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Among their many charitable initiatives, Hillsboro Rotary Club has provided more than 1,600 dictionaries to third grade students in the Hillsboro School District over the last 15-plus years. Above, Rotarian Felix Powell distributes dictionaries to students at Beckemeyer Elementary School in Fall 2019.

Rotary Celebrates Century Of Service

by **Tori O'Dell**

Hillsboro Rotary Club #1459 celebrates its centenary anniversary this month. A part of one of the world's largest service organizations, Rotary International, the local chapter has had a continuous impact in shaping the City of Hillsboro by bringing business professionals and civic leaders together in a common goal of bettering the community they work and live in.

In 1905, Paul P. Haris, a Chicago lawyer, started Rotary International as a way to recapture the spirit of camaraderie that was an integral part of the business community in the small town he grew up in.

What began as Harris and three friends quickly grew, and in less than 20 years "Rotary" exceeded 80,000 members that were scattered throughout the world. Hillsboro Rotary Club was among the newly growing collective, established on April 9, 1923, with 20 charter members: H.M. Beckwish, H.C. Briton, Frank H. Brown, Jessie O. Brown, E.T. Douglas, H.L. Granier, L.V. Hill, Z.V. Kimball, T.H. King, Amos Miller, Rice Miller, E.T. McDavid, Frank L. McDaniel, Herman C. Perry, R.M. Roosevelt, Kenneth Rossman, Charles Weber, Fred Welge, Bliss White and John B. White.

The local chapter was formed 100 years ago with the assistance of R.E. Carp, Win-

field Jordan, J.J. Pierpont, R.R. Fairbanks, Walter A. Amling, R.T. Paddock, Warren Penwell, A.D. Stansfield, J.H. Magid, E.L. White, Fred Weber, O.D. Metcalf and Robert Stam, all prominent business men and members of the Pana Rotary Club. Glen Schafer, then president (and longtime member) of the Pana Rotary Club, presided over the organizational meeting.

Rotary International officially granted charter #1459 to Hillsboro Rotary Club on April 23, 1923. The newly formed club held lunch meetings at noon every Monday at the Hillsboro Country Club.

Continued on page 2A

They'll Take Stage At 2023 Old Settlers

With summer celebrations starting around the county just weeks away, the Old Settlers Association in Hillsboro has announced its line-up for this August.

"We have a couple of really fun bands lined up this year that I think the crowds are really going to enjoy," said organizer Zach Wygal. "You're definitely not going to want to miss this."

The **Funky Butt Brass Band** returns to Hillsboro and will take the stage on Wednesday evening, Aug. 9, following the queen's coronation. **Def Leppard** tribute band, **Pyromaniacs**, will headline Thursday's nights events on Aug. 10, following the Big Parade.

Funky Butt Brass Band

The **Funky Butt Brass Band** is returning to Hillsboro after being part of the Hillsboro Summer Concert Series twice previously. They were most recently on stage at Fourth of July Point in Hillsboro for the July 4 celebration in 2015.

The group was formed in 2008 by six talented musicians who respect and revere the New Orleans brass band tradition.

The **Funky Butt Brass Band** takes classic New Orleans brass tunes and gives them a twist, in the style of **Dirty Dozen Brass Band**, **Rebirth** and **Bonerama**. But don't be surprised if you also hear some Minneapolis funk, Southern rock, Memphis soul, Chicago blues and St. Louis R&B in the mix.

Band members include Adam Hucke on trumpet and vocals, Bryan Fritz on saxophone and vocals, Aaron Chandler on trombone and vocals, Ron Sikes on drums, Jim Peters on guitar and Cody Henry on sousaphone.

Pyromaniacs

Pyromaniacs, the premier **Def Leppard** tribute is the most talked about tribute band in the Midwest.

Continued on page 2A



Busch Stadium Is Field Of Dreams For Lancers

The members of the Lincolnwood-Morrisonville baseball team got to live out every baseball player's dream on Saturday, April 22, as the Lancers played Breese Central at Busch Stadium, the home of the St. Louis Cardinals. The Lancers came up on the short end of an 11-2 victory by the Cougars, but the final result was far less important than the opportunity to play on the same field as some of their heroes. Above, Head Coach Josh Stone talks things over with the team in the dugout before the Lancers hit the field.

Jean Weitekamp Photo

Litchfield Council Welcomes New Officer, Administrator And Fire Chief

by **Mary (Galer) Herschelman**

It was a night of new, and some old faces, as the Litchfield City Council swore in a new police officer and hired

a new city administrator and fire chief as part of the regular meeting on Thursday evening, April 20.

Following about 45 minutes in closed session, the board approved the contract

with Breann (Speraneo) Vazquez as the new city administrator in a unanimous vote.

Vazquez, a 2014 graduate of Hillsboro High School, earned her master's degree in

public administration from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. She currently serves as the director of community development for the City of Highland, where she oversees the economic

development and building and zones departments. Her duties there include managing budgets for these departments, negotiating development agreements, managing TIF and business districts, handling planning and zoning cases, overseeing development activity ranging from residential subdivisions to commercial construction.

Vazquez has been with the city of Highland for the past five years. She and her husband, Anthony, have a seven-month-old daughter, Ava. Anthony works for Ameren, and the family plans to relocate to this area in the near future. Her official start date with the City of Litchfield has not been decided yet.

The next unanimous appointment following executive session was Adam Pennock as the fire chief for the Litchfield Fire Department. Pennock was appointed as interim fire chief on Dec. 1,

replacing Joe Holomy. Pennock officially assumes the role of fire chief as of May 1.

In addition to those personnel items, Litchfield City Clerk Carol Burke administered the oath of office to new Litchfield police officer Joseph Thompson. He was introduced by Lieutenant Brian Reid, who said Thompson will begin at the police academy in May. Thompson's wife, Jessica, held the Bible during the swearing-in ceremony.

Other Business

In calling the meeting to order with all aldermen and women present, Mayor Steve Dougherty read a proclamation in recognition of Small Business Week Sunday, April 30 through May 6.

"We recognize the contributions of all small businesses to the economic well-being of America," Dougherty said.

Continued on page 2A



Following the meeting, Litchfield Mayor Steve Dougherty, center, welcomed Breann Vazquez as new city administrator and Adam Pennock as fire chief. *Journal-News Photo*



Litchfield City Clerk Carol Burke administers the oath of office to new Litchfield police officer Joseph Thompson, while his wife, Jessica, holds the Bible. *Journal-News Photo*

Salute!
Hillsboro Rotary
100 Years of Service
See Page 2B

Index	
Auction	7B
Classifieds	6B
Family	4A
Notices	7B
Obituaries	3A
Opinion	8A
Sports	1B

Weather Forecast			
Mon 24	60°/42°	☀️ Mostly Sunny	📈 3%
Tue 25	64°/40°	☁️ Mostly Cloudy	📈 13%
Wed 26	61°/38°	☁️ Partly Cloudy	📈 3%
Thu 27	62°/46°	☁️ Mostly Cloudy	📈 21%

Hillsboro Rotary

Continued from front page

Following in the footsteps of Rotary International's founders, who initially held lunchtime meetings in members' offices on a rotating basis, the club has rotated through a variety of meeting spaces over the years, including the former Hillsboro Hotel, Dutch Mill Restaurant, Red Rooster Inn and Church Street Pub, and more recently the Hillsboro Moose Club, Moonlight Y, Cannon Inn and the Hillsboro Gardens Restaurant, where they currently meet each Wednesday at noon.

Camaraderie was a driving factor of the Rotary Club, creating a place that not only brought business professionals and community leaders together but established bonds among them, fostering friendships and binding them in common goals.

"The meeting Monday night was probably one of the most pleasant events of this character ever held in Hillsboro, for good Rotarians do not believe in tagging any man with a title, and the terms "doctor," "colonel," "judge," "mister," "lieutenant," "captain," "major," etc... are deemed unnecessary... As a result of this ruling, those present address each other in a familiar manner that, in itself, promotes a brotherly feeling and a 'get-together spirit' quicker and better than any other idea that could be adopted," stated a section from the charter meeting, taken from the Friday, April 13, 1923, edition of *The Montgomery News*.

Fostering bonds continues to be at the forefront of the Hillsboro Rotary Club. Their weekly lunch meetings provide an opportunity for professional networking, bringing community members of all ages together where they can learn from each other and form collaborations in

an informal environment. While membership has ebbed-and-flowed over the last ten decades, the local chapter is always happy to welcome new members and encourages anyone interested in learning more about Rotary to join their Wednesday meetings as a guest of a current member. Current members include President Stephen Cullison, Treasurer Doug Johnson, Denise Kistner, Rex Brown, Jessica Chapple, Lora Dean, John Evans, Matthew Ferguson, Thomas Gooding, David Hough, Sandy Leitheiser, John Mekala, Michael Niehaus, David Powell, Felix Powell, Michael Ryan, Leland Storm, Chris Storm, Jerry Wesley, Patty Whitworth, Chet Ward and honorary member Waldron Siltman.

"We are always looking for new members and welcome guests at our weekly meetings. There are numerous benefits to joining Rotary," said President Stephen Cullison, who has been a member of the local chapter for more than 20 years. "Not only is Rotary a great way to meet like minded individuals with common interests and goals, and to build your professional network, it develops a stronger sense of connection and stewardship to the community in its members. You feel more tied to the area and conscientious of your own responsibility to leave the community better than you found it, to use your skill sets and advantages to give back."

"Giving back" has also been a core mission of the Rotary Club since its inception, both on the local and international level. Each chapter financially supports the global efforts of Rotary International, including war relief funds, the PolioPlus program launched with the aim of eradicating Polio by 2005 - more than 2 billion

children have been immunized worldwide since the program began in 1985, disaster relief in the form of food, water and medical supplies, and their WASH programs which invest in infrastructure and training to provide clean water and promote sanitation in under-developed countries, among many other humanitarian initiatives. Clubs take on community service projects at the local level as well.

Hillsboro Rotary Club has taken an active role in bettering the community of Hillsboro. In their early years they would invite students, boy scouts and other young people and groups to attend their meetings, making personal investments and offering mentorships to those that they saw as the

future leaders of industry in the community. The club was among the first to support the arts at the local level, helping to purchase instruments when the Hillsboro School District organized their first grade school band. Hillsboro Rotary provided coats for the Boy's Safety Control and even attended "pep" meetings held at Hillsboro High before important football games and chartered a special car on the old interurban to attend games, committed to taking an active interest in the area's youth.

Still invested in the area's youth, current club initiatives include providing funding for Hillsboro Post Prom, Koats for Kids, and the Hillsboro Sports Complex. Hillsboro Rotary sponsors the HHS Interact Club,

local boy scout troops and hosts RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Activity). Club members volunteer their time and skills to host the annual dinner theater in conjunction with the Hillsboro High School operetta, and use the funding to provide scholarships to graduating seniors. In promotion of literacy and learning, Hillsboro Rotary provides dictionaries to every third grade student in Hillsboro School District; they have distributed more than 1,600 dictionaries over the last 15-plus years.

Local Rotarians also play an active role in civic and charitable endeavors within the community, taking on leadership roles in various organizations, in addition to providing assistance as a club. Hillsboro Rotary

Club has made donations to the Montgomery County Cancer Association, helped with community clean up days and bolstered community events, including the Imagine Hillsboro Storybook Christmas Festival.

Hillsboro Rotary Club has played an integral part in shaping the community over the last 100 years, instilling a sense of place and civic responsibility in its members and providing a vehicle for service and betterment of the city. Club members will celebrate Hillsboro Rotary's 100th anniversary with a dinner at the Abbey on Broad on Sunday, April 30. Those interested in attending the festivities are instructed to contact Patty Whitworth at 217-246-2806 or pmmw51@hotmail.com.



The Funky Butt Brass Band returns to Hillsboro for this year's Old Settlers celebration on Wednesday, Aug. 9.



The Pyromaniacs, a well-known Def Leppard tribute band will take the Old Settlers stage on Thursday, Aug. 10.

Old Settlers Entertainment

Continued from front page

Delivering an experience of sight and sound unmatched by any other Def Leppard tribute. The looks, the screaming guitar solos and impeccable vocal

harmonies. *Pyromaniacs* is made up of stellar musicians from St. Louis, MO, all deriving from successful bands.

They've traveled extensively and have performed at some of the most incredible

venues and festivals. Including the world-famous *Full Throttle Saloon* in Sturgis at the annual bike rally, the Family Arena in St. Charles MO.

Pyromaniacs is the true Def Leppard experience that

will rock you into hysteria.

This year's Old Settlers celebration will be held Saturday, Aug. 5, Sunday, Aug. 6, Wednesday, Aug. 9 and Thursday, Aug. 10, in downtown Hillsboro.

Litchfield City Council

Continued from front page

"Small businesses are the life blood of our city, and I encourage all citizens to support our local small businesses."

Another proclamation honoring Susan Shelton was put off until May.

The board unanimously appointed David "Levi" Suhrenbrock as the city representative to the Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Joint Review Board.

Mayor Dougherty also highlighted several pieces of good news for the city. He said that Economic Development Director Tanya Flannery had been working with Consolidated to get fiber internet at the lake, and it will be coming to Eagle Ridge in the next 90 days, followed by West Lake and Solar Circle.

He added that AT&T will be adding another 200-foot tower to offer better phone service in the Litchfield community. The company will meet again with the city on May 5, as the new tower will also help first responders in the area.

In a few final notes, Dougherty said the city completed an audit, which should help green light some grant funding they had been waiting for, and he also thanked the Montgomery County Board for awarding the city with a tourism grant to help with the summer Pickers Markets.

New Business
Alderman Ray Kellenberger presented a motion

to the board allowing for permanent docks at the Eagle Ridge subdivision, and it was approved unanimously.

Kellenberger also presented a motion setting dock and pier requirements as well as permit conditions and fees at Eagle Ridge, which was passed unanimously. The city has provided for approval of the dock requirements for construction within the new subdivision contracts. It includes rules and regulations concerning the ownership, placement and required maintenance of boat docks and walkways on city easement areas. It also establishes a fee for a building permit and annual inspections.

Kellenberger's final motion would be to amend ordinances #2589 and #3214 regarding building inspections and inspection fees. Mayor Dougherty said the inspection fees have not been increased since 1990. In ordinance #2589, the fees for "inside remodeling" would increase from a \$15 minimum fee to \$30 with a \$20 per inspection fee as determined by the number of inspections needed when the permit is issued. The ordinance amendment also includes "outside remodeling" fees from \$30 to \$40 with roofing permits at a minimum of \$50 with extra inspections at \$20 each. Changes to ordinance #3214 include changing the wording "excluding roof repair on residential structures under

120 square-feet" instead of over 120-square feet. The ordinance amendments were approved unanimously.

Alderman David Hollo presented a motion to establish rules for boat storage at Lake Lou Yaeger in the east and north lower parking lots, which passed unanimously. The rules were presented by the Lake Department to help keep the storage area looking nice and presentable. Contracts with the rules are available at City Hall.

Alderman Kassidy Paine presented a motion to spend \$40,000 in advertising with the Great Rivers and Routes Tourism Bureau, and it was approved unanimously. Dougherty said marketing with this organization has been very successful in the past, and felt it was important to stay in touch with them as the 100th anniversary of Route 66 is only a few years away.

Paine also introduced an agreement between the city and the Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center, which was approved unanimously. The agreement allows for the museum to receive one-eighth of 1 percent from the funds from the hotel operators' occupation taxes not to exceed \$10,000 a year for two years. Dougherty noted that the St. Louis-based KMOV television station had been at the museum this month for a piece to air in May.

Alderman Woody Street

presented a motion to approve the annual "community partnership agreement" with CEFS economic opportunity corporation, which was approved unanimously. The agreement allows CEFS to ensure a comprehensive access to a wide continuum of services for their clients.

Street also made a motion to amend the city's budget for fiscal year 2023-2024, which was passed unanimously. Paine asked about a \$180,000 expenditure for a new ambulance, and Pennock said that was from the ambulance that was totalled, but was fully covered by insurance including \$140,000 for the ambulance and \$40,000 for the contents.

Alderman Tim Wright made a motion to approve services from Marten Engineering for street maintenance for oil and chipping streets in 2023 for \$10,898.65, and it was approved unanimously.

Other items approved unanimously from closed session include approving the closed session minutes from April 6 as well as approving salary increases in lieu of 3.5 percent COLA (cost of living) for non-bargaining employees, effective May 1.

Council members adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m. They will meet again on Thursday evening, May 4, to seat aldermen and women elected this April. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. at Litchfield City Hall.

The Autism Support Connection
SATURDAY, APRIL 29
BOWLING AND PIZZA PARTY
1-3 p.m. at Hillsboro Bowl
FREE EVENT for special needs individuals and their families in celebration of Autism Awareness Month

MEET & GREET
Friday, April 28th 11am-1pm
McKay NAPA Auto Parts | Distribution Center
120 S Industrial Dr | Litchfield, IL 62056



A CHILD'S EDUCATION

Our grade school years are the most formative years in our life. These years set our foundation for life. St Louis Catholic School (SLS) in Nokomis has been partnering with families in providing an excellent Catholic education for over 100 years! SLS continues to work with families to develop faith filled, intelligent, and disciplined students from Preschool through 8th grade.

Registration is now open for the 2023-2024 school year. Anyone interested in learning more about how SLS can partner with your family, may contact the office for more information at 217-563-7445 or access registration information at slsk8.org/registration. Registration deadline is May 1.

SLS seeks to make this important and formative education available to as many as possible through transportation assistance and tuition assistance as needed.

SLS is a state accredited school with excellent teacher-to-student ratio in a Christ-centered, academic focused setting with many opportunities for service and co-op extracurricular activities. Faith is integrated into every aspect of a SLS student's day.

Open House for new and prospective students to visit and learn more will be on May 2nd at 6:30 PM.

Come and see if SLS is the best fit for your family.



ST. LOUIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL - NOKOMIS

Obituaries

Helen K. Roberts, 78 Litchfield Educator



Helen Kay (Bourdumis) Roberts, 78, of Hillsboro, died on Monday, Oct. 31, 2022, at 6:10 p.m. at Hillsboro Area Hospital.

A Celebration of Life will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 30, at the Abbey on Broad in Hillsboro. There will be a time for sharing stories in memory of Mrs. Roberts. Cremation rites were accorded. Burial will be held at Oak Grove Mausoleum at Oak Grove Cemetery in Hillsboro. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Bass Patton Dean Funeral Home in Hillsboro is assisting the family.

Mrs. Roberts was born Aug. 27, 1944, in Hillsboro, to Nick Bourdumis and Geneva (Spindel) Bourdumis Thunhorst. She married Charles W. Roberts on June 26, 1966, at Hillsboro Methodist Church, and he preceded her in death on Nov. 28, 2007.

She graduated from Hillsboro High School with the class of 1962 and Eastern Illinois University with the class of 1966. During her career, Mrs. Roberts taught second grade at Madison Park and Colt schools in Litchfield for 34 years, from 1966 to 2000.

A lifelong resident of Hillsboro, she was a member of the Montgomery County Retired Teachers group.

Mrs. Roberts is survived by her siblings, Nick (wife Patsy) Bourdumis of Hillsboro and Melva (husband Bob) Thunhorst Smith of Raymond.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; stepfather, William Thunhorst; and siblings, Charles Bourdumis and Wanda.

Memorials may be directed to the Litchfield School District Zimmerman/Girardi Scholarship Fund. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.basspattondeanfhome.com.

Charles L. Menzer, 71 Relay Coordinator



Charles Louis Menzer, 71, of Sherrard, died on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at HSHS St. John's Hospital in Springfield.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 22, at Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home and Crematory in Milan. Burial followed at Sherrard Cemetery. A memorial service in Hillsboro will be planned for May.

Mr. Menzer was born June 16, 1951, in Hillsboro, to Charles Lipe and Ruby (Harrison) Menzer. He married Gloria Wygal on Feb. 14, 1999, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hillsboro, and she survives.

Throughout high school, he was busy in basketball, singing as a baritone in choir and playing in band. Many knew he was a talented trumpet player, but most didn't know he was a phenomenal piano player as well.

Mr. Menzer graduated high school in 1969, and to further his education and play basketball, he went to Augustana College in Rock Island. He earned his bachelor's degree from Augustana College in 1973.

He retired in 2001 from Roadway Express after 20 years as relay coordinator. He and his wife made their home in Fyre Lake, where they loved music, yardwork and water activities with family and friends.

Mr. Menzer was a fan of the Chicago Cubs and Chicago Bears, but especially Augustana basketball. His 1973 Augustana team was inducted into the Hall of Fame. He was inducted into the Hillsboro High School Hall of Fame in February 2022.

He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hillsboro and served as a board member of Bridging the Gap. He loved playing and watching basketball, spending time on the lake and listening to music.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Menzer is survived by his stepchildren, Brad (Bonnie Case) Mazenko of Greenville and sons, Caleb and Braden of Litchfield, and Melanie (Craig) Rubemeyer and children, Dustin (Jada), Olivia and Mariska, all of Davenport, IA; daughters, Trista (Nick) Foster and children, Audrey and Hunter, all of Sherrard, Tagen (Brian) Dressman and children, Daxton and Andon Tipton, all of Bettendorf, IA, and Taryn (Brent) Riley and son, Beckham, all of Coal Valley; stepgrandson, Skyler Tipton of DeWitt, IA; and nephews, Chris (Stacie) Wygal and sons, Colby and Caden, all of Litchfield, and Chad Wygal and Zach Wygal, both of Hillsboro.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and father-in-law, Maurice Wygal.

Memorials may be directed to the family for a future donation to the Augustana Basketball Program. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.wheelanpressly.com.

Wanda Greenwood, 85 Local CNA



Wanda Greenwood, 85, of Litchfield, died on Friday, April 14, 2023, at HSHS St. John's Hospital in Springfield.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, April 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Litchfield Family Funeral Service.

Mrs. Greenwood was born July 16, 1937, in Litchfield, to Richard and Thelma Heaton. She married Eugene Greenwood, and he preceded her in death.

During her career, she served as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) for several local nursing homes, and loved her job. She enjoyed helping people and working on community projects. Her favorite pastime was visiting with friends at Jubelt's.

