

PRESS PACKET: AUGUST 1 – 31, 2024

5 Things to Do: Ride bikes in Crystal Lake and party with dogs in Huntley; Northwest Herald; 8/5/24

<https://www.shawlocal.com/thescene/2024/08/01/5-things-to-do-ride-bikes-in-crystal-lake-and-party-with-dogs-in-huntley/>

Here are five things to do this weekend:

Check out cars: Stop by McHenry County College's parking lot F, at 8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday for the sixth annual Freemasons Car Show. The car show welcomes all makes and models and will award more than 50 trophies to winners in categories such as Best in Show, Kids' Choice and Modern Muscle. Enjoy food trucks, a DJ and raffles at the show. The event is free for spectators and \$20 to enter a car. Get more information on the car show here: bit.ly/46vxwVV.

Pawfest: Animal House's annual Pawfest will be from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Deicke Park, 11419 Route 47 in Huntley. Vendors and crafters will be at the fest along with live music, food trucks, a face-painter and a dunk tank. Games and raffles also will be at the free event. Meet adoptable dogs from the Animal House shelter and get low-cost vaccines and microchips for your pets. All dogs must be leashed at all times at the event. Get more details on Pawfest here: animalhouseshelter.com/pawfest.

Brew Fest: Mackey's Hideout in McHenry will be hosting a Brew Fest from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday. Try more than 90 beers and nonalcoholic options from over 20 breweries at the bar located at 2601 S. River Road. A live music performance by Turk & Richter also will be at the fest. General admission tickets are \$60, and designated driver tickets are \$20. Here's where you can get more info about Brew Fest: bit.ly.MackeyesBrewFest2024.

Bike at night: Take a summer nighttime bicycle ride starting at 8:30 p.m. Saturday during the Raue Center for the Arts Night Owl Bike Ride. The 20-mile and 10-mile routes start in the Crystal Lake City Hall parking lot and cover most of Crystal Lake via bike routes, lanes and paths, starting and ending at 100 W. Woodstock St. Helmets, lights and reflectors are mandatory. Tickets are \$15 for children ages 12 and younger and \$35 for everyone else. Get information about Raue's Night Owl Bike Ride or register here: raceroster.com/events/2024/85921/raue-centers-night-owl-bike-ride.

Bike Huntley: Gear up for Bike Huntley 2024 starting at 10 a.m. Sunday at the Huntley Town Square, 11704 Coral St. Bike patrol officers will lead cyclists through biking paths and parks in an 8.5-mile ride and finish with a picnic at the Huntley Town Square. The event is free, and registration is mandatory. More information on Bike Huntley is available at the village's website: huntley.il.us/residents/bike_huntley.php.

Would you like your event highlighted in this weekly feature? The first step is submitting your events to the Northwest Herald's community calendar at shawlocal.com/northwest-herald/local-events.

MCC's new University Center brings NIU, SIU, Roosevelt and Aurora together under one roof in Woodstock; Northwest Herald; 8/2/24

<https://www.shawlocal.com/northwest-herald/2024/08/02/mccs-new-university-center-brings-niu-siu-roosevelt-and-aurora-together-under-one-roof-in-woodstock/>

Classes are about to begin at McHenry County College's brand-new University Center in downtown Woodstock.

The space offers students a chance to take courses and complete four-year and graduate degrees from Roosevelt University, Aurora University, Northern Illinois University or Southern Illinois University without needing to commute to campus or spend on room and board.

The degrees to be offered from Roosevelt through the University Center include: criminal justice, graphic design and bachelor's degrees in finance, human resource management, master's in business administration and marketing with accelerated MBA options in those three fields.

Aurora University will be offering degrees in elementary education, nursing, social work, master's of arts in education, master's in social work and education endorsements, which are qualifications to teach specific subjects.

Northern Illinois is offering degrees in business administration, computer science, early childhood education, psychology and public health.

Southern Illinois' offerings in Woodstock will be in accounting and industrial management and applied engineering degrees.

Classes in the center will be hybrid, according to the MCC website.

The University Center won't be offering McHenry County College classes, but will provide a convenient means for MCC grads and others to continue their education locally and pursue four-year or advanced degrees from the partner schools.

MCC President Clint Gabbard thanked trustees and donors, among others, during his remarks at a ribbon-cutting ceremony Thursday. He said the partner universities "believe in the democratization" of education.

"Bachelor's degrees change our communities," Gabbard said.

"So often, students have the drive and talent to continue their education but are fastened too closely to a place – a job they can't afford to leave, family that they support, a lack of transportation," the MCC president said in separate news release. "Thankfully, our four partner universities have chosen to extend their institutional boundaries beyond their beautiful campuses and join us in bringing their world-class education to McHenry County. They are champions of our students' best dreams and hopes; they are collaborators in bringing further, higher educational attainment right to our doorstep."

College officials announced during the ceremony that the building will be known as the Catalyst Campus. The University Center will be in the building, which also has space for other MCC programs including the Small Business Development Center.

There's still time to enroll in fall 2024 classes, Executive Director Kailley Harmon said, adding that it's never too early to connect with the center. MCC's fall semester begins Aug. 19.

"We're willing to help everyone," Harmon said.

McHenry County's University Center is not the first in the region – Lake County has a similar setup on the campus of the College of Lake County in Grayslake. Lake County's University Center offers degrees from 12 universities.

The Woodstock building has served as a satellite campus for Aurora University and a Challenger Learning Center over the years, but now is home to university programming. The building had been home to Aurora University programming since 2009.

"AU is proud to have provided educational opportunities to students at the Woodstock Center since 2009. We are honored to be a founding partner in this exciting new initiative with MCC and look forward to building our legacy of academic excellence in the region," John Ammons, then-chair Aurora University's Board of Trustees, said in the initial news release.

The McHenry County College Board of Trustees approved purchasing the building from Aurora University in March 2023. A promissory note on the McHenry County College website indicates a cost of \$1.4 million. The purchase of the building and its additional renovation costs were funded by MCC with the help of several private philanthropic gifts, officials said.

In April 2023, MCC announced Northern Illinois was joining the venture. MCC is "one of NIU's largest feeder institutions," according to a news release.

"We're proud to support McHenry County College in its efforts to remove the sometimes-overwhelming barrier of having to commute or relocate to pursue a bachelor's degree," NIU President Lisa C. Freeman said in the release. "This partnership leverages the advantages and expertise of both of our institutions. We are excited about bringing high-demand NIU courses to place-bound learners who can't easily travel to DeKalb for classes because of work and family obligations."

