The Journal-News

$1.50

The Newspaper of Record for Montgomery County

16 Pages

Hillsboro, IL 62049 | Volume 172, No. 37 | Monday, September 18, 2023

Low Bid For High School Comes In At $28.2 Million

Two contractors submitted bids to construct a new building on the Hillsboro High School campus during a bid opening on Thursday afternoon, Sept. 14, at the unit office.

Harold O'Shea Builders of Springfield was the apparent low bidder at $28.2 million. That included a base bid of $27.3 million plus four alternative bids to give the school district options if cost has to be shaved from the project. Those alternate bids include items like seating, siding, wall finishes and HVAC controls.

The second bidder was Poettker Construction of Breese, with a total of $28.8 million and a base of $28.2 million. A third bid was anticipated from an East Peoria contractor who was unable to meet the 2 p.m. bid opening deadline.

Tim Downen of Hurst-Rosche opened the bids. His firm will review both bids before a special meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20, at the unit office to potentially award the winning bid.

The apparent low bid came in about $3.2 million over the latest independent estimate for building construction and demolition of $25 million. That estimate had been updated on both April 24 and Sept. 5.

Wind Company Plans Project In Panhandle

A company that hopes to place energy-producing wind turbines in the Panhandle area of Montgomery County hosted an open house to explain the project on Thursday, Sept. 14, in Girard.

UKA North America, headquartered in Florida but part of a German parent company that has been producing wind and solar power in Europe for more than 20 years, is planning a 150 megawatt wind project that would spread across northern Montgomery County with turbines in Macoupin, Sangamon and Christian counties also.

According to UKA team leader of prospecting Charles Wright, the Grand Prairie Energy Park will build between 19 and 23 wind turbines in the county, each capable of producing between 6.5 and seven megawatts of power and each on a tower reaching 400 feet high.

"One turbine, which will take roughly one acre of land, and power 3,500 homes," Wright said.

According to Jason Sherman of Sherman Communications and Marketing, "today's wind turbines are better, taller, and more energy producing. The closest they will be to an existing structure is 1500 feet, and most will be farther than that."

"A lot of study goes into the placement," UKA project developer Adam Wilson said. With a price tag of over $1 million per turbine, that makes sense. "And that's just the turbine," Wilson added.

Grand Prairie hopes to have a permit filed with the county before the end of the year. Power produced will go to a substation in Sangamon County via an underground line to be placed in abandoned railroad right-of-way, and the developer hopes to then turn that right-of-way into a bike trail.

Continued on page 2A



Viva las Vegas was the theme of this year's Raymond Celebration parade, held Saturday evening, Sept. 16, through downtown Raymond. Pictured above, the Project Third Day - Panhandle organization took home first place honors in the religious and civic organization division for their entry featuring some of Las Vegas' finest acts, like the Blue Man Group. For more coverage of this year's Raymond Celebration parade, see page 8A.

Journal-News/Mary Herschelman

National Voter Registration Day Is Tuesday, September 19

Montgomery County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser encourages eligible residents who wish to register to vote or update their voter registration to take advantage of National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, Sept. 19.

Montgomery County residents, who are at least 17 years old and who will become 18 years old on or before the Nov. 5, 2024 general election, are eligible to register to vote now. They may also vote at the March 19, 2024 general primary election.

Leitheiser reminds voters they must completely re-register to vote if their name has changed or if they have moved to Montgomery County.

Voters who have moved within the county and/or precinct can update their registration address either by completing the voter transfer information on the back of their current voter identification card or by completing the voter address change form, which can be downloaded and printed from the county website at *www.montgomerycountyil.gov*.

Voter registration documents may also be mailed to the county clerk's office in Hillsboro at P.O. Box 595, Hillsboro, IL 62049 or provided to the office in person.

Mt. Moriah Lodge Will Celebrate 175 Years Saturday

The members of Mt. Moriah #51 AF&AM and the Illinois Grand Lodge officers invite the public to attend the re-dedication of the Masonic Lodge and celebration of its 175th anniversary.

Illinois Grand Lodge officers will perform the ceremony at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23, at 903 S. Main in Hillsboro. All are welcome to attend and observe the impressive ceremony.

Refreshments will be served following the event.

Freemasonry first came to Montgomery County on Aug. 31, 1839, 16 years after the founding of the City of Hillsboro. It was officially chartered on Oct. 4, 1848. The lodge, then known as the Hillsboro Lodge #33, met in a tavern in the second story of a brick building on the corner of Main and Tilson St., owned by C.B. Blockburger. That space is now the McKay NAPA Auto Parts store and parking lot, with a historical marker placed on site.

The lodge soon moved to its second location, above Blockburger's tin shop, located on the same property as the tavern. They would meet there for the next 15 years, until they outgrew the space.

The lodge would encounter conflict throughout the 1840s as they sought a charter from the newly founded Illinois Grand Lodge, while they had originally been chartered by the Missouri Grand Lodge.

Continued on page 2A



Mt. Moriah #51 AF&AM will be hosting a re-dedication ceremony at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23. All are welcome to attend, as the lodge celebrates its 175th anniversary.



Raymond Royalty Crowned

A little rain on Saturday evening, Sept. 16, couldn't dampen the spirits of the newly crowned Raymond Celebration royalty. Pictured above, in front, are 2023 Mister Muscle Jesse Carron and 2023 Little Miss Independence Hadleigh Millburg, who were crowned on Friday evening. Standing behind are 2023 Miss Independence Kirsten Pope and 2023 Junior Miss Independence Paislee Krager, who were crowned on Saturday evening. For more from this year's pageants, see page 7A.

Journal-News/Mary Herschelman



Index

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

Weather Forecast

Mon 18	76°/52°	Mostly Sunny	9%
Tue 19	82°/57°	Mostly Sunny	4%
Wed 20	84°/58°	Partly Cloudy	13%
Thu 21	83°/59°	Partly Cloudy	8%



New Lights Help Wood Street Vibe

Downtown Hillsboro had a new vibe on Friday, Sept. 15, when new swag lights overhanging Wood Street enhanced the atmosphere for the live music playing below.

"A lot of cool towns have streets lit that way," Opera House Brewing Company entrepreneur Tony Marcolini said. The city of Hillsboro gave him permission to install the lights, across-the-street neighbor Brian Sullivan is providing the power, and Ameren agreed to turn off their street light for the night. *Ivas John* performed under the new lights, with Opera House serving fall beverages.

Journal-News Photo

Grand Prairie Wind

Continued from front page

Developers plan a 12-18-month construction period, and hope to be producing energy be the end of 2025.

"There's a lot of pride in Farmersville in the soil–some of the best ground there is," Sherman said. "This project will only take about 21 acres out of production–turbines, access roads, and everything. That's not a bad investment to produce 150 megawatts of power."

UKA provided a third-party student that anticipates 67 new jobs during construction and nine long-term jobs. The study also touts an anticipated $31.5 million in property taxes for all taxing district over the life of the project, including a predicted $18.9 million in school district revenue.

In addition to the open house in Girard, Grand Prairie has also had a permanent office in Farmersville since spring. It is located at 103 Elevator Street and is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. The telephone number is 217-208-7362.

Mt. Moriah Lodge

Continued from front page

This would be resolved in 1848 and the lodge became chartered as the Mt. Moriah Lodge #51, AF & AM.

This all led to the third location of the lodge, which was constructed in 1855 with joint accommodations with the Odd Fellows, above Dr. A. S. Haskell's drug store located at 207 S. Main St. The cornerstone, inscribed 1855, of the temple is still visible today from the street, about ten feet above the sidewalk.

Membership grew again, and in 1965, the Masons started looking for a larger space, and landed on construction of a large hall over a commercial space on 305 to 307 Main St. Construction was completed in late 1867, and the first meeting was held in April 1968.

This location would last until 1929, when the lodge bought property on S. Main St. for the construction of a modern temple. However, the Great Depression and World War II delayed the process two decades.

Construction would begin on the current temple in June 1953 and the first meeting was held in 1954 on July 1. However the temple interior would not be finished until December, when it was dedicated by the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

Throughout their history, Mt. Moriah has been involved with the dedication of two public buildings in Hillsboro, laying the cornerstone to the new post office in 1933 and the Hillsboro High School gymnasium in 1939.

Serving the community for 184 years, under the Grand Lodge of Illinois for 175, the members of Mt. Moriah have given time and money to local, state, national and even global charities, as well as scholarships to deserving students and charitable contributions to those touched by personal tragedy and natural disaster.



From the left are Donna Yeske, Jay Martin, David Pembroke, David Cearlock, Robert Martz, Chris Becker, Dale Walcher, Bill Hartman, Tim Taylor and Mary Jean Myers.

Photo courtesy of Cheryl Miller

Hero Koozie Donates To Witt Memorial

Witt Veterans Memorial is still working on raising funds to build their memorial, and during the Witt Labor Day celebration, donations were received throughout the weekend with help from Hero's Koozie.

The business makes and sells koozie cups in honor of the heroes of United States armed forces. They designed some for a few Witt locals, sold them as well as hats and a drawing, bringing in a $500 donation to the Witt Memorial.

Funds raised so far are $36,000 with a goal of $105,000.

Hero's Koozie will be back on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, with more koozies for sale and a raffle at the Witt Memorial next fundraiser: Lost Highway Bank will be at the Witt Lions Club from 7-11 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11. Tickets are $10 each. Bring your own snacks and enjoy a cash bar. See the Witt Illinois Veterans Memorial Facebook page for more information.

Hero Koozie is a veteran-owned koozie company that honors armed forces heroes. A portion of the proceeds from each sale is donated to a local organization that supports veterans. Hero Koozies can currently be found at the VFW in Mattoon, at the American Legion in Springfield or on Facebook to see where they will be. They can make koozie cups to honor any beloved veteran.