Mrs. Greenwood is survived by her daughter, Clara Grinn of Litchfield; sons, Donald Greenwood of Litchfield and Lawrence (Heidi) Swofford of Taylor Springs; 17 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; children, Eugene Jr., Michael, Donald, Robert and Larry Greenwood; brothers, Glenn and Charles Heaton; and sister, Deloris Kahle.

Memorials may be directed to the funeral home to assist the family. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.litchfieldffs.com.

obituaries posted daily
www.thejournal-news.net

Prayer Of Thanks
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, Worker of Miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help of the hopeless, pray for us now and forever. (Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days, then publish and your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail.)
B. B.

Laverne R. Butler, 97 Loving Matriarch



Laverne Rose (Brockmeyer) Butler, 97, of Litchfield, formerly of Springfield and Farmersville, died peacefully on Thursday, April 20, 2023, at Heritage Health: Therapy and Senior Care in Litchfield.

Private family services will be held at a later date. Hough Funeral Home in Farmersville is assisting the family.

Mrs. Butler was born Sept. 10, 1925, in Farmersville, to Herman and Emma (Jaeger) Brockmeyer. She married Ford Riley Butler on Sept. 11, 1944, and he preceded her in death on July 1, 1985.

She attended Browns Business College, where she received her degree. She had worked for Dickey John in Auburn for ten years as a solderer.

A loving mother and grandmother, Mrs. Butler was a member of the Lutheran faith.

She is survived by her children, Dean (Vicki) Butler and Dana (Jerry) Stieren, both of Farmersville, and Beverly Wright of Trenton; sister-in-law, Vonnie Brockmeyer of Farmersville; 11 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; ten great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Butler was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Wayne Brockmeyer and Donald Brockmeyer; sister, Evelyn Schmidt; son-in-law, Danny Wright; great-great-grandson, Colton Robinson; and great-grandson, Jonathan Butler.

Memorials may be directed to the American Heart Association or Rovey Cemetery in Farmersville. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.houghfuneralhome.com.

David R. Seifert, 68 Worked At Pioneer



David Ray Seifert, 68, of Litchfield, died on Sunday, April 16, 2023, at his home.

Private family services will be held. Burial will be held at Harvel Cemetery at a later date. Hough Funeral Home in Raymond is assisting the family.

Mr. Seifert was born Oct. 2, 1954, in Hillsboro, to Robert and Shirley (Franklin) Seifert.

He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1973 to 1976. He worked for Pioneer Seed in Litchfield before he retired.

Mr. Seifert is survived by his brother, Steven (Mary Jo) Seifert of Jacksonville; sisters, Ann (John) Thorp of Carlinville and Sandy (Mike) Webb of Waggoner; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Memorials may be directed to the Montgomery County Veterans Assistance Commission. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.houghfuneralhome.com.

Jason T. Albert, 49 Loved Farming



Jason T. Albert, 49, of Keyesport, died on Thursday, April 20, 2023, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, MO.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, April 25, from 4 to 7 p.m. at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, 512 S. Prairie St., Greenville. Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday, April 26, beginning at 11 a.m. at the church with Father Jeffrey Stone officiating. Burial will follow at German Cemetery in rural Hookdale. Assalley-Young Funeral Home in Greenville is assisting the family.

Mr. Albert was born Aug. 4, 1973, in Greenville, to Ralph Edward and Rosemary Agnes (Bussen) Albert.

He graduated from Greenville High School in 1991 and furthered his education, earning an associate's degree in agricultural business from Kaskaskia College.

During his career, Mr. Albert worked for several companies throughout the years, starting with Moorman's Feed Company as a dairy specialist, Carlyle Syntec as a maintenance technician for 18 years, Lakeside Farms, for Jim Schaufelberger for 30 years, which is what started his love for brown swiss cows, and Essendant since 2016. He was also the owner and operator, along with his daughters, of Harvest Breeze Farms.

He served on many boards as organizations and community service were important to him. He judged for dairy, soil and mechanics for the Greenville FFA and 4-H Club, served on the board of directors for the National Brown Swiss Association, and was currently the vice president of the Illinois Brown Swiss Association, as well as a former president.

Mr. Albert was never afraid of hard work and often helped other farmers out during planting and harvest season. He had a hands-on approach to work and family, and tried to instill the same work ethic and family values into his children. Collecting toy John Deere tractors was a fun hobby he enjoyed, as was traveling to cattle shows and sales. His passions, other than his family, were cows, farming and tractors. He will be missed by his children, family and friends who knew him best.

He is survived by his children, Peyton (Christian) Paine of Kincaid and Hannah (Jack Hilt) Albert and Ellie Albert, both of Keyesport; mother of Greenville; grandchildren, Paisley Randolph and Bayleigh Paine of Kincaid; and sisters, Cheryl (Kenny) Korte of Mulberry Grove and Shelly (Clyde) Lurkins of Greenville.

Mr. Albert was preceded in death by his father. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Ellie Albert Trust Fund, c/o Bradford National Bank, 100 E. Prairie St., Greenville, IL 62246 or National Brown Swiss Association, 800 Pleasant St., Beloit, WI 53511.

Online condolences to the family may be left at www.assalleyfuneralhomes.com.

Warren E. 'Gene' Miles, 81 Entrepreneur, Board Member



Warren Eugene "Gene" Miles, 81, of Nokomis, died on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at his home with his family at his side.

Visitation was held Saturday, April 22, at St. Louis Catholic Church in Nokomis. Funeral Mass followed at the church. Stiehl-Dawson Funeral Home in Nokomis assisted the family.

Mr. Miles was born Feb. 7, 1942, in McLeansboro, to Warren Harding and Eva Rita (Pieper) Miles. He married Gloria Kamen Cox, and they later divorced. He then married Jane Parker on June 20, 1981, and she survives.

He graduated from Nokomis High School with the class of 1960 and went on to attend the University of Illinois.

Mr. Miles and his father, Warren, owned and operated Miles Construction, and their very early employees were his sons, Doug and Jeff. He was also the owner of Miles Ford in Nokomis for many years. He was a member of St. Louis Catholic Church, Jaycees, Knights of Columbus, Masons, Shriners and the Nokomis City Council. He served Montgomery County as a board member for over 16 years and truly enjoyed it. Mr. Miles enjoyed golfing, yard work and mowing, and was a car enthusiast. Most of all, he loved sitting on his patio watching his grandchildren ride bikes and play ball in the yard.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Doug (Darla) Miles of Arlington, TX, Jeff (Jill Bertolino Fasiq) of Chatham and Jessie (Justin) Hamrock of Sherman; grandchildren, Jordan Miles, Austin Miles, Jack Hamrock, Joslyn Hamrock and Jace Hamrock; great-granddaughter, Shine; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Debbie (Mike) Coling of Greenville and Neil (Deb) Parker of Ft. Myers, FL.

Mr. Miles was preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Judy Lynn Tumulty.

Memorials may be directed to St. Louis Catholic School or Church in Nokomis or Shriners Hospitals for Children. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.stiehl-dawsonfh.com.

Glenda F. Trimpe, 87 Secretary, Volunteer



Glenda Faye (Kuethe) Trimpe, 87, of Champaign, died peacefully on Sunday, April 16, 2023, at 2:55 p.m. at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana.

Visitation will be held Thursday, April 27, from 10 to 11 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Champaign, 509 S. Mattis Ave. Funeral services will follow, beginning at 11 a.m. at the funeral home with the Rev. Jeff Caithamer officiating. Burial will be held at Roselawn Cemetery in Champaign. Morgan Memorial Home in Savoy is assisting the family.

Mrs. Trimpe was born Dec. 24, 1935, on the family farm near Witt, to Ernest and M. Viola (Schweizer) Kuethe. She married Robert T. Trimpe on Sept. 9, 1961, in Assumption, and he preceded her in death on March 30, 2010.

She graduated from Witt High School with the class of 1953 and attended Illinois State University.

In 1955, Mrs. Trimpe went to work as a hearing stenographer for the Secretary of State's Office in Springfield in driver's license division. As a newlywed, she moved to Champaign and continued work as an executive secretary for Robeson's, University of Illinois, Robert T. Trimpe Law Office, Midwest Television/WCIA and Monsignor Edward J. Duncan.

She was an active volunteer throughout her life in many community organizations including Junior Women's Club, Junior League, Carle Auxiliary, and as a volunteer with her daughters' school and youth activities.

Bridge lessons in the late 1960s with a small couples group led to the discovery of her favorite pastime, her many bridge clubs. She was blessed with many lifelong friendships, the joy of travel and support of Illini athletics. She was a 61-year member of St. John Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Trimpe is survived by her daughters, Roberta (Brian) Davis of Mahomet and Linda Trimpe (Frank) Wisniewski of Fountain Hills, AZ; grandchildren, Brittany Davis of Bellevue, NE, and Brandon Davis of Glendale, AZ; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Jean (Kuethe) Crenshaw; and brothers, Wayne and Dale Kuethe.

Memorials may be directed to St. John Lutheran Church or Carle Foundation Hospital Auxiliary. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.morganmemorialhome.com.

The Journal-News

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It's National Library Week At Litchfield Public Library

National Library Week is April 23-29 and the Litchfield Public Library is inviting patrons to share why they love their library. Pictured above, Stacie Wygal, materials clerk, shows off the tree where patrons will hang books with their reason to love their library. The library will also be passing out treats all week for patrons. Stop by the library and help them celebrate "their" special week.

Births

April Lynn (Vandenbergh) and Brandon James Funderburk announce the birth of their son, Blaze Wayne Eugene Funderburk, born at 12:22 p.m. Saturday, April 22, 2023, at HSHS St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield. He weighed 6 lbs., 15 ozs. and measured 19 ins. long.

Blaze was welcomed home by big brothers, Noah, age six, Garrett, age three, and sisters, Rylee, age nine, Gracie, age two and Autumn, age 11 months.

Maternal grandparents are Rick and Sheri Vandenberg of Fillmore. Paternal grandparents are Karen Funderburk of Highland and the late Robert Funderburk.

Maternal great-grandparents are Russell and Amber Siebert of Fillmore and the late Tony and the late Shirley Vandenberg. Paternal great-grandmother is the late Cordelia Mary Feldmann.

~ ~ ~
 Kurt and Marissa (Triassi) Virgin of Windermere, FL, announce the birth of their first child, a son, Austin Thomas Virgin, born at 6:25 p.m. on April 11, 2023, at Celebration Hospital in Celebration, FL. He weighed 6 lbs., 14 ozs., and measured 19 ins. long.



His father is a chiropractic physician and his mother is a department manager.

Paternal grandparents are Bradley and Karen Virgin of Windermere, FL, formerly of Litchfield. Maternal grandparents are Dave and Rosa Triassi of St. John's, FL.

Maternal great-grandparents are Maria DeRosa of Plantation, FL, and Donna Triassi of Bradenton, FL.



Witt Celebrates National Library Week

Witt Labor Day Royalty celebrated National Library Week (Sunday, April 23 through Saturday, April 29) by donating new reading material to Witt Township Memorial Library. The library joins libraries across the country in celebrating the vital roles that libraries play in shaping the communities they serve. First sponsored in 1958 by the American Library Association, National Library Week is observed across the country each April. From the left are Jr. Miss Rylie Jones, Little Miss Briella Osborn, Miss Lauryn Miller and Librarian Sue VanOstran.



LMS Student Council Gives Back

Eighth grade members of the Litchfield Middle School Student Council assisted the First Baptist Church in Litchfield with their monthly food box donations on Tuesday, April 11. "These kids have a heart for service and love getting into the community to give back in some small way," said sponsor Jennifer Fleming. "Thank you to their teachers for allowing them to miss a few classes so they could volunteer."

Pictured above, from the left are Janet Mazza, Kennedi Isaacs, Sydney Weatherford, Clayton Ortega, (kneeling) Keaton Buske, Rilynn Younker, Amari Vickery, Ady Ferguson, Faith Ellinger, Christopher McGee, Kyndal Law, Gretchen Heigert and Candice Mazza, family engagement coordinator for the Litchfield School District.

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Happy Children, Joyful Art

Heartland Gallery is proud to host "Happy Children, Joyful Art." This show opens Friday, May 5th from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and you're all invited!

Martha Ruppert, mother of 7 and grandmother of 19 (with one on the way) understands how to unlock the innate creativity of children. "I love when students succeed and really like what they do," said Martha. Martha taught for 8 years at the Zion Lutheran School, much of that time teaching art. This year, she taught art to home schooled children at the Heartland Gallery, grades K-5.

Artist/teacher Diane Singler also taught at Heartland for 10 weeks to students ages grade 6th and up. Diane is no stranger to local artists and art events. She taught art for over 40 years, reaching children throughout the community schools as well as providing private tutoring. She's participated in community art events in every capacity. Currently, she heads the Montgomery County Art Guild.

Heartland is proud of the teachers and the students who participated in this, our first art program at the gallery. As special thanks to parents and grandparents who assisted with the classes.

So, mark your calendars for the opening of this important community event:
 "Happy Children, Joyful Art"
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 Heartland Gallery, 315 S. Main in the Arts and Entertainment center in downtown Hillsboro

Let what inspires them inspire you!

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All About Rainforests At Library Lapsit Program

The theme of the Library Lapsit program at Nokomis Public Library on Wednesday, April 19, was rainforests. The little attendees enjoyed learning all about tropical climates. Library Lapsit is a weekly program that is held from 10:15 to 11 a.m. each Wednesday as part of the Nokomis Hand-in-Hand birth-to-three program. It is open to all families in the Nokomis School District with children ages birth to three years old. Above, are Stephanie and Zoey Durbin, Enzo and Myla Alcaraz, Allie Beaty and Brittney Batty.

Litchfield Senior Earns Awards At Illinois State

Hailey Majors, a senior at Litchfield High School, earned Best of Show this spring as part of the Central Regional Art Exhibition, which was held April 4-15 at Illinois State University. Litchfield High School Art Teacher Brooke Butler submitted two pieces of Majors' artwork, which both placed into the show and won awards. Majors was awarded Best of Show for a collage she created and won first place in the painting category for her other piece.



Pictured above, Litchfield High School senior Hailey Majors won Best of Show, as well as a first place medal for two of her art pieces.

In addition to the Best of Show plaque, she took home a first place medal, as well as \$300 to spend at the Blick art supply store. Majors was recognized at this year's award ceremony on Saturday, April 15.

Schools Invited To Apply For STEM Scholarships

The National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) has opened the application period for the annual Lt. Governors' STEM Scholarship Program, sponsored by ACT, to award up to \$1,000 to 12 schools nationally to support STEM-related activities for youth. "As the second-in-command in Illinois, I understand and value the importance of STEM Education in our preschool through high schools," said Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton. "This scholarship program supports STEM-related activities in schools that are critical to building long-term passion for STEM-related fields, building the workforce of tomorrow."

All public, private, and tribal schools in the 50 states and five U.S. territories are invited to apply at nlga.awardsplatform.com. Funding will be awarded to schools to support STEM-related activities, programming, curriculum, equipment, and other expenses.

"The need for increased educational opportunities in STEM is non-partisan and an area of consensus for the nation's lieutenant governors," said NLGA Executive Director Julia Brossart. "NLGA has adopted STEM Education as a pillar of work for the association on behalf of Members, who know the importance of educating students in STEM to prepare for the jobs of tomorrow."

NLGA will award 12 scholarships to 12 schools in 12 different states and territories, worth \$10,000 total. The Scholarship Program is administered by NLGA, the nonpartisan, nonprofit association for the nation's second-in-command, and sponsored by ACT, the education and career readiness nonprofit.

Applications will be accepted until Monday, May 1, with award recipients announced and funded in summer 2023. Additional information on the STEM Scholarship Program, including instructions for applying, can be found online at <https://nlga.us/strategies/nlga-state-strategies-in-stem/>.

Beckemeyer Wins STEAM Grant From Sparklight

by **Tori O'Dell**

Sparklight presented a check for \$2,500 to Beckemeyer Elementary School's STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) Club, which was recently selected as a winner of the broadband communication company's "Dream Bigger" campaign, on Friday morning, April 21.

This marks the fifth year for the "Dream Bigger" campaign, which awards \$2,500 to six schools and organizations that are providing students in kindergarten through the twelfth grade with STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education. Since 2019, Sparklight and the associated Cable One family brands have awarded nearly \$120,000 to STEM projects through its "Dream Bigger" initiative.

Beckemeyer's STEAM Club was selected as a "Dream Bigger" winner following a social media campaign that allowed individuals to vote for their program of choice. This year, more than 100 schools and organizations from communities in the 21 states Sparklight serves submitted entries outlining how the award would be used to fund their STEM projects and how students would benefit.

"Sparklight is committed to giving back to the communities we serve. We are proud to play a part in helping develop the technological skills of our future leaders, said



Beckemeyer Elementary School's STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) Club was selected as a winner of Sparklight's "Dream Bigger" campaign. Sparklight representatives Ashley O'Dell and Jonita Lemon presented a \$2,500 donation to the club's advisor Mrs. Erin Hammann (pictured above with her students and club members).

Journal-News/Tori O'Dell

Sparklight representative Ashley O'Dell, who presented the donation alongside colleague Jonita Lemon. "We look forward to seeing what the Beckemeyer students are able to accomplish with this additional funding for their club."

Beckemeyer's STEAM Club is a relatively new after-school enrichment program that is open to fourth and fifth grade students based on teacher recommendation.

"The STEAM program is geared towards students that need more of a challenge," explained Hammann. "I had started a similar program at the school I formerly taught at, so I knew that it was

something that I wanted to recreate when I came to Beckemeyer."

The STEAM Club allows students to complete hands-on activities while learning about coding, robotics, physics and engineering. A few of the projects they have taken on over the last year include designing and building pumpkin launchers and competing in the Rube Goldberg Competition at Lincoln Land Community College, where they took fourth place. They are currently working on their projects for an end-of-the-school-year science fair.

"We are so grateful to Sparklight for choosing Beckemeyer and to the Hill-

sboro community for voting for and supporting our after-school enrichment program," said Hammann, a fourth grade teacher and faculty advisor of the STEAM Club. "This money will go a long way to help fund coding and robotic equipment for our STEAM Club."

In addition to the award money, Beckemeyer's STEAM Club will be highlighted on Sparklight's social media channels, including Facebook and Instagram. Those interested in donating to the STEAM Club can make monetary donations to "Beckemeyer Elementary's STEAM Program."

St. Louis School Students Give Back For Lent

The third and fourth grade students in Tricia Pinkston's class at St. Louis School continued the long running tradition of collecting "Pennies for the Poor" during the 40 days of Lent.

Each day of the collection the students were responsible for counting and charting money they brought in, reinforcing various math skills. This year they collected a total of \$769.28, all of which will be sent to the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA).

The work of the MCA supports Mission churches in Catholic dioceses located in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Oceania and the Americas. Each year students at St. Louis School learn about the lives of children just like them in a different part of the world in many fun ways. Throughout the school year, classes raise money by hosting various fundraisers.

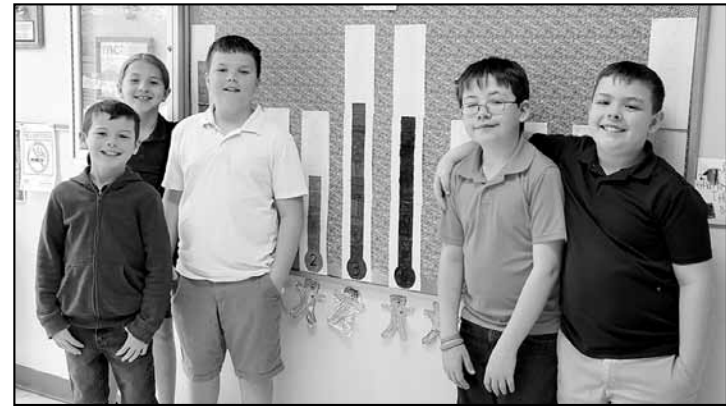
Supporting the MCA is one way St. Louis Catholic School's two part mission is fulfilled. First is to assist parents in their responsibility to educate the children God has entrusted to them, and second is to aid the mission of spreading the

faith throughout the earth and through time. Furthermore, St. Louis School (SLS) strives to meet the challenges spelled out by the Catholic Bishops Conference of the United States in the document "Sharing the Light of Faith."

This document states that Catholic schools are "communities of faith in which the Christian message, the experience of community, worship and social concern are integrated in the total experience of students, their parents and the members of the faculty." Through their commitment to the message, community, service, and liturgy, St. Louis School strives to nurture faithful and productive citizens of the global society.

It is the school's goal that students who graduate from SLS will have a deep personal relationship with Jesus Christ and that they will evidence this relationship through and throughout their lives.

Saint Louis School offers preschool through eighth grade classrooms along with several extra curricular activities. For more information on an education at St. Louis School, call 217-563-7445 during school hours.



The third and fourth grade students at St. Louis School collected "Pennies for the Poor" during the 40 days of Lent. From the left, are Carter Bertolino, Kinley Hand, Evan Bauer, Gunner Chenoweth and Gavin Braye.

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Hillsboro Public Library Celebrates Library Week

by Chris Garner

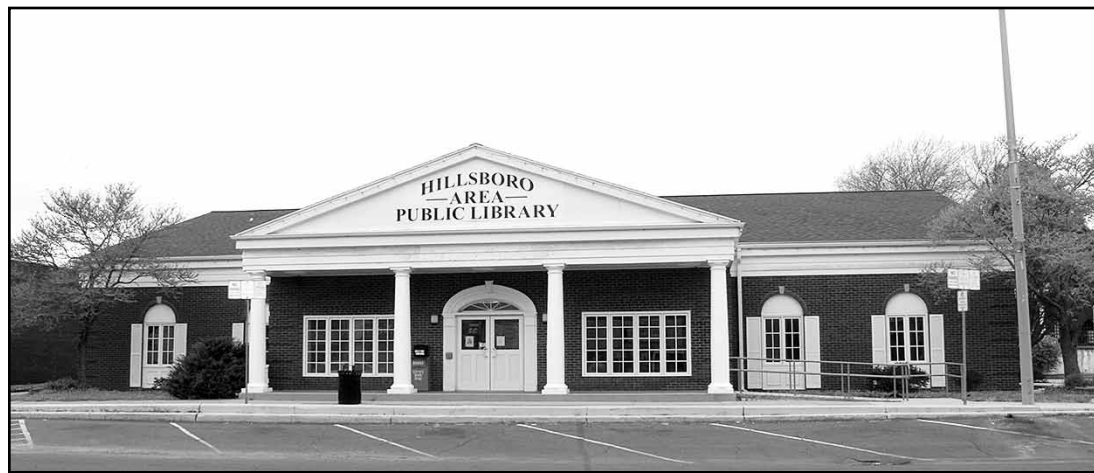
Hillsboro Area Library District is excited to celebrate National Library Week (Sunday, April 23, through Saturday, April 29), a widely recognized campaign to highlight the essential roles libraries, librarians and library workers play in shaping the communities they serve. The 2023 National Library Week theme is “There’s More to the Story” and the Hillsboro Area Public Library District certainly has many eventful chapters.

