlund

**WILDCAT LUCAS RINK** passes the ball to Ryan Kettman for a touchdown against Montini during Saturday's final four game. Rink passed for a total of 33 yards.

## Santa House Improvements



The Wilmington Lions Club would like to thank the following for Santa's new upgrades the last few months. Big thanks to Dan Brimer for his annual softball tourney donations; Dawn Brimer for keeping Santa's tree looking its best; Ed Pogliano for Santa's new porch generously donated; Dean Dennis & Santa for staining the new porch; Matt Weidling Construction for donation of a new roof; Van Holman for donation of outside trim work; West Flooring for installing new carpet at the discount; VFW for allowing us to host a 50/50 to help pay for new carpet! And to Santa himself - for all of his generosity and improvements over the years to help provide a magical experience and memories for the kids in the community to last forever. See the house and visit Santa this season starting Nov. 30 after the Christmas parade on the North Island Park. ***Merry Christmas from Santa and the Lions Club!***



Photo by Eric Fisher

**SUPERMAN TACKLE!** Wildcat senior Ryan Nelson grabs Montini's Santino Florio from behind, forcing a fumble, during Saturday's contest.

## Wildcat season ends in semifinal

BY ERIC FISHER  
PUBLISHER

Wilmington's undefeated season and impressive playoff run came to an end Saturday in Lombard, as they fell 42-12 to the Montini Broncos in the 3A state semifinal.

Despite a determined effort, the Wildcats couldn't overcome Montini's explosive offense and opportunistic defense.

Smoke from the pregame fireworks and a three-plane flyover had barely cleared when the hosting Broncos put seven points on the scoreboard. With two plays and 25 seconds Bronco quarterback Israel Abrams fired a 12-yard pass to Santino Florio to take the lead.

But the Wildcats earned some much deserved respect by mounting a scoring drive of their own. The 'Cats pounded away with runs by Ryan Kettman and Kyle Farrell, who gave it a valiant effort despite an ankle injury from a week ago, as they moved the toward the red zone.

That's when senior quarterback Lucas Rink slipped the ball to Hunter Osipavicius who bolted 19 yards up the middle to close the gap to 7-6.

The celebration for the Wildcat faithful was short-lived as Montini would score with a 5-yard TD run and 23-yard pass from Abrams to own a 21-6 lead when the quarter came to an end.

It was the first time all season Wilmington trailed in the opening stanza.

In the second quarter, the Montini QB connected with Cristian Harkins for a 58-yard touchdown pass, widening the Broncos' lead to 28-6.

Wilmington struck back with a 3-yard touchdown pass from Lucas Rink to Ryan Kettmann, cutting the deficit to 28-12 at half-time.

The Broncos continued their dominance in the second half, with Abrams throwing a 30-yard touchdown pass to Santino Florio in the third



Photo by Alyssa Ohlund

**WILDCAT KYLE FARRELL** carries the ball during Saturday's Final Four game against Montini. Farrell got in six rushing attempts for 26 yards before having to come out with an ankle injury.

quarter.

Montini sealed the game in the fourth with a 20-yard interception return for a touchdown by Nick Irion, finalizing the score at 42-12.

The Wildcats leaned heavily on their run game, totaling 226 rushing yards on 46 carries. Kettmann led the team with 87 yards on 25 carries, while Osipavicius contributed 60 yards on just three carries, including a touchdown.

Montini's aerial prowess featured 10 of 16 passes for 177 yards and four touchdowns. Harkins was his primary target, hauling in four receptions for 93 yards and two scores.

Montini capitalized on a Wilmington turnover in the fourth quarter, with Irion's interception return proving to be a pivotal moment. Wilmington's defense tallied one sack but struggled to contain Montini's offense.

While the loss was a disappointing end to the season, the Wildcats showcased their characteristic resilience and teamwork.

Wilmington's offensive line fought hard against Montini's defen-

sive front, creating opportunities for the run game. Despite the result, the Wildcats' semifinal appearance capped a successful season.

Wilmington's journey included memorable victories, strong playoff performances, and moments of growth for the program.

The 'Cats left a lot of emotion on the field as they say good-bye to 14 seniors who reigned as 2A state champions a year ago.

The departure of all-state runningback Farrell will be felt most. His season ended too early, after injury in the quarterfinal, leading the 'Cats with 20 touchdowns for the season. His 1,268 yards during the 12-1 campaign follows Kettman who amassed 1,431 yards and 18 TDs.

Osipavicius exits with 658 yards and 10 touchdowns while Shawn James amassed 403 yards and seven TDs. Floyd McKendrick, another senior, ends with 152 yards in 49 attempts and one touchdown.

Rink will be tough to replace at quarterback. While he finished with 10 of 19 passes, four for

touchdowns, his skills as a blocker were crucial for the Double wing offense.

Senior runningback Kurtis Brassard finishes with 89 yards in nine tries for one touchdown.

The defense will feel the absence of linebacker Ryan Nelson who led the 'Cats with 30 tackles, 23 assists, 13 sacks, one interception and one forced fumble.

Other senior defenders included Farrell (45 tackles), Osipavicius (23 tackles), Joe Van Dwyne and James (11 tackles each), Gabe Cravens (10), Alex Will (8), Rink (7), Gavin Gabriel (6), Spencer Parrish and Hannah Basinger.

Senior Reid Waldon did a sensational job as kicker, finishing the season with 52 of 59 PAT attempts and one field goal for 32 yards.

For the season the 'Cats carried the ball 494 times, gaining 4209 yards, an impressive 8.5 yards per carry average. Contrast that to the 726 yards gained by opposing teams through 13 games.



Photo by Eric Fisher

**TOUCHDOWN FOR CATS!** Wildcat Hunter Osipavicius (7) scores a touchdown and celebrates with teammates Zachary Ohlund (59) and Joseph Van Dwyne (72). Osipavicius rushed for a total of 60 yards. Wildcats lost 42-12 to Montini in Saturday's state semifinal game.

## FUNDRAISER

+ EVENT +



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**PRESENT THIS FLYER AT AJ'S ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, AND 20% OF YOUR BILL WILL GO BACK TO OUR PROGRAM!**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024

250 W BALTIMORE STREET