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Spooky Good Fun At Trunk Or Treat Event

Litchfield Police Chief Kenny Ryker, at left, made some young trick or treaters honorary police officers with special stickers as part of this year's Litchfield Park District trunk or treat event. Pictured above are Tucker Lee as a cow, center, and Myla Compagni as a spider, at right, both of Hillsboro. Beautiful weather brought about 400 to Walton Park in Litchfield on Friday evening, Oct. 21, for the special event. About a dozen trunks were decorated with volunteers passing out candy and other treats. Local churches also helped to provide free games and the park district provided hot dogs. *Journal-News/Mary Herschelman*

Carlinville Woman Arrested In Child Death

A Carlinville woman has been charged with involuntary manslaughter and endangering the life of a child causing death after a three-year-old child was taken to the Litchfield Fire Station on Thursday, Oct. 20.

Ashley N. Bottoms, 33, of Carlinville, has been charged with the alleged crimes. Judge Joshua A. Meyer has set her bond at \$250,000.

According to Macoupin County State's Attorney Jordan Garrison, a report was made to the Litchfield Fire Department of a minor child in distress. Upon arrival, emergency personnel found the minor to be deceased in the vehicle.

The initial investigation was handled by the Litchfield Police Department who determined the alleged acts occurred in Macoupin County, resulting in a coordinated investigation with the Macoupin County Sheriff's Department and Carlinville Police Department.

Multiple search warrants were executed with the assistance of the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office. Following interviews conducted by detectives from the Litchfield Police Department and Macoupin County Sheriff's Department, Bottoms was arrested.

"Crimes against children are, by their very nature, some of the worst crimes with perpetrators leaving families destroyed by their actions," said Garrison. "It is alleged that this defendant, a trusted household member, committed this horrific act. I would like to thank Sheriff Shawn Kahl, Carlinville Police Chief David Haley and Litchfield Police Chief Kenny Ryker for their agencies coordinated effort. I would also like to thank detectives Ryan Dixon, Brian Lawton, Brian Reid and Larry Rayburn for their swift actions leading to these charges."

Flannery Resigns As City Administrator

by *Kyle Herschelman*

A key piece of the administrative team for the City of Litchfield for the past 20 years will be leaving on Nov. 26, the members of the Litchfield City Council learned on Thursday, Oct. 20.

Tonya Flannery, who has served as city administrator since July 2013, submitted her resignation in order to accept a position with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (IDCEO) as the deputy director of business development.

"It has been an honor to represent you, our employees and the City of Litchfield community since 2001," Flannery said in her letter of resignation.

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HAH Annual Meeting Highlights Youth, Patients

by *Mike Plunkett*

Patient and employee satisfaction rates that are up over already high levels, plus youth mental health initiatives were among areas highlighted at the Hillsboro Area Hospital annual meeting on Thursday, Oct. 20.

"I want to help you think about what we have done this past year, and your part in it," president and CEO Rex Brown told members of the hospital board during his report.

Brown pointed out that during the past year, the infection rate at the surgical site was 0 percent from nearly 1000 procedures.

Patient satisfaction was up in all areas, according to Press Ganey surveys, including 42 department surveys that ranked in the 99th percentile of patient satisfaction.

"That's outstanding performance by our teams," Brown said. "We run patient satisfaction—as well as employee satisfaction—on a daily basis."

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Nokomis District Considers Solar

by *Randy Rieke*

President Ruppert opened the October session of the Nokomis School Board on Tuesday, Oct. 18.

In addition to Ruppert, Superintendent Scott Doerr, board members Steve Janssen, Carl Ray Fesser, Denny Bauman, Joe Gasparich, and Carl Kettelkamp were all present. Board member Ben Tarter was absent.

As a part of the normal consent agenda business, a leave of absence was approved for Roger Morris beginning Nov. 7. Ruppert confirmed with Doerr that a replacement had been lined up.

In his report to the board, Dr. Doerr told them the state only owed the district about \$1,800 for FY23 in the form of one driver's education payment, "which is probably the least amount it has ever been." He added that the state had paid one of the two late payments still owed from FY22, so the total now owed to the district by the state between the two amounts was only \$3,763.70. Doerr also noted that the federal government provided extra funds for food supply shortages. Since their food service, OPAA!, was having problems getting some food, he had applied for the one-time grant and the district received \$14,923.47, plus an additional \$628.00 for breakfast food.

Doerr reminded the board that election day is Nov. 8 and that there would be no school that day. He said the fall veto session would take place in the General Assembly in the week after the election and that there were no education bills on the docket for consideration at this time, but that those plans could change given the unpredictability of lame-duck members.

Dr. Doerr then reviewed a letter received by the district from Local 1084 regarding the official notification to begin collective bargaining negotiations on behalf of the teachers' aides and secretaries. He said they told him they had tried to have a proposal available for the meeting but hoped to now have it to him by the end of the week. Doerr said the local was out of Hillsboro and represented 20 district employees. He said they would look at available dates and times and move to get the process started. He then confirmed with Janssen the districts negotiation team would remain the same board members of Janssen, Kettel-



Beckemeyer Elementary School dedicated its first adaptive swing to Grace Herschelman on Friday, Oct. 21. From the left, are Stephanie Paden, Mary, Kyle and Charley Herschelman, Rebecca Watters and Zach Frailey. *Journal-News/Tori O'Dell*

Beckemeyer Honors Student's Memory

"I want to start with a few apologies," said Beckemeyer Elementary School Principal Zach Frailey, during the dedication of the school's first adaptive swing on Friday afternoon, Oct. 21. "First that it took so long for this swing to get in and second, that we didn't have one in place a long time ago."

The ADA accessible swing was purchased in memory of Grace Herschelman, who was a much-loved student at the school before she passed away on May 19, 2021, after a lifelong battle with INAD (infantile neuroaxonal dystrophy).

Family members, friends, teachers and support staff members who had known and loved Grace were in attendance for the dedication ceremony.

"We loved having Grace with us and will never forget her sweet smile and the way her eyes lit up when we were reading stories, singing songs and at the sound of her friends' voices," said Rebecca Watters, who taught Grace in the first grade.

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Community News
Your News Today!
Any Way You Want

Play-Off Time
Hillsboro Finishes 6-3 To Advance To Playoffs
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Beth Cherry Steps Down From Litchfield Chamber

Litchfield Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Beth Cherry officially stepped down from her position on Friday, Oct. 21, to pursue other opportunities.

"I am sad to leave my role with the chamber but excited about starting a new career specializing in helping not only the businesses but the community," said Cherry. "I plan to assist the chamber through the transition of a new executive director and want to continue to stay involved. We have rebuilt our engagement and mission to serve the members and I truly believe in the chamber's vision and direction."

Cherry will continue to assist the chamber in a part-time capacity as they transition to a new director.

"We wish Beth well in

her new endeavour. She has done an extraordinary job for the Litchfield Chamber of Commerce over the last two years. In that time, she has assisted with our ability to focus on our members while simultaneously juggling many priorities and events. She will be missed," Board President Mike Strubhart stated.

The Litchfield Chamber of Commerce will post the position for Executive Director in the near future. Applicants may submit a resume to info@litchfieldchamber.com.

The chamber office, located in the Carnegie Building, will not be open until a new executive director has been hired. Members will continue to be updated via email. Communication should be directed to info@litchfieldchamber.com or 217-324-2533.

Hillsboro Area Hospital Annual Meeting

Continued from front page

According to Press Ganey, patients gave Hillsboro Area Hospital a nine or ten out of ten 85 percent of the time, exceeding the national average of 72 percent.

Brown spent some time detailing youth mental health initiatives that began in 2010 when former board member Greg Holcomb began describing a crisis among children.

"The end of that discussion was that we had to do something about it," Brown said.

Partnering with SIU School of Medicine under the late hospital board chairman David Imler, the hospital began a process that eventually resulted in programs such as Sources of Strength at Hillsboro Junior High School and Hillsboro High School, the Blues Program at Hillsboro High School, and a new Strengthening Families program that just kicked off.

Those programs are helping, Brown said, citing the Blues Program which has reached 31 students, decreasing depression and increasing resiliency.

"You've been involved in something that has changed the lives of children and families," Brown told board members.

Last fall those programs began in the Nokomis School District, and this fall, "our model is now being taught to other communities," Brown said, with programs in Mt. Olive and Alton.

In fact, the work, titled "Healthy Hillsboro," received



Front row, from the left, are Hillsboro Area Hospital board members Julie Jenkins, President and CEO Rex Brown, Mary Herschelmann. Back row: Jordan Ruppert, Earl Flack, Dr. Nathan Kirby. Not present for photo: Misty Borrowman, Dr. Doug Byers, Dr. Ben Cady, David Hough, James Hertel, Lisa White.

Journal-News Photo

Nokomis School Board

Continued from front page

He pointed out that the last two electrical bills paid by the district were approximately \$26,000 and \$20,000, which is nearly triple what those monthly costs normally are. He reported that one of the companies that they do business with already, Future Green, has a solar program. He said that he had also spoken with a company called Affordable Gas and Electric (AGE), who also does solar programs. Doerr said his interest was to start the research and discovery into bringing down the electrical bills by putting solar panels in the district or for the district and to get the board's permission for him to move forward with that investigative process.

Doerr said the first step in the research would be to provide those companies with the district's last four electrical bills so they could do an analysis of how much energy they use in order to determine how many solar panels they might need. They would then need to determine the placement location of the panels, if there were any potential locations. Doerr said he was not in favor of rooftop placement, "especially on our flat roofs," and the board members agreed. At the suggestion of the south side of the gym, Doerr said the companies will not put them on gym roofs due to the weight. Gasparich added that his experience through the fire department in looking at solar showed it would be best to isolate the cells away from the buildings in case there were a situation in which the system needed to be shut down immediately.

When asked by Fesser if anyone local had anything like this in operation, Doerr said Ramsey was working on a proposal as well as St Elmo and Brownstown. He said Hillsboro has some solar at their junior high, but they do not service the whole district. He said he thought the new schools at Litchfield and Pana were both to have solar. He said the project would have to be evaluated on future cost savings, as the district does not qualify for rebates.

The board agreed to think about potential placement of the solar panels and agreed to allow Dr. Doerr to move forward in his research and cost-benefit analysis for the project.

Kettelkamp moved to approve the intergovernmental agreement for the joint cooperation and operation of the area career center. Gasparich seconded the motion and it passed unanimously on a roll call vote of the members present. Doerr explained it was a three-year agreement to allow Nokomis students to participate in the South Central Illinois Regional Workforce

Training and Innovation Center. The Litchfield district will serve as the fiscal and administrative agent. There will be a governing body made up of all the district superintendents that will have equal governing power as the Litchfield school district. The governing board of superintendents and the Litchfield school board will act as co-equal board and they had all agreed that if the governing board and the Litchfield school board reach an impasse, they will ask for arbitration. The building will be owned by Litchfield, but all the programs will be shared. He explained that right now there is no tuition or any payments, except for the union trades program, the building construction program, because the union is paying for half the instructors and Litchfield is paying for the other half, so if Nokomis has any students in that program Nokomis will pay a pro-rated share of that half. He said there are still some pending federal funds that may become available. He shared that inflation had caused the construction costs to be higher than the original estimate by approximately \$3 million, so part of the building renovation had been placed on hold. Lastly, he added that there was a one-year "out" clause if the agreement proved to be unsustainable for the district.

Gasparich made a motion to approve Chad Ruppert as the 2022 IASB delegate to the policy assembly at the joint conference with Carl Kettelkamp as the alternate. Janssen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Fesser made a motion to approve the following for employment: Mary Alison Marley, early childhood coordinator, effective Oct. 16; Brittney Batty, model parent educator, effective upon completion of paperwork and fingerprint background check; Sue Foster, junior high cheerleading sponsor; Andrew Herpstreith, high school boys assistant basketball coach; and Erin Lawhorn, junior high voluntary cheerleading coach, effective immediately. Janssen seconded the motion and it also passed unanimously on a roll call vote of the members present.

Kettelkamp made a motion to approve the employee bonus package from ESSER III for those employees that worked during the 2021-2022 school year and maintained their employment with Nokomis CUSD #22 for the 2022-2023 school year as presented. Gasparich seconded the motion and it passed unanimously on a roll call vote of the members present.

With Ruppert pointing out there appeared to be no need to enter closed session, they then adjourned the meeting.

Beckemeyer Swing

Continued from front page

"We will think of her every time this swing is used. Thank you for sharing her with us."

While the original plan was to purchase a purple swing, equipment shortages and delays derailed that vision. Her grandfather joked that the green and yellow swing fit her memory well as she was a (mandated) Green Bay Pack-

ers fan throughout her life.

"Thank you," said Mary Herschelmann, at the close of the ceremony. "We can't thank you enough for the experiences you allowed Grace to have during her time at Beckemeyer. This is a great tribute to her."

The adaptive swing is now a permanent fixture on the school's playground providing all children like Grace the ability to be included.

the National Rural Health Association's 2022 Outstanding Rural Health Program Award.

Near the end of the meeting, the board reelected director Misty Borrowman to a three-year term, and elected Mary Herschelmann to a new three-year term.

Vice President of Financial Services Terri Carroll reported that while hospital inpatient and swing bed patients were down in 2022 due to COVID, outpatient, emergency room, and surgeries were up. That resulted in an

operating margin nearly the same as the previous year.

Net revenue per adjusted discharge was down nearly 30 percent from the previous year, but expense per adjusted discharge was also down just over 25 percent.

Board member Julie Jenkins reported that the auxiliary awarded one nursing scholarship during the past year, and is working to get volunteer levels "back up to speed." She also reported that the foundation is preparing for its major fundraisers, the purse auction on Nov. 10

and the Valentine Gala next February. Funds will be used for medical scholarships.

In his report, board Chairman Earl Flack highlighted the way the hospital fits into its community.

"We've got a pretty good thing going here in Hillsboro," Flack said, ticking off the hospital, schools, banks, and employers. "We do a lot of things right. We create a good culture. If we stay focused on those things and hold ourselves accountable, we win."

County Clerk Reminds Voters About Deadlines

Montgomery County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser recently reported that of the 1,185 vote-by-mail ballots requested by county voters for the Nov. 8 General Election as of the end of workday on Monday, Oct. 17, there are a total of 663 vote-by-mail ballots still not returned.

Voters are reminded that their vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked on or before Election Day, Nov. 8, and received within 14 days, by Nov. 22, in order for it to be counted.

"It's very important to account for vote-by-mail ballots issued to voters at each election," Leitheiser stated. "And with the local popularity of the new permanent vote-by-mail option, we want to make sure voters have all important information about vote-by-mail deadlines and procedures."

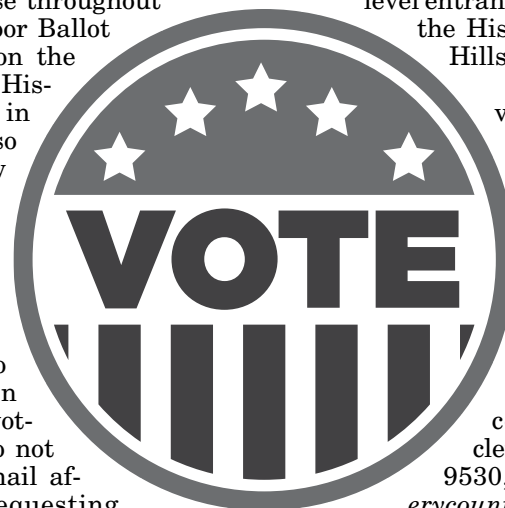
She also stated any voter who plans to hand-deliver their ballot to the county clerk's office must deliver it there on or

before 7 p.m. on November 8, which is also the time polls close throughout Illinois. The outdoor Ballot Dropbox located on the north side of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro may also be used from now until 7 p.m. on Nov. 8.

Under Illinois law, voters must not turn in their completed vote-by-mail ballot to polling places on Election Day. If voters decide they do not want to vote-by-mail after previously requesting that service and wish to vote in person instead, they must surrender their ballot at their polling place or the

Early Voting Center, located in the street level entrance on the west side of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro.

That surrendered vote by mail ballot will be placed in an envelope for safekeeping by election officials. The voter will then be given another ballot to complete. For more information about the vote-by-mail deadlines and procedures, contact the county clerk's office at 217-532-9530, sandy@montgomerycountyil.gov, or stop by the office Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first floor of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro.



Central Park Committee Ready To Party Saturday

Imagine Hillsboro's Re-inventing Central Park Committee has completed the first phase of their long-term renovation project with the installation of the new playground equipment earlier this month and is inviting local

youth to help them celebrate.

The committee will host a "park party" on Sunday, Oct. 30, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Central Park in Hillsboro. The kid-centered event will feature multiple bounce houses, activities and a chance to

break in the new playground. Lipe's Lunchbox will also be on site during the event for those that would like to picnic at the park.

While the new playground is in place there are still many elements to be completed

before the Re-inventing Central Park project is finished. Those interested in making a donation to help complete the project can contact Brian Limbaugh at 217-532-6920 or donate online at www.imaginehillsboro.com/donate.

Litchfield City Council

Continued from front page

"My time serving Litchfield has been fulfilling and rewarding. Together we have worked hard to secure valuable grant monies, improve infrastructure, grow business and industry and improve quality of life for the residents of Litchfield."

Flannery, who also handled economic development duties for the city, spoke about some of the city's accomplishments during her time as city administrator.

"The city has had much success assisting businesses, developing new opportunities such as a third industrial park, a new lake residential subdivision, downtown streetscape improvements, lake sustainability and the reconstruction of numerous streets," Flannery said. "During my tenure as city administrator, the city has received over \$12 million in grants to complete projects that otherwise would not have been possible. It has been wonderful establishing great partnerships with the school district, St. Francis Hospital, Lincoln Land Community College and many local, regional and state agencies. These partnerships will provide continued growth through the new school, new regional vocational center, community health and recreation center, sports park and

downtown development."

Flannery also spoke about the city's current status despite some tough times recently due to the pandemic.

"The city has maintained a healthy financial status despite the pandemic and has been responsible stewards of taxpayer funds. The city should take great pride in this and all it has done under this administration," Flannery said. "Our city staff continues to do an incredible job for the City of Litchfield and it is lucky to have such amazing, hard-working and talented public servants that provide public safety and the essential services to our community every day. I cannot say enough about the departmental leadership's diligence in managing city services and I will miss working with them. It has been my privilege to serve as city administrator and economic development director and I am confident Litchfield is positioned for continued growth and success."

City Council Meeting

Mayor Steve Dougherty accepted Flannery's resignation after the 19 minute closed session portion of Thursday's Litchfield City Council meeting. Also approved after the closed session were motions to accept 908 North Chestnut by quitclaim deed pending payment of liens and to sell the

property at 1018 East Union, with the city retaining first right of refusal if the property is not developed within two years.

Prior to the closed session, the council passed eight motions, including the minutes from the Oct. 6 meeting. Motions for repair of the lake department's Kubota lawn mower from Nail's Power Equipment for an amount not to exceed \$1,664.28, to approve a minor subdivision for the RLP Development property (Jimmy John's and adjacent property north and east), to approve a resolution committing funds for the ID-CEO Rebuild Illinois grants and to approve a resolution adopting policies related to technology resources, security of portable data storage devices, cell phones, equipment and supplies and social media to the city's personnel manual were all approved without much discussion.

Also passing was an amendment to the city's mobile home ordinance, which prohibits updating or replacing of mobile homes who have passed their life expectancy and are not livable in residential districts.

Alderman Cassidy Paine asked what the definition of life expectancy was for mobile homes. Building Inspector Gary Baker said that it will be under the in-

terpretation by the building and zoning department and that the purpose is to make sure structures are safe and repairs are done in a timely manner.

Also in building and zoning business, the council amended the zoning ordinance to remove tourist homes as prohibited use as long as the property adheres to the city's guidelines for tourist homes and short term rentals. Baker said that Mike James, the owner of several AirBNB properties in the city, has applied for permits for four of his properties and has brought them up to the standards in the agreement.

Just before entering into closed session, the board approved the purchase of two windshield replacements for Engine 802 and 803 for the Litchfield Fire Department from Mac's Fire and Safety at a cost not to exceed \$2,320.

Alderman Woodrow Street said that the windshields could not be purchased from a regular glass company, with Firefighter Adam Pennock confirming Street's statement due to the curve of the windshield. Pennock also said that the city received two bids and that Mac's was the lower of the two.

The city council will meet next on Thursday, Nov. 3, at 6:30 p.m. at Corwin Hall.

Obituaries

Twila Everett, 85 Loved Camping, Baking



Twila (Gunn) Everett, 85, of Plainfield, died on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022, at Accent Care in Naperville.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 29, at Bass Patton Dean Funeral Home in Hillsboro. Funeral services will begin at noon at the funeral home. Burial will be at Woodside Cemetery in rural Hillsboro. Bass Patton Dean Funeral Home in Hillsboro is assisting the family with arrangements.

Ms. Everett was born on July 16, 1937, in Witt, to Earl Francis Gunn and Lura Frances (Smith) Gunn. She married Robert Corazza in 1958, they divorced in 1968. In 1975 she married Frank Everett and they divorced in 1989.

Ms. Everett was a high school graduate. She had worked at the circuit clerk's office, Tunes Tavern and Demoulin until retirement in 1999. She loved spending time with family and friends, camping, cooking and baking, and the Chicago Cubs. Ms. Everett lived in Hillsboro all her life until 1999, when she moved in with her daughter Julie and family in Plainfield where she then had new neighbors and friends to love her too.

Ms. Everett is survived by her children, Julie (Corazza) (husband Michael) Krivich of Plainfield, Matthew (wife Charlotte Cis) Everett, of Raymond and Nicole Everett Fly of Hopkinsville, KY; grandchildren, Kevin Lee Corazza II, Tyler Krivich, Alexandria Krivich, Sheron Everett, Destinee Everett, Brock Reinacher and Dakota Reinacher; great-grandchildren, Jacob Corazza, Kody Corazza, Braeden Reinacher and Braelynn Reinacher; brother, Bruce (wife Cassie) Gunn of Hillsboro; daughter-in-law, Denise Sweet of Hillsboro; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Kevin Corazza in 2015; and brothers and sisters-in-law, H. Maynard Gunn and wife Mickey Gunn, Merlyn E. Gunn and wife Dorothy Gunn, Clyde E. Gunn and Myron D. Gunn in infancy.

Memorials may be given to Montgomery County Cancer Association. Condolences may be left online at basspatton-deanfh.com.

Harold L. Benning, 93 US Army Veteran



Harold Louis Benning, 93, of Raymond, died on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m., until the time of service, on Tuesday, Oct. 25, at Hough and Sons Funeral Home in Hillsboro. Memorial services will begin at the funeral home with Pastor Jay Martin. Burial will be at Asbury Cemetery in Raymond. Hough and Sons Funeral Home in Hillsboro is assisting the family with arrangements.