While the form and location has varied, the City of Hillsboro has homed a library for 186 years. The first library was started by the Hillsboro Lyceum and Library Association in September 1837. A one story building, it was located on the corner of Main and School streets (where MotoMart now stands) across the street from the Hillsboro Academy, which stood where Edison Park is now located. In addition to holding a collection of titles, the first library was used as an entertainment center, meeting place and schoolhouse. Edward Wyman, a faculty member at the Hillsboro Academy, served as the first librarian. Books were available to the students of the Academy for free but were rented to other users.

In the 1850’s the library was moved to a small section of the Heselov building (now The Dressing Room). The Lyceum and Library was relocated again sometime after 1869 when the Hillsboro Academy closed, and the building was given to the City of Hillsboro. It continued to be a rental library with book rentals set at ten cents for one week and fifteen cents for two weeks. Librarian Warrick Edwards received a weekly salary of one dollar, which was paid from the book rental fees.

In 1887, the city gave the Hillsboro Academy building to the Hillsboro School District for use as a high school and grade school. The Academy was later torn down and replaced by Edison School. It is believed the rental system for obtaining books stopped around this time. The Hillsboro Reading Room and Library Association was created by a Ladies Reading Circle in February 1895, with the goal of having a free public library. Funds were raised by the Library Board of Trustees and concerned citizens. The Public Library and Reading Room officially opened on Nov. 14, 1895, on the second floor of the Corner Block Building. Books, newspapers and magazines were all available to the public for free.

The owner of the Corner Block Building, John M. Whitehead, allowed use of the space rent free. He



Hillsboro Public Library (above) has played an important role in shaping the community for more than a century. Help the library celebrate National Library Week by sharing one of your favorite “library memories” or thanking the library staff and trustees on the “Hillsboro Area Public Library District” page on Facebook.

Journal-News/Tori O'Dell

later donated the land at the corner of Tremont and Rountree Streets to build a new library. Miss Ollie Gannon was the first librarian at this site. She was paid one dollar per week and only worked one day per week until Spring 1896. At that time, Mayor Dr. Samuel McLean and city aldermen agreed to provide the sum of five hundred dollars per year to help support the library. Miss Gannon continued as the librarian with a salary of ten dollars per month working several days per week. Seeing the value in a public library, the city also agreed to pay Mr. Whitehead five dollars per month for rent of the space in the Corner Block Building.

In 1902 philanthropist Andrew Carnegie offered the city a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to build a new library, with the stipulation that the city maintain the property and pay \$1000 per year to support the library. The citizens of Hillsboro voted to accept these terms in 1903. The property on School and Rountree Streets was gifted to the city by Mr. Whitehead. Architects and a contractor were hired. The library was built for a total of \$11,000. Mr. Carnegie provided an additional \$1,000 to cover the costs. The library opened to the public on Oct. 10, 1905.

By 1976, the library needed updates and renovations, as well as additional space, which led to the downstairs sections in the former library building. The Hillsboro Library Board of Trustees, led by Mrs. Bankert (Bertha) Dunn. For the first time since the beginning of library services, a fund drive was initiated to help raise the \$50,000 needed to update the space. Donations were solicited from businesses, community organizations, banks, industries, fraternal organizations, library members and citizens of the community. It took almost three years and \$10,000 in federal revenue sharing funds from the City of Hillsboro to raise the \$50,000. Construction began in June 1979 and was

completed by Nov. 1979.

A new chapter in the life of Hillsboro Public Library began with the purchase of the First Community Bank building in December 2016, during an auction managed by Aumann Auction services. As with all building projects there were issues. The first was finding asbestos and mold in the old bank making the library's board of trustees question whether the project should continue. In April 2017, the board notified the city of the intention to keep the building, and the process for hiring an architect and contractor began, as well as the expansion to become a library district.

After a lot of hard work, Hillsboro Public Library became Hillsboro Area Public Library District in June 2018, and the first meeting of the new Hillsboro Area Library District Board took place in July 2018. Echoing past renovations, community organizations, businesses and individuals once again came together to raise money for the project. The Friends of the Library Association was also formed and took an active role in spearheading the many activities and fundraising events held on the library's behalf.

As clean up and abatement of the building took place, it became apparent the current library district lines weren't adequate to serve the community. In February 2019, a decision was made to expand the district to include all the Hillsboro Community School District boundaries including Hillsboro, Schram City, Taylor Springs, Butler, Irving, Panama and Donnellson. Full approval of this change was received in September 2019.

While waiting for the library district area to be expanded, the transformation of the bank to a library continued. Work was underway in March 2019. Exciting news was received in October 2020 when it was announced the library had been awarded a \$643,000 grant from the Secretary of

State; a much needed blessing as this funding provided more than half of the funds needed for the bank to library conversion.

Progress continued steadily and it was announced the former library on School Street would close on Nov. 22, 2021, to allow books and supplies to be packed for the move to the new library on Main Street. Rehoming the library was a massive undertaking and after five years of continuous commitment, Hillsboro Area Public Library was ready to welcome the public to its new home in downtown Hillsboro, only a few blocks away from where the first free library was opened in 1895. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held in December 2021 and the library officially opened to the public on Jan. 3, 2022. The new library building features reading areas for children, teens and adults, two study rooms and a large conference room, a genealogy room, a computer station, laptop ports, free wi-fi with 5G fiber internet, ample parking and ADA accessibility. Since relocating to its new home, Hillsboro Public Library's programs have expanded, new titles have been added for each age category and circulation has gone up. The library has also seen an increase in use by individuals as well as by community organizations and social clubs.

While happy to be in the new space, the library continues to grow with imminent construction plans already underway to finish the basement making it usable for big groups and to expand programming.

Hillsboro Public Library still has many unwritten chapters in its autobiography and looks forward to continuing to meet the needs of the community it has served for more than a century.

The historical information for this article was obtained from *Hillsboro A History* by Mrs. Dorothy Bliss using writings by her husband Tom Bliss.



Teresa McDice at Roger Jennings Inc. (center) is congratulated on her retirement by General Manager Kenny Markezich (right) and former General Manager Dennis Yokley.

Journal-News Photo

Jennings Hosts Retirement Reception For McDice

A familiar face at Roger Jennings Inc. in Hillsboro is retiring on Friday, April 28, after 32-and-a-half years at the General Motors dealership.

The showroom was full on Friday afternoon, April 21, with a reception in honor of Teresa McDice, who began her Jennings career on Oct. 1, 1990.

Although her job title is car deal coordinator, “she has been everything—to everybody,” Jennings General Manager Kenny Markezich

said in presenting her with an engraved desk clock to honor the occasion.

Not only was the showroom full of well-wishers, but also cake and punch for the occasion, as well as photos from her years on the job.

“I’m excited,” McDice said of her retirement, “but it’s kind of sad because we’re like family here.”

In retirement she plans on spending a lot of time watching her grandson race and traveling in her RV.



Kamryn Kiper Named CNB Student Of Month

Kamryn Kiper has been named the April Student of the Month at CNB Bank and Trust in Hillsboro. The daughter of Dawn Shryock of Hillsboro and Todd Kiper, she is a senior at Hillsboro High School and is ranked first in her class. Throughout her time at HHS, Kiper has been active in student council and is currently vice-president of the National Honor Society. She is a typist for *The Journal-News* and columnist for *Topper Talk*. After graduation, Kiper plans to attend Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where she will study exercise science in pursuit of a career in physical therapy.

Above, Melissa Caldwell, representing CNB, presents a \$50 gift card to Kamryn Kiper in recognition of the Student of the Month award. Kiper is also eligible for the bank's Student of the Year award given each May.

Journal-News/Tori O'Dell

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- Introduction to Humanities
- Introductory Statistics
- Basic Nurse Assistant (CNA)
- Ethics: Morality & Contemporary Values
- Introduction to Psychology
- Introduction to Sociology

Public Meetings

Hillsboro School Board

The Hillsboro School Board has set a special meeting for Tuesday, April 25, beginning at 7 p.m. at the unit office. Agenda items include awarding a roadway package bid for the high school campus, a potential new grade school social studies curriculum and installation of newly elected

board members.

Mental Health Crisis and Ad Hoc Committee

The Montgomery County Mental Health Crisis and Ad Hoc Committee will meet at 6 p.m. tonight, Monday, April 24, at the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro. Agenda items up for discussion include the energy grant

application.

Nokomis City Council

Nokomis City Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 24, at the City Hall Building. Agenda items up for discussion include requests for road closures, business district grant applications and quotes for a new tornado siren.

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Nokomis Feels Utility Bill Budget Impact

by Randy Rieke

The Nokomis School Board met on Tuesday, April 18 and was presided over by President Chad Ruppert. In addition to Ruppert, Superintendent Scott Doerr, board members Denny Bauman, Ben Tarter, and Carl Kettelkamp were all present. Board member Carl Ray Fesser was absent. Also in attendance were Principal McDowell, Athletic Director Reedy, and various guests, including Megan Bertolino, as well as Amy Bauer and students from her reading class. Three students read their books to the board and passed them around for the members to see their illustrations. The board thought they all did a great job.

In his report, Dr. Doerr told the board the third quarter mandated categorical payments have come and gone with no money in transportation, special education, and driver's education. He said they did catch up all but one payment in early childhood.

Doerr said the amended budget is presented and would need to be approved at the June board meeting. He pointed out a big change in the status of the Building and Operations Fund, where there had been a negative swing of almost \$200,000 from a previously positive balance near \$96,000 to a deficit balance of nearly \$100,000. He explained a large part of the problem was the increase in electricity costs, although he added gas and water had increased as well. Doerr said the Transportation Fund will also see a deficit from the lack of on-time funding and vehicle repairs. Positives Doerr pointed out were that interest rates for investments were up and the remainder of the budget looked good.

Doerr gave an update on the status of summer projects saying that the North School roof replacement would begin at the end of May. He said contracts for the parking lots, driveway, and playground work have been awarded per the bids and the hope is that work will start in June. He said the North School gym floor, which had previously been approved for last year, was also scheduled to begin in June. The contractor had told him that work would be at the top of their schedule this year since they did not get to it last year. He said the solar installation is to start at the high school first and when the North School roof is completed the solar project there will be started.

Dr. Doerr reported that ISBE had approved the district's application for the Education College and Careers Pathways Endorsement in Human and Public Service starting this school year. With this, any Nokomis student who successfully completes all four of the education dual-credit classes will receive their Pathways endorsement seal on their transcripts. He said at this time they have two students who have only completed two classes, but another two are starting next year and it is anticipated that they will complete all four.

Doerr reported the amended ESSER III grant had been approved. He said this, coupled with the money saved on last summer's renovations and some other items that came in under budget, now gives them enough money for a third year of summer school and the After-School Program. He added that the grant expires Aug. 30, 2024, so all expenditures must be completed by that time. Doerr said they might be tight on staffing to cover summer school this year, but that they were only in the planning stages for that session, which lasts twenty days.

Ruppert asked if credit recovery would be included in the summer school session and if it were needed this year. Doerr answered that credit recovery would be offered in the summer regardless of the summer school program and that there were probably a couple cases where it would be needed.

Doerr said new board member training was set for June 1 at the ROE offices and added that all board members will have to attend a new board training course on trauma-

informed practices, but that the training was available online and he would get them the details.

Doerr informed the board of two FOIA requests received by the district. One was from the Nokomis Education Association, the teachers' union, requesting all administrative contracts from 2020 to the present; and the other was from Vince Espi, Local Labs, requesting all current and past district mission statements. He said both requests had been met in a timely manner as required by law.

Principal McDowell reminded the board of this year's CEO event to be held May 5 at the Parkhouse in Nokomis from 5-7 p.m.

Gasparich made a motion to approve the amended school calendar. Doerr summarized May 24 would be the last day of full attendance, with finals on May 23 and 24. May 25 would be an institute day and graduation would be May 26.

Janssen made a motion to approve the Tentative FY24 School Calendar. Doerr highlighted that Aug. 15 would be a half-day of attendance by students to start the school year followed by the first full day of attendance on Aug. 16. Winter break would be scheduled for Dec. 21 through Jan. 4, 2024. The last full day of attendance would be scheduled for May 20, 2024, with high school graduation to be May 24, 2024. There would be ten emergency days allotted for. He added that this calendar was coordinated with the other county schools in order to facilitate the added vocational classes. Kettelkamp seconded the motion and it also passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Gasparich made a motion to approve the following with tenure starting with the 2023-2024 school year: Dylan Perkins, Jill Huddleston, Jodi Marty, Jamie Blackwell, and Stephanie Kilzer. Tarter seconded the motion and it passed on a roll call vote, with Ruppert voting "no."

Kettelkamp made a motion to approve the renewal agreement with OPAA! Food Management for the 2023-2024 school year. Doerr explained that OPAA! could not raise their prices more than three percent on a year-to-year basis per the five-year agreement and that meant breakfast would now be \$1.45 and lunch \$2.90, but that given inflation this was an understandable change. He added, "I think OPAA! is doing a really good job." Janssen seconded the motion and it passed on a roll call vote with Tarter voting "no."

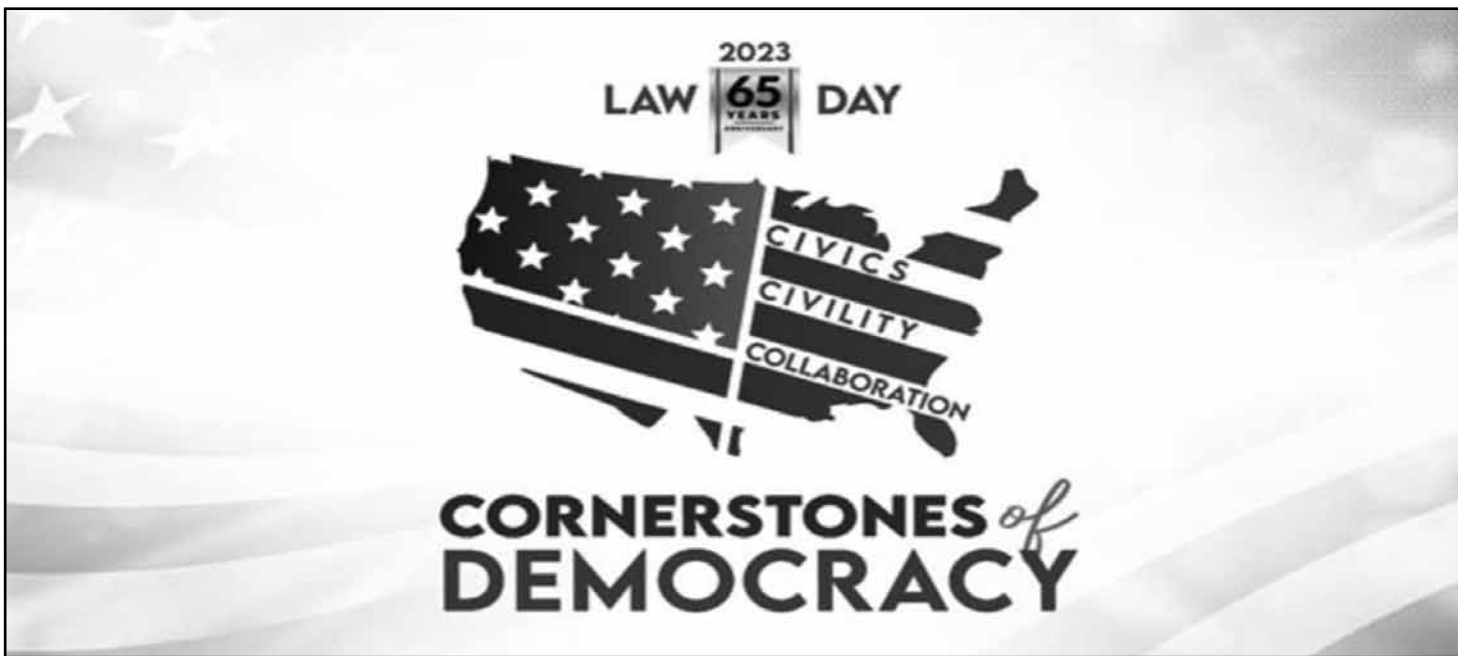
Tarter made a motion to approve the high school boys and girls golf cooperative with Ramsey for FY24 and FY25. Kettelkamp seconded the motion and it passed unanimously on a roll call vote of the members present.

Gasparich made a motion to approve the Board Reorganization Meeting for May 8 at 6:30 p.m. Tarter seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

Earlier in the meeting, as part of the consent agenda, the board approved field trip requests for the eighth grade trip to the St. Louis Zoo on May 22, and the fourth grade field trip to the Science Center on May 8.

After a closed session, Tarter made a motion, seconded by Janssen, to approve the following resignations: Evan Rench, high school scholastic bowl sponsor; Aubrie Moreland, high school science teacher, science club sponsor, and WYSE sponsor; and Megan Mehochko, junior high volleyball coach, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Gasparich made a motion to employ the following: Lisa McNear, district payroll clerk and secretary; Amanda Kettelkamp, high school administrative assistant; Danielle Herpstreith, junior high administrative assistant; Donovan Riley, junior high baseball coach (FY24); Erica King, high school science club and WYSE sponsor; and McKenna Sanders, junior high assistant girls basketball coach. The motion was seconded by Tarter and passed unanimously on a roll call vote of the members present.



Law Day 2023
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Opinion

8A - Monday, April 24, 2023

A GRACE FILLED JOURNEY • by Mary Herschelmann

Learning Reading, Writing And ‘Rithmateic



I sat down at my desk last week to call our four high schools for upcoming dates in May, like Prom, honors night and graduations.

It seems like May is always a busy month at the paper, but it's so much fun to cover the events and celebrate the success with all our kids.

Nearly all of our school columnists are including countdowns 'til the end of the school year, and I can hardly believe it's less than 25 days!

And I'm definitely not ready for Charley to graduate from kindergarten.

It seems like just yesterday that I put her on a bus for preschool in Coffeen, and in just a few short weeks she will be a first grader.

I'll admit that it's been a great year in kindergarten, even if it's been hard for me sometimes, especially since our daughter, Grace only attended Beckemeyer for two and a half years before she passed away from INAD (infantile neuroaxonal dystrophy).

The night I went to kindergarten orientation for Grace, I cried the whole way home. Not that Grace didn't have a wonderful experience in school, but as I sat through orientation hearing about all the things kids would learn in kindergarten, I was suddenly full of grief that Grace would never learn to write her name, never learn to read and never get to sing in a school concert.

And although INAD took a lot from her, it definitely did not take away her ability to make friends. And she had some of the very best. I can hardly believe her class of students will be heading to the junior high this fall. I hope they will always remember the lessons they learned from their friend Grace.

That being said, kindergarten has been a much different experience for Charley. And although I left her orientation feeling like one of the oldest parents there, I also left full of joy for the things she would learn and the memories she would make.

For the first day, she picked out her outfit and we took lots of photos. I could hardly wait to pick her up at the end of the day to hear how everything was. She told me she was a little sad because they didn't learn

how to read that very first day.

I told her not to worry, and promised she would be reading before the end of the year. Now, I've nearly been replaced as the bedtime story reader. In fact, sometimes my husband, Kyle has to nudge me to let her read to me, instead of the other way around.

She knew all her letters and numbers when she arrived at kindergarten, but it has been so much fun this past year watching her put them all together. I love to listen as she sounds out words to read books or to write notes.

Much to her chagrin some days, we walk to school together every morning (she would prefer we drive, but I'm still intimidated by the drop off circle at Beckemeyer). As we walk down the hallway to her classroom, she always stops to show me the projects she's writing on outside her classroom. The words may not always be spelled quite right, but you can tell what she means, and she's so proud.

She's also come so far in her math skills this year. As I was driving her to Raymond the other day, she asked me if she could drive, and after I laughed, I told her she had to be 16. And I asked her how many years it would be before she could drive. She thought about it and quickly said ten years, and then asked if I was proud she got it right.

It's just been an amazing year to watch all the things she's learned, both in, and out of the classroom. I'm probably most proud of how kind she is to others and a good friend. Kyle is probably most proud that she learned the song, "Freebird" in PE. Special shout out to Mr. Reed.

And if you ask Charley, she's most proud of her excellence award as "Future President." She already asked me if we can hang her certificate up on the "love wall" in her bedroom.

It's been a pretty great year for kindergarten. And as we celebrate all the "things" this month, like dance recitals, t-ball games and kindergarten graduation, I hope she knows I'll always be her biggest cheerleader, even if it's a little bittersweet that she's growing up so fast.

But, here's to having an awesome summer together and celebrating all the "first grade things" next year.

LETTERS to the editor

April 23-29 Is National Library Week

April 23-29 is National Library Week. I would like to take a second to write about my own personal love affair with libraries and books.

Reading and being read to has been a part of my life. I had a couple of Little Golden Books that I could read before kindergarten. My mom said I only had them memorized, but Dick and Jane soon bored me and I wanted something with more words.

In junior high and high school at the Witt public school, I was mesmerized by all the wonderful books and authors. The Friday afternoon library visit was all about taking the maximum number of books out to keep me fulfilled for the weekend.