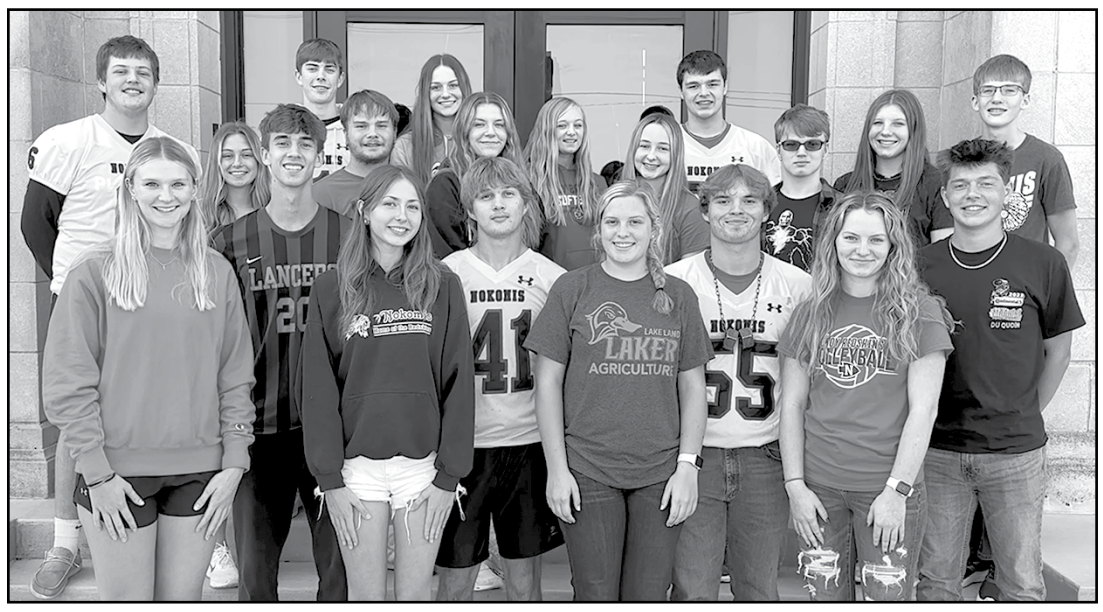
Litchfield Ready For Homecoming

It's Homecoming week at Litchfield High School. Throughout the week, students will participate in a variety of dress-up days and spirit activities. Homecoming week culminates with the annual Homecoming parade on Friday, Sept. 22, beginning at 4 p.m. The street fair will immediately follow on the northeast lawn of the high school. On Saturday, Sept. 23, students will enjoy the Homecoming dance, from 7 to 10 p.m. in Simmons Gym. Coronation of the new king and queen will be held at 7:30 p.m. Members of this year's Homecoming court are pictured above. In front, from the left are Amy Frerichs, Emma Diveley, Kendall Stewart, Carly Favre and Alyssa Lohman. In back are Tate Dobrinich, AJ Odle, Drake Gasperson, Keenan Powell and Easton Grammer.



CEO Students Tour Atlas 46 In Hillsboro

Caleb Reynolds led Montgomery County CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities) program students on a tour through various facilities of Atlas 46 in downtown Hillsboro on Wednesday, Sept. 6. The students got to see the research and development facility, as well as several production sites and storefront areas. One key lesson Reynolds shared was how Atlas 46 has many different revenue streams. "The goal is to be able to be as diversified as possible," he told the students. Atlas 46 sells to both commercial and consumer clients, giving them variety in their revenue and security in the longevity of their business.



It's Homecoming Week At Nokomis

It's Homecoming week for Nokomis High School students. The week includes a variety of dress-up days, Breakfast of Champions at North School on Friday and the annual Homecoming parade on Friday, Sept. 22, at 2:45 p.m. This year's Homecoming dance will be held on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 7 to 10 p.m. The doors open to the public at 6:45 p.m., and the coronation of the new king and queen will be held at 6:45 p.m. Members of the NHS Homecoming court are pictured above. In front, from the left are seniors, Reaghan Jonas, Reece Lohman, Irene Vandenbergh, Brenton Lyons, Cydney Bertolino, Jaxson Batty, Presley Mehochko and Kennedy DeWerff. In the second row are juniors Atticus Bertolino, Gracie DeWerff, Bruno Fox and Elizabeth Hill. In the third row are sophomores Camryn Engelman, Deiken Altevogt, Kinley Stolte and Andrew Suslee. In back are freshmen Kannon Jonas, Mackenzie Mehochko, Maliah Harris and Hunter Arkebauer.

The Journal-News
The Newspaper of Record for Montgomery County



SELMA CAN FIND HELP

Looking for the right person to fill a job vacancy? Meet Selma.

Selma can help you find qualified folks who are eager work, or she can help you find just the job you're looking for.

Put Selma to work for you.

visit thejournal-news.net
or call 217-532-3933 today

431 S. Main St. • PO Box 100 • Hillsboro, IL 62049-0100 • 217-532-3933 • thejournal-news@consolidated.net



Litchfield Church Packs School Kits

As part of their regular worship service on Sunday, Sept. 10, members of Union Avenue Christian Church packed 50 school kits for the Church World Service project. The kits included notebooks, pencils, crayons, erasers, a ruler and a pencil sharpener. Items were prayed over and then put in brightly colored bags. The school kits will be delivered to St. Louis, MO, where they will be shipped to children in need all over the world.

REDSKIN REVIEW • by Reaghan Jonas at Nokomis

Redskin Students Ready For Homecoming



Happy Monday, everyone! I hope you had a great weekend!

Homecoming week is here! Just a reminder, here are the dress up days for this week. Monday is Oz the Great and Powerful (wear your assigned color - yellow for freshmen, pink for sophomores, blue for juniors and red for seniors). Tuesday is Which Witch is Which? (twin with someone). Wednesday is Lions, Tigers, and Bears.. Oh My! (dress like your favorite Oz character). Thursday is Welcome to the Emerald City (dress in green and glitter). Friday is There's a Storm Coming (Spirit Day - wear red and black!)

The junior versus senior dodgeball game is Wednesday night at 6 p.m. with the bonfire for everyone following.

On Friday, Sept. 22, athletes going to the Breakfast of Champions are asked to be at the school at 7:35 a.m., as we will be leaving for the North School at 7:45 a.m.

The Homecoming Parade will begin at 2:45 p.m. Friday afternoon at the nursing home and head uptown from there. The dance is Saturday night, Sept. 23, from 7 to 10 p.m. Coronation will begin at 7:15 p.m. Doors open for the public at 6:45 p.m.

The Redskins football team got the win last Friday against Cerro Gordo. They are now 2-2 on the season. The Homecoming football game will be at home this Friday, Sept. 22, against Kansas. Class banners and Homecoming court will be announced at halftime.

The junior varsity football team defeated Villa Grove 54-40. They are now 3-0 on the season. The junior varsity football team will travel to Cerro Gordo for a game on Monday, Sept. 18.

The Lady Redskins volleyball team got their first conference win last Monday against South County. They got the win against Vandalia last Wednesday as well. That improves their record to 14-3-1. They have two conference games this week as they travel to Lutheran on Tuesday and Tri-City on Thursday.

The soccer team beat North Mac last Monday, 7-0. Their game against Metro East Lutheran last Thursday was canceled due to a forfeit. On Friday they had a tough game against Lutheran and ended in a 0-0 tie. Their record is now 8-1-3.

They will play at Hillsboro on Monday night, Sept. 18. Junior varsity will play first at 5 p.m., with varsity to follow. They will be playing for the Grace Cup which will be passed between the Hillsboro and Lincolnwood soccer teams, the winner will receive the traveling trophy. They host Riverton at home on Friday, Sept. 22.

The golf team has two home meets this week. They will play Vandalia on Wednesday and Altamont on Thursday. Thursday's match will be senior night. Nokomis senior Coree Keagy and the other Ramsey seniors will be honored.

Good luck to all athletes this week!

I hope everyone has a great Homecoming week, and a good time at the dance!

PANTHER PRESS • by Amy Frerichs at Litchfield

It's Homecoming Week For LHS Students



It's Homecoming week, Panthers!

Remember, students to grab a lunch before leaving the building. Mr. Carlson has offered to take a pie to the face if we can get to 300 lunches taken!

This week is a big week for students! Dress up days look like . . .

- Monday: Rhyme without reason
- Tuesday: BBQ Dad versus Soccer Mom
- Wednesday: Crazy Day
- Thursday: Dress as your class. (seniors as senior citizen, juniors as college students, sophomores as toddlers and freshmen as babies).
- Friday: School Spirit

If you are wanting to purchase tickets to the Homecoming dance, tickets will be sold in the morning. Tickets are $10 a piece. If you have late start see Mrs. Brummet!

Football will go up against Hillsboro this week. The theme is Panther PIT Pool Party!

Volleyball will have three games this week. Starting the week off on Monday, they have a home game against Metro East Lutheran. The Panther PIT theme is USA. Tuesday will be away at Vandalia. Then, they will end the week at Pana.

Boys golf will compete on Monday at Indian Springs. They travel to Hillsboro to compete on Tuesday and end the week at Jerseyville.

Girls golf will compete along with the boys on Tuesday at Hillsboro. They travel to Oak Terrance on Wednesday, and complete on Thursday at Vandalia.

Soccer will start their week off with home games on Tuesday and Thursday. They travel to Civic Memorial on Saturday.

Cross country will compete Saturday at Lincoln Park.

Good luck to all teams! Be safe this week, Panthers!

Ronk Electric Names New Strategic Director

Ronk Electrical Industries in Nokomis, a leading electrical equipment manufacturer, has announced the promotion of Mark Hoffert to director of strategic partnerships.

Hoffert will be responsible for implementing the company's strategic initiatives to their sales and distribution channel partners.

Hoffert joined Ronk Electrical Industries with over 30 years of electrical and power distribution experience. His electrical knowledge includes mechanical power transmission design, electrical troubleshooting and repair, technical training support and sales development.

His new leadership role will facilitate collaboration between Ronk, strategic partners and customers to deliver innovative products, services and solutions throughout this area.



Mark Hoffert

Founded in 1950, Ronk Electrical Industries is a market leader in manufacturing phase converters, double throw and transfer switches, stray voltage isolators and now, portable generator connection equipment from their facility in Nokomis.

Public Meetings

Hillsboro City Council

The Hillsboro City Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 19 at City Hall in downtown Hillsboro. The agenda will include the annual health insurance renewal, hiring an engineer/dispatcher for the fire department and road closures for the Christmas festival and parade.

Nokomis School Board

The members of Nokomis School Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the unit office. Preceding the meeting, there will be a public hearing on the fiscal year 2024 budget at 7:25 p.m. with an open floor for public comments on the budget proposal.

In addition to approving FY2024 budget, the agenda includes a FY2024 Maintence Grant proposal and amended joint agreement of the NPT Special Education Cooperative.

Natural Resources Committee

The Natural Resources Committee for the City of Hillsboro will meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at Hillsboro City Hall.

The agenda will include an update on the adjacent landowner sale program, a report on progress of the watershed management plan, a report on the Hillsboro City Council meeting, discussion of the South Marina dock, approving the meeting calendar and dicussion of agenda items for next month's meeting.

Litchfield School Board

Members of the Litchfield School Board will meet for their regular monthly meeting on Thursday evening, at the Litchfield Unit Office, beginning at 6 p.m. The meeting will begin with a public hearing and presentation of the budget for fiscal year 2023-2024.

Following the public hearing, the board will move into the regular meeting. Agenda items include to open and award a bid for the sale of Russell School, an update on the superintendent search, updates on construction projects at Litchfield Elementary School, Litchfield Primary School and the SCI Center and adoption of the budget. They will also discuss the 2023-2024 school maintenance grant application, risk management plan, transfer $771,900 from capital projects to debt service and abate $4 million from working cash to capital projects for the pre-K addition at Litchfield Primary School.

Hiltopper Choirs Present 'Magic Of Disney' Show

Students in the Hillsboro High School choirs will present a special fall concert, "The Magic of Disney" on Wednesday evening, Oct. 4, in the HHS Gym.

