

McHenry County News

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Display Advertising & Classifieds: 815-654-4850 • Circulation: 815-654-4854 • E-mail: info@rvpublishing.com

Volume 4 Issue 7

**Marengo-Union
Shopper**

February 13, 2014

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Woodstock Willie calls for long winter

By Troy A. Bruzewski
Correspondent

WOODSTOCK — Those who bundled for cold weather at this year's Groundhog Day in Woodstock, need not put those winter clothes in storage.

According to 'Woodstock Willie' the groundhog, winter will be around for another six weeks. Willie made his prediction Sunday, Feb. 2, before a crowd of around 400 bystanders. Craig Krandel – a chairperson for Groundhog Days in Woodstock – said those hundreds braved the winter weather to be part of the large crowd.

"This year's turnout was spectacular," Krandel said. "It was about 10 degrees and yet it was very-well attended."

Despite the conditions, weather affected only one aspect of this year's multi-day celebration. Krandel said the "Awakening of the Groundhog" – originally scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 30, had to be tweaked.

"That was the only thing impacted by the weather and it was still held," he said. "We just couldn't have the pyrotechnics that we normally do for the event. Other than that, the weather did not have an impact."

Krandel said only one of the 12 events he's worked with the festival have been cancelled or drastically affected by weather, which was during the blizzard of 2011.

"We've been very fortunate and there's only been one time that weather has flat-out stopped us," he said.

Though the days leading to the events included frigid temperatures and snowfall, Krandel said festival-goers were fortunately not braving sleet or snow. He added that when the weather isn't an issue, the main impact is felt by local businesses and in a positive way.

"We always have a very good turnout, but when the prognostication is on a weekend we have an even greater turnout," he said. "Merchants did noticeably better that weekend, than the weekend after," he said. "Some are hit more and have better days than others,



Troy Brezewski photos

Louise Rubin, Woodstock Willie and Danny Rubin.

but everybody had more traffic," he said.

This year's special guest was Danny Rubin, who wrote the script for the movie Groundhog Day, starring Chicago's Billy Murray. It was Rubin that had the traditional conversation with Willie, to relay his yearly prognostication. He also was incorporated into the previous days' events, many that revolve around the movie he wrote.

Krandel said the festival's committee will meet in the coming weeks, to reflect on this year's event and propose ideas or updates to incorporate into next year's event.



Danny Rubin, writer of 'Groundhog Day' judges the chili cookoff.

"We'll have a meeting while it's still fresh in our mind and go over notes of things we may want to do," he said. "We try to add or change at least one thing each year."

The committee will have a few months to brainstorm after the meeting, then it will reconvene during the summer to start planning for the 2015 event.

No additional repercussions for Woodstock sergeant

By Samantha Fetzner

WOODSTOCK — On Wednesday February 5th, the City of Woodstock announced that Veteran Sergeant Chip Amati would not face any further penalty or punishment for his actions in texting an underage female provocative messages. The female was a child of Amati's former girlfriend. Despite a petition that circulated the area with an abundance of signatures, overrun meetings by residents at City Council and an overall distaste left with the community, Amati will walk away from the incident without facing additional punishment.

Since criminal charges were not pursued, the punishment ends with Amati's 30 day suspension and reduction of job duties. The case was declined to be brought back before the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. In addition to the incident with the underage female, Amati was also found to have used LEADS, the law enforcement's data system, to run unauthorized background checks at his discretion.

In light of the case and the uproar it has caused with citizens in the area, State Representative Jack Franks announced on Thursday, February 6th he will be submitting a bill increasing penalties for cases like these. Currently the punishment for grooming, or soliciting minors by use of electronic communications devices, is classified as a felony- specifically Class 4. Franks is aiming to alter that classification from Class 4 to Class 3, and in cases of children below the age of 14, Class 2.

Frank, assisted by McHenry County's Andrew Zinke, an Undersheriff with the department, drafted the new bill to create both a higher burden of proof and hold more accountability for those facing such charges. The bill will go to vote and ultimately it will come down to morality. Do we want to ensure we protect the youth population from sexual predators, or do we leave the vague, existing law that has allowed such leniency to stay in tact? Only time will tell what the future of Frank's bill holds for those facing similar accusations to that of Sgt. Amati.



The crowd awaits the prognostication.

McHenry County Real Estate on the upswing

By Samantha Fetzner

MCHENRY COUNTY — In the economic depression, the only thing hit harder than the job market was the housing market. Prices have fallen to record lows. Homeownership fell dramatically. The amount of properties repossessed or defaulted upon by former mortgagors reached never before seen heights. Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, and other major loan servicers became owners of more properties than they ever anticipated. In the past two years, the market has shown signs of improvement, and those signs are finally showing an indication of being steady.

In 2012, Midwest Real Estate Data records show that McHenry County saw a total of 3,829 closed sales of single family residences. Those numbers include both detached and attached properties. Of those 3,829 homes, the sales volume was \$625,979,141.00. Homes stayed on the market an average of 161 days before they closed. The highest selling property in the county sold for \$7.5 million, and the average price was \$163,484. In 2013, more than 25% more homes sold at a total of 4,935. The average market time was significantly less at only 125 days. The average sold price rose nearly \$10K to \$173,049 and the volume was \$853,995,063, nearly 33 percent more than 2012.

In Marengo, 2012 sales accounted for 125 residences. Market time was higher than the county average at 174 days, and the average sold price was lower at \$152,283. Volume sold was only \$19,035,376. In 2013, 141 homes were sold with a lower market time average at 148 days. Those 141 residences accounted for \$21,294,366 of the county sales volume, but the average sold price fell to \$151,024. Union's numbers literally doubled in sales volume from 2012 to 2013 coming in at 9 and 18 respectively. Market time increased from 177 to 189 days, but the average sold price was significantly more; \$228,764 compared to 2012's \$169,136. Sales volume increased to almost 3 times the amount; \$4,117,750 in 2013 to \$1,389,000 in 2012. Those numbers may seem insignificant in comparison to the county, but they are a very large indicator of a positive change in the market.

Year to date for 2014, 282 properties have sold within McHenry County. Sales volume in 38 days accounts for \$47,696,453. That means homes are selling in excess of over an average of 9 per day. As of February 7th, MRED has 1,748 active homes and 764 properties under contract. 2014 is well on the way to showing dramatic increases from the 2013 numbers only 38 days into the year. If you're looking to buy or sell, now may be the time to dive in head first.

Groundhog predicts six more weeks of winter

By Samantha Fetzner

WOODSTOCK — If the brutal temperatures and constant snowfall were not enough indication, Woodstock Willie, the token groundhog in our area, saw his shadow during the annual festivities on Groundhog Day, February 2nd. Bitter cold lulled the crowd to a smaller than usual size, but anxious faces were still abundant Sunday morning, complete with hats, mittens, hoods, heavy coats, and a variety of hot tea, coffee, and chocolate to keep onlookers warm.

The event has been a popular tradition in the Woodstock area for many decades, gaining traction following the 1993 'Groundhog Day' movie filmed right in Woodstock starring Bill Murray. Since then, the tradition has become a larger produc-

tion, often finding people from outside the local area traveling in to be a part of history for the day. Many of the audience for Sunday's events were visibly disappointed in the resulting prediction, but some Eskimo-type fanatics expressed their joy through cheers and grins. Apparently some people have not had enough of the wicked winter storms quite yet.

Following Willie's brief appearance, onlookers enjoyed the opportunity to indulge in Groundhog Day breakfast! Woodstock's theater, Classic Cinemas, hosted multiple viewings of the Groundhog Day film free of charge, and those willing to stand in the cold a little bit longer were shown a variety of film locations used in the movie.

The Hollywood lure and aspects of the event has certainly granted the occasion exceptional staying power with Woodstock and McHenry County residents.