I worked the summer of my junior year in school in the school library, cleaning and organizing. My first job was a dream job! After my senior year, I was allowed the privilege of working at

the Witt Township Memorial Library under the direction of founder Marie Hilt—such a well-read and intelligent woman who, with another group of ladies, decided Witt needed its own library and set out to make it happen.

In my 20s I was a young mother, and while we bought books, it wasn't enough to keep up with my voracious personal reading appetite and that of my children for bedtime stories. I was soon a regular at the library and would walk uptown with my children, and possibly a few neighborhood children who wanted to tag along.

When my youngest child turned six years old, I had the privilege of again working for Marie Hilt and was hired as her assistant. This summer will be my 27th year working for Witt Library. I cannot say enough what a blessing this library is to the community of readers of this town.

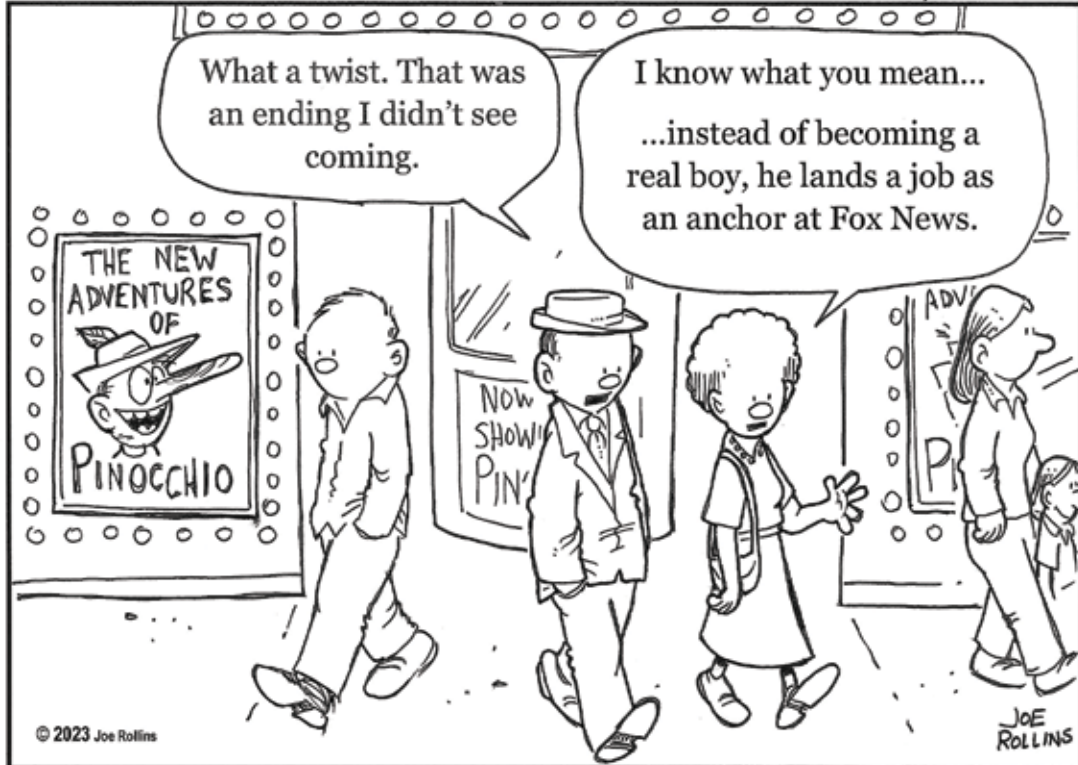
I wish more people would utilize the library. With the advent of electronics, information can be found in seconds. This can be wonderful, but so can populating a book with your own mix of magic as you people the town you are reading about. The characters become your own as you use your imagination to give them personalities and physical traits.

While we are a very small library, we have almost unlimited resources at our fingertips through interlibrary loan. I would like to challenge everyone to visit your local public library during National Library Week. Scope out what's new or revisit an old favorite. Your visit may end with my echoing Marie Hilt's greeting, "happy reading!"

Sue VanOstran
Witt

Joe's Corner

by Joe Rollins



CONSERVATION CONVERSATION • by Melissa Cauble

Time To Start Conservation Programs

Spring has sprung in Montgomery County, Illinois!

Spring flowers are blooming. Home gardens are being planted. Farmers are in the fields planting corn and soybeans.

Spring and April also bring CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) sign-ups. If you have plans to add a conservation practice to your farm, now is the time to come to the FSA (Farm Service Agency) office and begin the process of enrolling your acres into one of the conservation programs.

The process is easy: choose the program, sign up, receive technical assistance from the NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) and make plans to install the practice or seeding as prescribed by the practice standards.

The USDA/SWCD partnership provides services with a friendly and knowledgeable staff at the USDA Service Center, located at 1621 Vandalia Road in Hillsboro.

On Wednesday April 19, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources released "The Illinois State Water Plan" to the public. The plan identifies 13 critical issues in Illinois associated with the waters of Illinois. In addition, the plan promotes 147 recommendations to mitigate these 13 critical issues. You can review the plan at <http://dnr.illinois.gov/WaterResources/StateWaterPlanTaskForce.html>.

Only through the efforts of everyone across our great State of Illinois can we make meaningful progress to improve the quality of our Illinois waters.

On a more local note, Jeff Boeckler, Northwater Consulting Services, has been working with the city and the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to collect streambank data in the Hillsboro/Glenn Shoals Lakes Watersheds.

The purpose is to update the area's watershed plan for future use as grant opportunities arise. The SWCD will be corresponding with landowners in the watershed this summer to obtain permission for entrance onto privately owned lands.

Finally, the SWCD is hiring a resource conservationist. The position is full-time with competitive salary and benefits that include insurance, retirement, paid time off and federal holidays. The person selected will work closely with other state and federal partners to administer cost-share programs that benefit. Interested parties should submit a resume, cover letter and three references to the office or by email to melissa.cauble@il.nacdnet.net no later than May 15.

Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer and provider.



Often considered the entity that "put Litchfield on the map" the House of Sunshine published popular magazines and books, including *Sunshine Magazine*, *Good Reading* and *Illinois Magazine* for more than six decades. The publishing company had several homes throughout the years. Above, is a photo of the House of Sunshine building that was located in the 700 block of North State Street.

Litchfield Museum Photo

DID YOU KNOW? • Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center

Did You Know...About House Of Sunshine

The House of Sunshine and Sunshine Park were long time landmarks in the City of Litchfield. Founded in 1924, the House of Sunshine published *Sunshine Magazine*, *Good Reading* and the *Illinois Magazine*. At one time, the House of Sunshine boasted more than 300,000 subscribers. Some said it was what put Litchfield "on the map."

The firm started in a building on the corner of Monroe and Kirkham streets and later moved to a building south of the (former) Carnegie Library. After some time, property was purchased in the 700 block of North State Street and a building was constructed to house the fledgling company and print shop. Unfortunately, the building was destroyed by a fire.

In 1948, ten acres was purchased from the Davis estate and a new, larger



The aim . . . is to radiate sunshine, to shine in the dark places. . . Its sole purpose is to spread sunshine; to brighten the dark places with warmth and light; to inspire, if possible, a distraught world with a bit of enduring hope and courage.

—HENRY F. HENRICHS

building was erected on Illinois Route 16. Additional property was purchased from Charles Sammons, and what had been known as Davis Park was eventually renamed Sunshine Park. When all publications ceased the property was sold to Schutt Manufacturing, and later the Latter Rain Ministries.

Henry F. Henrichs and his children, Garth Henrichs and Monta Crane, managed the business under two co-owned

partnerships, "Sunshine Press" and "Henry F. Henrichs Publications." Family members Larry Henrichs and Maude Henrichs later joined the effort.

The House of Sunshine actively published magazines and books that spread goodwill throughout America and into other countries (their publications were often sent to military members during World War II) for more than six decades. The first issue of *Sunshine Magazine* was published in 1924 and the last in 1992.

More information about the House of Sunshine and Sunshine Park can be found by visiting the Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center located at Historic Route 66 North in Litchfield, during their regular business hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

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REDSKIN REVIEW • by Hailey Engelman at Nokomis

Prom, Senior Trip On Agenda In Nokomis



Happy Monday, Redskins fans!

It's an exciting week at NHS, as Prom is on Saturday! Nokomis juniors and seniors will attend 'A Trip To Pair-A-Dice' on Saturday, April 29 from 8 to 11 p.m. Guest forms need to be turned in to the office by Wednesday, April 26. Coronation will begin at 8:15 p.m.

Congratulations to the 2023 Prom Court! Junior attendants are Cydney Bertolino, Reagan Jonas, Presley Mehochko, Irene Vandenberg, Reece Lohman, Kennedy DeWerff, Jaxson Batty, and Mason Stauder. Senior king and queen candidates are Emily Cress, Kaylee Tester, Emma Sneddon, Carley King, Hailey Engelman, Kolin Reynolds, Mason Morris, Ryan Eisenbarth, Joey Barker and Jackson Kirk.

It is an extra exciting week for the class of 2023, as the seniors will attend their senior field trip to Six Flags this week. The end is near... only 23 more days of school!

FFA has had quite the busy, yet successful, past couple of weeks! The chapter recently donated funds raised from FFA Week to Nokomis Christian Missions, a very deserving organization in our community!

Aside from being a generous chapter and giving back to the community, our students have plenty of accomplishments to back them up. Seven members recently placed in the top ten at the Section 19 horticulture contest and brought home second place as a team, with Mason LaChance placing second overall!

The ag mechanics team attended the Section 19 contest and placed fifth overall, with Kristen Mascher placing third individually in carpentry.

Another awesome group of FFA members brought home third place in the state for Poultry CDE, with Lizzy Hill and Garrett Engelman each placing in the top ten in the state individually! The Livestock team competed at the state competition as well, and gained wonderful experience for some of their first times attending. Last, but not least, the horticulture team placed 14th in the state! What an outstanding series of events for the Nokomis FFA!

Congratulations to Nolan Himes, as he attended the Academic Challenge State Competition in biology held at Eastern Illinois University. To get to this point, he has placed 1st in the previous regional and sectional competitions. Great job representing the NHS!

The Student Council has been busy planning out events to finish off the school year, as well as getting a head start on preparation for next year! StuCo elections for the 2023-24 school year will be held on Tuesday, April 25.

As part of the school-wide Capturing Kids' Hearts Community Volunteer project, all Advocacy classes are scheduled to give time at Nokomis Christian Missions during the school year. Last week, Mrs. King's freshman class went to help out.

Mrs. Williams Dual Credit Foods IV students traveled to Lincoln Land Community College to experience the culinary world there! This is a great learning opportunity for students and a way for them to show off their own knowledge.

Mark your calendars! The Montgomery CEO Marketplace is quickly approaching on Friday, May 5 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Nokomis Memorial Park House. There, you can explore and learn about the young entrepreneurs personal businesses, featuring six of our very own NHS students. These students

have worked hard all year to create successful businesses for themselves, so you will not want to miss it! Between all members of the CEO team they have come up with dance classes, yard signs, wiffle ball field rental, personal grocery delivery, E-commerce, crocheting, photography and manual labor. At the marketplace, you can learn more about the businesses and enjoy a pop up food truck!

Congratulations to CEO team member Elijah Aumann for earning honorable mention in the Midland Institute CEO Pitch Competition!

Two NHS juniors, Reece Lohman and Brody Steele, recently had the opportunity to attend the Senator Steve McClure Youth Advisory Council in Springfield. There, they learned about state and local government with other students in the Illinois Senate 54th District.

In sports, softball had a bumpy week with some tight games. The team was able to defeat Hillsboro on Redskin Territory, but took losses to Litchfield in extra innings and Mt. Zion on the road. They will play Ramsey and Mulberry Grove this week.

Baseball lost to Tri-City last week, but came back to combat the loss by defeating Litchfield on Saturday. They will play Altamont, Lincolnwood (twice), and Hillsboro this week.

Track competed at Gillespie last week, placing second. Check the 'Athletic' App for individual scores of the 18 events. The team will travel to Shelbyville and Taylorville for meets this week.

Congratulations to Audrey Sabol, who was named honorable mention on the *Champaign News Gazette* All-State Basketball Team for the second year in a row!

I hope everyone has a wonderful week, and I will see you here next Monday.



April Showers Bring Double Rainbow

It's true that April showers often bring May flowers, but this year, they also brought rainbows. *Journal-News* reader Rachel Beckett captured this full double rainbow on the west side of Litchfield following the storms late Thursday afternoon and evening, April 20.

PANTHER PRESS • by Morgan Lemon at Litchfield

Litchfield Panthers Ready For Prom



Happy Monday, Panthers!

Chess Club will be meeting on Mondays and Wednesdays during IMPACT in Mr.

Carlson's room.

Post Prom forms are now in the main office. Your guest must be in high school or not older than 20. Out-of-town guest forms for Prom are also available in the main office. Please make sure you are reading the guidelines and have these turned in no later than May 3.

Prom tickets will be on sale during lunch up until prom.

On Friday, April 21, the Panther Cafe will be opening in the IMC during Impact.

Students will be able to purchase coffee for \$3 with \$1 syrups, there will also be baked goods available for \$1 a piece.

On Friday April 28, all juniors and seniors will attend a job fair at the unit office. Everyone is to bring two copies of their resumes to hand to businesses. All juniors will eat a lunch on this day. Juniors will be picked up at 12:45 p.m. and return at 1:50 p.m. and seniors will be picked up at 1:35 p.m. and return at 2:30 p.m.

Sports

Monday, April 24: Junior varsity/varsity baseball at Carlinville at 4:30 p.m. Softball at Carlinville at 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 25: Junior varsity/varsity baseball at home against Greenville, varsity at 4:30 p.m. and junior varsity at 6:30 p.m.

Softball at home against Greenville at 4:30 p.m. Soccer at home against Pana at 5 p.m.

Wednesday, April 26: Middle school track at Gillespie at 4 p.m. High school track at Taylorville at 4 p.m.

Thursday, April 27: Soccer at North Mac at 5 p.m.

Friday, April 28: Middle school track at Greenville at 3:30 p.m. Junior varsity/varsity baseball at Hillsboro at 4:30 p.m. (junior varsity innings after). Softball at Hillsboro at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 29: High school track at Carlinville at 9 a.m. Varsity baseball at Eisenhower at 10 a.m. Junior varsity baseball at home against Staunton/Porta (round robin) Softball at New Berlin at 10 a.m.

Have a great week!

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SAVE THE DATE – APRIL 27, 2023

Having been in the retirement planning profession for 50-plus years, one of the items that concerns people the most is what will happen should they need long term care. It is a very concerning and confusing issue for most.

To help clarify many of the rules and options available to you, Tosetti and Associates will be hosting a presentation by an Elder Care Professional. This is strictly a public service event and nothing will be promoted or sold. It will be open to the public, and there is no charge to attend.

**The informative presentation will take place at
7 p.m. Thursday, April 27, 2023
at The Event Center of Montgomery County
located on Route 185, Hillsboro, Illinois**

Protect Your Life Savings from the Nursing Home. There are legal tools that can help prevent spending down all your money on the high cost of nursing home expenses. In this workshop, you will learn how to protect yourself or your family from the fabled "Spend-down" and protect your hard-earned savings.

Elder Care Director **Melissa Coulter** will share several crucial things you need to know about protecting your assets. Melissa joined the Edwards Group LLC in 2014 as a Benefits Specialist and in 2020 assumed her current role as Elder Care Director. She has been instrumental in further developing the Elder Care program with an emphasis on helping families identify appropriate care options, define strategies to pay for care needs, and assist with comprehensive estate planning when consideration for care is required. Melissa has vast experience with the intricacies of the long-term care Medicaid and VA Aid and Attendance programs. She successfully guides families through these processes on a daily basis.

Prior to joining Edwards Group, Melissa held various positions at the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education in Springfield including Program Administration Coordinator and Assistant to the Director of Programs. Her time working at IICLE provided her the opportunity to become familiar with many in the local legal community which was shown to be advantageous to clients.

Melissa cultivates relationships with all who provide services to the geriatric population across Central Illinois. She currently coordinates the Sangamon County Aging Network and previously served on the Board of Directors of Sangamon County Senior Services.



If you have any questions regarding this seminar, please call
Tosetti and Associates at 217-563-8641

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This year's three celebrity lip sync teams and the Stamp Out Cancer committee raised over \$117,617 for the Montgomery County Cancer Association.



Students enrolled at St. Agnes Preschool in Hillsboro made a generous donation to the CEFS Food Pantry, collecting non-perishable food items during lent.



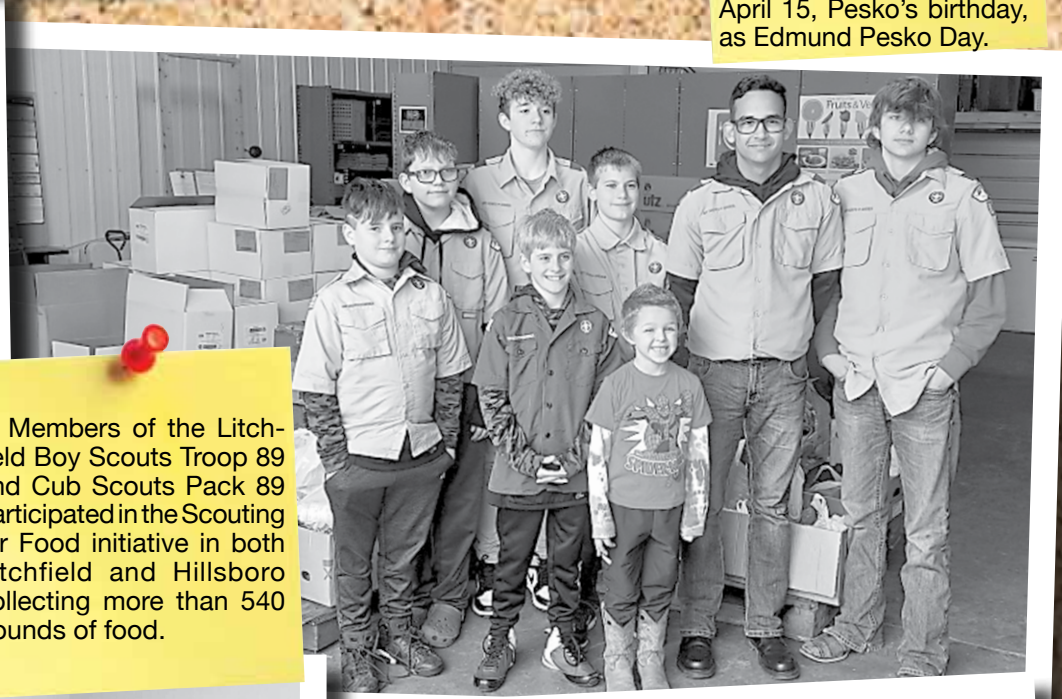
Shoal Creek Fire Protection District added a Ranch Hand heavy duty bumper and winch. The money to purchase the upgrade was raised through a fundraiser hosted by the Iron Horse Saloon in Panama.



Taylor Springs hosted a special open house and ceremony on Sunday, April 16, at the Taylor Springs Community Center in honor of the late Edmund Pesko and his contributions to the community. Board members officially proclaimed April 15, Pesko's birthday, as Edmund Pesko Day.



The Hillsboro High School girls soccer team paused from practicing April 4, to thank Kassie Greenwood and Kendra McSperritt of the Hillsboro Sports Association Basketball Committee, who presented a check for \$17,000 to help light the soccer field.



Members of the Litchfield Boy Scouts Troop 89 and Cub Scouts Pack 89 participated in the Scouting for Food initiative in both Litchfield and Hillsboro collecting more than 540 pounds of food.



Harvest of Hope Food Pantry in Hillsboro handed out a total of 40 hams to local residents on April 1 just in time for the Easter holiday.



Hermann Farms presented a monetary donation to Project Third Day-Panhandle to assist with the organization's new building remodel.



Nokomis Christian Missions celebrated 25 years providing some relief to community members who may need a little assistance.



The Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee presented a check for \$700 to the Hillsboro School District for teacher supplies on April 4, proceeds from a ham and beans luncheon in Hillsboro.



This year's Litchfield Chamber of Commerce Award winners were honored at the 75th annual Litchfield Chamber of Commerce Awards banquet at the Litchfield Community Center.



Nokomis' Brenton Lyons dives headfirst into home plate just ahead of the tag by Litchfield catcher Jacob Budd during the second inning of the county tournament championship rematch in Litchfield on Saturday, April 22. Nokomis, who won the county crown with a 5-0 victory, won round two as well with a 14-1 win in five innings. *Journal-News/Kyle Herschelmann*

Redskins Take Round Two At LHS

by Kyle Herschelmann

On April 15, the Nokomis and Litchfield baseball teams met on a warm, slightly rainy day in the championship of the Montgomery County Tournament, a game that the Redskins won 5-0 thanks in large part to a three-run first inning home run by Hunter Broers. On April 22, the two teams met again under vastly different conditions, frigid temps, strong winds and even some snow flurries, but again it was Broers who came up big for the Redskins.

The senior pitcher/infielder took the mound for Nokomis and allowed just three hits and one run in his four innings of work, striking out five Litchfield batters before yielding the mound to Drake Taylor. By the time Taylor took over, it was no longer a save situation as the Redskins pounded out 12 hits and 14 runs against the Purple Panthers, who fell to the visitors 14-1 in five innings.

Litchfield was missing Head Coach Rocky Giannuzzi, and starting catcher Carson

Saathoff after both were ejected in Pana the day before, along with several fans of the Purple Panthers. Litchfield is exploring options on appealing and replaying the game, which was stopped in the second inning after the ejections when the umpires left the field.

Regardless of the circumstances, there was still a game to be played on Saturday, although under conditions more ideal for football or indoor sports than baseball. Brenton Lyons led off the game and was hit by a pitch from Litchfield starter Ethan Saathoff, leading to the game's first run after Lyons stole second and scored on a single by Matthew Ulrici with one out. Ulrici took second on an error on a pickoff attempt and third on a ground out by Ryan Eisenbarth before scoring on an error off a ball hit by Broers that made it 2-0.