In May 2023, SIU signed on.

"Being part of McHenry County College's University Center fits into Southern Illinois University Carbondale's commitment to expanding access to a bachelor's degree by providing seamless pathways, especially for students with limited options. In fact, it's part of our strategic plan, Imagine 2030. We understand that not all students can relocate to Carbondale, so we are bringing the expertise of a research doctoral university to them," SIU Chancellor Austin A. Lane said in a statement Thursday.

"MCC is already a partner institution with Saluki Step Ahead, which allows their graduates to earn bachelor's degrees online at a lower cost in select programs," according to the SIU statement. "As we celebrate today's grand opening, we are excited that MCC alumni and local community members have more opportunities, and we look forward to welcoming more students in McHenry County to the Saluki family."

Roosevelt University joined the center in October 2023, according to a news release.

"We're thrilled to collaborate with McHenry County College and expand the accessibility of a Roosevelt University education to those living in northwest Chicagoland," University President Ali Malekzadeh said in the release. "We understand that every student's timeline and living circumstances are different, and we want to combine the resources of our two institutions to offer them a flexible college experience."

The university center will also host some programming from the Shah Center in McHenry as part of the Catalyst campus. The Shah Center recently closed, McHenry County College spokesperson Christina Haggerty said Thursday.

Kim Keefe, a Woodstock resident and MCC alum, was in attendance at the grand opening.

Keefe was excited about the center and wished an option like it was available sooner.

"I'm so excited I want to go back to school too," Keefe said.

Why Aqua Illinois is building a second water treatment plant in Hawthorn Woods; Daily Herald; 8/2/24

<https://www.dailyherald.com/20240802/business/why-aqua-illinois-is-building-a-second-water-treatment-plant-in-hawthorn-woods/>

Water system operator Aqua Illinois, which has had past issues involving customer outages, is building a second water treatment plant in Hawthorn Woods to ensure reliability of the system.

'We need answers': State launches informal investigation as final boil-water order is lifted

Construction began in mid-July on the new plant to increase the system capacity from 1.12 million to 2 million gallons per day.

"In systems like Hawthorn Woods, a significant leak, coupled with normal usage can strain the water supply beyond its capacity," said Areca Van Mill, regional communication specialist.

"By nearly doubling the water supply capacity, the system will be better equipped to handle both normal usage and potential water losses in the event of a main break, enhancing its overall reliability," she added.

A 2,250-square-foot building to house ion exchange water filtration equipment to treat groundwater and an interconnection to the Hawthorn Woods water system is part of the \$5 million infrastructure investment, according to Aqua.

The plant is being built near the current water storage tank on Schwerman Road and is expected to be in service no later than February. Operations will be enhanced and meet a commitment to provide "quality, reliable drinking water solutions to customers," the company says.

Whether that will resolve issues in that area remains to be seen and the work commences as Aqua seeks approval from the Illinois Commerce Commission for a rate hike.

Customers and the Citizens Utility Board panned the increase estimated at about \$30 per month including this past Monday at a public forum at McHenry County College in Crystal Lake.

Attendees complained of service interruptions and of discolored water.

"It's just unfair," said Frank Pontrelli of Lakemoor. "We're just getting browbeat here. Money's getting taken and the water is still orange."

Aqua provides water and wastewater service to about 277,000 people in 14 counties throughout Illinois. In Lake County, Aqua provides water to 1,200 customers in and around Hawthorn Woods. About 300 of those in the Glennshire and Forest Lake subdivisions are serviced by Aqua under contract with Lake County.

The system has experienced service interruptions and boil orders in recent years including a system failure over nine days in July 2023. That inconvenienced 1,200 customers and left hundreds of homes and businesses in southern Lake County without drinkable water for days.

Aqua apologized and admitted mistakes promising better communication with customers and other changes.

On July 21, a precautionary boil order for customers in Hawthorn Woods and parts of Lake County was issued due to a water main break. That was fixed quickly and the order lifted the next day.

“In 31 years of living in Buffalo Grove, I only had one boil order,” Susan Bauer, who moved to Hawthorn Woods four years ago, said during Monday’s public comments. “Furthermore, my bills were nothing compared to what I’m paying now. My friends who still live in Buffalo Grove, they pay half of what I pay.”

Jim Chilsen, CUB’s communications director, said Aqua’s parent has made more than \$960 million in profits over the last two years and is trying to secure “an obscene profit rate” for shareholders with a \$30 a month increase.

“What’s become apparent in statements by frustrated Aqua customers who call our hotline or who attended the public forums is that customers have little faith in the company providing reliable, clean water at a reasonable price. And who can blame them?” he said. “We all need clean, affordable water — it’s a necessity but Aqua is using it as a tool for profit.”

Aqua said it’s committed to delivering reliable water to customers across the state and has spent millions in infrastructure enhancements over the past six and a half years without raising increasing rates.

“These increased rates are part of the solution to reduce the potential for outages to ensure our customers receive the reliable drinking and wastewater services they deserve,” according to a company statement.

The Illinois Commerce Commission is expected to rule on Aqua’s case by the end of the year.

In a separate but related matter, Lake County public works is working on a project that would bring Lake Michigan water to Countryside Lake, Forest Lake and Glennshire subdivisions by building an interconnecting system.

That project is in the early stage but supports the county’s strategic plan to connect more households to Lake Michigan water, officials said.

Finding a funding source will be the major hurdle to address in coming years.

“Getting away from a corporation controlling a public utility is generally a good idea,” Lake County Board member John Wasik said last week during a discussion of the potential project.

- Capitol News Illinois wire services contributed to this report.

National Night Out events start Saturday in McHenry County; Northwest Herald; 8/3/24

<https://www.shawlocal.com/northwest-herald/2024/08/03/national-night-out-events-start-saturday-in-mchenry-county/>

Meet local officers, enjoy family-friendly activities and promote community ties at National Night Out events taking place in the coming days in the McHenry County area.

Algonquin

6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, in Old Town, Main Street and Plaza, Algonquin. Includes live police dog demo, activities with the Algonquin Police Department, giveaways, treats and music from HiFi Superstar at 7:30 p.m.

Carpentersville

5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at Carpenter Park, 275 Maple Ave., Carpentersville. Meet with your neighbors and local emergency responders at this annual event hosted by Carpentersville, East Dundee, Sleepy Hollow and West Dundee police departments, as well as the village of Carpentersville and Dundee Township Park District.