Both the concert choir and Chamber Singers will be performing favorite Disney hits from *Frozen, Encanto, Tangled* and more. In addition, there will be a few featured soloists performing Disney songs.

Admission is $3 for adults and $1 for students and children. All proceeds will benefit the spring production of *Something Rotten.*

Topperettes Will Host Dance Camp In October

The Hillsboro High School Topperettes Dance Team will host a dance camp fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 7, in the old gym at Hillsboro Junior High School.

The dance camp is open to kindergarten through sixth grade students in the Hillsboro School District, as well as students who are homeschooled. The cost is $15 to participate.

Registration begins at 9:45 a.m., and the camp will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. A special performance for parents will be held at 11:30 a.m. The camp includes dance, games and a snack and drink.

This year's dance camp will have a Taylor Swift "Eras" theme. Participants are encouraged to wear Taylor Swift shirts or dress in their favorite Taylor Swift song era.

Those interested must register by Oct. 5. The dance camp is being hosted by the HHS Topperettes and coaches Shanna Connor and Emily Rork. For more information or to register, contact Connor at 217-494-5235.

Soil And Water District Hosts Annual Fish Sale

The Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District is now accepting orders for the 2023 fall fish sale.

Species of live fish available for pond stocking include channel catfish, largemouth bass, regular and hybrid bluegill, redear, fathead minnows and grass carp for pond maintenance.

Fish orders are due by Oct. 5 for crass carp and by Oct. 13 for all other species. Pick-up of the fish will be Thursday, Oct. 19 at 8 a.m. at the Hillsboro Township Shed, located at 9056 IL Route 127 in Taylor Springs.

Payment will be accepted on or before the sale date.

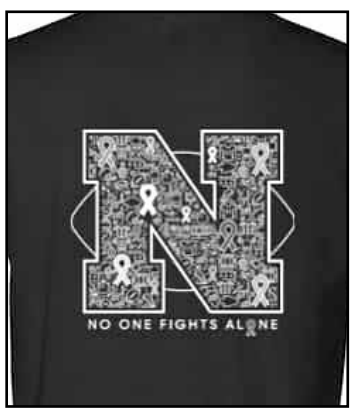
Order forms may be picked up at the Montgomery County Soil and Water Office at 1621 Vandalia Rd. in Hillsboro or by calling Melissa or Lora at 217-532-3361, extension 3 or by download at *www.facebook.com/MontgomeryILSWCD* and *www.montswcd.com.*

NHS Student Council Selling Cancer Shirts

The Nokomis High School National Honor Society will be hosting this year's Cancer Awareness Game on Friday, Oct. 13, when the Redskins will host Cumberland for a football game.

This year's theme we will honor those who have been taken from us and survivors of all cancers with the theme "No One Fights Alone."

To honor that night, National Honor Society is selling "No One Fights Alone" T- shirts, and all proceeds will benefit the Montgomery County Cancer Association. Shirt orders will be accepted through Sept. 25. This year's shirts were designed by a former Redskin football player,



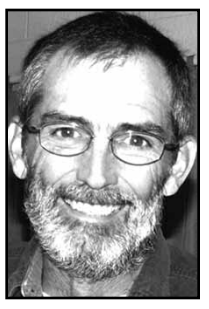
and are $20.

More information about the Cancer Awareness Game will be announced later. There is a link to order shirts online on the Nokomis School District's Facebook page.

Obituaries

James L. Baird, 62

U.S. Army Veteran



James Lee Baird, 62, of Morrisonville, died on Sept. 15, 2023.

No public services will be planned, as Mr. Baird never liked being the center of attention. The family has entrusted Perfetti-Assalley Funeral Home in Morrisonville with arrangements.

Mr. Baird was born Sept. 13, 1961, in Warrensburg, MO, the son of Bill and Jane (Traughber) Baird. His early childhood was spent overseas in Spain and Morrocco, while his father served in the United States Air Force. After returning stateside, Mr. Baird grew up in and around Clarksdale, and graduated from Taylorville High School with the Class of 1979.

After graduation, Mr. Baird enlisted in the United States Army. He was stationed at Camp Casey in Korea with the 2nd Infantry Division. On Feb. 27, 1982, Mr. Baird married Kayla Klinger at the First Presbyterian Church in Morrisonville. Together they shared 41 years of marriage, and raised their five children.

Mr. Baird was known for his work ethic. Over the years he worked for Johnson Township, Christian County FS, Echlin Inc., owned and operated Baird's Seamless Gutters and was most recently an over the road truck driver. Mr. Baird loved nature, fishing, hunting and occasionally trespassing on his adventures.

He is survived by his parents, Bill and Jane of Taylorville; wife, Kayla of Morrisonville; children, J.R. (Tracy), Levi (Mady), Scott, Kurtis and Tatum; grandson, Liam; siblings, Bonnie (David) Hoffert, Jeff (Susan) and Janis; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Visit *www.assalleyfuneralhomes.com* to share memories of Mr. Baird, or to offer condolences to his family.

Henry Mollett, 84

Leaves Family In Sorento



Henry Frederick Fritz Mollet, age 84, of Salem, IN, died on Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023, at Salem Crossing.

Cremation rites were accorded, and a celebration of life will be held at a later date. Weathers Funeral Home in Salem, IN, is assisting the family.

Mr. Mollet was born Sept. 4, 1939, in Pocahontas, the son of Henry Lewis Mollet and Fern Mary (Landolt) Mollet.

A retired butcher, he was a member of Eastside Baptist Church in Paoli.

Survivors include his wife, Mathilda Cora "Tillie" (Zielsdorf) Mollet of Salem; four sons, Lonnie Mollet of Casey and Darrell Mollet, Glen Mollet and Darrin Mollet all of Salem, IN; a brother, Mike Mollet of Sorento; a sister, Wilma Holcmann of Sorento; nine grandchildren, seven step-grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 16 step-great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Steven Mollet; a brother, Jerry Mollet; two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Auditions Set For October For Hiltopper Variety Show

Hillsboro High School students interested in auditioning for this year's Variety Show event are encouraged to sign up for auditions with choir teacher Amy Lemons.

Auditions for this year's talent show will be held Oct. 10-12 at the school. All types of acts are encouraged, including singing, dancing, acting, magic tricks and more.

The annual Variety Show will be held on Thursday evening, Oct. 26, in the HHS Gym.



Happy 80th Birthday in Heaven to a True Daughter of God September 23, 1943

We miss you.

Husband James
Sons Bradley, Craig, Shawn & Brant
Twin Girls Ruby Ann & Megan Lee

The Journal-News
The Newspaper of Record for Montgomery County
Published Monday & Thursday
431 S. Main, PO Box 100, Hillsboro, IL 62049
217-532-3933 • thejournal-news@consolidated.net

Owners ..... John and Susan Galer
Publisher ..... Mike Plunkett
Editor ..... Mary (Galer) Herschelman
Sports Editor ..... Kyle Herschelman

The Journal-News (USPS 245-560) is published twice-weekly (Monday and Thursday) by Hillsboro Journal, Inc., 431 S. Main St., Hillsboro IL 62049. Periodicals postage paid at Hillsboro, IL and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Journal-News, PO Box 100, Hillsboro, IL 62049.

Subscription Information

Subscriptions are payable in advance. Complete the following and mail to The Journal-News, P.O. Box 100, Hillsboro, IL 62049-0100. Or call 217-532-3933 to order a subscription and charge it to VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express, or pay online at www.thejournalnews.net.

	6 months	1 year	2 years
In Montgomery County	$40	$55	$106
Out-of-county Rates			
Mailed once a week	$55	$82	$154
Mailed twice weekly	$82	$116	$224
E-edition on www.thejournal-news.net	$55		$106

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____



Hendricks Participates In Walk For Williams

Hillsboro High School senior Camden Hendricks, along with several family members and friends, participated in the annual Walk for Williams Syndrome on Sunday, Sept. 10, at Eckert's in Belleville. Zach Eaves and his family also usually participate, but he was unable to attend this year. In addition, the late Spencer Hughes of Litchfield was also honored at the walk.

The annual fundraiser helps provide for scholarships to camp, college tuition and transition programs, helps educators and members of the medical community learn more about Williams Syndrome, helps families travel to see medical experts nationwide and funds critical medical research.

Hillsboro Library Plans Comic Book Workshop

Hillsboro Area Public Library will host a comic book workshop on Friday, Sept. 29, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the library.

Space is limited to 25 participants on a first-come, first-served basis, so make sure to sign up early.

The program will be presented by Do Art Productions, and participants will have a chance to create their own artwork for the comics.

For more information or to sign up, call the library at 217-532-3055.

Hillsboro Lions Club
Seasoned Pork Chop Lunch
Friday, Sept. 22
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
CNB Hillsboro Banking Center
$8 meal includes:
- Seasoned Pork Chop Sandwich
- Chips
- Drink
- $6 for sandwich only

The Hillsboro Lions Club thanks you for your support of community activities such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, eye examination machine, Senior Citizens, and other local projects to support the community!

Litchfield VFW Hosts Glo Bingo In September

Members of the Litchfield VFW and Auxiliary will be hosting a Glo-Bingo event on Saturday, Sept. 30, at the Litchfield Community Center. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and Bingo starts at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available in advance for $25 or at the door for $30. Admission includes six Bingo cards for ten games, a glow hat and dauber. Players may purchase an additional six cards for $5.

Players may bring in food and drinks, and there will also be food available for purchase.

Proceeds will go to help local veterans and their families. For more information or tickets, contact Barb at 217-556-3156.

Boehlers Plan Fall Reunion In Waggoner

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.

Marriage Licenses

Robert Joseph Triplett Jr., Mt. Olive; Erin Elizabeth Vazzi, Mt. Olive

Cory Paul Forrest, Mt. Olive; Merideth Lea Wempen, Mt. Olive



Pantry Pals Kicks Off New School Year

Volunteers with Union Avenue Christian Church in Litchfield kicked off the first week of Pantry Pals for a new school year on Thursday evening, Sept. 7, at the church. The program, which was started during the 2017-2018 school year, provides weekend food bags for students in need in the Litchfield School District. That first night, volunteers packed 159 bags for students kindergarten through eighth grade, as well as the alternative school at the unit office. Church members pack bags every other Thursday evening in the church basement, beginning at 6 p.m. *Journal-News Photo*

Fairy Godmother Returns To Litchfield

by Mary (Galer) Herschelman

With Litchfield High School Homecoming just around the corner, the Fairy Godmother Boutique has been set up in the school office for those in need of a dress to wear to the dance.

Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo!

And just like that, the Fairy Godmother Boutique has returned to Litchfield High School just in time for the annual Homecoming dance on Saturday evening, Sept. 23.

The boutique, which is set up in the high school office provides both Prom and Homecoming dresses at no charge for any students in need of a little magic.

LHS Secretary Chrissy Ortega started the boutique about three years ago because she saw the need that some students had in being able to attend the dances.