Mr. Benning was born on Feb. 16, 1929, to Louis Martin and Emma Iona (Hudson) Benning in Raymond. He married Ruth Hahankamp on March 28, 1954, and together they had four children who gave them 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

After graduating from Raymond High School, he served in the US Army and received the rank of corporal. Mr. Benning was deployed overseas which earned him a Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars and a United Nations Service Medal. When his service was complete, he returned home to work on the family farm which he eventually retired from.

Mr. Benning was a past member of the Montgomery County Farm Bureau and a faithful member of the Living Stones Church in Litchfield.

Mr. Benning is survived by his wife; children, Colleen McAdamis of CO, Constance (Jeff) Brown of Virden, Julie (Jon Robinson) Benning of Taylorville and Michael (Michele) Benning of Raymond. Also surviving are his siblings, Dorothy Sloss of Raymond, Virginia Rinella of Carbondale, Ivan Benning of Harvel and sister-in-law, Fran Benning of Raymond.

He was preceded in death by his siblings, David Benning, Paul Benning, Ralph Benning, Joyce Weihe and Russell Ludwig.

Memorials can be directed to Life Outreach International of Texas. Condolences may be left online at www.houghfuneralhome.com.

Joseph A. Geninatti, 74 Walmart Maintenance Man



Joseph Anthony Geninatti, 74, of Litchfield, died on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022, at 4:45 a.m. at his residence.

Visitation will be held Sunday, Oct. 30, from 2 to 3 p.m. at Faith Christian Fellowship in Litchfield. A memorial service will follow, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the church with the Rev. Albert Chaney officiating. Dinner will follow the services at Litchfield VFW Post 3912. Plummer Funeral Home in Litchfield is assisting the family.

Mr. Geninatti was born April 10, 1948, in Carlinville, to Arthur Eugene and Dorothy Elizabeth Alma (Rose) Geninatti. He married Diana Budd, and they later divorced. He then married Patricia Ann (Busby) Buffington in 1996, and she survives.

He was employed by Litchfield Walmart #213 for 35 years in maintenance.

Mr. Geninatti was a member of Faith Christian Fellowship in Litchfield. He enjoyed camping, fishing and his grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his stepson, Albert James Buffington of Litchfield; stepdaughter-in-law, Jodi White of Irving; brother, Freddie Geninatti of Livingston; two sisters, Rosa Wilmore of Alton and Anita Geninatti of St. Louis, MO; three grandchildren, Krystin (fiance Code Hale) Buffington, Bo Buffington and Brooke Buffington; two great-grandchildren, Connor Dever and Abby Buffington; and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Geninatti was preceded in death by his parents; and two brothers, John Geninatti and Art Geninatti.

Memorials may be directed to Faith Christian Fellowship in Litchfield. To light a candle or sign the online guestbook, visit www.plummerfuneralservices.com.

Turkey Dinner Set For Nov. 6

St. Maurice Catholic Church will hold their baked turkey dinner on Sunday, Nov. 6, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Morrisonville.

The drive-through dinner will be served from 2 to 4 p.m. Fees are set at \$15 per adult.

Menu items include baked turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, cole slaw and cranberry salad.

Questions may be directed to Marietta Dunkirk at 217-526-4426.

Dennis J. Stewart, 67 Mechanic, Lifelong Farmer



Dennis James "Denny" Stewart, 67, of Nokomis, died on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, at 10:25 a.m. at his home with his family by his side.

Visitation will be held Thursday, Oct. 27, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Stiehl-Dawson Funeral Home in Nokomis. Funeral services will be conducted Friday, Oct. 28, beginning at 10 a.m. at St. Louis Catholic Church in Nokomis with Father Michael Meinhardt officiating. Burial will follow at Calvary Cemetery in Nokomis.

Mr. Stewart was born June 19, 1955, in Pana, to James and Lois (Chambers) Stewart. He married Pamela Lynn Hill on Dec. 17, 1976, at St. Louis Catholic Church in Nokomis, and she survives.

He graduated from Nokomis High School with the class of 1973. He then earned his associate's degree in automotive technology from Lincoln Land Community College. After graduation, he served as a mechanic at Heck's Ford Sales in Nokomis before taking over the family farm.

Mr. Stewart was a lifelong farmer in the Nokomis area and took pride in working every day. When he wasn't able to be in the fields, he always checked in to make sure he didn't miss anything. He enjoyed going to the coffee shop in the mornings and sharing stories.

He was on the MJM board and served on the committees of the Catholic and Nokomis school boards. He also served as president on the Nokomis School Board for several years.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Stewart is survived by his children, Shannon Patrick of Chatham and Travis (Amanda) Stewart of Nokomis; grandchildren, Addison, Emerson, Grayson and Will Patrick, Jayden Morrison, Mason and Colby Stewart; twin brother, David (Janet) Stewart of Nokomis; and sisters, Ann (Cathy) Dominic and Ann Moroff, both of Springfield.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and brother-in-law, Guy Moroff.

Memorials may be directed to the Montgomery County Cancer Association. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.stiehldawsonfh.com.

Marge Childerson, 86 Head Start Supervisor



Marge Childerson, 86, of Greenville, died on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022, at her home, surrounded by loving family.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, Oct. 25, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Assalley-Young Funeral Home in Greenville. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Oct. 26, beginning at 11 a.m. at the funeral home with Chaplain Bonnie Bohn officiating. Burial will follow at Greene Cemetery in Pocahontas.

Mrs. Childerson was born on March 14, 1936, in Breese, to Erwin John and Margaret Anna (Wolters) Essenpreis. She married Roger and Milton Childerson on Feb. 9, 1956, in Breese, and he preceded her in death on Dec. 8, 2003.

She was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother, but the role she loved most was "mom." She was most proud of her eight children.

Mrs. Childerson was an amazing cook and could feed four or 40 people at the drop of a hat. Her door was always open, and nobody ever left the dinner table hungry. Every Sunday was a family gathering at her house.

She also taught and supervised at the Bond County Head Start in Greenville for over 30 years. She was lovingly referred to as "Miss Marge" by her students and lavished as much love to her "kids" as she did to her own eight children.

Mrs. Childerson was the prime example of what motherhood was supposed to be. Her most valuable possessions in life were her husband, children, grandchildren and God. Her prayer list was extensive and never failing as she prayed to St. Jude every night.

She is survived by her children, Kimberlyn (Larry) Langel of Smithboro, Michael T. (Anne Betscher) Childerson, Karan L. (Danny Carpenter) Belcher, Myra L. (Wayne) Mollett, Mark B. Childerson, Dwight D. (Mary) Childerson, all of Greenville, Katherine R. (Tara) Childerson of Edwardsville and Roger E. (Sherry) Childerson of Altamont; grandchildren, Randi (Chad) Langel Smith, Candace (Chris) Willman Timmermann, both of Pocahontas, Phillip (Brittany) Childerson of Strongsville, OH, Laura (Adam) Childerson Wufus of Evergreen, CO, Peter Childerson of Denver, CO, Billie Jo (George) Matthews Schofield, Cody (Lindsay Kapp) Belcher, Samantha Belcher, all of Mulberry Grove, Adam (Heather) Mollett, Jason (Krystal) Mollett, Kelli Jo (Doug Nicoson), all of Greenville, Ross (Ashley) Willman of Teutopolis, Kirstie K. (Ben) Childerson Dempsey of South Ridings, VA, Austen J. (Katie Meadows) Childerson of Highland, Matthew (Sami) Childerson of Altamont, Jacob (Jenny) Childerson of Waterloo, Ann (Zack) Childerson Walter of Decatur, GA, Simon Childerson of Collinsville and Samuel Childerson of Phoenix, AZ; 36 great-grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Childerson was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Arthur, Ervin, Jim, Sylvester "Smokey" and John Essenpreis; sisters, Estelle "Nooks" Deien, Jane Tracy, Juanita "Nita" Peltes and Betty Essenpreis; daughter-in-law, Ellen Jeanne (Corning) Childerson; and great-grandson, Jackson Rain Kudyba.

Memorials may be directed to Greene Cemetery, 280 Hug Cemetery Road, Pocahontas, IL 62275; Bond County Hospice, 1520 S. 4th St., Greenville, IL 62246 or Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund (JDRF), 215 W. Pershing Road, #300, Kansas City, MO 64108. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.assalleyfuneralhomes.com.



The family of Rex Trader would like to thank everyone for your kind thoughts, prayers and condolences during his illness. A special thank you to Pastor Mike Lawton for the beautiful service. Also thank you to Plummer Funeral Home, Dr. Dan Wujek, the ladies at Hillsboro United Methodist Church for serving a dinner afterwards, and to all the friends and neighbors for the food and gifts. Your support at this difficult time was very much appreciated and a great comfort to all of the family.

Donna Trader
Eric, Melissa, Owen and Claire Trader
Brandon, Angelica, Aliyah, Kinsley, Emmy and Brecken Trader

Weather Forecast

Mon 24	79°/59°	☁️ Mostly Cloudy	↕ 1%
Tue 25	62°/42°	☔ Rain	↕ 100%
Wed 26	60°/37°	☀️ Sunny	↕ 5%
Thu 27	59°/40°	☁️ Partly Cloudy	↕ 7%
Fri 28	60°/41°	☁️ Mostly Cloudy	↕ 10%
Sat 29	62°/45°	☁️ Partly Cloudy	↕ 21%
Sun 30	61°/47°	☁️ Showers	↕ 48%

Shona M. Edwards, 53 Corrections Nurse



Shona Marie Edwards, 53, of Witt, died on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, at her home surrounded by loves ones, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, Oct. 26, from 3 to 8 p.m. at Stiehl-Dawson Funeral Home in Nokomis. Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, Oct. 27, beginning at 11 a.m. at the funeral home with Pastor Jeff VanDyke officiating. Burial will follow at St. Barbara's Cemetery in Witt.

Mrs. Edwards was born Dec. 10, 1968, in Hillsboro, to Roger and Gail (Hakala) Cole. She was the oldest sibling to Chris and Shane, and they were raised in Nokomis, spending many summers in Rutland, MA.

She graduated from Nokomis High School with the class of 1987. After graduating from NHS, she attended The International Academy of Merchandising and Design in Chicago, followed by LLCC, and then completed her bachelor's degree in history at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

Mrs. Edwards worked as the Early Childhood Program Director at North Elementary School in Nokomis for 11-and-a-half years while completing her professional educator's license with an endorsement in social studies. Following her calling, she received an associate of science degree in nursing and passed her state boards to become a registered nurse. She worked in the emergency department at Taylorville Memorial Hospital before starting her career as a corrections nurse at Graham Correctional Facility in Hillsboro in 2018.

She and her husband, Russell "Kenny" Edwards began their life together in 1992 and were married on Feb. 14, 1998, in Nokomis, and he survives.

Mrs. Edwards' greatest joy in life was being a mother and grandmother. She enjoyed riding her motorcycle, being outdoors and spending her time poolside with her family. She loved celebrating holidays surrounded by her children and grandchildren, and looked forward to the snow each winter would bring.

She was active in the community and often raised money through her beloved paint parties for many different charities and community organizations around the Montgomery County and Christian County areas. She helped organize the Shane Cole Memorial Fund in honor of her brother, which has included popular fundraisers such as the Shane Cole Memorial Poker Run, which funds the Keep Kids Warm Coat Drive, a community park and scholarships for Nokomis High School graduates.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Edwards is survived by her parents; sons, Hayden Glenn (Hannah Atwood) Edwards, Kenneth Michael (Brittney Chamberlain) Edwards and Eric Russell (Stephanie) Edwards; five grandchildren, Leah, Madeleine, Calvin, Crosby and Ahnna; brother, Chris (Kristy) Cole; nephews, Carson and Wyatt Cole; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Shane Cole. Memorials may be directed to the Montgomery County Cancer Association or the Shona Edwards Memorial Fund for Community Outreach. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.stiehldawsonfh.com.

obituaries posted daily
www.thejournal-news.net

The Journal-News

The Newspaper of Record for Montgomery County

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Associate Editor	Bethany Martin
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Family

4A - Monday, October 24, 2022



Armour Sisters Receive Wheeler Scholarships

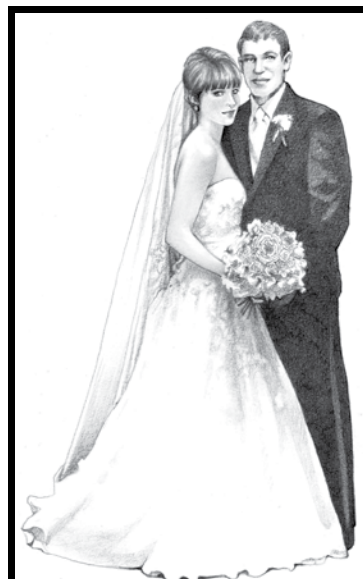
Twin sisters Kensey (at left) and Kayley Armour of Raymond were each awarded \$3,000 Wheeler Foundation Scholarships on Saturday, Oct. 1, at Illinois State University, where the girls are currently seniors. The scholarships were awarded as part of family weekend with more than 650 donors, scholarship awardees and family members present for the special occasion. Nearly \$650,000 was awarded in scholarships to education students.

Graduates of Lincolnwood High School in Raymond in 2019, the Armour sisters are the daughters of Pat and Angie Armour of Raymond. They are currently finishing their bachelor's degrees in special education and will graduate in December. Both have been hired as special education teachers at Beckemeyer Elementary School in Hillsboro, starting in January.



Trinity Lutheran Bolsters Hearts United's Outreach

Trinity Lutheran Church recently made a generous donation to Hearts United in recognition of Homeless Awareness Month. The Litchfield-based church blessed the organization with over 90 packages of food items, 200-plus packages of personal hygiene items and more than 70 baby items. They also made a monetary contribution towards Hearts' goal of raising \$5,000 for their Homeless Fund. Above, are Helen Beason, a case worker for Hearts United, and Evelyn Schuette, Hearts United Board President and Trinity Lutheran representative.



Whether trendy or traditional, The Journal-News has the wedding invitations you need. See our Carlson Craft selections.

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Births

David and Shannon (Oglesby) Huber, of Scott Depot, WV, announce the birth of their son, Michael Patrick Huber, born on Tuesday, Oct. 18, in Charleston, WV. He weighed 7 lbs., 2 ozs., and measured 19.5 ins., long.

Michael is welcomed to the world by his big sisters, Alexandria, age five years old, and Olivia, age four years old.

Maternal grandparents are Molly Shrader of Waldorf, IA, and the late Michael Oglesby. Paternal grandparents are Anne Huber of Hillsboro and the late Jerry Huber.

Mercedes Kaye Clark and Logan Todd Large of Hillsboro announce the birth of their son, Mason Alexander Michael Large, born at 3:07 p.m. on Oct. 21, 2022, at HSHS St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield. He weighed 6 lbs., 4 ozs., and measured 20 ins. long.

Maternal grandparents are Heather and Shane Clark of Hillsboro. Paternal grandmother is Anita Nance of Carlinville.

Maternal great-grandparents are Charles Large of Litchfield and Rebecca Sue Large of Litchfield. Paternal great-grandparents are Linda Large of Gillespie and Tammy Odle of Litchfield.

Marriage Licenses

Taylor Gordon McBride, Litchfield; Alyssa Nicole Oliver, Litchfield

John William Brockus, Litchfield; Ashli Marie Pernicka, Litchfield

Jacob Kent Smith, Hillsboro; Delaney Rhae Caulk, Hillsboro

Junior High Dance Set For Friday, Oct. 28

Hillsboro Junior High School (HJHS) will host their annual Halloween Dance on Friday, Oct. 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the school gym.

There will be a \$2 entry fee. A DJ will provide entertainment throughout the night and concessions will be available for purchase. Students are encouraged to dress up and participate in the costume contest.

on-line all the time
www.thejournal-news.net



Dogs, Owners Blessed At St. Francis

Local residents and their four-legged friends gathered at HSHS St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield on Thursday, Oct. 6, for a special Blessing of Animals ceremony led by Father Dan Willenborg, hospital chaplain. According to Father Willenborg, the blessing is a tradition that helps honor St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. To conclude the ceremony, Father Willenborg and those in attendance read the Peace Prayer of St. Francis. Father Willenborg then administered the blessing to about eight dogs, as well as those who care for them.

Journal-News/Bethany Martin

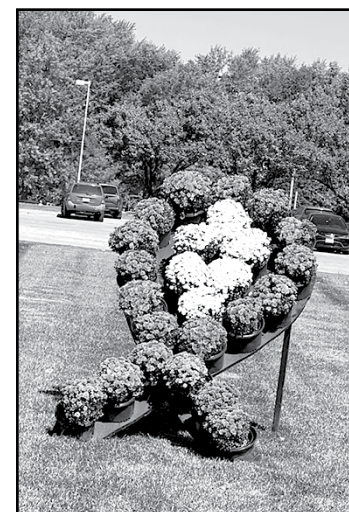


St. Francis Supports Breast Cancer Month

Members of the x-ray department at HSHS St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield are showing their support for cancer patients by donning the Montgomery County Breast Cancer Support Group "Faith Over Fear" T-shirts this month. October marks National Breast Cancer Awareness month, and the support group donated a bag full of goodies to one lucky lady who got her mammogram in October. Pictured above, from the left are Jennifer Lewis, Cassie James, Carrie Smail, Trish Rogers, Krysta Rauch, Jamie Herendeen, Shannon Meier, Andrea Patkus and Kim Bergman.



Pictured above, from the left are ultrasound technician Allison Maass, bag winner Loretta Hires and St. Francis X-Ray Department Manager Jen Lewis.



The hospital is also showing support for breast cancer survivors in October with this beautiful floral display of pink and white mums.

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, phone calls and good wishes sent to me for my 90th birthday.

I appreciate them so much!

Jim Keele

St. Maurice Catholic Church

BAKED TURKEY DINNER DRIVE THRU

Sunday, November 6
Serving 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Hall, Morrisonville

Adults: \$15

Menu: Baked Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Cranberry Salad

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Nikki Lohman, Treasurer
Tim Fogle, County Board
Rich Wendel, County Board
David Loucks, County Board



DEMOCRATS
CHANGE THAT MATTERS

Door prizes to include gift cards & baked goods



The Pastrovich family is thrilled and overwhelmed by all of the amazing support as they broke the Guinness Book of World Records for most dogs at a show. This record was broken because of the support shown by community. The dog community, the Drive-In community, the local community, the Springfield community as well as our friends in St. Louis, and of course the Route 66 Community!! We had people with puppies here from five different states at last count, and as far as 7 hours from here, one way!

Thank you for being a part of our journey as we keep it kicking on Route 66!

Doyle Public Library To Host October Celebrations

Doyle Public Library in Raymond will host several events this week, Oct. 24 to Oct. 28.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the library will celebrate its first year of senior exercise classes. According to Library Director Sharla Riley, the classes were well-attended all year long.

Riley's seven-year anniversary as the library's director will be Wednesday, Oct. 26,

and the library will help her celebrate the milestone.

On Friday, Oct. 28, Doyle invites the community to join them in celebrating its generous benefactor, Frank Doyle's birthday.

Doyle Public Library is located at 109 S. O'Bannon Street in Raymond. For more information, call 217-229-4471.



Polly Wand (top left) and Charlotte Lowe (top right), longtime volunteers with Hearts United, check out customers during the organization's Homeless Awareness event on Friday, Oct. 14. The Hearts United thrift store is offering several discounts and specials throughout the month to help raise funding for the mission's homeless fund. *Journal-News/Tori O'Dell*



Dave Knoblich, Hearts United administrator, holds up an afghan that will be raffled off at the end of the month. The throw cover was made by Audrey Keith, a centenarian who has been donating her handiwork to the organization for many years. *Journal-News/Tori O'Dell*



Students Work Together To Bring Designs To Life

The STEAM club at Beckemeyer Elementary School spent Friday afternoon, Oct. 7, making pumpkin launchers. The students made blue prints of their designs and with the help of parent volunteers were able to make their visions come to life. The club members had to practice teamwork and problem solving skills for the launchers to be successful - one even launched a pumpkin 16 feet.

Zion Lutheran Students Earn Honor Roll Status

Zion Lutheran School in Litchfield has released its first quarter honor roll list for the 2022-2023 school year.

High Honor Roll
Eighth Grade: Bill Crispens
Sixth Grade: Emma

Quattlander
Honor Roll
Eighth Grade: Landon Wernsing
Fifth Grade: Carly Brockmeyer, Lauren Collum and Morgan Helgen



Five musicians were nominated to represent Hillsboro High School at the High School Choir Festival at Bradley University on Friday, Oct. 14. In front, from the left, are Aly Leisure, Allie Kuhns and Sierra Compton. In back, from the left, are Sam Dilley and Sally Mattson.

Hillsboro Students Attend High School Choir Festival

Five students represented Hillsboro High School at the High School Choir Festival hosted by Bradley University on Friday, Oct. 14.

The students were nominated by Choir Director Amy Lemons, based on their audition scores from last spring. They joined with students from 30 other high schools around the state to form a 100 person choir.

Dr. Cory Boulton, director

of choral activities at Bradley University, coordinated the festival and worked with the high school students. The honor choir was also given the opportunity to work with Dr. Jacob Narverud, a world renowned composer, arranger and conductor.

Dr. Narverud conducted several of his own pieces for the finale concert, which was presented at St. Mark's church on the Bradley campus.

Hearts United Raises Money For Homeless

In recognition of the month of October being "Homeless Awareness Month," Hearts United, a Litchfield-based ministry, held a special Homeless Awareness event on Friday afternoon, Oct. 14.

Popular food truck JC Eats was on site for the event, which included testimonies from individuals that have received a helping hand from the mission. Guests also enjoyed complimentary refreshments and baked goods during the event.

In an attempt to raise \$5,000 for the Hearts United's Homeless Fund, the organization's thrift store is offering discounts and specials throughout the month. The ministerial outreach is also raffling off an afghan made by Audrey Keith, who has been donating her handiwork to Hearts United for many years. Raffle tickets can be

purchased at the thrift store for \$1 apiece of six tickets for \$5 through Monday, Oct. 31. The proceeds raised will be used for the organization's homeless assistance outreach.

Administrator Dave Knoblich estimates that the organization spends more than \$1,000 a month providing assistance to homeless individuals in the Litchfield area. Hearts United tries to help anyone in need but places a special emphasis on the more than 115 students classified as homeless in the Litchfield School District.