Cary

The Cary Police Department and the Cary Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association will host the 2024 National Night Out event starting at 6:30 p.m. and concluding with a fireworks sendoff at 9:15 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8, at the Cary Municipal Center, 755 Georgetown Drive.

Residents have the opportunity to meet their local first responders and see a display of emergency vehicle, public works trucks and a LifeNet helicopter. Also offered will be tours of the police department, a police drone presentation, a dunk tank with a chance to dunk the deputy chief, games, inflatables, a free raffle for a new bicycle and more.

Food trucks and carts with fare to purchase will be available in the Kaper Park parking lot, located directly south of the police department on Georgetown Drive.

Crystal Lake

The Crystal Lake Police Department hosts National Night Out from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8, downtown.

Meet local officers, enjoy fun activities for all ages and strengthen community ties. Highlights include a face painter and balloon artist sponsored by Farmers Market+ at the Dole; touch a truck with the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department, McHenry County Sheriff's Office, Crystal Lake Park District and McHenry County College; a dunk tank sponsored by Ed's Rental & Sales Inc.; music and entertainment; handprints on a squad car; a T-shirt giveaway while supplies last, courtesy of Eby Graphics and Ultra Strobe; a K-9 demonstration with Zeus; and giveaways from local businesses and organizations.

Fox Lake

3 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at the Community Garden Green, 17 E. School Court, Fox Lake. In partnership with Fox Lake Farmers Market vendors, see a variety of police, fire and public works vehicles, with games and activities for kids.

Harvard

The Harvard Police Department-hosted event takes place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6 at the Harvard Moose Lodge, 22500 Route 173, a free event featuring food, activities and more.

Huntley

Huntley's National Night Out observance starts with a softball game between police and fire department personnel at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at Veterans Memorial Field in Del Webb.

An evening gathering takes place from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday on Main Street in Town Square, where residents can meet officers, firefighters and neighbors and enjoy a night of family-friendly fun. See district vehicles and equipment, and stick around for the Concert in the Park featuring Hi Infidelity.

As part of the National Night Out campaign, the Huntley Police Department encourages all residents to turn on outside lights and asks them to go outside and meet their neighbors.

Lake in the Hills

The Lake in the Hills Police Department will hold its biggest National Night Out community cookout to date from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, at the Irv Floress Safety Education Center, 1109 Crystal Lake Road.

This free community event will include hot dogs, chips, soda and water. Lake in the Hills police officers, public works personnel, parks and recreation employees, village officials, firefighters and more community partners will be in attendance.

A live K-9 unit demonstration from the McHenry County Sheriff's Office will be at 11:30 a.m., the Chicago Highlanders Pipes and Drums band will perform at noon, and the LifeNet Air Medical helicopter will land at 12:45 p.m. Activities for children will be hosted by the Parks and Recreation Department and Algonquin Area Public Library, with sensory-inclusive activities from Options and Advocacy.

The event also will feature touch-a-truck with various types of police, fire, SWAT, public works and specialty equipment from Flood Brothers, and the police department will host its second annual "Name a Plow" voting contest.

McHenry

The McHenry County Sheriff's Office, McHenry County Conservation District Police and the police departments of McHenry and Johnsburg will host National Night Out from 5 to 8 p.m. Aug. 6 at Petersen Park in McHenry.

The event includes games, face-painting, K-9 and motorcycle demonstrations, food and family fun.

Prairie Grove

5 to 7 p.m. at Village Hall Park, 3125 Barreville Road. Meet officers, enjoy offerings from food trucks Sandie Dogs & Kona Ice, and more.

Wauconda

5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at Main Street Wauconda, 101 N. Main St., Wauconda. Join the Wauconda Police Department and other community organizations for a family night out.

Woodstock

The city will host its event from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at Woodstock Water Works, 1313 Kishwaukee Valley Road. All attendees will receive free entry to the pool, food and music. Outside of the pool will be a display of city vehicles, emergency vehicles and more. This event is put on by the Woodstock Police Department and is "intended to build positive community relationships with the fine citizens of Woodstock," the department said.

MCC's new University Center brings NIU, SIU, Roosevelt and Aurora together under one roof in Woodstock; Daily Herald; 8/4/24

<https://www.dailyherald.com/20240804/education/mccs-new-university-center-brings-niu-siu-roosevelt-and-aurora-together-under-one-roof-in-woodsto/>

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McHenry County’s University Center is not the first in the region: The College of Lake County’s University Center offers degrees from 12 universities.

Traffic School Moves to Woodstock; McHenry Circuit Clerk Website; 8/6/24

<https://www.mchenrycircuitclerk.org/blog/2024/08/06/traffic-school-moves-to-woodstock/>

McHenry County College has moved all Traffic Safety School classes to its new location in Woodstock effective immediately. University Center at McHenry County College is located at 222 East Church Street, Woodstock, IL 60098. The University Center is an easy walk from the Woodstock train station, which can be reached on the Metra Union Pacific Northwest (UP-NW) line. All Traffic School contact information remains the same, (815) 479-7777 or MCCTSS@mchenry.edu

William Kent Krueger Author Event; WNIJ; 8/6/24

<https://www.northernpublicradio.org/community-calendar/event/william-kent-krueger-author-event-06-08-2024-17-31-37>

A coalition of McHenry County public libraries are pleased to host William Kent Krueger at the Luecht Auditorium at McHenry County College. Krueger is the author of 24 books, including the popular Cork O’Connor mystery series. He will discuss his latest books, *The River We Remember* and *Spirit Crossing*. Copies of *The River We Remember*, *Spirit Crossing* and his other titles will be available for purchase and signing at the event thanks to Read Between the Lynes bookstore of Woodstock.

This author event is part of the McHenry County Libraries - Let's All Read Together community reading program. County residents are encouraged to come together in a shared reading experience and meet the author. Krueger’s recent novel, *The River We Remember* is a spellbinding mystery and a masterful portrait of mid-century American life. His latest book, *Spirit Crossing*, puts Cork O’Connor’s family in the

crosshairs of a killer (#-20 in this popular series.) Copies of the books are available to borrow. Log in to your account on PrairieCat to place a hold on a book, or ask a staff member.