"Everyone deserves to dress up and be pretty even if they can't afford an expensive dress," Ortega said.

She collects donated dresses from within the community and then sets up racks in the office ahead of both school dances. High school students are able to come and look at the dresses as they want. Ortega even has had donations of jewelry and shoes for the boutique.

Anyone interested in making a donation to the Fairy Godmother Boutique may contact Ortega in the Litchfield High School office at 217-324-3955.

"It's been a great community effort, and I'm so glad it's gone so well," Ortega said.

Thank you to all the special people for cards, calls, flowers, food and visits on my 90th birthday.
Blessings and Love,
Glenda Smoot and Family

Phone 532-3933
To Place Your Classified Ad

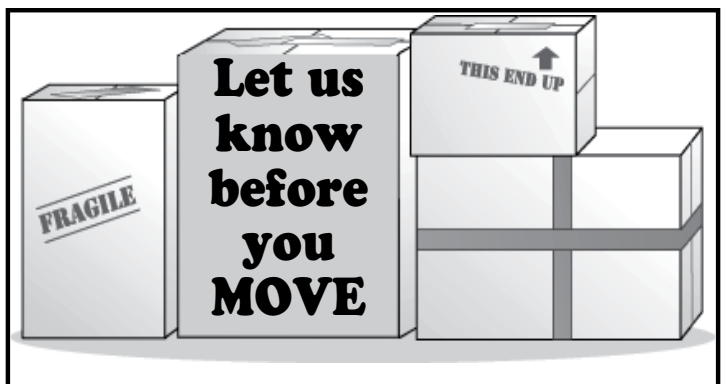
Thank You

My breast cancer journey has shown me how deeply the people of Hillsboro are connected and how strongly they can rally for those in need. There simply isn't enough words to express the gratitude I feel towards everyone who has supported me and my family during this difficult time. They have carried me through my double mastectomy, and their continued efforts, contributions, and emotional support will help carry me through upcoming chemo and radiation.
From fundraisers to acts of service, countless meals, phone calls, cards, and simple "how are you's"—I have never felt so loved and cared for in any community. At risk of forgetting a few names of those who reached out to me, I would still like to thank as many people as I can.

The tremendous trio and their families: Laura Phillips, Jen Estes, and Amanda Wright (and their partner in crime, Frankie Norman)
The Montgomery County Cancer Association
The Montgomery County Breast Cancer Support Group
HJHS Softball team, coaches, and families
My extended family: Cindy Tevis, Rosie Beckett, Linda Goss, and Lisa Beckett
Lomos Del Sol
Sandra (Torres) Lipe (Fridas Tacos)
Gianni's Pizza
Montgomery County Realty
James Hertel with The Roy L. Hertel Foundation
Lori Speiser
Tina Hagemeier
Linda Cobetto
Deneta Shmedeke
Rebecca Waters
Kim Noyes
Christine May
Cheryl Bishop
John and Susie Galer
Brandi Harbert
Ms. Teresa Todt
Melinda Slightom
Ms. Nancy Hindle
Joyce Lipe
Alex Carter
Jennifer Jarman
Tera Scroggins
Jamie Ross
Cheryl Bishop
Amy Jeffers
Dawn McCafferty
Deidre Langston
Jaclyn Hellums
Jamie Ross
Kim Lohman
Shawne Page
Stephanie Dyas
Ali Luckett
Laura Fleming

Thank you to everyone, from the bottom of my heart—Rachel Beckett

HILLSBORO SERTOMA COOKOUT
Monday, September 25
10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
CNB Parking Lot, Hillsboro
Pork Patties Or Bratwurst
$8 ~ Per Meal
$6 ~ Sandwich Only



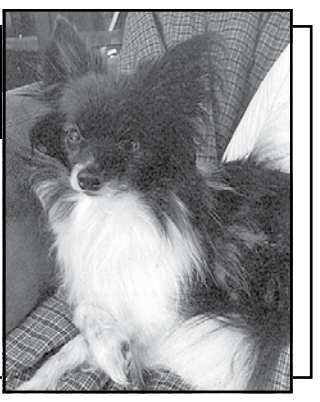
To make sure delivery of The Journal-News is uninterrupted, please let us know your new address before you move.

Name_____
New Street Address_____
City, State, Zip _____
Effective Date _____

Old Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Mail to: The Journal-News, P.O. Box 100, Hillsboro, IL 62049

REWARD
Lost Dog
Needs Medication
Call Cassie • 618-581-4824



IRVING FALL CLEAN UP
8am-1pm Monday-Tuesday, October 16-17
at the Irving Township Building
Residents must check in at the building and provide proof of residency

ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ARE:
- Paints/Chemicals
- Petroleum Products
- Electronics (TVs, Monitors)
- Hazardous or Special Waste
- Tires/Inner Tubes
- Yard Waste

TREE WALK AT BREMER SANCUARY

Join us at Bremer Sanctuary, just north of Hillsboro, for a guided Tree Walk with Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator, Andrew Holsinger. Learn about what trees we can utilize in the landscape and avoid the pitfalls of planting a tree in the wrong site. You will also find some common invasive plants and learn how they negatively impact the environment and how to control their spread. This event is FREE and open to the public.

Saturday, Sept. 23 from 10 to 11 a.m.
194 Bremer Ln in Hillsboro, IL

Register online at go.illinois.edu/bremertreewalk or call Montgomery County Extension at 217-532-3941 by Sept. 21. If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please call 217-532-3941.

Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Hiltopper Pep Assembly Will Honor Fall Athletes

For the second year in a row, Hillsboro High School is hosting a community-wide pep assembly to honor all fall athletes.

This year's pep assembly will be held on Saturday, Sept. 23, at Sawyer Field (high school football field). Introduction of fall sports players, band members, dance team and cheerleaders will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the Powder Puff football game at 7 p.m.

Homecoming court and class representatives will be announced at halftime.

Admission is $5 per person, and the entire community is invited to come and join the fun. Proceeds will benefit the sophomore class.

Greenwood Family Meets For 81st Annual Reunion

The 81st annual Greenwood family reunion was held Sunday, Sept. 10, at the Coffeen Methodist Church Annex. Thirty-nine family members were in attendance, and enjoyed a 12:30 p.m. carry-in lunch.

The minutes from the 2022 reunion were read and approved and a motion was made and approved to donate $100 to the church annex.

New officers elected for the 2024 reunion were President Brandon Greenwood and Secretary and Treasurer Kim Greenwood. Get well wishes and cards were sent to family members who were unable to attend.

The youngest grandparent present was Carol Dunn. The grandparents with the most grandchildren was a tie between Russell Greenwood and Don and Marilyn Blankenship, who also have been married the longest. The first to arrive were Gary Greenwood and Sherry Fenwick. Chuck and Renny Ehler and Darrel and Jean Wichman traveled the farthest, coming from Champaign. The youngest person present was Taylor Johnson.

Those in attendance were Larry and Beverly Greenwood, Mike and Vicki Greenwood, Brandon Greenwood, Tessa Lane, Jake and Karen Blankenship, Kathy Turner, Eldon and Jeanne Greenwood, John, Kim and Micah Greenwoood, Peyton Simpson, Austin Greenwood, Bob and Denise Warnock and Glen and Theresa Greenwood, all of Coffeen; Megan Turner of Collinsville, Tom, Julie and Elena Vono of Chatham, Sherry Fenwick, Chuck and Renny Ehler, Darrel and Jean Wichman, all of Champaign, Gary Greenwood of Alton, Marilyn Blankenship of Mulberry Grove, Russell Greenwood of Hillsboro, Carol Dunn of Ramsey, Morgan and Taylor Johnson of Nokomis, Jerry Walters of Pana, Serena Walters of Shelbyville and Cathryn and Michael Zerkel of Glen Carbon.

The 2024 Greenwood family reunion will be held the second Sunday of September.

Local Students Invited To Music Major Program

High school students from Hillsboro, Litchfield and Lincolnwood interested in continuing to pursue music education after high school are invited to a special meeting.

The informational meeting will be held in the music room at Litchfield High School on Thursday evening, Oct. 5, beginning at 6 p.m. Students planning to major or minor in a music field, including education, performance, business or musical theater, are invited to attend with their parents.

For more information, contact a local music teacher.



Lincolnwood Classmates Share 45 Years Of Memories

Members of the Lincolnwood High School class of 1978 celebrated the 45th anniversary of their graduation with a reunion at Bullard's in Morrisonville on Sunday, Sept. 3. They enjoyed a wonderful evening of catching up and a delicious meal that was provided by Judy Carriker. Classmates pictured above, in front, from the left are Theron Wernsing, Joe Mizera, Don Krager, Allan Weitekamp, Larry Watson and John Pope. Standing behind are Brad Cloyd, Debbie (Bedinghaus) Waggoner, Colleen Murphy, Kara Sue (Fuchs) Hitchings, Mary Ann (Hobson) Rimini, Lisa (Brown) Smith, Brenda (Pinkston) Todt, Patti Beck, Sharri (Todt) Huddleston, Bob Riggs, Penny (Pope) Grundy, Lori (Monke) Franklin, Pat (Broaddus) Olson, Dawn (Merkel) Davis, Jeff Richey, Rose (Clark) Thompson, Brent Murphy and Randy Wagahoff. Not present for the photo was Mike Millburg.

DAR Trivia Night Will Support Scholarships

Members of the Christiana Tillson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will host their eighth annual trivia night fundraiser on Saturday evening, Nov. 11. This year's event will once again be held at the Hillsboro Lions Club, located at 212 E. Fairground in Hillsboro.

Registration is now open for teams of eight, and admission is $100 per team. Doors open at 6 p.m., and trivia will begin at 7 p.m.

Soda and bottled water will be available to purchase, and outside snacks and drinks are welcome and encouraged.

The chapter is also looking for local businesses, organizations and individuals to sponsor the evening. Platinum sponsorship is $200, and includes a table of eight. There is also a platinum level for $150 that does not include a table for trivia. Other sponsorship levels are $100 for a round sponsor and any other amount as an event sponsor. All donor names will be added to sponsor posters and advertisements.

Sponsor payments may be sent to the Christiana Tillson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revoluion, Attn: Kendra Wright, 140 Pinnacle Point Drive, Hillsboro, IL 62049. All sponsorships are due by Nov. 1.

Proceeds from this year's event will benefit the DAR Good Citizen Scholarships awarded each spring.

For more information or to reserve a table, contact Wright at 217-556-6890 or *kendranwright@icloud.com*.



Lions Club Contributes To Nokomis Ambulance

Pictured above, Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Chief Brandon Andrews and Assistant Chief Tyler Batty accept a donation from the Nokomis Lions Club, presented by President Jim Rupert. The donation was one of many contributions the service has received from the community over the last year, as they do their best to find funding.