Forecasts are predicting heavy snowfall at least once over the course of the next two weeks. Road conditions have proved especially challenging this winter, and school closings have ensured that children will be staying in class a little later than usual this summer. While there is a beauty and enjoyment that come with the freshly fallen snow, be sure to bundle up tight if you want to indulge in any winter outdoor activities. Record low temperatures are still anticipated for the duration of the season.



Samantha Fetzner photo

The housing market is up but there are still many empty homes, whether foreclosed or abandoned, leaving an eyesore in our neighborhoods.

Solar Project at IRM at stand-still

By Samantha Fetzner

MCHENRY COUNTY — In Spring 2013, the Illinois Railway Museum announced their plans to build a solar-powered renewable farm to be used in place of electricity for demonstrations and displays at the museum. Originally the price tag for such a project was tagged at \$3.5 million

dollars. The solar farm is projected to cost nearly three million dollars with a price tag of \$2,850,000.00 start to finish. For the better part of the last year, museum directors have been hard at work applying for a variety of grants from a variety of entities both locally and outside the area.

Thus far the efforts have produced nearly two-thirds of the necessary funding. Approximately \$1,710,000 of grants have been successfully targeted by the museum. At this point, the museum seems to have hit the proverbial wall. They have exhausted grant options and are turning to investors for private funding. An additional \$1,140,000 is needed to produce the five acre solar farm planned by the museum. Without the additional funding, the project will cease to exist in its current format.

Members of the museum staff, whom are all volunteers, have begun reaching out for funding from private sources. Should funding come togeth-

er, the museum's day to day operating costs will be largely diminished in a permanent capacity. Community members are urged to reach out and provide support to the iconic museum, which has recently been the site of numerous television and movie projects. The projected capacity and size of the farm would make it one of the largest existing structures of its type in the state of Illinois.

Beyond savings supported by the reduced use of electricity, other benefits of the solar farm include reduced carbon dioxide production and additional educational and learning opportunities to take place at the museum. The museum is currently closed to the public until April 6th, but volunteers are on site daily restoring old cars and working toward a new era for the museum. In addition to day to day operations of train displays, IRM is best known for the Terror on the Railroad exhibit on site for Halloween each year.

Quinn announces actions on heating gas and oil shortage

CHICAGO — Governor Pat Quinn on Jan. 28 announced emergency actions to alleviate the short supply and high prices of liquefied propane gas and heating oil in Illinois. The actions make it quicker and easier to transport these fuels from other states into Illinois. Today's announcement is part of Quinn's agenda to ensure the safety of people in every community across Illinois.

"When cold temperatures force energy supplies to go down and prices to go up, it leaves consumers in a bind," the governor said. "These actions will quickly bring more propane and heating oil into Illinois to help make sure families can safely and affordably heat their homes during this historic cold stretch."

Quinn has issued a disaster proclamation to allow Illinois licensed truckers to travel through other states to obtain these fuels and deliver them to Illinois without applying for additional licenses. The declaration also allows drivers to remain behind the wheel longer in order to retrieve heating fuel from other states and bring it back to Illinois. These actions increase the number of drivers available to bring propane into Illinois from other states.

In addition, the tax for out-of-state trucks that use Illinois roads is being temporarily suspended by the Illinois Department of Revenue for trucks that are delivering heating fuels to Illinois. The U.S. Department of Transportation has also issued an emergency declaration that also provides for federal regulatory relief for motor vehicles delivering LP gas and heating fuels to affected areas.



Samantha Fetzner photo

Niko's Pointers Saloon

The owner of Niko's Red Mill has taken over the former King's Court Location. His latest endeavor, Niko's Pointers Saloon, will open in downtown Marengo this Spring.

From America's Heartland to the Emerald Isle

By Rhonda Mix
Reporter

For people who haven't had the chance to visit Ireland, there will be a perfect opportunity to explore the Emerald Isle in style this fall.

Martin McCormack and Brian FitzGerald of Switchback – a renowned Americana-and-Celtic-inspired musical duo – invite people to join them across the pond on their annual “Traveling down an Irish Road with Switchback” tour. The trip will take place from Sunday, Oct. 5 through Sunday, Oct. 12.

But first – who exactly is Switchback and why should people sign up for this particular tour?

Both born and raised in the Midwest, McCormack and FitzGerald have been performing together for more than two decades. McCormack and his family moved from Deerfield to Woodstock in 1971. He was raised on a farm in Woodstock, which his parents still own. He and his nine siblings grew up singing and his family also was deeply involved in the community. They often helped out at the Woodstock Opera House, where the children worked as ushers for events. McCormack pursued musical studies as a child and won several music awards during his youth. He said his grandfather, an Ireland native, inspired him to dig deeper into his Irish roots, which is reflected in Switchback's music. McCormack received more than 30 years of formal voice training from various institutions, including the American Conservatory.

In the mid-1980s, he met FitzGerald – an Oak Park native – when the two crossed paths at an Irish pub where they both had gigs on the same night. They became friends, collaborated and the rest, as the saying goes, is history. From their early beginnings playing in prisons, nursing homes and pubs, to their larger tours of the U.S. and Ireland, the men behind Switchback have made a name for themselves. They have produced several full-length albums and have worked with Grammy Award-winning producer Lloyd Maines on three of them, including the most recent, “Kanoka.”

Two of Switchback's television specials, “The Americana Sessions” and “The Celtic Sessions,” have aired on Public Broadcast Stations around the United States. The group also is involved in community outreach programs when they are not performing.

They have a large fan base in McHenry County, which was evident when they returned to McCormack's hometown of Woodstock Feb. 1 to put on a



Photo by Rhonda Mix

Martin McCormack and Brian FitzGerald of Switchback invite fans to travel down an Irish road with the Americana-and-Celtic-inspired musical duo.

show at the Woodstock Opera House. The group was greeted with a large crowd and received an encore for their lively and riveting performance, which included Irish step dancers.

In an interview before the show, McCormack said one of Switchback's goals was to touch and better the community. He emphasized his love for the Woodstock area and recalled fond memories of growing up in McHenry County and traveling around nearby cities and towns. One such city was Belvidere, where he said he and his family visited when they were in need of horses.

“I fancied myself somewhat of a horseman, but [ultimately] music was my inspiration,” he laughed. “But truly this whole region is reflected in our music. Our sound really comes from these smaller towns.”

The Midwest may have influenced McCormack and FitzGerald, but their Irish roots have equally shaped their unique sound. This is one reason why, ten years ago, McCormack said he and FitzGerald came up with the idea of hosting tours of Ireland.

“My grandfather came from Ireland, County Mayo,” McCormack said. “Ireland has always been home for me as well. Once or twice a year we go back and we get strong support from the people there. Brian and I met playing traditional Irish music We are traveling music teachers. Traveling with us through Ireland and on

the Irish scene is an exciting time. We are honored to be able to carry on the old traditions,” he continued. “So much of our music is based on Celtic music. This is a nice way of having our fans get to know our music better. A trip like this allows everyone to soak up the environment and we've built it to be very relaxing, for people of all ages. Everyone gets along and there are so many options for what to do on the tour.”

So what exactly does a “Traveling down an Irish road with Switchback” tour entail?

Every year the group travels to a different part of Ireland. This year the “Take me home to Mayo” tour will take place in Mayo County. McCormack said guests will have the option of creating their own itineraries so as not to feel as if they are being forced into anything they don't want to do. There also will be scheduled trips for people who are interested. Some of the trips include Foxford Wollen Mills, Ashford Castle, the Connemara Marble Factory and the Cliffs of Moher. Guests will also have the opportunity to visit a traditional sheep shearing farm.

A daily full Irish breakfast, a welcome dinner and two dinner shows will be included.

Another highlight of the tour will be the “impromptu” concerts McCormack and FitzGerald put on for the guests.

“We like to find a beautiful area where people can hear the music and see the place, see where the music was first inspired,” McCormack said. “It's very moving.”