The author will be interviewed by Heidi Stevens, who wrote a daily column for the Chicago Tribune called "Balancing Act" for many years. Heidi Stevens is the Director of External Affairs at the TMW Center for Early Learning + Public Health, a translational research institute at the University of Chicago. She worked for 23 years as a writer and editor at the Chicago Tribune.

This event is sponsored by Algonquin Area Public Library, Cary Area Public Library, Crystal Lake Public Library, Fox River Grove Memorial Library, Harvard Diggins Library, Huntley Area Public Library, Johnsburg Public Library, Marengo-Union District Library, McHenry Public Library District, Nippersink Public Library District and Woodstock Public Library. There are a limited number of tickets available to reserve with your local library or at www.harvard-diggins.org/events.

McHenry County College

02:00 PM - 03:00 PM on Sun, 8 Sep 2024

Get Tickets

Event Supported By

Harvard Diggins Library

815-943-4671

adultservices@harvard-diggins.org

www.harvard-diggins.org

Artist Group Info

William Kent Krueger

<https://williamkentkrueger.com/>

Farm Tour Highlights Latino Agriculture in McHenry County; Crystal Lake-Cary Patch; 8/7/24

<https://patch.com/illinois/crystallake/farm-tour-highlights-latino-agriculture-mchenry-county>

Raices Latinas, a nonprofit coalition dedicated to promoting the agricultural contributions of Latino/Latine community in McHenry County, will host its second farm tour from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27.

The public is invited to tour Rancho El Pitayo at 21909 Grange Road in Marengo, just west of Route 23 and north of the tollway. Owners Antonio Delgado and his wife, Mary Witt, as well as family members, will guide guests on a tour of their farm during this free, bilingual event. Antonio will share his experiences as a Latino farm owner in McHenry County – as well as some handmade tortillas!

The couple, which also owns and operates Isabel's Family Restaurant in Woodstock, purchased the 20-acre farm in 1994. The majority is planted in hay. However, over 5 acres is dedicated to a variety of fruits and vegetables – many of which they use at their restaurant.

Crops include tomatoes, potatoes, zucchini, 10 varieties of peppers, onions, garlic, Mexican corn, broom corn, guava, figs, apples and a variety of herbs that include Mexican papalo and epazote.

Participants are encouraged to arrive close to 5:30 p.m. to secure on-site parking before the tour begins at 6:00 p.m. No registration is required for this family event, which also will include refreshments. For information, email info@raiceslatinasmc.org or visit RaicesLatinasMC.org.

Raices Latinas: Agriculture in McHenry County is funded by a grant from The Community Foundation for McHenry County. It is overseen by a coalition of six partnering organizations including the Illinois Migrant Council, the Farmworker & Landscaper Advocacy Project, the Land Conservancy of McHenry County, Mano a Mano Family Resource Center, the Center for Agrarian Learning at McHenry County College and the McHenry County Historical Society.

Gardening resources, an interview with Brenda Dahlfors; My Sunday News; 8/8/24

<https://www.mysundaynews.com/2024/08/08/gardening-resources-an-interview-with-brenda-dahlfors/>

Successful gardeners rely on all sorts of support. Personal experiences, friendly advice, research orientated books, plant-based events, and horticulture programs all can assist homeowners as they live and learn while trying to grow vegetables, flowers and shrubs. For 114 years, Illinois residents have benefited from the research and education of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's Extension programs. In 2022, their programs attracted over seven hundred thousand attendees resulting in participants who learned about topics such as consumer economics, food nutrition, family life and horticulture. The staff at the Illinois Extension office Serving Lake and McHenry Counties work diligently to enrich the lives of all that live Northern Illinois. The office itself is a tremendous asset to our area. Brenda Dahlfors, the McHenry County Horticulture Program Coordinator has agreed to answer a few questions for this column.

Brenda, can you please tell us more about your position at Illinois Extension?

Absolutely! I coordinate the approximately 150 volunteers who make up the Master Gardener program in McHenry County. I also coordinate the Master Naturalist program and those volunteers.

What is the Master Gardener program?

Master Gardeners are adult volunteers with a passion for plants and gardening who are trained by the University to give research based and unbiased information related to all things gardening – plants indoor and out, insects, diseases, lawns, trees and shrubs. The mission is "Helping Others Learn to Grow."

Master Gardeners often volunteer their time helping others. What services do those volunteers provide?

There is a helpline where people can call, walk in and/or email questions, we have a demonstration garden on the grounds of McHenry County College, there are several food pantry gardens located around the county, we provide mentors/programs at several schools and we host four events throughout the year – The Great Seed Event, Gardenfest, Garden Walk, and Farm Stroll. The Farm Stroll is coming up next – September 29.

What types of questions are master gardeners available to answer?

Anything garden-related. We don't know it all but we can do the research and get back to you.

I am not familiar with the Master Naturalist program. Can you tell us a bit more about that program?

The program has been around Illinois for quite a while, but we only introduced it to McHenry County last fall. The program educates and trains adult volunteers so they are better equipped to share natural resource information with others in their communities and to assist with environmental conservation and restoration activities.

How do you recommend area gardeners connect with the Illinois Extension office that serves Lake and McHenry Counties?

There are multiple ways...stop by 1102 McConnell Rd in Woodstock – I'm here on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, email us uiemg-mchenry@illinois.edu , or call 815-338-3737. We have two email lists people can get on – one is just for reminding people when our 4 events are coming up, and one for people who are interested in getting involved in the program. Anyone can email me directly to request getting on one or both of those lists: dahlfors@illinois.edu .

The Demo garden is said to be a hidden gem in McHenry County. Where is this garden located and what makes it so special?

It is, isn't it? It is on McHenry County College's campus, just off parking lot C, behind Liebman Science Center. It is always the starting point for our July GardenWalk. The garden is meant to demonstrate what we can (and can't!) grow well here. It is ever-changing. We try to keep everything well labeled. There are 14 beds within the garden showcasing shade plants, peonies, vegetables, ornamental grasses, natives, and theme gardens. There is a little free library and a compost demonstration area that is being developed.

I believe that you assist in organizing the Farm Stroll each fall. What is included in that event and who do you recommend consider attending?

The Farm Stroll is a collaboration between our local food system and small farm educator, Sarah Farley, the Farm Bureau, and MCC's Center for Agrarian Learning. The Master Gardeners act as greeters at each

of the 12 family-owned farms. It's free and family-friendly! It's your chance to learn more about McHenry County's agricultural heritage, let the kids see farm animals up close, and to find locally grown fruits/veggies and meats. It's always the last Sunday in September. More information is available through our website. www.mchenrycfb.org

Master Gardeners are also available to answer questions in the Social Lounge at the Prairie Lodge each Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. through August 27. They provide very valuable assistance to Sun City residents.

