

\$1.50

Hillsboro, IL 62049

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Monday, August 28, 2023



# Witt Labor Day Homecoming Starts On Saturday

The 117th Witt Labor Day Homecoming Celebration will kick off this weekend, Saturday, Sept. 2, Sunday, Sept. 3, and Monday, Sept. 4. The annual end-of-summer celebration features all the favorites, BBQ, funnel cakes, Pronto Pups, Lemon Shakeups, kids activities, the classic doll stand, dunk tank, live music and more.

Bounce Houses by 25/8 Xtreme will be open from 1 to 9 p.m. on Sunday and from noon to 3 p.m. on Monday.

Festivities begin with the Witt High School Alumni reunion, which will be held Saturday, Sept. 2, in the Witt Lions Club Building. Registration and social hour is scheduled from

4 to 6 p.m. followed by a banquet for alumni and guests at 6 p.m.

The Chapman Brothers Band will perform live music from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Beer Pavilion.

Sunday's schedule is full of entertainment for all ages. Put the pedal to the metal and head over to the car and motorcycle show from noon to 3 p.m. Registration will take place from 9 a.m. to noon at City Park. Trophy presentation will immediately follow the show.

Make sure to check out the wares at the Witt Volunteer Fire Department's Flea Market, open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thrifters will find plenty of housewares, antiques,

collectibles, farmhouse and primitive items, as well as jewelry, clothing, furniture, tools, toys, books and local homemade and vendor goods.

The Witt Area Historical Museum Open House will be open from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday and noon to 3 p.m. on Monday.

Competitors can test out their skills during the washer pitch contest at 1 p.m. at the Beer Pavilion. Hunter Sharp will entertain crowds from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Beer Pavilion.

The Witt Labor Day Pageant will begin at 6 p.m. at the grandstand. *Midwest Avenue* will close out Sunday's celebration with a

live performance from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Beer Pavilion.

Monday's celebration will begin with the Witt Labor Day Parade. The parade will step off 11 a.m., with line-up at set for 10 a.m. at Witt Lions Park. Parade winners will be announced at noon.

The parade will offer parade prizes in ten categories. The Witt commercial category and Witt non commercial category will be awarded \$80 for first place, \$50 for second and \$30 for third. Witt youth groups will be awarded \$70 for first place, \$40 for second and \$20 for third.

*Continued on page 3A*

## Mulligan Returns To Panama

Although it may have a new location, members of the Panama community have pulled together to host the annual Panama Mulligan this Sunday, Sept. 3, at Iron Horse Saloon in Panama.

This year's event kicks off with a car and bike show lining up from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Judging will begin at 1 p.m. and trophies will be awarded for first and second places.

Mulligan stew will be sold starting at noon, limited to one-gallon containers. Mulligan will be sold across the street from Iron Horse Saloon.

Nu-Way Deli will be selling their famous fried chicken dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Nu-Way Deli.

Live entertainment featuring *The Strugglers*, will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. outside Iron Horse Saloon, weather permitting. They will be selling pulled pork sandwiches, brats, hot dogs and chips.

In addition, there will be a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are on sale now, and the drawing will be held on Sunday, Sept. 3, at 5:30 p.m.

Organizers thank the community for coming together to continue to tradition of the Panama VFW Mulligan, and they hope everyone will come out and enjoy the festivities.



## Extreme Start To High School Football

With temperatures still in the mid-80s at game time in Arcola on Friday, Aug. 25, hydration was of the utmost importance for Nokomis senior Jaxon Batty (#55) and his teammates as the high school football season kicked off all across Illinois. Hydration was less of a concern the following night for Litchfield quarterback Tate Dobrinich (#15) as torrential rains welcomed the Purple Panthers and Carlinville to the 2023 season. While Litchfield fell to Carlinville 35-14 and Nokomis dropped a 34-16 decision to Arcola on Saturday, Aug. 26 (Friday's game was postponed due to a thunderstorm that lit up the Douglas County sky), Hillsboro managed to get a win in week one, beating North Mac 31-6 with a running attack that was as potent as this weekend's weather. For more on the games, see Sports.

*James Ryan/NokoPhoto and Journal-News/Mary Herschelmann*



## Dressed To The Nines, Ready For Witt

They're dressed, pressed and ready to go! The Women of Witt have created 300 stunning gowns for Barbie dolls that will be won at this year's Witt Labor Day celebration. A tradition for many years, the group hosts a fundraiser game throughout the weekend celebration. This year's celebration will be held Saturday, Sept. 2 through Monday, Sept. 4. Each game costs participants a quarter. Guests select a number and the spinner reveals a winner, who gets to choose a doll to take home. This year's collection of 300 includes four bride dolls (three of them have grooms), that were made by Sally Meyer. Play for the wedding dolls will be \$1 per square on Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 4:30 p.m. and after the pageant and Monday after the parade at 12:30 p.m. A selection of this year's beautiful dolls are on display at the Witt Post Office.

## Dr. Byers Retiring After 42 Years

*by Isaiah Atkins*

After 42 years at the Hillsboro Springfield East Clinic, Dr. Doug Byers, MD is calling it a career.

"It's just time," he says, reflecting on a 42 year career in family medicine, all in Hillsboro. "You don't want to wear out your welcome."

Byers graduated with the class of 1971 from Glenwood High School in Springfield before attending the Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, however the plan wasn't to be a doctor at that point. Plan 'A minus' was the medical field. However, he describes a quick wake up call in his first year of school.

"I was a music major, and was working on being a part of the Marching Salukis," he says, "I remember looking around and realizing that these were real musicians. It didn't take long to figure out I should be doing something

else."

And so, the 'A minus' plan became the plan, an easy switch due to his heavily science weighed schedule. He would graduate from SIUC in 1975, before attending the Southern Illinois Medical

School in Springfield, and heading to the University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA. He later completing his residency at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Mason City, IA.

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Dr. Doug Byers, MD, is entering retirement after serving the Hillsboro community for 42 years at the Springfield East Clinic.

*Journal-News/Isaiah Atkins*

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# Fall Farm

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Weather Forecast				
Mon 28	80°/56°		Sunny	6%
Tue 29	83°/61°		Mostly Sunny	6%
Wed 30	79°/54°		Sunny	6%
Thu 31	80°/56°		Sunny	6%

# Adams Calls It A Career After 44 Years

by Isaiah Atkins

After 44 1/2 years serving her community, Nurse Cathy Adams is calling it a career as she retires from the Hillsboro Springfield-East clinic.

"Dr. Byers had said that he was retiring this summer, and I had said I was retiring this summer," Adams said, "So I told him it looks like we're going out together!"

Adams, who grew up in Butler, graduated from St. John's School of Nursing in 1974, and would work at a nursing home for two years before taking a three year hiatus to be a mom. She joined the then-Hillsboro Medical Center staff in 1979, and stayed there ever since, moving to the new building in 1981 and staying aboard when Hillsboro Medical Center became the Hillsboro Springfield East clinic, the first satellite office of Springfield Clinic.

"That was a really big step for us, for the first time we had higher quality labs and better fit the state regulations, and of course there was just more resources, better pay and better benefits."

Springfield Clinic provided her with the experience of working in Springfield for a large corporation, without actually having to make that commute, she explained.

She worked for many doctors throughout the decades, including Dr. Doug Byers, who recently retired after a 42 year stint at the clinic.

One of her favorite memories on the job was in 2007, when the office started utilizing electronic records. "They were so convenient," she says, "the way you could look up things so much faster." Unfortunately, the new e-records required the existing paper records to be digitized, a massive project for the nursing staff on top of their already exhausting responsibilities. "The entire office had been filled with these records, and we had



Longtime Hillsboro nurse Cathy Adams, pictured above with fellow retiree Dr. Doug Byers, has retired after 44 1/2 years serving her community at Hillsboro Springfield East Clinic.

to go through and enter all of them in the new system. It was a lot of work," she said.

While she has spent most of her life in the field, it wasn't always the plan. "I had originally thought I wanted to be a teacher," Adams said. "But one day my friend told me that I could be a good nurse, and so I just kind of went with that." A wise friend, she adds.

"I just always enjoyed spending time with patients," she said, "Helping them was really why I got in to this line of work." She adds that she has always enjoyed working at the doctors' office, with "such an awesome work family, and I use the term work family because when you work with the same great people everyday you become a work family."

Adams expresses gratefulness for the career she's had, explaining what a blessing it is to do something that she loved each day, saying, "I couldn't imagine spending 44 1/2 years at a job I didn't like. I couldn't do that."

Adams, who lives with her husband Robert on a farm in Butler, says she is most looking forward to spending time with her four kids

and seven grand kids, all of whom are students in the Hillsboro School District. She especially is looking forward to attending their sporting events, with three high school and one junior high athlete.

Adams also is looking forward to spending time landscaping and gardening, a pastime she has always enjoyed but is especially important to her after a 2018 tornado struck and destroyed their farm home. They rebuilt, and she takes pride in her landscaping work and impressive flowers, which "are visible to anyone who drives by."

She and her husband also are excited to travel as they both soon enter retirement, something that they haven't always had the time to do.

When she reflects on her time in the office, Adams explains her inside point of view to the medical field, a field that she saw make advancements and progress nearly every day, with new technologies and vaccines always providing something new to learn. "The field changes every day," she says, "I enjoyed being a part of it."

# Dr. Byers

Continued from front page

Although Mason City is quite the distance from Hillsboro, a desire to live in the south-central Illinois area brought the Byers to Montgomery County.

"My wife, she's from Fairview Heights, and myself being from Springfield, it was just in the middle," he said. His wife of 43 years Brenda nods in agreement.

And so, as the Jan. 8, 1981 issue of *The Hillsboro Journal* states, the Byers couple settled in Hillsboro in July of 1981. At the same time, the then-Hillsboro Community Medical Center was moving from its location near downtown to its then-new building where it continues to operate.

The moving process was eventful, Dr. Byers said, mentioning a live snake falling out of the ceiling onto nurse Cathy Adams as she worked.

Dr. Byers joined a youthful medical team at the clinic, led by Drs. Robert and Barbara Mulch, Dr. Walter Williams and Dr. Herbert Swarsen. For the first decade of his career, the clinic handled the full spectrum of medical responsibilities, including emergency room coverage and childbirths.

Those ten years were originally planned to be the only years spent in Hillsboro for the Byers family, as Dr. Byers had planned to pivot towards teaching. However, a certain annual summer event in 1991 changed the plans.

"I had taken my two sons to Old Settlers, and they thought it was the greatest thing," he said. "That's when I realized I was raising some true Hillsboro-ites."

The clinic, headed by a decision by Dr. Mulch, would soon decide to stop covering the emergency room. Dr. Byers decided that he would not perform childbirths, after a series of personal experiences, and the rest of the clinic would eventually follow.

"It's a lot of peaks and valleys," he said. "It was at times very emotionally, very mentally draining. A great career. But draining."

When asked about the feeling of satisfaction that comes from helping others, Dr. Byers provided a witty but accurate answer. "You know, as a doctor, you're supposed to hit it. You're expected to get it right." He added that the moments when the answer did click, or a hunch was proven right, that those moments were always satisfying. "It's similar to finding a horse when looking for a zebra."

During his time at the clinic, Dr. Byers did a little bit of everything, including spending time at satellite branches in Raymond and Nokomis. He also would go on house calls throughout his entire career, including two in his final week.

He also took ten mission trips to Guatemala with his wife as part of Helps International, providing medical services to hundreds of people, often waiting in lines miles long to receive medical aid. Locals would shoot off fireworks celebrating his services. When asked if the positive reaction made clear to him that he was doing the

right thing, he corrected the question, saying, "it's trying to do the right thing."

Hillsboro residents may be quick to recognize Dr. Byers for his daily walks to and from the clinic from his nearby home. After doing some calculations, he estimates that at the minimum he has walked 8,000 miles to and from work over the four decades plus. "Likely closer to 10,000," he says.

He's quick to thank the countless nurses, doctors and staff he has worked with over years, explaining, "it really is just a team effort. You can't do it without the team and support. And we have always had a good team."

"I've worked with some incredibly intelligent people," he says, "Nurse Adams always knew what she was doing. Everyone always was great. And Dr. Williams said that Dr. Swarsen was the smartest man he ever met. So there's that. Incredibly intelligent people throughout my time."

Looking back at his four decades plus in the medical field, Dr. Byers notes the numerous advancements through the years.

"The first thing that comes to mind is CAT scans," he said, "they didn't exist when I started. But then they came around, and then MRI trucks started coming by the hospitals, and now we all have MRI machines."

Another advancement traces back to 1971, and the medical procedure for monitoring diabetics was tracking urine sugars. Finger sticks would be developed in 1978, although only doctors were allowed to prick the patient's finger, not even nurses. Modern technology now has put a blood sugar meter in everyone's pocket.

In 2007, the clinic made the switch from paper records to electronic records, a lengthy process that required a lot of work as the office full of paper records all had to be manually entered into the system. "In theory, it was a great move," Dr. Byers said, "but because of the competition, it doesn't work as well." He says the different systems used by different hospitals can make transferring records difficult.

The development of Web MD or "Dr. Google" has also had an effect on the medical field, both good and bad. Patients now tend to research their ailments themselves prior to a visit. "You have patients coming in, telling you that they have done research and that they have an idea," Dr. Byers said "and sometimes it's good, because you yourself haven't had a chance to look into this obscure symptom they have. But other times it makes patients a little more difficult, because now there's two of us who think we know what's wrong."

The recent advancement of artificial intelligence (A.I.) is also certain to change the medical field, he says, referencing a recent conversation with the new doctors at the clinic.

Dr. Byers also reflected on some pivotal periods in the medical field, beginning with the AIDS epidemic. "I was standing in the office in Mason City, IA, and a coworker

mentioned that there were six men diagnosed with pneumocystis carinii pneumonia. "My first reaction was, 'so what?'" Dr. Byers said. "In hindsight, clearly it was a very big deal, and now millions have died from it."

Similarly, Dr. Byers recalls a more recent visit to Guatemala, where he was approached by locals who said, "They really are getting excited about this 'China virus' and once again my reaction was, 'and?'"

These devastating developments through the years provide challenges to medical staff. "These medical swings, they happen. You just don't know when they start," Dr. Byers reflects.

Dr. Byers says that what he and his wife are most looking forward to is spending time with their two grandsons, visit their son in Colorado and continue traveling the world. He and his wife are accomplished travelers, having visited all 50 states as well as all seven continents, capped off with a recent trip to Antarctica.

One of the Byers' favorite travel memories would be climbing Devil's Tower in Wyoming, although he and his wife admit that every trip is memorable.

He also explained their trip around the world on a one-way-plane ticket. This special trip is a service provided by airlines that pays for a series of one way plane tickets over the course of a month, that takes travelers around the world at their own pace, without ever returning home.

The Byers recently enjoyed a trip up north to the Mall of America in Bloomington, MN, and are especially awaiting their upcoming cruise, which will have stops in Madrid, Spain and Rome, among others.

Along with traveling, Dr. Byers, a fourth degree black belt, is excited to continue teaching taekwondo alongside Son Clayton at Rising Sun Martial Arts, where he has instructed for 18 years.

He also is anticipating continuing his running and biking adventures, which includes over 20 marathons, many of which ran with his good friend Leland Storm, as well as a memorable ten mile run out the North Rd. in -100 degree windchill one winter.

Dr. Byers enjoys running races and completing biathlons and triathlons. His running career began early in his medical career, when a friend urged him "to not be 'that' doctor, referring to the image of a heavyset smoking doctor telling patients to pick up healthier habits."

One of his favorite running activities would be competing with his family in the annual Tough Mudders competition, an eight to ten mile course full of "fun stuff," different obstacles such as barbed wire, climbing A frames, tight passageways, and more. He has completed 28 Tough Mudders races, and awaits the next one on Saturday, Aug. 26, at Rockford Airport in Chicago.

When reflecting on his career, Byers said, "I recommend this career to anyone. Yes, it takes a certain mind set, a certain type," he clarifies, but adds, "it is very rewarding."

# HILLSBORO AREA



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# Obituaries

## IDPH Urges Public To Beware Of Rabid Bats

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is reminding the public to be aware of the potential for exposure to rabies from infected animals. Bats are the most common source of potential infection in Illinois, and exposures from bats tend to be more frequent during the summer months, especially July and August. The disease can also be found in other wild animals, including raccoons, skunks, foxes, and coyotes.

So far this year, 27 rabid bats have been found in fourteen Illinois counties. There have been five rabid bats each in Kankakee and Lake counties, four in Cook County, and three in McHenry County. Rabies has also been found in bats in Bureau, Clark, DeKalb, Macon, McLean, Peoria, Rock Island, Sangamon, Wayne, and Will counties.

"Rabies is a fatal but preventable disease," said IDPH Director Dr. Sameer Vohra. "It is important that Illinois residents know how to prevent rabies exposure to protect themselves and their loved ones. Rabies can be prevented in a number of ways including vaccinating pets, being cautious around wildlife, and seeking medical care immediately after a potential exposure. If exposed, please seek medical attention immediately."

Rabies is a deadly virus that affects the brain and nervous system. People can get rabies from being bitten by an infected animal. Rabies can also be contracted when saliva from a rabid animal comes into contact with a person's eyes, nose, mouth, or an open wound. If someone wakes up to find a bat in the room, that is also considered an exposure even if they cannot identify a bite.

A bat's teeth are small, so someone who has been bitten by a bat may not know it, or may be unable to communicate it (for example, very small children). That's why it's important that if you discover a bat in your home, you should avoid killing or releasing it; instead, immediately consult with your local animal control or your local health department to determine appropriate next steps. If you have been exposed to rabies, preventive treatment, known as PEP, is necessary. But if the bat or wild animal can be safely captured and tested, and the test comes back negative, no preventive medication is required.

If you have been bitten by any wild animal, seek immediate medical attention. Animal bites may also become infected with bacteria. Rabies preventive treatment, if needed, must begin within a few days of the exposure.

A bat that is active during the day, found on the ground, or is unable to fly is more likely than others to be rabid. Such bats are

often easily approached but should never be handled.

"It's also recommended to take steps to protect your pets against exposure to rabies," said Dr. Mark Ernst, Illinois State Veterinarian. "Illinois law requires that all dogs and cats 16 weeks of age and older be vaccinated for rabies and registered with their county. If an animal bites a person or your pet is bitten by another animal, the local animal control must be contacted for quarantine information."

Other tips to protect your animals: keep your dogs and cats up to date on rabies vaccination per state law and to protect them against an exposure. Also, horses, sheep, cattle and ferrets can also be vaccinated for rabies. Call your veterinarian if your animal has been exposed to a high-risk animal, especially bats.

The following tips can help prevent the spread of rabies: do not touch, feed, or unintentionally attract wild animals with open garbage cans or litter.

Never adopt wild animals or bring them into your home. Do not try to nurse sick wild animals to health. Call animal control or an animal rescue agency for assistance.

Teach children never to handle unfamiliar animals, wild or domestic, even if they appear friendly. "Love your own, leave other animals alone" is a good principle for children to learn to reduce the risk of exposures to rabid animals.

Maintain homes and other buildings so bats cannot get inside.

If a bat is in your home, do not release the bat outdoors until after speaking with animal control or public health officials.

After consulting with animal control or public health officials, the bat may need to be captured for rabies testing to determine if you need preventive treatment or if your pet may have been exposed.

Steps you can take to capture the bat if animal control is not available: when the bat lands, approach it slowly, while wearing thick gloves, and place a box or coffee can over it.

Slide a piece of cardboard under the container to trap the bat inside.

Slide the cardboard to the container securely, and punch small holes in the cardboard, allowing the bat to breathe and call animal control.

Do not come into physical contact with a bat.

If the bat is dead, put it in a plastic container and keep it cool while waiting for animal control to pick it up.

You can find more information about rabies and how to prevent exposure at the Illinois Department of Public Health website: Rabies ([illinois.gov](http://illinois.gov)).

## John Rundquist, 100 Loved Agriculture



John F. "Jack" Rundquist, 100 of Butler, died Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2023.

A private family service will be held. Bass Patton Dean Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Mr. Rundquist was born on May 14, 1923 to the late Harry and Olga Rundquist. A graduate of Moline High School with the class of 1941, he earned his bachelor of science degree from the University of Illinois in 1946 and his master of science degree in agronomy in 1947.

He married Anita Turner on Feb. 22, 1948, in Urbana, she preceded him in death. For most of their lives, the couple lived on the family farm, Evergreen Farms near Butler.

Mr. Rundquist was always interested in agriculture. In his early days, he rode his bicycle from his parents' home in Joliet to his cousin's place northwest of the city where he helped feed, water and care for chickens. His summer job after high school was working at the John Deere plant in Rock Island. He continued his love of agriculture by studying agronomy at the University of Illinois.

Mr. Rundquist followed his passion and dedicated his life to farming and to education, research and innovation in agriculture. Later in life, he pursued an interest in propagating and planting trees, and realized one of his dreams by harvesting crops of pecans at Evergreen Farms.

Among the many hats he wore, Mr. Rundquist served as a founding organizer and director of First Community Bank in Hillsboro from 1998 to 2022. He also served as director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture 1989 to 1991, as well as on the Illinois Department of Agriculture Board of Livestock Commissioners. He continued his service to his community as a member of the Hillsboro Community Unit School Board for 12 years.

Serving as an officer of county, state and national Pork Producer organizations, Mr. Rundquist traveled extensively, furthering the swine industry in the United States and internationally. Among his many honors and awards, he received Prairie Farmer magazine's Master Farmer, Illinois Pork Producers Service Award, Commercial Producer of the Year by the National Swine Improvement Federation and Exceptional Service Award by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture Alumni Association.

Mr. Rundquist was an U.S. Army veteran and a member of the Butler Union Church.

In addition to his wife he was preceded in death by his grandson, Andrew K. Wedekind; sister, Margaret Zastrow; and nephew, Richard Osborne.

He is survived by his children, Ann (Jim) Butler, Barbara (George) Clark, John (Sherri) Rundquist, Martha (Mark) O'Mara and Becky (Wayne) Wedekind; grandchildren, John (Kristal) Rundquist, Tyler (fiancé, Victoria) Rundquist, Kate Wedekind, Mike (Cassie) O'Mara and Kevin (Rose) O'Mara; great-grandchildren, Bode Niemeier, Bryce Niemeier, August Rundquist and Aspen Rundquist.

Memorials are suggested to Hillsboro Educational Foundation Anita and Jack Rundquist Scholarship, Rundquist family JBT Scholarship Fund at the University of Illinois Foundation or Butler Union Church.

## HSHS Welcomes New Senior Vice President

Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS), a leading Catholic health ministry with operations in multiple states and 15 locations, including Litchfield, announced that Kevin L. Lewis, MD, CPE, FAASM, will join the system's executive leadership team as senior vice president and chief physician executive on Aug. 28.

"Dr. Lewis brings an ideal mix of health care leadership experience and passion for our mission," said Diamond Boatwright, president and chief executive officer, HSHS. "He is a proven leader with a track record of success spanning two decades. His background in Catholic health care will support our mission to reveal and embody Christ's healing love as we carry forward the legacy of the Hospital Sisters."

A pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine physician by training, Dr. Lewis practiced for 15 years before fully focusing on his journey as a health care executive. He previously served as the Regional President and CEO of SSM Health Medical Group as well as the Regional Chief Clinical Officer of SSM Health - Oklahoma, based in Oklahoma City, OK.

"The depth and breadth of the mission at HSHS, as well as the extent to which leaders value their connection to the mission, really struck me," Lewis said. "I'm honored to



Kevin Lewis

have the opportunity to serve in a ministry with such a rich, enduring legacy and an equally bright future."

Dr. Lewis is a graduate of Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, OK., and the University of Texas Health Sciences Center San Antonio for Medical School. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine-Tulsa and Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine fellowship at the University of Kentucky.

Kevin and his wife, Michelle, have three adult daughters. Relocating to Springfield will be a homecoming of sorts, as Dr. Lewis lived in Springfield as a child, attending DuBois Elementary School from kindergarten through second grade.

## Carl L. German, 71 Grew Up In Nokomis



Carl Lee German, 71, of Wilmington, DE, formerly of Nokomis, died on Aug. 23, 2023, at Wilmington Hospital with his wife, Elly and his pastor by his side.

Services will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 29, at Immanuel Church in Wilmington, DE. A lunch reception will immediately follow.