MCC to offer full scholarships for 2014-2015

By Samantha Fetzner

Expansion plans are not the only thing on the minds of officials at McHenry County College. In addition to deciding whether or not to invest substantial funding into larger and more up to date physical education aspects of the school, officials have announced the college will offer students a competitive scholarship opportunity valuable enough to cover tuition for their entire Associate degree program, not including fees or textbooks. Scholarship application deadlines are Friday, February 14th. Applications and additional requested materials can be found in the Financial Aid office as well as online at the MCC website; mchenry.edu.

Two separate scholarships will be available. For both of the two scholarships, the value equates to 60 credit hours, enough for a student to complete requirements for an Associate Degree. As with most scholarships, there will be stiff competition for interested parties to consider. The Presidential Talent Scholarship, considered the highest and most sought after in the school, is awarded based on three levels of criteria and will be granted to eight students. Students who

receive this scholarship will be judged based on their academic merits, involvement within their community or communities, as well as participation in groups or activities outside of the classroom. The Presidential Talent Scholarship provides a waiver of tuition for a receiving student for the duration of an Associates program equivalent to 60 hours at MCC.

The McHenry County College Founding Faculty Scholarship will also be available to students in 2014-2015. The Founding Faculty Scholarship was designed based on former staff members and their significant influence and achievement within College and toward its students. Only three students will be chosen to receive the Founding Faculty Scholarship, and it will also cover 60 credit hours for in-district students. Both scholarships require full time enrollment equal or greater to 12 credit hours (typically four courses). The Presidential scholarship requires a 3.0 cumulative GPA while the Founding Faculty is less rigorous at 2.5. Presidential scholarship recipients will also need to commit to completing no less than 15 community service hours per semester of enrollment.



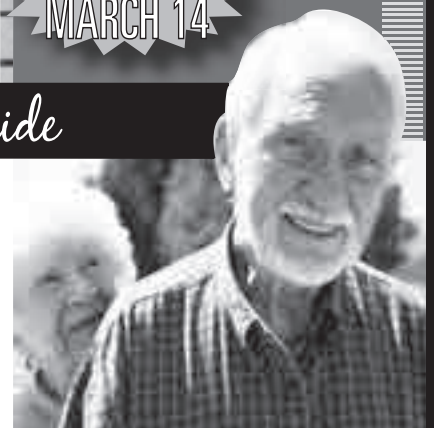
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Senior Citizen Health & Services Guide

This unique book is published annually and distributed to area seniors and their families. This book is a comprehensive senior services guide produced for our area residents. This book contains information on Service Organizations, Meals, Retirement Housing, Assisted Living, Health Services, Entertainment, Churches, Hospice Care, Funeral Homes & Cemeteries.



The expanded distribution includes Senior Courier and will be inserted in twelve daily and weekly newspapers in Boone, Winnebago, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Rock & Green Counties.



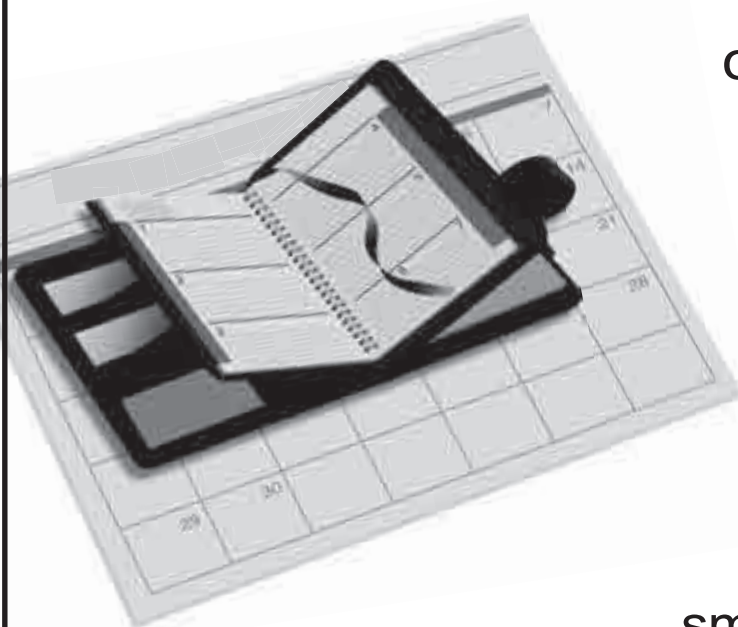
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BOYS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

By Troy A. Bruzewski
Correspondent

HARVARD — A stingy fourth-quarter defense, last Friday, the Marengo boys basketball team won a 54-45 game over Harvard.

The Indians had an early lead in a low-scoring first quarter. Marengo forced six turnovers and entered the second quarter with an 8-4 lead. But Harvard's Justin Nolen broke the Hornets from their early slump.

He scored 12 of his team-high 24 points in the second quarter, though Marengo was able to maintain a two-point lead heading into halftime.

The game remained close in

the third quarter, but Marengo's defense took control in the fourth quarter. The Indians were able to go on a 10-2 run to start the fourth quarter, with the defense creating points off turnovers and the team's quality free throw shooting.

Marengo's Weston Shepard, who led the team with 24 points, also led the way by making eight of his 10 attempts.

Harvard 59, Alden-Hebron 45

Harvard made it back-to-back wins with a 59-45 victory, last Saturday.

Nolen scored a game-high 17 points and Fernando Carrera

added 14.

Rich.-Burton 70, Marengo 57

Richmond-Burton overcame a late first-half deficit to defeat Marengo 70-57, last Saturday.

The Indians held a 24-23 lead late in the first half, but Richmond-Burton went on a 22-5 run to take control of the game.

Marengo's Zach Knobloch did his part to keep the game close, making six 3-pointers for the Indians and finishing with a game-high 26 points. But the Rockets used the 3-pointer and free throws to beat Marengo.

Blaine Bayer sank four 3-pointers for the Rockets and

made five of his six free throw attempts to lead the Rockets with 19 points.

Marmion 68, Marian Cen. 57

Marian Central was unable to overcome first-half scoring struggles in a loss to Marmion, last Friday.

Marmion started the game with a 17-2 run that gave it control of the game.

Adam Pischke and Derreck Caldez led the Central comeback and brought the Hurricanes within a point at 24-23, late in the second quarter.

But the Hurricanes were unable to take the lead away

from Marmion and dropped to 9-14 overall on the season. Pischke led Marian with 18 points; Nick Waytula had 13 and Caldez had 10.

Carmel 60, Marian 47

A low-scoring third quarter for Marian led to a 60-47 loss to Carmel, Jan. 29.

Carmel got out to an early lead, but Marian closed the gap before halftime and trailed 29-26. But the Hurricanes managed just five points in the third quarter, while Carmel opened a double-figure lead.

Matthew Ricchiuto led the Hurricanes with 11 points; Pischke added seven.

GIRLS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

By Troy A. Bruzewski
Correspondent

WOODSTOCK — After the first quarter of last Friday's game against Hampshire, the Woodstock North girls basketball team looked to be on its way to a possible win.

The Thunder held Hampshire to just six points in the first quarter and held a lead into the second, but Hampshire's offense was revived in the second and third quarters and the Whip-Purs went on for a 52-39 win.

Woodstock's lead was quickly vanquished in the second quarter, with Hampshire scoring 17 in the quarter and holding the Thunder to just four points. That gave Hampshire

an eight-point advantage at halftime.

The Thunder were unable to chip away at the deficit in the second half and were denied a chance at back-to-back wins over Hampshire. They earned a 54-52 overtime win over the Whip-Purs on Jan. 21.

Jenifer Crain led the Thunder with 11 points and Haley Ahr added nine points.

GL North 62, Woodstock 44

Woodstock struggled offensively in the first half of last Thursday's game against Gray-slake North and lost, 62-44.

