

ROCKET NATION

WITH DIANE DUCEY



Ready! Set! Go into 2026! So many blessings into the new year and boy am I grateful! Grandmothering for the first time has been awesome! Assisting with the baby (when I'm called, otherwise just waiting in the 'wings') and bringing groceries, food or drinks if requested, providing a break if needed. With this 'new territory' I'm finding out that once maternity/paternity leave is up for these new parents: the next step can be terribly expensive!

Daycare for an infant can be around \$350 a week! It's hardly worth parents jumping back to their career if they have to pay \$1200 a month out of their paycheck for someone to watch their baby! It's really got me thinking about networking with other young moms that may be trustworthy to see if we could negotiate a mutually beneficial deal?! Anyway, I have a little bit of time to think about this issue.

As a Catholic Charities Advisory Board member, I'm helping with a big fundraiser coming on Saturday, February 7th at the Elks Lodge, 903 N. Dunlap in Savoy (behind Old Orchard Lanes) with a BINGO night! Another native Tolonoian, Mark Montgomery, will be our bingo game caller' and as their "Exalted Ruler" and we work well announcing and playing music at events, since we used to DJ

together in the early nineties! It will be \$30 for 10 games (each game sheet has 6 cards on it) with various prizes and games being sponsored by faithful friends and their businesses.

The church ladies are preparing a soup supper in crock pots and desserts for participants (for a donation, of course) as well as our 50/50 raffle, "Heads or Tails" game and auction baskets with tickets sold at the event to try and win! Make arrangements now to be a part of the festivities with the doors opening at 5pm, games starting at 6! The money will help support our St. Patrick's in Tolono food pantry, 304 E Vine St, open Mondays 5-6:30pm and Fridays 9-10:30am.

Senior Luncheons for those 55+ are the second Wednesday of the month (1/14/26) with coffee after 10:30am, lunch buffet (bring a side to share and \$3 if you can) opens after the prayer and announcements at 11:30am, then some entertainment! It's really great for any and everyone who wants to stay connected and plugged in to local resources (StPatrickTolono.com for details)

The Daddy Daughter Dance that's happening on Friday, February 13th at the High School of St. Thomas More has been a tradition in my life, right around Valentine's Day, for the past couple dozen

years. I kid you not... I had a young lady buy me a drink at a bar the other day because that was one of her favorite nights of the year, hanging out with her father! I was so touched! In case you'd like to go to that, you may want to get your reservation in now because it gets pretty full in the cafeterium (cafeteria & gymnasium). Last year, after the "Cha Cha Slide" and "My Girl" slow dance that I have the fella's sing to their lovely ladies, a super talented dad did a karaoke song to a Chris Stapleton tune and brought down the house! His daughters were beaming with pride! Anyway, if you need any information or want to connect with me, that's a new years resolution for me! Reach out at DianeDucey@yahoo.com with the memo part hinting at the topic of the email, please.

Volunteers in charge of these festivities, fundraisers and Tolono Fun Day (6/26-27, 2026) with their coordinating meeting coming up the third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm in the downtown police station, are always looking for positive energy and someone willing to roll up their sleeves, be consistent, trustworthy and reliable to help make events even better! It's a terrific feeling as we all dig into to making an event great! Is that you? Step up and make friends for a lifetime along the way!



Diane Ducey (front) during the Elks Club Bingo Tech walk through with (l-r) Melinda Shaw, Mark Montgomery and Barb Walker.

Eric Miebach named to Dean's List at UW-Whitewater

WHITEWATER, WI (12/23/2025)-- Eric Miebach from Philo, IL, has made the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Dean's List for the 2025 fall semester.

Eric Miebach has demonstrated their academic abilities by receiving a grade point average of 3.4 or above in a single semester.

"We are incredibly proud of the students who earned a place on the Dean's List," said Robin Fox, UW-Whitewater's interim provost and vice chancellor for academic

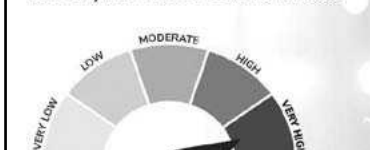
affairs. "This distinction reflects exceptional academic achievement and the dedication our students bring to their studies every day. Their success strengthens our university, and we celebrate all they have accomplished."

The university's Registrar's Office reports 4,107 students were selected for the Dean's List for the fall semester. More than 12,000 students are currently enrolled at the university's Whitewater and Rock County campuses.

Respiratory Illness Very High

Nationally, respiratory illness is **very high**.