Mr. German was born on Dec. 19, 1951, in Pana, near his hometown of Nokomis. He spent his youth farming grain and livestock on the family farm with his sister, Debbie,

brother, Kenny and his late parents, June and Kenneth. After high school, Mr. German earned an associate's degree from Montgomery County (Illinois) Community College and then bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural industries and business management from Southern Illinois University.

Mr. German moved to Newark, DE in 1975 to take a job as a crops marketing specialist at the University of Delaware. He enjoyed a nearly four-decade career working with Delaware and DelMarVa farmers through the cooperative extension service at UD, the farm bureau and the Delaware Department of Agriculture. Some of Mr. German's best friends were colleagues from the university and farmers.

His hobbies included running, tennis, golf and most of all, gardening. Mr. German was a master gardener, excellent handyman and avid reader. He coached his boys' youth soccer and baseball teams and volunteered with the Newark High School Sports Boosters for many years while his sons Ryan, Micah and Peter played football at NHS.

After retiring in 2012, Mr. German took classes from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware. He mostly enrolled in art classes, enjoying painting and drawing. He also took Tai Chi and music courses, including drum circle.

Mr. German is survived by his wife, Elly; children, Ryan (Shannon), Micah (Sara) and Peter German; and their mother, his former spouse, Barbara Jo; grandchildren, Skye, Dylan, Braden, Isabel and Aubrey; sister, Debbie (Richard) of Wisconsin and brother, Kenny (Melba) of Illinois; nephews, Richard, Kenny, Jared, Justin and Johnny; and nieces, Katie and Sylvia; as well as many loving extended family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Memorial donations may be made in Mr. German's name to Immanuel Church, 2414 Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19806. Condolences may be left at [www.dohertyfh.com](http://www.dohertyfh.com).

## James A. Shade, 76 U.S. Army Veteran



James Arthur Shade, 76, of Mt. Olive, died on Thursday, Aug. 24, 2023, at the John J. Cochran Veterans Hospital in St. Louis, MO.

Visitation will be held on Monday, Aug. 28, beginning at 9 a.m. at Plummer Funeral Home in Litchfield. Funeral services will follow at 11 a.m.

Mr. Shade was born June 30, 1947, in Carlinville, a son of Raymond and Mary (Reamer) Shade. He and the former Janet M. Boente were married on May 11, 1969,

in Carlinville, and she survives.

A graduate of Carlinville High School, he served in the United States Army and was a lifetime member of VFW Post 3912 of Litchfield, where he was a past post commander. He served as a volunteer firefighter in Litchfield and was a manager for Hardee's restaurants, where he retired after 25 years. He enjoyed fishing, and was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Litchfield.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Shade is survived by his three daughters, Cindy (Roland) Lee of Mt. Olive, Michele (Richard) Gibson of Litchfield and Dawn (Vince) Whitley of Stedman, NC; three brothers, Jerald (Darlene) Shade of Carlinville, Ronald (Sandy) Shade of Plainview and Louis (Donna) Shade of Ft. Myers, FL; sister, Doris (Thomas) Borella of Virden; eight grandchildren, Chad Lee of Mt. Olive, Richard (Emily) Gibson, Jr., Trevor (Emily) Gibson and Kiersten (Craig) Erwin, all of Litchfield, Brittany (Charles) Kal of Honolulu, HI, Collin Stewardson and Megan Whitley, both of Fayetteville, NC, and Taylor Whitley of San Diego, CA; and 14 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, grandchild Krista Lee and one great-grandchild.

Memorials may be made to the family. To sign the online register book, light a virtual candle, or for more information, please visit [www.plummerfuneralservices.com](http://www.plummerfuneralservices.com).

## Witt Labor Day

Continued from front page

Out-of-town rented floats will be awarded \$80 for first, \$70 for second, \$60 for third and \$50 for fourth. Out-of-town floats will be awarded \$80 for first, \$70 for second, \$60 for third, \$50 for fourth, \$40 for fifth and \$30 for sixth. Out-of-town youth organizations will be awarded \$60 for first, \$40 for second and \$20 for third.

Best comic entry will be awarded first place \$40, second place \$30 and third place \$20.

Decorated bicycles, tricycles and wagons will be awarded \$10 for first place and \$5 for second through sixth place. The children's floats category will be awarded \$50 for first, \$20 for second, \$20 for third and \$10 for fourth place.

The antique cars category will be awarded \$50 for first place, \$40 for second, \$20 for third, \$10 for fourth and \$5 for fifth.

The pedal tractor pull will follow the parade. Sign-up starts at noon downtown, with the pull to begin at 1 p.m. Don't miss a live performance from the Hillsboro High School Marching Hiltoppers at 12:05 p.m., downtown. The washer pitch contest starts at 1 p.m. at the Beer Pavilion.

The Witt Labor Day Celebrations will culminate with a live performance by *Salmon Creek*, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Beet Pavilion. Prizes will be drawn at 6 p.m. at the bandstand.

The annual Labor Day Homecoming Celebration is sponsored by the Witt Lions Club.

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## County CEO Students Learn About Fit Bodies 4 Life

Kim Lipe of Coffeen, founder of Fit Bodies 4 Life, joined students in the Montgomery County CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities) program on Friday, Aug. 25, to share her story and talk about her business. Lipe's company helps women with their health by providing education, classes, training and supplements. Her business has evolved over time, but she always stayed focus on her mission. Lipe shared that having something great to offer helps a business be successful. Her business offers more than 500 tutorial videos and recipes available for members. CEO students enjoyed the presentation as they begin to work on their first class business venture.

## Hospital Plans Workshop On Diabetes Management

Hillsboro Area Hospital is planning a diabetes self-management class on Thursday evening, Sept. 7, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Cloud Room at the hospital, located at 1200 E. Tremont Street.

The class is designed to help people with diabetes improve their health and well-being by making behavioral changes, understanding risk factors, eating healthy, creating a balanced meal plan, improving blood sugar,

understanding diabetic medications and incorporating physical activity into daily routine.

The class is being presented by Matt McPherson, dietician at Hillsboro Area Hospital, and John Weiss, pharmacist at Hillsboro Area Hospital.

The class is offered at no cost to the community. Refreshments will be served.

To make a reservation, call (217) 532-4183.

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## What's New at Heartland Gallery? Autumn Art Classes! Here's the List:

Karen File, accredited Zentangle instructor, will be teaching the "Art of Zentangle" starting Monday afternoon, September 18, from 1-2 p.m., and ending Monday, October 9th. It's a 4-week course, or 4 sessions in all. The cost is \$80. There's a \$5 discount for those who sign up early. For ages 15-104. Materials provided.

Jessica Otter, of Center Hill Pottery, will offer a two-stage workshop starting Weds. September 13. The first session, 6:30-8:30, teaches the basics of working with clay to build three pumpkins in three different sizes. The second session, 6:30 to 8:00, Weds. Sept. 22, is for glazing the pumpkins. You can come to Heartland Gallery to pick up your work after its been fired. For ages 15-90, the cost is \$75 for both sessions, materials provided.

Jeffery Nihiser, visual arts instructor at McKendree U. and teacher at the Edwardsville Art Center (EAC) will share his expertise at Heartland Gallery. He'll be offering drawing classes for beginners and intermediates starting Monday, September 18, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. It's a 6-week course, held every Monday evening until Mon. Oct. 23. The cost is \$240.00. Early sign up earns a \$10 discount. For a list of materials needed: martharad@yahoo.com. 2' x2' drawing boards will be provided.

Nicole Shanks of Weave & Wobble in Belleville will conduct a knitting and crocheting workshop for beginners starting Thursday, September 21, from 10 a.m to 12 p.m. The course includes knitting needles, crochet hook, yarn and instruction. The cost is \$75.

Adam Long, of Adam Long Sculpture, St. Charles, Mo. will conduct a meet and greet and small demo on how he sculpts using natural materials starting at 1 p.m. on Saturday, October 20.

For more info, check out the Heartland Gallery page on Facebook, or stop by the gallery to sign up, or contact me via email: martharad@yahoo.com

Thanks,  
 Martha Radcliff,  
 owner/curator  
 Heartland Gallery  
 315 S. Main St.  
 Hillsboro, IL



## Marriage Licenses

Daniel Joseph Hopley, Litchfield; Jaimie Koren McKenzie, Litchfield.

Cody Paul Jurgens, Coffeen; Brandy Meshell Snider, Mulberry Grove.

## Hillsboro Library Waives Late Fine With Donation

This fall, the Hillsboro Area Public Library is teaming up with the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry for a food drive to help stock pantry shelves.

Patrons who bring in a donation of a non-perishable food item may get the late

fine on overdue library books waived from now through December. The library will waive \$1 of the fee for each item donated.

All donations will benefit Harvest of Hope Food Pantry in Hillsboro.

## Greenwood Family Plans Reunion This September

The 81st annual Greenwood family reunion will be held on Sunday, Sept. 10, at 12:30 p.m. at the Methodist Church Annex in Coffeen.

The dinner will be a potluck. Participants are asked to bring their high school yearbooks for memories and a good laugh.

## Boehlers Plan Fall Reunion In Waggoner This September

The Boehler family will be holding their annual reunion at the Waggoner Centennial Building on Sunday, Sept. 24, beginning at 1 p.m. at Waggoner Centennial Building. Guests are encouraged to

bring a large covered dish to share. Table settings and drinks will be provided.

For more information, contact Ruth (Boehler) McCario at 618-977-3116.

## Galaxy Family Entertainment

217 North Main Street • Hillsboro



**7 PM Thursday, Aug. 31**  
**FALL BOWLING LEAGUE MEETING**

**If Interested, Be There**

## THANK YOU

Litchfield Sports Boosters would like to thank our donors, sponsors, players, volunteers and the Litchfield Country Club for making the 28th annual Panther Open a huge success. With the money raised, we will be able to continue to support Litchfield High School and Middle School student athletes and continue to provide graduating senior athletes with scholarships.

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## Melba Miller To Celebrate 90th Birthday On Sept. 3

Former Fillmore resident Melba Miller will mark her 90th birthday on Sunday, Sept. 3. In honor of her birthday, her family would like to celebrate her with a card shower.

Birthday wishes may be sent to her at Montgomery Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, P.O. Box 309, Hillsboro, IL.

Mrs. Miller was born Sept. 3, 1933 to Herbert and Neva (Tooley) Haines. She married Leonard Miller on May 29, 1953, in Decatur and they were married for 65 years before Mr. Miller's passing in 2019.

During her career she worked at Mary's Cafe in Hillsboro and Crane Packing Company in Vandalia and then helped her husband in their business, Miller's Lime Service.

The couple were blessed with eight children, the late Jeff (wife Brenda) of Fillmore, Everett (Kay) Miller



**Melba Miller**

of Coffeen, Leona Miller of Macon, Cindy Miller of Salem, Deb (Mike) Jackson of Fillmore, Sue (Wayne) Jackson of Vandalia, Gary (Joyce) Miller of Fillmore and Paula (Tony) Fullerton of Westerville; 18 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

## Martin To Retire From Bank & Trust Sept. 1

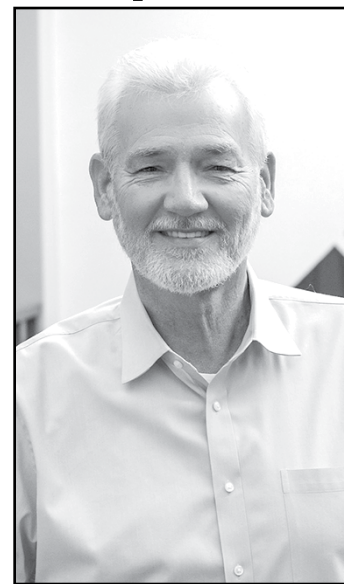
John Martin, executive vice president, senior agriculture lender and senior management, has announced his retirement from Bank & Trust effective Sept. 1.

He has served in his current role since 1997, and prior to that he served for 26 years as the senior lending officer, where he oversaw loan operations and management.

Martin has contributed 43 years of experience to Bank & Trust Company. He has held leadership roles across a broad range of the company's operations, from the teller line, branch management, senior lending officer and executive vice president. Martin also served on several committees with the Illinois Bankers Association.

His banking career started in March of 1980 with the State Bank in Farmersville, a bank that was purchased by Bank & Trust on Aug. 9, 1985. Martin transitioned over from a teller to an assistant manager, and later became branch manager. In 1997, he was transferred to the Litchfield branch, and became the senior lending officer.

"Intelligent, accommodating, and personable," are the words that Bank & Trust Company President Dan Fleming used to describe Martin. "John knows everyone on a first name basis,



**John Martin**

and he's well known in both communities of Farmersville and Litchfield. He has made a positive impact and has created shoes that will be very hard to fill."

Fleming also described Martin as a mentor to many, and his influence and team-building efforts have made an undeniable impact on the future generations of the bank.

"It's been a pleasure to work with the customers," Martin said of his banking career. "I've met a lot of unbelievably nice people, and the bank and I have been happy to help them achieve their goals."

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PANTHER PRESS • by Amy Frerichs at Litchfield

## LHS Students Begin Plans For Homecoming



What a week here at LHS! From sports starting to finding out the Homecoming dress

up days, Litchfield has been busy.

Monday we will be having our class meetings and celebrations that will happen had 12:54 p.m.

Jostens will be at the school Sept. 5 to hand out order forms for class rings that are due back Sept. 8. They will also be here Sept. 27 to meet with seniors.

There is a Link Crew meeting on Aug. 29 at 2:30 p.m. in the IMC if anyone is interested.

Juniors, if you are wanting to take the PSAT on Oct. 24, sign in at student services with a check of \$18 by Sept. 15.

Homecoming is right around the corner! The Homecoming game will be Sept. 22 against Hillsboro. The theme for the game will be Panther PIT pool party.

Homecoming week dress-up days include Monday: Rhyme without a Reason, Tuesday: BBQ Dad versus

Soccer Mom, Wednesday: Crazy Day, Thursday: seniors as senior citizens, juniors as middle aged, sophomores as toddlers and freshmen as babies and Friday: purple and white day.

This week with sports will be a busy week! Junior varsity football will kickoff the week with a game in Carlinville.

Soccer will continue their Kickoff Classic on Tuesday playing at North Mac. Volleyball will travel to Maryville Christian on Monday and Hillsboro on Thursday.

Cross Country will begin its season with a meet on Tuesday at Carlinville. Boys golf will continue their season at Litchfield on Tuesday and then travel on Friday to Richland. Girls golf will be competing at home on Wednesday.

Week two of football will send the boys to play Southwestern. Finally, to wrap up the week, the soccer team will have their first home game on Saturday against Maryville Christian.

Hope to see you at the events. Have a great week, Panther Nation!

REDSKIN REVIEW • by Reaghan Jonas at Nokomis

## Nokomis Clubs Begin Planning Events



Happy Monday, Redskins fans!

I hope everyone had another great week!

**Reminder:** Picture Day is this Wednesday, Aug. 30.

Student Council had its first full member meeting last week. The Homecoming committees will begin meeting next week to start planning for Homecoming Week. The German Club held a meeting last week to invite and welcome new members. Students can sign up to join F.C.C.L.A. in Ms. Williams room. National Honor Society had its first meeting last week as well to discuss upcoming dates and events.

Students who want to join FFA need to see one of the advisors for a membership form.

Due to the extreme heat last week, most outdoor sporting events were canceled or postponed.

The Lady Redskins volleyball team picked up two wins against Central A&M and Litchfield last week! They will play St. Elmo/Brownstown at home on Monday, Aug. 28. They will be busy with away games this week as they travel to Gillespie on Tuesday, Shelbyville on Thursday and to Altamont for a tournament on Saturday, Sept. 2.

The Redskins football team traveled to Arcola on Friday night, where they were able to get in a half of the game before it was postponed due to severe weather. They traveled back to Arcola on Saturday to play the second half, where they took a tough loss 34-16. They will play at home this Friday, Sept. 1, against Argenta-Oreana. It will be Redskins Military Night where the players will be wearing special camo jerseys in honor of our military. Let's green out the field!

Due to the extreme heat last week, the soccer team was only able to play their Saturday games in the Carlinville Tournament, where they got two wins against North Mac and Litchfield! They will play at home against Vandalia on Monday, Aug. 28. They will continue their games in the Carlinville Tournament on Tuesday, against Staunton. They will be back in Carlinville on Wednesday for their last game of the tournament which will be announced later. They will make up their game against Taylorville at home on Saturday, Sept. 2.

All of the golf matches were canceled last week. They don't have any upcoming matches this week.

Congrats to all teams on a good first week and good luck this week as well!

Have a great week everyone!

## September Trivia Night To Benefit Cheerleaders

Members of the Hillsboro Junior High School cheerleading squad are hosting a trivia night on Saturday, Sept. 9, beginning at 7 p.m.

What the Facts? trivia company will be leading the event, which will be held at The Lodge on Main.

Eight person teams are needed to participate in the fundraiser, and registration is \$100 per team.

In addition to the trivia, there will be a lotto tree and 50/50 raffle. Teams are encouraged to bring their own snacks and no outside beverages will be allowed.

Proceeds will benefit the Hillsboro Junior High School Dragon cheerleading squad, and will help to purchase new uniforms. For more information about registering a table or sponsoring the event, contact Jessica Furness at (217) 556-2141.



## Taylor Springs First Baptist Hosts Church Reunion

Nearly 80 past and present members and attendees of the Taylor Springs First Baptist Church attended a reunion celebration on Sunday, Aug. 27, at the Hillsboro Challacombe House. Those in attendance came from near and far, traveling from Murphysboro, Springfield, Lafayette, IN, Mount Olive, Blue Mound, Greenwood, IN, Gibson City, Paxton, Greenville, Coffeen, Witt, Irving, Donnellson, Butler and Hillsboro. The reunion was organized by some of the younger members who have since moved away, but connected on Facebook and organized the event to visit with their church family, and celebrate the church's 102nd anniversary.

Journal-News/Isaiah Atkins

## St. Francis Marks National Breastfeeding Month

Shannon Maddaleno, BSN, RNC-OB, nurse manager of St. Francis Hospital's Family Maternity Center, says a mother's milk provides a newborn with vital antibodies and an immunity boost as the infant grows. "Breast-feeding is important to an infant as it provides protection against many short and long term illnesses, whether given by the breast or by pumping breast milk," and "it is also important in providing bonding time between mom and baby."

Some benefits of breast feeding are breast milk helps fight disease. The cells, hormones, and antibodies in breast milk protect babies from illness such as ear infections, asthma, type 1 diabetes and gastrointestinal infections, among others.

Breast milk is easier to digest. For most babies, especially premature babies, breast milk is easier to digest than formula. The proteins in formula are made from cow's milk, and it takes time for babies' stomachs to adjust to digesting them.

Breast milk is often called liquid gold. Colostrum, often referred to as 'liquid gold,' is the thick yellow breast milk that mothers make during pregnancy and just after birth. This milk is rich in

nutrients and antibodies to protect baby. Although baby only gets a small amount of colostrum at each feeding, it matches the amount his or her stomach can hold.

Breast milk changes as baby grows. Colostrum changes into what is called mature milk. By the third to fifth day after birth, this mature breast milk has just the right amount of fat, sugar, water, and protein to help a baby continue to grow. It is a thinner type of milk than colostrum, but it provides all the nutrients and antibodies a baby needs.

Breastfeeding is also beneficial to mothers. Mothers who breast feed tend to recover from childbirth faster and are at a lower risk for developing breast and ovarian cancer, type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends exclusive breastfeeding for about six months and then, continuing breastfeeding while introducing soft foods until a child is 24 months or older.

For mothers needing additional support to be successful in their breastfeeding journey, HSHS St. Francis Hospital's Family Maternity Center offers support and education to mothers by call-

ing 217-324-8473.

HSHS St. Francis Hospital also offers support and education to mothers through an online support group through Facebook facilitated by experienced lactation consultants. Those interested in joining this online breastfeeding support group need to search Facebook for "HSHS St. Francis Breastfeeding Support Group" and request to join.

The Family Maternity Center is designated a Silver Safe Sleep Hospital through the Eunice Kennedy Shriver organization and Cribs for Kids Program and recognized by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois with a Blue Distinction Centers (BDC) for Maternity Care designation, as part of the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program. It is also a Certified Baby-Friendly Hospital by the WHO and UNICEF, one of only approximately 600 designated hospitals in the U.S. The initiative encourages and recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that offer an optimal level of care for breastfeeding mothers and their babies.

Maddaleno added, "Being recognized as a Baby-Friendly and a Safe Sleep hospital shows that our staff work diligently to provide all of the necessary education, support and techniques for our moms and babies. We are proud to provide this high-quality care to our community"

For mothers who cannot or chose not to breastfeed, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends feeding an infant formula that is specifically made for babies and is iron-fortified, which means vitamins and minerals are added. The CDC does not recommend using homemade infant formula; a baby's nutritional needs are very specific and may not be met with the use of a homemade formula recipe.

As always, if you have concerns or questions about breastfeeding or formula feeding, talk with your doctor or pediatrician.

For more information about HSHS St. Francis Hospital's Family Maternity Center, visit [stfrancis-litchfield.org/baby](http://stfrancis-litchfield.org/baby).

e-mail your ad to [advertisejn@consolidated.net](mailto:advertisejn@consolidated.net)

## Local Equestrians Invited To Pana Labor Day Parade

Calling all area equestrians, including ponies, for the annual Pana Labor Day Parade Horse Show. The show will be held prior to the 2023 parade, on Monday, Sept. 4, at approximately 9:30 a.m. at the old sale barn, end of S. Poplar St.

Awards will be given to the oldest and youngest riders as well as in the classes of trail, hitch, western and costume. First and second-place winners will also receive gift certificates to an area business.

Following the show, horses and riders then join the parade line-up at the staging area on E. Second St. One need not participate in the

show to ride in the parade, but participation is encouraged. Expectations for each class are as follows:

- Hitch-unit consisting of the exhibitor, his horse(s), the cart or wagon;
- Trail-rider must navigate his horse in a simple obstacle course;
- Western rider with long-sleeved shirt will walk and slow lope horse while maintaining its calmness;
- Costume-rider and/or horse dressed in a safe costume.

Call 217-565-2332 for additional information. Come, bring a fellow rider, and help make this show the best ever.

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# Opinion

6A - Monday, August 28, 2023

A GRACE-FILLED JOURNEY • by Mary Herschelmann

## The World Needs More Purple People



For as long as I can remember, green has been my very favorite color. Now, don't ask me why, but it's just always been the top of my list.

Since starting A Grace-Filled Journey, I have also become rather partial to purple. I'm not exactly sure how we landed on purple for INAD awareness. Since INAD is classified as an ultra-rare disease, it doesn't exactly have its own color or logo. Rare diseases go with zebra stripes since zebras are unique, but we landed on purple. I think we were looking at pink and purple as some colors that Grace liked, and we figured that breast cancer awareness had the market on pink, so we went with purple.

And it stuck. My closet is full of purple shirts in all shades, and I love them. Most days, you'll find me wearing a Grace shirt of some form. Charley often bemoans that I don't have any shirts that say "Charley," but I reckon she'll live.

We have been gifted so many wonderful purple gifts over the years as well. Purple ribbons and bows, purple socks and Charley's favorite, purple toys and dolls.

But it's a special purple book that really caught my attention, *The World Needs More Purple People* by Kristen Bell and Benjamin Hart.

Now, they're not talking about painting yourself purple, but rather living in a way that brings people together, like purple brings other colors together.

The steps are easy and include asking questions, laughing a lot, using your voice, working hard and being yourself.

I bet we have read that book hundreds of times in our house, and it makes Charley

laugh. But it also has such a great message and one that everyone can do.

A few years later, we were gifted the second book, *The World Needs More Purple Schools*.

"It's a place where lots of different people come together to mix their stories, their ideas and their smarts to make something special."

As we get started with a brand new school year, I thought it was a good reminder that we could all use to be a little more purple.

Becoming a purple school starts with wonder and curiosity and students asking all kinds of questions, big and small. The second step is working really hard and often together. It also includes encouraging fellow classmates and volunteering in the community.

But school should also be fun, so step three is to be really silly, like playing games and using your imagination.

Next is to speak up and use your voice, which also includes listening to other people use their voices too. That's one Charley and I should probably work on together.

In the end, the best way to have a purple school is to be yourself, the one and only you in the entire universe!

"That's right, when the one and only, curious and kind you adds your story... and your ideas... and your smarts to your school... it helps us all learn more things about the world we live in and the people we live here with. And that helps our world get bigger and our world get better."