Kathleen Carr is the owner of The Growing Scene, Inc., a landscaping company. She can be reached by calling 815-923-7322 or emailing her at Kathleen@thegrowingscene.com. Have a gardening question? Please contact her. She may address it in an upcoming column.

SIU Carbondale is part of McHenry County College's University Center; SIU News; 8/8/24

<https://news.siu.edu/2024/08/080824-siu-carbondale-is-part-of-mchenry-county-colleges-university-center.php>

Chancellor Austin Lane, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Sheryl Tucker and Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management Wendell Williams joined MCC President Clint Gabbard and others to help welcome the University Center at McHenry County College (MCC) in Woodstock at a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony on Aug. 1.

The University Center at MCC provides local students with the opportunity to earn a bachelor's or advanced degree close to home. Students can choose programs from some of the leading institutions in Illinois, including Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

"We are delighted to work with Dr. Gabbard and his team at McHenry County College to provide place-bound students a seamless pathway to a Southern Illinois University Carbondale bachelor's degree," Lane said. "Our collaboration with MCC fits well with our university's Imagine 2030 strategic plan and its pillars of student success and partnerships."

Student body in McHenry County universities comprised mostly of white students in 2022-23 school year; McHenry Times; 8/8/24

<https://mchenrytimes.com/stories/662361716-student-body-in-mchenry-county-universities-comprised-mostly-of-white-students-in-2022-23-school-year>

White students were the most represented ethnicity among students at McHenry County universities in the 2022-23 school year, according to the latest disclosure from the National Center for Education Statistics.

Of the 9,507 students attending institutions in the county at the time, 61.7% were white. This is an increase of 1.9% in enrollment numbers, compared to the previous year.

Hispanic students comprised the second largest ethnic group in the county, followed by Asian students.

Countywide, the number of undergraduates attending the three universities in the county during the 2022-23 school year grew by 0.2%. McHenry County College reported the largest student body, with 8,874 students.

Graduation rates reveal a significant achievement gap among different ethnicities. While white students graduate at a rate of 62.1%, Black and Hispanic students graduate at a rate of around 40%.

Students' Ethnicity Percentage in McHenry County Universities in 2022-23 School Year

Ethnic Group	% of Total Student Body
White	61.7%
Hispanic	26.9%
Asian	3%
Multiracial	2.9%
Unknown	2.8%
Black or African American	2.7%

Author William Kent Krueger Book Signing; Shaw Media Event Listing

https://www.shawlocal.com/northwest-herald/local-events/?_ev_id=22354442a_free_skate_6#!/details/author-william-kent-krueger-book-signing/13955307/2024-09-08T14

Sunday, September 08, 2024 , 2:00pm-3:00pm

Location

McHenry County College

8900 Us Highway 14

Crystal Lake, IL

(815) 455-3700

Free—Registration required

Description

A coalition of McHenry County public libraries are pleased to host William Kent Krueger at the Luecht Auditorium at McHenry County College. Krueger is the author of 24 books, including the popular Cork O'Connor mystery series. He will discuss his latest books, *The River We Remember* and *Spirit Crossing*. Copies of *The River We Remember*, *Spirit Crossing* and his other titles will be available for purchase and signing at the event thanks to Read Between the Lines bookstore of Woodstock.

This author event is part of the McHenry County Libraries - Let's All Read Together community reading program. County residents are encouraged to come together in a shared reading experience and meet the author. Krueger's recent novel, *The River We Remember* is a spellbinding mystery and a masterful portrait of mid-century American life. His latest book, *Spirit Crossing*, puts Cork O'Connor's family in the crosshairs of a killer (#-20 in this popular series.) Copies of the books are available to borrow. Log in to your account on PrairieCat to place a hold on a book, or ask a staff member.

The author will be interviewed by Heidi Stevens, who wrote a daily column for the Chicago Tribune called "Balancing Act" for many years. Heidi Stevens is the Director of External Affairs at the TMW Center for Early Learning + Public Health, a translational research institute at the University of Chicago. She worked for 23 years as a writer and editor at the Chicago Tribune.

This event is sponsored by Algonquin Area Public Library, Cary Area Public Library, Crystal Lake Public Library, Fox River Grove Memorial Library, Harvard Diggins Library, Huntley Area Public Library, Johnsburg Public Library, Marengo-Union District Library, McHenry Public Library District, Nippersink Public Library District and Woodstock Public Library. There are a limited number of tickets available to reserve at www.harvard-diggins.org/events.

Event Contact

Harvard Diggins Library

Leticia

adultservices@harvard-diggins.org

815-943-4671

Home and garden calendar, Aug. 18-24; Daily Herald; 8/13/24

<https://www.dailyherald.com/20240813/home-and-garden/home-and-garden-calendar-aug-18-24/>

Aug. 20

Native Seed Collection for the Home Gardener: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, at McHenry County College, 8900 U.S. Highway 14, Crystal Lake. Join Sarah Michehl from The Land Conservancy of McHenry County for tips and tricks on how to collect your native plant seeds. She will cover basic seed identification, collection methods and timelines, and tips on how to direct sow your seeds. \$15. For information, conservemc.org.

Turning Point domestic violence organization announces new executive director; Northwest Herald; 8/14/24

<https://www.shawlocal.com/northwest-herald/2024/08/14/turning-point-domestic-violence-organization-announces-new-executive-director/>

Turning Point Domestic Violence Services has announced the appointment of Mary Margaret Maule as its new executive director.

Maule, who began in her new role in August, brings more than 30 years of experience and leadership to Turning Point, having previously worked at its interim executive director. She brings an extensive background in McHenry County to the position, including work as president of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce, program manager at the United Way of McHenry County and director of the Illinois Small Business Development Center at McHenry County College.

As executive director, Maule will oversee the agency, its staff, emergency and preventive programs, and services and mission alignment, according to a news release from Turning Point.

Based in Woodstock, Turning Point's programs include emergency shelter, legal advocacy, outreach and prevention, trauma-based mental health services, children's services, nurturing parent programs, and bilingual and bicultural services.