Seek health care promptly for testing if you have risk factors for severe illness; treatment may help lower your risk of severe illness.



As of January 5, 2026, the amount of acute respiratory illness causing people to seek health care is at a very high level for the first time in the current 2025-2026 season.

Seasonal influenza activity is elevated and continues to increase across the country.

RSV activity is elevated in many areas of the country with emergency department visits and hospitalizations increasing among children 0-4 years old.

COVID-19 activity is low but increasing nationally.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT Champaign COUNTY, ILLINOIS Freedom Mortgage Corporation PLAINTIFF

Vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF RITA A. GUDGEL AKA RITA GUDGEL; NANCY ROMINES; MICHAEL GUDGEL; CITY OF URBANA; JOHN BROWN AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR RITA A. GUDGEL; TAMMY ELFAWAL; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; DEFENDANTS No. 20CH58

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 26, 2025, Champaign County Sheriff's Office Illinois of Champaign County will sell the mortgaged real estate described below to the highest bidder in an online auction, located at <https://champaigncountysheriff-il.roup.com/>. Bidding will begin on 02/16/2026 10:00 AM CST and will remain open until at least 02/18/2026 10:00 AM CST. If any bidding occurs in the final moments of the auction, the end of the auction will be extended automatically for successive fixed periods of time (the "anti-snipe time") to give all bidders the opportunity to submit their highest bid. The auction will end after no bidding occurs during the anti-snipe time.

The notice of sale relates to the following described mortgaged real estate: PIN: 92-21-17-259-004

Improved with a Single Family COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 208 West Nevada Street, Urbana, IL 61801 Sale Terms: The winning bidder must pay the full bid amount within 24 hours of the auction's end. Accepted payment methods include certified or cashier's check. Personal checks are not accepted.

The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or

Rocket Rundown

By Olivia Witheft Student Writer

Boys wrestled at Porta High School on Monday and Tuesday in Abe's Rumble. Day 1 they went 3-1 on the first day, beating Farmington(55-25), Litchfield(57-24), Westville(63-18), but losing to Reed Cluster(33-45). Later that evening they competed in a dual against Chicago hope barely scoring the win (37-34). Day 2 was a little rough with the rockets going 1-3 only winning against Rockridge. Nevertheless the Rockets took 12th out of 60 teams. They competed in The Clash on Friday and Saturday. The Rockets went 0-2 day one scoring 23-53 against Park Hill, Missouri and 32-36 against Delta, Ohio. Day 2 went better. The Rockets beat Marian Catholic(40-29) and Owatonna, Minn(32-29), but lost to Anoka, Minnesota 17-47. Girls competed in Benton on Saturday where both

Molina and Beldo came out as champions in their weight class! Boys will compete in the Mt Zion GCMS duals on Tuesday and in the Sycamore Tournament this Saturday. The girls have one tournament this week in Carbondale on Saturday.

Last week boys' basketball had a successful week. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, they played in the annual Effingham/Teutopolis tournament at Effingham High School. To start, Unity won 66-57 against Effingham. Then they won 80-49 against Central A&M. They brought the same energy into Tuesday winning their first game against Belvidere 79-69 and the second game against Lawrenceville 70-58. On Wednesday, they ended the tournament in a nail-biting championship game against Teutopolis where the Rockets fell just short 36-37. Unity played Paris on Saturday and

won 82-50. So far the Rockets' season has had a great start with a current record 10-2. Next week they will play Tri Valley on Tuesday and St. Joe on Saturday.

Last week girls basketball went to Riverton High School to also participate in a winter tournament. They started on Tuesday against the Prairie Central Hawks where they lost 30-39 ending their run. They will play Rantoul on Monday, IVC on Monday, and Tuscola on Saturday.

The girls bowled in Bloomington on Saturday where Kaitlynn led the Rockets and the tournament with a score of 207. The team as a whole brought home the Rockets first ever bowling trophy. Both the boys and girls will be competing in Danville on Monday and in Hoopeston on Saturday.

Dance will compete in Charleston this Saturday.