Like the Redskins, Litchfield also got their leadoff batter on as Jacob Budd tripled to center field to start things off. Broers struck out the next two batters, but Tate Dobrinich

singled to center to drive in Budd and cut the Nokomis lead to 2-1.

Jaxson Batty reached on a dropped third strike to start off the second inning for Nokomis, but a grounder to Matthew Bywater turned into a 6-3 double play as Litchfield moved within one out of ending the inning. But Nokomis kept things going as Izaak Doyen singled and took second on an error on the throw. Doyen's courtesy runner Garrett Engelman moved to third on a wild pitch and scored moments later on a single by Cade Johnson to make it 3-1.

The Redskins weren't done as they got a single from Brenton Lyons and a double from Ian Keller that allowed both Johnson and Lyons to score and make the game 5-1 before Litchfield got out of the inning.

Litchfield got the leadoff man on again in the second on a single by Titan Hires, but after a pop up to third, the Panthers grounded into a double play to end the inning.

Continued on 4B

Eighth Inning Lifts Hillsboro

The Hillsboro softball team picked up their second South Central Conference win of the season on Friday, April 21, as they scored three runs in the eighth inning to beat Greenville 4-1.

Before the eighth inning heroics, the Lady Hiltoppers struck first with a solo run in the first inning. Addison McLaughlin reached on an error with one out and Anika Camp doubled to send her home and give Hillsboro a 1-0 lead.

That advantage was enough for Camp and the Toppers for the next five innings as the junior pitcher gave up just two hits, a single in the second and one in the fourth. The Comets double their hit total in the bottom of the sixth, though, getting doubles from Hannah Potthast and Emma Wilfong as Greenville tied the game up at one run apiece.

Neither team scored in the seventh, with Brooklyn Fisher left on base for Hillsboro after picking up a two-out single, as the game headed to extra innings.

After being held to four hits in seven innings by Greenville starting pitcher Anna Turner, the Lady Hiltoppers broke open the pitchers' duel. With one out, Anika Camp picked up her second double of the game and gave Hillsboro a runner in scoring position.

Back-to-back singles by Sophia Blankenship and Mackenzie Jarman gave Hillsboro a 2-1 lead, with Blankenship and Jarman moving to third and second on the throw to the plate attempting to get Camp.

Audrey Shultz grounded out to second for out number two, but she earned an RBI on the play as Blankenship scored and Jarman moved up to third. Kenadie Carlock added a single for Hillsboro's third run of the inning as Jarman scored to make it



Hillsboro pitcher Anika Camp struck out four and allowed just four hits in eight innings of work against Greenville on Friday, April 21, as the Lady Hiltoppers defeated Greenville 4-1. *Bill Walker/Walker Photography*

4-1. Kyle Jarman added a single after Carlock's base hit, but Greenville got out of the inning without any further damage.

Camp barely allowed a blip in her eighth inning of work, giving up a one-out walk before getting the final two outs on just three more pitches.

Camp allowed just four hits in the complete game victory, striking out four and walking one. At the plate, Camp was one of three players with two hits in the win, joining Sophia Blankenship and Mackenzie Jarman.

The win improved Hillsboro's record to 2-3 in the South Central Conference and 5-10 overall. The Lady Hiltoppers' next game will be

at home on April 25, against Staunton.

April 21 at Greenville
Hillsboro 100 000 03-4 9 1
Greenville 000 001 00-1 4 3

Pitching Statistics

Away	IP	R	ER	H	K	BB
Camp	8.0	1	1	4	4	1

*Camp 1 HBP

Home	IP	R	ER	H	K	BB
Turner	8.0	4	3	8	1	1

Batting Statistics

Multiple Hits: Hillsboro - Anika Camp 2-4, Sophia Blankenship 2-4, Mackenzie Jarman 2-4; Greenville - Emma Wilfong 2-3.
2B: Hillsboro - Anika Camp 2; Greenville - Hannah Potthast 1, Emma Wilfong 1. **Runs:** Hillsboro - Addison McLaughlin 1, Anika Camp 1, Sophia Blankenship 1, Mackenzie Jarman 1. **RBI:** Hillsboro - Anika Camp 1, Kenadie Carlock 1, Mackenzie Jarman 1, Audrey Shultz 1.

Records: Hillsboro (5-10, 2-3); Greenville (4-17, 0-5).

Lancers Soak It In At Busch

If you practice for hours, eat all the right foods, workout like a pro even when you're not and have just a little bit of luck (ok, a lot of luck), someday you may play baseball on a Major League field. Or if that doesn't suit you, you can take a slightly easier route and be a part of the Lincolnwood-Morrisonville baseball team.

For the second time in four

years, the Lancers took the field at Busch Stadium and stood in the same spots as their heroes: Albert Pujols, Adam Wainwright, Yadier Molina, Nolan Arenado, Paul Goldschmidt and the list goes on and on.

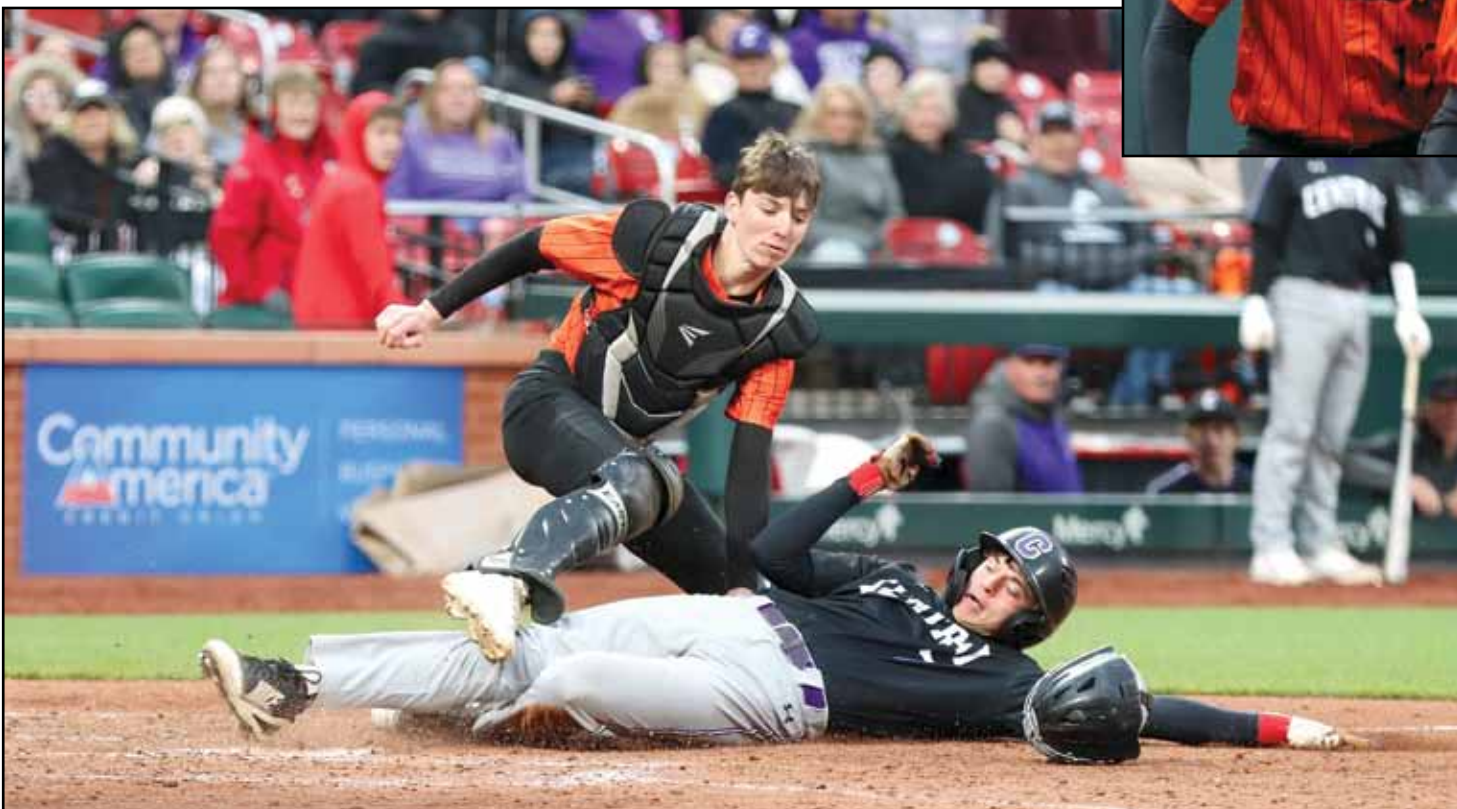
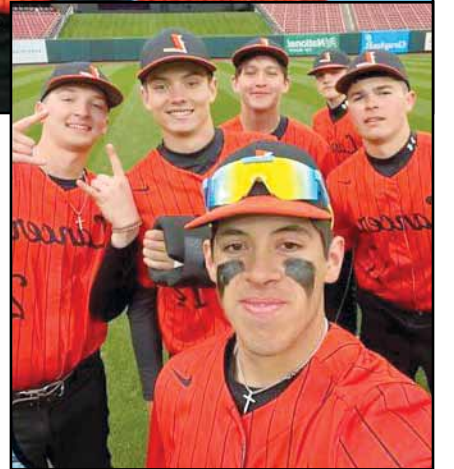
The game itself took a backseat to the opportunities it provide to be a part of something every baseball player dreams of. That doesn't

mean there weren't special moments, but they were more individually based instead of logged in the win loss column.

There was senior Braden Whalen walking to the plate with a heavily wrapped right arm. Whalen broke his dominant hand when he was hit by a pitch earlier this season, but not only had an at-bat, but reached base and scored Lincolnwood's first run of the



Lincolnwood-Morrisonville baseball player Jake Guzman (#6) snaps a selfie on the field at Busch Stadium with his teammates Drew Gilpin (#17), Braden Whalen (#14), Carsen Bethard (#23), Nate Brockmeyer and Kennady Cook during the Lancers' game in St. Louis on April 22.



Lincolnwood catcher Tucker Armentrout got the tag down on Breese Central's Michael Teasley before he could touch home plate in one of the defensive highlights for the Lancers during their game against the Cougars at Busch Stadium on Saturday, April 22. *Jean Weitekamp Photo*

game, a memory that will last long after the cast comes off.

There was Patrick Lipe snatching a pop fly that had drifted slightly over his head for a jumbtron moment that would make anyone's day.

And there was the web gem, with Lancer catcher Tucker Armentrout tagging out the Breese Central's Michael Teasley milliseconds before he could touch home

plate. That won't necessarily be one of the moments the Cougars remember most, but they had their own of highlights in Saturday's 11-2 win.

The game also gives the next generation of Lincolnwood and Morrisonville baseball players something to look forward to as the Lancers plan on returning in four years to give more players the chance of a lifetime.



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Litchfield Girls Third At Rocket Invitational

The Litchfield girls track team set nine personal records and had 19 top eight finishes on Friday, April 21, as they finished third overall at the Rocket Invitational in Rochester.

Kendall Stewart picked up a win in the 300 meter hurdles for the Panthers as she ran a personal-best time of 47.53, the fourth best time in Class 1A this year according to *Athletic.net*. Stewart also ran a leg in the 4x100 relay that finished fourth and the 4x400 relay that finished second.

In the 4x100, Sofia Ray, Brooke Braasch and Shyan Haycraft teamed up with Stewart to run a 54.60, 1.65 seconds behind first place Williamsville, but only .54 seconds behind second place Pleasant Plains.

Plains was the only team to beat Litchfield in the 4x400, running a 4:09.62. The Panthers clocked in at 4:23.33, with Stewart, Braasch, Gracie Boden and Alex Gasperson running the other legs.

Litchfield finished seventh in the other two relays, with Ray, Claudia Deren, Braasch and Gina Painter running a 2:00.03 in the 4x200 and Gasperson, Caitlyn Travis, Joelle Hughes and Emma Diveley running a 11:32.28 in the 4x800.

Myka Fenton finished with two top five finishes as she took fifth in the 1600, running a 5:56.60 and fourth in the 3200 with a time of 12:57.63. Darby Braasch finished fifth in the 3200 for the Panthers.

Litchfield also finished in the top eight in the 100, 400 and 800. Sofia Ray ran a 13.15 to finish seventh in the 100, Gracie Boden ran a 1:04.33 to finish third in the 400 and Emma Diveley ran a 2:42.33 to finish eighth in the 800.

In the field events, Rilynne Nockman continued her strong streak of performances as she finished second in the shot put (10.25) and third in the discus (28.89). Nockman's throw in the shot was slightly less than her season best of 10.69 meters, which is

the 17th best throw in Class 1A according to *Athletic.net*.

Nockman's teammate and fellow thrower Madison Jenkins was seventh in the shot put (9.18) and 17th in the discus.

Litchfield had two in the top eight in both the high jump and the pole vault. Kendall Stewart cleared 2.43 to finish third in the pole vault, while Kayleigh Morrow was fifth at 1.82 meters. In the high jump, Brooke Braasch was seventh at 1.37 meters, while Gracie Boden was eighth at 1.32 meters. Gina Painter also finished eighth in the triple jump, going 8.52 meters on her best attempt.

Litchfield will be in Taylorville on Wednesday, April 26, for their next meet as they take on the host Tornadoes, Pleasant Plains and Nokomis.

April 21 at Rochester Rocket Invitational Girls Team Results: 1. Pleasant Plains 133; 2. Williamsville 87; 3. Litchfield 79; 4. New Berlin 62; 5. Riverton 52; 6. Rochester 52; 7. North Mac 51; 8. Olympia 41; 9. Auburn 40; 9. Springfield Lutheran 40; 11. Carlinville 32; 12. Gillespie 13; 13. Pawnee 11.

Litchfield Girls Results

100: 7. Sofia Ray 13.15; 14. Shyan Haycraft 14.27PR
200: 13. Claudia Deren 30.53PR
400: 3. Gracie Boden 1:04.33; 10. Alex Gasperson 1:10.75PR
800: 8. Emma Diveley 2:42.33PR; 15. Caitlyn Travis 2:56.03PR
1600: 5. Myka Fenton 5:56.60PR; 10. Darby Braasch 6:10.69PR
3200: 4. Myka Fenton 12:57.63; 5. Darby Braasch 13:35.83
300m Hurdles: 1. Kendall Stewart 47.53PR
4x100: 4. Sofia Ray/Kendall Stewart/Brooke Braasch/Shyan Haycraft 54.60
4x200: 7. Sofia Ray/Claudia Deren/Brooke Braasch/Gina Painter 2:00.03
4x400: 2. Gracie Boden/Alex Gasperson/Brooke Braasch/Kendall Stewart 4:23.33
4x800: 7. Alex Gasperson/Caitlyn Travis/Joelle Hughes/Emma Diveley 11:32.28
Shot Put: 2. Rilynne Nockman 10.25m; 7. Madison Jenkins 9.18m
Discus: 3. Rilynne Nockman 28.89m; 17. Madison Jenkins 19.21m
High Jump: 7. Brooke Braasch 1.37m; 8. Gracie Boden 1.32m
Pole Vault: 3. Kendall Stewart 2.43m; 5. Kayleigh Morrow 1.82m
Long Jump: 15. Gina Painter 3.55m; 17. Summer Wilson 3.10mPR
Triple Jump: 8. Gina Painter 8.52m

Toppers Take 2nd, 3rd At Comet Relays

The Hillsboro High School track team set five new personal records and took second in the boys team results and third in the girls team results at the Comet Relays in Greenville on Friday, April 21, the second of three straight relay meets for the Toppers.

On the boys' side, Kaeden Smith and Daniel Kenny both set personal records in the 110 meter hurdles as they finished first and sixth respectively and third as a team. Smith ran a 16.2 to beat Greenville's Gavin File by .9 seconds, while Kenny ran a 21.5.

The Toppers also had two wins on the track side as Ethan Hamby, Amomy Anderson, Zander Wells and Dylan Lessman won the 4x100 with a time of 46.2, beating Pana by 1.2 seconds. The same group beat the Panthers in the sprint medley, running a 1:42.4 to Pana's 1:43.2.

Hillsboro finished second in the 4x400 relay, running a 3:53.4 with Wells, Hamby, Lessman and Seth Hubbard, and in the 4x800, with Brodie Clinard, Antonio Valentín, Devin Hartman and William Yeske running a 10:38.4.

In the 4x100 relay for the freshmen and sophomores, Hillsboro took third, with Carter White, Logan Gill, Brady Stritzel and Austin Newingham running a 50.3. The Toppers' other relay entries were in the 4x200 and 400 meter distance medley, with both groups finishing fourth.

On the field side, Hillsboro finished third in the high jump with Kaeden Smith and Zander Wells, and third in the long jump with Amomy Anderson and Kyle Holcomb. Anderson finished second individually in the event with a mark of 5.77 meters.

Hillsboro finished fourth in both of the throws, throwing 21.94 meters in the shot and 55.1 meters in the discus. Blaze Helton (11.74) and Austin Newingham (10.20) finished sixth and seventh in the shot, with Newingham finishing fifth in the discus with a throw of 30.59 meters and Helton finishing ninth



Hillsboro's Layne Rupert had a best jump of 4.21 meters in the long jump at the Greenville Comet Relays on Friday, April 21, as she and teammate Hanna Hughes finished second in the event.

Bill Walker/Walker Photography

with a personal-best throw of 24.51 meters.

The Toppers also won the 4x100 throwers relay in a time of 55.5 seconds. In the boys team results, Pana was first with 114 points, while Hillsboro was second with 86. Greenville (74), Vandalia (46) and Nashville (44) took up the final three spots.

Hillsboro Girls

Both of the girls' personal-bests came in the long jump as Hanna Hughes and Layne Rupert combined for a mark of 8.89 meters, good enough for second behind Nashville's Emma Behrman and Paityn Matecki. Hughes finished second individually with a season-best jump of 4.68 meters, while Rupert was fifth with a mark of 4.21 meters.

Rupert and Tatum Christian finished first in the high jump, both clearing 1.42 meters for a 2.84 combined mark. The pair were two of three athletes who tied for second individually, with Baylie Newman posting the top mark at 1.47 meters.

In the throws, Hillsboro

was third in the discus (47.94 meters) and fourth in the shot put (16.02 meters). Alex Frailey finished third in the discus with a best throw of 27.42 and sixth in the shot with a mark of 8.63. Ellie Miller was the other half of the Topper entry and finished sixth in the discus at 20.52 meters and eighth in the shot at 7.39 meters.

On the track, Hillsboro finished second with both of their entries. The 4x100 team of Hughes, Christian, Frailey and Rupert ran a 54.6 to finish second by 1.1 second behind Nashville, while the same group ran a 2:01.3 in the sprint medley to finish just fourth tenths of a second behind the Hornets.

Nashville took first overall in the girls team results with 98 points, beating second place Pana by 20 and Hillsboro by 44. Vandalia was fourth, 10 points behind Hillsboro with 44 points, while Greenville was fifth with 34 points.

Combined, Pana finished with 164 points, while Nash-

ville had 142 and Hillsboro had 140. Greenville (108) and Vandalia (90) rounded out the combined standings.

Hillsboro will be at Southwestern on Tuesday, April 25, for the final leg of the relay trifecta as they compete in the Bert Trump Relays in Piasa, where the first events will start at 4 p.m.

April 21 at Greenville Girls Team Results: 1. Nashville 98; 2. Pana 78; 3. Hillsboro 54; 4. Vandalia 44; 5. Greenville 34.

Hillsboro Girls Results
4x100: 2. Hanna Hughes/Tatum Christian/Alex Frailey/Layne Rupert 54.6
100-100-200-400: 2. Alex Frailey/Tatum Christian/Hanna Hughes/Layne Rupert 2:01.3
Shot Put: 4. Hillsboro 16.02 (6. Alex Frailey 8.63/8. Ellie Miller 7.39)
Discus: 3. Hillsboro 47.94 (3. Alex Frailey 27.42/6. Ellie Miller 20.52)
High Jump: 1. Hillsboro 2.84 (2. Tatum Christian 1.42/2. Layne Rupert 1.42)
Long Jump: 2. Hillsboro 8.89 (2. Hanna Hughes 4.68/5. Layne Rupert 4.21)
April 21 at Greenville Boys Team Results: 1. Pana 114; 2. Hillsboro 86; 3. Greenville 74; 4. Vandalia 46; 5. Nashville 44.

Hillsboro Boys Results
110 Hurdles: 3. Hillsboro 37.7 (1. Kaeden Smith 16.2/6. Daniel Kenny 21.5)
4x100: 1. Ethan Hamby/Amomy Anderson/Zander Wells/Dylan Lessman 46.2
F/S 4x100: 3. Carter White/Logan Gill/Brady Stritzel/Austin Newingham 50.3
4x200: 4. Carter White/Ryan Page/Kyle Holcomb/Logan Gill 1:43.6
4x400: 2. Zander Wells/Seth Hubbard/Ethan Hamby/Dylan Lessman 3:53.4
4x800: 2. Brodie Clinard/Antonio Valentín/Devin Hartman/William Yeske 10:38.4
100-100-200-400: 1. Ethan Hamby/Amomy Anderson/Dylan Lessman/Zander Wells 1:42.4
Distance Medley 4000M: 4. Antonio Valentín/Brodie Clinard/Devin Hartman/Seth Hubbard 13:37.0
Shot Put: 4. Hillsboro 21.94 (6. Blaze Helton 11.74/7. Austin Newingham 10.20)
Discus: 4. Hillsboro 55.1 (5. Austin Newingham 30.59/9. Blaze Helton 24.51)
High Jump: 3. Hillsboro 1.42 (4. Kaeden Smith 1.42/5. Zander Wells NH)
Long Jump: 3. Hillsboro 10.29 (2. Amomy Anderson 5.77/9. Kyle Holcomb 4.52)
April 21 at Greenville Combined Team Results: 1. Pana 164; 2. Nashville 142; 3. Hillsboro 140; 4. Greenville 108; 5. Vandalia 90.
Hillsboro Combined Results Throwers 4x100: Hillsboro 55.5

Redskins 2nd At Gillespie

The Nokomis boys track team had 14 personal records and finished second as a team as they traveled to Gillespie on Wednesday, April 19 for a three team meet with the host Miners and Bunker Hill.