North's offense performed well in the first half, scoring 20 points in the opening quarter, then its defense held Wood-

stock to just seven points in the second and took a 35-17 lead into halftime.

Dakota Brand and Selena Juarez tried to lead the Blue Streaks on a comeback in the second half, but North finished with a 17-point fourth quarter. North held a sizeable advantage in 3-point shooting, making nine of its attempts while the Blue Streaks managed just one 3-point make.

Brand finished with 11 points for Woodstock; Juarez added eight. Kendall Detweiler led all scorers with 25 points for North, including five 3-pointers.

Cary-Grove 63, McHenry 35

McHenry had quality 3-point

shooting in the first half, but wasn't able to keep pace with Cary-Grove in the second half of a 63-35 loss, last Friday.

The Warriors made five of their seven first-half 3-point attempts, but the Trojans took control in the third quarter. Cary-Grove went on a 17-4 run in the third and went on for the win.

Sawyer Lay led the Warriors with seven points.

Jacobs 56, Marian Central 48

Marian Central couldn't keep up with the Jacobs offense in the second half of a 56-48 loss, Thursday.

Central trailed by 11 points at halftime and went on a third-quarter run that eventually tied

the game. However, the Hurricanes' 3-point shooting provided the offense to prevent Marian from taking a lead. They finished with nine 3-pointers.

Hannah Davis led all scorers with 16 points for the Hurricanes.

Woodstock 62, Alden-Heb. 38

Woodstock started the game with a 10-0 run and went on for a win, last Saturday.

The Blue Streaks continued their offensive success in the second quarter, outscoring the Giants 24-8 in the second quarter and taking a 25-point lead into halftime.

Cody Brand led Woodstock with 12 points; Selena Juarez added 10 points.

WRESTLING ROUNDUP

By Troy A. Bruzewski
Correspondent

MARENGO — The Harvard wrestling team held an advantage in the light and middle weights against Marengo, last Friday, boosting it to a 50-24 win.

Justin Wilcox (106) and Anthony Luis (113) were given forfeit wins for Harvard, then Mark Struck (120) earned a win by pin over Mike Skorzewski in 1:01 to give Harvard an 18-0 advantage.

Marengo got its first win from Cory Graham (126) who pinned Joe Quinn in 3:22. Sergio Jimenez earned another win for Harvard at 132, pinning Bailey Miller in 1:53.

Joe Mier (138) answered with a win for Marengo, but the Hornets avoided giving the Indians six points. Mier earned an 8-6 decision over Logan Streit, giving Marengo three points and making the score 24-9.

Harvard then took four consecutive decisions to put a lock on the match. Christian Kramer (145) pinned Brett McMackin in 39 seconds; Isaiah Rudd (152) won a 17-2 decision over Gary Wagley; Matthew Wheeler pinned Kyle Gara in 2:44 and Jose Mejia (170) earned a 9-4 decision victory over Brandon Dierkes.

Marengo answered with three wins, but the match

already belonged to Harvard. Matt Pandochi (182) gave the Indians an 8-2 decision over Marcos Tapia; Justin Dauphin (195) pinned Christian Popoca in 1:12 and Derek Caskey (220) pinned Zach Martin in 2:32. The wins gave Marengo 15 points, though not enough to climb back into contention.

Adam Freimund (285) earned Harvard's last win with a forfeit victory.

Larkin 48, Marian Central 28

A sizeable advantage for Larkin in the lighter weights, led to a 48-28 win over Marian Central, last Friday.

Larkin won the five divisions from 106-132 before Marian got a victory. Jack McGuire (138) earned a win by pin over Jacob Quintanilla, then Nick Remke (145) pinned Allan Lau.

Adam Konopka (160) won an 8-0 decision over Dan Horist and Thomas Welch (170) defeated Victor Cuevas by pin. Andrew Darbro (195) earned Central's final victory, winning by pin over Alejandro Sanchez.

FVC meet

McHenry finished fourth in Saturday's Fox Valley Conference Wrestling Tournament.

Ryan Grannemann was the top finisher for the Warriors, taking second place in the 195 division. He lost the championship match to Andrew Marsden of Crystal Lake Central.

Fire department requests help digging out fire hydrants

By Tricia Goecks
Editor

BELVIDERE — The Belvidere fire department is asking residents to adopt a hydrant near their home or business. When clearing snow from your property, the department asks that you make the hydrant part of your snow removal routine.

"It is especially critical that people help us out," said Belvidere fire chief Dave Worrell. "Any delay is not good. Every second counts," in responding to a fire.

As of press time on Friday, several fire hydrants in the area were nearly barely visible under mounds of snow. With 12 inches of snow expected to fall over the weekend, it is possible that the hydrants would become completely encased in snow. "When the hydrants get covered with snow, the caps get frozen," said Worrell. In addition to the delays in digging out a fire hydrant and dealing with frozen caps, simply locating the hydrant can be time consuming during a time when every second matters.

Heavy and drifting snow as well as snow plow activities have covered or obscured many of the over 1,200 hydrants throughout the city of Belvi-

dere.

In a fire emergency, seconds count. The time it takes for first responders to locate and clear the snow from around a hydrant takes time away from fire fighting activities and could result in more property loss and damage. "One of the biggest issues is finding the hydrants when they are completely covered," said Worrell.

The fire department recom-

mends that residents remove snow at least 3 feet from around the hydrant on all sides; create a path by removing snow from the hydrant to the plowed street; make the hydrant visible from both directions of travel on the street; and use caution when clearing the hydrant.

By helping out the fire department and clearing fire hydrants in your neighborhood, the life you save may be your own.



Photo by Tricia Goecks

The Belvidere Fire Department urges residents to remove snow around a fire hydrant at least 3 feet from all sides. By keeping the hydrants clear from snow, the fire department can locate and access them immediately during a time when seconds count.

Local Navy pilot meets with President Bush

By Robert Randall Ryder
Contributor

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Poplar Grove, Illinois native and retired Navy Captain Chuck Downey, the youngest Naval Aviator of World War II, finally saw his dream come true. After years of trying to meet with former President and Navy pilot George H. Bush, Downey got his chance Wednesday, Jan. 29, when a meeting was arranged at the former President's residence at College Station, Texas.

"It went very well," said Downey. "We got to meet with both the former President and Mrs. Bush and they were very friendly and easy to talk with. It was a terrific visit my daughter Elaine and I had with them and they couldn't have been more gracious."

For many years former President Bush had claimed the title of youngest Naval Aviator of World War II, since he was only 19 when he flew combat missions in the Pacific. He never knew that in reality it was Chuck Downey, younger by 11 days, who was the youngest, until Downey wrote the former President a letter and documented his birth date.

"I never thought being the youngest Naval Aviator of World War II was as big of deal as others have made it out to be," pointed out Downey. "The President was very gracious about all that and we talked a great deal about our days serving in the Navy conducting combat missions in the Pacific."

"We were two naval aviators that were both commissioned before they were 19 years old," added Downey. "That was the reason I thought it was important we should meet up. Here we are at this late stage, and when I saw him in a wheelchair going in the White House, I said 'I've got to meet this guy before he leaves the planet.'"

With the help of some friends, Downey contacted Bush's events secretary who set up a meeting between the two former Naval Aviators. Downey, now 89, lived through 17 bombing missions, 2 kamikaze attacks, and seeing several of his friends shot down by the enemy during his service in World War II. In 1945 Downey was awarded the Air Medal



Contributed photos
Chuck Downey and his daughter met with George and Barbara Bush to discuss their days as the youngest naval aviators during World War II.

for taking part in the first carrier based dive bomber raid on mainland Japan. His bomb helped destroy an airplane hangar near Tokyo. Downey calls it one of the bombing missions that stand out most in his mind. "We hit mainland Japan, the first time ever from carrier based airplanes. So that was quite exciting."