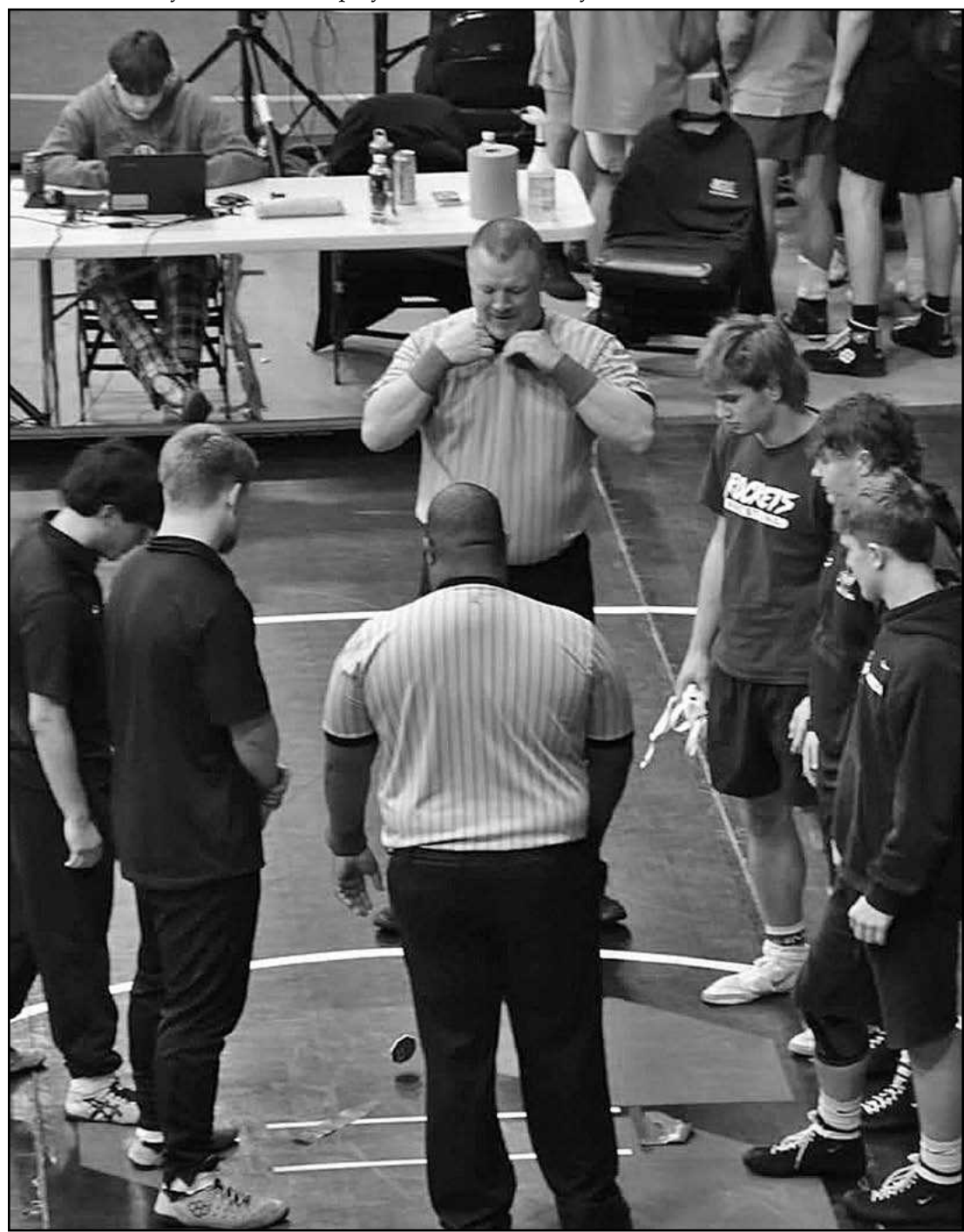


Photo from Abe's Rumble of captains.

LET'S KEEP OUR KID SAFE SLOW DOWN AND WATCH FOR SCHOOL ZONES!

REAL ESTATE

quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Diaz Anselmo & Associates 1771 W Diehl Rd., Ste. 120, Naperville, Illinois, 60563 (630) 453-6960 Please refer to file number 1463-187968

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. 6095-960318 printed 01/07, 01/14, 01/21/2026

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Vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF RITA A. GUDGEL AKA RITA GUDGEL; NANCY ROMINES; MICHAEL GUDGEL; CITY OF URBANA; JOHN BROWN AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR RITA A. GUDGEL; TAMMY ELFAWAL; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; DEFENDANTS No. 20CH58

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Legal Description: Lot Nine (9) of a Subdivision of Outlot Ten (10) of James S. Busey's Addition of Outlots to the Town, now City of Urbana, being a portion of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section Seventeen, Township Nineteen North, Range Nine East of the Third Principal Meridian, situated in the City of Urbana, in the County of Champaign, in the State of Illinois PIN: 92-21-17-259-004

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