After reading these books, I'm not sure it was so random that we landed on purple as the color to represent A Grace-Filled Journey.

Choose joy. Choose kindness. Choose Grace. Because the world needs more purple people.

LETTERS to the editor

## Commissioner: We Need To Be Very Careful

Saving money and spending money wisely should be a top priority for city government. As city of Nokomis commissioner, I want to assure we keep this a priority.

Lee Beckman, a licensed engineer with Milano and Grunloh in Effingham, has advised the city council he believes a non-mechanical lagoon waste (sewer) treatment system can be built for around \$4 million. The current city engineers have designed a mechanical plant estimated to cost \$7.3 mil-

lion. Only a small portion, perhaps \$1.9 million, would be a grant. The large portion will be a loan to be paid with interest charged over 30 years by water users. Half of Nokomis is low to moderate income. We need to be very careful.

Contrary to rumor, Milano and Grunloh are not connected to E.J. Water Cooperative. The previous city council had rejected joining the water cooperative as an option to continuing to try to run our own water and sewer opera-

tions. Milanos and Grunloh did some engineering work for EJ only.

I have no connection or interest in E.J. Water. My only interest is in trying to decide the most cost effective and efficient way of proceeding for the future success of our city. Further council meetings should be held, and are open to the public. Agendas are posted at the office of the city clerk.

Michael R. Glenn  
Nokomis

## New Flag Design Is A Pressing Issue?

Illinois politicians should be busy with their "expected" jobs for the state of Illinois: dealing with the budget, law enforcement backing, state issues, etc. But yet, they are so easily distracted from their real jobs they are paid to perform.

The proposal to create a

new state of Illinois flag is ludicrous. What is wrong with the existing one? They say it will not cost taxpayers any money to do so. Bottom line: the cost is coming from us in the long run. Thousands upon thousands of newly printed flags to be distributed throughout the entire

state would cost a fortune.

Where do these politicians' real duties lay? How about fixing real problems and leave the flag alone. Ha, a new flag design is a pressing issue? How about doing the job you were elected to do?

Ben B. Savage  
Raymond



Founded on April 25, 1852, Mt. Zion Lutheran Church (pictured above) has been established longer than any other church in Litchfield.

Litchfield Museum Collection

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

## Did You Know... Mt. Zion Lutheran

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church was established on April 25, 1852, with the oversight of the Reverend Elias Schwartz of Hillsboro.

There were 14 charter members: Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Blackwelder, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Blackwelder, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Scherer, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Scherer, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Cline, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Cress, John Walcher and Miss Mary Emily Blackwelder. Soon after, Mr and Mrs Godfrey Stiefel became members.

The first minister was the Reverend Jeremiah Livinood. By the time Livingood resigned in 1862, Mt. Zion Lutheran Church was able to boast 52 members.

The current church, located at 824 North Monroe was dedicated in Aug. 1959. The Mt. Zion Lutheran Church congregation worshipped in four edifices before the current structure. The first was a small frame building constructed on the then open prairie near the corner of what is now Ferdon and State Street. The second was on the south side of Kirkham near where the post office is now; it was used from 1852 to 1865. The third site was a small building that was used from 1866 to 1898, located on the corner of Monroe and Second Street (since renamed Beach Street). The fourth church was utilized from 1889 to 1959 and was located on the

site where the current church now stands.

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church has been established longer than any other church in Litchfield.

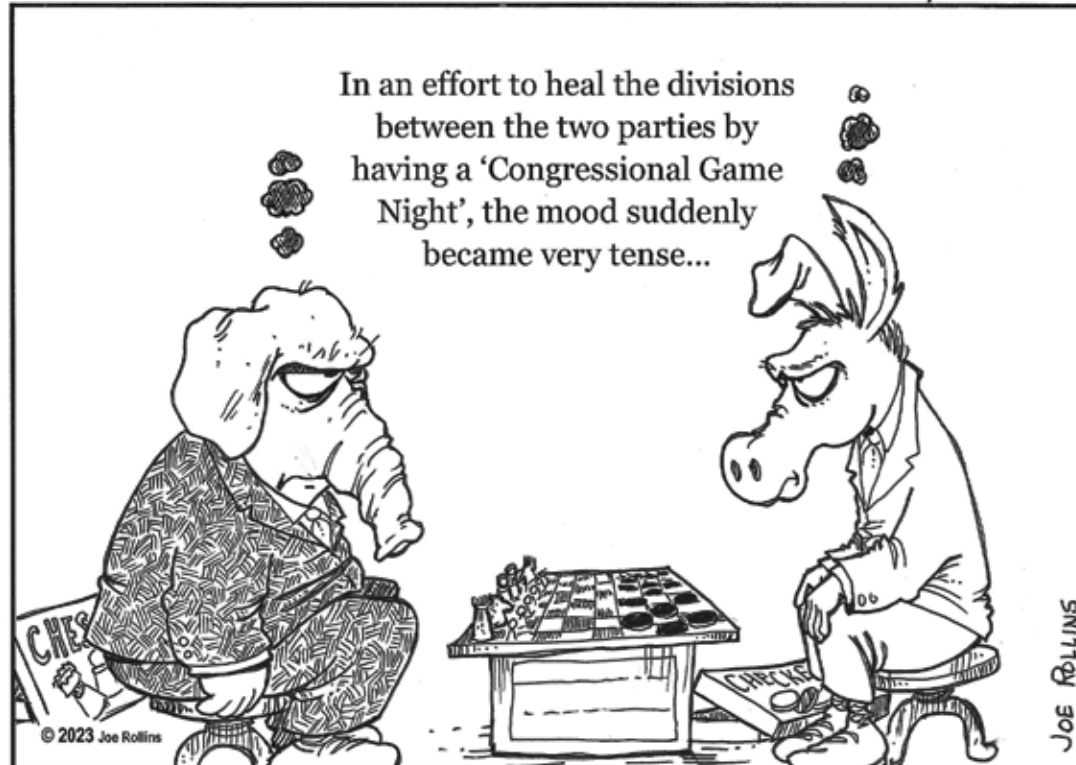
Currently worship services are offered every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Visitors are welcome.

Further information about Mt. Zion Lutheran Church can be found by visiting the Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center located at Historic Route 66 North in Litchfield.

The museum and welcome center is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

Joe's Corner

by Joe Rollins



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

## August 1956: Travel Time For Bests



August of 1956 finds Grandma and Grandpa traveling, first visiting Grandma's sister, Maud, in Tyrone, MO. They are also planning a big trip in September, flying to Los Angeles to spend an extended stay with daughter Alberta, and her family. If you follow

Grandma's Diary, you will enjoy Grandma's comments on their visit. The crops are in the ground, and most of the hay is in the barn lofts, so there is a pause in the work to do some traveling to family reunions, visit the state fair, and the annual 4-H judging. Closer to home the country roads are getting their annual oiling. This always caused the folks living on the freshly oiled roads a lot of frustration and planning. Fortunately, the ordeal did not last long.

Wednesday, Aug. 1, 1956—Rained before midnight. .7 inches rain by 10 am. No mail. So still. No cars passing.

Thursday, Aug. 2, 1956—I walked to the hard road and got our mail, also Marian's, out of Tom Dammann's mailbox. We got our first social security payments. Checks dated July 30. I got \$22.30 and Carl \$44.60. I washed after dinner. Carl drove the tractor to the road west of us. He saw Jay Hall, and he told Carl he could go out over the new oil whenever he thought it would do. First day of the 4-H show. Hogs only. Ice cream supper in Butler.

Friday, Aug. 3, 1956—Hot. Road hasn't dried too much, but we went out very slow. We stopped at the 4-H in the Butler park. Cattle show today. Larry got a red ribbon on his Angus calf, Sam.

Saturday, Aug. 4, 1956—So hot. Almost a hot wind. Wayne's came at 9:30, and we left in our car for Tyrone, MO, to see Maud, Lula, and Idus. Got there at 4:30; 243 miles to Tyrone. We ate dinner at the Diamond Cafe west of St. Louis. Also filled up with gas. Larry bought a supply of cherry bombs, etc.

Sunday, Aug. 5, 1956—Hot. It was 104 degrees on Idus's north porch. Wayne came to Maud's for her and Carl and I, and we ate dinner. Watermelon at mid-afternoon and supper at Lula's. Lula works at a dress factory in Summerville, \$1 an hour. Wayne's, Lula and I went wading late afternoon. The water was so cool.

Monday, Aug. 6, 1956—Wayne's came after us at 5:30. We were not even up. Didn't take long. Lula had coffee for us, and we left there at 6:30 a.m. Ate breakfast at Rolla, MO. We stopped at the airport in St. Louis to get facts on the TWA planes. We should order tickets at least three weeks in advance.

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 1956—A bad electrical storm burned out lights at Wayne's, their TV and electric stove. Pogenpohl's barn burned from lightning. His house was damaged also. Plaster cracked and door frames out of line.

Thursday, Aug. 9, 1956—Storms last night with 1.7 inches rain. Springfield had rain that filled the subways. Every bad wind we have blows more limbs from our peach trees. It was Wayne's 41st birthday. Margaret called to say they would come after us to go to the free show at Harvel. Howy Ward's got home from Florida just before the storm struck.

Friday, Aug. 10, 1956—I picked tomatoes and canned three quarts. The first of 50 quarts I would like to can. Peaches are getting larger fast these last few days. We went to George Habert's funeral—89 years old. I went to school to him when I was seven. He carried our mail when we were married and lived six miles east of Morrisonville. The day Alberta was born Carl told Mr. Harbert that we had a new baby girl. He guessed we would call her Jimmie. The next morning there was a card for Miss Jimmie Best in our mail box. Tom Dammann turned a big bunch of cows and calves east of our garden. Carl and I put up one strand of barb wire above our new woven wire. It will take another one.

Sunday, Aug. 12, 1956—I went to church. Carl didn't go. Jim Howie preached a sermon on hell and where we will go if we do not serve the Lord. He did not mince words.

Tuesday, Aug. 14, 1956—We rented a power mower from Bondurant's. When we got home, George and Fern were here. George hitched on to the mower. Fern had to use a stick on him to get him to quit and eat dinner. Wayne, Hubert, and Larry came with three power mowers, and the weeds were all cut in an hour where Carl can't mow with the mower and John Deere. We took the mower home and paid Bondurant \$2 for two hours work.

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 1956—We took eggs (.38) and cream to Litchfield and got groceries. Howy and John came and measured the two bean fields. One field: 831x494 feet has 8.47 acres. The other: 1005x543 feet has 12.52 acres. Carl is allowed to sow 21 acres to wheat.

Thursday, Aug. 16, —Showers, had .1 inches rain. I was elected to serve as chairman on a union (Butler Union Church) supper committee. Object: to raise money to pay a minister. I went quilting after dinner. It was the regular Helping Hand meeting. Working on Lois Rogers' quilt. Nominating Committee nominated Mamie McCammon, president; Thelma McBroom, vice-president; Lelia Green, treasurer; Ione Streight, secretary.

Friday, Aug. 17, 1956—Sprinkled. We went to Charlie Chaplin's funeral. He was a neighbor of ours near Morrisonville and a schoolmate of mine. Sent \$2 and three Good Luck Oleo box tops to Albermarle, NC, for three pairs of hose.

Saturday, Aug. 18, 1956—We ate an early dinner and then went to Taylorville to see if George and Fern would live here while we go to Alberta's. They said they would. We came home through Vanderville as there are barricades on the hard road. It is also Springfield Fair auto races and traffic is heavy. Rain spoiled the races two days for the fair. They expected to have a lot of them today.

Sunday, Aug. 19, 1956—8 inches of rain last night and today. Margaret and the children came to spend the day. We had a good visit.

Monday, Aug. 20, 1956—Wayne's went to a gathering at Harvel at night. Some boy caught Linda's leg, and when she fell, she slivered a bone in her wrist.

Tuesday, Aug. 21, 1956—Larry came to stay with us. He and his grandpa Ward, Lency Ward and "Whimpie" Culp went to Archie Frese's to look at a bull. They didn't buy. Tom Dammann's bull died. Charlie and Larry skinned part of him. They think they will make rawhide.

Wednesday, Aug. 22, 1956—So cool the tomatoes do not ripen. Earl Mundhenk critically injured when a ladder broke and he fell on his head receiving two concussions.

Thursday, Aug. 23, 1956—Howy and his help baled the third cutting of alfalfa. They had 306 bales. They put in all in our barn.

Sunday, Aug. 26, 1956—Earl Mundhenk passed away near noon.

Monday, Aug. 27, 1956—Wayne has an 80-inch whirly mower rented for \$1 an hour to cut weeds in field. It leaves no piles, just chops them into small bits. Wayne and Geraldine came at night. We decided to go the Springfield airport tomorrow and get reservations for our plane trip. Merle's all came for dinner. They mowed the yards.

Tuesday, Aug. 28, 1956—We peeled and canned peaches until 11 am. Had 20 quarts. I now have 40 quarts canned. We left home about 5 p.m. Went to Wayne's and they took us to the Springfield airport where we ordered reservations for Tuesday, Sept. 18.

Wednesday, Aug. 29, 1956—We expected to get a call from the airport for our reservations before noon. Carl got the airport call. Our reservations are good for Sept. 18 from St. Louis to L.A.

Thursday, Aug. 30, 1956—Little showers early. We didn't go to Old Settlers, but listened to the parade over WSMI. I peeled tomatoes and listened.

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

### First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.



## Kindergarten Students Melt Crayons In Heat

Kindergarten students in Brittany Paproth's class at Beckemeyer Elementary School in Hillsboro used the extreme heat wave on Friday, Aug. 25, to try a unique science experiment. The group glued two sets of crayons to a board to see if it was hot enough to melt the art supplies. Pictured above, students pose with the crayons at 9:15 a.m. The photo at left was taken at 2:15 p.m. when it was 98 degrees outside. Students tried two different brands of crayons. At left, the Crayola ones melted in the extreme heat, while the I Magine ones did not melt. Students were amazed at the results and had fun learning more about science experiments.



## County Art Guild Plans Fall Workshop

Members of the Montgomery County Art Guild (MCAG) are planning a workshop, "Fall Foliage" on Tuesday, Sept. 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Bremer Sanctuary in Hillsboro. It will be led by member Nancy Snyder.

Participants need to bring their own art supplies and other necessities such as water and bug spray.

Because this is an outdoor activity, it will be cancelled if there is inclement weather. If in doubt, members should check their email from MCAG or the MCAG Facebook page [www.facebook.com/MontgomeryCoArtGuild](http://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryCoArtGuild).

The purpose of Montgomery County Art Guild is to bring together local artists and supporters of the visual arts. All meetings and workshops are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 1 to 3 p.m. Locations vary.

Annual dues are \$20 or \$5 per session attended. Dues help defray the cost of meet-



Nancy Snyder created these examples for the Sept. 10 Fall Foliage art session at Bremer Sanctuary.

ing space and/or supplies. contact [montgomerycoartguild@gmail.com](mailto:montgomerycoartguild@gmail.com). For more information,

## Public Meetings

### Nokomis City Council

The Monday, Aug. 28, meeting of the Nokomis City Council will begin at 7 p.m. with the annual audit pre-

sentation from Patton and Company, PC.

Other agenda items include lift station improvements, resolutions about

how and when agendas are developed, the old library space at city hall and improving utility poles in the business district.

## Litchfield Seeks Applicants For DCEO Grant

The City of Litchfield is working on an application for the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for grant funds to work on homes of low-income, owner-occupied homes.

This grant would allow for work to be done on these homes including repairing or replacing items like electrical, plumbing, windows, doors, roofs, furnaces, air conditioners, siding and more.

If the city is awarded and accepted as a recipient, all the work is done at no cost to the homeowners.

For the city to make a competitive application, city officials must be able to show that there is an interest in the program. Application forms are available at City Hall in the economic development and mayor's offices. They are also available online at [www.cityoflitchfieldil.com](http://www.cityoflitchfieldil.com).

Completed applications may be returned to the economic development office at City Hall.

An informational meeting will be scheduled at a later date to answer homeowner questions about the program. The city recently completed a grant cycle for this program, assisting 11 Litchfield homeowners with \$542,000 in CDGB Housing Grant Rehabilitation Funds.

## RP Lumber Receives Beacon Award

R.P. Lumber Company in Edwardsville was honored as a Beacon Award winner during the Beacon Awards banquet held Friday, Aug. 18.

"R.P. Lumber is very worthy of its inclusion in the 2023 class of Beacon honorees," stated Chris Jensen, editor/founder/principal of *The Hardware Connection*, the hardware industry's leading digital publication. "The Plummer family has a long tradition of giving back to the communities they serve."

The Beacon Awards are a premier national industry awards program developed by *The Hardware Connection* magazine and The Hardware Conference to recognize the "best of the best" independent hardware/home improvement retailers in the United States.

The Beacon Awards are sponsored by Epicor Software Corporation, Ettore Products Company and Fluidmaster, with wholesaler sponsorship support from Orgill and other wholesalers.

"We are truly honored to be the 2023 Retail Beacon nominee by Orgill," said Jason Plummer, vice-president of R.P. Lumber. "We are grate-



Pictured above, from the left are Boyden Moore, CEO of Orgill, Jason Plummer, vice president of R.P. Lumber and Chris Bunch, corporate account manager with Orgill

ful to Orgill and to the entire team at *The Hardware Connection* and The Hardware Conference. Being named a Retail Beacon is truly an industry honor and reflects the hard work and commitment of our hundreds of great R.P. team members and our company's many great vendors and partners," he added.

R.P. Lumber Company was founded in 1977 by Robert and Donna Plummer in Staunton. A family-owned

business, it operates over 80 full-service hardware and building material stores and two truss manufacturing facilities in five states.

R.P. Lumber Co. and the other 2023 Beacon Award winners will be featured in the September 2023 issue of *The Hardware Connection* magazine. For more information on the Beacon Awards, go to [www.thehardwareconnection.com](http://www.thehardwareconnection.com).



## Ulrici Visits With New CEO Students

Tim Ulrici from Que One Seven joined members of the Montgomery County CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities) on Friday morning, Aug. 18, at CTI in Hillsboro, to talk about his business. Que One Seven is a local food truck that sells a variety of smoked meats and sides. He explained how he started off with just a table and other materials he had, and built up to a food truck over time. Ulrici also provided valuable insight into the world of food business and provided the team with great life lessons, "never burn a bridge. You never know when you might need to cross it again."

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The Haven Home of Hope was prayerfully and joyfully opened with a ribbon cutting and open house on Sunday evening, July 30, in Hillsboro.



Members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Harvel invite community members to pick up the vegetables grown in the Harvel Community Garden, free of charge, from a produce stand set up in front of Harvel Post Office every Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m.



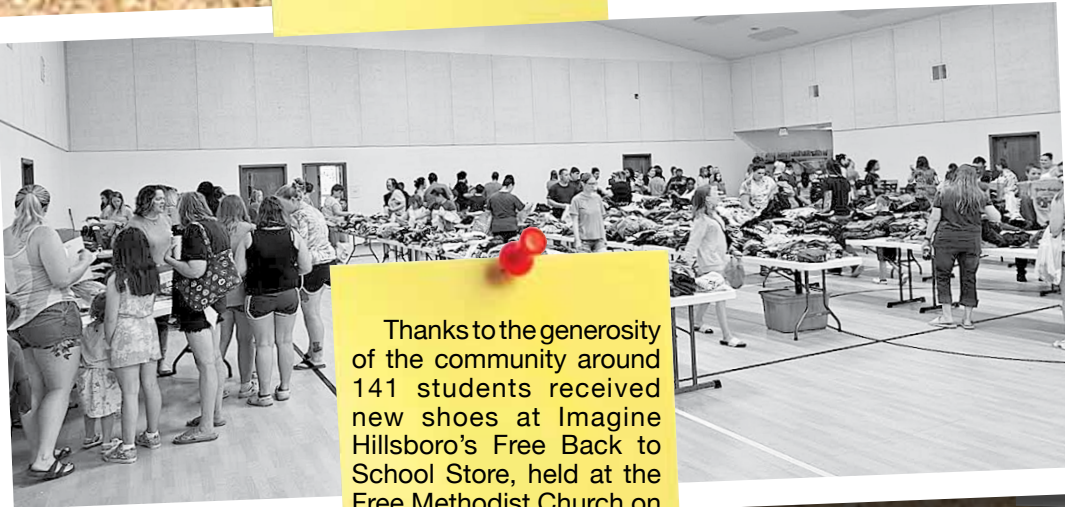
Tremont Ridge was visited by the Starr Shooters 4-H members in for a Mini-Fair to discuss several of their projects.



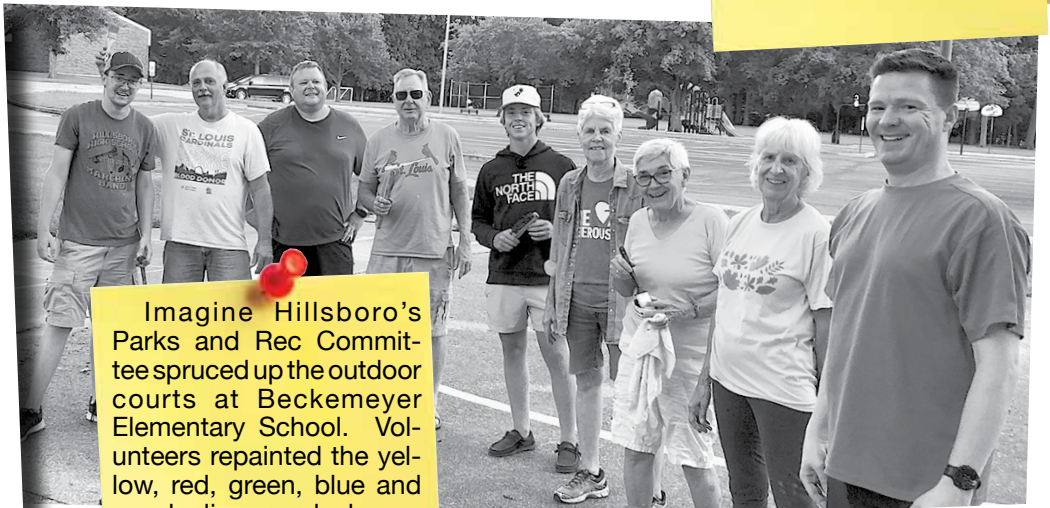
Preparation work for the Coffeen Veterans Memorial Park commenced on Friday, Aug. 4, with the clearing of various trees and brush. Many volunteers donated their time and talents to help get the project started.



A group of women sold frozen lemonade at the recent Litchfield Picker's Market, raising \$218 for the Montgomery County Cancer Association.



Thanks to the generosity of the community around 141 students received new shoes at Imagine Hillsboro's Free Back to School Store, held at the Free Methodist Church on Saturday, July 15.



Imagine Hillsboro's Parks and Rec Committee spruced up the outdoor courts at Beckmeyer Elementary School. Volunteers repainted the yellow, red, green, blue and purple lines and shapes for basketball, hopscotch, four square and other playground games.



More than 300 people attended the third annual Back to School Bash, hosted by the Litchfield Ministerial Alliance on Saturday, July 29, at the Litchfield Community Center, with local organizations and businesses on site to provide information and resources about area services.



After a nearly three-year hiatus, youth from the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church participated in a five-day mission trip to Rancho 3M Orphanage in Guadalupe, Mexico.



Members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS) of Farmersville presented the Panhandle Food Pantry with a \$1,050 donation on Friday, Aug. 11.



The community gathered to worship on the grounds where Old Settlers began Sunday morning, Aug. 6. Deacon CJ Liddell of St. James Baptist in Hillsboro used the sermon text of Ephesians 4:1-6 to encourage the church to live in unity.



Memorial donations to the Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service may help save a life one day as a LUCAS chest compression device officially went into service on Wednesday, July 19.



Litchfield senior A.J. Sypherd takes the handoff from quarterback Tate Dobrinich in the pouring rain during the second quarter of the Panthers' season opener against Carlinville on Saturday, August 26. Sypherd's run didn't stop until he hit the end zone as he scored the first of Litchfield's two touchdowns in a competitive 35-14 loss to the Cavaliers.

Journal-News/Mary Herschelmann

## Panthers Put Up A Fight Against Cavies

Three unanswered touchdowns by the visiting Carlinville Cavaliers would break open a 14-14 contest as Carlinville spoiled the Litchfield Purple Panthers' home opener with a 35-14 victory.

It may have taken one extra day due to the extreme heat, but Lloyd Hill Field was once again filled with student-athletes playing a game that has been around for over 150 years.