Downey said he talked to Bush about his history and the 70 years of his life he'd spent in the air. During the war, Downey flew a dive bomber, a Curtiss SB2C Helldiver, striking Japanese targets in the Pacific Ocean and parts of Asia.

Bush, on the other hand, flew a torpedo bomber. On



Chuck Downey (pictured left) flew a dive bomber, a Curtiss SB2C Helldiver during his wartime service. Downey recently retired from flying. He currently restores vintage aircraft.

one mission, the former President was shot down and had to be rescued by a submarine.

The two veterans served on different aircraft carriers during the war. Both men earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for their service as Naval Aviators.

Downey, long retired and who just recently gave up flying, now works on restoring vintage aircraft to pass the time. He spends his winters vacationing in Florida but heads home to Poplar Grove every spring as the winter turns warmer. He says he looks forward to staying in touch with former President Bush and his wife Barbara, and possibly more visits in the future.



President George Bush and Chuck Downey earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for their service as Naval Aviators during World War II.

New Health and Wellness classes offered at McHenry County College

Engage your mind, body and spirit with new wellness classes offered by McHenry County College's Continuing Education Department.

The following classes are available:

- **Vision Board Creation:** Founded on the Law of Attraction, the Vision Board Creation is a visual representation of your life goals and dreams. Its focus is to create more wellness, love, joy, prosperity, and peace by using images and words that evoke feelings.

Participants will focus on their dreams and goals by making a collage style board using inspirational photos or images, personal affirmations and embellishments.

Bring personal photos, if desired, along with scissors and two magazines of interest to class. Class takes place from noon to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 1 in Room C121. Cost is \$29. Use course ID: NPL S16 003 to register.

- **Numerology: What's It All About?** Learn the tool to better understand the significance of name and birthdate. Numbers and letters are energy vibrations and when understood, can assist each one of us to move towards better understanding of ourselves and life events.

Join us in learning how to put this knowledge into action. This class meets from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, March 6. Cost is \$35. Use course ID: NPL S03 003 to register.

- **Remembering the Sacred Within:** An interactive class that focuses on specialized forms of meditation, featuring

high vibrational activities and authentic sharing. You'll learn and practice several mini meditations, including a light activation to achieve a state of inner peace, connection and joy.

These practices, when used regularly, can help you enjoy a more soul-full life. Dress comfortably and bring a cushion to sit on. Chairs will also be available. Class takes place from 10:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 15 in Room E100. Cost is \$19. Use course ID: NPL S17 003 to register.

- **Proof of Heaven:** Proof of Heaven is the title of a book that describes a neurosurgeon's journey into the afterlife.

This story is about a man who has made a solid commitment to his profession and gained a better understanding of his own exceptional near-death experience. Participants will discuss the theological, mystical and scientific issues this book raises about near death experiences.

You Tube videos featuring interviews with Dr. Eben Alexander are included. It is recommended to read "Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife," by Eben Alexander, ISBN: 9781451695199 before attending this workshop. Class takes place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Friday, April 11, in Room A113. Cost is \$20. Use course ID: NSP S51 004 to register.

To register, call the MCC Registration Office at (815) 455-8588. For more information, call Tracy Berry at (815) 455-8758 or Claudia Terrones at (815) 455-8782.



courtesy photo

Buffalo Wild Wings open

McHenry Area Chamber of Commerce celebrates with a ribbon cutting ceremony at Buffalo Wild Wings, 3343 Shoppers Drive, McHenry. Bill Hobson, Deputy City Administrator (from left); Doug Martin, McHenry Deputy City Administrator; Cassie Martin, Manager; Andy Kaney, Assistant General Manager; Vince Aunann, General Manager; McHenry Mayor Sue Low; Derik Morefield, McHenry City Administrator; Heather Moscinski, Juice Plus+; They are surrounded by enthusiastic employees and a host of Chamber Ambassadors and Directors.

Two Woodstock residents arrested with heroin

WOODSTOCK — On Jan. 27, the McHenry County Sheriff's Office announced the arrest of two Woodstock residents for heroin related charges at a residence in the 12000 block of Rogers Road, unincorporated Woodstock. The McHenry County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit, Intelligence Led Policing Unit, and K-9 Unit assisted Illinois Department of Corrections with a search of the residence after receiving a

tip that the residents were in possession of heroin.

At the conclusion of the investigation, Sheriff's deputies recovered approximately 1 gram of heroin and multiple items of drug paraphernalia. The Sheriff's Office estimates the street value of the narcotics seized in this investigation to be approximately \$100.

Undersheriff Zinke reminds the residents of McHenry County to report illegal nar-

cotics activity to the Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit at (815) 334-4760 or anonymously to Crime Stoppers McHenry County at 1-(800) 762-7867.

Philip J. Motroni, 33, of Woodstock, was arrested and charged with Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance (class 4), Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (class A), Unlawful Poss. of Hypodermic Syringe and Needle (class A). His bond was set at \$10,000. Also arrested was Amanda C. Graves, 26, of Carpentersville. She was charged with Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance (class 4), Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (class A), Unlawful Possession of Hypodermic Syringe and Needle (class A). Her bond was set at \$20,000.

Next court date for both was set for Jan. 30.



courtesy photo

Plum Garden opens

McHenry Area Chamber of Commerce celebrates the Chinese New Year with a ribbon cutting ceremony at Plum Garden's new expanded restaurant, 3917 Main Street, McHenry. Frank Hosticka, LegalShield (left to right standing); Bill Regner, McHenry Building Inspector; Bill Hobson, Deputy City Administrator; Doug Martin, McHenry Deputy City Administrator; Derik Morefield, McHenry City Administrator; McHenry Mayor Sue Low; Kay Rial Bates, McHenry Area Chamber of Commerce; Perry Moy, Owner; Maxine Cwiak; Jason Moy; Kurt Rice, A Better Water Treatment Co.; Seated at tables from left Ryan Conway, Ryan P. Conway Agency, LLC; Linda Showens, Artistic Embroidery Creations; Ann Buss, First Midwest Bank; Mary Allemon, Gary Lang Auto Group; Heather Moscinski, Juice Plus+; Todd Lowenheim, Lowenheim Insurance Agency; Suszan Worzala, Letizia Financial Group.

Fox Lake 2014 Polar Plunge Feb. 23

FOX LAKE — Save the date. The 2014 Polar Plunge will be held at Lakefront Park (71 Nippersink Blvd.) on Feb. 23 at 1 p.m. There will be a Pre-Registration event on Feb. 22 from 10:30 to 2 p.m. also at Lakefront Park to assist plungers with the registration process.

Help support Special Olympics of Illinois. For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (847) 587-3944 or visit www.plungeillinois.com.



courtesy photos

Groundhog Bowling

The event was Saturday, Feb. 1 at Wayne's Lanes in Woodstock, with proceeds benefiting Adult Child Therapy Services.