MCC art galleries welcome two new exhibits in August; The Woodstock Independent; 8/15/24

<https://www.thewoodstockindependent.com/2024/08/mcc-art-galleries-welcome-two-new-exhibits-in-august/>

Works by Christine Forni and Ginny Krueger are featured Staff Report news@thewoodstockindependent.com McHenry County College will be hosting two unique art exhibits now through Sept. 13 in Galleries One and [...article restricted by paywall]

McHenry County Water Forum set for Sept. 18; Northwest Herald; 8/19/24

<https://www.shawlocal.com/northwest-herald/2024/08/19/mchenry-county-water-forum-set-for-sept-18/>

The McHenry County Department of Planning and Development invites the public and policymakers to learn more about the county's water supply from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, during the seventh annual McHenry County Water Forum at McHenry County College's Luecht Auditorium, 8900 U.S. Highway 14 in Crystal Lake.

The forum's theme is "Stormwater: Water Quality, Flooding, Land Use and Resiliency in McHenry County." It will feature presentations from Illinois State climatologist Trent Ford, McHenry/Lake Soil and Water Conservation District urban conservation specialist Ryan Bieber and McHenry County water resource specialist Scott Kuykendall.

The event is free and open to the public and will include free catered food from Duke's Alehouse and Kitchen. No registration is required.

For information, visit the McHenry County Water Resources Division website at mchenryh20.com.

Raices Latinas Farm Tour to Highlight Latino Agriculture in McHenry County; Morning Ag Clips; 8/22/24

<https://www.morningagclips.com/raices-latinas-farm-tour-to-highlight-latino-agriculture-in-mchenry-county/>

MARENGO, Ill. — Raices Latinas, a nonprofit coalition dedicated to promoting the agricultural contributions of Latino/Latine community in McHenry County, will host its second farm tour from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27.

The public is invited to tour Rancho El Pitayo at 21909 Grange Road in Marengo, just west of Route 23 and north of the tollway. Owners Antonio Delgado and his wife, Mary Witt, as well as family members, will guide guests on a tour of their farm during this free, bilingual event. Antonio will share his experiences as a Latino farm owner in McHenry County – as well as some handmade tortillas.

The couple, which also owns and operates Isabel’s Family Restaurant in Woodstock, purchased the 20-acre farm in 1994. The majority is planted in hay. However, over 5 acres is dedicated to a variety of fruits and vegetables – many of which they use at their restaurant.

Crops include tomatoes, potatoes, zucchini, 10 varieties of peppers, onions, garlic, Mexican corn, broom corn, guava, figs, apples and a variety of herbs that include Mexican papalo and epazote.

Participants are encouraged to arrive close to 5:30 p.m. to secure on-site parking before the tour begins at 6 p.m. No registration is required for this family event, which also will include refreshments. For information, email info@raiceslatinasmc.org or visit RaicesLatinasMC.org.

Raices Latinas: Agriculture in McHenry County is funded by a grant from The Community Foundation for McHenry County. It is overseen by a coalition of six partnering organizations including the Illinois Migrant Council, the Farmworker & Landscaper Advocacy Project, the Land Conservancy of McHenry County, Mano a Mano Family Resource Center, the Center for Agrarian Learning at McHenry County College and the McHenry County Historical Society.

— Land Conservancy of McHenry County

Home and garden calendar, Aug. 25-Sept. 5; Daily Herald; 8/20/24

<https://www.dailyherald.com/20240820/home-and-garden/home-and-garden-calendar-aug-25-sept-5/>

Sunday Garden Series: 1 p.m. Sunday, June 28, at McHenry County College Demo Garden, 8900 Highway 14, Crystal Lake. Join for the “Sunday Series” of free talks in the Demonstration Garden, just off parking lot C. Each topic is presented by a different Master Gardener. Topics include: Aug. 25: Seed Saving; and Sept. 22: Herbs. (815) 338-3737 or extension.illinois.edu.

Health department issues warning about increase in overdose deaths, non-fatal overdoses in McHenry County; Lake and McHenry County Scanner; 8/25/24

<https://www.lakemchenryscanner.com/2024/08/25/health-department-issues-warning-about-increase-in-overdose-deaths-non-fatal-overdoses-in-mchenry-county/>

The health department has issued a warning to the public after recently identifying an increase in suspected overdose deaths and non-fatal overdoses in McHenry County.

The McHenry County Department of Health (MCDH) said Friday there has been an increase in deaths, suspected from overdoses, in the county, as well as non-fatal opioid overdoses.

The department did not provide specific numbers but said the increase was seen over the last three weeks.

Health officials say the deaths have not been confirmed as opioid-related yet but most overdose deaths in McHenry County are caused by opioids, most often fentanyl, a potent synthetic opioid.

Fentanyl, which is highly lethal, is becoming more common in illicit drugs.

The health department said fentanyl is often found in counterfeit pills, even those sold as “legitimate prescription medications” obtained unlawfully.

“MCDH and its partners want everyone to remain safe and ensure they have the supplies they need,” the department said.

Fentanyl test strips, which can be used to detect fentanyl in all types of drugs, can help prevent an overdose.

Naloxone, also referred to as Narcan, can help reverse an overdose.

Fentanyl test strips and Narcan are available for free from the health department at their Crystal Lake and Woodstock offices. Those interested can call 815-334-4500.

Supplies are also available for free at MCDH Narcan vending machines located at The Other Side Café and Sober Bar in Crystal Lake, McHenry County College cafeteria in Crystal Lake, Community Health Partnership in Harvard and Family Center of McHenry County in McHenry.

Supplies are also available from Live4Lali, Warp Corps, The Break Crystal Lake Teen Center and A Way Out McHenry County.

The McHenry County Substance Awareness Coalition (SAC) provides resources to individuals and families in McHenry County to mobilize the community to build a unified focus and empower residents to participate in substance awareness.

The McHenry County SAC holds a public meeting on the fourth Monday of every month from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the McHenry County Mental Health Board, 620 Dakota Street in Crystal Lake, to address identified substance awareness issues in the county. The next meeting is Monday.

Paladins of Poetry anniversary event nears in Crystal Lake; Northwest Herald; 8/27/24

<https://www.shawlocal.com/thescene/2024/08/27/paladins-of-poetry-anniversary-event-nears-in-crystal-lake/>

For Crystal Lake resident Joe Calvillo, poetry is the “essence of life itself. Poetry can soothe a broken heart, as well as bring mending to a shattered life. Poetry finds a way to share a new life, as well as note

the final, proper words read for friends lost.” For Calvillo, poetry is in everything he sees, does and believes.