The Purple Panthers would enter the year looking for their first winning season in 18 years. The 2005 Litchfield squad holds that honor and were also the last

Purple Panther team to enter postseason territory.

Litchfield, though, would start their 2023 campaign against a team that has outscored them 656 to 133 in their past 13 contests, an average score of 50-10. The last time Litchfield claimed a victory over Carlinville was a 20-14 decision in 2006.

The Panthers were looking to change that culture, though. After claiming their first win in five seasons last year, they have shown they are ready for those changes.

This contest didn't start off on a good note for the Purple Panthers as Carlin-

ville took the opening kickoff down to Litchfield's 30 yard line. Just over three minutes later, Carlinville put the first points on the board as Jack Rouse ran it in from seven yards out. The two-point conversion was successful as the Cavaliers held an 8-0 lead.

Even though Carlinville put the first points on the board, things would not come easy as the Purple Panthers' defense flexed their muscles throughout the opening drive. In the past the great field possession by opponents would mean easy points given up by the Purple Panthers, but this time Li-

tchfield's defense made their opponent work for the points.

After a week of extreme high temperatures that forced the Friday night game to be pushed back to Saturday, another form of extreme weather would be seen on Saturday night.

Prior to the game an ominous sky would sit toward the north of the campus of Litchfield High School. That sky would slowly open up and pour rain throughout most of the contest, but an early flash of lightning forced Lloyd Hill Field to be evacuated for 30 minutes.

Continued on 4B



Topper running Zander Wells (#6) skirted his left end often while gaining 120 yards in only eight carries with a touchdown in Hillsboro's 31-6 win over North Mac on Friday, Aug. 25.

John M. Galer/Journal-News

## Toppers Run Away With Win In Debut

by Ron Deabenderfer

It was the type of game that likely left both coaching staffs secretly happy, though Hillsboro's 31-6 victory over the visiting North Mac Panthers no doubt had more smiles coming to the Toppers' staff than to those who coach for the visitors.

The travelers were decidedly younger than Hillsboro, but weapons were obvious - a quick left-handed quarterback (Dane Vance), who is more than capable of running an effective spread offense; a big, hard-charging sophomore running back (James Graves), who is strong enough to play in the Panthers' defensive line, ran over defenders when he had the ball; and a bevy of speedy receivers.

Also obvious was the "we'll never surrender to the more experienced Toppers" atti-

tude, nor to the hot, muggy weather in which the teams played. Their fans have reason for optimism as the season progresses.

Topper fans can enjoy the win over a competent opponent; Topper coaches can look forward to practice sessions to improve a few glitches, especially defensively, that ultimately could cost them in a future game.

The Toppers won by a relatively big margin in spite of giving up 250 total yards. Graves was the Panthers' leading rusher with 79 yards, a 5.3 yards-per-carry average.

Vance passed for 127 yards, but his completion percentage was low (28%), partially because the Toppers knew he had to pass as Hillsboro's lead grew gradually.

Continued on 4B



Pressured by Arcola's Oden Barron (#7) and Anthony Garza (#54), Nokomis quarterback Brody Steele looks for an open receiver during the Redskins' season opener on Friday, Aug. 25, that extended into the following day thanks to a thunderstorm that pelted the Purple Riders' field just after halftime. Nokomis trailed 27-8 when the game was halted Friday, but played better a day later as Steele passed for 159 yards and a touchdown in the 34-16 loss. For more photos from the game, go to [nokophoto.smugmug.com](http://nokophoto.smugmug.com).

James Ryan/NokoPhoto

## Day Two Better For 'Skins Than Day One

by Kyle Herschelmann

It took the Nokomis Redskins longer to get to Arcola on Saturday, Aug. 26, than it did for them to finish their game with the Purple Panthers in week one of the prep football season. While it didn't result in a win, the three hour round trip was a good thing for the Redskins as they figured out a little more about what this squad was capable of in 2023.

Arcola outgained the Redskins 356 to 278 in offensive yards, but Nokomis held a slight advantage in the

second half, 138 yards to 90.

Most of the issues with Nokomis' performance in week one came in the first half, which started at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25. Big plays haunted the Redskins as Arcola scored on a 56-yard touchdown run by Oden Barron on their second possession of the game, then found pay dirt again on the first play of the second quarter on a 19-yard run by Tyson Lewis, set up by a recovery on the kickoff by Logan Messer and a 20-yard run by Barron. They'd score twice more on a swing pass from Jayden

Henson-Stice to Braden Phillips and a 1-yard run by Brokton Morford that made it 27-0 with 1:39 to play in the first half. Phillips' touchdown went for 62 yards as Nokomis struggled to bring down the 6'3" junior wideout. Morford's score was set up by an interception five plays early when Morford picked off Brody Steele's pass.

At that point in the game, Nokomis had just 73 yards of offense, 36 of which came on a run down the side by Saint Newman. Another 11 came on a run by Brenton Lyons after Nokomis recov-

ered a fumble by Barron at the Arcola 25, but the Riders kept the Redskins out of the end zone with back-to-back stops on the two yard line to keep the shutout and regain possession.

The Redskins' found a spark after Morford's touchdown, though, as Steele found Drake Taylor for what should have been a short gain, had Taylor not found a way to skirt the defense and sprint 57 yards to the end zone.

Continued on 4B

## County Has Sites Set On Top Spots At Classic

The three Montgomery County boys soccer teams kicked off their seasons on Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66, held in Carlinville and Virden.

With Hillsboro, Lincolnwood and Litchfield all playing two games apiece, the county teams ended the day with a record of 5-1, with the lone loss coming when Lincolnwood edged Litchfield 3-1 in both teams' second game of the day.

Pool play at the tournament continues on Tuesday, Aug. 29, with Lincolnwood

playing Staunton (1-1) at 5 p.m. in Carlinville, followed by Hillsboro facing the host Cavies at 7 p.m. Litchfield plays the nightcap in Virden against the host school, with Lutheran and Athens playing the 5 p.m. game.

A win by Lincolnwood and Hillsboro would set up an all Montgomery County title game, while a Litchfield victory would put them in the third place game against the loser of the Hillsboro/Carlinville tilt. For more on Saturday's games, see page 5B

### Kickoff Classic On Rt. 66

**Pool A:** Hillsboro (2-0); Carlinville (2-0); Lutheran (0-2); Athens (0-2).  
**Pool B:** Lincolnwood (2-0); Litchfield (1-1); Staunton (1-1); North Mac (0-2).

**August 26**  
• Lincolnwood 9, North Mac 0  
• Litchfield 4, Staunton 0  
• Carlinville 4, Lutheran 3  
• Lincolnwood 3, Litchfield 1  
• Carlinville 3, Athens 1  
• Hillsboro 4, Athens 1  
• Staunton 9, North Mac 0  
• Hillsboro 5, Lutheran 2

**August 29 at Carlinville**  
5 p.m. - Lincolnwood vs. Staunton  
7 p.m. - Carlinville vs. Hillsboro  
**August 29 at North Mac**  
5 p.m. - Lutheran vs. Athens  
7 p.m. - North Mac vs. Litchfield  
\*Cross-over games will be played at 5 and 7 p.m. at North Mac and Carlinville.



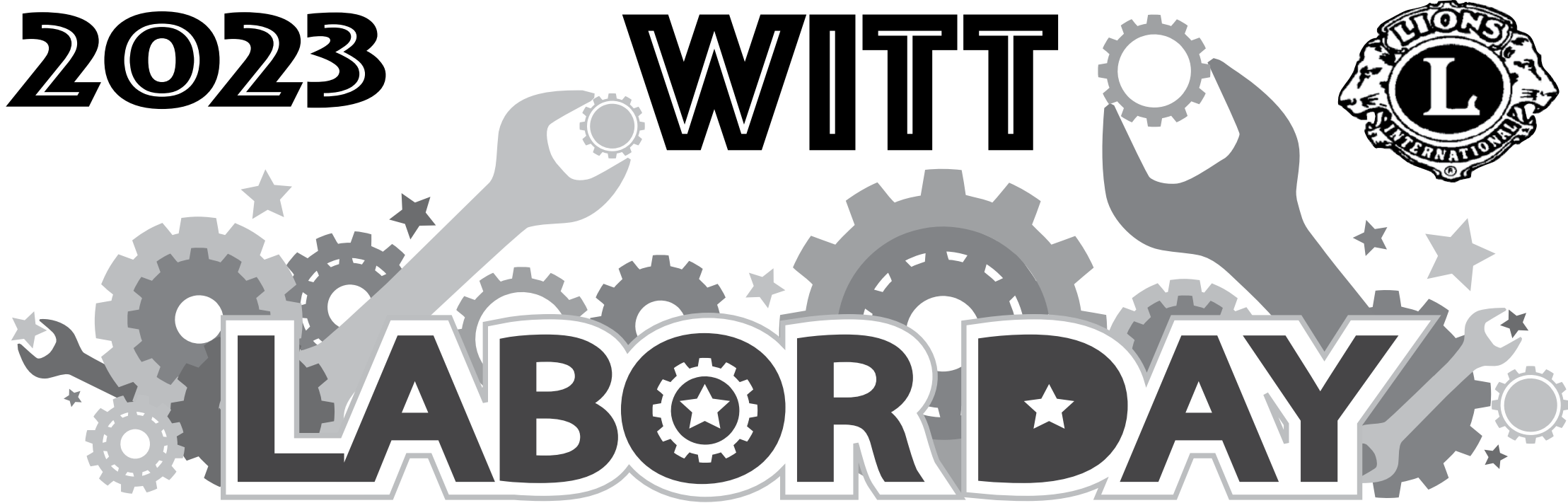
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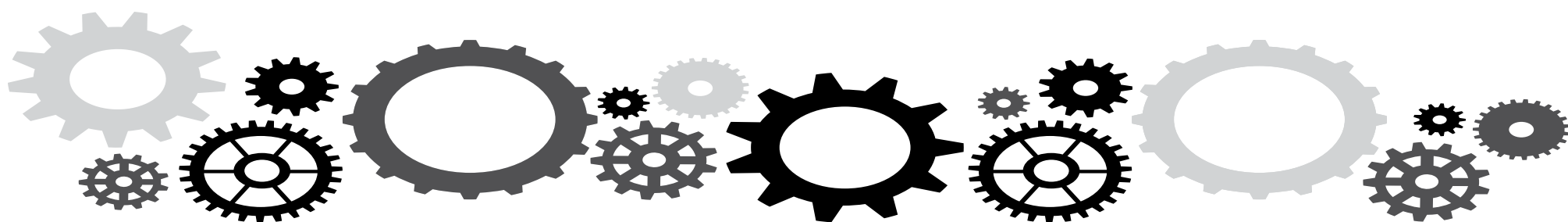
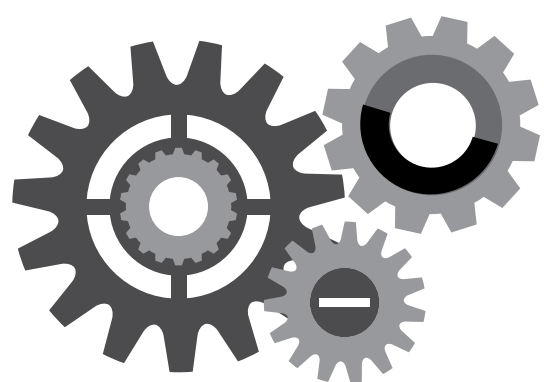


## SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY

# SEPTEMBER 2-3-4

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- 10 a.m. .... All Parade Entries must be registered at the Witt Lions Park to be judged
- 11 a.m. .... PARADE
- 12 Noon. .... Announcement of Parade Winners (Downtown)
- 12 Noon. .... Pedal Tractor Pull Sign-Up (Downtown)
- 12 - 3 p.m. .... Bounce House
- 12:05 p.m. .... Performance by Hillsboro High School Marching Hiltoppers (Downtown)
- 12 - 3 p.m. .... Witt Area Historical Museum Open House
- 1 p.m. .... Pedal Tractor Pull (Downtown)
- 1 p.m. .... Washer Pitch Contest (Beer Pavilion)
- 3 - 6 p.m. .... Molly Seaton (Beer Pavilion)
- 6 p.m. .... Drawing for Prizes (Bandstand)



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# Redskins Take Out Panthers In Three

Had there been a marquee outside Simmons Gymnasium on Aug. 24, it would have read, "Sit back and enjoy the ride" as two Montgomery County volleyball rivals traded blows in a roller coaster match that was decided in three sets by a combined total of 14 points.

After Coach Megan Mehocho's Nokomis Lady Redskins captured a 25-21 first set win, Coach Kari Dragoo's Litchfield Lady Panthers scratched and clawed their way to a 25-22 decision in the second to send the match into a third and decisive set that was taken by Nokomis 25-18.

The two teams met last year at Nokomis on Aug. 26, and the three-set match was decided by 13-points as Litchfield took the first set 25-21 before falling 25-18 and 25-21 in the final two sets. With Thursday night's win, the Lady Redskins are a perfect 2-0, having defeated Central A & M 25-13, 28-26 in their home opener on Aug. 22.

It will be a busy upcoming week for the Lady Redskins as they host St. Elmo on Monday, travel to Gillespie on Tuesday and hit the road again on Thursday to Shelbyville.

On Saturday, they compete in the 27th Annual Altamont Tournament and will face Heritage at 9:20 followed by a 10:10 match with the host school and a 12:40 meeting with Vandalia. Playing in Pool A, all three matches will be played in the high school gymnasium. The Redskins finished fourth behind Cumberland in last year's cluster.

The Lady Panthers look for their first win of the season at Maryville Christian on Aug. 28 before coming to Hillsboro on Aug. 31.

In the first set of Thursday's match, both teams traded points with service errors. Nokomis opened a 6-3 lead on a Panther mishit but the lead did not hold as Annika Rhodes picked up her first of nine match kills to tie the score at six. A back row save by Alli Frerichs set up a 7-6 Panther lead but their next offer from the service line found the net and it

was 7-7. With Becca Hill at the service line the Redskins increased their lead to 16-13. Litchfield knotted the score at 16 on a serve return error by the Redskins. The host team gave up possession on a service error and they would get no closer than two points before a net foul

from Avery Stewart back to Rhodes for the kill.

A service return error by Nokomis cut their lead to 20-19 but Kinley Stolte added a point from a return that fell untouched within the Panther defense.

An out-of-bounds serve by the Redskins relinquished serve and added a Panther

to 16-19 but the power hitting of Becca Hill ignited a three-point scoring surge and it was 22-16 before Litchfield would get point 17 and ball possession off an out of bounds Redskin serve.

With Kendall Stewart serving, Litchfield's final point of the set came from Rhodes who put down another attack. Nokomis closed out the 25-18 match win with a block at the net and an out of bounds attack by the Panthers.

Becca Hill led the Redskins in scoring with 11 service points, four aces and 12 digs. Mackenzie Mehocho was the kill leader with 12 of the team's 29 attack kills. Kinley Stolte and Becca Hill had 14 and 11 assists respectively. Dig leaders were Becca Hill with 12 and Grace King 10.

Annika Rhodes had nine kills and five blocks and was followed by Gina Painter with seven kills and five blocks. Setter Avery Stewart recorded 24 assists. Amy Frerichs led the team in digs with 13 and also in service aces with three.

**August 24 at Litchfield**  
Nokomis (2-0) 25 22 25  
Litchfield (0-1) 21 25 18

**Nokomis Statistics**  
**Service Points:** Becca Hill 11, Grace King 8, Mackenzie Mehocho 5, Presley Mehocho 4.  
**Aces:** Becca Hill 4, Mackenzie Mehocho 2, Presley Mehocho 2.  
**Kills:** Mackenzie Mehocho 12, Becca Hill 5, Addison Glenn 4, Kinley Stolte 3, Natalie Brownback 3, Reagan Jonas 2.  
**Assists:** Kinley Stolte 14, Becca Hill 11.  
**Digs:** Becca Hill 12, Grace King 10, Kinley Stolte 9, Mackenzie Mehocho 8.

**Litchfield Statistics**  
**Serves In/Out:** Gina Painter 1/4, Annika Rhodes 7/1, Taylor Bradburn 8/1, Avery Stewart 14/1, Kendall Stewart 7/3, Amy Frerichs 5/3, Brooke Braasch 1/0, Alli Frerichs 7/0.  
**Aces:** Annika Rhodes 1, Taylor Bradburn 1, Avery Stewart 1, Kendall Stewart 2, Amy Frerichs 3.  
**Attack Attempts/Kills:** Gina Painter 13/7, Annika Rhodes 20/9, Taylor Bradburn 4/1, Avery Stewart 3/1, Kendall Stewart 16/4, Brooke Braasch 2/0, Alli Frerichs 1/1, Megan Lee 8/1.  
**Blocks:** Gina Painter 5, Annika Rhodes 5, Kendall Stewart 3, Brooke Braasch 1, Megan Lee 2.  
**Assists:** Gina Painter 1, Annika Rhodes 1, Avery Stewart 24, Amy Frerichs 1.  
**Digs:** Gina Painter 3, Annika Rhodes 8, Avery Stewart 4, Kendall Stewart 7, Amy Frerichs 13, Brooke Braasch 1, Alli Frerichs 7, Megan Lee 1.



Litchfield's Gina Painter watches as Nokomis' Kinley Stolte sets up the Redskin attack during the intra-county clash on Aug. 24. Stolte had 14 assists in Nokomis' three-set win, but Painter proved to be a big obstacle for the visitors, putting down five blocks, which tied Annika Rhodes for the team lead.

Journal-News/Kyle Herschelman

against Litchfield ended the set at 25-21.

The score was tied seven times in the second set before Nokomis gained a 12-11 lead after a Panther net serve. With Grace King serving, Becca Hill and MacKenzie Mehocho powered Nokomis to a 14-11 lead followed by a four hit call against the Panthers and a well placed return to the back row from MacKenzie Mehocho.

Trailing 15-19, Litchfield was the benefactor of two hitting errors by the Redskins and they were back in business. A seeing-eye return from Reagan Jonas added a point for Nokomis but on the next play, Litchfield senior Annika Rhodes used her athletic abilities for a save that resulted in a set

point. With Avery Stewart serving, Litchfield rallied for three consecutive points that started with a tandem block from Rhodes and Painter followed by a short serve by Rhodes and an out of bounds return by Nokomis.

Trailing 21-23, Nokomis got a point from a Litchfield return error and it was a one-point Panther lead but it was the Redskins last point of the set as a return error and a block at the net from Painter gave Litchfield set point.

Much like sets one and two, the two teams worked hard to keep the score within two to three points but a 9-6 Redskin lead became a 15-8 margin after a kill from Addison Glenn. Litchfield cut the Redskin lead back down



Litchfield's Annika Rhodes goes up for a kill against the block of Addison Glenn (#10) and Becca Hill (#15) during the Lady Panthers' game against Nokomis on Thursday, Aug. 24, in Litchfield. Rhodes led the Panthers with nine kills, but the Redskins were able to collect their second victory of the year in a three-set thriller.

Journal-News/Kyle Herschelman

# Hillsboro Racer Has Wright Stuff In Casey

Adam Wright picked up a win in the throwback class at Lincoln Trail Motorsports on Sunday, Aug. 13, as the Thor Showdown Series kicked off the second half of its season.

The win was one of two top three finishes for Wright on the weekend as he also finished third in the 40+ A class.

The veteran Hillsboro racer wasn't the only Wright on the track in Casey for round six as his sons Holden and Hudson Wright also raced. Holden finished third in the Mini-E Bike class and 20th in the 65cc Jr. class. Hudson raced in the 85cc Jr. class, placing 19th overall.

The Wrights were just the start of the family success at Lincoln Trail. Hillsboro's Silas Randall took second in the 50cc Jr. class and also finished 16th in the 50cc Open class. Randall's younger sister Hadlie also competed in the beginner level as the Randall race team continues to grow.

Archer Durbin finished third in the 50 Jr. class to give Hillsboro two of the top three spots. He also finished 12th in the Mini-E Bike class, while his brother Huntley raced in three classes. The older of the Durbin siblings finished sixth in the 50cc Sr. class and 11th in the 50 Open class, but he also made his debut in the 65cc class, finishing 30th overall.

Landon Saathoff rounded out the Hillsboro contingent in the youth ranks, finishing 11th in the 50 Jr. Class and 30th in the 50 Open class.

On the adult side, Anthony Krivi was sixth in the 25+ A class and third in the 30+ A class. Trenton Kimbro of Taylor Springs finished 11th in the Throwback class and also finished 14th in his first moto at 250 C, but did not start the second race.

Round seven of the Thor Showdown Series will be Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 2-4, in Casey.

**Round 5**  
On July 8-9, the last series race at Lincoln Trail before the August event, the racers from the Journal-News Motorsports area had another strong showing, especially in the 50cc classes.

Hillsboro racers Huntley Durbin, Silas Randall and Archer Durbin all finished in the top 10 in the 50cc Jr. class, placing second, seventh and eighth respectively. Landon Saathoff, another Hillsboro racer who was seventh in the 50cc Shaft/Shifter class, placed 17th in the 50 Jr. class,

despite not finishing the first moto. The success continued in the 50cc Open class, where Huntley Durbin finished sixth, Randall finished 15th and Archer Durbin finished 21st.

Huntley Durbin also ran the Mini-E class, finishing fourth behind fellow Hillsboro racer Holden Wright, who was third. Wright also ran the 65cc Jr. class and finished 18th overall.

In the adult classes, Morrisonville's Anthony Krivi took first in the 30+ A class, second in the 25+ A class and seventh in the Open A class.

Litchfield's Derek Birkenkamp was just behind Krivi in the 30+ A class, finishing fourth, and just behind Adam Wright of Hillsboro in the 40+ A class as the pair finished second and third respectively. In addition to the runner-up finish in 40+ A, Wright also won the Throwback class, finishing first in both motos. Trenton Kimbro of Taylor Springs was third in the Throwback class, 13th in the 125 Two-Stroke class and 21st in the 250 C class.

**National Qualifier**  
Lincoln Trail Motorsports also hosted a regional youth qualifier for the AMA National Motocross Championships on June 23-25, with four area riders trying to snag a qualifying spot for the big race at Loretta Lynn's ranch in Tennessee.

Those efforts proved successful for Corbin Durbin of Morrisonville, who finished first in the 85cc Limited (10-12) class and fifth in the 85cc (10-12) class to qualify for both classes. Durbin also finished 35th in the Mini Sr. 1 (12-14) class.

Silas Randall and Archer Durbin both put up strong runs in the Micro 2 (4-6) class, finishing 15th and 17th respectively, just a few spots away from the top nine it took to advance to nationals. Holden Wright also had a good run in the Micro-E (4-7) class, finishing 17th overall.

**August 12-13 at Casey**  
Lincoln Trail Motorsports Thor Showdown Series - Rd. 6  
**50 Jr. (4-6):** 2. Silas Randall (Hillsboro) 1/2; 3. Archer Durbin (Hillsboro) 3/4; 11. Landon Saathoff (Hillsboro) 9/15  
**50 Sr. (7-8):** 6. Huntley Durbin (Hillsboro) 8/6  
**50 Open:** 11. Huntley Durbin (Hillsboro) 12/11; 16. Silas Randall (Hillsboro) 18/13; 30. Landon Saathoff (Hillsboro) 30/30  
**Mini-E (4-8):** 3. Holden Wright (Hillsboro) 3/3; 12. Archer Durbin (Hillsboro) 12/12

Continued on 5B

# New Look Lady Lancers Down Bunker Hill

After the heat forced the postponement of their opening game against Edinburg on Tuesday, the Lincolnwood-Morrisonville volleyball team finally got the chance to open up their season on Thursday, Aug. 24, in Bunker Hill, making short work of the Minutemaids in two sets, 25-13, 25-9.

This year's team will have a vastly different look from last year thanks to the graduation of seven seniors, including two who are now playing at the collegiate level.

Gone are the 2023 seniors Avery Pope, Tessa Funderburk (now at Blackburn), Jasmine Vickery, Haelee Damm, Hailee Belsher (now at Lincoln Land) and sisters Justine and Amanda Seelbach, who won 96 of their 114 games over the last three

years with two regional titles.

Those who remain from last year's squad that went 34-4 are those who will be relied on to keep the Lancers' legacy going. Lone senior Taryn Millburg (fourth in serves received behind three seniors) and juniors Morgan Cowdrey (first in aces, second in points), Kierstyn Denney (second in blocks) and Jazmin Seaton-Hobson (third in kills) all contributed last year and showed in game one they are ready to take the next step.