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2005 MERCURY SABLE GS



1997 CHEVY TAHOE



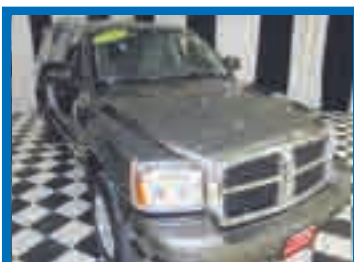
1999 CADILLAC ELDORADO



2003 FORD ESCAPE



2008 CHEVY HHR



2006 DODGE DAKOTA



2008 FORD ESCAPE



2007 DODGE CALIBER



2003 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER



2009 DODGE JOURNEY



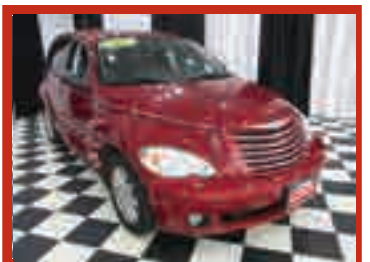
2013 NISSAN VERSA



2006 CHEVY HHR



2006 TOYOTA AVALON



2006 PT CRUISER

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TRADE FOR
ANYTHING!!!**

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BAD CREDIT? SOCIAL SECURITY? ITIN?**

HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 8PM • SATURDAY 9AM - 6PM

PUBLIC NOTICES

Pierce & Associates
File Number # 1222701
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 22ND
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MC HENRY COUNTY,
WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK,
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,

vs.
LINDA CHROMY A/K/A
LINDA M. CHROMY A/K/A
LINDA MARIE CHROMY;
EDWARD JAMES CHROMY
A/K/A EDWARD R. CHRO-
MY A/K/A EDWARD RON-
ALD JAMES CHROMY;
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND
NON RECORD CLAIM-
ANTS;

Defendants,
12 ch 3055
NOTICE OF SALE
PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT
OF FORECLOSURE UNDER
ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby
given that pursuant to a Judg-
ment of Foreclosure entered
in the above entitled cause on
December 5, 2013, Intercounty
Judicial Sales Corporation will
on Thursday, March 13, 2014,
at the hour of 10:30 a.m. in the
offices of Botto Gilbert Geh-
ris Lancaster, 970 McHenry
Avenue, Crystal Lake, Illinois
60014, sell to the highest bid-
der for cash, the following de-
scribed property:

LOT 1 IN BLOCK 31 IN
SILVER LAKES OAKWOOD
HILLS, UNIT NO. 2, BEING A
SUBDIVISION OF PART OF
SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 44
NORTH, AND PART OF THE
WEST HALF OF SECTION 1,
TOWNSHIP 43 NORTH, ALL
IN RANGE 8 EAST OF THE
THIRD PRINCIPAL MERID-
IAN, ACCORDING TO THE
PLAT THEREOF RECORDED
MARCH 10, 1953 AS
DOCUMENT NO. 262933, IN
BOOK 11 OF PLATS, PAGE
773, IN MCHENRY COUNTY,
ILLINOIS.

P.I.N. 19-01-131-001.
Commonly known as 2619
MIDDLE LANE, OAKWOOD
HILLS, IL 60013.

The improvement on the prop-
erty consists of a single family
residence. If the subject mort-
gaged real estate is a unit of a
common interest community,
the purchaser of the unit other
than a mortgagee shall pay the
assessments required by sub-
section (g-1) of Section 18.5
of the Condominium Property
Act.

Sale terms: 25% down by
certified funds, balance within
24 hours, by certified funds.
No refunds. The property will
NOT be open for inspection.
Upon payment in full of the
amount bid, the purchaser will
receive a Certificate of Sale
which will entitle the purchaser
to a Deed to the premises after
confirmation of the sale.

For Information: Visit our
website at <http://service.at-ty-pierce.com>. Between 3 p.m.
and 5 p.m. only. Pierce & As-
sociates, Plaintiff's Attorneys,
1 North Dearborn Street, Chi-
cago, Illinois 60602. Tel.No.

(312) 476-5500. Refer to File
Number 1222701.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL
SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-
1122
1587806

(Published in the
McHenry County News
Jan. 30, Feb. 6 & 13, 2014)

149606

Pierce & Associates
File Number # 1300533
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 22ND
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MC HENRY COUNTY,
WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS
SUNTRUST MORTGAGE,
INC.

Plaintiff,
vs.
JAMIE A MOBERG; MI-
CHELLE E MOBERG; AL-
PINE BANK & TRUST COM-
PANY F/K/A ALPINE BANK
OF ILLINOIS; HICKORY
FALLS UNIT NO. 3 PROP-
ERTY OWNERS ASSOCIA-
TION; UNKNOWN OWN-
ERS AND NON RECORD
CLAIMANTS;

Defendants,
13 CH 243
NOTICE OF SALE
PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT
OF FORECLOSURE UNDER
ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby
given that pursuant to a Judg-
ment of Foreclosure entered
in the above entitled cause on
August 15, 2013, Intercounty
Judicial Sales Corporation will
on Thursday, March 13, 2014,
at the hour of 10:30 a.m. in the
offices of Botto Gilbert Geh-
ris Lancaster, 970 McHenry
Avenue, Crystal Lake, Illinois
60014, sell to the highest bid-
der for cash, the following de-
scribed property:

LOTS 14, 15, 16 AND 17
IN BLOCK 28 IN HICKO-
RY FALLS UNIT NO. 3, A
SUBDIVISION OF PART OF
THE EAST HALF OF GOV-
ERNMENT LOT 1 IN THE
NORTHEAST QUARTER OF
SECTION 6, AND PART OF
THE EAST HALF OF THE
SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF
SECTION 6, LYING EASTER-
LY OF THE PUBLIC HIGH-
WAY, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 45
NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST OF
THE THIRD PRINCIPAL ME-
RIDIAN, ACCORDING TO
THE PLAT THEREOF RE-
CORDED APRIL 8, 1947 AS
DOCUMENT NO. 200312 IN
BOOK 10 OF PLATS, PAGE
46, IN MCHENRY COUNTY,
ILLINOIS.

P.I.N. 09-06-479-016, 09-06-
479-013, 09-06-479-014.

Commonly known as 5207
BONG STREET, WONDER
LAKE, IL 60997.

The improvement on the prop-
erty consists of a single family
residence. If the subject mort-
gaged real estate is a unit of a
common interest community,
the purchaser of the unit other
than a mortgagee shall pay the
assessments required by sub-
section (g-1) of Section 18.5
of the Condominium Property
Act.

Sale terms: 25% down by
certified funds, balance within
24 hours, by certified funds.
No refunds. The property will
NOT be open for inspection.
Upon payment in full of the
amount bid, the purchaser will
receive a Certificate of Sale
which will entitle the purchaser
to a Deed to the premises after
confirmation of the sale.

For Information: Visit our
website at <http://service.at-ty-pierce.com>. Between 3 p.m.
and 5 p.m. only. Pierce & As-
sociates, Plaintiff's Attorneys,
1 North Dearborn Street, Chi-
cago, Illinois 60602. Tel.No.
(312) 476-5500. Refer to File
Number 1300533.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL
SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-
1122
1587807

(Published in the
McHenry County News
Jan. 30, Feb. 6 & 13, 2014)

149613

Pierce & Associates
File Number # 1108164
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 22ND JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
MC HENRY COUNTY,
WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE
LLC

Plaintiff,
vs.
CHRISTOPHER N. PROB-
ERTS; DEBORA PROBERTS
A/K/A DEBBIE PROBERTS;
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND
NON RECORD CLAIM-
ANTS;

Defendants,
11 CH 1125
NOTICE OF SALE
PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT
OF FORECLOSURE UNDER
ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby
given that pursuant to a Judg-
ment of Foreclosure entered
in the above entitled cause on De-
cember 13, 2013, Intercounty
Judicial Sales Corporation will
on Thursday, March 20, 2014,
at the hour of 10:30 a.m. in the
offices of Botto Gilbert Geh-
ris Lancaster, 970 McHenry
Avenue, Crystal Lake, Illinois
60014, sell to the highest bid-
der for cash, the following de-
scribed property:

LOT 65 IN HARMONY
HILLS ESTATES UNIT NO.
3, BEING A SUBDIVISION
OF PART OF SECTION 29,
TOWNSHIP 43 NORTH,
RANGE 6, EAST OF THE
THIRD PRINCIPAL MERID-
IAN, ACCORDING TO THE
PLAT THEREOF RECORDED
AUGUST 18, 1976 AS
DOCUMENT NO. 672001,
AND CERTIFICATE OF
CORRECTION RECORDED
NOVEMBER 12, 1976 AS
DOCUMENT NO. 679411, IN
MCHENRY COUNTY, ILLI-
NOIS.

P.I.N. 17-29-154-002.
Commonly known as
10342 OAK RIDGE ROAD,
MARENGO, IL 60152.