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

NO news is BAD news
Share your news at
thejournal-news@consolidated.net

MONTGOMERY
Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
"The Home With Heart"
State Licensed & Approved • Medicare & Medicaid Approved
24 Hour Admission, 7 Days A Week
• Long or Short Term Rehabilitation
• Skilled & Intermediate Care • Restorative Therapy
• Physical, Speech & Occupational Therapy
• Hospice Care • Respite Care
• ADULT DAY CARE
• SeniorCise Program
Activity Program
Beautician • Podiatry Care
Selective Menu • Church Services
9086 IL Rt 127 • PO Box 309 • Hillsboro IL 62049-0309
217-532-6126 or Toll Free 1-800-366-9738
www.thehomeswithheart.com

BANK LOCAL
JUMBO CD SPECIAL
12 Month 5.00% Annual Percentage Yield
$100,000 Minimum Balance
Offer Valid Through 9/30/2023
Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal
316 N. State
Litchfield, IL 62056
(217) 324-6161
LNB Litchfield National Bank
Member FDIC

Edward Jones
> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC
Compare our CD Rates
Bank-issued, FDIC-insured
6-month 5.35 % APY*
9-month 5.40 % APY*
1-year 5.45 % APY*
Call or visit your local financial advisor today.
Litchfield
Kelly J Steiner
108 E Columbian Blvd S
217-324-7909
Litchfield
Mike Delaney, CFP®
614 West Union
217-324-2625
Hillsboro
Jacey M Hill
303 Dearborn St.
217-532-2999
Hillsboro
Blake J Delaney
303 Dearborn St.
217-532-2999
*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 9/13/2023. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to $250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).
FDI-1867K-A © 2022 EDWARD D. JONES & COMPANY, L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Our job doesn't end when the markets close.
Clockwise Financial Partners
Powered by Ameriprise Financial
Being a financial advisor is about more than money. It's about knowing our clients and what matters to them. We understand the markets and your goals. We work with you, on your schedule, to provide personalized financial advice that can help you stay on track to reach tomorrow's goals while still making it through today's challenges.
Call us today to get started
217.324.3203
Jimmy Gorowski, CFS®, BFA™ Financial Advisor
Lonnie Bathurst, CFP® Private Wealth Advisor
John Winans, CFP® Private Wealth Advisor
Clockwise Financial Partners
A private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC
510 North State St, Litchfield, IL 62056
clockwisefinancialpartners@ampf.com | clockwisefinancialpartners.com
Ameriprise Financial cannot guarantee future financial results.
Not FDIC or NCUA Insured | No Financial Institution Guarantee | May Lose Value
Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and CFP (with plaque design) in the U.S.
Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC.
© 2023 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

GROWING YOUR ROOTS • by Katie Wilson, Montgomery County Farm Bureau

It's National Farm Safety Week



Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) is again partnering with the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) to promote farm safety and health during National Farm Safety and Health Week, themed, "No One Can Take Your Place," Sept. 17-23.

We're excited to help promote and support NECAS's efforts in keeping farmers and farm families safe. Harvest season can be particularly dangerous for farmers with long hours and stress of weather delays, equipment breakdowns or high operating costs, and this year's activities will reinforce the importance of organizations like ours working together to ensure farmers make it home safely to their families at night.

Each day of the week has a designated topic of focus to promote various aspects of farm safety:

• Monday, Sept. 18 – Equipment and Rural Roadway Safety
• Tuesday, Sept. 19 – Health and Wellness
• Wednesday, Sept. 20 – Priority Populations
• Thursday, Sept. 21 – Confined Spaces
• Friday, Sept. 22 – Brain Health

The 2019 data for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the agricultural sector is still the most dangerous in America with 573 fatalities, or an equivalent of 23.1 deaths per 100,000 workers. Fall harvest time can be one of the busiest and most dangerous seasons of the year for the agriculture industry. For this reason, the third week of September has been recognized as National Farm Safety and Health Week.

Farmers are notorious for their work ethic and determination, both qualities that also can be a detriment when it comes to safety. While farm safety is top of mind every week for farmers, their families and their employees, National Farm Safety and Health Week is an opportunity to spotlight safety reminders that keep those both inside and outside the agriculture industry aware and mindful during the busy harvest season.

We are doing our part to help farm families eat nutritious meals during the busy harvest season! Now through Sept. 25, families can place an order to support our frozen meal fundraiser. Frozen dinners serve families of two, four or six people and prices vary by the size of dinners you order. Pasta, chicken pot pies, casseroles and more options are available! To place an order, visit our website: *https://www.thegivingplatefundraisers.com/montgomery-county-farm-bureau.* Pick up will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 10 from 3-5 p.m. at the Montgomery County Farm Bureau office in Hillsboro.

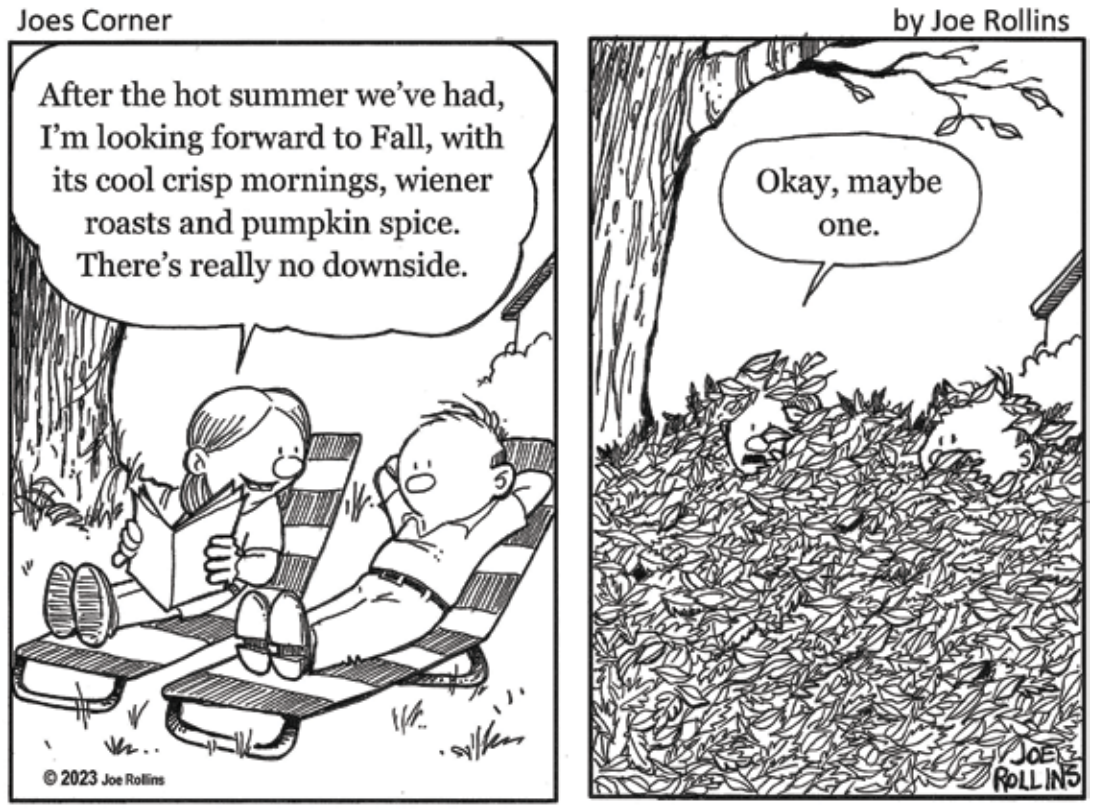


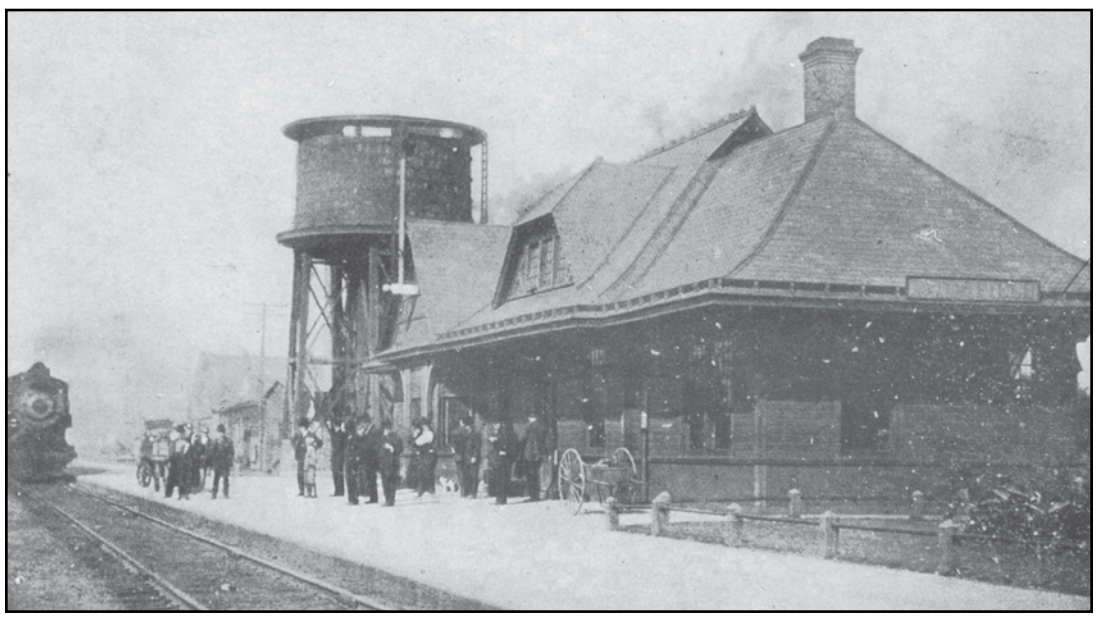
Save the date of Saturday, Nov. 11, to support the MCFB Young Leaders' "Feed a Gator Food Drive." The drive will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Capri IGA in Hillsboro. Cash and food donations will be accepted. Proceeds will be donated to Montgomery County food pantries. Don't be fooled, there will not be a live alligator in the parking lot, but you will see a bright green John Deere Gator on display. Our goal is to fill the gator with groceries.

Farm Bureau dues notices will be arriving in your mailboxes soon. Membership dues can be paid by mail, dropped off at our office, over the phone, or online. Acceptable forms of payment are cash, check or credit card. We appreciate our members and hope that you will continue supporting our organization. Thank you for your membership.

That's a wrap for September news–slow down, share the road, and be safe this harvest season. Happy Fall!

Joes Corner — by Joe Rollins





The City of Litchfield's existence is in large part due to the railroads that ran through it. In fact, the city's name changed from Huntsville to Litchfield, when Electus Bachus Litchfield helped finance and plan what would eventually become the St. Louis Alton and Terre Haute Railroad. Above, is a photo of The Big Four Depot taken in the early 1900s.