"It varies but we generally serve between 30 to 50 households a month," said Knoblich. "The amount of unhomed individuals in the area is staggering and concerning, especially as we enter into the winter months. We recognize that there is a stigma attached

to those that struggle with housing and ask for people to think past their preconceived beliefs about what type of people end up homeless. We see individuals from all walks of life come through our doors. When you make a donation, whether monetary or hygiene products/food, you are helping struggling families or you are helping people leave abusive situations. There are so many situations that lead to homelessness."

Hearts United works closely with local churches and organizations to provide aid to the homeless in the area. Through their collaborative outreach work, Hearts is able to provide short term housing, job assistance and educational opportunities to guide disadvantaged persons out of their current situations and set them up for long term success.

They also provide blankets, showers and occasional food items in emergency situations.

Another way that Hearts United builds up people that are going through a tough spot is through hygiene kits, gender specific, portable bags filled with basic necessities. While they take donations, they ask that all items be full size. They also accept donations of new and gently used blankets - wool is preferable for increased warmth - and backpacks. Those that donate food items are asked to make sure they are things that are easily opened without utensils and do not need to be cooked.

Those interested in making a contribution to the Hearts United Homeless Fund are encouraged to purchase a raffle ticket, or shop at the thrift store, located at 110 N Jackson Street in Litchfield.

Litchfield High School Students Make Honor Roll

Litchfield High School has announced the students named on the honor roll lists for the Fall 2022 semester.

High Honors
Seniors: Owen Baugher, Peyton Baugher, Elijah Bilyeu, Alexia Birkenkamp, Clayton Bishop, Jenni Boden, Laura Boston, Madison Brakenhoff, Jacob Budd, William Calladine, Kyleigh Cameron, Olivia Crain, Jake Cunningham, Christopher Farmer, Myka Fenton, Nathaniel Fetter, Olivia Flemming, Charlotte Gardner, Rhaidan Garrett, Carlee Harmon, Bozz Hogsett, Samuel Horn, Ashley Hudgens, Emma Hughes, Blair Johnson, Seth Kenter, Kylie Kruse, Libby Lamb, Carlee Law, Cassidy Law, Morgan Lemon, Keagan Marten, Lauren Monke, Kayleigh Morrow, Shayla Ortega, Alexander Powell, Hailey Rantz, Danni Riemann, Breanna Roach, Hailey Robbins, Lillian Sawyer, Kaden Shepherd, Jaylynn Taylor, Gavin Thimsen, Luke Twitty, Emma Walch, Nathaniel Watson, Amber Wheat, Haylee Willis, Dotti Young-Grosslauser and Justin Zhang

Juniors: Taylor Bradburn, Haley Bryant, Johnathan Conlee, Emma Diveley, Tatian Dobrinich, Nolan Dougherty, Dominic Ellinger, Carly Favre, Mitchell Floyd, Amy Frerichs, Drake Gasperson, Riley Heyen, Tisha Jarden, Zachary Leitschuh, Alyssa

Lohman, Kenden Longwell, Madison Mix, Amanda Niemann, Aiden Odle, Jackson Painter, Camden Quarton, Sofia Ray, Annika Rhodes, Isabella Roach, Hannah Schmidt, Caitlyn Schneck, Thomas Sellers, Jared Shell, Isabella Steiner, Kendall Stewart, Angel Trader, Addison Webb and Brody Zumwalt

Sophomores: Braden Alexander, Joshua Bader, Josephine Beebe, Kayden Bergman, Emma Bone, Emma Bruntjen, Jaydah Caldwell, Selina Cochran, William Cress, Claudia Deren, Tyler Diamond, Bristol Everett, Avarey Fetter, Samantha Fyffe, Alexandria Gasperson, Georgia Glover, Tayjah Hills, Zachary Hudgins, Moriah King, Keilana Kircher, Clayton Logsdon, Cassandra Loveless, Lukus Middleton, Rylie Mix, Addison Monke, Keaton Morgan, Georgina Painter, Hannah Phillips, Noah Polus, Olivia Reid, Leo Rettig, Isabella Reyes, Maggie Reynolds, Derek Sawyer, Caitlyn Travis, Elsie Walch, Devin White, Alayna Wyatt, Nolan Zeisler, Hayley Zeller and Jessie Zhang

Freshmen: Ava Ballard, Johnathon Bowles, Brooke Braasch, Darby Braasch, Isaiah Burdell, Paityn Buzick, Alex Calladine, Jacob Cota, Kale Dexheimer, Nathan Dougherty, Paige Douglas, Melody Ellinger, Maya Estell, Conner Favre, Paislei Foss,

Cal Frerichs, Shyan Haycraft, Titan Hires, Madison Jenkins, Laidyn Jones, Madilynn Jones, Kalie Kircher, Chloe Law, Kaiden Law, Scarlett Ledford, Charlene Matuszak, Vincent Moore, Jackson Mullins, Deeya Patel, Lucien Quarton, Conner Roettgers, Samuel Schwab, Mathew Severson, Melody Smith, Kaitlyn Spang, Tristan Staggs, Avery Stewart, Amanda Sypherd, Hayden Thompson, Kaia Vickery, Abby White, Wesley White and Kyle Zhang

Honors
Seniors: Zachary Boston, Ashtin Carver, Paul Cowgill, Kaden Cox, Paige Durstine, Korbe Hoover, Dritein Jade, Briley Kester, Hailey Majors, Brandon Malloy, Rilynne Nockman, Blake Quinn, Corbin Schneck, Tyler Thompson, Delanie Ulrich and Caden Wygal

Juniors: Madison Alvarado, Anthony Bader, Cy Cress, Chase Eichelberger, Christian Fenton, Kindon Graham, Easton Grammer, Kirsten Gudausky, Lillian Hamm, Hunter Hancock, Mitch Hantla, Keanna Hawley, Nicholas Hawley, Sophia Hollo, Josie Kelso, Malachi King, Havin Kruse, Patience Kruse, Jacob Long, Jordan Long, Mae Marten, Christiana McDonald, Ian Otto, Alexandria Rhodes,

Wade Schmidt, Tug Schwab, Mia Smith, Abigail Stockstill, Adam Sypherd, Ella Tjepelman, Liliana Tomas-Guerrero, Ryan Vollintine and Jillian White

Sophomores: Megan Boyd, Addison Bradburn, Prestyn Buzick, Cody Davidson, Joseph Gipson, Matthew Green, Kristin Gruelle, Aaron Hale, Garrett Hale, Laurin Hamm, Devin Hansel, Daphney Hartel, Nicholas Hasquin, Clayton Hauter, Chloe Henley, Joelle Hughes, Martavious Jones, Frankie Koniak, Carter Law, Megan Lee, Rebecca McBride, Saylen Parrish, Kenadi Rigsbey, Brayden Ronco, Olivia Sykes, Keeley Tabor, Harrison Thomas and Kenneth Traylor

Freshmen: Ava Becker, Gracie Boden, Devon Chew, Nicholas Cochran, Emely Cruz, Jayden Ellinger, Alli Frerichs, Rhylan Garrett, Colton Gerl, Olivia Goldman, Elizabeth Hale, Zackary Hansel, Steven Jett, Cheyenne Klemme, Hunter Law, Max Leitschuh, Tucker Maguire, Melody McLarty, Ghost Pimentel, Landon Pryor, Alec Roach, Ethan Saathoff, Ashton Schmitz, Maylee Skaalerud, Jake Strange, Kelly White, Payton White, Alice Willows, Cale Winstead and Hailey Wolfe

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MASTER GARDENER SHOWCASE

Join Montgomery County Master Gardeners to learn about the Master Gardener program and attend classes on soil, insects, gardening, and tomatoes. You will also hear from Extension Horticulture Educator Andrew Holsinger. If you enjoy gardening and want to share your knowledge, the Master Gardener program may be for you! All you need is an interest in gardening, an open mind, and a willingness to share your knowledge with others.

Saturday, Nov. 5 from 9:15 a.m. to noon
at Montgomery County Extension located at
1 Industrial Park Dr. in Hillsboro.

This event is \$5 and open to the public. Register online at go.illinois.edu/cjmmmgshowcase or call 217-532-3941 by Nov. 3. If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please call 217-532-3941.

Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**Montgomery County
HATS IN THE RING
CANDIDATES FOR THE NOV. 8 GENERAL ELECTION**

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SANDY LEITHEISER
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

COUNTY TREASURER

NIKKI LOHMAN
(DEMOCRAT)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Democrat Central Committee

COUNTY SHERIFF

RICK ROBBINS
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

CIRCUIT CLERK

DANIEL T. ROBBINS
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

COUNTY BOARD District 1 (vote for 2)

CONNIE TAYLOR BECK
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

JEREMY L. JONES
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

COUNTY BOARD District 2 (vote for 2)

GENE MILES
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

KENNETH FOLKERTS
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

COUNTY BOARD District 3 (vote for 2)

EVAN YOUNG
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

DOUGLAS C. DONALDSON
(REPUBLICAN)
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COUNTY BOARD District 4 (vote for 2)

PATTY WHITWORTH
(REPUBLICAN)
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DAVID LOUCKS
(DEMOCRAT)
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COUNTY BOARD District 5 (vote for 2)

WILLIAM BERGEN
(REPUBLICAN)
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RUSSELL BEASON
(REPUBLICAN)
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RICHARD WENDEL
(DEMOCRAT)
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COUNTY BOARD District 6 (vote for 2)

MARK R. HUGHES
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

ETHAN MURZYNSKI
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

COUNTY BOARD District 7 (vote for 2)

ROBERT "BOB" SNEED
(REPUBLICAN)
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ANDY RITCHIE
(REPUBLICAN)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Republican Central Committee

TIMOTHY L. FOGLE
(DEMOCRAT)
Political advertising paid for by Montgomery County Democrat Central Committee



Each December, members of the Starr Shooters 4-H Club invite community members to sponsor a wreath and to join them in laying wreaths at the three cemeteries at Witt. A few of the members who helped in 2021 are pictured including Paige Suslee, Avry and Alea West, Kennlee Kirk, Summer Spencer, Kennadie Johansen, Fallon Knodle, Kinley Stolte, Caleb, Garrett and Evan Bauer.

Starr Shooters Seek Sponsors For Wreath Program

The Starr Shooters 4-H Club will be honoring veterans interned at Witt Cemetery this winter. Families, businesses and interested citizens are invited to sponsor a wreath to lay at veterans' graves. Each large, spruce wreath includes a bright red bow for just \$15. The Starr Shooters have been participating in Wreaths Across America since conducting a ceremony at their 2015 achievement banquet in honor of veterans to remember, honor and teach. The club has been grateful for community support each year to increase the number of veterans they are able to honor and to assist in the placing of wreaths. The public is invited to participate in the wreath laying ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 17 at 11 a.m. at the Witt Cemetery. Donations for wreaths can be made payable to Starr Shooters 4-H Club and sent to Assistant Club Leader Denise Kistner at 16110 Witt Avenue, Witt, IL 62094 by Monday, Nov. 14. If you would like to sponsor a wreath for a specific veteran, please note the service member's name(s) in your correspondence to Kistner.

Senior Achievers To Meet In Litchfield Nov. 1

The Montgomery/Macoupin County Senior Achievers will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 1, at 8:30 a.m., in the Ross and Mary Lay Community Room at Litchfield Public Library, 1205 S. St., for breakfast and to hear from Achiever Susan Marten, who will speak about her experience with international adaption. Members are asked to park and enter on the north side of the building. Reservations may be made by calling Lou Ellen at 217-820-5568 or 271-324-5567. Cost of the breakfast is \$12. In order to ensure there will be enough food for all, call by Thursday, Oct. 27, if one did not sign up at the Oct. 4, meeting or if one will be attending for the first time. Additionally, those who have signed up and then find themselves unable to attend should call Lou Ellen and cancel their reservation. A reminder that the Senior Achiever policy is that when a member signs up for next month's breakfast, they will be required to pay in advance. Refunds or credits will only be offered if a reservation is cancelled by calling Lou Ellen at 217-820-5568 or 271-324-5567 by the Thursday before the next breakfast. The November travel outing will be Thursday, Nov. 17, when the group tours the McKay NAPA Auto Parts Distribution center at 120 S. Industrial Park in Litchfield. Members will meet in the parking lot at 10 a.m. Lunch, at the member's expense, will follow at the Ariston Café, 413 Old Route 66 N, in Litchfield. Those who wish to join this trip should contact Joyce Bishop at 217-549-4519 so the restaurant can accommodate the group.

AFSCME Members Meet At Farm Bureau In October



Pictured above, from the left are Harold and Kathryn Long, Donna Spencer and Bev Compton. In back are Joey and Gloria Hutchins, Randy Leuschke, Michael and Lori Bergbower, Lucille Caulk, Connie Virden, special guest speaker Sheriff Rick Robbins, Becky Spinner, Guylia Grigsby, Mike Compton and President David Spinner. Not pictured is Joyce Shelton.

On Tuesday, Oct. 11, the AFSCME Sub-Chapter #87 Retirees held their monthly meeting at the Montgomery County Farm Bureau in downtown Hillsboro. There were 12 members and three guests in attendance. President David Spinner welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Spinner asked the group to stand for the *Pledge of Allegiance*. Spinner asked everyone to devote a moment of silence for deceased sub-chapter member and former sub-chapter trustee, John Schleper. Spinner stated that the membership has declined from 718 to 715 with no new members. Spinner told the group that the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans would be holding a virtual event next month. A Retiree Security Symposium will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 15 with AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. However, this conflicts with the local regular November meeting. Next, Spinner introduced special guest speaker, Montgomery County Sheriff Rick Robbins, and thanked him for rearranging his busy schedule to accommodate the group. He told the group that Sheriff Robbins had provided the sub-chapter with a presentation on "scams" back in 2019. Robbins started his presentation by handing out a document entitled, Rural America Safety Awareness. The issues listed were road safety, home safety, personal safety, scams and America. He also brought numerous free items, such as hand sanitizer, plastic drinking glasses, shopping bags and magnetic clips for everyone to take home. Regarding road safety, Robbins said that they need to respect trains. They need to stop, look and listen. Also, most of the train crossings are marked in Montgomery County. He added that they should help law enforcement by calling in any irregularity they might see to the sheriff's office. Robbins told the group that this time of the year with the harvest season upon everyone and they need to be patient. Most all moving equipment is definitely getting bigger. If you get behind a farm implement or large vehicle just take your time. Pertaining to emergency vehicles such as tow companies and ambulances, you need to pull over to the right because it is the law. Robbins talked about scams and commented to remember not too much in life is free. Watch out for misspellings in texts and emails and don't open any of these. Mostly phone calls, emails, Facebook, IRS and family in jail are common. If you question the validity of the issue call someone and check it out with them. Your Social Security number should never be given out to anyone. On personal safety, Robbins stated you should have a plan if an intruder or a fire should occur in the home. Video cameras and motion lights are all good items to protect your personal safety at home. Lock your car doors and take the keys out of the car. Check out your surroundings when going out and be aware of what's going on. If you think something isn't right don't ignore your sixth sense. Spinner stated that the Workers' Rights Constitutional Amendment I, if approved will provide secure benefits for all types of workers to unionize and allow people to unionize. The unions and workers are very hopeful this will pass. Spinner said that the 2022 election for Supreme Court judges is very important to retirees. A majority of favorable judges is necessary to protect our pension clause in the Illinois Constitution. Next, Spinner brought up the upcoming insurance changeover on Jan. 1. He said that state workers and state university retirees will be converted from United Healthcare to Aetna Health Care. Becky Spinner stated that everything will probably stay the same as we now have. However, your healthcare facility has to be willing to bill Aetna. She said the phone number to call for answers to your questions is 1-800-307-4830. Joyce Shelton shared a document that came in the mail from Aetna. They are offering a free, in-person or online seminar. The dates, locations and times were listed for Springfield and Taylorville. The next Decatur meeting is on Monday, Nov. 14, at the Decatur Public Library at 1 p.m. Speaker Dick Breckenridge will have a presentation on Alternate Energy. The next Hillsboro meeting is on Tuesday, Nov. 15 with our "Honor the Veteran Celebration." This will start at noon with a potluck at the Montgomery County Farm Bureau building in downtown Hillsboro, and the meeting will follow at 1 p.m. Special guest speakers are veteran Gordon Sheehan and Force veteran Mike Marks. They will share memories of their service. All are welcome to attend. New members or retired seniors interested in keeping up-to-date on the current state and federal issues are welcome to attend. If you would like to register and participate in the next meeting, contact President, David Spinner at 217-324-2018 or email Bspinner@consolidated.net.

PANTHER PRESS • by Morgan Lemon at Litchfield

Seussical Will Take Stage At LHS This Spring



Happy Monday, Panthers! Last week was a shortened week due to no school Friday.

There will be cheerleading try-outs in the cafeteria on Oct. 26 and 27 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Sign-up sheets will be in student services.

There will be an Art Club meeting on Oct. 26 until 4 p.m.

If you are interested in scholastic bowl, please pick up a packet outside Mrs. Brummet's door or ask Mrs. Eckhoff.

College Visits: Greenville University on Monday, Oct. 24 and Bradley University on Wednesday, Nov. 2.

Upcoming Dates: Nov. 8 - no school; Nov. 10 - Veterans Day Assembly; Nov. 11 - no school; Nov. 23-27 - Thanksgiving Break.

Seussical the Musical auditions will be Nov. 15 and 16. Interested in auditioning? Check your e-mail and join our classroom page for more information and the sign up

form. Want to work behind the scenes instead? Applications for behind the scenes jobs like hair, makeup, lights, etc are also available on the LHS Drama Club Classroom page

There is a sign-up sheet for trapshooting in Student Services. If you are interested, please sign up.

Sports

Monday, Oct. 24: Volleyball at Hillsboro Regionals against Carlville at 6 p.m.; Girls middle school basketball at Nokomis at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 25: Volleyball at Hillsboro Regionals at 6 p.m. tentative; Girls middle school basketball at Panaat 6 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 27: Volleyball at Hillsboro Regionals at 6 p.m. tentative; Girls middle school basketball at home against Hillsboro at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 22: Cross country at S.J.-Ogden sectionals (Dodds Park in Champaign); girls at 10 a.m. and boys at 11 a.m.

Have a great week, Panthers!



Lincolnwood Volleyball Raises \$1,000 For MCCA

Members of the Lincolnwood High School volleyball team hosted a Dig for the Cure youth volleyball clinic for kindergarten through eighth grade students on Saturday, Sept. 24, raising money for the Montgomery County Cancer Association. They raised over \$1,000 this year, culminating with a Dig for the Cure game against Litchfield High School on Sept. 26, where they recognized cancer survivors with flowers. Each participant received a Dig for the Cure T-shirt. Pictured above, in front, from the left are Kennedy Klinger, Morgan Hampton, Kinley Morris, Jasmine Vickery, Taryn Millburg and Sophie Foster. In the back row are Rian Deardorff, Zarah Guzman, Ella Jenkins, Tessa Funderburk, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson, Hailee Belsher, Kierstyn Denney, Avery Pope, Emilee Belsher, Audrey Germann, Taryn Clarke and Haelee Damm.

REDSKIN REVIEW • by Hailey Engelman at Nokomis

Redskins Honor Ayden With AVM Month



Welcome back, Redskins Fans! I hope all students and teachers have enjoyed their long weekend with their day off on Friday.

This Friday will be a 2:30 p.m. dismissal as well.

To start off, I would like to remind students and parents that the 2021-22 yearbooks are in! If you haven't paid for or picked yours up, please contact Mr. Moreland or Mrs. Goodwin. Additionally, if you did not order one but would like to, they are \$50. Get them now, as prices will go up the longer you wait!

FFA showed their appreciation to the local farmers' hard work during harvest season by delivering snack packs to them over the week.

Mr. Moreland's photography class recently had the opportunity to visit Bremer's Sanctuary in Hillsboro to capture fall portraits and landscapes.

Annie Jr. will be hosted by the Jr. High Fine Arts Department on Oct. 28 and 29. Tickets are \$5 per person or \$20 for a family, doors open at 7 p.m. They have worked hard in planning this and it will be a great show!

The Student Council has paired up with the Jr. High Student Advisory to plan Red Ribbon Week where the NHS says no to drugs! The students have done activities in advocacy and look forward to their dress up week. The days will be Monday "Follow Your Dreams" PJ day, Tuesday "Team Up Against Drugs" Team Apparel day, Wednesday "Don't Let Drugs Make You Crazy" Mismatch day, Thursday "Put A Cap On Drugs" Hat day, and Friday "Red Out for Red Ribbon" Redskins Wear Red day. The councils would love for all Nokomis students to participate from North Elementary all the way through high school.

The senior class will be hosting Powderpuff football on Monday, Nov. 7. The first game starts at 6 p.m. The schedule will be seniors versus freshmen and then sophomores

versus juniors, and the winners will play each other for a championship. There will be a \$1 admission and we invite the public to come watch!

October is AVM Awareness Month and we like to use this opportunity to remember Ayden O'Malley, as well as raise money and awareness for AVM. AVM is Arteriovenous Malformation, in which arteries and veins connecting to the brain or spinal cord can rupture and cause bleeding. The volleyball team held a bake sale last week for AVM research, and this week is their Penny War (Oct. 24 through Oct. 28). During the Penny War, each class will have their own bucket containing their coins. Silvers and dollars are negative points and pennies are positive. Opposing classes can put silver in other classes' buckets to bring them down. The winning class will receive a reward at the end of the week. All proceeds will go to AVM Research in Ayden's name.

The Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) held a fun meeting this week, including snacks and fall festivities. The FCCLA always has an amazing turnout to their events, as they have well over half of the entire high school involved! They are also still selling Nothing Bundt Cakes, which are due Oct. 28.

In sports, many of the Redskins have put an end to their seasons. The soccer team fought hard against a tough Williamsville team in the sectional game, but fell short to complete a great season.

Volleyball has finished up regular season play with junior varsity finishing second in the Pana Tournament and varsity taking one win and one loss during the week, finishing with a 2-3 record at the Pawnee Tournament over the weekend. They will begin regionals tonight (Oct. 24) against Ramsey, which will be held in Raymond.

Football finished up their season with a great battle against Dupo. Congratulations to all teams on great seasons!

I wish everyone a safe and happy last full week of October!

Birth To Five Illinois Program Comes To County

According to the report of the Illinois Commission on Equitable Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Funding, "The beating heart of an effective ECEC system is the community, and in order to provide for community input, the commission urges creation of a formal community and regional infrastructure."

In response to this recommendation, the state has partnered with the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (INCCRRA) to build this equity-driven statewide regional system, Birth to Five Illinois, comprised of staff and local councils that will amplify family, provider, and community voices in the state policy-making process and give local and state leaders a more accurate understanding of the early childhood gaps in each region.