The Redskins had five wins on the day as they accumulated 46 team points. Gillespie won the meet with 75 points, while Bunker Hill finished with eight.

Four of the wins and 11 of the 14 PRs came on the track side for Nokomis as they picked up victories in the 200, 400 and 800 meter runs.

In the 800, Nokomis held the top four spots, led by Kennedy DeWerff with a season-best time of 2:22.37. Maddux Himes was second at 2:33.85, while Blaine Goodwin and Mason LaChance were third and fourth with season-best times of 2:38.42 and 2:53.61. William Tucker also ran for the Redskins, finishing sixth in a time of 3:32.81.

Nokomis finished first and third in the 400, with Kaden Petty winning in a time of 57.42 and Mason Stauder clocking in at 1:02.30 for a third place finish and a season-best.

Saint Newman finished first in the 200 with a time of 23.75 and was second in the 100 with a time of 11.57, both of which were personal records. Noah Blaum finished sixth in the 100 (13.30) and seventh in the 200 (27.54), while Bond Knodle (24.97), Dalton Altevogt (25.45) and Jack Johnson (27.39) finished

third, fourth and sixth in the 200 meter race.

Newman, Knodle, Petty and Johnson won the 4x100 in a time of 48.53 seconds, while Trenton Clark was second in the hurdles, running a personal-best of 20.40 seconds in the 110 meter version of the race.

On the field side, Nokomis picked up three more top two finishes as Bond Knodle and Kaden Petty took first and second in the long jump and Mason Stauder placed second in the triple jump. Knodle and Petty went 17'8.75" and 16'0" in the long jump, while Stauder set a new personal best with a mark of 34'7.25".

In the throws, Trenton Clark was fourth in the discus with a throw of 87'8", while Dalton Altevogt (67'2") and Izaak Doyen (58'8") were eighth and ninth. Doyen also finished eighth in the shot put with a throw of 27'8", while Jaxson Batty was 11th with a throw of 24'11".

Nokomis still has two more meets on the schedule before the sectional in Gillespie on May 18. On April 25, they will compete in Shelbyville with the Rams, followed by a meet in Taylorville on April 26.

April 19 at Gillespie Girls Team Results: 1. Gillespie 75; 2. Nokomis 46; 3. Bunker Hill 8.
Nokomis Boys Results
100: 2. Saint Newman 11.57PR; 6. Noah Blaum 13.30PR
200: 1. Saint Newman 23.75PR; 3. Bond Knodle 24.97; 4. Dalton Altevogt 25.45PR; 6. Jack Johnson 27.39PR; 7. Noah Blaum 27.54PR
400: 1. Kaden Petty 57.42; 3. Mason Stauder 1:02.30PR

Eighth Inning Hit Lifts Litchfield Over Nokomis

Two Montgomery County teams duked it out in Litchfield on Wednesday, April 19, as the Nokomis Lady Redskins took on the host Purple Panthers.

Litchfield had just two hits in the game, but made the most of them as they picked up a 3-2 win over Nokomis to improve to 6-8 on the year.

The Redskins had seven hits in the game, three of which came in the second inning when Nokomis scored their first run. Starting pitcher Jayde Gonet started off the inning with a walk, but Litchfield starter Lili Readenour got the next batter out on a strikeout.

The next three batters, Hailey Engelman, Grace DeWerff and Emily Cress, all singled, with Cress' base hit driving in Gonet to make it 1-0. Nokomis still had the bases loaded after the run scored, but Readenour got the next two batters out to end the threat.

Litchfield took the lead an inning later, doing so in different fashion than the way the Redskins scored. Jenni Boden reached on an error to start the inning, with Lauren Monke following Boden up with a single. Monke's hit was the only one of the inning for

the Panthers, but they managed to score twice as Bella Roach reached on a walk to load the bases, Charlie Bono was hit by a pitch to force in Boden and Elise Walch hit a sacrifice fly to center that scored Monke from third.

Litchfield remained in the lead until the top of the sixth inning, when Nokomis got their second run of the game. Emily Cress led off the inning with a single before Readenour got the next two batters on strikes. An error kept the inning going and allowed Emma Sneddon to reach base, with Reagan Jonas loading the bases on a single to left. Jayde Gonet helped her own cause when she put the ball in play and reached on an error, with Emily Cress coming in to score on the play.

Readenour kept Nokomis from taking the lead despite the bases still being loaded as she struck out her 11th batter of the game. Litchfield got one runner on when Jenni Boden walked to start the bottom of the seventh, but Gonet got the next batter out on strikes for her 11th of the day, then picked up a pair of pop flies to end the inning.

Extra inning rules call for a runner to be placed on second, with Addison Dan-

gar getting the call for the Redskins. Hailey Engelman tried to bunt her to third, but catcher Bella Roach kept the senior on second. Grace DeWerff had more success as she bunted Dangbar to third, but Readenour got the final out to end the threat.

Litchfield's half of the eighth was much shorter. Bella Roach started on second and went to third on a wild pitch. After not having a hit since Monke's single in the third, Charlie Bono picked up the second base hit of the game for Litchfield with a bunt single to first that allowed Roach to score and win the game.

The run spoiled a stellar outing by Gonet, who struck out 11 and walked three while giving up three unearned runs to the Panthers. Readenour also struck out 11 as she scattered seven hits and

a walk across eight innings in the win.

At the plate, Litchfield got RBIs from Charlie Bono (2) and Elise Walch, with Bella Roach, Lauren Monke and Jenni Boden scoring the runs. Emily Cress drove in a run for Nokomis and scored another, with Gonet also scoring for the Lady Redskins.

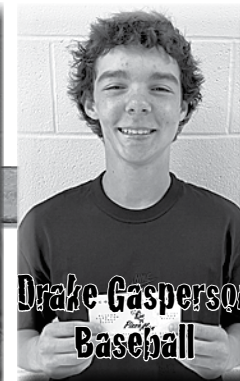
April 19 at Litchfield
Nokomis 010 000 10-2 7 2
Litchfield 002 000 01-3 2 2

Pitching Statistics
Nokomis IP R ER H K BB
Gonet 7.0 3 0 2 11 3
***Gonet 2 HBP**

Litchfield IP R ER H K BB
Readenour 8.0 2 1 7 11 1
***Readenour 1 HBP**

Batting Statistics
Multiple Hits: Nokomis - Hailey Engelman 2-4, Emily Cress 2-4.
Runs: Nokomis - Jayde Gonet 1, Emily Cress 1; Litchfield - Lauren Monke 1, Bella Roach 1, Jenni Boden 1. **RBI:** Nokomis - Emily Cress 1; Litchfield - Charlie Bono 2, Elise Walch 1.
Records: Litchfield (6-8); Nokomis (5-7).

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Lancers Fall To Greenfield-NW

The game at Busch wasn't the only one of the weekend for Lincolnwood, but it might be the only one they'd like to remember. On April 21, the Lancers fell to Greenfield-Northwestern 12-0 in six innings as Talon Albrecht threw a 1-hit shutout.

The Tigers scored twice in the second before unloading with four runs in the fourth and three runs in the fifth and sixth.

Gabe Armentrout had the lone hit for the Lancers, a one-out single in the top of the fifth. With no Greenfield-Northwestern errors or walks, he was Lincolnwood's only base runner.

The Lancers, who moved to 8-9 with the loss, will play Nokomis on back-to-back days this week, first in Raymond on April 25, then at another pro park, GCS Ballpark, the home of the Gateway Grizzlies of the Frontier League.

April 21 at Palmyra
Lincolnwood 000 000 ---0 1 5
Greenfield-NW 020 433 --12 8 0

Pitching Statistics								
L'wood	IP	R	ER	H	K	BB		
Elvidge	3.1	6	3	4	2	5		
G. Armentrout	1.2	3	2	1	1	4		
Klein	0.1	3	3	2	0	1		

*Elvidge 1 HBP								
GNW	IP	R	ER	H	K	BB		
Albrecht	6.0	0	0	1	5	0		

Batting Statistics
Multiple Hits: Greenfield-Northwestern - Brayden Roberts 3-4.
2B: Greenfield-Northwestern - Talon Albrecht 1. **HR:** Greenfield-Northwestern - Brayden Roberts 1, Brett Bilbruck 1.
Records: Lincolnwood (8-9).



The Lincolnwood-Morrisonville baseball team takes time for a team photo after their game at Busch Stadium against Breese Central on Saturday, April 22. The Lancers also played at Busch Stadium in 2019 and are trying to make the trip a tradition every four years. *Jean Weitekamp Photo*

Sports Calendar

Hillsboro Hiltoppers

Tuesday, April 25
4 p.m. - Track at Bert Trump Relays in Piasa

4:30 p.m. - Boys Tennis hosts Shelbyville

4:30 p.m. - Baseball hosts Staunton

4:30 p.m. - Softball hosts Staunton

Wednesday, April 26

4 p.m. - Boys Tennis at Greenville

4:30 p.m. - Girls Soccer at Southwestern

4:30 p.m. - Baseball hosts Auburn

Litchfield Purple Panthers

Monday, April 24

4:30 p.m. - Softball at Carlinville

4:30 p.m. - Baseball at Carlinville

Tuesday, April 25

4:30 p.m. - Softball hosts Greenville

4:30 p.m. - Baseball hosts Greenville

5 p.m. - Girls Soccer hosts Pana

Wednesday, April 26

4 p.m. - Track at Taylorville with Pleasant Plains, Nokomis

Nokomis Redskins

Monday, April 24

4:30 p.m. - Baseball hosts Altamont

4:30 p.m. - Softball at Ramsey

Tuesday, April 25

4:30 p.m. - Track at Shelbyville with Effingham St. Anthony

4:30 p.m. - Baseball at Lincolnwood

Wednesday, April 26

4 p.m. - Track at Taylorville with Pleasant Plains, Litchfield

4:30 p.m. - Baseball vs. Lincolnwood at GCS Stadium in Sauget

Lincolnwood Lancers

Monday, April 24

4:30 p.m. - JV Baseball at North Mac

4:30 p.m. - Softball hosts New Berlin

Tuesday, April 25

4:30 p.m. - Baseball hosts Nokomis

Wednesday, April 26

4:30 p.m. - Baseball vs. Nokomis at GCS Stadium in Sauget

www.twitter.com/JNsports

Hiltoppers To Host 3-on-3 Tournament

The Hillsboro High School basketball program will be hosting a co-ed 3-on-3 basketball tournament on June 24, at Hillsboro High School.

The tournament will feature four divisions, with the divisions based on the 2022-23 school year. There are separate divisions for players in sixth, seventh and eighth grade, with players in fourth and fifth grade combined into one division.

There is a maximum of four players per team and teams can be made up of boys or girls or both. All players must play in each game, but there is no minimum requirement for playing time. Teams are guaranteed three games and their division is determined by the player in the highest grade.

All players and parents/guardians must sign the waiver on the registration form. The cost per team is \$100 by June 9 or \$120 from June 10-17. Registration forms are available on the HHS Boys Topper Basketball Facebook page and are attached to this article online at *www.thejournal-news.net*.

For more information, contact Coach Corbin Govaia at 217-246-8254 or at *cgovaia@hillsboroschools.net*.

Litchfield To Host Softball Camp May 22-24

The Litchfield High School softball program will be hosting a youth softball clinic on May 22, 23 and 24 for players ages five to 14.

The three-day camp will be separate campers into two different groups, with players ages five to 10 attending from 10:30 a.m. to noon and players ages 10 to 14 attending from noon until 1:30 p.m.

The camp, conducted by the Litchfield-Mt. Olive players and coaches, will focus on the fundamentals of hitting, throwing, fielding and base running. Each camper will receive a T-shirt with their camp registration fee.

The camp is \$30 per camper and checks can be made out to LHS Softball. Payment and registration forms are due to Coach Steph Reynolds at JD Colt School in Litchfield by Wednesday, May 3.

Registration forms have been sent home with students and are available on the Litchfield High School Softball Facebook page. For more information, contact Coach Reynolds at *sreynolds@litchfieldpanthers.org*.

Nokomis/Litchfield

Continued from 1B

Hires' hit was the last one of the game for Litchfield as Broers and Taylor combined to set down 11 straight.

Nokomis added five more runs in the third inning against reliever Tate Dobrinich as they loaded the bases with a walk to Ryan Eisenbarth, a single by Hunter Broers and a walk to Jaxson Batty before the first out was recorded. Izaak Doyen singled to score both Eisenbarth and Saint Newman (Broers' courtesy runner), with Cade Johnson following that single with another to plate Batty.

Litchfield got out number two on a line drive to second, but not before a double steal allowed Garrett Engelman (Doyen's courtesy runner) to score and make it 9-1. Ian Keller singled home one more run as Cade Johnson scored to make it 10-1 before Litchfield got out of the inning.

Neither team scored in the fourth as Broers and Litchfield reliever Kenny Traylor both had 1-2-3 innings. Traylor also got the first batter out in the top of the fifth, but an error in center field allowed Izaak Doyen to make it all the way to third as Nokomis threatened to put the mercy rule in play.

Traylor got Cade Johnson to ground to first, but Engelman, again courtesy running for Doyen, was able to beat the throw home as Litchfield tried to avoid giving up another run. Brenton Lyons then singled and both he and Johnson moved up a base on a long fly ball by Ian Keller to center. With two outs and two on, Matthew Ulrici doubled to

bring in Johnson and Lyons, then scored himself on a single by Ryan Eisenbarth to make the score 14-1.

In the bottom of the fifth, Taylor needed just six pitches to end the inning, getting three straight strikes to the final batter of the game to finish off the win.

The victory moved the Redskins to 9-8 on the season, while Litchfield fell to 4-14.

Litchfield takes on Carlinville on Monday, April 24, in a non-conference game, followed by conference tilts against Greenville at home on April 25 and Hillsboro on the Toppers' home field on April 28.

Nokomis plays Altamont on Monday, April 24, in a rematch of the Redskins' season opener, which the Indians won 10-0. After that, they play at Lincolnwood on April 25, and against the Lancers at GCS Stadium in Sauget on April 26.

April 22 at Litchfield

Nokomis 235 04 --14 12 0

Litchfield 100 00 --1 3 5

Pitching Statistics

Nokomis IP R ER H K BB

Broers 4.0 1 1 3 5 0

Taylor 1.0 0 0 0 1 0

Litchfield IP R ER H K BB

E. Saathoff 2.0 5 4 5 2 0

Dobrinich 1.0 5 5 4 2 2

Traylor 2.0 4 0 3 1 0

Batting Statistics

Multiple Hits: Nokomis - Izaak

Doyen 2-3, Cade Johnson 2-3,

Brenton Lyons 2-3, Ian Keller 2-4,

Matthew Ulrici 2-4. **2B:** Nokomis

- Matthew Ulrici 1, Ian Keller 1.

3B: Litchfield - Jacob Budd 1.

Runs: Nokomis - Brenton Lyons

3, Cade Johnson 3, Matthew Ulrici

2, Ryan Eisenbarth 1, Jaxson

Batty 1; Litchfield - Jaxson Batty

1. **RBI:** Nokomis - Ian Keller 3,

Matthew Ulrici 3, Cade Johnson

3, Izaak Doyen 2; Litchfield - Tate

Dobrinich 1.

Records: Nokomis (9-8); Litchfield

(4-14).



Nokomis senior Hunter Broers completes his delivery to Litchfield's Matthew Bywater during the Redskins' 14-1 win over the Purple Panthers on Saturday, April 22. Broers got the win on the mound, striking out five and giving up just one run on three hits in four innings. *Journal-News/Kyle Herschelmann*

Vandenbergh Tops Qualifying Mark

However long it has been since Nokomis had a state qualifier in track, that streak could very well come to an end in a few weeks.

On Wednesday, April 19, in Gillespie, Nokomis junior Irene Vandenbergh won the triple jump, posting a best jump of 34'1.25" to break her best mark of the season by more than nine inches.

In addition to it being the winning jump and a personal record, Vandenbergh's jump also marked the first time this year that she had topped the state qualifying standard of 33'5" or 10.18 meters. If she can do that again at the sectional in Carlinville on May 11, then she'll advance to the state finals in Charleston, even if she doesn't finish in one of the top two qualifying spots.

But the potential isn't just there for Vandenbergh to make the state meet, there's a chance she could take home Nokomis' first ever medal in girls track if all goes well. According to *Athletic.net*, Vandenbergh's mark of 10.39 meters is the 12th best jump in Class 1A this year. The top 14 in the state prelims advance to the finals and 10.39 meters would have been good for the ninth and final spot on the podium in the 2022 triple jump finals.

As exciting as the potential of the postseason is, there is still some time left in the regular season and Nokomis continues to get better each

time out.

Vandenbergh also set personal records in the 200 (28.33) and 400 (1:04.10) to give herself three wins on the day, but she wasn't the only one to put up their best marks of the year. Eight other Nokomis entries posted personal records, not including Natalie Engelman, who missed a personal record in the 800, but won the event in a time of 3:17.94.

Libby Watson and Olivia Tosetti both set new personal records in the 100 with times of 14.38 and 17.89 respectively. Watson finished second to Bunker Hill's Zoey Watkins, while Tosetti finished fifth.

In addition to Vandenbergh's run in the 200, Marcie Carroll finished fourth with a season-best run of 31.49 seconds. Abby O'Malley (33.29) and Kennley Kirk (34.45) also ran the 200 and finished fifth and sixth.

In addition to the individual wins, Nokomis also collected a win in the 4x100 as Vandenbergh, Carroll, Watson and O'Malley ran a 57.09 to take first by nine seconds over Gillespie.

In the field events, Abby O'Malley gave Nokomis a 1-2 finish in the triple jump as she took second with a personal record of 25'5.75". O'Malley also finished third in the long jump with a mark of 11'8.75", while Libby Watson set a new personal best with a mark of 11'3", good for fourth on the day.

In the throws, Remi Tester set a new personal best in the shot put as she finished second with a 27'0" throw. Tester also finished second in the discus with a throw of 60'7", while teammate Rilee Waterman was third in both the shot (24'11") and the discus (54'1"). Corey Keagy finished right behind Waterman in the shot with a personal-best throw of 24'5", while Mattie Johnson was fourth in the discus (51'1") and seventh in the shot put (20'7").

Nokomis still has two more meets on the schedule before the sectional in Carlinville on May 11. On April 25, they will compete in Shelbyville with the Rams, followed by a meet in Taylorville on April 26, with Litchfield and Pleasant Plains also in attendance.

April 19 at Gillespie Girls Team Results: 1. Gillespie 46; 2. Nokomis 45; 3. Bunker Hill 18.

Nokomis Girls Results

100: 2. Libby Watson 14.38PR; 5. Olivia Tosetti 17.89PR

200: 1. Irene Vandenbergh 28.33PR; 4. Marcie Carroll 31.49PR; 5. Abigail O'Malley 33.29; 6. Kennley Kirk 34.45

400: 1. Irene Vandenbergh 1:04.10PR

800: 1. Natalie Engelman 3:17.94

4x100: 1. Irene Vandenbergh/Marcie Carroll/Libby Watson/Abby O'Malley 57.09

Shot Put: 2. Remi Tester 27'0"PR; 3. Rilee Waterman 24'11"; 4. Corey Keagy 24'5"PR; 7. Mattie Johnson 20'7"

Discus: 2. Remi Tester 60'7"; 3. Rilee Waterman 54'1"; 4. Mattie Johnson 51'1"PR

Long Jump: 3. Abigail O'Malley 11'8.75"; 4. Libby Watson 11'3"PR

Triple Jump: 1. Irene Vandenbergh 34'1.25"PR; 2. Abigail O'Malley 25'5.75"PR



Since 2021, Litchfield High School grad Dusty Atteberry has been testing the limits of his strength by competing in strongman competitions. A former track, football and basketball player for the Panthers, Atteberry will be competing in the United States Strongman Nationals on June 3 in Dallas, TX. *Clarence Alford Photography*

Atteberry To Compete In Strongman Nationals

Sports were a big part of Dusty Atteberry's life growing up, from track, basketball and football at Litchfield High School to the discus and hammer throw at Greenville University. But throughout all of the more traditional sports, there was one athletic pursuit that Atteberry wanted to try, but hadn't had the opportunity.

"I always loved watching the strongman events on TV and anywhere I could find them," said Atteberry, who graduated from Litchfield in 2013, "but I couldn't ever find a place to do them."

That changed when Atteberry made the move to the St. Louis area, where he now lives with his wife Brittany.

"I found a gym down where I live now that had equipment for me to dabble in it and I've never looked back," Atteberry said of finding

Max Effort Strength and Conditioning. "It was the best decision I have ever made."

Since June of 2021, Atteberry has been participating in strongman competitions throughout the area doing such things as throwing sandbags over a 16-foot bar, carrying a yoke loaded with weights 50-feet down and back or lifting a 250-pound metal log over his head.

And so far, he's found out that he's pretty good at it too.

In August of 2022, Atteberry finished second in the open heavyweight (221 to 275 pounds) division at the Warpath Strength Skull Smash Challenge II in Wheaton.

That earned Atteberry a spot in the United States Strongman Nationals which will take place at the Hyatt Regency in Dallas, TX, on June 3.

The nationals consist of

five events: the sandbag drag, the lever deadlift, the axle clean and press, the four-axle 13" wagon wheel deadlift and the Texas coin hold. Each event requires its own degree of strength and stamina, something that can take its toll on even the strongest of competitors.

"If athlete pees, poops or vomits on platform, athlete must clean up before walking off," one of the rules in the wagon wheel axle deadlift reads.

In other words, this is not your everyday, ordinary competition. This is something that requires not just strength, but commitment to training and a will to push one's self past limits they previously thought impossible.

Atteberry knows this and it's earned him a spot in Dallas. Where it takes him from there is up to him.

Nokomis Softball Holds Off Hillsboro

The day after falling to Litchfield 3-2 in extra innings, the Nokomis softball team took on another Montgomery County foe as Hillsboro came to town on Thursday, April 20.

The Lady Hiltoppers did their best to hand Nokomis another late inning loss, but the Lady Redskins held off a late rally to score an 11-9 win.