Litchfield Museum Photo

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

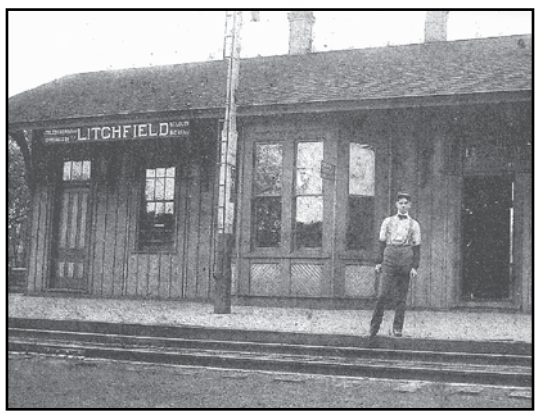
Did You Know...Litchfield's Railroads

The City of Litchfield would not be here if it weren't for the railroads. In 1855, the original settlement was called Huntsville, after George Hunt, the chief engineer for a railroad that was in the planning stages to come through the area. The City's name quickly changed to Litchfield, when the Litchfield family, primarily Electus Bachus Litchfield of New York City, helped finance and plan what would eventually become the St. Louis Alton and Terre Haute Railroad, primarily an East to West Railroad.

News that the St. Louis Alton and Terre Haute Railroad was coming quickly spread throughout the area. During the process of building the railroad, a settlement of around 50 people called Hardinsburg, which was founded around 1850 approximately one mile Southwest of what is now downtown Litchfield, literally picked up and drug their village on sleds through the fields and forests to the new location of the proposed railroad.

Generally referred to as the "golden age of modern railroading," the 1950s saw Litchfield as the crossroads of many mid-American railroads. Did you know that six railroads served Litchfield at the same time? At times, passenger service at all four depots and freight service at as many or more stations saw upwards of 100 trains per day.

That East to West Railroad became the New York Central and the other five railroads ran North to South through Litchfield. The tracks located farthest west belonged to the Chicago Burlington and Quincy (now BNSF) and the other now remaining line, was the Wabash Railroad (now Norfolk Southern). Other lines were absorbed into other railroads and the tracks were ripped out, including the Illinois Central, Illinois Terminal and the namesake, Litchfield and Madison.



The original Wabash Depot (pictured above) was built in 1870. ***Litchfield Museum Collection***

Although the railroads continue to serve their purpose crossing the nation, as well as serving Litchfield, the automobile and the vast highway system has now become the city's hallmark of recognition. Yet for many, the sounds of the trains remain a daily reminder of the memories of the role of the railroads in Litchfield's rich history.

Further information about Litchfield's railroads 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.

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

Sept. 1956: Hillsboro Picnic In LA



Grandma and Grandpa are flying at 18,000 feet across the country for an extended stay with Alberta (Best) Johnston and family. She is astounded at the prices of groceries and the fact that she can buy lucious vegetables from roadside stands. Her first full day in Los Angeles, she pulls weeds and picks oranges from the trees in Alberta's yard. Both she and Grandpa are a bit intimidated by the heavy traffic. What a wonderful event the Hillsboro picnic must have been. I wonder if it still is celebrated by Hillsboro transplants?

Saturday, Sept. 1, 1956–Carl has taken wheelbarrow loads of dirt from under the board floor where the rats worked. Nickel goes with him when he works, but quits and comes to the house when Carl comes.

Monday, Sept. 3, 1956–Clear. I washed a two-weeks washing, picked four buckets of cling peaches, canned six quarts. Picked almost a bushel of grapes–all of them. Cooked enough for two quarts of juice and made eight glasses of jelly. Carl got his project ready to put in some concrete. We are both tired.

Wednesday, Sept. 5, 1956–We decided we better hunt Jay Hall up. Didn't find him, but saw George Ward. Jay Hall brought the road patrol and made the water way in the northeast field. Took three and a half hours to do it.

Thursday, Sept. 6, 1956–Such chilly nights. Soil conservation man came to check on the grass waterway. I canned more peaches. Carl harrowed the alfalfa ground. Mrs. Keith came while John went to a stock outlook meeting. I turned up the furnace, shut the bathroom door and it locked. Had a heck of a time unlocking it. We used a small finishing nail to do it.

Friday, Sept. 7, 1956–Campbell helped Carl for the day. They cleaned out the hen house, cow barn and fixed the corn crib. I took checks to the bank, sold tickets to Merle Sorrels and Elmer Eckhoff for the ham supper. I have sold 20 adult ticket and one child's at $1.25 and .75. George and Fern came in the afternoon Kalip's were having other company and beds were scarce.

Saturday, Sept. 8, 1956–Chilly at night. Didn't get up very early. We got the morning work done. George helped Carl to some work on the crib. All four went to Litchfield after dinner. We showed George where the creamer and egg house were. Marian (Sammons) came for six dozen eggs. Wayne got his 100-acre field of beans combined. They averaged 32 bushels. Another field made 34 bushels. Still another field to combine, and he must help neighbor, Meisner.

Monday, Sept. 10, 1956–Real cloudy, but no rain. I picked two buckets of tomatoes and canned ten quarts. I now have 53 quarts canned. Mary and Bob (Nimmons) came to get green tomatoes, peppers and cream. She will make sandwich spread.

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 1956–I ironed after noon. Hazel Sundburg came for four gallons cistern water to water her violets. I took the money for which I sold supper tickets to the Osborns. Got a bag of oranges that Merle brought home from Alberta's. They are nice and ripe.

Thursday, Sept. 13, 1956–Men are combining beans here. Had 503 bushels from 20.9 acres. Howy is disking and follows the combine. I went to Litchfield. Took my watch to Schwabe. Got Carl's brown suit from Busby cleaner. This is night of the ham supper at the school house in Butler. Serving from 5:30 on. We went before 7 p.m. Such a crowd. Report is they cleared $260.

Friday, Sept. 14, 1956–We went to Wayne's after noon. They took us to the Springfield airport where we got our plane tickets. Two round trip tickets, $321.

Sunday, Sept. 16, 1956–I didn't go to church. Spent all morning getting a lunch ready for supper. George and Fern came after dinner. Merle's all came later and Wayne's came about 6 p.m. I had fried chicken, potato salad, tomatoes, etc. and peach cobbler.

Monday, Sept. 17, 1956–I went to Janie's at 12:30. She cut my hair much shorter, so I could wave set it.

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 1956–Merle, Margie, Connie and Mrs. Toberman took us to the St. Louis airport. We left Merle's at 8:45 a.m. We ate a light lunch. The TWA plane left the ground at 1:10. Air hostess said we would fly at 18,000 feet. Carl and I guessed that there were 65 passengers on board. Only beverage for lunch. Arrived 5:40 at LA airport. Albert and Billy met us. Alberta says heavy traffic bothers her. It was 45 miles out to their home. Albert predicts that helicopters will soon carry plane passengers from the LA airport to outlying places.

Thursday, Sept. 20, 1956–Alberta, Carl and I pulled weeds around an orange tree. She hoed and watered the sandy soil and got it ready for flowers. Alberta picked a peck of oranges, and we juiced them after supper. They had left oranges on their trees so we could see them.

Friday, Sept. 21, 1956–Carl and I watched traffic go by. There are no sidewalks, only concrete highway. We decided we better stay in the yard.

Sunday, Sept. 23, 1956–Fog for awhile. Went shopping for a ham Carl wanted to buy. Cost $5.50. We went to the beach and picked Billy up on the way. Alberta and I went wading. Gee! The water was cold at first.

Tuesday, Sept. 25, 1956–Nice day. About 70 degrees at noon. We ate dinner out in the backyard. Alberta cooks so many good things–such a variety. News from home: Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Seward quietly celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary; four children, 12 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren.

Thursday, Sept. 27, 1956–Today is the birthday of George Best. Alberta sewed on a bordered skirt dress she plans to wear to the Hillsboro picnic in Site 5, North Hollywood Park. News from home: Wayne finished combining beans, Lincoln's, 37 bushels.

Friday, Sept. 28, 1956–Alberta took us for a long ride out in the farming country. Tomatoes, peppers, cauliflower, cabbage and corn are now being harvested. Dry limas in windrows are being combined and the straw bailed. We stopped at a market. Fresh picked strawberries are 20 cents a pint. Bought tomatoes and corn. The paper headlines says LA swelters in 13th day of heat. Two records shattered in smog and heat.

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1956–Cooler. Alberta and I fixed our dinner, and we left at 11 a.m. for North Hollywood Park for the Hillsboro picnic. There were 74 adults there. Some were eating when we got there. We expected to eat with Claude (Johnston) and family. They'd had breakfast after 10 a.m., so didn't bring their dinner. I had a good time visiting with Mrs. Henry Cress, Myrtices Ann, Jane Garrett Purdy, and husband, Merl Van Natten and family, Joan Van Natten West and husband, Claude Grotts and family, Mrs. Hamilton, Pickerels. We went on the freeway; three lanes of traffic each way. No stop lights either overhead or underneath turns. Carl thought the cars would average 500 to the mile.

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

LETTERS to the editor

Why Are ATVs Using Roads Without Plates?

In the Illinois "Rules of the Road" that was published in 2021 (which I recently picked up at an Illinois library) it stated under the "License Plate Requirements" that "Illinois law requires all passenger vehicles, trucks and vans to display two plates, one on the front and one on the rear."

My question is why ATVs, which have a passenger seat and use country roads, are doing so without licenses. I pay for a car license to use those same roads.

Marilyn Maccanelli
Butler





Pictured at right are this year's Raymond Celebration's littlest royalty, 2023 Little Miss Independence Hadleigh Millburg and 2023 Mister Muscle Jesse Carron. They are pictured above with members of their court. In front, from the left are Cora Owens, Rigley Skinner, 2023 Little Miss Independence Hadleigh Millburg, 2023 Mister Muscle Jesse Carron, Madalynn Millburg, Lucy Wagahoff, James Carriker and Blaire Seaton. In back are Grayson Bockewitz, Adelyn Nicol, Colton Owens, Gabryella Hayes, Zeke Meisner, Owen Meisner, Emmett Mitchelar, retiring 2022 Miss Independence Kasandra Reif, retiring 2022 Junior Miss Independence Josephine Beeler, retiring 2022 Mister Muscle Freddie Wagahoff, retiring 2022 Little Miss Independence Zoey Robinson, Evelyn Goebel and Jazlyn Wilfong.

Journal-News Photos

Hadleigh Millburg, Jesse Carron Reign In Raymond

It was their night to shine as Hadleigh Millburg and Jesse Carron were crowned winners in the 2023 Little Miss Independence and 2023 Mister Muscle competition as part of this year's Raymond Celebration on Friday evening, Sept. 15, in downtown Raymond.

Millburg is the daughter of Brian and Charliene Millburg and was sponsored by Bank and Trust Company. Carron is the son of Jeff and Amber Carron and was sponsored by Mick's Auto Body and Truck Wash.

Emcees for the pageant were 2022 Miss Independence Kasandra Reif and 2022 Junior Miss Independence Josephine Beeler. Also helping were 2022 Little Miss Independence Zoey Robinson and 2022 Mister Muscle Freddie Wagahoff.