Important goals for Birth to Five Illinois include:

- Supporting local residents in coming together to address early childhood needs within their own communities.
- Making sure the State's early childhood policies and funding priorities match the needs of each region, prioritizing the voices of families and local residents.
- Providing equitable access to high-quality early childhood services for all children.

Since the official statewide launch in February 2022, Birth to Five Illinois has been building the foundation for this new initiative.

As of July 2022, 39 Regional Council Managers have been hired across the state. Birth to Five Illinois anticipates the additional regional support staff, one Family and Community Engagement Specialist and one Administrative Support, to be hired in all 39 regions by Thanksgiving.

Amy Robinson is the Regional Council Manager for Region 3, which serves Montgomery, Bond, Christian, Effingham and Fayette counties. A current resident of Bond County with deep connections to the community, Robinson has a background in early childhood, administration, elementary education, and

educational leadership.

She has been working in early childhood for over 20 years and has an extensive history with Head Start as both a teacher and an administrator. She is an advocate for family and community engagement, working with the schools in her county to provide support for early childhood.

Heather Nah, Family and Community Engagement Specialist, and Katie Gullo, Administrative Support, round out the Region 3 Team.

As the Region 3 Council Manager, Robinson's initial tasks include:

- Standing up both a Birth to Five Family Council and a Birth to Five Action Council for the region
- With the support of Illinois Action for Children, completing a regional scan that will include a demographic, programmatic, workforce, and facilities landscape analysis, as well as an assessment of the gaps and needs in early childhood services in the region

Region 3 residents who are passionate about early



Region 3 Manager
Amy Robinson

childhood and interested in working with other community members to overcome challenges and create solutions are encouraged to visit the Region 3 webpage at www.birthtofiveil.com/region3 to learn more about the councils and submit an interest form.

For more information about the local Birth to Five Illinois program, visit www.birthtofiveil.com



CEO Students Join Hillsboro Sertoma Meeting

The Montgomery County CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities) team began their days with an early-morning breakfast during the Hillsboro Sertoma Club's meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 4. The students learned about the civic organization and their current fundraisers before playing a networking game that allowed the local youth to learn more about the club members and garner personal advice from the Sertomas' life experiences.

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Full Agenda For Natural Resources Committee

by Ron Deabenderfer

A full house at a Natural Resources Committee meeting in Hillsboro's City Hall bubbled out into conversations on the sidewalk after the meeting ended. Of the three items for discussion on the agenda, the draw for most of those attending concerned the possible sale of "...adjacent landowner land..." led by Fred Butler, the city councilman in charge of public properties, and Jim May, the superintendent of Parks and Public Properties.

Hillsboro police officer Tim Hopper was present to comment about a problem that had surfaced at previous committee meetings when committee members Bart Wetzell, John Rapp, Bret Reeves (not present at this meeting), Secretary Dave Strowmatt, and Chairman Kyle Hacke discussed the need for a more visible police presence on the lakes during the summer season, especially on holiday weekends. The late John Boohar served as lake patrol before his too-early passing; the consensus of the committee was that the lakes need another person dedicated to them.

Hopper said the problem has financial roots; the police department is currently understaffed as it provides the town 24 hour services. Hopper said that although he's

officially an investigator, he's often called upon to do patrol work as well. Too, anyone assigned to do lake patrol will be on overtime (the department budget then suffers); and if it's on a holiday, when the need is greatest, then the pay rate is doubled. Working on holidays can cause stress to family life as well. Hopper said he'd checked with Litchfield to see how they handled the problem; they have only Conservation Police who patrol occasionally.

The next item on the agenda was Butler's report about efforts to fund conservation practices to help with incoming water quality and preserving the lakes themselves. Butler pointed to the two-pronged problem: the watershed needs attention, and much of it is not in the city's control; and the lake is horribly eroded, worse than anyone can imagine unless he/she boats around the edges to investigate. The problem worsened when the city diverted income (derived from selling water to the mine) to other needs within the city; Butler and fellow council members reclaimed half of that last year, and the city has increased water fees to customers to build the restoration fund bit by bit, but the needs are great - a barge to move riprap to areas not reachable by land; a system to lower water levels so dredging costs

aren't as prohibitive; dredging areas that have silted in - and meeting them will be costly.

Butler said they (the city) is working in partnership with state and federal agencies to search for grants, both to acquire funds and for expertise. One need is methods to retain water before it hits the lake with erosion force; because the land isn't the city's, that will require co-operation with other agencies. May said, "We are touching base with many people; that takes time, but we are proceeding."

Butler opened the discussion about selling leased lots which fall between houses already constructed and the lake by saying City Attorney Chris Sherer had advised there were two ways of selling the land: one is to ask for bids; the other is to hire an outside appraiser, and once a value is set, sell it to the house owner for no less than 80% of the appraised value.

May and Butler both stressed that the city isn't going to have a "fire sale." The purpose of the meeting was to jointly hunt for a consistent process to follow; sale of lots had been haphazard in the past.

The group of house owners present had ideas - and questions. Many said they had improved lots they lease with their own money but don't want to invest more in land they don't own. Butler

said that's understandable, but he thinks improvements (like lighted docks) make the lake more attractive. He also said the city relies on income from leasing lots; and once the lots are sold, a replacement fee will be needed.

The questions were many; some were technical, but all were welcomed. The committee and the speakers seemed to realize everyone present wanted the same thing, lake preservation and beautifications; and that won't happen unless all work together. Often Butler and May were thanked for recognizing long-standing problems.

The questions included: Will current lake lot users be required to maintain/clean their lots better than in the past? How far above the water line will the lot boundary be? Which survey method would be used? (Elevation seemed the answer); Will NAI standards be used for appraisal? Who pays for the surveys? Who pays for the appraisal? How wide an area between water's edge and lot boundary should be left as access to the water for city workers?

There were many questions; as one attendee said, "The more we talk, the more complex the issues become." Because each lot and situation is different, a one size fits all process will be hard to develop.

At least the search has begun.



Brakston Brummet of Nokomis was chosen as one of eight artists for this year's Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville Sculpture on Campus program. He is pictured above with his piece, "Recollection."

Brummet Selected For Sculpture On Campus

Brakston Brummet of Nokomis, a fine arts student at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, was selected for this year's Sculpture on Campus program.

Each year, the program gives a select number of students the opportunity to design and install outdoor sculptures throughout campus. Students receive a stipend, as well as the benefits of proposing, designing and installing major sculptural works that are on view for a full year.

Guest jurors award student prizes at the Sculpture on Campus reception after the Sculpture Walk, held on Friday, Oct. 7.

This year, the guest juror was Kendall Buster, a professor at Virginia Commonwealth University. Brummet was chosen to receive the Alumni Award.

For his piece, "Recollection," Brummet started with a welded steel structure that

was then wrapped in expanded steel. After that, he molded mortar around the lower half of the expanded steel and draped a denim quilt over the top, which was painted in fiberglass resin to make it weatherproof. To finish the design, he painted the entire sculpture to look like a cast bronze sculpture.

Brummet chose to do denim quilt squares because his grandma, Martha Meiners, made a denim quilt for all her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His sculpture represents memories and how those memories change over time. It has faces with different emotions to represent how feelings and memories can change over time.

There were eight sculptures created as part of this year's program.

Brummet, a 2018 graduate of Litchfield High School, is the son of Leon and Jo Brummet of Nokomis.

Upcoming Meetings

Hillsboro City Council
Hillsboro City Council will meet at 7 p.m. today Tuesday, Oct. 25, at Hillsboro City Hall.

Agenda items up for discussion include requests for street closures and bids for the sale of the property located at

904 South Main Street.
Nokomis City Council
Nokomis City Council will meet at 7 p.m. tonight, Mon-

day, Oct. 24, at City Hall.
Agenda items to be discussed include the agreement with EJ Water Cooperative, Montgomery County animal control and property lease agreements.

County Board Committees

The Montgomery County Board Development and Personnel Committee and Infrastructure Committee will hold a special meeting at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27, at the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro to interview candidates for the position of animal control warden and facility manager

PUMPKIN DROP AT LITCHFIELD AIRPORT

OCTOBER 29, 9AM-11:30AM

Join us At the Litchfield Municipal Airport Saturday Oct 29th for our 1st annual Pumpkin drop. We will have pumpkins available for you to drop from an airplane and try to hit the target. We will also be serving a pancake breakfast from 9:00-10:30 am. \$30 for two pumpkins

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Zane Duff looks for an open receiver as Litchfield's Caiden Lamb bears down on the Hillsboro quarterback during the week nine clash between the two rivals on Oct. 21, in Litchfield. Duff ran for 100 yards and passed for 72 more in the Toppers' 48-36 come-from-behind victory over the Purple Panthers.

Journal-News/Mary Herschelmann

Toppers Come Back To Beat Panthers

by Ron Deabenderfer

In a game with more pivotal moments than a marching band provides during a half-time performance, Hillsboro outlasted an outmanned (in terms of number of available players) Litchfield Purple Panther football team, 48-36, in Litchfield Friday evening, October 21.

Partially because of injuries, Litchfield had few reserves available on their sidelines. Of those suited up to play, only four were seniors. They and more-than-four cheerleaders, golf squad members, and a host of band members were honored before the game on a mild but windy fall night almost perfect for a Rt. 16 rivalry game.

For three quarters the lack

of depth didn't matter as running back A.J. Sypherd, fellow junior Tate Dobrinic, and junior-wide receiver Keenan Powell and sophomore Martavious Jones provided enough offense to electrify the large crowd in the stands and along the fence. All the elements combined for a playoff atmosphere.

The Purple Panthers were ahead by 8 at halftime, a lead they maintained until the fourth quarter. Entering the last eight minutes, they were ahead 36-28.

That was a shock to Hillsboro fans, who expected an easier game based on the Toppers' 5-3 record going in. The Panther defense did its part; with 285 lb. Harrison Thomas, 265 lb. Shawn Shafer, and 315 lb. Corbin Schneck

anchoring the line; Sypherd as a very active linebacker; and Jones and Powell in the secondary, Litchfield seemed primed to stop the Toppers' five-pronged running attack.

Perhaps the most pivotal point came five minutes into the fourth quarter. Litchfield was ahead 36-34 and had the ball on their 35. Four Toppers blitzed and hit Sypherd just as he took the handoff from Dobrinic. Litchfield statistics' had him at 216 yards (on 24 carries) to that point; two plays later, an official asked he go to the sidelines for evaluation. Not only did he have over 200 yards rushing at the time, he'd been credited with 19 tackles (solos and assists combined).

Continued on 8B

Second Half Shoots Bullets Past Lancers At Sectional

by Kyle Herschelmann

The postseason came to an end for the Lincolnwood High School soccer team on Wednesday, Oct. 19, as the Lancers fell to Williamsville 5-0 on a cold, clear night in Virden.

The game was the epitome of a "closer than it looks" final score as the two teams were knotted at zero after the first 40 minutes. With Braden Whalen, Mason Stauder, Wyatt Kistner, Maddox Himes and Reece Lohman anchoring the backline, the Bullets had few legitimate scoring chances in the first half.

Those chances they did have were swept away by goalkeeper Gabe Armentrout, who had a pair of saves in the first half, including one in the first five minutes, and came out to contest several cross attempts that kept the ball out of harm's way.

Williamsville's defense and goalkeeper Colton Mizeur were even better, limiting Lincolnwood's chances as they recorded their eighth straight shutout and 17th shutout in 25 games.

With 25:30 to play, the Lancers had a shot on a corner kick, taken by Wyatt Kistner and served up to the front of the box. The header attempt on the other end was well wide, though, and the game remained tied at 0-0.

That nearly changed in the final seven minutes of the first half when Elijah Aumann muscled past two defenders and found himself 1-on-1 with Mizeur. As the Bullets' goalie protected the near post and



Lincolnwood's Ian Keller attempts to knock the ball away from Williamsville's Drew Farnsworth during the sectional semifinal game in Virden on Wednesday, Oct. 19. The Bullets broke a scoreless halftime tie in the first minute of the second period to spark a 5-0 victory over the Lancers and advance to Saturday's sectional championship against Sacred Heart-Griffin.

James Ryan/NokoPhoto

cut down Aumann's angle, the senior striker shot for the far post, missing the net by a small margin to keep the score even.

While the Bullets had more chances on goal in the first half, Aumann's attempt would be the best of the first 40 minutes as the two teams regrouped at the break.

The tone of the game changed early in the second half, with Williamsville going

on top just 46 seconds into the final period. Reid Bodine took the ball out wide to the right and fed Jacob Park near the net. From there, Park just had to chip it past Armentrout to give the Bullets the first lead of the game.

Lincolnwood tried to equalize the contest and drew a corner kick with 28:35 to play.

Continued on 3B



Members of the Hillsboro High School volleyball team celebrate their win over Pana on Thursday, Oct. 20, their first against the Panthers in at least 11 years. The win also guaranteed the Toppers a winning record this year and clinched second place in the South Central Conference.

Photo courtesy of Brandi Lentz

Lady Toppers Take Out Pana To Secure Second In South Central

A lot rode on the Hillsboro volleyball team's game on Thursday, Oct. 20. With a 15-14 overall record, a win would guarantee that the Toppers would finish over .500 for the seventh time in eight years, but it would also give them at least a share of second place in the South Central Conference, their best finish since the conferences stopped using divisions in 2009.

The only caveat to that scenario was the team that stood in the way of Hillsboro accomplishing those tasks, Pana, who had beaten the Toppers once already in 2022 and many, many times in years past. The statistical site Maxpreps had Pana going 22-0 against Hillsboro between 2007 and Thursday's

game. While there are a few gaps on that list, current Toppers Coach Emily Zimmerman knew that she hadn't beaten the Panthers during her tenure, which started in 2011.

That came on an end on Thursday, though, as the Toppers not only beat the Panthers, but they did so in two games, on their home floor, on senior night.

As they had done in their first game against the Panthers on Aug. 23, Hillsboro won the opening set by a 25-23 final score. The Toppers opened the game on a 5-0 run behind the serving of Kinley Richardson, but Pana reeled the visitors back in and took their first lead of the game at 11-10.

The lead would be tied at

11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, before Hillsboro went on a mini-run to take an 18-15 advantage. The two teams traded points, with the Panthers coming back to tie the game at 20-20 and 21-21.

Layne Rupert broke the tie with a kill and back-to-back aces by Hanna Hughes made it game-point for the Toppers at 24-21. Pana launched one last attack to extend the game after a hit into the net and an ace, but Addison Lowe's kill on a free ball just over the net ended the rally and the first set.

In August, game two was the beginning of the end as Pana won 25-21 in the second set, then finished off the Toppers 25-16.

Continued on 3B

Lady Panthers, Quarton Advance To Cross Country Sectional Meet

With three runners in the top 25, the Litchfield Lady Panthers were one of seven teams to make it out of the Shelbyville Cross Country Regional at Dacey Trail on Saturday, Oct. 22.

Freshman Darby Braasch and the senior duo of Myka Fenton and Delanie Ulrich held their own with some of the area's best as they all clocked in under 21 and a half minutes. Braasch finished 17th in her sectional debut, running a time of 20:25.98. Fenton was just two places and 18 seconds behind her teammate, running a 20:43.00, while Ulrich ran a 21:25.18 to finish 25th.

Joelle Hughes, Alex Gasperson and Emma Diveley weren't far off the pace of their teammates, finishing 36th, 42nd and 53rd. Hughes clocked in at 22:26.58, while

Gasperson ran a 23:00.41 and Diveley ran a 24:01.16.

All told, Litchfield finished with 130 team points to take fifth. Tolono Unity (26), Monticello (72), Shelbyville (82) and Clinton (104) finished ahead of Litchfield, while Decatur St. Teresa (148) and Argenta-Oreana (208) took the final two qualifying spots for the St. Joseph-Ogden Sectional on Saturday, Oct. 29, at Dodds Park in Champaign.

To advance to state, the Panthers will have to be one of the top six teams at the sectional, with the top 10 runners not on an advancing team also earning the chance to run at Detweiller Park in Peoria on Nov. 5. Litchfield has qualified for state as a team six times, most recently in 2015 and 2016.

Hillsboro Cross Country
In addition to the Litchfield

girls, two members of the Hillsboro girls cross country team also competed at Shelbyville. Meagan White ran a time of 27:38.57 to finish 76th in her final race, while fellow senior Alexandra Kuhns ran a 28:30.04 to finish 79th.

Litchfield Boys

While the Litchfield girls saw their sectional hopes come to fruition, the Litchfield boys narrowly missed advancing to the sectional as a team.

The Panthers finished ninth out of 13th teams, scoring 213 points. The top seven teams advanced on to the sectional, with seventh going to Cerro Gordo with 155 points.

While Litchfield won't be going as a team, they will be represented in Champaign as Camden Quarton finished seventh overall and advanced as an individual.

Continued on 8B



The Litchfield girls cross country team took fifth at the Shelbyville Regional on Saturday, Oct. 22, earning themselves a berth in next Saturday's sectional in Champaign. From the left are Myka Fenton, Darby Braasch, Alex Gasperson, Delanie Ulrich, Emma Diveley and Joelle Hughes.



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Tigers Dash 'Skins Hopes For Week 10

by Kyle Herschelman

The stakes were simple, but astronomically high in Nokomis on Friday, Oct. 21, when the Redskins squared off against Dupo. With both teams at 4-4, the winner would most likely earn a spot in this year's IHSA playoff, while the loser would come up just short.

That simple concept became extremely complicated in the final three minutes of the game as three lead changes resulted in Nokomis' playoff hopes being dashed in the final 15 seconds by a 36-30 loss to the Tigers.

"It's the way life is. It's the highs and lows. One minute you think you have it all done and the next minute, things go wrong and you end up losing," Nokomis Head Coach Paul Watson said after the game. "But we're a family and they will have that family that they play football with for the rest of their lives, no matter what they're doing."

The game started in similar fashion to the way it ended, with three quick scores that saw the scoreboard go from 6-0 to 6-6 to 14-6 before the eight minute mark of the first quarter.

Just 13 seconds into the contest Dupo scored the first touchdown, with Deegan Prater running back the opening kickoff for a 77-yard score that made it 6-0. Nokomis answered quickly, scoring on a one-yard touchdown run by Brenton Lyons, his eighth of the season, as the Redskins tied the game at six.

Big plays continued to be the Redskins' downfall in the first quarter, though. Just 49 seconds after Lyons crossed into the endzone, Logan Stevens broke a 61-yard run for Dupo, giving the Tigers a 14-6 lead and momentum.

That momentum received a boost in the next series as Cole Putnam recovered a fumble by the Redskins to give Dupo the ball back on their own 44, with six minutes still to play in the first quarter.

The Tigers drove down to the Nokomis 18, but a holding call pushed them back 10 yards and the Redskins took over on downs two plays later.

Looking to cut into the eight point lead, Nokomis hit

the ground running to end the quarter, with a 28-yard run by Lyons and a 10-yard run by Daryl Evans getting them into Dupo territory by the end of the first quarter.

Be it Lyons or Evans or Nolan Herpstreith, the Redskins had success on the ground, with Lyons going for 115 yards on 23 carries, Evans rushing 18 times for 111 yards and Herpstreith going for 67 yards on 10 touches.

With 9:38 left in the second, Herpstreith picked up the four-yard touchdown to cap a 15-play, 78-yard drive that made it 14-12 after the failed two-point conversion.

Taking a chance on special teams, Nokomis got the ball back when Kolin Reynolds recovered the onside kick on the ensuing kickoff to give the Redskins the ball at the 50. A steady diet of the running game and a pair of Dupo penalties pushed the ball all the way down the field as Evans carried it in from the two to give Nokomis its first lead at 18-14 with 5:12 left in the first half.

Dupo charged into the Nokomis end just three plays after the kickoff following Evans' touchdown and made it to the Nokomis 10-yard line on a 24-yard run by Logan Stevens. The next three plays resulted in a 12-yard loss on a bad pitch, a 15-yard penalty for offensive pass interference and a 15-yard penalty for defensive pass interference that made it second and goal from the 22-yard line.

The strange sequence coupled with some timely defensive plays by the Redskins resulted in Dupo turning the ball over on downs with a minute and four seconds to play in the half. After two more penalties in the next four snaps, Nokomis made the decision to enter the locker room with the four-point lead rather than take any more chances.

Once they got back out on the field, the Redskins began a marathon drive that lasted 16 plays and more than six minutes, with Lyons scoring his second touchdown of the night on a one-yard run. The conversion pass missed its mark, but Nokomis now held a 24-14 lead with 5:41 to play in the third.

Dupo had trouble getting things going on the next series and faced 4th-and-1 from the Nokomis 46 just three plays into the drive, but a 22-yard run by Prater and a 24-yard run by Stevens turned things around and cut the Nokomis lead to 24-22.

The Redskins tried to put the game away and made it down to the Dupo four in their next series, but a 10-yard penalty for a block in the back stalled the drive and they would turn the ball over on downs with 8:40 to play in the game.

The Tigers worked the ball to midfield and got a big play from Prater, who broke free for a 20-yard reception that took the ball down to the Nokomis 30. The Redskins held Dupo on the next three plays, but on 4th-and-7, Nokomis was whistled for pass interference, giving the Tigers new life and the ball at the 17-yard line. Three plays later Logan Stevens scored for the Tigers, giving Dupo a 28-24 lead with 2:15 to play.

In a game that had more than its fair share of penalties, two came quickly on the kickoff, which allowed Nokomis to take over on the 50-yard line. Lyons got the carry on the first play of the drive, but was drug down for a three yard loss as the clock continued to run.

The clock would turn into a problem, but not on the offensive side for the Redskins, who scored on the next play when Brody Steel caught Lyons in stride over the middle of the field, with the junior running back sprinting 53 yards for the go-ahead score.

"We left too much time on the clock," Coach Watson said, joking that his offense was too good in the series.

Jokes aside, the 98 seconds left on the clock proved to be just enough time for the Tigers, who benefitted from another pass interference call with 30 seconds to play. Dupo would go back up by six on a 6-yard run by Deegan Prater and a two-point conversion by Logan Stevens that left just 15.4 seconds on the clock.

Nokomis tried to find some magic to extend their season, but it wasn't meant to be as the 2022 campaign ended for the Redskins.

It was a tough end to a season that had more than its fair share of challenges. Not only did the Redskins lose an all-star team's worth of talent to graduation, but they were without the services of one of their top returning players, Craig Bertolino, for the second half of 2022 due to a knee injury.

"Our mentality is next guy up, but that really hurt on both sides of the ball," Watson said about Bertolino, one of 13 seniors who were honored before the game. "But we're young. I told the younger guys that I can't remember the last time we had that many freshmen on the field for us, going both ways, and we still found a way to win and put us in a position where we were fighting for the playoffs."