Denney led the team in kills with eight of the Lancers 12 points on the attack. The daughter of Coach Kimberly Denney, the right-side hitter and middle blocker showed her versatility with eight points, three aces and two assists as well.

Cowdrey led the team in points (10) and aces (4), while also sparking the attack with a team-best six assists and a pair of kills.

Seaton-Hobson and Millburg both contributed two points from the service line and cleaned up in the Lancers' limited dig chances. Millburg led the team with four of Lincolnwood's six digs, with Seaton-Hobson adding another.

Sophomore Ella Jenkins played in just one varsity set as a freshman, but made a play for a bigger role on Tuesday as she served up nine points, with three aces, and put down a kill. Joining her on varsity were junior Morgan Hampton, fellow sophomore Taryn Clarke, who had two assists and the other dig, and freshmen Tori

Elvidge (one kill, one block), Camryn Poggenpohl and Macie Daugherty.

The Lancers will be at home on Monday and Tuesday to start next week as they finally take on Edinburg on Aug. 28, followed by a visit from Greenfield on Aug. 29.

**Aug. 24 at Bunker Hill**  
Lincolnwood 25 25  
Bunker Hill 13 9

**Lincolnwood Statistics**  
**Service Points:** Morgan Cowdrey 10, Ella Jenkins 9, Kierstyn Denney 8, Taryn Millburg 2, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 2, Taryn Clarke 1.  
**Aces:** Morgan Cowdrey 4, Ella Jenkins 3, Kierstyn Denney 3, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 1.  
**Kills:** Kierstyn Denney 8, Morgan Cowdrey 2, Ella Jenkins 1, Tori Elvidge 1.  
**Assists:** Morgan Cowdrey 6, Taryn Clarke 2, Kierstyn Denney 2.  
**Blocks:** Tori Elvidge 1.  
**Digs:** Taryn Millburg 4, Taryn Clarke 1, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson.  
**Records:** Lincolnwood (1-0).

# Ettling Gets Title Shot At Shamrock FC 349

Scott Ettling will be in the main event of Shamrock FC 349 on Sept. 16, at the Ameristar Casino in St. Charles, as the Hillsboro native looks to hand Shamrock FC featherweight champion Dustin Lampros his first loss as a pro.

Ettling is 6-3 in his professional MMA career, seven of his nine fights coming with the St. Louis-based fight promoters. His last fight was a win over Aushton Midkiff at Shamrock 347, the company's 25th anniversary show, by triangle choke at the 1:48 mark.

Before the win over Midkiff, Ettling hadn't fought since Nov. 2, 2018, at Shamrock 311. In between, the 2012 Hillsboro High School grad moved to Bloomington, got married and started a family, all of which played a factor in his break from



Hillsboro native Scott Ettling, now of Bloomington, will be fighting in the main event at Shamrock FC 349 as he takes on Dustin Lampros for the promotion's featherweight title.

MMA.

But Ettling remained active in the sport, training at Pedigo Submission Fighting in Bloomington before returning to the ring with his coach, Jared Gahm, and UFC Hall of Famer Matt Hughes in his corner.

While Ettling managed to take care of Midkiff before the first bell, Lampros may be a tougher test. Shamrock's 145-pound champ is 8-0, with only one victory coming by decision and one more coming on a guillotine choke. The other six victories have all come by knock out for the hard-hitting 29-year-old originally from Freeburg, but now living in Florida.

Shamrock FC 349 tickets are available at [www.shamrockfcstore.com](http://www.shamrockfcstore.com), with tickets going fast. The event will also be broadcast live on Fite TV.



With teammate Riley Reynolds (#57) coming up to lend a hand, Nokomis' Drake Taylor (#23) tries to haul down Arcola running back Tyson Lewis during the first half of the Redskins' season opener on Aug. 25. On the other side of the ball, Taylor caught Nokomis' first touchdown, a swing pass from Brody Steele that the junior running back took to the house from 57-yards out.

James Ryan/NokoPhoto

## Nokomis Football

Continued from 1B

Daryl Evans' two point conversion run made it 27-8 and Nokomis was on the board for the first time in the 2023 season.

The momentum from the score carried over to the final series of the first half as Evans sacked Stice and Arcola was unable to add any more points before the horn sounded.

Further capitalization of that momentum would have to wait until Saturday. Just as both teams were about to come out of the locker room at halftime, the game was delayed due to storms in the area. The ensuing gully-washer meant that the two teams would have to try to finish things up the next day as the game was officially postponed not long before 11 p.m. on Friday.

While they were down 19 in the game, Saturday was a new day for the Redskins. They outgained Arcola 138 to 90 in offensive yards, a number that was drastically skewed by yet another big play. Two plays after an interception by Arcola's Braden Phillips on his team's

19 yard line, Ryder Wilcox-Rich broke free on a 79-yard touchdown run for Arcola's only score of the second half.

Another interception and a roughing the punter call on fourth and 28 hindered Nokomis' offensive hopes, but late in the fourth quarter the 'Skins found some success both in the air and on the ground. Facing third and 10, Steele found Kadynn Petty for a 29-yard gain, followed by another first down on a 12-yard run by Lyons. With the ball at the Arcola 7, Daryl Evans pushed through the line for a touchdown, then ran in the extra point to make it 34-16.

The Purple Riders iced the clock after the touchdown, but Nokomis' 8-7 edge in the second half was a moral victory if not a physical one.

Last year, his first as starting quarterback, Brody Steele completed 18 passes for 278 yards all season, but against Arcola the Redskin passing game proved that it can be effective. Steele finished with 159 yards, completing 10 passes in 20 attempts. Seven different receivers caught passes, with Ryan Quinn hauling in

three for 64 yards and Skylar Pavolka catching two for 14 yards.

The running game will still be the Redskins' bread and butter, though. Brenton Lyons had 70 yards on 22 carries, with two runs over 10 yards. That's just a glimpse of what Lyons is capable of if the Nokomis offensive line can open up some space for him during the rest of the season. Daryl Evans and Nolan Herpstreith will compliment Lyons, while Saint Newman provides an potentially explosive addition, which he showed by his 36-yard run in the first quarter against Arcola.

Defensively, Nokomis got some big plays from Garret Engelman, with a sack and a fumble recovery, and Evans, who also had a sack. The key for the Redskins will be to prevent short gains from turning into big plays, as they did against Arcola.

Their first opportunity to make some of those strides is next Friday, Sept. 1, at home against Argenta-Oreana. The Bombers fell to Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-Hammond 30-18 on Saturday in their season opener.

## Litchfield Football

Continued from 1B

After returning to the field, the Cavies lit up the scoreboard one more time in the opening quarter. With just over two minutes to play in the first, Carlinville scored their second touchdown of the game when quarterback Rex Reels scampered in from two yards out. The conversion failed as Carlinville would hold a 13-0 lead late in the first quarter.

The Purple Panthers' offense would once again stall out in the ensuing drive, but they got the ball back after a turnover by the Cavies. The wet playing conditions would begin to cause havoc on the field as the Cavaliers fumbled the punt by the Panthers. Litchfield recovered the loose ball on Carlinville's 35 yard line with 20 seconds to play in the opening quarter.

With great field possession, the Purple Panthers would be in striking distance of their first points of the season, but would have to wait until the second quarter as time would expire in the first with a 13-0 Carlinville lead.

The Purple Panthers turned to their workhorse, A.J. Sypherd, as he would cross into the end zone to start the second quarter from eight yards out for Litchfield's first points of the 2023 campaign. Freshman Cooper Martin split the uprights with the extra point as Litchfield now trailed 14-7 very early in the second quarter.

Carlinville continued to have problems controlling the football as they once again fumbled, this time

during their offensive possession. Following the Carlinville turnover, the Litchfield offense hit paydirt 43 seconds after their first touchdown, this time through the air. Litchfield quarterback Tate Dobrinich would fight the elements and complete a 22-yard touchdown pass to his senior counterpart Easton Grammer. Grammer's touchdown and the successful extra point by Martin would square the contests at 14 points apiece with 11:08 remaining on the clock.

Sitting in unfamiliar territory the Cavies would quickly regain the momentum in the contest as they answered with two touchdowns before the quarter would end. Both touchdowns came from the Cavie running back Jack Rouse. Rouse scored with just over eight minutes to play in the half from one yard out, and with 19.5 ticks left on the clock, he put his third touchdown on the board from 11 yards out.

Leading 27-14, the Cavies tried to squeeze in one more touchdown before the half ended. Carlinville recovered their inside kick attempt, but Litchfield's defense did not allow them to put any more points on the board in the half.

Even though the weather caused havoc throughout Lloyd Hill Field it would not prevent the teams from entering the end zones as a total of 41 points were put on the board, with Carlinville holding a 27-14 lead at the half.

Litchfield's ground game was led by A.J. Sypherd as he carried the ball for over 60 yards in the opening half.

Tate Dobrinich completed three of his five first half attempts for 25 yards.

After having the last say of the opening half, Carlinville looked to fully gain momentum as they kicked off the second half with another inside kick attempt. Litchfield, though, would control that attempt on their own 41 yard line.

The Purple Panthers once again began to move the ball on the ground and through the air against the Cavaliers' defense. A.J. Sypherd supplied the results on the ground, while Keenan Powell hauled in a big pass. Even though Litchfield's offense was moving the ball down the field, the attempt to score would be stalled out on Carlinville's 10 yard line with just over seven minutes to play in the third quarter.

This drive might have made the difference in the ball game for both teams. Litchfield was looking to make a statement with the opening quarter points, but instead the Cavies prevented that with a big stop.

Both teams struggled to put points on the board in the third frame as the score would remain a 13-point spread in favor of Carlinville. In the final frame the Cavaliers broke the second half scoreless streak as Rouse put his fourth touchdown of the game on the board, rushing into the end zone from 45 yards out.

Rouse's touchdown would be the only points put on the board in the second half as Carlinville claimed the season opener 35-14.

Even though Litchfield

### August 25-26 at Arcola

Arcola	6	21	0	7	---34
Nokomis	0	8	0	8	---16

#### Scoring Summary

1st - 1:45 - Arcola - Oden Barron 56-yard TD run (kick blocked)  
 2nd - 11:56 - Arcola - Tyson Lewis 19-yard TD run (Gael Elizondo kick)  
 2nd - 4:28 - Arcola - Jayden Henson-Stice 62-yard TD pass to Braden Phillips (Gael Elizondo kick)  
 2nd - 1:39 - Arcola - Brokton Morford 1-yard TD run (Gael Elizondo kick)  
 2nd - 1:25 - Nokomis - Brody Steele 57-yard pass to Drake Taylor (Daryl Evans run)  
 4th - 10:07 - Arcola - Ryder Wilcox-Rich 79-yard TD run (Gael Elizondo kick)  
 4th - 1:54 - Nokomis - Daryl Evans 7-yard run (Daryl Evans run)

#### Individual Statistics

**Rushing:** Nokomis - Brenton Lyons 22-70, Saint Newman 3-37, Nolan Herpstreith 2-8, Daryl Evans 2-8, Skylar Pavolka 1-2, Garret Engelman 1(-2), Brody Steele 3(-4); Arcola - Oden Barron 13-107, Ryder Wilcox-Rich 3-83, Tyson Lewis 12-46, Jayden Henson-Stice 4-9, Brokton Morford 3-6, Ryan Lindstrom 1-3.  
**Passing:** Nokomis - Brody Steele 10-20-159, 1 TD, 3 INT; Arcola - Jayden Henson-Stice 4-7-102, 1 TD.  
**Receiving:** Ryan Quinn 3-64, Drake Taylor 1-57 (1TD), Kadynn Petty 1-26, Skylar Pavolka 2-14, Brenton Lyons 1-4, Atticus Bertolino 1(-1), Nolan Herpstreith 1(-5); Arcola - Braden Phillips 4-102 (1 TD).

## Hillsboro Football

Continued from 1B

On the other hand, the Toppers didn't have to pass even though their first score came from Jace Stewart to Chase Knetzer (his first varsity score) from 39 yards out five minutes into the game. Stewart didn't have to throw often because the Topper running game was hitting on all cylinders. Zander Wells raced for 120 yards on only eight carries, Drake McSperritt had two touchdowns and 98 yards and Dylan Lessman contributed 94 yards as Hillsboro outgained their visitors 362 to 129 yards on the ground.

That meant time of possession heavily favored the Toppers as the offense proved methodical, ripping off 23 rushing first downs to North Mac's five. Key to the win, though, were important defensive plays.

After Hillsboro scored on the second play from scrimmage, Hunter Payne made the point after touchdown. Then North Mac used 15 plays to drive from their 20 to the Topper 8. Just as it seemed the game would settle into a "we score, they score" affair, the Topper defense stiffened.

Ketch Mills made an open field tackle of the swift, shifty Vance for a two-yard loss on second down. On third down Vance had to recover a Graves fumble and on fourth down Stewart deflected a Vance pass in the end zone to end the threat four yards from a score with 3:29 remaining in the quarter.

Wells' 36-yard run began the subsequent march in the other direction. The visitors tried to charge through the offensive line, but the quick Topper backs ran wide of the threat. Four times the Panthers lost containment of the backs and Wells, Lessman and McSperritt quickly moved the ball to the North Mac 17.

Three plays later, with 0:03 seconds to play in quarter one, McSperritt crashed into the end zone from the four yard line.

Players were beginning to have leg cramps and Hillsboro used their superior depth on the line to their advantage. On a fourth-and-six play from the Topper 26, Jackson Tuetken dropped a Panther receiver (Payne McClean) for a three-yard loss that began another Topper drive.

A holding call cost Lessman 10 of the 15 yards he'd gained on the outside (ultimately that kept him from the century mark as a rushing total for the game), but it began the 71-yard, 13-play series that saw Wells score his touchdown with 1:45 left in the half. It was 19-0 at that point.

Lessman then gave Hillsboro the ball back by intercepting a Vance pass at midfield. His 27-yard return gave the Toppers a scoring chance, but it was North Mac's turn to stop Hillsboro deep in scoring territory.

McSperritt scored again, from the one at the 3:05 mark

of the third quarter, after the Panthers tried to convert on fourth and 14 from the Topper 15.

Hillsboro covered the 85 yards in front of them in eight plays. Again the Toppers strung together five runs of 10 or more yards. Of the 85, McSperritt had 38, Wells 34 and Lessman 15. The scoreboard then read 25-0.

North Mac's lone score was set up by a Vance to Nick Lancaster 48-yard pass and run down the east sidelines. Jaden Loskot caught him from behind at the Topper 19 and it took the guests from the north four plays to score from there.

The Vance to Lancaster combination broke North Mac's scoreless spell from 20 yards out. The supposed PAT kick attempt became a run, but Wells stopped that just short of any extra points.

Junior Seth Hubbard saw action in the backfield in the latter stages of the third quarter, gaining 13 yards with two carries, but it was Lessman who finished the scoring with a five-yard run midway through the fourth quarter.

A highlight of the quarter was Mills' first ever punt for 29 yards. It went out of bounds to pin the visitors on their own 12; that was important for the last Hillsboro drive because the Panthers threw an incomplete pass on fourth and seven four plays later.

The next time the Panthers faced fourth and long deep in their own territory, thanks in part to a Hubbard sack of Vance, the Panther senior booted a 44-yard punt.

Lessman's second interception ended the last North Mac possession. Soon after, Hillsboro employed their victory formation to run out the clock.

This Friday, Sept. 1, the Toppers venture to neighboring Greenville, who defeated Staunton 40-0. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

### August 25 at Hillsboro

North Mac (0-1)	0	0	6	0	---6
Hillsboro (1-0)	13	6	6	6	---31

#### Scoring Summary

1st - 10:55 - Hillsboro - Jace Stewart 39-yard TD pass to Chase Knetzer (Hunter Payne kick)  
 1st - 0:03 - Hillsboro - Drake McSperritt 4-yard TD run (Kick failed)  
 2nd - 3:05 - Hillsboro - Zander Wells 12-yard TD run (Run failed)  
 3rd - 3:15 - Hillsboro - Drake McSperritt 1-yard run (kick failed)  
 3rd - 1:34 - North Mac - Dane Vance 20-yard TD pass to Nick Lancaster (run failed)  
 4th - 7:28 - Hillsboro - Dylan Lessman 5-yard TD (run failed)

#### Individual Statistics

**Passing:** Hillsboro - Jace Stewart 1-5-35, 1 TD, North Mac - Dane Vance - 8-29-127, 1 TD, 3 INT.  
**Rushing:** Hillsboro - Zander Wells 8-111, 1 TD; Drake McSperritt 11-99, 2 TD; Dylan Lessman 14-79, 1 TD; Jace Stewart 7-15, Seth Hubbard 2-13. North Mac - James Graves - 15-79; Dane Vance 12-21; Roark Lewis 3-13.  
**Receiving:** Hillsboro - Chase Knetzer 1-35, 1 TD, North Mac - Nick Lancaster 2-68, 1 TD; Payne McClean 3-31; Cade McReady 1-13; Roark Lewis 1-10; Hayden Richardson 1-5.  
**Tackles (Solo/Assists):** Hillsboro - Jackson Tuetken 5/2, 1 INT; Zander Wells 2/3; Treyton Kuhl 3/2; Jace Stewart 3/2, 1 fumble recovery; Seth Hubbard 1/3; Elias Baney 1/2; Drake McSperritt 1/2; Caleb Page 1/2; Landon Reincke 1/1; Elliot Lentz 1/1; Alec Leetham 0/2; Dylan Lessman 0/2, 2 INT; Ketch Mills 0/1.



Hillsboro's Drake McSperritt had almost 100 yards rushing and two touchdowns in the Toppers' 31-6 win over North Mac on Friday, Aug. 25.

Journal-News/John Galer

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Litchfield goalkeeper Cooper Martin punches away a Lincolnwood corner kick during the second half of the intra-county clash between the Lancers and Panthers at the Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66 in Virden. Despite several highlight reel saves by Martin in the game, Lincolnwood was able to wear the Panthers down and came away with a 3-1 win, their second of the tournament. *Journal-News/Kyle Herschelman*

## Lancers Outlast Panthers In Classic

For the second year in a row, the Lincolnwood and Litchfield boys soccer teams squared off at the Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66 in Virden. The result of the game on Saturday, Aug. 26, would be the same as the one from the previous year, a Lincolnwood victory, but in a much different way as the Panthers showed that an influx of young talent has Litchfield trending upward.

After dropping a 9-0 decision to the Lancers in Virden last year (the second of two losses to Lincolnwood in four days by a combined score of 17-1), Litchfield held a 1-0 halftime lead before Lincolnwood wore them down in the midfield and collected a 3-1 win.

Both teams started the day with shutout wins over the other two teams in pool play at North Mac High School. The Lancers decimated the co-hosts (four more teams are at Carlinville) by a 9-0 final score, with Ian Keller scoring three, Austyn Hefley and Gabe Armentrout adding two goals apiece and Jacob Butler and Mason Stauder each scoring once. Litchfield's win was just as convincing as they defeated Staunton 4-0 with two goals each from senior Drake Gasperson and freshman Landon Wernsing.

Litchfield had little time to relish the victory as they had the unfortunate task of playing back-to-back games, something they did last year as well. After a quick break to cool down (the heat was slightly more bearable than the previous week, but humidity for the 1:30 p.m. game hung like an invisible fog), the Panthers were back on the field against their county foes.

"We condition all summer, but it's just really tough coming back and playing two games in a row," Coach Chris Bates said.

Despite the detriment, Litchfield came out strongly against the Lancers and had a few solid chances early on. Wernsing knocked down an attempted clearance by the Lincolnwood keeper Carson Contreras, but his shot drifted wide just three minutes into the first half.

Lincolnwood's first chance came 10 minutes in, when Carter Wexstten picked off a clearance attempt and drilled a hard shot to the near post. Freshman goalkeeper Cooper Martin dove to his left and kept the score tied at zero, the first of several highlight reel saves on the day by the



Litchfield's Drake Gasperson (#27) and Lincolnwood's Maddux Himes (#15) are shoulder to shoulder in pursuit of the ball during their game in Virden on Saturday, Aug. 26. Himes, Reece Lohman (#20) and the rest of the Lancer defense hounded Gasperson and company to limit the Panthers to just one goal in a 3-1 win at the Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66 in Virden. *Journal-News/Kyle Herschelman*

young keeper.

"Cooper played well, very well actually," Coach Bates said of Martin. "He had some saves that wouldn't have been saved by anyone else."

Lincolnwood Coach Joe Webb echoed Bates' praise, but a bittersweet tilt.

"He's not getting any Christmas presents this year because he was just making play after play after play," said Coach Webb, who is Martin's uncle. "I've never had that type of conflict before. I was proud of him and he was doing awesome, but then at the same time I was like, 'let us have a few.'"

In the first half, Martin didn't allow one, let alone a few despite the Lancers having more opportunities on the offensive end. Solid shots from Jacob Butler and Austyn Hefley were turned away at the doorstep and halfway through the first half, the score was still knotted at 0-0.

That all changed with 16:46 to play when a Lincolnwood defender sent a ball across the endline for a Panther corner kick. Junior Brayden Ronco lined up to take the set piece and curled in a shot that cleared Contreras' hands and bounced across the goal line.

Ronco's Olympic gave the Panthers some momentum that transferred over to the defensive side as well as Brody Dykema, Casson Schmidt, Anthony Bader and Braden Alexander assisted Martin in holding the Lancers scoreless in the first half.

After coming up empty in the first, Coach Webb and the Lancers worked to find a way to get to the young Panther back line.

"That's all we talked about at halftime was essentially they were running a 4-2-4 and they were just trying to bypass the midfield. We got into that game in the first half. We chased the ball, our midfielders were dribbling it 30 yards and losing it and then they would turn and counter," Coach Webb said. "It was all about let's possess the ball the second half. And I thought we did a great job the last 26 minutes."

Most of the early minutes of the second half were played in the middle of the field and 14 minutes in, the score was still 1-0 in Litchfield's favor. A hustle play by Lincolnwood's Ian Keller sparked the comeback as the Nokomis High School junior saved a long ball from crossing the endline, turned toward the goal and found Jacob Butler five yards from the net.

Butler took it from there, putting a low shot to the far post and into the back of the net to tie the game at one.

Four minutes later, Lincolnwood scored again. After a scrum on a Lancer corner kick, Litchfield got a foot on the ball to send it toward the top of the box. Waiting there was Donny Daugherty, who hammered a shot to Martin's right that hit both the post and the goalkeeper before going into the net.

Daugherty's shot not only

gave Lincolnwood a 2-1 lead, but it also seemed to sap what little energy the Panthers had left after two hard fought games. Somehow, some way Litchfield managed to stay within one goal of the Lancers despite run after run by the orange and black.

Lincolnwood did get one more goal when Cade Johnson made a run to the endline on the left side, then passed to Austyn Hefley for the insurance goal, but the Panthers had been behind the eight ball well before the insurance goal.

While his offense found ways to get to Litchfield in the second half, the Lincolnwood defense was never really a question. Anchored by Bond Knodle, Maddux Himes and Reece Lohman, the Lancer defense held Drake Gasperson and Landon Wernsing scoreless in the win, an accomplishment that will likely be even more impressive when the season comes to an end.

"They really didn't have many shot opportunities in the second half. I don't know if they had one or not," Coach Webb said of his team's defensive accomplishment.

With the win, Lincolnwood moved to 2-0 on the season and at the Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66. They'll play Staunton at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29, in their final game of pool play, with crossover games set for Wednesday, Aug. 30, to determine the final finishing order.

Litchfield will play North Mac in their final pool play game, also on Tuesday, at 7 p.m. If the Purple Panthers beat the Panthers of the black and blue variety, then they will play in the third place game against the winner of Tuesday's game between Carlinville and Hillsboro in Carlinville.

**August 26 at Virden**  
*Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66*

Lincolnwood	5	4	-	9
North Mac	0	0	-	0

**Lincolnwood Scoring:** Ian Keller 3, Austyn Hefley 2, Gabe Armentrout 2, Jacob Butler 1, Mason Stauder 1.

**August 26 at Virden**  
*Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66*

Litchfield	0	4	-	4
Staunton	0	0	-	0

**Litchfield Scoring:** Drake Gasperson 2, Landon Wernsing 2.

**August 26 at Virden**  
*Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66*

Lincolnwood	0	3	-	3
Litchfield	1	0	-	1

**Scoring:** Litchfield - Brayden Ronco (Corner Kick); Lincolnwood - Jacob Butler (Ian Keller), Donny Daugherty (unassisted), Austyn Hefley (Cade Johnson).

**Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66**  
**Carlinville Pool:** Hillsboro (2-0); Carlinville (2-0); Springfield Lutheran (0-2), Athens (0-2).  
**North Mac Pool:** Lincolnwood (2-0), Litchfield (1-1), Staunton (1-1), North Mac (0-2).

**Saturday, August 26**

- Lincolnwood 9, North Mac 0
- Litchfield 4, Staunton 0
- Carlinville 4, Lutheran 3
- Lincolnwood 3, Litchfield 1
- Carlinville 3, Athens 1
- Hillsboro 4, Athens 1
- Staunton 9, North Mac 0
- Hillsboro 5, Lutheran 2

**August 29 at Carlinville**  
5 p.m. - Lincolnwood vs. Staunton  
7 p.m. - Carlinville vs. Hillsboro

**August 29 at North Mac**  
5 p.m. - Lutheran vs. Athens  
7 p.m. - North Mac vs. Litchfield  
*\*Crossover games will be played at 5 and 7 p.m. at North Mac and Carlinville.*

## Toppers Off To Strong Start At Kickoff Classic

Tom Petty said it best when the legendary rocker sang, "the waiting is the hardest part," and for the Hillsboro High School boys soccer team, wait was about all they could do last week as oppressive heat postponed both their Monday and Wednesday games and forced them inside for practice.

Then came Saturday, Aug. 26, and a trip to Carlinville for pool play in the Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66, only to have to wait to see if Mother Nature would give them a chance to step on, this time because of rain and lightning.

For everyone involved, all teams stayed the course and finally made it onto the field, about an hour and fifteen minutes later than they were scheduled. When the day was over, it was the orange and black whose patience paid off as they downed the Athens Warriors 4-1 in match one and the Lutheran Crusaders 5-2 in match two.

Things started a little shaky for the Toppers in the first game as a slick turf surface and the inability to shake off some rust allowed Athens a chance on a net that foiled senior keeper Mitchell Lowe and popped out in front.

The Warrior forward was able to put in the rebound giving Athens the early 1-0 lead, but Hillsboro was able to settle down and settle on after the miscue and begin to connect the dots on offense.

The Toppers would nearly knot it up at one apiece as senior forward Logan Murray was brought down in the box and was awarded a penalty kick. Murray's shot was right on frame, but unfortunately, right into the chest of the Athens netminder, as well, and the score stayed 1-0.

Then, at the 10 minute mark of the first, Hillsboro would finally break through as junior midfielder Mitchell Cunningham controlled the ball up the right side and played a perfect looper in front. Fellow junior Nico Clark was there to bury the redirect to make it 1-1. Clark would add a second tally 10 minutes later, this time off the foot of Murray and the Toppers would take the 2-1 lead into the break.

When play resumed in the second, Clark would return the favor connecting with Murray, who put an absolute dart past the Warrior keeper to make it 3-1. Sophomore Mark Mattson would add an insurance marker with 10:55 left to seal the 4-1 win in game one.

There would be no rest for the orange and black as a 10 minute break sent them right back into action as game three of pool play would be game two for them. The Toppers picked up right where they left off, spreading the field and moving the ball around the Crusaders.

Lowe kept Lutheran honest early in the first as a beautiful diving save knocked the ball up and out of play. Lowe would get into the of-

fense himself with 5:12 to go in the half as another save turned into a clear kick off his foot, which carried three quarters of the field and down in behind the Lutheran back liners. Mattson was there to collect the bomb and was off to the races, beating the Crusader keeper low to give Hillsboro the 1-0 lead, a lead they'd take into the half.

When play resumed in the second, Mattson would add his second of the game just 22 seconds into the half after an absolutely filthy spin move at midfield broke the ankles of the defender and allowed him a practically unheeded march to the net.

Cunningham would another a minute later from outside the 18 yard box making it 3-0, but Lutheran would fight back with two goals of their own in the span of three minutes and 20 seconds to get within one.

The tightened gap was short-lived, however, as Mattson buried his third of the tilt just 20 seconds after the Lutheran goal and Murray would cap the scoring with 9:32 left after junior Brodie Clinard made a fantastic play in the corner to keep the ball alive and find Murray who put it in making it 5-2.

From there the Toppers would coast, nearly adding one down the stretch as an incredible sliding effort by junior Caleb Greenwood nearly made it 6-2, but the ball would skitter just over his leg and out of play.

With the two victories, the Toppers travel to Highland this afternoon, Aug. 28, before returning to Carlinville Tuesday, Aug. 29, to face off against the host Cavies.

**August 26 at Carlinville**  
*Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66*

Hillsboro	2	2	-	4
Athens	1	0	-	1

**Hillsboro Scoring:** Nico Clark (Mitchell Cunningham), Nico Clark (Logan Murray), Logan Murray (Nico Clark), Mark Mattson (unassisted).

**Goalkeeper:** Hillsboro - Mitchell Lowe.

**August 26 at Carlinville**  
*Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66*

Hillsboro	1	4	-	5
Lutheran	0	2	-	2

**Hillsboro Scoring:** Mark Mattson (Mitchell Lowe), Mark Mattson (unassisted); Mitchell Cunningham (unassisted); Mark Mattson (unassisted), Logan Murray (Brodie Clinard).

**Goalkeeper:** Hillsboro - Mitchell Lowe.

**Record:** Hillsboro (2-0).

**Kickoff Classic on Rt. 66**

**Carlinville Pool:** Hillsboro (2-0); Carlinville (2-0); Springfield Lutheran (0-2), Athens (0-2).  
**North Mac Pool:** Lincolnwood (2-0), Litchfield (1-1), Staunton (1-1), North Mac (0-2).

**Saturday, August 26**

- Lincolnwood 9, North Mac 0
- Litchfield 4, Staunton 0
- Carlinville 4, Lutheran 3
- Lincolnwood 3, Litchfield 1
- Carlinville 3, Athens 1
- Hillsboro 4, Athens 1
- Staunton 9, North Mac 0
- Hillsboro 5, Lutheran 2

**August 29 at Carlinville**  
5 p.m. - Lincolnwood vs. Staunton  
7 p.m. - Carlinville vs. Hillsboro

**August 29 at North Mac**  
5 p.m. - Lutheran vs. Athens  
7 p.m. - North Mac vs. Litchfield  
*\*Crossover games will be played at 5 and 7 p.m. at North Mac and Carlinville.*

## Motocross

*Continued from 3B*

**65 Jr. (7-9):** 20. Holden Wright (Hillsboro) 9/20; 30. Huntley Durbin (Hillsboro) 20/23

**85 Jr. (9-11):** 19. Hudson Wright (Hillsboro) 22/15

**25+ A:** 6. Anthony Krivi (Morrisonville) 5/6

**30+ A:** 3. Anthony Krivi (Morrisonville) 4/3

**40+ A:** 3. Adam Wright (Hillsboro) 3/3

**Throwback:** 1. Adam Wright (Hillsboro) 1/1; 11. Trenton Kimbro (Taylor Springs) 4/DNS

**Women (12+):** 3. Ellie Goeken (Brighton) 3/3

**250 C:** 39. Trenton Kimbro (Taylor Springs) 14/DNS

**Open C:** 15. Ellie Goeken (Brighton) 17/17

**Open Beginner:** 1. Ford Klocke (Bunker Hill) 1/1; 6. Ricky Woods (Bunker Hill) 9/5; 20. Maverick Klocke (Bunker Hill) 15/DNF

**July 8-9 at Casey**  
*Lincoln Trail Motocross*

**50 Shaft/Shifter (4-8):** 7. Landon Saathoff (Hillsboro) 7/7

**50 Jr. (4-6):** 2. Huntley Durbin (Hillsboro) 2/2; 7. Silas Randall (Hillsboro) 5/8; 8. Archer Durbin (Hillsboro) 10/6; 17. Landon Saathoff (Hillsboro) DNF/15th

**50 Open (4-8):** 6. Huntley Durbin (Hillsboro) 6/6; 15. Silas Randall (Hillsboro) 17/15; 21. Archer Durbin (Hillsboro) 19/23

**Mini-E (4-8):** 3. Holden Wright (Hillsboro) 2/4; 4. Huntley

Durbin (Hillsboro) 4/5

**65 Jr. (7-9):** 18. Holden Wright (Hillsboro) 19/21

**Collegeboy (14-24):** 4. Austin Goeken (Brighton) 3/4

**25+ A:** 2. Anthony Krivi (Morrisonville) 2/2

**30+ A:** 1. Anthony Krivi (Morrisonville) 2/1; 4. Derek Birkenkamp (Litchfield) 3/5

**40+ A:** 2. Adam Wright (Hillsboro) 2/2; 3. Derek Birkenkamp (Litchfield) 3/3

**125 Two-Stroke:** 13. Trenton Kimbro (Taylor Springs) 15/14

**Throwback:** 1. Adam Wright (Hillsboro) 1/1; 3. Trenton Kimbro (Taylor Springs) 3/3

**Women (12+):** 1. Ellie Goeken (Brighton) 1/1

**250 C:** 21. Trenton Kimbro (Taylor Springs) 20/23

**Open A:** Anthony Krivi (Morrisonville) 7/7; 8. Austin Goeken (Brighton) 8/9

**Open C:** 13. Ford Klocke (Bunker Hill) 15/13

**June 23-25 at Casey**  
*Lincoln Trail Motocross*

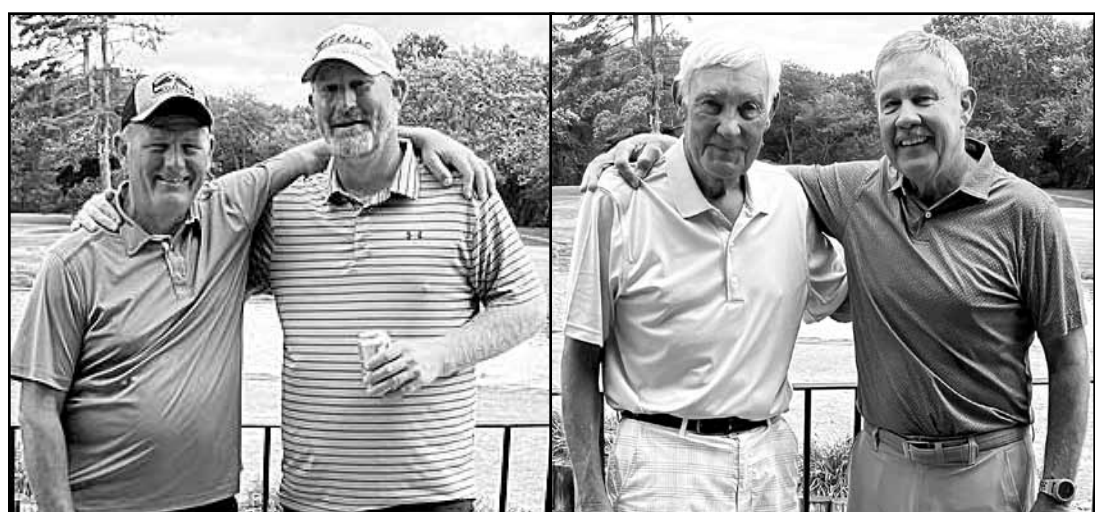
**National Championship Regional Micro-E (4-7):** 17. Holden Wright (Hillsboro) 18/9/17

**Micro 2 (4-6):** 15. Silas Randall (Hillsboro) 22/12/11; 19. Archer Durbin (Hillsboro) 17/28/18

**85cc Limited (10-12):** 1. Corbin Durbin (Morrisonville) 1/1/2

**85cc (10-12):** 5. Corbin Durbin (Morrisonville) 2/4/11

**Mini Sr. 1 (12-14):** 35. Corbin Durbin (Morrisonville) 6/37/DNS



## Poffinbarger/Johnson 1st At Litchfield Country Club

The team of Steve Poffinbarger (far left) and Cory Johnson beat out seven other flight winners to win this year's Litchfield Country Club Member Guest Tournament on July 28-29. The team of Ed Wutke and Doc Brown (far right) finished second. Other flight winners were Jimmy Odle and James Denton, Kit Hantla and Pat Terrell, Brian Maguire and Jake Wyatt, John Shaw and Ben Shaw, Erin Niehaus and Rich Niehaus, and Brandon Niehaus and Broc Pachesa.

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**6B** - Monday, August 28, 2023



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**Miscellaneous**

**FOR SALE:** China \$500; salt & pepper shakers \$700, air hockey table \$1000., antique table \$75. 217-494-0343, 217-622-0662

**FOR SALE:** Bike carrier, 3 bikes, Thule brand. \$150. 217-313-0836

**Pets & Supplies**

**BLACK LAB MIXED** puppies, 12 weeks. \$175. 618-541-2468

**BEAGLE MIX PUPPIES,** 8 weeks. \$135. 618-541-2468

**POODLE PUPPIES,** reds and blacks, vet checked and shots up-to-date. 217-556-0373

**Real Estate**

**Mobile Homes For Sale**

**FOR SALE:** 3 bedroom mobile home on 2 lots in Sorento. Needs few repairs but move in ready. Appliances & shed included. \$12,500. 217-710-0406

**Services**  
General Services

**A-1 RUGGED REPAIR** of fabric. Judy Tucker, Hillsboro. 217-313-7383.

**PRESSURE WASHING,** commercial and residential, fence and deck stripping and staining. Insured and bonded. 217-710-9587

**Transportation**  
Automobiles

**2006 TOYOTA SOLARA** convertible fully loaded, red with black top. 217-259-3063

**Utility Trailers**

**FOR SALE:** 18 foot car hauler trailer with extra heavy duty ramps. 217-851-4499

## Illinois Grain Tour On Aug. 29

Beginning Tuesday, Aug. 29, the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) will host 31 international buyers from seven different Latin American countries to enhance existing relationships and increase export sales for the Illinois grain industry.

"The Illinois Grain Tour gives Illinois farmers, producers and retailers the opportunity to showcase their world-class commodities and facilities to foreign investors," said IDOA Director Jerry Costello. "We lead the nation in soybean production and nearly half of the soybeans and corn produced in Illinois are exported, resulting in billions of dollars in direct sales annually."

In 2022, the Grain Tour returned to in-person for the first time since the pandemic and brought in \$65 million in projected sales.

Participants begin the tour by meeting with representatives from the Illinois Department of Agriculture. The tour will also make stops at RTS Farm in Auburn, GSI in Assumption, Farm Progress Show in Decatur, Illinois Soybean Association in Bloomington, Marquis Energy in Hennepin, Seedburo Equipment Co. in Des Plaines, Delong Co. in Joliet and MANNSTraders in Chicago. All participants of the Illinois Grain Tour are required to pay their own airfare and a participation fee prior to joining the tour.



Six bronze sculptures have been placed around downtown Springfield. Pictured above is Betsy Dollar's Puppy with Newspaper located at The 7th Street Cidery.

## Find All Six 'Puppies' In Downtown Springfield

In honor of International Dog Day on Saturday, Aug. 26, the Springfield Art Association is showcasing one of Springfield's public art projects, Fido's Puppies.

Six local artists have created original dog sculptures that have been cast in bronze and placed around downtown Springfield as a family-friendly activity for visitors and residents alike as they walk between historic sites and to favorite downtown businesses.

Fido is famously the Abraham Lincoln family dog, who

lived in their Springfield home in the 1850s. The tale is that one would know where Lincoln was visiting that day because Fido would be waiting outside the business for him.

Fido's "Puppies" will be getting into mischief all around downtown, hiding along the sidewalks, smelling flowers and lounging on steps. The six commissioned puppies are small-scale, bronze figurines.

The puppies invite people to "hunt" for the figurines throughout the downtown neighborhood.

## Fall Breakfast And Quilt Raffle In Teutopolis

St. Isidore Parish's annual fall breakfast and raffle will be held Sunday, Oct. 1 from 7:30 a.m. to noon. It will be in Teutopolis at the St. Joseph Hall, located at 16987 North 200th Street. Carry-outs will be available. St. Isidore's is asking for donations for the meal which will include whole hog sausage, ham, pancakes fried or scrambled eggs and homemade breads.

There will also be orange juice, milk and coffee available. The Country Store will have homemade baked goods available for purchase and will be open during the breakfast.

There will be raffle tickets available for a quilt and cash prizes up to \$500. The drawings will be held at noon and winners do not need to be present.

## Supreme Court Creates Pre-Trial Education Committee

The Illinois Supreme Court has announced the creation of the Illinois Judicial College Commission on Pre-Trial Education (CPTe) as a seventh standing committee of the Illinois Judicial College (judicial college), elevating pre-trial education from its current pre-trial board work group status in the judicial college.

The establishment of the CPTe follows the court's determination to sunset the pre-trial implementation task force and to promote

comprehensive pre-trial education as an aid to the Judicial Branch in its preparedness and readiness to interpret and apply the SAFE-T Act law, effective Sept. 18.

"The pre-trial implementation task force, under the leadership of the Honorable Robbin Stuckert, did a remarkable job preparing the Judicial Branch and other justice partners for the Pretrial Fairness Act components of the SAFE-T Act," Chief Justice Theis said. "We

## CDC Reports Statewide Rise In COVID-19 Cases

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced the Center for Disease Control is reporting all 102 Illinois counties remained at a low level for COVID-19 hospital admissions as of the middle of August, though wastewater surveillance is detecting rising COVID-19 activity. IDPH is continuing to closely watch COVID-19 data and also monitoring other respiratory viruses, particularly flu and RSV, ahead of the fall and winter seasons.

"Although hospitalization rates and deaths from COVID-19 remain low, it is important for our residents to know that we are seeing rising COVID-19 activity across Illinois," said IDPH Director Dr. Sameer Vohra. "We are fortunate the vast majority of Illinoisians have received immunity from a COVID-19 vaccine or previous infection that protects them against severe disease. However, COVID-19 continues to pose a risk for our seniors, individuals with chronic medical conditions and those who are immunocompromised. IDPH is closely monitoring COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths, emerging variants and a broad range of respiratory illnesses including flu and RSV. As we approach the fall, our residents will have access to a number of tools, including updated shots and treatments, that can help us avoid another 'triple-demic.' Please contact your primary care provider to learn about the options available to protect you and your loved ones this upcoming respiratory season."

Director Vohra said that the Illinois Wastewater Surveillance System is indicating moderate COVID activity

across all sampling regions in Illinois. The system is designed to monitor for levels of COVID-19, flu and RSV viruses in wastewater at 79 locations across Illinois. Flu and RSV activity remain low in the wastewater across all regions.

With the U.S. marking National Immunization Awareness Month in August, IDPH encourages Illinoisans to follow recommendations from public health authorities on COVID-19 and the flu as well as the recently authorized RSV vaccine for adults who are 60 and older and more vulnerable to severe illness. Federal authorities have also approved a new preventive medication for RSV for all children up to eight months and for some high-risk children older than eight months.

The CDC is expected to issue guidance in September about the newly developed COVID-19 boosters for fall.

Illinois has more than 200,000 courses of effective therapeutic medications, including Paxlovid and Molnupiravir, available through providers and pharmacies that will continue to be provided free of charge until supplies run out.

In addition, the CDC this summer launched the Bridge Access Program that will cover the cost of COVID-19 vaccines and treatments for uninsured and underinsured adults this fall. This program will also cover the new annual COVID-19 shot when it is rolled out this fall. In addition, Illinoisans who experience COVID-19 symptoms can access no cost-share telehealth services through the SIU School of Medicine Covid Test to Treat services or call 217-545-5100.

now move on to a new phase and the Illinois Judicial College is well-equipped to provide the ongoing education and training necessary for successful implementation."

The CPTe will provide judges, pre-trial officers and other judicial branch justice partners ongoing continuing education and the educational opportunities to overview and discuss the substantive and procedural law, rules, materials and pre-trial resources.

The Judicial College

Board of Trustees will recommend CPTe members for the court's consideration and approval, in particular individuals with demonstrated pre-trial subject matter expertise in Illinois dedicated to the development and oversight of comprehensive pretrial education for the Illinois Judicial Branch.

For more information, contact James Brunner, public information officer of the Illinois Supreme Court at 217-208-3354 or [jbrunner@illinoiscourts.gov](mailto:jbrunner@illinoiscourts.gov).

## 2023 - 2024 Waterfowl Season Nears Across State Of Illinois

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is reminding waterfowl hunters of key dates and other information regarding the 2023-2024 waterfowl seasons.

This is the third year of a five-year waterfowl season plan that was developed in 2020. Early Canada goose and teal hunting will kick off statewide in all zones, with seasons opening Sept. 1 and Sept. 9 respectively.

In the north and central zones, the daily bag limit

for Canada geese during the September portion of the season is five birds, with 15 in possession. In the south-central and south zones, the daily bag limit for Canada geese during the September portion of the season is two birds, with six in possession. The daily bag limit for teal is six for all teal species combined, with a possession limit of 18.

Additionally, rail season (sora and Virginia only) will be open statewide in all zones from Sept. 9 to Nov. 17, with

a daily bag limit of 25 and possession limit of 75. Snipe season will be open statewide in all zones from Sept. 9 to Dec. 24, with a daily bag limit of eight and possession limit of 24.

As temperatures fall and migration proceeds, Illinois will open the regular duck, Canada goose and snow goose seasons on Oct. 21 in the north zone, Oct. 28 in the central zone, Nov. 11 in the south-central zone and Dec. 2 in the south zone.

White-fronted goose

(specklebelly) seasons will open Oct. 23 in the north zone, Nov. 5 in the central zone and on the same dates as duck season in the south-central (Nov. 11) and south (Dec. 2) zones.

The daily limit is six ducks of any species; however, daily limit can consist of no more than four mallards (of which no more than two can be hens), three wood ducks, two redheads, two canvasbacks, two black ducks, one pintail and one mottled duck.

Scaup (bluebills) will have a daily limit of two for the first 45 days of the season in each zone and one for the last 15 days of the season in each zone.

The daily bag limit of mergansers is five, only two of which may be hooded mergansers. The possession limit for ducks and mergansers is three times the daily bag limit (18 and 15, respectively) by species and sex.

During the regular season, Canada goose daily limits

will be three with a possession limit of nine. White-fronted goose daily bag limits will be two with a possession limit of six. The snow goose daily bag limit is 20 birds, with no possession limit, during the regular hunting season.

The spring Light Goose Conservation Order will open Jan. 19 in the north zone and Feb. 1 in the central, south-central, and south zones, ending April 30 in all zones. There is no daily bag or possession limit on snow, blue, and Ross' geese during the spring conservation order.

The first lottery for the public duck and goose hunting area permits is open through Aug. 31. The second lottery will be open Sept. 1 to Sept. 15, with the third lottery application period open Sept. 16 to Sept. 28. For more information or to apply, visit <https://dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/waterfowl/onlinepermitapplication.html>.

### Time and Money



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Apply in person or online at [capriIGA.com](http://capriIGA.com)

**SUBSTITUTE SCHOOL BUS DRIVER**  
The Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3 is seeking qualified individuals to fill vacancies for substitute school bus drivers. Individuals must be at least 21 years of age. Candidates must be able to secure a CDL license, bus permit, and successfully complete the bus driver-training program. Flexible hours are necessary. Applications are available at the Unit Office at 1322 Vandalia Road, Hillsboro, IL 62049-2034 or on the district website [hillsboroschools.net](http://hillsboroschools.net). For further information, please contact Mr. Adam Gregg, Transportation Director, at 217-532-6012.  
Apply to Adam Gregg, Transportation Director, Hillsboro Unit Office, 1311 Vandalia Rd., Hillsboro, IL 62049.  
(Equal Opportunity Employer)

**Masinelli Management & Construction Inc.**  
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Complexes Located in:  
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Rental Assistance May Be Available.  
**618-635-2005**  
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**VACANCY NOTICE**  
**SUBSTITUTE SCHOOL BUS AIDES**  
Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3 is seeking qualified individual to fill the vacancies for substitute school bus aides. Flexible hours are necessary. Applications are available at the Hillsboro CUSD #3 Unit Office, 1311 Vandalia Road, Hillsboro, IL 62049 or on the district website [hillsboroschools.net](http://hillsboroschools.net). For further information, please contact Mr. Adam Gregg, Transportation Director at 217-532-6012.  
Apply to Adam Gregg, Transportation Director, 1311 Vandalia Road, Hillsboro, IL 62049.  
(Equal Opportunity Employer)

**VILLAGE OF SCHRAM CITY**  
The following positions are vacant in the Village of Schram City:  
**Treasurer**  
**Part-Time/Full-Time Street Department Employee**  
Applications may be picked up at the Village Hall M-F 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
All applications must be submitted by Friday, Sept. 1

Title Transfers

**June 28**  
Caleb Randle, Sydney M. Randle to EKL Investments, WD, Pt. Lot 6, Blk. 26. Nokomis Original Twp.

Lora Watson, Robert Watson to Dawson Enloe, WD, Lot 6, Prairie Heights Subdn. Joe Wallace, Mona Wallace to Cassandra L. Lewis, WD, Lot 22, Taylor Springs.