Hillsboro jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first, but Nokomis rallied back with six runs in the bottom half of the inning. The Toppers scored on a two-run single by Mackenzie Jarman off Nokomis starter Reagan Jonas, after Ella Greenwood led off the game with a single and Sophia Blankenship walked with two outs two batters later.

Jarman started on the mound for the Hiltoppers and had trouble locating the strike zone early on. Presley Mehochko, Emma Sneddon, Reagan Jonas and Jayde Gonet all walked, with Mehochko scoring during Gonet's at-bat on a wild pitch.

Errors also caused some trouble in the inning as Hillsboro committed two in the inning, the first of which came on a ball hit by Hailey Engelman in the next at-bat that allowed Sneddon to score and tie the game at 2-2. Nora Patton (Jonas' courtesy runner) scored on a wild pitch as Jarman got Dangbar out on strikes, then another error allowed Engelman to score

from second as Grace Dewerff reached on the play.

Back-to-back singles by Emily Cress and Camryn Engelman plated another run and Presley Mehochko walked for the second time in the inning as the Redskins batted around. Allie Sneddon (courtesy running for Cress) made it 6-2 on a wild pitch before Hillsboro got out of the inning.

After a scoreless second inning, Hillsboro tied things up in the third as the first four batters reached, starting with a leadoff walk to Addison McLaughlin. Anika Camp notched an RBI double, then scored on a single by Sophia Blankenship. Blankenship made it 6-5 before Nokomis registered their first out as Mackenzie Jarman tripled to right to drive in the Hillsboro catcher.

Jonas nearly got out of the inning with a pair of strikeouts, but Kenadie Carlock singled to drive in Jarman and tie the game before the inning ended.

The tie lasted four batters into the bottom of the third as Emily Cress reached on an error, Camryn Engelman singled, and after a liner for the first out of the inning, Emma Sneddon doubled to drive in Cress. Reagan Jonas followed that up with a single to plate Engelman and Nokomis now led 8-6 after three.

The Redskins added three more runs in the fourth, with the first run coming on a sacrifice fly by Cress that scored Addison Dangbar, who walked to start the inning. The other two runs came with two outs after a bases loaded double by Jonas scored two, following walks to Camryn Engelman, Presley Mehochko and Emma Sneddon.

As it turns out, Nokomis needed almost all of those runs to stay out in front. Hillsboro scored once in the fifth off back-to-back-to-back singles by Sophia Blankenship, Mackenzie Jarman and Aubrey Evans, then threatened to make things interesting in the top of the seventh.

Evans started off the inning by being hit by a pitch and Audrey Shultz followed with a single. After a strikeout, Brooklyn Fisher grounded out, but moved the runners into scoring position. Ella Greenwood singled to drive in both Evans and Shultz and bring the tying run to the plate, but Reagan Jonas battled back from a 2-0 count to record her seventh strikeout of the game and the victory for the Redskins.

Sophia Blankenship and Mackenzie Jarman led Hillsboro at the plate with three hits each. Blankenship also scored three times and drove in a run, while Jarman drove in three runs and scored

once. Reagan Jonas paced Nokomis at the plate with two hits and three RBIs, with Presley Mehochko and Camryn Engelman scoring two runs apiece.

With the win Nokomis improved to 6-7 on the season, while Hillsboro fell to 4-10, before picking up a win over Greenville the next day.

April 20 at Nokomis

Hillsboro	204	010	2--9	13	4
Nokomis	602	300	x-11	7	0

Pitching Statistics

Hillsboro	IP	R	ER	H	K	BB
Jarman	4.0	11	6	6	3	11
Camp	2.0	0	0	1	2	0
Nokomis	IP	R	ER	H	K	BB
Jonas	7.0	9	9	13	7	2

***Jonas 2 HBP**

Batting Statistics

Multiple Hits: Hillsboro - Sophia Blankenship 3-3, Mackenzie Jarman 3-4, Audrey Shultz 2-4, Ella Greenwood 2-5; Nokomis - Reagan Jonas 2-2, Camryn Engelman 2-3. **2B:** Hillsboro - Anika Camp 1; Nokomis - Emma Sneddon 1, Reagan Jonas 1. **3B:** Hillsboro - Mackenzie Jarman 1; Nokomis - Addison Dangbar 1. **Runs:** Hillsboro - Sophia Blankenship 3, Ella Greenwood 1, Addison McLaughlin 1, Anika Camp 1, Mackenzie Jarman 1, Aubrey Evans 1, Audrey Shultz 1; Nokomis - Presley Mehochko 2, Camryn Engelman 2, Emma Sneddon 1, Hailey Engelman 1, Addison Dangbar 1, Grace DeWerff 1, Emily Cress 1, Allie Sneddon 1, Nora Patton. **RBI:** Hillsboro - Mackenzie Jarman 3, Ella Greenwood 2, Anika Camp 1, Sophia Blankenship 1, Aubrey Evans 1, Kenadie Carlock 1, Nokomis - Reagan Jonas 3, Emma Sneddon 1, Emily Cress 1, Camryn Engelman 1.

Records: Hillsboro (4-10); Nokomis (6-7).



Hillsboro's Nathan Matoush struck out 13 and allowed just four hits in a tough luck loss to Greenville on Friday, April 21. The Comets, whose starter Drake Curry allowed just six hits on the day, picked up just enough offense to beat the Toppers' 2-0 in Greenville.

Bill Walker/Walker Photography

Comets Nip Toppers In SCC Pitching Duel

by Ron Deabenderfer

A pitching duel awaited the Topper baseball fans who made the short trip to Greenville to see the conference game between the host Comets and the Toppers. Both Comet Drake Curry and Topper Nathan Matoush are lefthanders, both are young, both threw complete games (the first for Hillsboro in 2023); the two are likely to meet as mound opponents in the next two years.

Curry is more of a pitch-to-contact hurler than Matoush; Hillsboro touched him for six hits in his seven innings of work, but he walked no one while striking out four. He averaged almost 14 pitches per inning; the Toppers stranded six runners, but only two after the third inning.

Matoush is more of a strikeout artist; he fanned eight of the first ten he faced, with only an infield out and a double by Cohen Alstott with one out in the third leading to the first, and strange, run of the game. After Alstott doubled to right center, Matoush struckout the Comets' designated hitter and the leadoff man, but the latter third strike fell at the catcher's feet. The throw to first to complete the third out was a bit low, with Alstott running to third as the safe call was made.

Matoush, whose pick-off move has improved this year, tried it once too often when Ryan Jackson broke for second. The Topper first baseman threw to second as Alstott broke for home-1-0, Comets, and lesson hopefully learned.

The second Comet run was more conventional as

Jackson clubbed a 2-2 pitch over the left field fence ten feet inside the foul pole. The best other scoring threat for the Comets came in the fourth when Drew Potthast singled with one out; his courtesy runner, Bandy, reached third via an error; with two out, Nick Grull walked and advanced to second, but the two runners stayed put as Matoush struck out the Number Six hitter swinging.

Two of Hillsboro's six hits came from Ketch Mills, who doubled in the first, walked in the third, and singled sharply before stealing second in the sixth, when a run would have meant a tie. He also reached third on a single by Landon Summers with two outs in the third, but Curry enticed a ground ball to first to end that threat.

The other Topper hits belonged to Elias Baney, Caleb Greenwood, and Clayton Rufus, but none of them reached third base as a runner.

This week Hillsboro has three home games as the season heads toward Regional time. Staunton will be here tomorrow, April 25, for a conference game at 4:30. Nokomis should appear Thursday afternoon, and Litchfield will arrive Friday, April 28. First pitch is scheduled for 4:30 each afternoon.

April 21 at Greenville

Hillsboro	000	000	0--0	6	2
Greenville	001	001	x--2	4	2

Pitching Statistics

Hillsboro	IP	R	ER	H	K	BB
Matoush	6.0	2	1	4	13	2
Greenville	IP	R	ER	H	K	BB
Curry	7.0	0	0	6	4	0

Batting Statistics

Multiple Hits: Hillsboro - Ketch Mills 2. **2B:** Greenville - Cohen Alstatt 1. **HR:** Greenville - Ryan Jackson 1.

Records: Hillsboro (2-11, 0-5); Greenville (9-8, 3-2).

Quarton, Powell Take Top Spots At Rocket Invite

Litchfield juniors Camden Quarton and Keenan Powell have their sights set on finishing the season as one of the best in the state at their respective events. On Friday, April 21, at the Rocket Invitational in Rochester, the duo took another step forward in that quest.

Going up against some of the top athletes in the area, Quarton and Powell took first in the 1600 meters and triple jump as Litchfield was one of four teams to have two winners on the day, along with Pleasant Plains, North Mac and Springfield Lutheran.

Auburn, who had six winners, won the event with 112 points, 11.5 more than runner-up Pleasant Plains. Rochester (83), North Mac (81.5) and Lutheran (59) rounded out the top five, with Litchfield coming in seventh with 56.5 points, one point behind sixth place Olympia.

Quarton ran a personal best time of 4:36.65 to win the 1600 to beat Pleasant Plains junior Jack Willenborg, who ran a 4:42.38. Quarton's time was also the 14th fastest of the year in Class 1A according to Athletic.net.

In addition to his success in the 1600, Quarton also finished fourth in the 3200 with a season-best time of 10:17.82. Teammate Sam Horn also ran in the 1600 and 3200, setting two new PRs with times of 5:11.36 to finish 11th in the 1600 and 10:54.78 to finish seventh in the 3200.

In the triple jump Powell missed a

personal best by about an inch and a half, but still went 13.11 meters to take the top spot by .41 meters over Mason Kooi of Springfield Lutheran. Kooi, who won the high jump and long jump, is one of just four Class 1A athletes who has jumped further than Powell this year, with a season-best of 13.39 meters.

In addition to the two wins, Litchfield also had 10 other finishes in the top eight, including two in the relays. In the 4x100, Martavious Jones, Zach Leitschuh, Easton Grammer and Powell ran a 46.51 to take third behind Rochester and North Mac, who ran times of 45.27 and 45.40. In the 4x800, Sam Schwab, Tucker Maguire, Mitchell Floyd and Brandon Malloy ran a 9:22.02 to finish fifth overall.

Mannix Hancock accounted for two more top eight finishes in the throws as he took second in the discus with a throw of 41.48 meters and sixth in the shot put with a throw of 12.53 meters, both of which were personal bests. His teammate, Hunter Hancock, was seventh in the shot put (12.22 meters) and 18th in the discus (24.91 meters).

Kale Dexheimer and Jackson Painter both finished in the top eight in the pole vault, with Dexheimer clearing 3.20 meters to finish fourth and Painter clearing a season-best 3.04 meters to finish eighth. Martavious Jones was eighth in the long jump with a mark of 5.47 meters, while Alec Roach narrowly

missed a top eight finish in the high jump, finishing ninth with a mark of 1.52 meters.

Litchfield will be in Taylorville on Wednesday, April 26, for their next meet as they take on the host Tornados, Pleasant Plains and Nokomis.

April 21 at Rochester

Rocket Invitational

Boys Team Results: 1. Auburn 112; 2. Pleasant Plains 100.5; 3. Rochester 83; 4. North Mac 81.5; 5. Springfield Lutheran 59; 6. Olympia 57.5; 7. Litchfield 56.5; 8. New Berlin 45; 9. Gillespie 26; 9. Pawnee 26; 11. Carlinville 24; 12. Riverton 22.

Litchfield Boys Results

100: 10. Easton Grammer 11.79; 21. Ashton Schmitz 13.41

200: 11. Zach Leitschuh 24.91PR

800: 13. Sam Schwab 2:14.48PR; 14. Mitchell Floyd 2:19.53PR

1600: 1. Camden Quarton 4:36.65PR; 11. Sam Horn 5:11.36PR

3200: 4. Camden Quarton 10:17.82SR; 7. Sam Horn 10:54.78PR

110m Hurdles: 14. Garrett Hale 20.65PR

300m Hurdles: 10. Brandon Malloy 48.21SR; 13. Kale Dexheimer 51.00

4x100: 3. Martavious Jones/Keenan Powell/Zach Leitschuh/Easton Grammer 46.51

4x800: 5. Sam Schwab/Tucker Maguire/Mitchell Floyd/Brandon Malloy 9:22.02a

Shot Put: 6. Mannix Hancock 12.53mPR; 7. Hunter Hancock 12.22m

Discus: 2. Mannix Hancock 41.48mPR; 18. Hunter Hancock 24.91m

High Jump: 9. Alec Roach 1.52m

Pole Vault: 4. Kale Dexheimer 3.20m; 8. Jackson Painter 3.04mPR

Long Jump: 8. Martavious Jones 5.47m; 13. Zach Leitschuh 5.08m

Triple Jump: 1. Keenan Powell 13.11m; 11. Ashton Schmitz 9.90m

THE COLLEGE REPORT • by Dan Chamness

Matoush Pondering One More Year At Wash U



In the next few months, Hillsboro graduate Sammi Matoush has a very important decision to make.

The Washington University senior guard spent the final games of the 2022-2023 season watching from the sideline. No athlete wants to end their athletic career that way. And, Matoush does not have to.

Because of COVID, the 5-foot-11 athlete has the opportunity to play yet another year. In the next few months, the Hiltopper turned Lady Bear will decide whether she will exercise her option to have an encore.

"I am weighing my options on whether I will come back or not," said the guard. "I grew as a leader in the last year. This year, we had some young players, and I enjoyed helping them learn the plays and adjust to the college game. I was a vocal leader both on and off the court."

She helped the Lady Bears post a 17-9 overall mark during the 2022-2023 school year. They were 10-4 in University Athletic Association play.

"Our team played an extremely tough schedule this year," said Matoush. "We improved as a team and everyone could see it. We were the underdogs in many games, allowing us to surprise some

teams. We embraced the role of being the underdog team. We managed to fight and stay close to teams. Some of those games we won when everyone thought we had no chance to win."

In her 18 games of play, she scored 183 points, an average of 10.2 points per game. In her three years of college basketball, Matoush has averaged in double figures two years. She played 27.0 minutes per game this year. In addition, the Lady Bear had 81 boards, an average of 4.5 per game, 23 assists, 13 steals and two blocked shots.

She scored her points by hitting 50-of-150 from the floor, which included 36-of-101 from beyond the arc, and 35-of-42 from the charity stripe. Her three-pointers made as well as her three-point percentage of 83.3 percent was second on the team.

Alex Bishop (Litchfield) finished third in the Ohio Dominican University-hosted Bill Blazer Memorial. It was held at the Urbana Country Club in Urbana, OH. Bishop, who golfs for Purdue University-Northwest, shot a 143 for 36 holes. He shot the lowest round of any golfer in the second round, shooting a 68. He was only three strokes from the winning total of 140 shot by Wright State University's Shane Ochs.

Haley Major (Hillsboro) had a pair of multiple-hit games in the first 12 days of softball in April. The Kas-

kaskia College player was 2-for-4 in KC's 9-3 triumph over Olney Central College. She scored twice and drove home a pair. In a 6-3 loss to Lake Land College, Major was 2-for-4 and scored a run. Kaskaskia is 19-13 overall.

Katie Schaake (Hillsboro) smacked a solo homer for the University of Missouri-St. Louis in their 10-5 triumph over Truman State University. The homer ended up being the game-winning run. Schaake ended up being 2-for-4. The Fillmore native, who tripled, drove home three runs and scored once. She was 1-for-2 with a walk in the 5-0 victory over William Jewell College. She scored one of the UMSL's runs in the game. UMSL is 20-10 overall and 6-0 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Kaili Hanner (Hillsboro) was the St. Louis University pitcher of record in their 2-0 loss to the University of Dayton. Hanner, who worked 62/3 innings, allowed two earned runs on five hits. She fanned four and walked three. Hanner worked two innings in a 10-2 non-conference loss to Southern Illinois University-

Carbondale, allowing one earned run on two hits. She walked three. Unfortunately for Hanner, she suffered a loss in that contest as well. Hanner is 0-5 on the season. SLU is 20-22 overall and 12-4 in the Atlantic 10 Conference.

Tess Saathoff (Hillsboro) posted the lowest 18-hole score in a dual meet between her chosen college team, Blackburn College and Westminster College. Saathoff shot an 85 and won by three strokes over her college teammate, Caidy Tuetken. Blackburn beat Westminster 358-524.

Drew Detmers (Chatham-Glenwood), a Millikin University pitcher, improved to 5-1 on the year with a 6-4 victory over Illinois Wesleyan University. The longtime Nokomis resident worked 6 2/3 innings, allowing two earned runs on five hits. He retired 10 batters by strikeout and walked a pair.

Ryan Janssen (Nokomis) was 1-for-4 for Millikin in their 2-1 victory over North Central College. Jansen doubled home both of Millikin's runs early in the game. Millikin is 20-8 and 6-2 in conference play.

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- First National Bank of Nokomis

Toppers To Host Basketball Camp

The Hillsboro High School boys basketball program will host its annual basketball camp on June 6-9 at the Hillsboro High School gym.

The camp is open to boys entering first through eighth grade and is \$40 per player. For families with more than one player, the cost is \$30 for an additional family member. Each player will receive a basketball included in the registration fee.

First, second and third grade campers will attend on June 6, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Fourth and fifth graders will attend on June 7, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. and sixth, seventh and eighth graders will attend on June 8, from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Players from all grade levels are welcome on the final day of the camp, which is the camp's awards and recognition day, also from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Players will learn skills from the Hillsboro High School basketball team and coaching staff. Registration forms and fees can be dropped off at the office of the child's school.

Registration forms are available on the HHS Boys Topper Basketball Facebook page and are attached to this article online at www.thejournal-news.net.

For more information, contact Coach Corbin Govaia at 217-246-8254 or at cgovaia@hillsboroschools.net.

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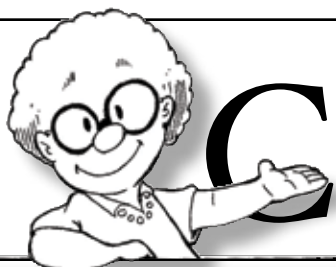
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PANHANDLE SCHOOL District seeking a District bookkeeper. 12 month position with benefits. Those interested should turn in an application which can be found on our website or you can pick one up at our District office. For further questions please call 217-229-4215 and talk to Sheena.

Employment

Clerical, Office

HELP WANTED: Office Manager/ Editor for The Mt. Olive Herald and The Staunton Star Times, four to 4 1/2 days a week. Computer and writing skills a must. Send resume to: c/o The Journal-News, P.O. Box 100, Hillsboro, IL 62049

Employment

General Help

PANHANDLE SCHOOL District seeking a District cook. 9 month position with benefits. Those interested should turn in an application which can be found on our website or you can pick one up at our District office. For further questions please call 217-229-4215 and talk to Sheena.

Employment

General Help

PANHANDLE SCHOOL District seeking a District Paraprofessional. 9 month, non-certified position with benefits. Those interested should turn in an application which can be found on our website or you can pick one up at our District office. For further questions please call 217-229-4215 and talk to Sheena.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: Sat., April 29, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 420 Hillside, Hillsboro. Antiques, furniture, household, misc. Proceeds to benefit MCCA.

GARAGE SALE: April 28 & 29, 1695 New Douglas Rd., Sorrento, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Men, women, kids clothing, shoes, toys, dishes, tools and so much more.

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VACANCY NOTICE

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3

Position: Beckemeyer Elementary Part-Time Secretary (5 hours/day)
Qualifications: High school diploma, clean background check, previous secretarial experience, competency in the use of computer technology and software programs, good organizational skills, strong people and phone skills
Salary: To be determined
Start Date: August 2023
Submit Application (found at hillsboroschools.net click on Human Resources), Résumé, Letters to: Zach Frailey, Principal; Beckemeyer Elementary School; 1035 Seymour Ave.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; Fax: 217-532-5142; E-mail to: zfrailey@hillsboroschools.net; Phone: 217-532-6994.
Due By: April 28, 2023
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

VACANCY NOTICE

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3

Duties: Full Time Science Teacher. Assigned classes will be predominantly Physical Science with possibility of other science areas depending on certification
Qualifications: Valid Illinois Professional Educators' License with endorsement to teach Secondary Science
Starting Date: August 2023
Salary/Benefits: Starting salary for 23-24 school year as per schedule agreement with Hillsboro Unit Educators Association. Benefits include health insurance, tuition reimbursement, and district-paid TRS contribution
Additional Notes: Available extracurricular opportunities are Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach, Wrestling Coach, and National Honor Society Sponsor
Submit Application/Resumé/Transcripts/Certificates/Letters to: Patricia Heyen, Principal; Hillsboro High School; 522 E. Tremont St.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; E-mail to: pheyen@hillsboroschools.net; Phone 217-532-2841
Due Date: Open until filled
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

VACANCY NOTICE

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3

Position: Junior High Girls' 7th Grade Volleyball Coach
Starting Date: 2023-2024 school year.
Salary: Extra Curricular Salary Schedule B
Send employee application (available at the District's website) and Letter of interest to:
Donald VanGiesen
Hillsboro Junior High School
909 Rountree Street; Hillsboro, IL 62049
Email to: dvangiesen@hillsboroschools.net
Due By: May 5, 2023
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

VACANCY NOTICE

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3

Position: Junior High Boys' 8th Grade Basketball Coach
Starting Date: 2023-2024 school year.
Salary: Extra Curricular Salary Schedule B
Send employee application (available at the District's website) and Letter of interest to:
Donald VanGiesen
Hillsboro Junior High School
909 Rountree Street; Hillsboro, IL 62049
Email to: dvangiesen@hillsboroschools.net
Due By: May 5, 2023
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

VACANCY NOTICE

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3

Positions: Qualified Registered Nurse to provide care for students and staff.
License: Illinois Registered Nurse License with Professional Educators License preferred.
Job Description: Providing student health care and assessment for a variety of students and providing care and support to staff.
Starting Date: Beginning 2023-2024 School Year.
Salary: To be determined.
Submit Application/Resumé/Transcripts/Certificates/Letters to: (application available at hillsboroschools.net under "Human Resources") David E. Powell, Superintendent; Hillsboro Unit Office; 1311 Vandalia Rd., Hillsboro, IL 62049; Fax to: 217-532-3137; E-mail to: dpowell@hillsboroschools.net; Phone: 217-532-2942.
Due By: May 2, 2023.
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

VACANCY NOTICE

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3

Duties: Full Time Secondary Special Education Teacher. Applicants must be skilled in working with student accommodations, writing IEPs, managing classroom behavior, and developing differentiated instruction for diverse needs. Effective communication and strong collaboration skills with other professionals are essential to this position
Qualifications: Illinois Professional Educators' License and LBSI endorsement or willingness to attain. Concentration in English is desirable but not required
Starting Date: August 2023
Salary/Benefits: Starting salary for 23-24 school year as per schedule agreement with Hillsboro Unit Educators Association. Benefits include health insurance, district-paid TRS, and tuition reimbursement
Additional Notes: Available extracurricular opportunities are Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach, Wrestling Coach, and National Honor Society Sponsor
Submit Application/Resumé/Transcripts/Certificates/Letters to: Patricia Heyen, Principal; Hillsboro High School; 522 E. Tremont St.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; E-mail to: pheyen@hillsboroschools.net; Phone 217-532-2841
Due Date: Open until filled
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

VACANCY NOTICE

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3

HHS is seeking to fill the following coaching position for the 2023-24 school year.
Position: High School Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach
Qualification: ISBE certification or IHSA approved coaching certification.
Description: Help to organize and manage practices and competitions and fulfill other duties as established by the head coach; promote athleticism and sportsmanship; promote and grow the program; adhere to all IHSA and District rules and guidelines.
Salary: Per Teacher's Contract Schedule B
Submit Letter of Application to: Patricia Heyen, Principal; Hillsboro High School; 522 E. Tremont; Hillsboro, IL 62049; Fax: 217-532-5142; Email: pheyen@hillsboroschools.net; Phone 217-532-2841
Due By: April 30, 2023
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

HELP WANTED

The City of Litchfield Water Department has an opening for a Water Plant Operator. This is a full-time position. The Water Treatment Facility is a 24/7 operation so the applicant must be able to work days, nights, weekends and holidays. A job description can be obtained at the Mayor's Office at City Hall or on-line with the job ad.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Water Superintendent Ray Weller at 217-324-2250. Applications can be found online at the city's website, www.cityoflitchfieldil.com.