Each contestant introduced him or herself on stage and then answered one question, "what is your favorite fair food?"

During the coronation, each contestant received a tiara or a medal.

Other contestants in the pageant are listed below.

2023 Little Miss Independence

• Evelyn Goebel, daughter of Brian and Jamie Goebel, sponsored by Creekstone Kettle Works.

• Gabryella Hayes, daughter of Amanda Lipe and Bryan Hayes, sponsored by Raymond Shell.

• Madalynn Millburg, daughter of Matt and Mallory Millburg, sponsored by First National Bank of Raymond.

• Adelyn Nicol, daughter of Alex and Melissa Nicol, sponsored by West End.

• Cora Owens, daughter of Kyle and Kim Owens, sponsored by DR Designs.

• Blaire Seaton, daughter of Julian Welsh, sponsored by Capital Area Tree Service, LLC.

• Rigley Skinner, daughter of Robert and Eli Skinner, sponsored by Brian's Tire and Auto.

• Lucy Wagahoff, daughter of Neil and Lindsay Wagahoff, sponsored by Home Oil.

• Jazlyn Wilfong, daughter of Jared and Melissa Harris, sponsored by Tosi's Diner.

2023 Mister Muscle

• Grayson Bockewitz, son of Jerrad and Michelle Bockewitz, sponsored by Borgic Farms.

• James Carriker, son of Veronica Morse and J.A. Carriker, sponsored by Walch Electric.

• Owen Meisner, son of Matt and Ramie Meisner, sponsored by Meisner Farms.

• Zeke Meisner, son of Blake and Katie Meisner, sponsored by Meisner Tiling.

• Emmett Mitchelar, son of Shannon Mitchelar, sponsored by Poogan's Creamery.

• Colton Owens, son of Kyle and Kim Owens, sponsored by DR Designs.

Kirsten Pope, Paislee Krager Reign At Raymond

The night didn't go exactly as they expected, as a mid-pageant downpour moved the crowning of the new Raymond Celebration Miss Independence and Junior Miss Independence inside the Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday evening, Sept. 16.

Kirsten Pope, daughter of Allen Pope and Vivian Pope, was crowned 2023 Miss Independence. She was sponsored by Dave's Collision Shop. Paislee Krager, daughter of Steven and Jessica Krager, was crowned 2023 Junior Miss Independence. She was sponsored by Krager Construction.

Former Miss Indpendence Desi Pitchford served as master of ceremonies for the two pageants, which started on the stage in downtown Raymond and was finished in the Knights of Columbus Hall.

Each contestant competed on stage in formal wear and answered a pop question.

First runner-up in this year's Junior Miss pageant was Reagan Morris, daughter of Chris and Dana Morris. She was sponsored by Morris Mopar.

Other contestants are listed below.

2023 Junior Miss Independence

• Jaylynne Carron, daughter of Jeremy and Jennifer Carron, sponsored by Bruntjen Farms.

• Jocelynne Carron, daughter of Jeremy and Jennifer Carron, sponsored by PK Package Liquor and Gaming.

• Chloe Hoffman, daughter of Amanda Lipe and Bryan Hayes, sponsored by First National Bank of Raymond.

• Bailey Hudgins, daughter of Tim and Samantha Hudgins, sponsored by Golden Paw Grooming and Training.

• Emery Meisner, daughter of Blake and Katie Meisner, sponsored by Marten Insurance.

• Layla Wagahoff, daughter of Jason and Keasha Wagahoff, sponsored by Raymond-Harvel Ambulance.

First runner-up in the Miss Independence competition was Paityn Reagan, daughter of Danyel Moffitt and Jeff Reagan. She was sponsored by Miller Plumbing. Miss Congeniality was Skylar Nance, daughter of Jim and Vanessa Masters, and sponsored by Barker Implement. Also participating was Audrey Germann, daughter of Brent and Dawn Germann, sponsored by Germann Drywall and Finishing.



Kirsten Pope, seated in front, was crowned 2023 Miss Independence on Saturday evening, Sept. 16, as part of this year's Raymond Celebration at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Standing behind, from the left are Miss Congeniality Skylar Nance, Audrey Germann, first runner-up Paityn Reagan and retiring 2022 Miss Independence Kasandra Reif. *Journal-News Photo*



Paislee Krager, seated in front, was crowned 2023 Junior Miss Independence on Saturday evening, Sept. 16, as part of this year's Raymond Celebration at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Standing behind are Chloe Hoffman, Jocelynne Carron, Emery Meisner, Layla Wagahoff, retiring 2022 Junior Miss Independence Josephine Beeler, first runner-up Regan Morris, Bailey Hudgins and Jaylynne Carron. *Journal-News Photo*

Gold Star Mission Riders Come Through Litchfield

Riders with the Gold Star Mission project will come through Litchfield this week, as part of a 500-mile bicyle ride.

The cyclists will be arriving in Litchfield around 4:30 p.m. and will gather at Litchfield High School, where they will be resting for the evening. Arriving in Litchfield, they will come through on Route 16/Union Ave., turn on State Street and head to the high school.

"We want to welcome them with as much gratitude and support as possible," said Lauren Plummer of the Litchfield Chamber of Commerce.

Plummer encourages local businesses in the downtown area to decorate store windows in patriotic colors and welcome signs. They also encourage local residents to line the streets to welcome riders into town with flags and signs.

The Gold Star Mission is a non-profit organization that was established in 2017 in Springfield, after several veterans and friends, moved by stories of the Gold Star families that lost a loved one in Afghanistan or Iraq and took action to help others in need.

What started as a desire to provide scholarships for surviving children has evolved into widespread effort to assist Gold Star families and others in need in order to preserve the memory of fallen heroes.

On Sept. 19, cyclists will begin a 500-mile bicycle journey, known as the Gold Star 500, through communities like Springfield, Litchfield, Sparta, Harrisburg and Effingham.

This is the seventh annual event (virtual in 2020) which works to preserve the legacy and honor of those military service men and service women from Illinois who have made the ultimate sacrifice in support of service to this great nation.

This five-day, 500-mile cycling event will use proceeds to fund scholarships in the name of fallen military service members, thus preserving their legacy forever.

This ride raises funds through event registration, fundraising and generous donations, and uses those funds to carry on the names and the stories of the fallen military service members.

e-mail your ad to
advertisejn@consolidated.net

Delta Door, Inc.
Garage Doors & Openers
Sales, Service, Installation
(217) 250-9066
Family Owned & Operated Since 1997
BOB EAST

Pro Bilt

Farm - Equine - Suburban
Residential - Commercial
POST FRAME BUILDINGS
Quality Buildings Bilt For You
Experienced Crews ~ Fully Insured
1-877-999-BILT (2458) • 217-532-9331
Hillsboro, Illinois

BDS Trucking & Excavating
Litchfield • 217-556-3612 or 556-4848
Matt Gerdes
Demolition • Tree & Fenceline Clearing
New Ponds & Pond Clean-ups
Rock & Dirt Hauling
Available Nights and Weekends
• All Types Rock Available •


CKS METAL CORP
"Honest Weights. Honest Prices"
5579 Old Alton-Edwardsville Rd., Edwardsville
Phone: (618) 656-5306
cksmetalcorp.wordpress.com
M-F 8 a.m.-5 p.m. SAT 8 a.m.-Noon

Copper: CALL FOR PRICE	Aluminum Wheels: 75¢
Yellow Brass: $1.90	Electric Motors: 25¢
Scrap Iron: $140/ton	Stainless: 30¢
Aluminum Cans: 40¢	#1 Ins. Wire: $1.15
ACR: $1.45	#2 Ins. Wire: 80¢
Aluminum: 75¢-10¢	Extension Cords: 40¢
Painted Siding: 50¢	Lead: 55¢
Computer Boards: $5-15¢	Batteries: 15¢

Prices Subject to Change
Call for Current Prices



Grandchildren of Jerry and Donna Waghoff of Raymond took home second place honors in the business division for Home Oil for their float featuring the Las Vegas Golden Knights hockey team. *Journal-News Photo*

Welcome To Fabulous Raymond!



First National Bank took home first place honors in the business division for their Las Vegas-themed entry. *Journal-News Photo*

Viva Las Vegas was the theme of this year's Raymond Celebration parade, which stepped off on Saturday evening, Sept. 16, through downtown Raymond.

Taking home top honors in the golf cart division was Borgic Farms in first place. PK Package Liquor won second place and Poogan's Creamery took home third.

In the out of area division, Fast Flo in Hillsboro took home first place honors, followed by Illinois Paving in second place and the Montgomery County Republicans in third place.

In the religious and civic organization division, Project Third Day-Panhandle won first place, followed by Community of Faith Church in second place and Mt. Olive Baptist Church in third place.

First National Bank won first place honors in the business division, followed by Home Oil in second place and Dave's Collision Shop in third place.





Pinkston Leads Raymond's Parade



Dorothy "Dot" Pinkston was honored as the 2023 Grand Marshal in this year's Raymond Celebration parade, held Saturday evening, Sept. 16. *Journal-News Photo*

Dorothy "Dot" Pinkston led the way as this year's 2023 Grand Marshal for the Raymond Celebration parade on Saturday evening, Sept. 16.

Pinkston was born in West Frankfort on Oct. 6, 1927 to Italian immigrants Carlo and Valentina Donini. The next year, her parents moved to Kincaid where Carlo got a job working in a coal mine. Pinkston has one brother, Perry.

She started her schooling career at St. Rita's School in Kincaid, where the nuns had to teach her English since her family only spoke Italian at home.

In 1939, the family moved to Raymond and Pinkston entered seventh grade. Her brother opened a grocery store, the Raymond Food Market, in 1936.

She began her high school career in 1941-1942, and started watching the Raymond High School boys basketball games. She wanted to run on the track team, but girls were not allowed to participate at that time.

During her time in high school, the country got involved in World War II. Pinkston continued to attend school, but during her free periods, she would help her brother at the grocery store since workers were scarce.

She is the only surviving member of the Raymond High School class of 1945. And though she planned to attend Brown's Business College in Decatur, she ended up working in the grocery store due to the continued war.

Pinkston met her husband, Verne M. Pinkston in 1947, and the were married the next year. They had three children, Verne L., Brett and Scott.

After Scott started school, Pinkston began working for *The Raymond News*. She worked there for 19 years until the building was damaged by a fire and the business moved to Hillsboro.

In the late 1960s and 1970s, her husband, Verne, along with R.R. Crum and Bob Wagahoff started Play-Fair Park, and Pinkston became a traveling carnie going to different communities with the carnival during the summer.

She also stayed busy cleaning homes until she turned 90.

In 1978, Pinkston's husband passed away. Her son, Brent, passed away in 2017.

Her son, Verne L. continues to live in Raymond with his wife, Tricia, as do her youngest son, Scott, and his companion, Nicki. Pinkston has three grandchildren, Phillip (wife Stephanie), Bradley and Shelby and one great-granddaughter, Olivia.