Calvillo is the founder and host of an area poetry group, Paladins of Poetry, a reconstitution of a poetry gathering previously held at the Raue Center in Crystal Lake and the Hidden Pearl Cafe in McHenry. The title Paladin comes from a childhood memory of a television Western, “Have Gun Will Travel”; Richard Boone played the main character, who went by the moniker Paladin and lived the vicarious life of a knightly hero. Calvillo states the show was really the beginning of the end to his boyish naivete that cracked open a “worldwide view of things beyond my little neighborhood.”

Currently meeting from 6 to 8:30 p.m. every third Thursday of the month at The Other Side cafe in Crystal Lake, Paladins of Poetry participants believe that, as poets and poetry lovers, they hold the ground for goodwill toward poetry.

To celebrate the first anniversary of these poetry nights in Crystal Lake, a special event called Flair will take place Thursday, Sept. 19. With plans to make that evening as memorable as possible, Flair is sponsored by Summer Moon Coffee, and will run from 7 to 10 p.m. at The Other Side. The doors will open at 6 p.m. for a meet-and-greet opportunity with featured writers and poets. A \$5 donation is requested to attend Flair. There will be a raffle drawing for a \$100 Summer Moon gift certificate (one ticket offered per \$5 donation, five tickets for \$20).

Flair will feature two local published poets, Jessica Walsh and Terry Loncaric, as well as eight poets active in the group in the last 12 months (four have been connected with each other during the last 12 years), who also will present their pieces. Calvillo’s work “Expire,” a multi-voice, collaborative performance with musical accompaniment, will be showcased, too.

Jessica Walsh is a professor of English at Harper College, and has met with wide success. Calvillo states that Walsh has a “Midwestern voice that tells it straight with insightful views that have been forged by life and the Great Lakes.” Her poetry has been labeled both cathartic and refreshing.

Terry Loncaric is a journalist and creative writer. Her poetry also is born from her Midwestern roots, and is filled with the traditions and values of her upbringing. Calvillo says “reading Terry’s poetry is much like viewing a classic Norman Rockwell painting.”

Calvillo is the author of “Azul,” a collection of poems and local artwork, most notably by his wife of 44 years, Emily. “Azul” represents the first night before the sun rises – “a book that explores the outermost areas of the human condition in constant transformation.” It has been eight years since “Azul” first was published, and Calvillo intends to use it as the first segment of a trilogy; his second and third books are in draft mode and set to be completed by the end of the year.

Calvillo has been influenced widely by ’60s poets such as Rod McKuen and the straightforward style of Bob Dylan to the renowned poetry of William Blake, T.S. Eliot, E.E. Cummings and more contemporary poets, such as Mary Oliver, Ocean Vuong and Kai Coggin. Calvillo says all these poets speak straight into his soul, and energize him to keep creating.

Which is a good thing for the community. Having attended several Paladins of Poetry sessions, this is a welcoming, empowering opportunity for poets and artists from high school age to the experienced to share their work. The talent shines and the words flow. Congratulations!

Paladins of Poetry will meet each third Thursday in The Other Side cafe in Crystal Lake.

- Regina Belt-Daniels is celebrating her 10th year of writing theater reviews for Shaw Local News Network. She has acted in and directed more than 40 shows for RCLPC, TownSquare Players, WMTC, Independent Players, McHenry County College's Black Box Theatre, Elgin Theatre, Steel Beam and Raue Center For The Arts.

IF YOU GO

- WHAT: Paladins of Poetry's Flair anniversary celebration
- WHERE: The Other Side cafe, 135 Beardsley St., Crystal Lake
- WHEN: 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19; meet-and-greet event at 6 p.m.
- COST: Donations accepted; each \$5 donation provides a raffle ticket for chance to win a gift certificate
- INFORMATION: 779-220-9843, paladinsofpoetry@myyahoo.com, jacalvillo@yahoo.com

Moraine Valley women's tennis has lofty goals for fall 2024; Palos Patch; 8/28/24

<https://patch.com/illinois/palos/moraine-valley-women-s-tennis-has-lofty-goals-fall-2024>

Moraine Valley Community College women's tennis has a history of conference and region championships, and Head Coach Matt Maruszar wants to do it one more time before he hangs up the racquet.

In his fourth season leading the program, Maruszar has compiled winning records, including a conference and region championship in 2022. He's going back to school and working full time, leaving no more time to coach after this fall season.

"It's bittersweet, and I wish I could coach forever," he said. "But [Assistant Coach] Dave [Souza] and I are excited to go at it one more year, and we have a solid roster."

Having fallen just short last season – taking second in the Illinois Skyway Collegiate Conference and in NJCAA Region 4 – Maruszar bolstered the roster and believes he has the tools to recapture the crowns.

"I think we have a very strong, consistent roster," he noted. "We have a solid first singles player, and I know who I want at No. 2 singles, but it's a toss-up after that because of the talent."

Returning this year are No. 2 doubles region champions and nationals qualifiers Allyson English (Oak Forest) and Maya Morris (Sandburg). "These two champs are back, and they'll be even better. They've improved since last season, and I'm excited to see these two captains at work," Maruszar said.

Some talented incoming recruits include Breanne Schultz (Lockport) and Johann Laran (Sandburg), solid players who have enough chemistry to be dangerous doubles partners.

As always, the team goals are to take the No. 1 spot and return to the national tournament along with defeating McHenry County College, the only team that dealt the Cyclones a loss during the regular

season. It's also important for Marusz that his players learn something, take lessons with them from the season and continue to love tennis.

"I think it's going to be a great season," he said. "We're ready to get started."

The Cyclones open their season at home on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2:45 p.m., against Elgin Community College.

For updates on Cyclones Athletics, visit mvcyclones.com.

MCC offers a sneak peek of its new Foglia CATI center; McHenry County EDC Website; 8/28/24

<https://mchenrycountyedc.com/mcc-offers-a-sneak-peek-of-its-new-foglia-cati-center/>

McHenry County College rolled out the red carpet to give a tour of its new Foglia Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation to economic development officials from across Chicagoland.

The Foglia CATI, as it is called, is expected to open to classes in the coming days. The state-of-the-art center is outfitted with the latest in equipment and technology to train future generations of engineers and skilled tradespeople.

The college hosted a strategy meeting for the Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership, which brings the seven counties of Chicagoland and the City of Chicago together to pool their resources to drive mutual economic development, research and innovation.