And that's all that any team can ask for: the chance to continue playing football in week 10. While that chance didn't come to fruition this year, the lessons learned on Friday, and Fridays all year long, will undoubtedly help the Redskins in 2023.

October 21 at Nokomis
Nokomis (4-5) 6 12 6 6---30
Dupo (5-4) 14 0 8 14---36

Scoring Summary
1st - 11:47 - Dupo - Deegan Prater 77-yard TD kickoff return (run failed)

1st - 8:53 - Nokomis - Brenton Lyons 1-yard TD run (run failed)

1st - 8:04 - Dupo - Logan Stevens 61-yard TD run (Ashton Stein Run)

2nd - 9:38 - Nokomis - Nolan Herpstreith 4-yard TD run (run failed)

2nd - 5:12 - Nokomis - Daryl Evans 2-yard TD run (pass failed)

3rd - 5:41 - Nokomis - Brenton Lyons 1-yard TD run (pass failed)

3rd - 3:37 - Dupo - Logan Stevens 24-yard TD run (Deegan Prater run)

4th - 2:15 - Dupo - Logan Stevens 2-yard TD run (pass failed)

4th - 1:38 - Nokomis - Brenton Lyons 53-yard TD pass from Brody Steele (pass failed)

4th - 15.4 - Dupo - Deegan Prater 6-yard TD run (Logan Stevens run)

Nokomis Statistics
Passing: Brody Steele 2-3-68.
Rushing: Brenton Lyons 23-115; Daryl Evans 18-111; Nolan Herpstreith 10-67; Brody Steele 3-10.
Receiving: Brenton Lyons 1-53, Nolan Herpstreith 1-15.

Tackles (Solo/Assist): Riley Reynolds 2/7; Nolan Herpstreith 2/4; Garret Engelman 0/5; Braxton Taylor 2/2; Jaxson Batty 0/4; Zaylon Sisk 2/2; Kendall Coss 1/1; Brenton Lyons 0/2; Lucas Stinson 0/2; Kadyann Petty 1/1; Lucas Bernardini 0/2; Mason Morris 0/1; Ryan Eisenbarth 1/0; Kolin Reynolds 1 fumble recovery.



Nokomis running back Brenton Lyons shakes off the tackle attempt of Dupo's Colton Skaggs during the Redskins' final game of the season on Oct. 21, in Nokomis. Lyons had 168 offensive yards and three touchdowns (two rushing, one receiving), but the Tigers managed to score in the final 15 seconds to escape with a 36-30 victory.

James Ryan/NokoPhoto

Redskins Fourth At Pawnee

The Nokomis High School volleyball team went 3-2 in their five matches at the Pawnee Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 22, picking up wins over the host school, Edinburg and Altamont, while falling to Meridian and Mendon Unity.

Early in the season the Redskins added three ties to their record at the Altamont Tournament, which restricted pool play games to just two sets. Pawnee also had a similar rule, but instead of ties, the match winner was decided by who scored more points overall in the two sets.

This rule benefitted the Redskins in their match with Pawnee as they dropped the first set 25-18, before beating the Indians 25-11 in the second set to claim the win.

Addison Dangbar led Nokomis in service points with 14 and also had six digs and three kills. Becca Hill led the team in kills with four, while also assisting on five kills for her teammates. Reaghan Jonas also had three kills, while Hailey Engelman led the team in assists with eight. Defensively, Addison Glenn and Audrey Sabol led the team in blocks with three and two, while Emily Cress had a team-best seven digs.

Notiebreaker was needed in Nokomis' win over Edinburg as they beat the Wildcats 25-20, 25-20. Addison Dangbar again led the team in serving with six points, matching Presley Mehochko, with Hailey Engelman adding in five points as well. Dangbar also led the team in digs with nine, followed by Engelman with eight and Natalie Brownback with seven.

Reaghan Jonas also added in a block on the defensive end. On the attack, Addison Glenn had eight kills to lead the Redskins, followed by Audrey Sabol and Hailey Engelman with five each. Engelman also had eight assists, while Becca Hill added in six.

Nokomis' first loss came by a razor thin margin as they split sets with Meridian, winning 25-21, but losing 25-22 to give the Hawks the one-point win via tiebreaker. Hailey Engelman, Addison Glenn, Natalie Brownback and Presley Mehochko all had four service points apiece in the match, with Engelman also leading the team in assists with seven. Mehochko and Becca Hill also had five assists apiece, while Audrey Sabol (8), Glenn (6), Reaghan Jonas (3) and Engelman (3) had kills.

Defensively, Addison Dangbar led the team in digs with eight, followed by Engelman with seven and Natalie Brownback with six. Sabol and Jonas combined for six blocks in the loss, with Sabol leading the team with four. Nokomis' other loss came against powerhouse Mendon Unity, who won their 30th match of the season during the tournament and defeated the Redskins 25-9, 25-14.

Kinley Stolte paced the Redskins in points (3) and assists (8). Audrey Sabol had a team-best three kills and two blocks, while Becca Hill also had a pair of kills. Emily Cress and Natalie Brownback led the team in digs with four and three respectively.

Nokomis avenged an earlier loss in their third win of the Pawnee Tournament, beating an Altamont squad 27-25, 25-14 after the Indians had beaten them during their home tournament in September.

Natalie Engelman had a big game from the service line for the Redskins with 12 points, followed by Addison Dangbar with five and Presley Mehochko and Kinley Stolte with three each. On the attack, Becca Hill (5), Audrey Sabol (4) and Dangbar (3) led the team in kills, with Kinley Stolte leading the team in assists with 13. Defensively, Sabol, Addison Glenn and Reaghan Jonas each had a pair of blocks, while Emily Cress led Nokomis with 11 digs, followed by Dangbar with eight and Engelman with five.

With the three wins at Pawnee, Nokomis improved their record to 17-13-3 going into the postseason. The Redskins start regional play at Lincolnwood High School on Monday, Oct. 24, as they take on Ramsey at 6 p.m. The winner of that game moves on to take on the host Lancers Wednesday at 6 p.m.

October 22 at Pawnee
Pawnee Tournament
Nokomis 18 25
Pawnee 25 11

Nokomis Statistics
Service Points: Addison Dangbar 14, Hailey Engelman 4. **Kills:** Becca Hill 4, Reaghan Jonas 3, Addison Dangbar 3. **Assists:** Hailey Engelman 8, Becca Hill 5. **Blocks:** Addison Glenn 3, Audrey Sabol 2. **Digs:** Emily Cress 7, Addison Dangbar 6.

Nokomis 25 25
Edinburg 20 20

Nokomis Statistics
Service Points: Addison Dangbar 6, Presley Mehochko 6, Hailey Engelman 5. **Kills:** Addison Glenn 8, Audrey Sabol 5, Hailey Engelman 5. **Assists:** Hailey Engelman 8, Becca Hill 6. **Blocks:** Reaghan Jonas 1. **Digs:** Addison Dangbar 9, Hailey Engelman 8, Natalie Brownback 7.

Nokomis 25 21
Meridian 22 25

Nokomis Statistics
Service Points: Hailey Engelman 4, Addison Glenn 4, Natalie Brownback 4, Presley Mehochko 4. **Kills:** Audrey Sabol 8, Addison Glenn 6, Reaghan Jonas 3, Hailey Engelman 3. **Assists:** Hailey Engelman 7, Presley Mehochko 5, Becca Hill 5. **Blocks:** Audrey Sabol 4, Reaghan Jonas 2. **Digs:** Addison Dangbar 8, Hailey Engelman 7, Natalie Brownback 6.

Nokomis 27 25
Altamont 25 14

Nokomis Statistics
Service Points: Natalie Engelman 12, Addison Dangbar 5, Presley Mehochko 3, Kinley Stolte 3. **Kills:** Becca Hill 5, Audrey Sabol 4, Addison Dangbar 3. **Assists:** Kinley Stolte 13. **Blocks:** Audrey Sabol 2, Reaghan Jonas 2, Addison Glenn 2. **Digs:** Emily Cress 11, Addison Dangbar 8, Natalie Engelman 5.

Nokomis 9 14
Mendon Unity 25 25

Nokomis Statistics
Service Points: Kinley Stolte 3. **Kills:** Audrey Sabol 3, Becca Hill 2. **Assists:** Kinley Stolte 8. **Blocks:** Audrey Sabol 2. **Digs:** Emily Cress 4, Natalie Brownback 3.
Record: Nokomis (17-13-3).

Panthers Falter In Final Week Of Season

Three losses in three straight days was not exactly the way Coach Kari Drago envisioned the last week of the regular season would unfold, but the week has come and gone and the focus of the Litchfield Lady Panthers now moves to defeating Carlinville in tonight's first match of the IHSA Class 2A Regional Volleyball Tournament hosted by Hillsboro High School.

The two South Central Conference teams clashed on Oct. 6 in Simmons Gym and Litchfield got the better of the Cavaliers in straight sets. But Coach Katie Hammann's Lady Cavaliers are coming off a big confidence booster as they defeated the Pana Panthers in a conference match at Carlinville on Oct. 18.

Litchfield's trio of losses included conference matches with Staunton on Oct. 18, North Mac on Oct. 20 and a non-conference match at Marquette Catholic on Oct. 19. They finished the season 16-11 overall and 6-3 in conference play.

As is the tradition in all high school sports, the national anthem is either played by the high school band or a recorded version over the loudspeaker prior to the event. On Thursday, however, in a refreshing and respectful moment, the North Mac student cheering section sang the anthem much to the satisfaction of all in attendance.

In the volleyball match, it was evident from the get go that the two teams were evenly matched and the set scores were indicative of the back-and-forth play as the host school Panthers needed extra minutes and extra points in both sets to outdistance their guests. North Mac took the first set 26-24 and followed it up with the 28-26 closer.

Prior to the varsity match, six North Mac graduating seniors were introduced with their parents and escorted to

center court. The seniors are Natalie Little, Linda Gambucci, Hanna Wronowski, Natalie Moriconi, Taylor Hipsher and Gracie Meador.

In the first set North Mac quickly jumped out to a 5-1 lead that ended with a service error from Alexis Bowman. Blair Johnson did her best to keep Litchfield close as she hammered four kills in the ensuing series of play and Litchfield trailed 9-6.

Trailing 10-7, an Annika Rhodes kill and an errant North Mac attack pulled Litchfield to within a point and North Mac Coach Kara Dowell signaled for a quick timeout. The 30-second break in the action proved beneficial to North Mac as Litchfield's bid to tip to an opening softly landed beyond the sideline and changed possession.

The ongoing tussle between the two teams resulted in tie scores of 16, 20 and 22 before Gracie Meador's tip found its mark and captured point 23 for North Mac. Coach Drago called her second timeout and this time it was Litchfield's turn to profit from the break as setter Emma Walch and middle hitter Carlee Harmon executed the quick set and kill to perfection.

Tied at 23 and Litchfield's Elise Walch at the service line, the Purple and White Panthers inched ahead after a successful tip by Johnson. Coach Dowell summoned her team to the sideline and when play resumed, Meador tied the score at 24 with a cross court attack and return of serve. A Panther return error followed by a return that contacted the net antenna ended the set 26-24 in favor of North Mac.

Neither team could establish an insurmountable lead in the second set, however on three separate occasions Litchfield held the upper hand by four at 10-6, 19-15 and 21-17 but North Mac didn't go away and the two teams battled to

a 25-25 tie.

With Meador at the service line, Blair Johnson downed a spike and Litchfield led 26-25 but the winning point was lost at the service line as Carlee Harmon's offer sailed out of bounds and tied the score at 26.

A Natalie Moriconi dink on an opening in the Panther defense and a wayward attack off the hand of Johnson ended the match 28-26 in favor of the Black and Carolina Blue Panthers.

Statistical leaders for the Panthers were Blair Johnson with 11 kills, four service aces and 15 digs; Amy Frerichs with 15 digs; Carlee Harmon with seven blocks; Emma Walch with 28 assists; and Alli Frerichs, who had an errorless night at the service line with 11 inbound deliveries.

Alton Marquette

In their 25-16, 25-20 loss at Marquette, the Explorers laid the groundwork early for their nine point first set win as they jumped out to a 5-1 lead on the strength of their middle hitter, Kylie Murray, who laid down two of her six match kills.

The next three Marquette points included two front line stuffs and a serve return error by the Panthers before Blair Johnson and Emma Walch turned away a Livvy Kratschmer attack.

Just as quickly as the Panthers gained the serve it was returned back to the Explorers as Carlee Harmon's offer connected with the net and it was a glimpse of what was to come as the Panther servers uncharacteristically committed seven service errors in the match. Litchfield would draw no closer than six points in the set that ended with a spike from Shay O'Leary that rebounded off the Panther block and landed out of bounds their 25-20 set win.

Again in the second set the Panthers played from behind as Marquette built an 11-8 lead but a kill by Johnson ended Marquette's serve and sent

Johnson to the service line. A service ace and a Gina Painter attack tied the score at 11 but the Panther rally ended with another net serve.

Murray's block of a back row attack from Johnson followed by a kill from Rhodes inched the Panthers to within a point with Painter headed to the service line but a serve in the net tacked on a Marquette point and returned possession to the Explorers.

Marquette maintained a two-point lead that was extended to four following another kill from Murray.

Trailing 20-16 with Harmon serving, a serve return error followed by a kill from Johnson drew the Panthers to within two but a net serve ended the mini rally and Marquette celebrated their twentieth and final match win of the regular season 25-20.

October 19 at Alton

Marquette 25 25
Litchfield 16 20

Litchfield Statistics
Serves In/Out: Kendall Stewart 9/0, Carlee Harmon 8/2, Emma Walch 5/2, Blair Johnson 3/2, Annika Rhodes 1/0, Gina Painter 1/1. **Aces:** C. Harmon 2, B. Johnson 1. **Attacks Attempts/Kills:** B. Johnson 25/6, A. Rhodes 14/3, K. Stewart 9/1, C. Harmon 6/1, G. Painter 6/1. **Assists:** Emma Walch 12. **Blocks:** C. Harmon 4, B. Johnson 2, G. Painter 2, K. Stewart 1, Emma Walch 1. **Digs:** Alli Frerichs 7, K. Stewart 6, Emma Walch 4, Amy Frerichs 4, B. Johnson 3, C. Harmon 2, A. Rhodes 1, Elise Walch 1.

October 20 at Virden

North Mac 26 28
Litchfield 24 26

Litchfield Statistics
Serves In/Out: Alli Frerichs, 11/0, Emma Walch 8/0, Amy Frerichs 2/0, Elise Walch 5/1, Gina Painter 4/2, Carlee Harmon 3/2, Blair Johnson 8/3, Kendall Stewart 0/2. **Aces:** B. Johnson 4, Elise Walch 1. **Attack Attempts/Kills:** B. Johnson 32/11, A. Rhodes 26/8, C. Harmon 18/6, G. Painter 4/2, K. Stewart 9/1. **Assists:** Emma Walch 28, Amy Frerichs 1. **Blocks:** C. Harmon 7, B. Johnson 3, Annika Rhodes 2, K. Stewart 2. **Digs:** B. Johnson 15, Amy Frerichs 15, Emma Walch 10, C. Harmon 6, K. Stewart 4, A. Rhodes 3, Alli Frerichs 3, Elise Walch 1.



The Hillsboro High School girls tennis program held their end-of-the-year banquet on Monday, Oct. 10, at the Abbey on Broad in Hillsboro. Team members, in front, from the left, are Meriem Bizid, Chloe Martincic, Zoey Spinner, Aly Leisure, Ryder Hoover, Sally Mattson, Paige Lucykow and Jesse Balla. In the back row are Alexis Carlyle, Annabelle Wright, Brookelynn Hopley, Melissa Bell, Aubrey Reincke, Sara Milanos, Avery Reynolds, Claire Matthews, Reagan Voyles, and Rylie Jones.

Tennis Toppers Celebrate End Of Regular Season

The Hillsboro High School girls tennis team ended the season with a 7-9 record, a second place finish at the South Central Conference Tournament, and an eighth place finish at sectionals. A buffet banquet enjoyed with family members at The Abbey on Broad celebrating the end of a hardworking and fun season.

Senior captains Sally Mattson and Paige Lucykow were both awarded with the Most Valuable Player award and the Coach's Award for their distinguished contribution and leadership skills exhibited throughout the season. Mattson and Lucykow have been playing tennis together for four years. They have a special partnership and were the heart and soul of the team. They mentored, motivated

and lead by example.

To pass the torch, the seniors handed down the Big Dawg medals that they received earlier in the year to the juniors on the roster, telling them that it was now their responsibility to take care of the new pups coming in.

HHS numbers, letters and pins were awarded along with fun individual certificates. Several players were recognized for personal improvement and significant contributions to the team. Those players included Aubrey Reincke, Claire Matthews, Ryder Hoover, Brookelynn Hopley, Avery Reynolds, Melissa Bell, and Jesse Balla.

Jesse Balla and Ryder Hoover were selected as summer team captains to help facilitate practice sessions in the off season.



Teammates for the last four years and the heart and soul of the Hillsboro girls tennis team in 2022, Paige Lucykow, left, and Sally Mattson were named Most Valuable Players and recognized with the Coach's Award at the team's banquet on Oct. 10.



Tennis Toppers End Season At Sectionals

The Hillsboro girls tennis team traveled to Centralia on Oct. 15, for the Class 1A girls tennis sectional. The Toppers finished eighth at the tournament, with the day highlighted by a victory from senior captain Paige Lucykow in her opening match.

Playing in the singles draw, Lucykow opened up the tournament with a 6-0, 6-0 win over Salem's Aressa Eisenhauer to advance to the second round. There she would have the misfortune of taking on the eventual sectional champion, Lanie Carder of Flora, who won 6-0, 6-0.

Lucykow was in good company in falling to Carder, who allowed just three points in her four sectional matches, including just one in the championship, a 6-0, 6-1 victory over Greenville's Paige Mathias.

Jesse Balla also competed in the singles tournament for Hillsboro and fell to Sophia Dibble of Mascoutah 6-1, 6-0.

In doubles, Melissa Bell and Ryder Hoover took to the courts against Ella Anderson and Haley Kelly of Mascoutah. The Topper tandem picked up some points, but Anderson and Kelly took a 6-3, 6-2 victory to move on to round two.

Chloe Martincic and Zoey Spinner also competed in doubles play and nearly forced a third set in their match. After falling 6-4 to Mallory Hopkins

and Delaney Ward of Vandalia in the first set, Martincic and Spinner lost a 7-6 nailbiter in the second set.

Martincic, Spinner, Bell, Hoover and Balla are all underclassmen for the Topper tennis team and will be key pieces next year. Lucykow and fellow seniors Sally Mattson, who was unable to compete at sectionals, and Brookelynn Hopley will be missed, but can take solace in the fact that they helped the next generation of Tennis Toppers generate whatever successes they may achieve.

October 15 at Centralia
Class 1A Girls Tennis Sectional
Team Results: Richland County 10, Flora 9, Greenville 8, Highland 4, Mascoutah 3, Newton 2, Vandalia 2, Hillsboro 1, Centralia 1, Salem 0.

State Qualifier Singles: 1. Lanie Carder (Flora), 2. Paige Mathias (Greenville), 3. McKenna Snider (Richland County), 4. Ruthie Manor (Highland).

State Qualifier Doubles: 1. Abigail Atwood/Grace Burgener (Richland County), 2. Katelyn Ridens/Ellie Schaufelberger (Greenville), 3. Ava Cammon/Kathryn Jennings (Flora), 4. Claire Uhl/Evie Potter (Richland County).

Hillsboro Singles
Paige Lucykow: def. Aressa Eisenhauer (Salem) 6-0, 6-0; lost to Lanie Carder (Flora) 6-0, 6-0.

Jesse Balla: lost to Sophia Dibble (Mascoutah) 6-1, 6-0.

Hillsboro Doubles
Melissa Bell/Ryder Hoover: lost to Ella Anderson/Haley Kelly (Mascoutah) 6-3, 6-2.

Chloe Martincic/Zoey Spinner: lost to Mallory Hopkins/Delaney Ward (Vandalia) 6-4, 7-6 (6).

Hillsboro Volleyball

Continued from 1B

On Thursday, Hillsboro never let the Panthers' comeback hopes get off the ground. The Toppers jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the second set and never trailed en route to a 25-15 win.

Pana got as close as two, 4-2, but trailed between five and eight points for much of the second set. The most points the Panthers strung together in a row was three, when they took the score from 9-2 to 9-5, but Hillsboro broke the Pana serve time and time again as the game went on.

With the score at 22-15, Kinley Richardson started the final sequence with a tip kill for the Toppers. Two Pana hits that fell out of bounds and the game, and second place in the SCC, belonged to Hillsboro.

Richardson's late kill was her second of the night to go along with 16 assists and nine service points, both of which

were team highs. Layne Rupert led the team in kills with 10, followed by Addison Lowe with four, Adyson McCammack and Sophia Blankenship with two each and Isabella White and Tatum Christian with one apiece. McCammack also had three assists, while White, Rupert and Carlock each had one.

Rupert was second in service points for the Toppers with eight, while Hanna Hughes had four. Richardson, Hughes and Rupert all had two aces apiece, while Carlock (3), Lowe (2) and Blankenship (1) contributed service points.

Defensively, White and Rupert combined for two dozen digs, earning 12 apiece, while Richardson had nine. Hughes (4), Carlock (2), McCammack (2) and Lowe (1) also had digs, while Tatum Christian added a dig and a block as well.

The Toppers have high hopes that the long awaited win over the Panthers will give

them momentum going into the regionals, which start in Hillsboro on Monday, Oct. 24. The home team takes on Gillespie at 7 p.m. in the regional quarterfinal, with SCC champion Staunton waiting for the winner in the semifinals on Tuesday, Oct. 25.

October 24 at Pana

Hillsboro 25 25
Pana 23 15

Hillsboro Statistics

Service Points: Kinley Richardson 9, Layne Rupert 8, Hanna Hughes 4, Kenadie Carlock 3, Addison Lowe 2, Sophia Blankenship 1.
Aces: Kinley Richardson 2, Layne Rupert 2, Hanna Hughes 2.
Kills: Layne Rupert 10, Addison Lowe 4, Adyson McCammack 2, Kinley Richardson 2, Sophia Blankenship 2, Isabella White 1, Tatum Christian 1.
Assists: Kinley Richardson 16, Adyson McCammack 3, Isabella White 1, Kenadie Carlock 1, Layne Rupert 1.
Digs: Isabella White 12, Layne Rupert 12, Kinley Richardson 9, Hanna Hughes 4, Kenadie Carlock 2, Adyson McCammack 2, Addison Lowe 1, Tatum Christian 1.
Blocks: Tatum Christian 1.
Records: Hillsboro (16-14, 7-2); Pana (16-15, 5-4).