Ryan J. Reader to Morgan A. Jolliff, Justin N. Kershaw, WD, Lots 3 & 4, Blk. 33, Pierces 3rd Addn., Litchfield.

**June 29**  
Litchfield Leasing to Taylor Tire and Auto, Corp. Deed, Pt. WH NE, Sec. 5, South Litchfield Twp.,

Rueter to Ethan M. Gurley, WD, Pt. 3, Blk. 6, Tylers 3rd Addn., Litchfield, Incomplete /incomplete subdn.

Robert G. Bangert, Jr., Michele L. Hopper to Christopher J. Dearinger, Nancy P. Dearinger, WD, Lot 5, Blk. 58. Huggins PC Addn.

Robert J. Kahn Tr. to Colleen M. Burghoff Tr., John T. Burghoff Tr., Lease, Lot 56, Island View Addn.

Calli Amanda Beth Lasister, Sara Sellers to City of Hillsboro, WD, Pt. SW/NW, Sec. 1, Hillsboro Twp.

**June 30**  
Michael D. Meiners, Sr. to Barbara L. Meiners, Michael D. Meiners, Sr., QCD, Lots 1, 2 & 3, Blk. 15, Nokomis Original Twp.

Jessica L. OBrien, Thomas M. OBrien to Erin L. Gile, Gavin G. Gile, WD, Pt. NH Sec. 12, East Fork Twp.

Cory A. Hampton Admin., Deborah L. Hampton Admin., Donnie E. Hampton Estate to Cory A. Hampton, Admin. Deed, Pt. EH SE Sec. 27, Hillsboro Twp., Pt. NW/NW/SW Sec. 26, Hillsboro Twp.

Taylor Tire and Auto to GJZP Holdings, Corp. Deed, Pt. WH NE Sec. 5, South Litchfield Twp.

Ellen J. Cooke, Amy Beth Goodwin, Karen A. Hiller, Bryan Keith Kalaher, David Scott Kalaher, Mark Edward Kalaher, Michael Louis Kalaher, Amy Beth Todd to Bryan Kalaher, WD, Pt. SW/SE Sec. 31, Butler Grove Twp.

Brian Niehaus Estate,

Brett Seward Exec. to Teddy Lynn Dodson, Exec.'s Deed, Lot 11, Tremont Place, Hillsboro.

**July 3**  
Debra A. Kiouss to Donna Jones, WD, Lots 5 & 6, Traylor's JL Addn., Coffeen.

Kellie C. DeWerff to Sonnie Jo Loschen, WD, Pt. Lots 1 & 2, Blk. 73, Huggins & Trustees Addn.

Hillsboro Community Development Corporation to Nancy Slepicka, WD, Pt. NW/NE Sec. 11, Hillsboro Twp.

Connie M. Marley Tr., Marley Trust No. 032093 to Jessica L. OBrien, Thomas M. OBrien, Trustee's Deed, Pt. NE/SE Sec. 5, Audubon Twp.

**July 6**  
Jennifer Ruether Barrett, Michael J. Diaz Rep., First Community Bank of Hillsboro, Illinois Department of Employment Security, Illinois Department of Revenue, Montgomery County Sheriff, James G. Ruether, James G. Ruether Estate, Jon Ruether, Jennifer Ruether Barrett, James A. Ruether to First Community Bank of Hillsboro, Sheriff's Deed, Pt. NE/NE Sec. 17, Hillsboro Twp.

Mary Catherine McLean, Paul E. McLean to Lisa L. Lomprenz, Marty L. Lomprenz, WD, Pt. Lots 10, 11 & 12, Blk. 3, Sedentops 7th Addn.

Stephanie L. Schaeffer to Joseph Haslett, QCD, Pt. SH SW/SW Sec. 5, Witt Twp.

**July 7**  
Christopher P. Presnell, Melody Presnell to Jacqueline N. McElhiney, WD, Pt. SE/SW Sec. 23, Nokomis Twp., Pt. Lot 17, Siffords Subdn.

Jay W. Adams Trust, Laura G. Adams Tr. to Jay W. Adams Trust, Laura G. Adams Tr., Trustee's Deed, Pt. SH SE Sec. 29, Zanesville Twp.

Heritage Manor Real Estate, Heritage Manor Real Estate Litchfield to Litchfield 628 Realty, Special WD, Pt. Lot, Blk. 1, Tylers 3rd Addn., Litchfield, Pt. Blk. 2, Machlers Mrs. Subdn. Litchfield.

Cody Epley, Lindsay Epley to Hannah Compton, Clayton

Amy James, Charles M. James to Susan Jane Hines, WD, 2 Pts. Lot 14, Blk. 68, Huggins PC Addn.

Marty Steffens to Mitchell Hancock, QCD, Pt. Lots 21 & 24, Blk. 83, Huggins PC Addn.

Constance S. Belanger, Constance S. Jackson, Peter W. Jackson, Sr. to Constance S. Jackson, Peter W. Jackson, Sr., QCD, Pts. Lots 3 & 6, Blk. 25, Pierces 2nd Addn., Litchfield.

Sharon Gerdes, Patsy M. Lindner, Tina Manzullo, Janet Robertson to Matthew J. Gerdes, WD, Lots 13, 14 &

Eddington, WD, Lots 162, 163, 164 & 165, North Park Addn., Taylor Springs.

Maureen Folkerts, Paul Folkerts to Ann Tester, Dan Tester, WD, Pt. SH SW Sec. 16, Rountree Twp.

First Community Bank Hillsboro to Jennifer M. Ruether, Jon R. Ruether, WD, Pt. NE/NE Sec. 17, Hillsboro Twp.

**July 10**  
Amy Roseland to Jennifer R. Huelson, Scott L. Huelson, WD, Lots 147, 148 & 149, Kettlekamp's Addn., Nokomis.

Christina OBrian, James M. OBrian to Lyndsy Winstead, WD, Lots 2 & 3, Blk. 63, Huggins PC Addn.

Brad Janssen, Janelle Janssen, Kent Janssen to Debra C. Walcher, Keith M. Walcher, WD, Lots 62 & 64, Latimers Addn., Nokomis.

**July 11**  
James Hopping to Jerry Shaffner, QCD, Lot 4, 5, 6 & 8, Blk. 4, Wenonah Sub.

Betty J. Weiss Trust, Leonard K. Weiss Tr. to Sharon R. McEwen, Trustee's Deed, Pt. SE/SW Sec. 36, Hillsboro Twp., SW/SE Sec. 36, Hillsboro Twp., Pt. SE/SE Sec. 36, Hillsboro Twp. Parcels 1 & 2.

Betty J. Weiss Trust, Leonard K. Weiss Tr. to Leonard K. Weiss, Trustee's Deed, Pt. WH NE Sec. 22, Walshville Twp. Pt. EH NE Sec. 22, Walshville Twp. Pt. SW/NW Sec. 23, Walshville Twp. Parcels 1, 2 & 3.

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation to Jacob Shane Hoehn, Kelly Nicole Hoehn, Spec. WD, 2 Pts. NE/SE Sec. 24, South Fillmore Twp.

Amy James, Charles M. James to Susan Jane Hines, WD, 2 Pts. Lot 14, Blk. 68, Huggins PC Addn.

Marty Steffens to Mitchell Hancock, QCD, Pt. Lots 21 & 24, Blk. 83, Huggins PC Addn.

Constance S. Belanger, Constance S. Jackson, Peter W. Jackson, Sr. to Constance S. Jackson, Peter W. Jackson, Sr., QCD, Pts. Lots 3 & 6, Blk. 25, Pierces 2nd Addn., Litchfield.

Sharon Gerdes, Patsy M. Lindner, Tina Manzullo, Janet Robertson to Matthew J. Gerdes, WD, Lots 13, 14 &

15, Blk. 78, Huggins PC Addn. Dustin R. Guinn, Danielle Norton, Erin Wakefield to Kenneth Trasher, Nicole Trasher, WD, Lots 2 & 3, Blk. 6, Hood & Millers Addn, Litchfield.

**July 12**  
Noble D. Shepherd to Melissa K. Huggins, Noble D. Shepherd, QCD, Lots 13 & 14, Blk. 4, Capps JM Addn., Nokomis.

Jaydah Casey, Admin., Trista D. Casey, Estate, Dale L. Pease, Admin. to Jaydah B. Casey, Admin. Deed, Pt. NE Sec. 21, Witt Twp.

**July 13**  
Gerald H. Osterhous, Sr. to Cody Morrison, Kaitlynn Morrison, WD, Lot 2, Blk. 3, Richmonds 4th Addn., Fillmore.

Rosa L. Hallers, Jeff L. Smith to Justin J. Leitschuh, WD, Lots 8-11, Blk. 16, Hillcrest.

Alex Murday to Triple C Holdings, WD, Lot 114, Golden Park, Litchfield.

**July 14**  
Anne K. Foster, Joseph G. Sherer to Randall H. Lueschke, Kimberly Noyes, WD, Pt. NE/SE Sec. 11, Hillsboro Twp.

**July 17**  
Jess Ray, Lucas Ray to Roger K. Smith, QCD, Pt. SW Sec. 2, North Litchfield Twp.

Edward Lewis Marks Cust., Graham G. Marks Cust. to Stephen Kirby, Lease, Lots 30, 31 & 32, Island View Addn. 2nd Plat.

Gina M. Allen, Robert E. Allen to Rebecca E. Millburg, WD, Lot 16, Pt. Lot 15, Blk. 2, Orchard Place, Taylor Springs.

Judith Y. Martin to Gerry G. Boehler, Jody J. Boehler, Samuel S. Boehler, Cara C. Hill, Judy J. Rikas, QCD, Pt. SE/SW Sec 7, Raymond Twp.

Donnie Culbertson to Donnie R. Culbertson Tr., QCD, Pt. SE/NW Sec 23, South Fillmore Twp.

**July 18**  
Joseph R. Ritchie, Laurie E. Ritchie to Claire Eskew, Devyn Eskew, Rhett Eskew, Thomas Reynolds, WD, 2 Pts. NE Sec. 13, Butler Grove Twp.

Joseph Scott Mertz, Shannon Mertz to Quantum

Lending, QCD, Pt. Lot 24 & 25, Cress & Wright Addn., Hillsboro.

James A. Bergman, II, Richelle J. Bergman to Christopher P. Geisler, WD, Lot 1, 2 & 3., Edgewood, Litchfield.

**July 19**  
Karen Cooper POA, Martha Reed to Anthony Krivi, QCD, Pt. SE/SW Sec. 21, Rountree Twp.

William D. Murphy to Marilyn Jean Murphy Tr, William Dean Murphy Tr., Pt. 011743, Pt. NH Sec. 19, Pt. WH NE Sec. 19, SE/NE Sec. 19 NH NE/SE Sec. 19, Bois D'Arc twp.

Marilyn Jean Murphy, Marilyn Jean Murphy Tr., William D. Murphy, William D. Murphy Tr., Trust 011743, Trust 051422 to Marilyn Jean Murphy Tr., William Dean Murphy Tr., Trust 011743, Trustee's Deed, Pt. EH NE Sec. 15, Pitman Twp.

Marilyn Jean Murphy, Marilyn Jean Murphy Tr., William D. Murphy, William D. Murphy Tr., Trust 051422, to Lazy Lone Elm, Trustee's Deed, Pt. EH NE Sec. 15, Pitman Twp.

*Free online Search of Montgomery County, IL Land Records at www.montgomeryco.com/countyclerk/recording/recordsearch.*

*Search, View and Print Montgomery County, IL Land Records online at www.landrecords.net at \$6.95 per search.*

*Sign up for Property Fraud Alerts at www.propertyfraudalert.com.*

Fire Calls

**Truck Fire**  
Members of the Shoal Creek Fire Department responded to a truck fire on IL Rt. 127 at 6:18 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 25. Four members were on the scene until 7:56 a.m.

**Order Investigation**  
Hillsboro Fire Department responded to an order investigation on Madison St. in Schram City at 7:55 a.m. Friday, Aug. 25. There were 20 members on the scene for 25 minutes and nothing was found.

**Carbon Monoxide**  
Members of the Hillsboro Fire Department responded to a carbon monoxide alert at 610 Yale St. at 11:42 a.m. Friday, Aug. 25. Three firefighters were on the scene for 30 minutes and nothing was found.

**Car Fire**  
Hillsboro Fire Department was dispatched to a possible car fire at Hillsboro McDonald's on Friday, Aug. 25, at 10:19 p.m. There were 18 members on the scene for 15 minutes, and the fire was out upon arrival.

**Downed Powerlines**  
Hillsboro Fire Department responded to downed powerlines at 625 Beale St. on Sunday, Aug. 27. at 9:25 a.m. Nineteen members responded and were on the scene for 20 minutes, as they waited for Ameren.

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

**Montgomery County Fiber Bid**  
The Montgomery County Information Services office is seeking bids to help create a Montgomery County-owned fiber ring. The proposed bid would include product and labor to install and terminate/splice multi-strand single mode fiber between the North Side of Montgomery County Sheriff's office to the East side of the Historic Courthouse. Two additional runs will be spliced into this ring going into the Hillsboro Fire Department and The Montgomery County Annex Building (housing the ROE and VAC).  
For more details go to:  
[www.montgomerycountyil.gov/fiberbid.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountyil.gov/fiberbid.pdf)

**PUBLIC AUCTION**

MON., AUG. 28 - Bidding ends at 6 p.m. for online only RE & 7 p.m. for personal property (soft close). Register / bid at corycraig.hibid.com. Open house Aug. 14 & 27, 5-7 p.m. at 203 E. Loud St., Virden. RE of 2 lg. pole bldgs. on 60x180 lot. 2021 GMC Sierra X31 truck-ONLY 7k mi., 2014 Chevy van truck, 2018 Wells Cargo enc. trailer, 16', 2010 Sure Trak tilt trailer, JLG scissor lift (new batteries), lg. asst. of elec. supplies, name-brand tools, neon beer lights & signs, antique clocks, Longaberger baskets, MORE. Bill & Shelly Sharp, sellers. Cory Craig, auctioneer, www.corycraig.com, 217-971-4440.

TUES., SEPT. 5 - 6 p.m. soft close. Bidding ends for Ralston estate on-line auction located at 29672 Goshen Rd., Palmyra. Bidding starts Mon., Aug. 21. Register / bid at mikecrabtreeauctions.hibid.com. Viewing Aug. 31, 4-6 p.m. Pickup / checkout Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 2010 Ford F-150, Panzer ant. tractor, horse saddles / tack, tools, shop tools, collectibles, antiques, household, appliances, furniture. Mike Crabtree, auctioneer, 217-473-2507.

SAT., SEPT. 9 - 9 a.m. Live onsite auction of RE and personal property of Donnie Culbertson at 22182 IL Rt. 185, Fillmore. Open House: Aug. 20, Noon-2 p.m. RE consists of 9.4 acre tract with a 3BR/2BA 1993 Redman Homes double wide mobile home. 2004 Ford Ranger, portable sheds, antiques, collectibles, appliances, electronics, furniture, household, lawn / outdoors, tools / garage. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

THURS., AUG. 31 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends for online only Davidson honeybee equip. & more. Register / bid at mollettauctions.hibid.com. Preview: Aug. 28, 4-6 p.m. Checkout: Sept. 1, 4-7 p.m., both at 939 US Rt. 40 Frontage Rd., Greenville. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

MON., SEPT. 4 - 6 p.m. soft close. Bidding ends for online RE auction located at 802 S. 6th St., Girard. Bidding starts August 18. Register / bid at mikecrabtreeauctions.hibid.com. Viewing by appointment with auctioneer - 217-473-2507. Modern one bedroom, 1-1/2 bath home with C/A and heat, one car attached garage and some appliances. Home is situated on a corner lot with two additional joining lots. PIN: 07-001-301-00. Dallas Banister, seller. Mike Crabtree, auctioneer, 217-473-2507.

FRI., SEPT. 15 - 10 a.m. Farmland auction of 169.50 +/- tax acres, offered in 3 tracts. Live & in person bidding / online bidding available. Sale to be held at Lakeshore Golf Course, 1460 E. 1000 North Rd., Taylorville. Land located in Assumption & King Twps., Christian Co. Field Level Agriculture, Inc., Logan Frye-broker, 217-619-6473, www.fieldlevelad.com.

SAT., SEPT. 16 - 9 a.m. Fall consign- ment auction at Ohlman, north of Rt. 16 on N. Walnut. Accepting consign- ments of vehicles, tractors, lawn mowers, farm related items, lawn & garden, plus misc. items. Dennis Aumann, auctioneer, 217-825-6384 or 217-563-2143, dennisaumann.com, www.auctionzip.com #19610.

THURS., SEPT. 28 - Bid online only Sept. 26-28 at auctionnetwork.com. Open for public inspection Friday, Sept. 8 & 15, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Casey's at 308 E. State St., Irving; 225 E. Orange St., Hoopston; & 122 W. State Highway 133, Oakland. Williams & Williams Worldwide Real Estate, LLC, Jeffery Oberling, auctioneer, Monte Lowderman, auctioneer, 800-801-8003, www.williamsauction.com / Caseys.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on August 16, 2023, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Montgomery County, Illinois setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: T-TEEZ COMPANY DBA T-TEEZ BAR located at 121 E. STATE ST. in the city of IRVING and state of IL.

Dated August 16, 2023  
Sandy Leitheiser,  
County Clerk  
29-3tM\*

Police

Litchfield Police

• Kaitlyn B. Dohrt, 31, of Granite City, was arrested for unlawful use of or possession of weapons by a felon at 10:05 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24, at the 600 block of W. Union.

• Jessica E. Jenkins, 31, of Litchfield, was arrested on charges of possession of meth, an outstanding Illinois State Police Collinsville warrant, an outstanding Montgomery County warrant and an outstanding Bond County warrant at 12:56 a.m. Friday, Aug. 25, at I-55 mile marker 52.

**ACCEPTING BIDS**  
The City of Litchfield is accepting sealed bids for a **2022 or 2023 F250/2500 pick-up with service body and a 2022 or 2023 F550/5500 cab and chassis with stainless steel dump body with snowplow and stainless steel under tailgate spreader.** Bid specifications can be picked up at the Mayor's Office at City Hall, 120 E. Ryder St., Litchfield, Illinois or on the City of Litchfield web page.  
Sealed Bids must be returned to the City Clerk by **10 A.M. Friday, September 8, 2023, bid opening at 1 P.M. September 8, 2023.** Any bids received after 10 A.M. will be returned unopened.

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that the **LITCHFIELD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #12, LITCHFIELD, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ILLINOIS** will offer for sale, by sealed bid, the Russell Elementary School Building (as is), the property is located at 705 N. Jefferson Street, Litchfield, Illinois.

Upon request, the property may be seen by private appointment.

Call the Unit Office 217-324-2157.

Sealed Bids will be accepted until September 19, 2023, 3:00 P.M., at the Administrative Offices of the Litchfield Community Unit School District #12, 1100 N. Old Rt. 66, Litchfield, Illinois 62056. The sealed bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the Board of Education held at the District's Administration offices on September 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Approved financing in the amount of the bid shall accompany the bid.

Closing will take place on or before 30 days of the acceptance of the bid.

Litchfield Community Unit School District #12 reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, if deemed insufficient.

Dated: August 21, 2023  
Litchfield Community Unit School District #12  
Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent  
30-2t

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Jeffrey B. Miller, formerly a resident of Fillmore, Montgomery County, Illinois, on March 23, 2023. Letters of Office were issued out of the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Montgomery County, Illinois, on the 7th day of August, 2023 under Case No. 2023-PR-23 into Brenda Miller whose address is: Brenda Miller, P. O. Box 22, Fillmore, Illinois 62032 and whose attorney of record is Stephen R. Cullison, 220 South Main Street, P. O. Box 188, Hillsboro, Illinois 62049.

Claims may be filed within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice

**Designation of Place for Election of Drainage District Commissioner**

Please take notice that the duly elected, qualified and acting Commissioners in office of the following Drainage Districts, have designated the following places within said District of which an election for a Drainage Commissioner will be held on the 5th day of September, 2023, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

DISTRICT	TO BE HELD AT
Union #2 Bois D'Arc & Girard DD 7	28215 W. Frontage Rd. Farmersville, IL 62533
Union #1 Bois D'Arc & Girard DD 6	28215 W. Frontage Rd. Farmersville, IL 62533
Bois D'Arc #1 DD 35	410 N. Cleveland Farmersville, IL 62533
Bois D'Arc #2 DD 5	30081 Black Diamond Trail Farmersville, IL 62533
Irish Flats DD 13	28349 E. 6th Rd. Farmersville, IL 62533
Pitman #2 Main DD 17	25045 E. 6th Rd. Waggoner, IL 62572
Union #1 Harvel & Pitman DD 11	23342 E. 5th Road Raymond, IL 62560
Bois D'Arc #3 DD 36	1127 Mine Ave. Farmersville, IL 62533
Union #1 Pitman/Zanesville DD 22	2388 Goby Ave. Raymond, IL 62560
Sub #1 Union #1 Pitman/Zanesville DD 24	2388 Goby Ave. Raymond, IL 62560
Union No. 1 Girard & Virden DD 2626	21691 Thomasville Rd. Virden, IL 62690

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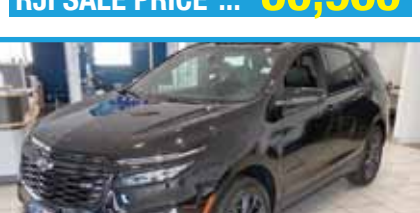

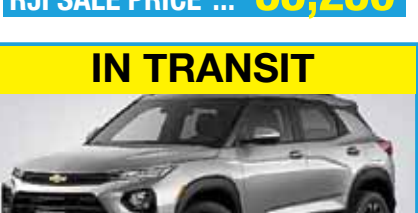


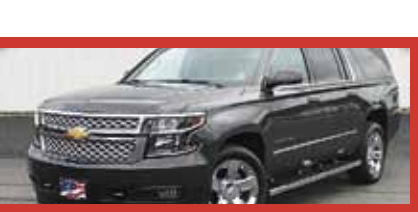

**24 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500HD**  
N104, crew cab, Duramax, dark ash  
RJI SALE PRICE\* ... **\$75,003**






 <p><b>23 CHEVY TAHOE PREMIER</b> M165, 4WD, iridescent pearl RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$88,043</b></p>	 <p><b>23 BUICK ENCLAVE ESSENCE</b> M127, FWD, cherry red tincoat RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$47,385</b></p>	 <p><b>23 BUICK ENCORE GX SELECT</b> M126, FWD, moonstone gray met. RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$30,740</b></p>	<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>23 BUICK ENVISION AVENIR</b> AWD, sapphire metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$49,125</b></p>	 <p><b>23 CHEVY BLAZER PREMIER</b> M163, FWD, black RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$45,195</b></p>
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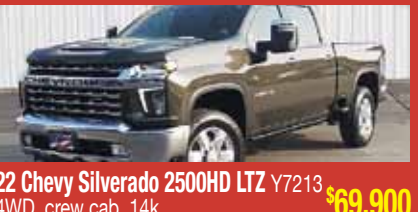