Submit application to the City Administrator's Office, 120 E. Ryder, Litchfield, IL 62056 or place envelope in the drop box located in front of City Hall. The deadline to file an application will be 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 28, 2023.

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The City of Litchfield is currently accepting applications for the position of **Certified Lifeguard** for Lake Lou Yaeger. This is a seasonal position lasting from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend. **Pay starts at \$14/hour!** Work Permits accepted for those under 16 years old. Applications are available at Litchfield City Hall in the Mayor's Office or you can print one off at: <http://www.cityoflitchfieldil.com/news/images/EmploymentApplication.pdf>

Turn your completed application into the
Mayor's Office located in City Hall or mail it to:

City of Litchfield
Attn: Lake Department
120 E. Ryder Street
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Call Lake Superintendent Terry Hancock at 217-324-5832 with any questions regarding this position.

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TITLE: Field Assistant/Deputy Assessor I
DEPARTMENT: Supervisor of Assessments
DATE: April 13, 2023
REPORTS TO: Supervisor of Assessments
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JOB SUMMARY: Locate and assess property and improvements. Perform field inspections and assist supervisor and township assessors with assessment questions. Maintain and update property record card data.

JOB DUTIES:

- Assists public with general questions on property tax assessments
- Assists public with property information and property record requests
- Maintain and update property record card and digital photo files
- Assists Board of Review with assessment complaints
- Assists Township Assessors in entering assessment changes, locating property and making adjustments to property record cards and assessment books
- Perform other duties and functions as required or assigned by the Supervisor of Assessments

QUALIFICATIONS:

- High school diploma or equivalent and one year related work experience preferred
- Valid driver's license
- CIAO designation or ability to obtain
- Ability to read and comprehend map books, aerial photographs, and property legal descriptions
- Ability to calculate conversions of land measure
- ability to demonstrate effective communication and interpersonal skills with internal and external constituents
- ability to operate office equipment, knowledge of computer data entry and data processing
- knowledge of county geographic locations
- ability to perform field inspections

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: Ability to lift assessment books, change card files, data card files and large atlas map books as necessary to perform job duties. Have the ability to walk and perform field inspection duties outdoors in various weather climates.

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Help Wanted

Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District is seeking applicants for Resource Conservationist.

This position requires knowledge of Microsoft programs including Word, Excel and Outlook. There will be a division of time spent both in the office and in the field assisting with survey and design work, resources identification, field monitoring and program marketing. Training will be provided.

The position offers competitive salary and benefits.

Potential candidates should submit a résumé, cover letter, and three references to the MCSWCD by May 15, 2023. Call 217-532-3361 ext. 3 or stop in our office at 1621 Vandalia Rd., Hillsboro for more information.

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HANDICAP VAN, 2005, 135,000 miles, driver mobile seat, 2 front tires new, manual side door and ramp, new front end, new battery. \$12,000. OBO. 437 Crittenden St., Hillsboro. 62049 217-827-1864



Litchfield Firefighters Help Raise Flag

Litchfield Fire Department lent a hand to the residents of Timber Creek Village in Litchfield on Wednesday, March 29. The firefighters brought out their engine to raise the assisted living facility's new flag for them. From the left, are Alex Dilks, Chad Dooley, Kathi Taylor, Administrator Jennifer Smith, Litchfield Fire Chief Adam Pennock and Captain Chris Handshy.

Court

• Michael W. Reynolds, 44, of Litchfield, faces a felony charge of possession of meth on Saturday, April 8. He was also cited for improper turn signal and disregarding a stop sign.

• Douglas C. Roberson, 58, of Mt. Olive, faces a felony charge of driving on a re-

voked or suspended license on Wednesday, March 29. He was cited for operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

• Christopher L. Wilson, 32, of St. Louis, MO, faces a felony charge of aggravated unlawful use of a weapon on July 9, 2021.

• Darrius A. Young, of Bellefontaine Neighbors, MO, faces a felony charge of aggravated unlawful use of a weapon on Jan. 7, 2021.

• An order of "nolle prosequi" was entered on Monday, April 10, in a misdemeanor charge of unlawful display of title filed in August 2022 against Kellee J. Keiser, 29, of Hillsboro.

• Terry W. Kubiak, 73, of St. Peters, MO, pleaded guilty to an amended charge of possession of a firearm on Thursday, April 13, and was sentenced to four days in jail with a credit of two days served, fined \$500, plus court costs.

• Ashley D. LePage, 34, of Litchfield, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of possession of meth on Wednesday, April 12, and was sentenced to 12 days in jail with a credit of six days served, drug and alcohol treatment, two years of probation, fined \$75, plus court costs.

• An order of "nolle prosequi" was entered on Thursday, April 13, in a felony charge of identity theft and a misdemeanor charge of practicing as an advanced registered nurse without a valid license filed in April 2020 against Ab-

igail L. Martin, 26, of Girard. The dismissal was based upon a plea agreement on charges in Greene County. She has also pleaded guilty to writing bad checks in Knox County, sentenced for forgery in Morgan County, writing bad checks in Macoupin County, felony deception and theft in Fulton County, identity theft in Madison County, and identity theft in DuPage County.

• Cecilia M. Pitchford, 63, of Gillespie, pleaded guilty to retail theft on Wednesday, April 12, and was sentenced to four days in jail with a credit of two days served, restitution, one year of conditional discharge, fined \$350, plus court costs. An order of "nolle prosequi" was entered in another misdemeanor of retail theft filed in January 2019.

• Felony charges from April 2021 of violation of an order of protection against Anthony A. Tuggle, 47, of Hillsboro, were dismissed on Monday, April 10.

• Jameson L. Vannatta, 51, of St. James, MO, pleaded guilty to an amended charge of possession of a firearm on Thursday, April 13, and was sentenced to four days in jail with a credit of two days served, fined \$75, plus court costs. A ticket of improper turn signal was dismissed.

• Michelle L. Vannatta, 48, of St. James, MO, pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm on Thursday, April 13, and was sentenced to four days in jail with a credit of two days served. A felony charge of possession of meth was dismissed.

Title Transfers

March 13
City of Litchfield to Triple C Holdings, QCD, Lot 3, Blk. 29, Litchfield Original Twp. West State Exchange LLC Series 67 to KD Distributing, QCD, Sec. 5, South Litchfield Twp.

Frank Ott Exec, Loren Eugene Helderbrandt Estate, Loren Eugene Heldebrandt Estate to Frank Ott, Execs Deed, Sec. 33, 1/3 undivided remainder, Audubon Twp.

March 14
Darrell McCormick to

Darrell R. McCormick, Kelly McCormick, QCD, Lots 9-10, Blk. 1, Freys Jacob J Subdn.

Free online Search of Montgomery County, IL Land Records at www.montgomeryco.com/courtclerk/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.

Traffic Court

• Joseph M. Mahan, 25, of Litchfield, expired registration.
• Dionne R. Manzer, 56, of Raymond, driving 15 to 20 mph above the speed limit.
• Erin R. Niehaus, 32, of Litchfield, electronic communication device.

• Jennifer L. Peterson, 45, of Hillsboro, electronic communication device.
• Melina A. Riley, 43, of Hillsboro, operating an uninsured motor vehicle.
• Joleen L. Walters, 31, of Raymond, operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

Police

Litchfield Police
• Deborah C. Hughes, 72, of Carlinville, was cited for retail theft at 3:38 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Walmart.

• John L. Davis, 52, of Litchfield, was jailed for a Montgomery County warrant at 10:31 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Chestnut and Seneca.



SUN., APR. 30 - 1 p.m. soft close. Bidding ends for online only machinery consignment auction at sellers' locations. Backhoes, tractors, mowers, shop equip., semi-trailers, timbers, deck boards & a lg. variety of more items. Register/bid at legacysells4u.hibid.com. Gary Niemeier, auctioneer, 618-781-3814.

TUES., MAY 2 - Bidding closes for RE & personal property online auction. RE at 6:30 p.m. & personal property at 7 p.m. located at 1414 N. Jefferson St., Litchfield, both with soft close. Register/bid at mikecrabtreeauctions.hibid.com. Viewing Apr. 30, Noon-1:30 p.m. Pickup/checkout May 6, 10 a.m.-noon. RE of 3BR/1BA home with 12x9 utility bldg., crawlspace. PP of ref./freezer, furniture, Pyrex bowl set, Fire King bowls, kitchen utensils, 5.5 hp Craftsman push mower, gas grill, yard/garden tools, much more. Constance Frierichs & Christine Grabner, sellers. Mike Crabtree, auctioneer, 217-473-2507.

THURS., MAY 4 - 6 p.m. Bidding ends for online only antique & collectible auction of Country Place Antiques, 500 Reichert Rd., Divernon. Micenheimer & Meyer Auction Services, James Micenheimer & Cory Meyer, auctioneers, 217-820-9324, 217-710-5642, micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com, micenheimerauctionservices.com.

THURS., MAY 4 - 7 p.m. CST soft close. Bidding ends for online only RE auction of 114 acres +/- in Macoupin Co. located 2.7 mi. N of Gillespie to Honey Creek Rd., then W 2 mi. to Pin Oak Rd., then N 1/2 mi. 42.07 acres enrolled in CP2 CRP contract in Brushy Mound Twp. w/approx. 10 yrs. left, \$8414.00 annually. Balance in timber & grassland. To view property, contact auctioneer at 217-473-2507. Spanish Needle Ranch, Bruce Loveless, seller. Mike Crabtree, auctioneer, mikecrabtreeauctions.hibid.com, 217-473-2507.

THURS., MAY 11 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends for online only RE auction of 1283 Red Ball Tr., Greenville, for Marlin & Phyllis Wade. 3BR/2BA home w/shop on 1 acre. Bid now at mollettauctions.hibid.com. Open house May 1, 4-6 p.m. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, mollettauctions.com, Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

TUES., MAY 16 - 7 p.m. soft close. Bidding ends for online only land auction of 61 acres in 1 tract in Macoupin Co. Located approx. 4 1/2 mi. S of Carlinville on IL Rt. 4 to Reeder Ln., then W to property. Selling by per acre method. Approx. 14 ac. tillable, 10.95 ac. in CP42 CRP (\$2540 per yr.), balance in mixed hardwood timber. Short distance to rural water along Rt. 4. Craig Bomkamp & Brian Bomkamp, sellers. Mike Crabtree, auctioneer, mikecrabtreeauctions.hibid.com, 217-473-2507.

MON., MAY 22-WED., MAY 24 - Bidding ends for online only RE auction of Irving Casey's surplus property at 308 E. State St. 48+/- ac. & 2160 sq ft former convenience store, fuel pumps removed. Property will be deed restricted against fuel sales. Opening bid: \$20,000. Bid online only at actionnetwork.com. Williams Auction, 800-801-8003, williamsauction.com/Casesy.

Don't Miss The Auction! Clip & Save This Directory.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

CITY OF HILLSBORO, IL-LINOIS, a municipal corporation,

Plaintiff,

v.

SARA L. SELLERS, CALLI AMANDA BETH LASSITER, PUBLICANI INVESTMENT CORPORATION, THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, and UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

Case No.2023-ED-1 NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

NOTICE is given to you, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS of the real estate described below and in the Complaint filed in the above case, pursuant to the provisions of 735 ILCS 5/2-206 and 735 ILCS 5/2-413, that the above-entitled action is now pending and the day on or after which a default may be entered against UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS is May 26, 2023.

A part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section One (1), Township Eight (8) North, Range Four (4) West of the Third Principal Meridian, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the West boundary line of the right of way of the Indianapolis and St. Louis Railroad Company where the Taylorville and Hillsboro road or Bluff Street now intersects said right of way, thence in a Southwesterly direction along said Taylorville and Hillsboro road or Bluff Street as it now runs Ninety (90) feet, thence at right angle with said road or street in a Northwesterly direction to the former site of the I. & St. L.R.R. cattle pens, thence along the South line of said former cattle pens to the West boundary of the right of way of said Railroad, thence along said West boundary line of said Railroad

right of way to the place of beginning, all situated in Montgomery County, Illinois, EXCEPTING any coal or mineral rights previously severed from the surface and subject to all easements of record.

P.I.N. 16-01-152-003 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: **506 Taylorville Road Hillsboro, IL 62049**

UNLESS YOU FILE your appearance in this case in the office of the clerk of this court, 120 North Main Street, Hillsboro, Illinois 62049, on or before May 26, 2023, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.

Attention: E-filing is now mandatory with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider.

If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit www.illinoislegalaid.org.

If you are unable to pay your court fees, you can apply for a fee waiver. For information about defending yourself in a court case (including filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to www.illinoislegalaid.org. You can also ask your local circuit clerk's office for a fee waiver application.

Daniel T. Robbins
Clerk of the Circuit Court
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Above, Litchfield Fire Department personnel battle a car fire on northbound I-55 near milemarker 57.5 on Tuesday evening, April 18.

Litchfield Firefighters Respond To SUV Fire

Members of the Litchfield Fire Department were paged to a car fire on northbound I-55 near milemarker 57.5 at 6:48 a.m. on Tuesday, April 18.

According to Interim Fire Chief Adam Pennock, Engine 802 responded from the West Side Station with three firefighters and Squad 810 responded from the Main Station with four firefighters.

Upon arrival, personnel found a SUV fully-involved and extinguished the fire. They remained on scene for approximately 20 minutes to ensure the fire was completely extinguished before the tow company arrived. The scene was turned over to the Illinois State Police.

There were nine personnel staffing two apparatus, and they returned to service at 7:24 a.m.

Following an investigation, it was reported that the cause was listed as undetermined.

The Litchfield Fire Department reminds the public they should remain calm, but act quickly in the event of a vehicle fire. Drivers should signal and immediately move to the closest safe place to stop, turn off the ignition, get everyone out of the car and don't return to grab personal items, move far from the burning vehicle to avoid flames and toxic fumes, call 911 and alert oncoming traffic if possible.

Litchfield Superintendent Search

The Litchfield CUSD 12 Board of Education is conducting a search for a new superintendent. The selection of a new superintendent is probably the most important decision a board of education has to make; therefore, the Board has hired the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to assist in this process.

The Board of Education is seeking everyone's input in the search process. The Board requests that all board members, all staff, all parents and community members complete an online survey provided by the IASB. The results will be tallied and used by the Board and Screening Team to develop a brochure to advertise the position. All survey responses and comments will remain anonymous.

NOTE: If you are a parent and already completed this survey, you do not need to do so again.

The survey for the community can be accessed at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5V53K73>

The deadline for all survey responses is: April 24, 2023 at 11:45 p.m.

Thank you for taking time to complete the survey.

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- 23 BUICK ENCLAVE ESSENCE**
M127, FWD, cherry red tincoast
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$49,335**
- 23 BUICK ENVISION AVENIR**
M131, AWD, ebony twilight metallic
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$50,148**
- 23 CHEVY EQUINOX PREMIER**
M145, FWD, sterling gray metallic
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$37,073**
- 23 CHEVY BLAZER PREMIER**
M138, AWD, radiant red tincoast
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$52,251**
- 23 BUICK ENCORE GX PREF.**
M112, FWD, moonstone gray met.
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$27,090**



- 23 BUICK ENCORE GX SELECT**
M126, FWD, moonstone gray met.
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$31,817**
- 23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER ACTIV**
M129, FWD, mosaic black
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$28,943**
- 23 CHEVY EQUINOX LT**
M140, FWD, sterling gray metallic
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$32,438**
- 23 CHEVY SILVERADO K2500**
M139, Duramax, crew, silver ice met.
RJI SALE PRICE* ... **\$71,658**

 22 Buick Envision Essence Y7037A AWD, 1-owner, summit white, 32k \$36,900	 21 Chevy Traverse 2LT Y7132 FWD, mosaic black, 36k..... \$39,900	 21 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L Y7129 FWD, fathom blue pearl coat, 13k..... \$36,900	 21 GMC Acadia SLE Y7131 FWD, satin steel, 11k..... \$36,900	 19 Nissan Rogue SV L162A AWD, magnetic black pearl, 33k \$24,900
 19 Chevy Silverado K1500 LT Y7117A Crew cab, white, 44k..... \$38,900	 22 Chevy Equinox LT Y7125 FWD, silver ice metallic, only 5k..... \$28,900	 22 Chevy Colorado Z71 Y7124 Crew cab, satin steel metallic, 16k..... \$39,900	 19 Buick Envision Essence M142A FWD, chili red, 48k \$24,800	 22 Ram 1500 Laramie Y7121 Crew cab, flame red, only 627 miles \$56,900
 20 Ford Escape SE Y7118 AWD, silver, 11k..... \$26,900	 20 GMC Terrain SLE Y7112 FWD, ebony twilight, 17k \$28,900	 20 Cadillac XT6 Premium Lux Y7123 AWD, radiant silver, 22k \$49,900	 22 Chevy Silverado K2500 LT Y7127 Z71, dble cab, silver, only 4k..... \$65,900	 19 GMC Sierra K1500 SLE X31 Y7042 Black, 18k..... \$41,900
 22 Cadillac XT5 Premium Lux Y7103 AWD, stellar black, 13k \$46,900	 23 Chevy Blazer 2LT Y7128 FWD, black, only 165 miles \$37,900	 21 Chevy Equinox LT Y7109 FWD, summit white, only 5k..... \$28,900	 19 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Y7099 Rubicon, 4x4, black, power top, 29k \$48,900	 18 GMC Sierra K1500 Denali Y7055A Crew cab, white frost, 44k..... \$44,900
 19 GMC Acadia SLT Y7101 AWD, ebony twilight, only 13k..... \$36,900	 20 Chevy Blazer 3LT Y7126 FWD, cajun red, 8k \$34,900	 22 Jeep Gladiator Willys Sport Y7102 4x4, hydro blue, only 5k \$47,249	 20 Ram 1500 Limited X156A Crew cab, gray, 70k..... \$48,900	 19 Chevy Equinox LT Y7095 AWD, 2.0L, white, 47k \$25,900
 20 GMC Terrain SLE Y7052 FWD, white, 32k..... \$25,695	 19 Toyota Tacoma SR Y7090 4WD, double cab, gray, 35k..... \$34,900	 21 GMC Terrain SLT Y7091 AWD, gray, 29k..... \$31,900	 20 Chevy Colorado LT RST Y7104 Crew cab, black, 13k..... \$37,900	 20 GMC Acadia SLE Y7130 FWD, smoky quartz, 19k \$31,900

COMING SOON/JUST ARRIVED

- 17 BUICK ENCORE SPORT, AWD, white, 87k, M141A CALL
- 17 BUICK ENCLAVE, FWD, leather group, black, 123k, Y7110A \$16,900
- 22 CHEVY SILVERADO K1500 LT TRAILBOSS, crew, black, 13k, Y7145 CALL
- 22 CHEVY SILVERADO K3500 SRW HIGH COUNTRY, crew, northsky blue, 13k, Y7138 \$75,900
- 22 GMC CANYON DENALI, crew cab, white, only 3k, Y7140 CALL
- 16 GMC YUKON SLT, 4WD, black, 41k, Y7146A \$42,900
- 21 CHEVY TAHOE PREMIER, 4WD, satin steel, 35k, Y7147 CALL
- 20 GMC TERRAIN DENALI, AWD, silver, only 38 miles, Y7142 CALL
- 18 GMC YUKON DENALI ULTIMATE, white frost, 122k, Y7136A CALL
- 21 GMC YUKON AT4, black, 34k, Y7141 CALL
- 19 GMC TERRAIN SLT, black, 56k, M143A \$24,900
- 20 JEEP WRANGLER WILLYS, 4x4, white, 15k, Y7144 CALL
- 20 JEEP COMPASS LIMITED, 4WD, laser blue, only 6k, Y7143 CALL
- 19 RAM 1500 CLASSIC, 4x4, quad cab, delmonico red, 51k, Y7119A CALL

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*Finance charges accrue from date of financing. Length of contract limited. Must finance with GM Financial. Down payment required at signing, if applicable. Offer not available in FL. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 5/1/23.