THE COLLEGE REPORT • by Dan Chamness

Geggie Makes Impact At Knox College



Trevor Geggie, a Knox College football player and Litchfield graduate, did not score the game winning touchdown

against Grinnell College. But, insurance touchdowns are important too. With only 2:40 to play in the first half, the former Panther player entered the end zone finishing a four-play, 55-yard drive by running the final three yards of the drive. It took Knox 2:01 to make the drive.

"Two plays earlier, we had earned a fresh set of downs after a 46-yard run play," explained Geggie. "We were on second down and coach called my number on a toss play. When I got the ball, I knew it would be a foot race to the pylon. That drive really killed whatever momentum they had right before halftime."

At the time, it gave Knox a 21-7 lead. The 5-foot-10, 165-pound skill player would finish the game with 24 rushing yards on five carries. He also had one kickoff return for 22 yards.

"Our plan all season has been four, three and three," said Geggie. "We want four yards on the first down, then three yards on each of the next two plays to get a new set of downs. Offensively, we

needed to stay on the field and eat away the clock. We knew they had a good quarterback and we wanted to keep their most potent weapon off the field. Grinnell entered the game winning their most recent two games. Tensions were high and we knew they were going to give a supreme effort."

With the win Knox improved to 3-3 overall and 2-3 in the Midwest Conference.

Tess Saathoff (Hillsboro) won a dual outing by 15 strokes. In a dual outing with Eureka College, Saathoff shot a 79. Blackburn carded a 380 for the win. Eureka shot a 440.

Alex Bishop (Litchfield) finished sixth at the Panther Invitational. It was hosted by Davenport University and held at the Sloatin Brae in Augusta, MI. The Purdue University-Northwest senior shot a 146 for 36 holes. He shot a low-round of 71 in the second and final round. He opened the Invitational with a 75. As a team, PU-Northwest took sixth of the nine teams with a 614. Ferris State University won the outing with

a 574.

Cara Pence (Litchfield) helped North Central University dump Crown College (3-0) and Finlandia University (3-0). Both were Upper Midwest Athletic Conference wins. Pence hit an eye-popping .518 against Crown. She posted 17 kills and three digs. Against Finlandia, she had four kills and two digs. North Central is 14-7 overall and 4-5 in the UMAC.

Raymond Wille (Hillsboro) had one solo tackle as his college team, Lyon College, lost a 38-34 battle to Texas College. Lyon is 1-6 overall and 0-6 in the Sooner Athletic Conference.

The fall is quickly winding down and I am looking for some names of winter athletes to fill out the column.

Do you know of an athlete that is currently playing a college sport? Please email me (Dan62801@aol.com) with your student's information. When sending an email, please put "The Journal-News" in the subject line of the email.

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Lincolnwood Soccer

Continued from 1B

Again Kistner put a ball to the center of the box, which Braden Whalen was able to get a head on, but the shot sailed just wide right.

The Lancers got another corner on a fluke play and one of the few mistakes the Bullets defense made all game as Gavyn Stull passed a ball back to his keeper, who wasn't expecting the pass and lunged at the roller to keep it out of Lincolnwood's control. The ball rolled out of bounds and Lincolnwood took the corner with 28 minutes to play.

The seemingly bit of fortune turned out to be a curse for the Lancers as Williamsville got first touch on the corner kick and created a breakaway for Cameron Frye on the counterattack. Frye, the Bullets' leading goal scorer going into the game with 46, made the most of his chance and slid home his 47th goal of the season to make it 2-0.

With three quarters of the game nearly in the books, Lincolnwood Coach Joe Webb was forced to be more aggressive on the offensive end of the field, which spaced out the defense that had played so well in the first half.

Williamsville took advantage of the opportunities, with Frye scoring again at the 20:15 mark. The Lancers held off the Bullets for another 11 minutes after Frye's brace, but the senior finished off the hat trick with 9:42 to play when he skirted the Lincolnwood defense and snuck one past Armentrout to make it 4-0.

Tyler Campbell added a fifth goal from deep that he

launched into the far corner with 6:28 to play as the Bullets secured their spot in the sectional final against Sacred Heart-Griffin, who won 6-0 against Newton in the first game of the night.

"We executed our plan to shut down Park and Frye during the first half, but they were able to get the ball to them early in the second half. Once they scored the second goal we had to switch it up and try and put pressure on them," Lincolnwood Coach Joe Webb said. "We knew it could lead to a blowout, but there's no real difference between 2-0 and 5-0 results in postseason soccer."

The loss was a tough pill to swallow for the Lancers, whose 14 wins are the ninth most in the program's history. Still, the game was just a single moment in a season full of successes, including the program's second regional championship and a new all-time single season scoring leader, Elijah Aumann, with 42 goals.

Aumann, who finished with 67 goals for his career, and fellow seniors Braden Whalen and Wyatt Kistner formed the core of the Lincolnwood squad that carried the Lancers to victory so many times, particularly the last two years when the Lancers were 24-13-3 overall. Hailing from Nokomis, Morrisonville and Lincolnwood, the trio are also an example of what can be accomplished when people work together.

"It was at times a trying season because we never could get our complete lineup on the field together, but our kids persevered and were able to

win a regional title," Coach Webb said. "I'm so happy for our seniors to be able to go out with a title. They have really helped to redirect our program back to how it used to be, but they also helped to motivate me to do better as well."

The loss of their senior captains will be a big one for the Lancers, but a ton of talent will also return for the 2023 season, including 12 players who scored goals in 2022.

"The underclassmen are ready to step up and we have big goals for the next few years. We should have a lot of talent for the next few years and we are already discussing how we can improve individually," Coach Webb said. "I'm appreciative we have such a great coaching staff. I had to miss some time during the middle of the season and they did a great job of keeping everything going smoothly. We wouldn't have been able to accomplish our goals without their help."

With an additional year of experience and knowledge, and hopefully a desire for more success after this year's taste, next year could be another special one for the orange and black.

October 15 at Raymond

Class 1A Sectional Semifinal
Lincolnwood 0 0 - 0
Williamsville 0 5 - 5
Goals: Williamsville - Cameron Frye 3, Tyler Campbell 1, Jacob Park 1.

Records: Lincolnwood (14-6-2); Williamsville (20-5).

Class 1A Boys Soccer

North Mac Sectional Wednesday, October 19

• Sacred Heart-Griffin 6, Newton 0

• Williamsville 5, Lincolnwood 0

• Saturday, October 22

• Sacred Heart-Griffin 5, Williamsville 2.

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Opinion

4B - Monday, October 24, 2022

GRANDMA'S DIARIES • by Carole (Best) Brown rosebudbooks@gmail.com

October 1955: New Oil Furnace



October 1955 brings a good harvest for the farmers. Grandma and Grandpa use their profit to install an oil furnace. No more hauling in coal or wood for the heating stove. This must have been a much appreciated improvement for them. They go on their annual

apple search to find the best apples and cider, and the ongoing problem of proving Grandpa's age is solved by hospital records of an earlier operation he had undergone at the Hillsboro Hospital. Now they're ready for winter!

Saturday, Oct. 1, 1955—Will Best seems to be the only person older than Carl who knows he was born, so we sent a blank form to him. Later, nothing returned to help. I took cream and eggs to Litchfield. Jimmy came and rode Rascal. He enjoyed it a lot. Wayne got done combining. His last field made 33-and-a-half bushels per acre.

Monday, Oct. 3, 1955—Cloudy. Helped Carl finish end gates for the red wagon. Looks cloudy. Went to Howy's. He is picking corn. Took flat tire from the red wagon to Butler. Wreck near Lindy Anderson's. Broke a tree off and grubbed it. Driver killed.

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 1955—2.1 inches rain through Tuesday and Wednesday. Raining when we got up and then rained most of the day, but the sun did come out for a little while about 4 p.m. We went to August Root's at 12:30. Carl bargained for an oil heater to be put in the house soon, \$650 price.

Saturday, Oct. 8, 1955—We went to Wayne's then on to Owen Garrett's household goods sale. Ate lunch there. I brought Carl home to clean up, and then Carl and I went on to Hillsboro. I got a record from the hospital of Carl's operation on Sept. 6, 1940, for proof of his age.

Sunday, Oct. 9, 1955—Lovely day. We went to church and Sunday School. James Howey preached then went to Morrisonville to preach. We ate a lunch and drove to Julia Best's near Palmyra. No one home. Went to her daughter's. Found Julia and others had gone to Calhoun County for apples. Came back through Virden. Couldn't find anything but taverns open what we might get a cup of coffee. Good corn everywhere.

Monday, Oct. 10, 1955—Our hot water heater has an element burned out. Have to heat water on the gas stove.

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 1955—Clear and cool. August Root and "Dutch" worked all day. Mrs. Keith and I went to Alberta Wilson's Home Bureau meeting at the Community House. An interesting lesson on cooked and uncooked salad dressings. At night we went to the Community House to a meeting to suggest improvements for farm folks. The recommendations to be sent to the I.A.A. Convention in Chicago later.

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 1955—August Root ran into trouble when he attempted to make the kitchen chimney the outlet for the furnace. Had to make a hole above the baseboard in the dining room, then take out at least four solid layers of brick. Chimney was built around a heavy floor joist. It all had to be fixed safely. Mrs. Keith came at night. We were uncomfortable with being cold.

Thursday, Oct. 13, 1955—Chilly. Started the furnace. I took Mary Nimmons to the quilting, then came home as I wanted to be here for instructions when Augie turned the furnace on. Augie and Dutch worked all day. Wilbur Foster brought 220 gallons of Thermolene oil, \$32.25 including .79 retail tax. Augie turned the furnace on. Works fine.

Friday, Oct. 14, 1955—I went to Litchfield to the A&P store and got 50 pounds potatoes for 90 cents. They cook good. I should get 100 pounds more.

Saturday, Oct. 15, 1955—Lorene Gale Keith, daughter of Frank Keith, born at Litchfield hospital.

Monday, Oct. 17, 1955—Little shower about 5:30. Carl thinks they can't pick corn before noon, so we will go to Paul's apple house in Carlinville for apples. Dorothy Ward wants a bushel of Golden Delicious. We got hers for \$2.45. She wanted part for the girls to eat. We got a half bushel Grimes Golden and a half bushel Staymens Winesap, also two gallons cider, .60 and .65, and a gallon of sorghum, \$1.90.

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 1955—Augie Root and Dutch came for his pay for the furnace and installing it, \$650 of which \$240 was labor.

Friday, Oct. 21, 1955—I dug the sweet potatoes nearly two buckets full. I didn't think I would have more than two good messes. Carl burned cobs, disked and sowed wheat in the chicken yard. Waynes came after dark. He and Larry helped, and we put the pullets in the hen house. We have 141 pullets and five roosters.

Sunday, Oct. 23, 1955—Beautiful days. I went to church and Sunday School. I came home and got a pint of cream and went to Merle's for dinner. Dad went along. Bondurants, Leland and his parents, Grover and Mrs. Toberman, Kay Woodruff and a Jerry someone (Keisler) were there. We celebrated the Toberman's 49th wedding anniversary which was Friday the 21st.

Monday, Oct. 24, 1955—38 degrees, clear, .5 rain last night. Hogs lowest they have been in 11 years. The water heater isn't working yet. I took my dresses, aprons and Carl's pants to Margaret's and she washed with her clothes. I washed dish towels and hand towels out on the wash board. A letter from Alberta says he made \$47 working at Sears, Santa Ana for a week. Mrs. Johnston is helping out at Alberta's home. Arthur Lueddeke found dead in bed.

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 1955—Terry Lee born to Don and Naomi Boliard.

Thursday, Oct. 27, 1955—Nice day. I repaired the dining room chimney spot Augie replastered. He had to knock a hole in it to get an opening through under the floor for the new furnace draft. Mary Nimmons and I went quilting after noon. We decided on .45 for soup—an advance of ten cents over recent years. Marie Henry says the hurricane on the east coast almost ruined the oyster beds.

Sunday, Oct. 30, 1955—Rained most of the day. Mrs. Keith said there were snow flakes at times. We didn't go anywhere, and what a long day.

Carole (Best) Brown of Golconda provides Journal-News readers with this glimpse of the past from her grandmother, Mary Edith (Newport) Best, Butler farm wife. Carole may be reached at rosebudbooks@gmail.com.

LETTERS to the editor

Museum Shifts To Winter Hours Nov. 1

Beginning Nov. 1, The Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center will be operating under winter hours. We will be welcoming visitors from 10-4 Tuesday through Saturday, and will be closed on Sunday and Monday.

If you haven't stopped by the Museum lately, we encourage you to do so!

Litchfield area residents have been most generous in sharing the items they have collected and we have many new displays.

We are staffed by a friendly

and knowledgeable group of volunteers who are available to answer questions and give directions to and about businesses and services in Litchfield. If you might be interested in learning more about volunteering, I invite you to give me a call at 217-248-5416, or stop by the museum and talk with a volunteer to learn about how you can get involved. Shifts are short (three hours) and volunteers can sign up for as many or as few as they wish. It is a wonderful opportunity

to meet people from all over the world. And it's fun!

Come visit us and learn about the rich history of Litchfield and the people who have lived here. You'll be impressed with the items that have been loaned or donated by your friends and neighbors.

You will find fond memories and unique gifts. We hope to see you soon!

Anne Jackson, Secretary
Litchfield Museum and
Route 66 Welcome Center

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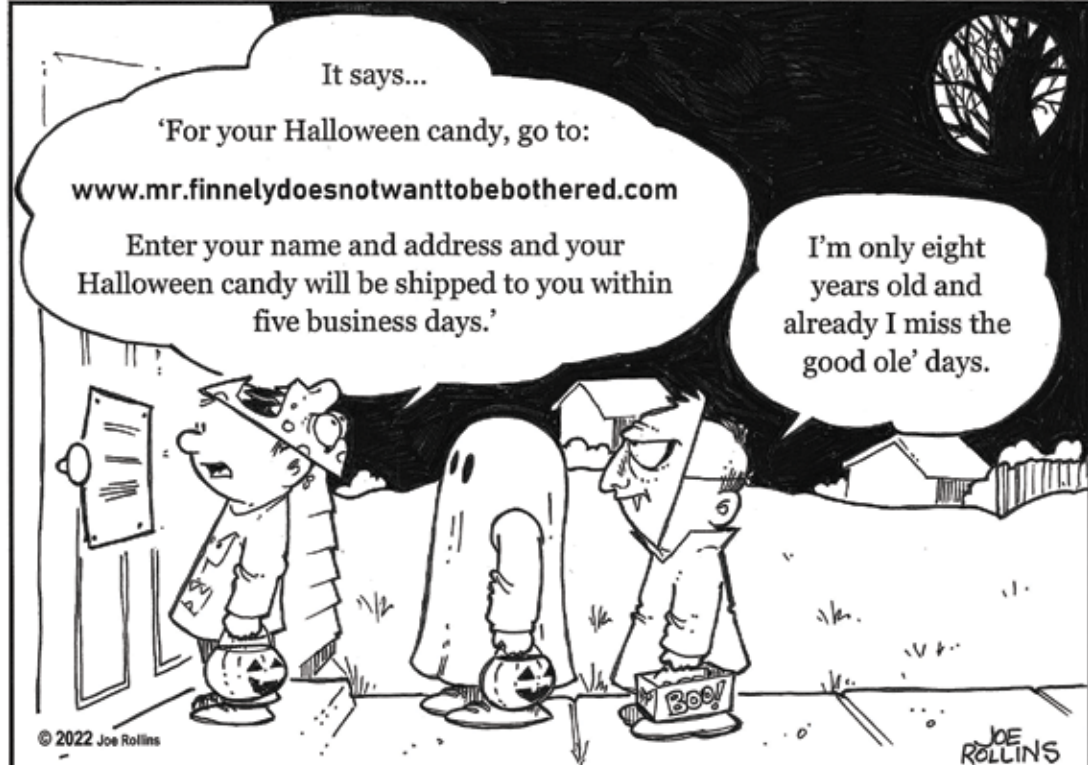
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Ph: (217) 528-6124

Joe's Corner

by Joe Rollins



LETTERS to the editor

How Will New Building Improve Education?

As a registered skeptic, I would like to push back a bit against the great publicity given to construction of a new main building for HHS.

I get that the existing building is old, the climate control systems are out of date, it doesn't meet building codes or ADA requirements, etc. What I don't get is how a new building is going to improve education.

Is it because our board of education says so? What qualifications do they have to assume that? Sometimes it is difficult to realize, but our friends and neighbors on the board and in school administration are politicians, and the job of politicians is to market ideas to the public. We hire/elect politicians to make decisions that are in the best interest of the public, but do I really need to list all the times that didn't happen?

I will take it at face value that a new building will not raise the portion of taxes levied to support the school. Does that mean none of the other allocations will increase? Does that mean assessments will remain fixed? A pledge to hold the line on taxes does not necessarily mean that the overall tax assessment will

be frozen for any appreciable length of time.

I will not take it at face value that a new school will attract better teachers. Why would it? Teaching is a career, and teachers want to maximize their earning potential, hopefully in their home communities. We have attracted some good teachers. Some have stayed, some have left for more money, and some have moved back home. Instead of a new building, how about raising teacher salaries?

I do not believe that a shiny new building is the way to grow a community. That's what jobs do. People may choose to stay or leave based on the quality of education their children receive, but nobody moves to a place with a beautiful new school and then looks for a good job. Jobs come first.

If we do build, what will happen to the old structure? Based on outside input, my guess is in the neighborhood of a million dollars to demolish. Why don't we put that million into the existing structure and save the other 20?

How do we hold our policy makers accountable on this issue? (The next election, but by then this decision will have

been made.) Will Hillsboro grow? (Why would it? We aren't creating jobs.) Will we be able to attract and retain better teachers? (Maybe, but good teachers are needed everywhere. Why wouldn't they teach in their hometown or somewhere that pays better?) What if actual building costs exceed budget? (We have no choice but to pay the overrun.) Will taxes stay fixed? (Maybe, but what if they don't? As I understand it, this is a campaign promise, not a ratified contract.) Our politicians have expressed their intended result/best case scenario, but what if none of it comes true? The only ones left to shoulder the burden are taxpayers.

My opinions on this issue are often criticized because I didn't go to school here. True enough. For reference, though, the grade school I attended was three years old when I entered kindergarten. The junior high building was about 80 years old, and the high school building 30 years old. None of them was better or worse than the others. The staff and students around me defined the educational experience, not the building.

Ed Ervin
Hillsboro

Retired Teachers Support New High School

We are writing this letter in support of a new high school campus. As retired HHS educators, we are well aware of the campus deficiencies. Three of the most glaring are security, accessibility, and modernization.

Security is foremost, of course. Students move from building to building at least once an hour in all weather conditions. That movement in and out of 20-plus entrances/exits prevents doors from being locked to protect from any threat.

Second, students with short term or permanent physical mobility issues are

challenged to access the campus buildings.

Third, the infrastructure in the main building does not support the technology that students must know. The lack of smart boards in every classroom, for example, is unacceptable. Rewiring the building would be a monumental expense and wouldn't address any of its other, numerous issues.

The new design utilizes all of the newer, existing buildings in the remodel with zero percent increase to the tax rate. It's time for a modern HHS! Please vote yes, along with all of us!

Dave Ball
Jenny Baker
Geneva Blankenship
Lesley Boston
Pat Brink
Ron Deabenderfer
Barb Hewitt
Larry Hindle
Mary Ann Bellaver Howard
Dick James
Mark Mathews
Greg Matthews
Linda McCoy
Sandra Allen Moody
Marty Niehaus
Terry Page
Ken Schaal
Dee Shankland
Terry Trader
Barbara Wisberg

Every Generation Owes Best Education To Next

Last week, while sitting in the reception area of Hillsboro Area Hospital, I thought how fortunate we are to have such a state-of-the-art facility in our community.

What if all we had was the Hillsboro Hospital built in 1916? Thank goodness that the hospital board had the foresight, and many donated, to build the new hospital in 1975.

But here we are, nearly half a century later, and we're

still sending our kids to a high school built in 1921!

In the mid '80s we bid farewell to three outdated school buildings—old Beckemeyer, Burbank and Edison. None could compare to what is now available to students at Beckemeyer Elementary School.

Every generation owes it to the next to provide the best possible education in up-to-date school buildings. Nostalgia over "old main" must not trump providing a

well equipped, safe and accessible high school campus.

Thank goodness that the school board and administration have proposed a workable and affordable plan to modernize Hillsboro High School.

It's time for voters district-wide to vote a resounding "Yes for HHS" on the Nov. 8 zero-tax-rate-change referendum.

Nancy Slepicka
Hillsboro

Harvest, Halloween, Then Veterans Day

Here it is October—with harvest in full swing, meaning a lot of extra traffic on our roads. So please be careful as you go along—tractors and combines and 18-wheelers can't move or stop as fast as regular vehicles can.

Also, with October comes Halloween, so please be on the look-out for any extra "spooks" and "goblins" running around. Watch our roads. They like to dive out without looking.

After Halloween comes

Veterans Day. All I ask is for everyone to stop for a moment on the 11th day of November at 11 a.m. to remember and thank God for our veterans. They are the reason we have this great country with all the freedoms we enjoy. Please don't take them for granted.

So on Veterans Day, shake a hand and say "thank you for your service." Most veterans I know will greatly appreciate it.

I do understand that with

COVID and flu around, most people don't like to shake hands or touch another person, so just saying a simple heartfelt "thank you for your service" will mean as much.

I know I thank God, not just on Nov. 11, but every day for our veterans because without them, we wouldn't be here. Thank you, veterans!

Barb Cass
Hillsboro



Art Guild Members Paint Despite Rain

Using photographs and some imagination, members and guests of the Montgomery County Art Guild created "plein air" paintings indoors after being rained out from outdoor painting. Diane Singler led the workshop with a demonstration of equipment and techniques on "plein air" landscapes. Participants then created their own unique outdoor scenes using the paint of their choice. The next art guild workshop will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m., at St. Paul's Lutheran Church basement in Hillsboro. Helene Huber will share her technique on using gelli plate printing. Gelli printing is an easy process as paint is put on a gelli surface, spread out with a brayer, then a variety of stencils are placed on the gelli plate, removed and placed on paper or fabric. In front, from the left, are Travis Warmouth and Olivia Warmouth. In back, from the left, are Nancy Snyder, Janice Galer, Heather Hampton+Knodle, Joy Campbell, Lesley (Galer) Warmouth and Eliza Warmouth.



4-H Members Paint Fall Landscapes

Montgomery County 4-H hosted a fall landscape acrylics class at the extension office on Monday, Oct. 10. The free class was instructed by Diane Singler who taught participants the fundamentals of acrylic painting. Students enjoyed creating their own fall designs.