The improvement on the prop-
erty consists of a single family
residence. If the subject mort-
gaged real estate is a unit of a
common interest community,
the purchaser of the unit other
than a mortgagee shall pay the
assessments required by sub-
section (g-1) of Section 18.5
of the Condominium Property
Act.

Sale terms: 25% down by
certified funds, balance within
24 hours, by certified funds.
No refunds. The property will
NOT be open for inspection.
Upon payment in full of the
amount bid, the purchaser will
receive a Certificate of Sale
which will entitle the purchaser
to a Deed to the premises after
confirmation of the sale.

For Information: Visit our
website at <http://service.at-ty-pierce.com>. Between 3 p.m.
and 5 p.m. only. Pierce & As-
sociates, Plaintiff's Attorneys,
1 North Dearborn Street, Chi-
cago, Illinois 60602. Tel.No.
(312) 476-5500. Refer to File
Number 1108164.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL
SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-
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(Published in the
McHenry County News
Feb. 13, 20 & 27, 2014)

150885

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POLITICAL BRIEFS

By Bob Balgemann
Reporter

Franks' bill would give voters voice in property tax reform

MARENGO — State Rep. Jack
Franks, D-Marengo, has been
hearing a lot from property own-
ers about their taxes continuing
to go up even though their home
values are declining.

"It should be fundamental that
when property values decrease,
property taxes should not
increase," he said in a statement.

However, township assessors
have said that tax bills may very
well go up because taxing bodies
increase their rates to make up
for lost revenue due to declining
assessments.

House Bill 4273 places an advi-
sory referendum on this year's
general election ballot in Novem-
ber, asking voters to weigh in on
his signature property tax reform
measure.

He said he previously intro-
duced legislation in both the 97th
and 98th general assemblies to
freeze the amount that local tax-
ing bodies could increase their
annual levies, if property values
in the particular taxing district
decreased. But both failed to pass,
he said, because of "unprecedent-
ed resistance from taxpayer-fund-
ed lobbyists representing local
governments."

"Public response to my propos-
al has been overwhelmingly posi-
tive, yet both times I introduced a
bill lobbyists paid with taxpayer
dollars stopped it," Franks said.
"The public deserves the chance
to say - 'stop using my money to
pay lobbyists to keep my taxes
high.' This referendum will give
them that opportunity."

He said current law that allows
a maximum levy increase of 5
percent a year, or the rate of infla-
tion, has gone from protecting
homeowners in times with sus-
tained growth in property values
to harming them as real estate
values plummet.

Corporate tax decrease

Another Franks' bill proposes to
cut the corporate income tax from
7 percent to 3 1/2 percent.

After hearing Gov. Pat Quinn's
State of the State address, Franks
said the need for "urgent action to
improve the economic outlook in
our state could not be more appar-
ent. At a time when Illinois' econ-
omy has been pushed to the brink
of disaster and taxpayers crave
real, substantive reforms, the gov-
ernor chose to give a pep talk with
little in the way of policy propos-
als to help Illinoisans struggling to
find a job in a stagnant economy."

"Despite the rosy narrative laid
out by Gov. Quinn, Illinois' credit
rating is the worst in the United
States and recent studies have
ranked our state last in the nation
in job creation," he added. "This
would lead any serious observer
to the conclusion that Illinois' business
climate is in desperate
need of serious reform."

House Bill 4479, which reduces
the tax burden on employers, "will
free up capital for small-business
owners to reinvest in their enter-
prises and hire more workers,
while sending a signal to busi-
nesses across the country that Illi-
nois is making serious efforts to
restore our competitiveness and
is once again open for business,"
Franks said.

FARM LAND AUCTION • ROSS MEINERT

SATURDAY, MARCH 22 - 11:00 a.m.
LOCATION: 12341 North Springbrook Road, Davis, IL

REAL ESTATE: 130 acres mol of bare farm land to be offered at auction. Land is located section 27 of Rock Grove township.
REAL ESTATE TERMS: Ten percent down at conclusion of auction to the last bidder. Successful bidder to enter into a purchase agreement with no contingencies. Balance due at closing. Closing will be in thirty days. Seller to provide title insurance for the amount of purchase. Property is being sold as-is with all faults, imperfections, attributes and errors of description. All inspections, due diligence and determinations are the sole responsibility of the buyers. Sold subject to owners confirmation. All sales final.
AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is a great opportunity to add more acres to your farm base. The land market is strong, come prepared to buy! Check website for picture's and information, www.filerauction.com.
AUCTIONEERS: Randy Filer CAI 815-871-7936 *Ill.# 440-000429

FILER AUCTION

Helenville, Wisconsin 53137 * Davis, Illinois 61019 • IL # 440000429 * WI 1040-52
A Marknet Alliance member

PUBLIC AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - 9:00 a.m.
RUNNING ONE RING ONLY

Lunch by: Relish the Dog Comfort Station Available
LOCATION: BOONE CO. FAIRGROUNDS, 8791 RT. 76, BELVIDERE, IL
Located in the Goat Barn near south end. Plenty of parking. DRESS WARM!
COINS, ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, HOUSEHOLD,
YARD, TOOLS & MISC.

TRAILERS TO BE SOLD AT 10:30 SHARP!!
SEE WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE LISTING!!

Owners: L. Wilkinson & the Estates of Bernie Allen & Orva Jackson

Terms: Cash or checks w/ proper I.D. Visa, Mastercard & Discover accepted. 9% Buyers Premium w/ 4% discount for cash or check. No property to be removed until settled for. All items sold "AS IS". Number system will be used. Must have driver's license for registration. Not responsible for accidents or items after purchase. Announcements day of sale prevail over written material.



LEE AUCTION SERVICE

Belvidere, IL 61008 - 815-544-4811 - Cell # 815-988-0249
AUCTIONEER: LYLE LEE State License # 440.0000200
CLERKS & CASHIERS: LEE AUCTION SERVICE
Visit our website at: www.leeauctionservice.com



www.hacksauction.com

REAL ESTATE AUCTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd – 11:00 A.M.
407 E. Main St., Forresteron, IL

Commercial Building Real Estate Auction

960 sq. ft. Commercial Building & Lot on IL Rt. 72. High Traffic Location. Loads of Potential.

REAL ESTATE for SALE

18159 Avy School Rd., Pecatonica, IL \$ 259,000

All-Brick 3,000 sq. ft. Custom Built Ranch Home Situated on 5-Wooded Acres. Master Suite w/ Whirlpool Tub. Full Basement w/ Partial Exposure & Finished Rec Room. Fireplaces. 4-Car Attached Garage.

2216 Parmele St., Rockford, IL Price Reduced...\$ 22,500

Two-Story 3-Bedroom Home & Garage. 1,150 sq. ft. Updated Mechanicals. 2-Car Garage. Fenced Yard.

611 W. Chestnut St., Freeport, IL \$ 40,000

Two-Story, 3-Bedroom Home & Garage. Near Schools & Park. Move Right In!
Our Next Auction is Sunday, February 23rd at Hack's Antique Auction Center in Pecatonica!
Please Call Hack's for Details or a Private Showing!

Hack's Auction & Realty Service, Inc.

Greg & Swan Hachmeister, Auctioneers www.hacksauction.com
Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436 I.A.F.L. # 444.000128



MACHINERY AUCTION

HENNESSEY IMPLEMENT, INC.

1414 State Road 23, Dodgeville, Wisconsin ■ Ph: 608-935-3326 - Fax: 608-935-5342

THURS., FEBRUARY 20 - 8:00 A.M.

For a complete listing and photos visit our website at:
www.hennesseyimp.com

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION OPEN HOUSE

March 3 - March 8

-SAVE 20% ON ALL PARTS-
BEST DEALS OF THE YEAR!!!