Rise Up Music Festival to rock McHenry for a good cause

Three days of rock and country music are coming to Petersen Park in McHenry – and the profits go into community improvement projects.

The Rise Up Music Festival takes place from Sept. 12 to Sept. 14. Rock the Lake, featuring rock music, takes place the first night, with Splash into Country featuring country artists the following two evenings.

McHenry Mayor Wayne Jett and his wife Amber created the Rise Up Foundation to fund city projects that enhance the quality of life. This year, the foundation hopes to raise more than \$400,000 to revitalize the children's play area at Veteran's Park to include ADA accessibility for its toys.

Event tickets and a full concert schedule can be found at riseupmchenry.com.

Mental Health Board holding first-ever loneliness summit

The McHenry County Mental Health Board hopes to raise awareness of the impact of loneliness on mental health through its upcoming Community Connections Summit.

The event takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 13 at the McHenry County College Luecht Auditorium, 8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake.

This inaugural summit is designed to inspire, connect and empower, and includes an inspiring keynote speaker and multiple breakout sessions with various local agencies.

[Click here to register](#), and [click here for a schedule and a list of breakout sessions](#). Attendees can collect 4.5 continuing education unit credits.

Event to raise overdose awareness and honor the lost

Once again, people from across McHenry County will gather on Woodstock Square to observe International Overdose Awareness Day.

The event, taking place from 5 to 7 p.m. this Saturday, remembers those who have lost their lives to substance abuse, honors those in recovery, and raises awareness about the national opioid and overdose epidemics and the fight against them.

Besides food trucks, bracelet making, live music and other entertainment, the event will include guest speakers, resource tables, training on how to administer Narcan to reverse an overdose, and more.

The McHenry County Department of Health has reported an increase in suspected overdose deaths and non-fatal opioid overdoses over the past three weeks. Also in recent weeks, the Coroner's Office has installed a drug disposal bin at the County Government Center in Woodstock; [learn more by clicking here](#).

Upcoming Talk and Tour presentation focuses on trees

The next presentation of the ongoing McHenry County Talk and Tour best management practices series will focus on the importance of trees in urban and suburban planning.

"The Value of Trees in Our Communities" will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. Sept. 13 at Trout Valley Lodge, 1 Howard's Way. The presentation will include a tour of Trout Valley's oak woodlands, and showcase the village's Tree Protection Ordinance.

To learn more and register in advance for the free presentation, [click here](#).

Each Talk and Tour event showcases the environmental and economic benefits of innovative best management practices that have been successfully implemented in our region.

Local breweries serve up Oktoberfest fun

Oktoberfest is coming, and McHenry County's award-winning craft breweries are gearing up to help you celebrate in style.

If a trip to Germany isn't in your plans, you can't go wrong celebrating Oktoberfest right here in McHenry County, with some truly outstanding beer.

If you're looking to celebrate this highest of beer lovers' holidays, visit the Events Calendar for Naturally McHenry County for a lost of local Oktoberfest events – and check out their list of local brewpubs by clicking here.

We hope you found this newsletter informative. If you're not a subscriber, click here to join the McHenry County Government Constant Contact list.

Veterans: Join VAC and MCC Student Veterans of America for Town Hall on September 17!; Northwest Herald; 8/29/24

<https://www.shawlocal.com/northwest-herald/sponsored/2024/08/29/veterans-assistance-commission-183475/>

By Veterans Assistance Commission [sponsored]

On September 17, 2024, the Veterans Assistance Commission (VAC) of McHenry County and the McHenry County College (MCC) Student Veterans of America will co-sponsor a Town Hall meeting, along with the Lovell Federal Health Care Center, to answer questions and offer information about VA Health Care services offered through McHenry's Lovell FHCC Outpatient Clinic to area veterans and their families.

Come at 6:00 p.m. for refreshments in MCC's Bersted Lecture Hall, Room A242, then at 6:30 p.m. the one-hour meeting will be held next door in Room A240. Attendees should park in Lot C, then enter Building A. McHenry County College is located at 8900 U.S. Hwy 14 in Crystal Lake.

Lovell FHCC leaders, including Lovell FHCC Director Dr. Robert Buckley, will answer questions on a variety of topics, including PACT Act updates. The PACT Act provides veterans and their survivors with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve. It expanded eligibility for VA health care for veterans with toxic exposures and for veterans of the Vietnam and Gulf wars, and of the post-9/11 eras. Learn more at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT), or call 800-MyVA411.

"Now that we can host in-person Town Halls again, we are excited to directly talk with our McHenry Community Based Outpatient Clinic patients," Buckley said. "We hope to see a large crowd of veterans – existing patients as well as those who haven't yet signed up for benefits and want to know more."

Representatives from Lovell FHCC Eligibility Office and from the Veterans Benefits Administration will be on hand as well, during and after the Town Hall.

For questions or additional information, please email fhcc.feedback@va.gov, or call 224-610-3132. If you can't attend in person, the event will be recorded and posted at facebook.com/lovellfhcc.

For additional information, please contact:

Veterans Assistance Commission

667 Ware Rd.

Woodstock, IL 60098

Ph: 815-334-4229

www.mchenrycountyil.gov

Jasenovsky earns Player of the Week honors; Daily Press; 8/30/24

<https://www.dailypress.net/sports/local-sports/2024/08/jasenovsky-earns-player-of-the-week-honors/>

ESCANABA – The Bay College Norse Volleyball Team (0-4) opened their season with a challenging schedule on the road. Jade Jasenovsky's play over four matches was recognized as she was awarded the MCCA Defensive Player of the Week for the week of August 19-25.

Jasenovsky (FR, Menominee, Mich.) wore the libero jersey for the Norse in all four matches. Against Lake Land College in the season opener, Jade had nine digs and one assisted block. After adding a pair of digs and an assisted block against Carl Sandburg, she bounced back with a 19 dig, two assisted block effort against McHenry County College. In the weekend finale Jasenovsky added another 19 digs in a match against South Suburban College.

Jasenovsky finished the week with 49 digs which was 4.08 digs per set. She also had 4 assisted blocks. This is the first week for conference voting and the first time Jasenovsky received the award.

The Norse started the season 0-4 but will look to bounce back next weekend as they travel to North Central Michigan College for some non-conference action. They face North Central Michigan on Friday morning and Kellogg Community College Friday afternoon.