Successful Opening For Gudgel Ranch

The grand opening of Gudgel Ranch Saloon, Litchfield's newest event venue, on Saturday, Oct. 1, was an overwhelming success.

The venue held a Rib Fest in conjunction with their grand opening celebration, and had a large number of both participants and attendees. The food-filled event featured a rib cookoff, cocktail contest and open side competition, leaving judges to taste eight different ribs, seven cocktails and 25 side dishes.

Smokin Drum BBQ took first place in the rib cookoff, Hoot Scootin' Boogie BBQ was awarded second place and Grumpy Pig received the third place prize. Hoos Got The Meat's smoked cream cheese won first place in the open sides competition and Secondhand Smoke took first place in the cocktail competition for their "stripper glitter" drink. The Grand Champion Award went to Hoot Scootin' Boogie BBQ.

The afternoon featured something for all ages. Youth attendees kept themselves busy hunting for piglets during the Kid's Hog Hunt and even participated in a mystery food tasting challenge. Kyle



Crowds enjoyed the beautiful weather, cold drinks, great food and good music during Gudgel Ranch Saloon's grand opening on Saturday, Oct. 1. Above, Hunter Sharp entertains guests.

Pence was the winner of the kid's food challenge.

The celebration included a cornhole competition and live entertainment from local favorites Hunter Sharp and *The Strugglers*. In addition to taste-testing the ribs, Shine On BBQ food truck kept everyone fed, serving ribeye sandwiches and potato soup

throughout the day.

Litchfield Chamber of Commerce was instrumental in organizing the grand opening, welcoming the local business with an official ribbon cutting during the event.

Gudgel Ranch is located at 14265 East 2nd Road in Litchfield. Camping sites are available.



Bremer Stewards Take On Phragmites

For the past two years, Bremer Sanctuary has made a concerted effort to control phragmites at their northernmost vernal pond. Invasive phragmites can be controlled using an integrated pest management approach that includes an initial herbicide treatment followed by mechanical removal (e.g., cutting, mowing) and annual maintenance. For large areas with dense stands of invasive phragmites, prescribed burning can provide additional control and ecological benefits over mechanical removal. The sanctuary has taken all steps needed to manage the phragmites and while the patch is noticeably smaller it is still stubborn. Above, Ken Schaal(spraying), Don Krefft(driving) and Ray Luebbert (not pictured) tackle the remaining patch.

Registration Open For LLCC Classes

Registration is now open for spring 2023 classes at Lincoln Land Community College, with locations in Springfield (main campus), Taylorville, Litchfield, Jacksonville and Beardstown.

An expanded number of night classes are also available at LLCC-Medical District, located near downtown Springfield.

Spring 16-week classes begin Jan. 9. Eight-week classes begin Jan. 9 and

March 13.

New students may view classes at www.llcc.edu/view-classes and apply at www.llcc.edu/apply or visit any LLCC location. Current students can register at www.llcc.edu/logger-central. More information is available at www.llcc.edu/registration or by calling 217-786-2292.

In an effort to serve those who live or work near downtown Springfield, LLCC is offering courses that meet

one night per week at LLCC-Medical District, 130 W. Mason.

"These courses are perfect for working adults who want to get started or continue toward a college degree," said Joel Dykstra, Ed.D., dean of English and humanities.

Courses include English composition, math, public speaking, business, sociology and geography. More information is available at www.llcc.edu/downtown.

MONDAY EVENING OCTOBER 24, 2022

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30																									
BROADCAST	ABC Bachelor in Paradise (TV14) (N)	CBS Neighbor. Bob Hearts (TV14) (N)	NBC The Voice: The Battles Part 4 (TVPG) (N)	FOX 9-1-1: Tomorrow (N)	ION Criminal Minds: 100 (TV14) (N)	The Good Doctor (N)	Local Jimmy Kimmel Live	Local (35) Late Show (TV14)	Local Tonight Show (TV14)	Nightline Corden Late Night																									
CABLE	A&E White House Down (13, PG-13) ★★½ Channing Tatum, Jamie Foxx	AMC Trick 'n' Treat (TV-14) ★★½ Dylan Baker	ANIMAL Alaskan Bush People	BET Payne Payne Movie	BRAVO Below Deck (TV14) (N)	CARTOON Scooby-Doo (20)	CMT Mike Mike	CNN Anderson Cooper 360°	COMEDY The Office	DISCOVERY Street Outlaws: No Prep Kings (N)	ES! Big City	ESPN Family	ESPN2 (15) Monday Night Football: Chicago vs New England (LIVE)	FOOD Halloween Bake (TV G)	FREEFORM Haunted Mansion (TV G)	FX The Waterboy (98, PG-13) ★★½ Adam Sandler	HGTV Love It or List It (TV G)	HISTORY Ancient Aliens (TVPG)	LIFETIME The Holiday (TV G, PG-13) ★★½ Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet	MTV Ridiculous	NEWSHAT Cuomo	NICK SpongeBob	PARMT Freddy vs. Jason (TV-14) ★★½ Robert Englund	SYFY (6:30) X-Men: First Class (TV-14, PG-13) ★★½ James McAvoy	TBS 2022 MLB Playoffs: AL Champ. Series, Game 5: Houston vs Team TBD (LIVE)	TCM Girl Lives Down Lane (TV G, PG-13) ★★½ (45) Communion (TV-14, R) ★★½ Brooke Shields	TLC 90 Day (TV14) (N)	TNT (6:00) Aquaman (TV-14, PG-13) ★★½ Jason Momoa	TRAVEL Mysteries of the Unknown (TVPG) (N)	TV LAND Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray	USA WWE Monday Night Raw (LIVE)	VH1 Love & Hip Hop (N)	HBO House of the Dragon	MAX The Raid: Redemption (TV-14) ★★½ (43) The One (TV-14, PG-13) ★★½ Jet Li	SHOW Let the Right One In American Gigolo

TUESDAY EVENING OCTOBER 25, 2022

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30																									
BROADCAST	ABC Bachelor in Paradise (TV14) (N)	CBS FBI: Scar Tissue (N)	FOX The Voice (TVPG) (N)	ION Chicago Fire (TV14)	The Rookie: Feds (N)	Local Jimmy Kimmel Live	Local (35) Late Show (TV14)	Local Tonight Show (TV14)	Local Programs (TV14)	Nightline Corden Late Night																									
CABLE	A&E The First 48 (TV14)	AMC The 13th Ghosts (TV-14) ★★½ Tony Shalhoub	ANIMAL River Monsters (TVPG)	BET (5:00) Movie Tyler Perry's The Oval	BRAVO Below Deck	CARTOON (6:00) Goin' South (TV-14)	CMT Mom	CNN Anderson Cooper 360°	COMEDY (20) The Office (TV14)	DISCOVERY Deadliest Catch (N)	DISNEY Mysterious	ESPN NHL Hockey: Colorado vs New York (LIVE)	ESPN2 CFB Playoff: Top 25	FOOD Transylvania 2 (TV-14) ★★½ (45) Elizabeth Taylor	FREEFORM Iron Man (TV-14) ★★½ Robert Downey Jr.	FX Iron Man (TV-14) ★★½ Robert Downey Jr.	HGTV The Renovator (N)	HISTORY Beyond Oak Island	LIFETIME Castle: "Hunt" (TVPG)	MTV Teen Mom: Next (N)	NEWSHAT Cuomo	NICK SpongeBob	PARMT The Italian Job (TV-14, PG-13) ★★½ Mark Wahlberg	SYFY Child's Play 2 (TV-14) ★★½ Alex Winter	TBS Bang	TCM Secret Ceremony (TV-14) ★★½ Elizabeth Taylor	TLC My Fat, Fab Life (TV14)	TNT (6:30) NBA Basketball: Dallas vs New Orleans	TRAVEL Paranormal	TV LAND Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray	USA WWE NXT (LIVE)	VH1 Black Ink Crew (N)	HBO (10) DC League of Super-Pets (TV-14) ★★½ (38) Disclosure (TV-14, R) ★★½ Demi Moore	MAX Let the Right One In	SHOW American Gigolo

WEDNESDAY EVENING OCTOBER 26, 2022

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30																								
BROADCAST	ABC Conners	CBS Survivor (TVPG) (N)	FOX Chicago Med (TV14)	ION The Masked Singer (N)	Big Sky (N)	Local Jimmy Kimmel Live	Local (35) Late Show (TV14)	Local Tonight Show (TV14)	Local Programs (TV14)	Nightline Corden Late Night																								
CABLE	A&E Court Cam	AMC (6:30) Friday the 13th (TV-14) ★★½	ANIMAL The Zoo (TVPG)	BET Tyler Perry's Sistas	BRAVO Real Housewives (N)	CARTOON Scooby-Doo (TVPG)	CMT Mom	CNN Anderson Cooper 360°	COMEDY S. Park	DISCOVERY Moonshiners (TV14)	DISNEY Big City	ESPN NFL Live	ESPN2 Guy's Grocery Games	FREEFORM Simpsons	FX (6:30) Halloween (TV-14) ★★½ Jamie Lee Curtis	HGTV Property (TV G)	HISTORY Pawn Stars: "Daring and Dodging" (TVPG) (N)	LIFETIME Married at First Sight: "Our New Start" (N)	MTV The Challenge: "A Bumpy Ride" (N)	NEWSHAT Cuomo	NICK Dylan	PARMT Shooter (TV-14, R) ★★½ Mark Wahlberg, Michael Peña	SYFY (6:00) Jeopards 3 (TV-14)	TBS Bang	TCM Sheba, Baby (TV-14) ★★½ Pam Grier	TLC My 600-lb Life: Where Are They Now? (TV14) (N)	TNT (6:30) NHL Hockey: New York vs New York (LIVE)	TRAVEL Extreme Halloween (TV14) (N)	TV LAND Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray, Loves Ray	USA SWU: "If I Knew Then" (TV14) (N)	VH1 (6:00) Training Day (TV-14) ★★½ (35) Walking Tall (TV-14, PG-13) ★★½ Dwayne Johnson	HBO Garden State (TV-14) ★★½ (45) A Tree of Life: Shooting (22)	MAX Napoleon Dynamite (TV-14) ★★½ (35) The Benchwarmers (TV-14) ★★½	SHOW Let the Right One In

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6B - Monday, October 24, 2022



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Announcements

Notices

PUMPKINS, PUMPKINS, Pumpkins: All sizes \$5 each and less. Fresh Pick'n's, 11627 New Douglas Rd., New Douglas, 62074. 217-456-6045

WANTED TO buy: Unwanted vehicles, running or not. Cash. 217-313-7881

PRAIRIE FIRE WOOD Heat, Inc. Your Central Boiler dealer. Ask about the 26 per cent tax credit. Financing available. 217-710-1799

For Rent

Apartments

1 bd., one occupant apartments opening soon, \$500 includes trash, Wifi (TV). Must make 3x rent if on fixed income. Email: Litchfieldapartments@gmail.com

Merchandise

Feed & Seed

HAY AND STRAW for sale. 217-563-7000

Miscellaneous

PUMPKINS: Carving and decorating. Gourds: Stackers, Heirlooms, flat, squatty, round, tall. Fresh Pick'n's, 11627 New Douglas Rd. M - F, 3 to 7 p.m.; Sat., Sun. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. 217-456-6045

Merchandise

Pets & Supplies

MINI GOLDEN DOODLE puppies, males and females available. 217-827-5125



Services

Domestic Care

JOSHUA, personal assistant, seeking client thru DORS. Open availability: Coffeen, Hillsboro Litchfield, Vandalia areas. 618-697-7014

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Litchfield Junior High Celebrates Red Ribbon Week

Students in Mr. Dan Newkirk's health classes at Litchfield Junior High School will celebrate Red Ribbon Week, held Oct. 23-31. This year's theme is "Celebrate Life. Live Drug Free." Each student in grades sixth through eighth created ribbons, which serve as a symbol of commitment to raise awareness of the destruction caused by drugs. Pictured above, in front, from the left, are Lucas Wendel, Steven Coleman, James Vaughn, Averi French, Emma Wilson, Parker Bishop, Brian Thompson, Nolan Engstrom and Kaytlynn Gibson. In the middle row are Josh Boerckel, Eli Havron, Dean Gibbs, Sydney Weatherford, Faith Ellinger, Gretchen Heigert, Carlee Gelsinger, Remington Miller, Raylynn Jones, A.J. Jarman, Jenna Longwell, Taylor Eserery, Honor Lewey, Brooklyn Stockstill and Stephanie Schmaltz. Back row are Trais Dobrinich, CJ Burris, Caleb Heyen, Chris McGee, Camron Zumwalt, Keaton Buske, Draven Jones, Alex Jones, Chance Holliday, Aida Melchert, Kohltin Hills, Emma Weidner, Mackenzie Williams, Emmalee Davis, Kayleigh Ramsey and Lily Sipes.



HJHS Health Class Recognizes Red Ribbon Week

Hillsboro Junior High School students in Mrs. Andrea Durbin's health classes are recognizing Red Ribbon Week, which is held Oct. 23-31 this year. Each student in grades sixth through eighth created colorful ribbons to help them celebrate and to remember the importance of a drug-free lifestyle. As part of Red Ribbon Week, the student council planned several fun activities for the week. On Monday, the theme is "Must-Ache You To Not Do Drugs," and students are encouraged to wear red and the mustache that will be given to each student at the school entrances that morning. Tuesday's theme will be "Celebrate the Comforts of Living Drug Free," where students will wear their pajamas, and on Wednesday students should wear creative style for "Celebrate Your Uniqueness." Thursday is "Celebrate Being Active," and students are encouraged to wear their favorite sports jersey or hat or something that represents what they like to do. To end the week, Friday will be "Celebrate being Dragon Strong," and students will sport their school apparel.



Title Transfers

September 30

Dennis L. McCammack, Kathy McCammack to Shon B. Gifford, Delva J. Gifford, WD, Lot 7, Blk. 7, Hardebecks Subdn.

Linda J. McKirgan to Richard I. Conner, WD, Lots 5-6, Blk. 16, Lot 6 and W/2 Lot 5, Waggoner Original Twp.

Bradley G. Hantla, Anne E. Hantla to Christopher B. Hantla, Molly B. Hantla, WD, Lots 28-33, Crestwood Estates.

Judith A. McDonald to Tyler J. Rakey, Daniella A. Mazarro, WD, Sec. 23, Pt. NW/NW, North Litchfield Twp.

October 3

Carol McCario, Dwayne McGill, Judy McGill Clemons, Judy McGill Clemons, Dakota Watson, Jeanne Denise Hockett, Carol McCario POA, Abbie McGill, Emily Cisar, Emily McGill, Kim Watson Estate, Darrell M. McGill Estate to Jolene Notter, WD, Lot 580, Blk. 27, Lot 581, Blk. 27, North Adn.

Christine L. Goldstein, Christine L. Emerson to Christine L. Emerson, Christopher D. Emerson, WD, Sec. 18, Pt. NW/NW, North Litchfield Twp.

John H.E. Pocklington to John C. Lemon, Jonita M. Lemon, WD, Lot 147, Barringers 1st Adn., Taylor Springs.

Christian P. Fleming Tr., Michael P. Furman, Victoria L. Furman, Assign Lease, Lot

55, Island View Adn.

Scott A. Merano to Jake Law, WD, Lot 17, Blk. 73, Lots 20-21, Blk. 73, Huggins PC Adn.

Mary E. Tiemann to Corey Parks, Stephanie Parks, WD, Lots 2-3, Blk. 19, Burrs 2nd Adn.

Mary M. Gillock to Anthony F. Frey, Tammy Frey, WD, Sec. 7, 2 Pts. SW, w/easement, Sec. 7, Irving Twp.

Monical Properties to HG Carbon Storage, Lease, Sec. 36, Pt. S/2 NW, Pt. NW/NW, Audubon Twp.

Rick Monical to HG Carbon Storage, Lease, Sec. 36, Sec. 36, Pt. NW/NW, Sec. 36, Sec. 36, Audubon Twp.; Sec. 17, Pt. NE/NW/NW, Pt. NW/NW/NW, Pt. NW/NW, w/easement, Sec. 17, Pt. NW/NW/NW, Sec. 8, 3 Pts. SW/SW, w/easement, Sec. 17, SE/NW/NW, Fillmore Twp.

Clavin Dairy Farms to HG Carbon Storage, Lease, Sec. 10, Sec. 10, N/2 NW/SW, Sec. 22, Sec. 27, Sec. 22, Sec. 27, Sec. 3, Sec. 3, Sec. 3, Sec. 3, Audubon Twp.

Free online Search of Montgomery County, IL Land Records at www.montgomeryco.com/countyclerk/recording/recordsearch. Search, View and Print Montgomery County, IL Land Records online at www.landrecords.net at \$6.95 per search. Sign up for Property Fraud Alerts at www.propertyfraudalert.com.

FOR RENT

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Call John or Susie at 217-532-3933

on-line all the time at www.thejournal-news.net

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Litchfield Museum
& Route 66 Welcome Center
334 Historic Route 66 North
PO Box 212
Litchfield, IL 62056
Monday, Wednesday-Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
www.mcgsil.com • info@mcgsil.com

VACANCY NOTICE

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3

The Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3 is seeking qualified individual(s) to fill positions in the School Cafeterias.

Applications are available at the Unit Office at 1311 Vandalia Road, Hillsboro, IL 62049 or on the district website (hillsboroschools.net).

POSITION: Cafeteria Worker - 4 hours a day

STARTING DATE: Immediately

HOURLY WAGE: \$15.00/hour

Send employee application and Letter of Interest to: Kristin Gregory, Food Service Director, Hillsboro CUSD#3, 1311 Vandalia Rd., Hillsboro, IL 62049. E-mail to: kgregory@hillsboroschools.net

DUE BY: Interviews will begin immediately until filled

We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.



First Community Bank of Hillsboro

HAS AN OPENING FOR A FULL-TIME TELLER

Benefits Included: Insurance (Medical, Dental, Vision and Life), Vacation and Personal Time and Simple IRA.

APPLY NOW: 807 S. MAIN, HILLSBORO

•Dietary Opening•
•Part-Time Dishwasher•
Apply at Montgomery Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
South Route 127, Hillsboro, IL
Contact
Cathy Brummet, CDM
217-532-6126
or apply at www.heliahealthcare.com

Agri-News

Mountain Lion Struck On Illinois Interstate

A mountain lion (Puma concolor – cougar) was struck and killed by a vehicle on Interstate 88 in DeKalb County on Sunday, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources officials announced on Monday, Oct. 17.

The animal was transferred by the Illinois State Police to an Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) wildlife biologist and has been delivered to the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana (UIUC) for a full necropsy and DNA analysis.

IDNR experts believe it may be the same mountain lion that was captured on a trail camera on private property in Whiteside County in late September and confirmed by wildlife biologists from IDNR

and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

IDNR is monitoring another mountain lion reported in western Illinois in early October. This animal has a GPS collar that was originally attached in November 2021 by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) as part of an ongoing research project on their mountain lion population, including movement patterns.

The NGPC has been coordinating with state agencies on GPS location data as the animal recently made an eastward journey across Iowa and into Illinois. For more information on mountain lions in Illinois visit www.wildlife-illinois.org/gallery/mammals/very-rare-visitors/cougar/.



Nokomis FFA Delivers Snacks To Local Farmers

Members of the Nokomis High School FFA chapter spent their day on Saturday, Oct. 15, passing out more than 300 snack packs to farmers and at the local grain elevators to show their appreciation during harvest. In the photo at left, from the left are Olivia Tosetti, Hunter Brummet and Kristen Mascher. At right are Cydney Bertolino, Kristen Mascher and Olivia Tosetti. Mason LaChance also helped to deliver the snack packs.



Nokomis FFA Volunteers At Library

A few Nokomis FFA members spent their evening doing some community service by volunteering at the new library on Wednesday, Oct. 12. Pictured above, from the left are Cole Wanger, Craig Bertolino, Nick Bird, Colton Neisler, Alden Knodle, Kristen Mascher and Mattie Johnson.

Breeders To Nominate Bulls For IPT Sale

Breeders must nominate bulls by Dec. 1 for consideration to the 2023 Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale.

The sale will be Thursday, Feb. 23 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield and includes old and young bulls. Young bulls must have calved between Jan. 1, 2021 and March 2022.

New selling format: Videos of bulls will be shown during the live auction instead of running through the sale ring. All bulls will be on display for buyer inspection during the sale. Halter-broke, as well as docile, non-halter broke bulls are eligible. Non-halter broke cattle will be screened for disposition prior to the sale.

"The IPT Bull Sale is known for giving bull buyers all necessary information to make positive herd progress," says

Travis Meteer, Illinois Extension beef cattle educator and sale manager.

All bulls must have genomic-enhanced EPDs. Breeders can send a blood or hair sample to a breed-approved genetic testing lab. Both low and high density tests are allowed.

Sale order and qualifications are determined by performance in multi-trait economic selection indexes. The sale order is based on the "Percent Rank" for a maternal and a terminal Dollar Value Index in each breed.

Breeders can sell up to eight bulls; two will not require a nomination fee. Bulls must index above average for their breed at cataloging for any consignors selling more than six bulls. First-time consignors may nominate up to four bulls. Nomination fee is \$100. A

high-quality photo is required prior to the sale.

For more information, contact Meteer at (217)-430-7030 or email umeteer2@illinois.edu.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on October 6, 2022, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Montgomery County, Illinois setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: B2 FILMS located at 656 ANNA STREET in the city of HILLSBORO and state of IL.

Dated October 6, 2022
Sandy Leitheiser,
County Clerk
43-3tM*

GOVE FARM **FALL PREMIER NOVEMBER 17-19, 2022**
BEND XPB • 922 MISSISSIPPI PARKWAY • EAST MOLINE, IL 61244
600 TRACTORS, VINTAGE TRUCKS, ROAD ART & RELICS

ADMISSION: \$15 per person, per day.
Children 12 years and younger free

AUCTION SCHEDULE	
Thursday, Nov. 17	ROAD ART 10am TRACTORS 2pm TRUCKS 4pm
Friday, Nov. 18	TRACTORS 9am ROAD ART 11am FOLLOWING TRACTORS 9am
Saturday, Nov. 19	TRACTORS 9am

REGISTER TO BID
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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In re the Adoption of KARSYN T. ACUP and SERENITY L. ACUP, Minors
JAMES GRAY and SASHA GRAY,
Petitioners,

vs.
DANIELLE D. ACUP and ZACHARY ACUP,
Respondents.
No. 2022AD17

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
Notice is being given to the Respondent, ZACHARY ACUP, that a Petition for Adoption has been filed by Petitioners, JAMES GRAY and SASHA GRAY, in the Circuit Court of Montgomery County.