GREAT SAVINGS ON TWINE-
OIL-NET WRAP-HAY PRESERVATIVES

*** 2014 AUCTION DATES ***

EACH SALE IS HELD THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY EVEN MONTH
APRIL 17-JUNE 19-AUGUST 21-OCTOBER 16-DECEMBER 18

HUGE TOY AUCTION • 500+ PIECES
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 - 10:00 A.M.

Jane Addams Community Center, Cedarville, IL

Location: North of Freeport, IL on Rt. 26 to the Mobil Station in Cedarville. Go west 3 blocks to community center.

Roger Blumer Estate (this is the 3rd in a series of exceptional, high quality toys. Roger was a well-known collector from Monroe, WI and known throughout the Midwest for his extraordinary collection. This auction also includes consignments from several others)

J.D. 60 Pedal Tractor; J.D. 40 Pedal Tractor; J.D. 50 Pedal Tractor; 23 custom Implements includes: IHC Gang Disk; IHC 3,5,8 bottom Plows; N.H. Baler, Reicke; Combine w/ heads; NI Pull Picker; IHC 706 w/ Picker; IHC H w/ Picker; IHC 560 w/ Picker; IHC 1 pr Pull Picker; IHC MTA w/ Picker; IHC C w/ Picker; IHC 80 Pull Combine; IHC 76 Pull Combine; Case IH 8465 R. Baler; MH Combine.

Tractors Incl: NFTM Cockshutt 1986-1990; Set of 4 White Americans; 2 IHC 2594 w/ cab; IHC: 5088, 7130, 1588, STX440; STX375, 1466 Gold, 100 Hydro, 826 Gold, 966, 1026 Gold, 4366, 4566; Wildcat II; Cat; Case Traction King; Knudson 3100; 10+ Custom 4 wheel Drive Tractors; Case 2594; JD 7020 H. Crop; JD 430 H. Crop; JD M Collection; JD 80, Ohio; JD 44 Spreader; Cat D-2 Crawler; JD 2 cylinder Grand opening Tractor; JD8430 JD 2510 w/ Mower #9; JD 4020; JD 7730 Prestige; JD 9330 Prestige; IH 450 Puller; IH 2245; Oliver 1850; Cockshutt 20; MM "U"; Ferguson 35; Massey T.F.; IHC D-9 Show Crawler; AC D-14; Case CC; MF 1155, Spirit.

OTHER: 10 Nylint Trucks from 1980, NIB (salesman supply); True Scale Implements; 30 Old Structo Pcs. incl. 1920's Steam Show. 50+ Nascar & Racing Collectibles & Semi Trucks

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Auction Schedule

Saturday, February 15 - Boone Co. Fairgrounds, Belvidere, IL - 9:00 a.m. Coins, Antiques, Collectibles, Household, Yard, Tools & Misc., Trailers. Lee Auction Service, 815-544-4811.

Thursday, February 20 - 1414 State Road 23, Dodgeville, WI - 8:00 a.m. Machinery Auction - Hennessey Implement, Inc. 608-935-3326.

Sat., Feb., 22 – Commercial Real Estate Auction – 407 E. Main St., Forresteron, IL – 11:00 A.M. 960 sq. ft. Commercial Building on IL Rt. 72. Hack's Auction & Realty Service Inc., Pecatonica, IL, 815-239-1436, hacksauction.com

Sun., Feb. 23 – Hack's Auction Antique Center – 400 W. Third St., Pecatonica, IL – 10:00 A.M. Antiques & Collectibles Auction. Hack's Auction & Realty Service Inc., Pecatonica, IL, 815-239-1436, hack-sauction.com.

Sunday, February 23 - Huge Toy Auction - 10:00 a.m. Jane Addams Community center, Cedarville, IL. Pro Auctions, 815-238-3044.

Saturday, March 22 - Boone Co. Fairgrounds, Belvidere, IL - 9:30 a.m. Prairie Grange 38th Annual Consignment Auction. Sale Manager John Henninger, 815-509-9227.

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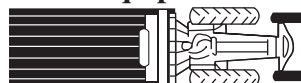
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Photo by Tricia Goecks

White out

Cold temperatures combined with high winds has created white out conditions on many area roads throughout this winter.

Marengo Union Chamber of Commerce

Business & Consumer Expo 2014

This year's guide will be in a book format, making it easy to read and handle.

The Expo Guide will include a vendor list, map, schedule of events, entertainment, pictures and news about this year's Expo. The Expo will be held on April 12 & 13, 2014 at the High School.

Advertising Rates

Bus. Card.....	\$50
1/8 Page	\$85
1/4 Page	\$125
1/2 Page	\$190
Full Page	\$295
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Process Color.....	\$45

This book will be distributed in the Marengo County News and the Belvidere Daily Republican on April 10th and will be provided to all attendees and exhibitors during the Expo. Additional books will be available at area retailers.

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149343

REAL ESTATE

Pierce & Associates
File Number # 1222701
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MC HENRY COUNTY,
WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,

vs.
LINDA CHROMY A/K/A LINDA M.
CHROMY A/K/A LINDA MARIE CHRO-
MY; EDWARD JAMES CHROMY A/K/A
EDWARD R. CHROMY A/K/A EDWARD
RONALD JAMES CHROMY; UN-
KNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD
CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,

12 ch 3055

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO
JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause on December 5, 2013, Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, March 13, 2014, at the hour of 10:30 a.m. in the offices of Botto Gilbert Gehris Lancaster, 970 McHenry Avenue, Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:

P.I.N. 19-01-131-001.
Commonly known as 2619 MIDDLE
LANE, OAKWOOD HILLS, IL 60013.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the premises after confirmation of the sale.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://service.atty-pierce.com>. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only. Pierce & Associates, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Tel. No. (312) 476-5500. Refer to File Number 1222701.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122
1587806

(Published in the McHenry County News
Jan. 30, Feb. 6 & 13, 2014)
149608

Pierce & Associates
File Number # 1300533
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MC HENRY COUNTY,
WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS
SUNTRUST MORTGAGE, INC.
Plaintiff,

vs.
JAMIE A MOBERG; MICHELLE E
MOBERG; ALPINE BANK & TRUST
COMPANY F/K/A ALPINE BANK OF IL-
LINOIS; HICKORY FALLS UNIT NO. 3
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION;
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RE-
CORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,

13 CH 243

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO
JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause on August 15, 2013, Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, March 13, 2014, at the hour of 10:30 a.m. in the offices of Botto Gilbert Gehris Lancaster, 970 McHenry Avenue, Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:

P.I.N. 09-06-479-016, 09-06-479-013,
09-06-479-014.

Commonly known as 5207 BONG
STREET, WONDER LAKE, IL 60997.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the pur-

chaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the premises after confirmation of the sale.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://service.atty-pierce.com>. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only. Pierce & Associates, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Tel. No. (312) 476-5500. Refer to File Number 1300533.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122
1587807

(Published in the McHenry County News
Jan. 30, Feb. 6 & 13, 2014)
149614

Pierce & Associates
File Number # 1108164

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT MC HENRY
COUNTY, WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC
Plaintiff,

vs.
CHRISTOPHER N. PROBERTS; DEBO-
RA PROBERTS A/K/A DEBBIE PROB-
ERTS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON
RECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,

11 CH 1125

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO
JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE LAW

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause on December 13, 2013, Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, March 20, 2014, at the hour of 10:30 a.m. in the offices of Botto Gilbert Gehris Lancaster, 970 McHenry Avenue, Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:

P.I.N. 17-29-154-002.

Commonly known as 10342 OAK
RIDGE ROAD, MARENGO, IL 60152.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the premises after confirmation of the sale.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://service.atty-pierce.com>. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only. Pierce & Associates, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Tel. No. (312) 476-5500. Refer to File Number 1108164.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122
1589845

(Published in the McHenry County News
Feb. 13, 20 & 27, 2014)
150886

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