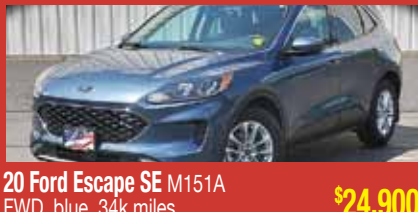
<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>23 CHEVY COLORADO TRAIL BOSS</b> 4WD, sterling gray metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$42,318</b></p>	 <p><b>23 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 RST</b> Crew cab, 4WD, red hot RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$57,410</b></p>	<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>23 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 RST</b> Crew cab, 4WD, black RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$58,230</b></p>	 <p><b>23 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 LTZ</b> M174, Crew, 4WD, iridescent pearl RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$66,405</b></p>	 <p><b>23 CHEVY SILVERADO K1500 ZR2</b> M158, summit white RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$72,260</b></p>
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<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT</b> FWD, sterling gray metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$27,438</b></p>	 <p><b>23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT</b> M172, AWD, sterling gray metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$29,563</b></p>	<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>24 BUICK ENCLAVE ESSENCE</b> AWD, ebony twilight metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$50,960</b></p>	 <p><b>24 BUICK ENCLAVE PREMIUM</b> N108, AWD, moonstone gray metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$57,985</b></p>	<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>24 BUICK ENCLAVE ESSENCE</b> AWD, emperor blue metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$55,250</b></p>
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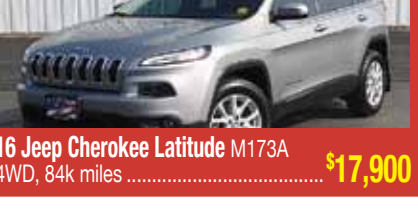
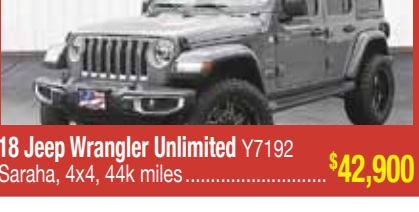

<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>24 BUICK ENVISTA SPORT TOUR</b> FWD, white frost tricoat RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$29,065</b></p>	<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>24 CHEVY BLAZER RS</b> AWD, black RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$51,015</b></p>	 <p><b>24 CHEVY EQUINOX RS</b> N110, AWD, mosaic black metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$38,755</b></p>	<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>24 CHEVY SILVERADO 3500HD LT</b> Crew cab, 4WD RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$75,133</b></p>	<p><b>IN TRANSIT</b></p>  <p><b>24 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT</b> FWD, sterling gray metallic RJI SALE PRICE* ... <b>\$27,043</b></p>
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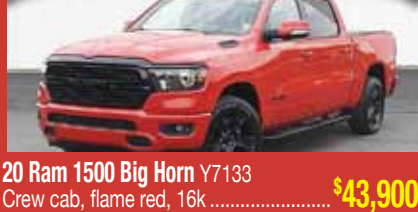

 <p><b>18 Chevy Suburban LT</b> 135378 4WD, 51k miles ..... <b>\$42,900</b></p>	 <p><b>21 Chevy Suburban Z71</b> Y7195A 4WD, 48k miles ..... <b>\$65,900</b></p>	 <p><b>19 Chevy Equinox LT</b> M149A AWD, 42k miles ..... <b>\$23,900</b></p>	 <p><b>19 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT</b> Y7177A Crew cab, 4WD, 30k ..... <b>\$41,900</b></p>	 <p><b>20 Chevy Equinox LS</b> Y7194 FWD, 18k miles ..... <b>\$24,900</b></p>
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 <p><b>21 Chevy Equinox LT</b> Y7203 FWD, only 6k miles ..... <b>\$27,900</b></p>	 <p><b>21 Chevy Traverse 2LT</b> Y7168 AWD, graphite metallic, 20k ..... <b>\$43,900</b></p>	 <p><b>21 Chevy Traverse 1LT</b> Y7164B AWD, 24k miles ..... <b>\$43,900</b></p>	 <p><b>22 Chevy Colorado Z71</b> Y7198 Crew cab, 4WD, 11k ..... <b>\$40,900</b></p>	 <p><b>22 Chevy Silverado 2500HD LT</b> Y7197 4WD, crew cab, 17k ..... <b>\$68,900</b></p>
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 <p><b>22 Chevy Silverado 2500HD LTZ</b> Y7213 4WD, crew cab, 14k ..... <b>\$69,900</b></p>	 <p><b>21 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L</b> Y7166 FWD, granite crystal, 64k ..... <b>\$31,900</b></p>	 <p><b>19 Dodge Journey SE</b> Y7189A FWD, 49k ..... <b>\$18,900</b></p>	 <p><b>19 Ford Escape SE</b> M152A 4WD, 41k miles ..... <b>\$21,900</b></p>	 <p><b>20 Ford Escape SE</b> M151A FWD, blue, 34k miles ..... <b>\$24,900</b></p>
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 <p><b>21 Ford Escape SE</b> Y7204 AWD, only 1478 miles ..... <b>\$27,900</b></p>	 <p><b>20 GMC Acadia Denali</b> Y7193 AWD, 49k ..... <b>\$37,900</b></p>	 <p><b>20 GMC Terrain SLT</b> Y7173A FWD, 42k miles ..... <b>\$25,900</b></p>	 <p><b>20 GMC Terrain SLE</b> Y7212 FWD, 23k miles ..... <b>\$26,900</b></p>	 <p><b>22 GMC Canyon AT4</b> Y7109A Crew cab, 4WD, only 7k miles ..... <b>\$41,900</b></p>
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 <p><b>16 Jeep Cherokee Latitude</b> M173A 4WD, 84k miles ..... <b>\$17,900</b></p>	 <p><b>18 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited</b> Y7192 Saraha, 4x4, 44k miles ..... <b>\$42,900</b></p>	 <p><b>20 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited</b> Y7191 Willys, 4x4, only 9k miles ..... <b>\$43,900</b></p>	 <p><b>21 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo</b> Y7202 4x4, 18k miles ..... <b>\$33,900</b></p>	 <p><b>22 Jeep Compass High Altitude</b> Y7187 4x4, only 3k miles ..... <b>\$35,900</b></p>
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 <p><b>20 Ram 1500 Big Horn</b> Y7133 Crew cab, flame red, 16k ..... <b>\$43,900</b></p>	 <p><b>21 Ram 1500 Big Horn</b> Y7174 Crew cab, hydro blue pearl, 19k ..... <b>\$46,900</b></p>
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# Fall Farm

A Supplement to The Journal-News, M&M Journal and Macoupin County Journal

Monday, August 28 2023 - 1

## Local Farm Family Shifts Towards Sustainable Farming

By **Tori O'Dell**

The home base for Justison Farms is in Butler, where the family of Lithuanian immigrants settled in 1928 after coming to Montgomery County from the Chicagoland area, however, what started as an 80 acre parcel has expanded to include several thousand acres.

"My dad (Tom Justison) and uncle (Dave Justison) worked alongside my grandfather to build the operation into what it is today," explained Tommy Justison, who works on the farm alongside his cousins David (Kate), Keri (Jason), and Patricia (Jon). "Everyone has different strengths and skill sets that they bring to the table. I don't have any children, but my cousins do and we try to find ways to keep them engaged in the farm; our goal is for Justison Farms to be something that they will take on together and continue to build after we are gone."

Already a large-scale farming operation, the plots that make up Justison Farms span across a 125 mile radius and into seven counties.

"There are a lot of logistical and environmental considerations that need to be taken into account when you are farming fields that

are located across such a vast geographical range. We have to consider how to get equipment from one field to another, how to develop a plan to get crops into the ground and then into the market expeditiously, what infrastructure we need to have in each location to be successful. We also try to have an understanding of the communities that we are serving and how to best support the local economies our fields are located in," explained Justison.

It also presents the unique challenge of understanding the agricultural differences between their fields. Brothers Tom and Dave (Lana) Justison keep their land, acres they are planning to leave to their children and grandchildren, at the forefront of their vision. Both graduated from the University of Illinois where they received a solid foundation in understanding soil and continue to devote their time and energy to studying Illinois' soil productivity, as well as their own plots' soil temperature, moisture and organic matter, among other factors, all information needed to help them determine how to create a strong crop.

"Throughout the history of the transition of agriculture, technology and sustainability have always

been at the forefront, and my dad and uncle have taught us to be progressive in our approach to farming. Our goal is to create a multi-generational farm, not to recreate what we had in generations past. That means that we try to be first adopters," Justison stated.

In-line with their vision, is the family's conservation plan which includes best soil practices, conservation tillage and double cropping.

"We are fortunate that Illinois is incredibly fertile and boasts some of the best soil. Our goal is to keep it that way by being conscientious about how we care for our land and how we use it," explained Justison. "As a whole, soil practices have improved immensely over the last decade - in particular the amount of attention we pay to soil health. We are learning from the mistakes of our past. Haiti is a perfect example of why best soil practices are imperative. It is a county with incredibly fertile soils that have degraded into bareness after hundreds of years of being farmed without thought put to conservation. You see the same issue throughout Europe."

One of the many conservation practices the Justisons implement on their farm is to try to do as little tillage as possible, in addition to double cropping.



A family operation with plots that are located across a 125 mile radius, Justison Farms is a staunch proponent of sustainable farming. Above, the family works as a unit to harvest their summer wheat crop and get it to market.

"Corn and soybeans are a big portion of the operation. Wheat is a fairly small percentage of what we do, however we double crop soybeans into our wheat, meaning that we have our planter running right behind our combine and as the wheat comes off the soybeans are sown in. This allows us to take advantage of our soil by utilizing the nutrients left by the wheat chaff. It also means that we get our soybeans into the ground

more quickly allowing them time to germinate and grow," said Justison. Expediency is important to the family's operation, as they try to avoid off-farm hiring as much as possible. "In a family operation there is always a need for balance, when it comes to harvesting the joke is 'how fast can we move,'" Justison said with a smile. "The biggest difficulty is having enough hands on deck because we try to keep the operation as close to the fam-

ily as possible. The second biggest factor is having dry enough conditions." Justison estimates that it took only a few weeks to complete harvesting of this year's wheat crop, but the family is less concerned with being done quickly than creating a good crop, both now and in the future. "There is a push on farms to move towards sustainability and that is something that Justison Farms is proud to be on the leading-edge of," Justison concluded.

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# Fall Farm

2 - Monday, August 28, 2023

A Supplement to The Journal-News, M&M Journal and Macoupin County Journal



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## Farmers Map The Future Of Agriculture

The demand for food is directly related to population growth. By 2050, food needs are expected to double, according to a study published in the journal, *Agricultural Economics*.

That puts increasing pressure on the agricultural sector to meet growing demand. However, many experts think the industry will fall short.

In addition to increased food demand, consumer habits, technology, and policies continue to force the agricultural industry to evolve. Indeed, the agricultural sec-

tor may look very different in the future.

### Bigger Digital Footprint

Social media has transformed many industries, and it can do the same for agriculture. Farming supply chains can communicate with one another by getting feedback from customers in real time through social media.

However, agricultural operations will have to devote teams to manage social media presence, especially since misinformation is so widespread on social media.

Apart from social media, local farmers may increase their efforts to utilize mobile apps and direct-to-consumer purchasing options. The global pandemic helped businesses reimagine take-out and curbside shopping.

Local farms may want to market to the home-shopping community, providing ways to deliver produce, fresh meat and poultry and other items direct to customers' homes.

### Regenerative Agriculture

The future may feature a significant shift in the way farms source their ingredients. Regeneration International says that regenerative agriculture can be the future.

This describes farming and grazing practices that



The agricultural sector may look very different in the future.

may help reverse climate change by rebuilding soil organic matter and restoring degraded soil biodiversity. Some insist that farmers who utilize regenerative agriculture produce food that is more sustainable and healthy.

This is something eco- and health-conscious consumers can stand behind.

### Technological Advancement

There's a good chance that technology will continue to play important and growing roles in farming operations. New agricultural technologies can collect data on soil and plant health and produce results in real time.

Precision farming technology can be developed to deliver integrated solutions no matter the size of the operation.

### Shift In What's Grown

Farmers may give more thought to sustainable products. Crops like hemp and cannabis are being utilized in new and innovative ways, and they're only the start as consumers have expanded their views on plant-based foods and products.

While there's no way to see into the future, individuals can anticipate changes that could be in store for the agricultural sector in the decades ahead.



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# Fall Farm

A Supplement to The Journal-News, M&M Journal and Macoupin County Journal

Monday, August 28 2023 - 3

## How Labor Shortages Affect Area Agriculture

The agricultural workforce is shrinking, and has been for some time. The American Farm Bureau Federation estimates there are roughly 2.4 million farm jobs that need to be filled annually, but there has been a drastic decline in workers each year.

There are a number of reasons for the shortages. The AFBF says more than 73 percent of farm workers are immigrants from South America and Mexico. While the United States' H2-A visa program, which allows employers who meet specific requirements to bring foreign laborers in for temporary work, has increased the number of accepted applications for immigrants to 250,000, this number is still just a drop in the bucket in terms of labor needs.

Another factor is a career in agriculture isn't always easy or lucrative. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, for every dollar spent on food, a farmer receives only 7.6 cents. Farmers were predicted to lose 9.7 percent of total net income in 2021.

Declining interest in the field has also affected the number of farm workers.

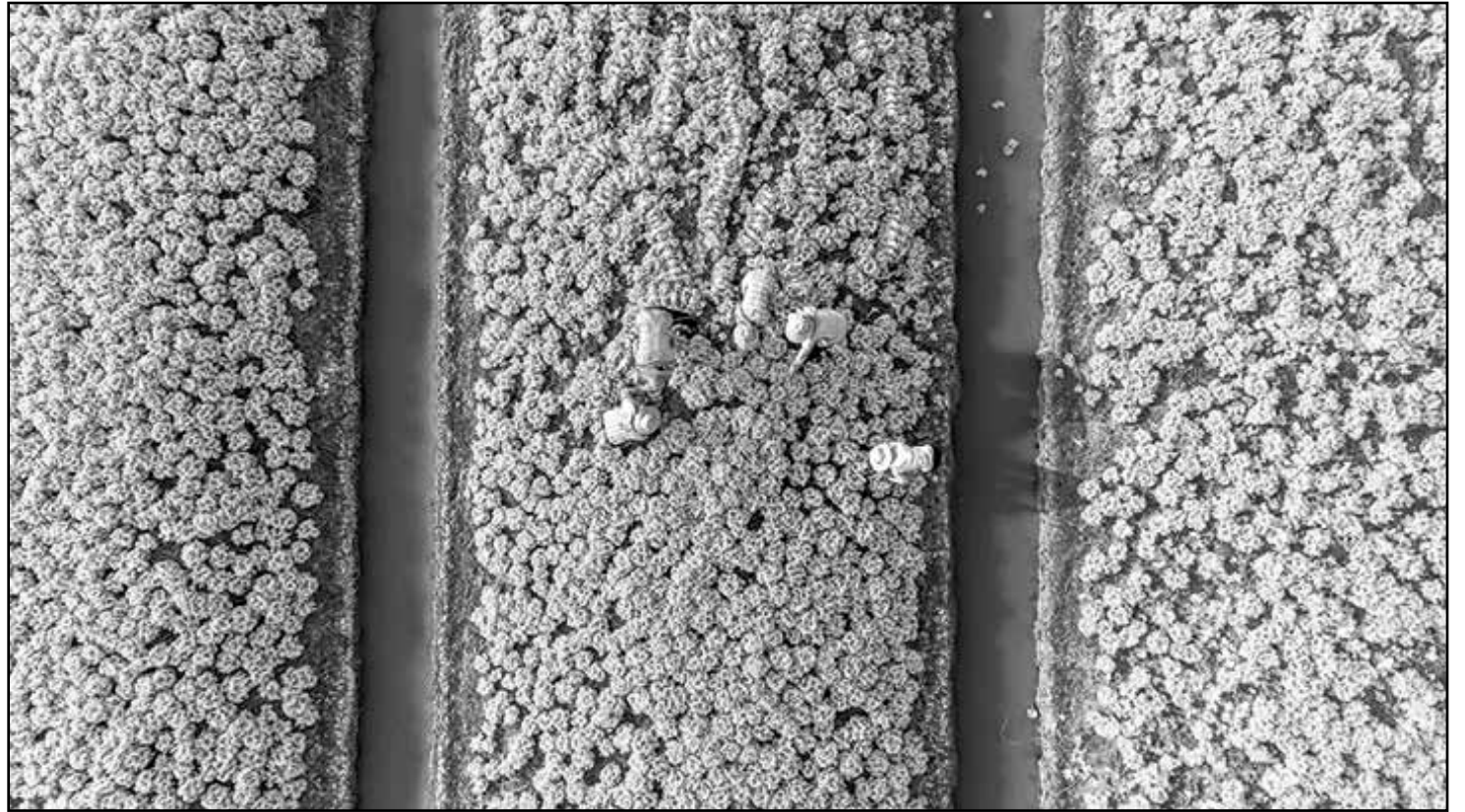
As more farm operators reach retirement age, fewer young farmers are replacing them due to volatile pricing,

high real estate and land costs, steep initial machinery investment costs, and other factors. The physical demand of the industry also takes its toll. So what does this mean for the agricultural industry?

Many with knowledge of the industry indicate sweeping changes are warranted. Ellen Poeschi, the project director for the National Association of Agricultural Educators Teach Ag campaign, has said that a lack of agricultural education is contributing to the problem. Increasing availability of ag education courses across the country could build interest in the industry. Connecting students to internships or mentors may help, too.

Another option is to rally for greater economic opportunities in agriculture. The ag industry in general needs to find ways to make the economic benefits more competitive to other industries, and improve the working conditions and job flexibility. Agricultural industries currently average only 60 percent of what other industries offer in salaries.

Farm wages have been rising due to the H-2A program, which requires farm worker pay to be higher than the state/federal minimum wage. More change is needed, but this may have



The agricultural workforce is shrinking, and has been for some time.

to come at the federal level or be sparked by efforts on the part of agricultural advocacy groups.

Additional strategies farm operators can em-

ploy to combat shortages are: scaling back farm operations; integrating ag technology to reduce labor burdens; pivoting to crops that require fewer laborers;

leasing portions of land to have extra money; employing temporary guest workers; and moving operations abroad.

Worker shortages con-

tinue to be problematic for the agricultural industry. A greater focus on remedying the issue is needed on a grand scale.

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# Fall Farm

4 - Monday, August 28, 2023

A Supplement to The Journal-News, M&M Journal and Macoupin County Journal

## How Rising Food Demand Is Affecting Local Farming

The population is growing and so is its demand for food to fuel those extra bodies. *Harvard Business Review* reports the global population has quadrupled over the last century. It's predicted that, by 2050, the population will exceed nine billion people.

The world is not able to feed all of its inhabitants, according to Penn State. There are more than one billion people who are estimated to lack sufficient food, and two billion who do not receive adequate nutrition.

Researchers from the Institute on the Environment at the University of Minnesota concluded that, to feed the world by 2030, yields on maize, rice, wheat, and soybeans will have to rise by 60 to 110 percent.

At the start of 2023, projections show them only increasing by 45 to 60 percent.

There are a few reasons why food supply may not meet up with demand.

• **Climate change:** Climate change is predicted to cause issues to crop yields, especially in portions of the world where the population is growing the fastest.

For example, a recent NASA study published in the journal *Nature* predicts that high greenhouse gas emissions may cause corn output to decline as early as 2030, but wheat output would increase.

Farmers may need to roll with the punches and shift operations to cope with the environmental changes.

• **Decreased commercial farming interest:** Fewer people are working in farming. Land prices for expansion, new government mandates and regulations, and the impact of immigration and trade policies



There are a few reasons why food supply may not meet up with demand.

have made farming less attractive than it once was. Fewer commercial operations result in a diminished food commodity output.

• **Consumer waste:** Food loss and waste (FLW) is a widespread issue, posing a challenge to food security. The World Bank estimates 30 percent of all food across the globe is wasted, amounting to 1.3 billion tons of food per year.

The average global household wastes 74 kg of food each year, accord-

ing to the United Nations Environment Programme's 2021 Food Waste Index. Food waste is an issue that needs a solution as the world looks for ways to feed an expanding population in the decades to come.

In order to improve output, farmers have to make some changes. These can include investment in tools and technologies that enable farmers to apply nutrients more precisely and at lower cost, advises the Environmental Defense

Fund.

Seeds that need less water and fewer nutrients, as well as new fertilizers that are less likely to be lost to air and water, are some additional ideas. Farmers also may want to employ green practices, such as hydroponics and drip irrigation, if they haven't already, to

improve efficiency and cut costs.

The public also may need to petition their lawmakers to make it easier for farm workers arriving on working visas to man the fields.

Food demand continues to rise, and it has become challenging for agricultural operations to keep up.

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# Fall Farm

A Supplement to The Journal-News, M&M Journal and Macoupin County Journal

Monday, August 28 2023 - 5



Raw honey offers a wide range of benefits to local consumers.

## Five Perks To Enjoying Raw, Local Honey

Whether one places a dollop in tea or drizzles some in a yogurt smoothie, honey is the sweet finish that can make various foods and beverages taste that much better. In fact, honey is perhaps Mother Nature's most natural sweetener.

While honey in any form can provide its share of healthy offerings, raw honey — which is unprocessed and taken straight from a honeycomb — may be even healthier than the alternatives.

According to a 2019 report in *Medical News Today*, some people believe that processing honey, which often involves pasteurization, removes many of its natural beneficial elements. But honey taken straight from the beehive contains

bee pollen, bee propolis and scores of antioxidants.

Individuals interested in trying raw, local honey should consider buying it from a trusted local producer. For those who need more convincing, the following are five beneficial properties of raw honey.

**1. Antioxidants:** Raw honey contains plant chemicals that act as antioxidants. Healthline says some types of honey have as many antioxidants as fruits and vegetables, which can protect the body from free radicals that damage cells.

**2. Antimicrobial/antifungal properties:** Raw honey has antimicrobial properties that could kill certain bacteria, says the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association. That is perhaps

why honey long has been used as a natural salve for wounds. Honey can soothe a sore throat, and it also can attack bacteria in the throat responsible for certain illnesses. Healthline says raw honey also has been studied for its use against certain Candida-related infections.

**3. Allergy relief:** Raw, local honey is made from local flowers and flowering plants. By ingesting raw, local honey regularly, a person is taking in small, manageable doses of allergens from their area, which can help build up an immunity to these allergens over time.

**4. Digestive relief:** Raw honey has been studied for use in treatment for H. pylori bacteria, a common cause of stomach ulcers. Raw honey also may help people

overcome diarrhea. Honey contains prebiotics, which nourish good bacteria that live in the gut.

**5. Brain health:** A 2017 study published in the journal *Pharmacognosy Research* found ingredients of honey have anti-inflammatory properties that may help fight inflammation in an area of the brain called the hippocampus, which is responsible for memory.

Raw, local honey can help protect the environment because the public has a vested interest in maintaining natural spaces and healthy bee populations.

Raw, local honey is available from various vendors, notably small operations at farmers markets who take quality control seriously.

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# Fall Farm

6 - Monday, August 28, 2023

A Supplement to The Journal-News, M&M Journal and Macoupin County Journal

## Rovey Seed Thanks Growers At Reception

By Isaiah Atkins

For the past 51 years, Rovey Seed Company has been producing and selling quality food grade grains and ingredients to the tortilla, snack and distillery industries. On Thursday, Aug. 17, Rovey Seed showed their appreciation for most essential piece of their company, the growers and producers, with their Grower Appreciation day. The event was held at Rovey Seed outside of Farmersville, with over 100 local corn farmers in attendance for day of food, ice cream, gifts and tours around the facility. Attendees enjoyed a taco bar, a Prairie Farms Ice Cream truck, a free T-shirt and were entered in giveaways for additional prizes, such as Bluetooth speakers and more.

Attendees also were given tours of the facilities, with the chance to view the impressive processing plant. Additionally, some of the company's bigger white seed partners were in attendance and available for farmers to speak with.

Rovey Seed Company in Farmersville contracts farmers to grow non-GMO organic corn, usually white but some yellow, and buys them to sell to companies in the tortilla industry. As part of the food options available at the event along with Fat



Over 100 were in attendance for Rovey Seed Company's Grower Reception, which thanked the farmers and producers who work hard growing corn for the company. Pictured above, tortilla chips made from Rovey corn were served at the event. *Journal-News/Isaiah Atkins*

Albert's Barbecue catering, they had tortilla chips donated from Hacienda de Guiterrez, YouLi, Mi Nina and Garden Fresh Gourmet, all companies using corn provided by Rovey growers.

"Thank you all for coming to today's event," said Rovey Seed owner and manager Derek Rovey to the room of

farmers. "The last 50 years of quality product starts with your hard work."

Rovey then informed the group that the company has recently acquired the Farmersville grain elevator, a move made out of necessity due to increasing amounts of product sold. The elevator will account for

additional space for grain storage and help deal with busy shipping days, as the company continues to expand. "We haven't had one of these events in a while," Rovey said, "But with the way things are going, now was a great time to show our appreciation."

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