Unless you file an appearance or an answer on or before 30 days of the first date of Publication, that the court may enter an Order granting the Petition for Adoption filed by Petitioners, JAMES GRAY and SASHA GRAY.

DATED this 11th day of October, 2022
JAMES GRAY and SASHA GRAY, Petitioners
BY: Gina M. Verticchio, One of their Attorneys
GINA VERTICCHIO, VERTICCHIO & VERTICCHIO, Attorneys at Law
100 East Chestnut Street P.O. Box 87
Gillespie, IL 62033
Telephone: (217) 839-4411
Email: gillespie@verticchiolaw.com
Attorney Registration #6301101
44-3t

IL EPA Releases Funds For Projects

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) Director John J. Kim has announced \$4.5 million in funding through the release of two Section 319(h) Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) to address nonpoint source pollution. Illinois EPA is seeking proposals for watershed-based planning projects and watershed-based plan implementation projects to prevent, eliminate or reduce water quality impairments to Illinois' surface and groundwater resources. Both NOFOs have been posted to the Illinois EPA website.

Nonpoint source pollution is the result of rain or snowmelt carrying natural and human-made pollutants and depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands and groundwater. It is estimated that over 60 percent of the national water pollution problem can be traced to nonpoint sources.

"The Section 319 grant

program has a long history of providing technical and financial assistance to our partners for real improvements to Illinois' water resources," said Director Kim.

Illinois EPA receives federal funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act to implement the Section 319(h) Grant Program. The \$4.5 million will be split, with up to \$750,000 in funding anticipated to fund two to four watershed-based planning projects, and up

to \$3.75 million to fund 10 to 12 watershed-based plan implementation projects. These grants are available to local units of government and other organizations to protect surface and groundwater quality in rural and urban areas in Illinois.

Section 319 funds can be used for the development, update, and implementation of watershed-based management plans, including the development of information and education programs and for the installation of best management practices.

SEALED BID SURPLUS EQUIPMENT
— Pull Type Road Drag —
Right to reject or accept any bids
Must be in by November 2nd for November meeting

Irving Township
P.O. Box 128
Irving, IL 62051

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING CITY OF COFFEEN 6:45 PM ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2022 AT CITY HALL

A public meeting will take place on Monday, November 7, 2022, at 6:45 PM at City Hall, 107 Locust St., Coffeen, IL 62017 for the purpose of providing general information to the public regarding the proposed Community Facilities Grant Application for the purchase of a Sewer Jetter and Trailer.

The public is invited to attend and comment on such issues as economic and environmental impacts, service area, alternatives to proposed grant application and purchase of any other pertinent issues.

By: Sheila D. White, Mayor
47-1t

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH E. COOK, Deceased.
No. 2022PR53
CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of KENNETH E. COOK. Letters of Office – Decedent's Estate were issued on October 17, 2022, to Kelli M. Hanley, Independent Executor, c/o Beavers, Calvert, Brotherton & Frisch, 221 West Main Cross, P.O. Box 320, Taylorville, Illinois 62568.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Montgomery County, Courthouse, 120 N. Main St., Hillsboro, IL 62049, or with the representatives, or both, on or before April 26, 2023, which date is not less than six months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is

barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representatives and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Dated this 18th day of October, 2022.

KELLI M. HANLEY as Independent Executor of the Estate of KENNETH E. COOK, Deceased,
by Her attorneys, Beavers, Calvert, Brotherton & Frisch

By: /s/ Aaron D. Calvert
AARON D. CALVERT
Daniel T. Robbins,
Circuit Clerk of Montgomery County
By: /s/ Tracey Reener
DEPUTY CLERK

AARON D. CALVERT Reg. #6289166
BEAVERS, CALVERT, BROTHERTON & FRISCH
221 West Main Cross P.O. Box 320
Taylorville, IL 62568
TEL: (217) 824-3341
FAX: (217) 824-3842
abc@bcfblegal.com

47-3tM

PUBLIC AUCTION

TUES., OCT. 25 - 1 p.m. Live land auction w/ online bidding for Maybelle Barnes estate, rural St. Elmo at St. Elmo American Legion, 250 E. 9th St., St. Elmo, IL 62458. Tract 1: 34.14 +/- acres, 33.27 tillable. Tract 2: 40 +/- acres, 39.13 tillable. Both have road frontage. Roger Barnes & Connie Barnes, sellers. Schmid Auction, 217-857-1507, schmidauction.com or trentschmid.com.

TUES., OCT. 25 & THURS., OCT. 27 - Bidding ends for Comics online only auction through the Earl Peterson collection. Bid now at mollettauctions.hibid.com. **Checkout Oct. 28, 4-6 p.m., both at Bond Co. Fairgrounds, 608 Ridge St., Greenville.** Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

THURS., OCT. 27 - 6 p.m. Bidding ends with soft close for online only for Judy McDonald Living Estate and small local estate auction. **Viewing: Oct. 25, 4-6 p.m. Pickup/Checkout: Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-noon** at 823 N. O'Bannon St., Raymond. Firearms, ammunition, firearm related items, collectibles, antiques, Karastan rug, boat motor, tools, etc. Mike Crabtree, auctioneer, 217-473-2507.

FRI., OCT. 28 & SUN., OCT. 30 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends each day for online only consignments auctions. Tractors & equip. on Oct. 28 & tools & const. surplus on Oct. 30. **Same preview/checkout for both. Preview Oct. 28 & 29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Checkout Oct. 30 & 31, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Both at I-70 exit 41, 937 US Rt. 40 Frontage Rd., Greenville.** Bid at mollettauctions.hibid.com. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

MON., OCT. 31 - Online only bidding closes at 7 p.m. for bungalow style 900 sq. ft. fixer upper, great property to flip or fix up for rental income at 411 S. Prairie, Greenville. Bid now at mollettauctions.hibid.com. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

MON., OCT. 31 - 7 p.m. for Tract #1 and 7:30 p.m. for Tract #2. Bidding ends with soft close for online auction of 178 +/- acres of Macoupin County land for Nona Burns and Gayle Johnson, sellers. Bidding starts at mikecrabtreeauctions.hibid.com Oct. 31 & ends Oct. 31. Location of land: Sections 27 and 22 of Western Mound Township, Macoupin County approx. 11 miles west of Carlinville on IL Rt. 108 to Redington Rd. then south 3/4 mile. Mike Crabtree, auctioneer, 217-473-2507.

THURS., NOV. 3 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends for online only Oliver toys, manuals, literature & more for the Oliver Schaefer estate. Bid now at mollettauctions.hibid.com. **Preview: Nov. 1, Bond Co. Fairgrounds Comm. Bldg., 608 Ridge, Greenville.** Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

FRI., NOV. 4 - 1 p.m. Virtual online Macoupin Co. land auction, 84.61 acres in 2 tracts. Tract 1 is productive tillable central Illinois farmland. Tract 2 has a cell phone tower with annual income of \$7,620. Earl Voyles Family Trust, seller. Sullivan Auctioneers, LLC, 844-847-2161, www.sullivanauctioneers.com.

SAT., NOV. 5 - Noon. Bid live on location at 1006 Ridge Ave., Greenville or bid online now at mollettauctions.hibid.com. RE simulcast on Nov. 5 at noon. 3BR/1BA home (needs work), 45x70 bldg., 40x60 shop w/22' leanto attached, 28x34 2 car garage. Personal property incl. mower, grain bin, yard tools, antiques, tools, Oliver items & much more. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

TUES., NOV. 8 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends for online auction of postcard & advertising for Kirk & Terry Hess. Many in great condition. Feat. towns & villages of Illinois, small portion of World's Fair & paper collectibles, various magazines, prints & newspapers. Many hidden gems! Bid now at aumannauction.com, 217-563-2523.

THURS., NOV. 10 - Online only auction for the Randy E. Lash estate. **Open house/preview Nov. 1, 4-6 p.m. at 930 W. South St., Vandalia.** 2BR/1BA, full bsmt., corner lot. '85 Corvette, Whirlpool ref., Husqvarna rider, Maytag gas stove, furniture, household, kitchenware, more. Bid now at mollettauctions.hibid.com. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

SUN., NOV. 13 - 9 a.m. Live on-site construction auction at Mulberry Grove, Exit 52 off I-70. Accepting heavy equip., tractors, hay & tillage equip., livestock equip., lawn & garden, skid loader attachments, cars, trucks, trailers, building materials, tools, misc. McDowell Auction Service, www.mcdowellauctions.com, 618-267-3410.

THURS., NOV. 17 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends for hunting & recreational land in Poca-hontas for the Frank C. Watson Trust. Bid now at mollettauctions.hibid.com. 37.9 acres of timber & brush located 1 mi. N. of Doll's Orchard. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

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Litchfield Cross Country

Continued from 1B

The top five finishers not on a qualifying team advanced to sectionals and Quarton was the fastest of that group with a time of 15:58.96.

Quarton's teammate, senior Sam Horn, just barely missed joining Quarton at sectionals as he finished 33rd overall, seventh best amongst runners not on a qualifying team. Horn's time of 17:56.26 was just 18 seconds behind Cowden-Herrick's August Cosart, who snagged the fifth and final qualifying spot.

Mitchell Floyd and Kenny Traylor finished 53rd and 54th for the Panthers, running times of 18:53.40 and 18:54.10, while Lucien Quarton ran a 21:10.50 to finish 77th. Peyton Baugher, one of two seniors on the team along with Horn, finished 83rd with a time of 22:13.24. While Baugher raced last year at the state meet, which Litchfield qualified for as a team, this was his first regional performance and it yielded one of his fastest times of the season.

Like the LHS girls, Quarton now eyes a state bid for the second year in a row. Last year the Litchfield High School

junior finished 23rd overall, running a time of 15:33.2 at Detweiler Park to earn the school's first medal in boys' cross country.

October 22 at Shelbyville
Shelbyville Regional
at Dacey Trail

Girls Team Results: 1. Tolono Unity 26, 2. Monticello 72, 3. Shelbyville 82, 4. Clinton 104, 5. Litchfield 130, 6. Decatur St. Teresa 148, 7. Argenta-Oreana 208, 8. Carlinville 213, 9. Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-Hammond 220, 10. Cerro Gordo 261.

Litchfield (130) - 17. Darby Braasch 20:25.98; 19. Myka Penton 20:43.00; 25. Delanie Ulrich 21:25.18; 36. Joelle Hughes 22:26.58; 42. Alex Gasperson 23:00.41; 53. Emma Diveley 24:01.16.

Hillsboro - 76. Meagan White 27:38.57; 79. Alexandra Kuhns 28:30.04.

October 22 at Shelbyville
Shelbyville Regional
at Dacey Trail

Boys Team Results: 1. Decatur St. Teresa 48, 2. Tuscola 73, 3. Tolono Unity 14, 4. Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-Hammond 124, 5. Monticello 132, 6. Shelbyville 155, 7. Cerro Gordo 155, 8. Clinton 169, 9. Litchfield 213, 10. Carlinville 230, 11. Sullivan 280, 12. Gillespie 362, 13. Argenta-Oreana 387.

Litchfield (213) - 7. Camden Quarton 15:58.96, 33. Sam Horn 17:56.26, 53. Mitchell Floyd 18:53.40, 54. Kenny Traylor 18:54.10, 77. Lucien Quarton 21:10.50; 83. Peyton Baugher 22:13.24.

Hillsboro/Litchfield Football

Continued from 1B

He returned to the fray when the ball changed possessions, but his only other carry resulted in a zero gain. The Purple didn't score again either.

That gang-tackle also set up what could have been a pivotal point. Dobrinic boomed a 60 yard punt that was downed on the Topper 1. Two points behind with 6:37 to play, the Toppers were 99 yards away from the lead.

Not dismayed by previous mishaps, the Toppers rose to the challenge, covering those 99 yards in less than three minutes. It took eight plays, all on the ground. Jaben Compton carried twice to reach the 7; then quarterback Zane Duff kept around his right end for a critical first down at the 25. After Dylan Lessman gained six and Compton two more, Duff scampered again for 14 more yards to his 47. After Jace Stewart gained 5, Lessman sprinted down his right sideline for a 48 yard Topper go-ahead score. Duff made the lead six with a conversion run.

Lessman wasn't through yet. After the Panthers were four-and-out in their next desperation series, Hillsboro had the ball on the hosts' 39. Blaze Helton lost a yard in the middle, but Compton gained 3 before Lessman followed blockers to his right sideline and then outraced all pursuit to the end zone 27 yards away. It was 48-36 with 2:34 to play.

Zander Wells stamped Hillsboro's win with finality by intercepting a pass, and the Toppers ran out the clock.

The final score belies the closeness of the game. The Toppers went to the air to loosen Litchfield's defense during the first series of the game. Duff, who ran for 40 yards and passed for 81, threw to Wells for the first score to cap a 14 play, six minute drive. With Sypherd hitting holes quickly and running hard, he had the three touchdowns (runs of 3, 11, and 3 yards); a Dobrinic conversion pass to Powell made it 14-7. Sypherd had 109 yards and those three tds. to his credit by halftime; he carried 16 times, while Powell and Dobrinic had the other two.

After Litchfield went ahead 14-7, Lessman and Duff hooked up for a 46 yard pass/run touchdown; Compton's PAT tied it, and the scoring parade was on. Sypherd's second three yard plunge with a minute left in the half put the home team ahead again; Dobrinic's passes accounted for 44 of the 53 yards on that drive. Another conversion catch by Powell accounted for Litchfield's eight point lead at



Litchfield's Keenan Powell focuses in to snag an interception during the Purple Panthers' final home game of the season on Friday, Oct. 21. Litchfield was up 36-28 going into the fourth quarter, but Hillsboro outscored the hosts 20-0 in the fourth to take a 48-36 lead. Also pictured are Hillsboro's Zander Wells (#6) and Litchfield's Easton Grammer (#20).

Journal-News/Mary Herschelmann

the halftime buzzer. Interceptions, one by Panther Powell and the other by Topper Jace Stewart, ended the half in an exciting fashion.

The third quarter was played at the same level of back and forth intensity. Litchfield received the kickoff and was in the end zone seven plays later - five rushes, two pass completions (one was to Panther Brandon Malloy), and a penalty later, Dobrinic sneaked into paydirt. Even though a conversion pass failed, the upset-hopeful Panthers were ahead 28-14 with only 21 minutes to play.

Helped by their greater depth and by grittiness, the Toppers rebounded. Three minutes was time enough for a 57 yard drive after Kevin Fowler returned a Lietschuh kick to the Topper 43. Lessman helped after a first down was nullified by a flag as he gained 23 on third down. Five players later Duff scored from the 5; after Compton's conversion kick the disadvantage was a more manageable 28-21.

Time for a pivot point: Atticus Bertolino's kickoff with the wind skidded to the 1, where Jones had to pick it up because it was a live ball. He reached his 9 on the return, and the Panthers fumbled on their first play from scrimmage. Nathan Schaake recovered on the Litchfield 5.

Compton, Hillsboro's most dependable point producer over the last five games, scored from there, then kicked the tying point. Litchfield almost had a miracle of their own; on first down, Sypherd burst through the line for 43 yards. Stewart made the touchdown-saving tackle on the Topper 18. That only delayed what to that

intercepted a pass on his 45 and speedily wove his way for what appeared to be a score, but a flag for a block in the back nullified the touchdown. Only seconds were left in the half when Stewart chased Dobrinic down on the Topper 5 (a 24 yard gain) on a subsequent play, so the lead was almost 28(or 30)-14 at the half.

The win was important for Hillsboro because their 6-3 record made them an IHSA 3A playoff host for a first round playoff game. 5-4 Roxana will be here Saturday afternoon, Oct. 29; kickoff is at 1:30 p.m.

October 21 at Litchfield
Hillsboro (6-3) 7 7 14 20--- 48
Litchfield (1-8) 6 16 14 0--- 36

Hillsboro Statistics
Passing: Zane Duff 4-7-72.
Rushing: Dylan Lessman 11-131, Zane Duff 15-100, Jaben Compton 22-87, Blaze Helton 7-34, Jace Stewart 8-23.

Receiving: Dylan Lessman 1-46, Zander Wells 2-33, Blaze Helton 1-7.
Tackles (Solo/Assists): Blaze Helton 6/2, Jaben Compton 4/0, Zander Wells 3/1, Nathan Schaake 3/1, Elliot Lentz 3/1, Lucas Reincke 3/0, Reese Morford 2/0, Ethan Schreiber 2/0, Treyton Kuhl 1/0, Brayden Fowler 0/1.

Litchfield Statistics
Passing: Tate Dobrinic 12-26-168.
Rushing: A.J. Sypherd 26-211, Keenan Powell 1-1, Tate Dobrinic 3-0.

Receiving: Keenan Powell 6-98, Martavious Jones 4-44, Kayden Bergman 1-18, Brandon Malloy 1-17.
Tackles (Solo/Assists): A.J. Sypherd 7/12, Caiden Lamb 9/3, Kayden Bergman 9/2, Harrison Thomas 2/8, Hunter Hancock 2/8, Keenan Powell 5/4, Martavious Jones 5/4, Owen Baugher 2/5, Easton Grammer 1/1, Corbin Schneck 0/1, Mannix Hancock 0/1, Devin Hansel 0/1, Keaton Morgan 1/0.

Class 3A Playoffs
Saturday, Oct. 29, 1 p.m.: Roxana (6-3) at Hillsboro (6-3) - Winner plays winner of Prairie Central (9-0) vs. Paxton-Buckley-Loda (5-4).

Junior High Girls Basketball

On Thursday night, Oct. 20, the Nokomis Lady Braves basketball team took a seven-point lead into halftime against Pana St. Pat, but their offense would fizzle out as they only scored three points in the second half and suffered their third loss of the season, 24-19.

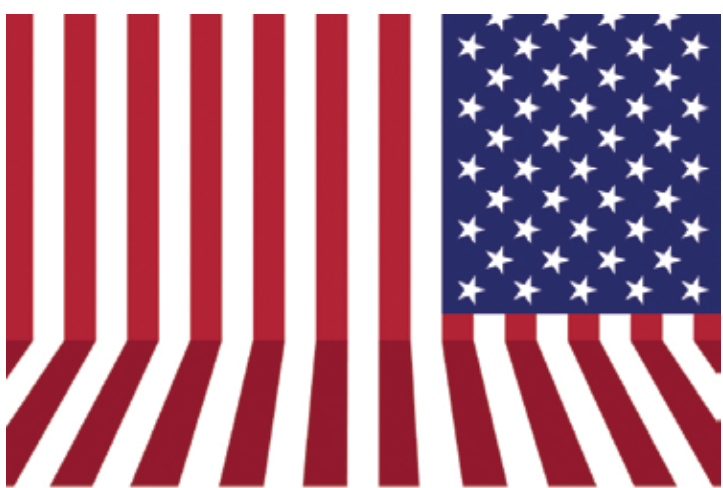
The Nokomis eighth grade would come out and play a complete game against St. Pat, scoring a 47-30 win to improve to 11-2 on the season.

October 11 at Nokomis 7th: Pana St. Pat 24, Nokomis 19
Nokomis 7th (19) - Hannah Tarter 7, Kendree Dean 6, Kara Beaty 2, Carsyn Bertolino 2, Lily Broers 2.
Record: Nokomis 7th (10-3, 4-0).
8th: Nokomis 47, Pana St. Pat 30
Nokomis 8th (47) - Mackenzie Mehochko 14, Cloey Dirks 12, Alivia Sabol 9, Maliah Harris 6, Fallon Knodle 4, Hannah Tarter 2. **Record:** Nokomis 8th (11-2, 3-1).

On Saturday, Oct. 15, the Lady Braves hosted Vandalia in a conference match-up. The seventh grade team remains undefeated in conference play as they scored a 38-0 victory to improve to 11-3 overall.

The eighth grade followed up their younger teammates with another complete performance, moving the ball well on offense and picking up a 52-6 victory over Vandalia.

October 11 at Nokomis 7th: Nokomis 38, Vandalia 0
Nokomis 7th (38) - Brooklyn Marley 10, Kendree Dean 8, Hannah Tarter 6, Carsyn Bertolino 4, Lily Broers 4, Avery West 2, Addie Cress 2, Joelle Jackson 2.
Record: Nokomis 7th (11-3, 5-0).
8th: Nokomis 47, Pana St. Pat 30
Nokomis 8th (47) - Mackenzie Mehochko 16, Alivia Sabol 13, Cloey Dirks 11, Kendree Dean 7, Maliah Harris 2, Brooklyn Marley 2, Fallon Knodle 1. **Record:** Nokomis 8th (12-2, 4-1).



4TH ANNUAL WILLS FOR WARRIORS

Military Veterans can receive a FREE Last Will & Testament. Appointment will consist of a consultation, will preparation, and will signing. Come prepared with a valid photo ID and proof of veteran status, such as DD Form 214 or VA ID card.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Thursday, Nov. 10th at
118 W. Ryder St., Litchfield - 217-324-7777
Friday, Nov. 11th at
320 W. Central St., Nokomis - 217-563-7777
Provided by:
GW GLENN & WEST, LLC
Attorney Trent West
Attorney Michael Ginos

Grand Champion!

Travis Lentz, Walshville

the first Grand Champion from Illinois

2022 GNCC Results

- Union, SC 4th
- Palatka, FL 4th
- Washington, GA 2nd
- Union, SC 2nd
- Society Hill, SC 1st
- Crawfordsville, IN 1st
- Millfield, OH 3rd
- Mt. Morris, PA 1st
- Beckley, WV 2nd
- Millfield, OH 1st
- Newburg, WV 2nd
- Crawfordsville, IN 1st



Congratulations, Travis Lentz • 2022 GNCC 65cc Grand Champion • from your Race Family!

The Journal-News

The Newspaper of Record for Montgomery County

New book celebrates Hillsboro community and the effect of local journalism

Meet author DAVE HOEKSTRA at HILLSBORO panel discussion

Thursday, Nov. 3 • 7PM • Historic Red Rooster Inn

Sponsored by Agate Publishing • Imagine Hillsboro • Historic Red Rooster Inn

Author Dave Hoekstra interviews the people trying to keep the lights on at community newspapers across the country amid buyouts, declining revenues, fake news, and a pandemic. The book is not an account of the death of local journalism, but rather a celebration of the community ties, perseverance, and empathy that's demonstrated in community newsrooms from Hillsboro to Charleston, SC, to Marfa, TX.

Beacons in the Darkness
Hope and Transformation Among America's Community

Dave Hoekstra is a Chicago-based author-journalist, having written for many publications, including the Chicago Sun-Times, where he was a staff columnist and critic for almost 30 years. He was awarded the 2013 Studs Terkel Community Media Award for his columns and critiques and nominated for a Chicago Emmy for his documentary work.