In her free time, Pinkston can often be found in the Lincolnwood High School gym, where she continues to cheer for her beloved Lancers basketball teams, and even has her own reserved seat in the bleachers.

She also loves St. Louis Cardinals baseball, playing Bingo and going to the casino. She is a member of St. Raymond's Catholic Church and D.C.C.W. and volunteers with the Panhandle Food Pantry.



Community of Faith Church in Raymond won second place in the religious and civic organization division. *Journal-News Photo*



2022 Miss Independence Kasandra Reif

Jim Germann of Raymond brought up the end of the parade on his antique 1950 Allis Chalmers tractor. *Journal-News Photo*



Fast Flo in Hillsboro won first place honors in the out of area division for their fiesta-themed entry. *Journal-News Photo*

www.thejournal-news.net

Eight $1,000 Scholarships
Available from TCCU!



TCCU will give **$1,000** awards to **EIGHT** graduating seniors *(two EACH at Taylorville, Litchfield, Hillsboro, and Pana High Schools).*

Register **by Friday, October 13th**. Provide TCCU with your name, a good-quality photo (school ID is ideal!), and signed Parental Permission slip *(available online at www.TCCU.org and in your local TCCU office).*

Winners will be determined by votes cast in participating local businesses in TCCU's 10th Annual "Stop. SHOP. *VOTE!"* scholarship program.

BUT HURRY! Registration closes on Friday, October 13th. Awards will be presented in May, 2024.

Stop by your local TCCU location, or see your high school guidance counselor.

TCCU TAYLORVILLE COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

TAYLORVILLE
422 W. Main Cross St.
Taylorville, IL 62568
Phone: (217) 824-9658
Fax: (217) 287-7319

HILLSBORO
138 E. Wood St.
Hillsboro, IL 62049
Phone: (217) 532-5300
Fax: (217) 532-5345

LITCHFIELD
801 W. Union Ave.
Litchfield, IL 62056
Phone: (217) 324-7496
Fax: (217) 324-7460

PANA
101 E. Fifth St.
Pana, IL 62557
Phone: (217) 562-2516
Fax: (217) 297-2111

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER
Your savings federally insured to at least $250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government
NCUA National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency
Federally insured by NCUA.

Go to www.TCCU.org for full details, or stop by your local TCCU office.

The Grace Cup: Hillsboro vs. Lincolnwood Boys Soccer
Sept. 18 at the Hillsboro Sports Complex • JV at 5, Varsity To Follow

The Journal-News Section B

Hillsboro, IL 62049 Monday, September 18, 2023

CENTER AND GUARD • by Kyle Herschelman

The Grace Cup Returns



Soccer was always Grace and I's thing. Her Uncle Daniel got her first soccer ball for her just a few days after she was born. She used to dribble around the ottoman in our living room, with some help from her walker. I remember getting up with her when she woke up early on Saturday mornings and watching Tottenham Hotspur play in the Premier League while Mary got a little extra sleep. We took her to a U.S. Women's National Team game at Busch Stadium and I joked about training her for the 2030 state championship and the 2031 World Cup.

All of that was before infantile neuroaxonal dystrophy (INAD) made those dreams an impossibility, but even after she was diagnosed with this awful disease that would eventually cut short her life, soccer was still a big part of our lives. We had endless support from the teams in Montgomery County. We started the Grace Cup, which was a way to honor the senior soccer players in the area and raise awareness for INAD. Some of the kids who played in the Grace Cup have kept up with our story, which I always thought was cool.

So when we weren't able to get enough kids to play in the 2023 version of the Grace Cup, I was heartbroken. For whatever reason (time of year, conflicts with graduation or military service, COVID, etc.), getting players was always a little difficult, but somehow we made it happen.

Last year, it didn't and it was hard. The Grace Cup was one of the few things I spearheaded. I felt like it was my fault. I felt like I was a failure. I felt like I was letting Grace down. And this is where I'm thankful for my community.

Continued on 4B

Panthers Nearly Steal One From Greenville

The year was 2003 and Litchfield and Greenville would be set for a week eight match-up. Litchfield suffered their first loss of the season the week before and carried a 6-1 record into the contest, while Greenvillle had a 5-2 record.

The Purple Panthers would put away the Comets for their seventh win of the year as they defeated Greenville 34-20. The win was the last time the Purple Panthers came out ahead of the Comets after four quarters.

Fast forward to Friday, Sept. 15, 2023, and the Purple Panthers were looking to end the 18-game losing streak against the Comets. Litchfield would give it their best try, but Greenville would come away with a 34-20 home victory.

Even though the Comets have had the upper hand the last 18 meetings, there have been some exciting contests between these two schools, like the triple overtime contest in 2004 that had the Greenville squad winning 41-38, and a year later when the Comets snuck in a 7-0 victory.

Since that shutout, Litchfield has only been shut out by the Comets one time, but they have been outscored an average of 47-16 in that span.

In the opening quarter, the Purple Panthers struck first as Litchfield turned to their aerial game when Purple Panthers' quarterback Tate Dobrinich hit Keenan Powell for a 31-yard touchdown strike. The extra point would fail, but Litchfield would hold a 6-0 lead.

On the ensuing drive the Comets would run into a strong Purple Panther secondary as Marvatious Jones grabbed a pass attempt by the Comets.

Continued on 4B



Litchfield's Max Leitschuh works to haul down Greenville running back Carson Bearley during the Panthers' week four match-up with the Comets on Sept. 15. Litchfield put a scare into the undefeated Comets, trailing just 28-20 going into the fourth quarter, before Greenville held on for a 34-20 victory.

Bill Walker/Walker Photography



Zander Wells, one of Hillsboro's dynamic duo Friday night, compiled 238 rushing yards on 10 carries against Gillespie. One of his backfield partners, Dylan Lessman, gained 234 yards on 10 carries as the Toppers scored 62 points, 45 more than the Miners in the win on Sept. 15.

Journal-News/John Galer

Dynamic Duo Major Problem For Miners

by Ron Deabenderfer

Defensive coordinators on all levels of football know its imperative to have two cornerbacks who can "set the edge," keep the opposing players from breaking down the field along the sidelines the defense guards.

Hillsboro has developed two, senior Dylan Lessman and junior Zander Wells, as shown in the Toppers' 62-17 win over the visiting Gillespie Miners Friday night, Sept. 15.

Not only were the pair instrumental on the defensive side of the ball Friday night, they also produced gaudy numbers by gaining the edge offensively, turning in eight runs of 23 yards or more. Senior Treyton Kuhl, in his first start as fullback, also had a 28-yard gain early in the second quarter.

Wells accounted for 238 yards on ten carries, a 23.8 yards per carry average, while scoring on runs of 25, 48 and 53 yards. Lessman also had 10 carries for 244 yards (a 24.4 yard per carry average); his scoring runs covered 66, 48, 59 and 23 yards.

Kuhl fought in from the Miners' 2 as the third period came to a close. Credit for the runners' success goes to the Topper offensive line because their blocking made the huge numbers possible.

Placekicker Hunter Payne converted the eight point-afters he attempted. The other conversion attempt was a run when the Toppers were trying to send the clock into mercy mode. That run failed, but Wells' last touchdown, 79 seconds into the last quarter, started the continuous clock as the evening grew long.

Gillespie's offensive game plan resembled the method Greenville used so successfully in the season opener. Quarterback Tristen Wargo throws well (and often), but he is also elusive when he chooses to run. Logan Griffith is a workhorse back who runs harder than his listed 150-pound weight would indicate. The gauntlet of receivers included sophomores Dawson, Morgan Dawson Lancaster and Collin Griffin, who all made multiple catches as Wargo completed 14 of the 27 passes he threw.

Continued on 4B



With the help of blockers like Daryl Evans (#22) and Hunter Arkebauer (#53), Nokomis running back Nolan Herpstreith was able to run for 211 yards on just 21 carries on Friday, Sept. 15, as the Redskins defeated Cerro Gordo-Bement 46-7 to improve to 2-2 on the season.

James Ryan/NokoPhoto

Redskin Running Game Bust Broncos

by Kyle Herschelman

Three weeks into the 2023 season, Nokomis wasn't where they wanted to be. So going into week four's game against Cerro Gordo-Bement, Coach Paul Watson took a step back.

"After three games, we kind of reevaluated and looked at what was working for us," Watson said after the game in Bement on Friday, Sept. 15. "We're known for smash mouth football. That's who we are. So we got back to that under center and we're just running the ball."

In Bement, that style yielded results as the Redskins ran 49 times for 475 yards in a 46-7 victory that evened Nokomis' record to 2-2 on the season.

"The way they were sitting and what they were giving us, we took advantage of it and we executed," Coach Watson said.

That execution resulted in touchdowns on Nokomis' first seven drives of the game. The only two drives that didn't result in a Redskin touchdown were the last two, when the clock was already running, which ended in a fumble (they'd force a fumble and get a defensive recovery on the next play) and time running out on the clock.

From the first play of the game it looked as if Nokomis might have their way with the Broncos on the ground as Nolan Herpstreith busted a nine-yard run, followed by a 24-yard rush that gave Nokomis their first first down.

That was just a taste of things to come as Herpstreith ran for 211 yards on 21 carries, with four touchdowns on the night.

Brenton Lyons added 113 yards on 10 carries, with two touchdowns, while Daryl Evans added 68 yards on seven carries, plus a bone-crushing block in the third quarter that sprung Herpstreith for a 24-yard gain. All told nine different players ran for positive yardage as the Redskins posted their best rushing game of the season.

"It's what we've been working on, with the rotation of all of those guys in the backfield, plus Drake (Taylor) and (Skylar) Pavolko at the wing," Watson said of Nokomis' running game. "You have Drake, who's kind of a bull and then you have Sawdust (Pavolko), who is more shifty and quick."

Taylor, who busted a 19-yard run for a first down on his lone carry of the game, Pavolko (three carries for 18 yards) and first-year senior Saint Newman (three carries for 17 yards) give Nokomis a different look for a running game that is young (Herpstreith and Evans are sophomores), but physical in a way that makes your teeth hurt just watching them.

That smash mouth offense translated to the defense as well. Cerro Gordo-Bement didn't pick up a first down until their fourth offensive series, their 14th offensive play of the game. That play yielded 59 yards and took them to the Nokomis 29 yard line.

Continued on 4B

GO TOPPERS!

- Blackboard Mercantile
- The Korner Store
- Taylorville Community Credit Union
- Marten Insurance
- Hiller Sheet Metal
- Montgomery Nursing & Rehab
- RehabEdge
- First Community Bank of Hillsboro
- Jorn Sign Company
- Bank of Hillsboro
- Kerber, Eck & Braeckel LLP
- Fleming, Tawfall & Company PC
- First National Bank of Litchfield

Sports sponsorships are $30 per month. Call 217-532-3933 to show your colors today.

Sports Calendar

Hillsboro Hiltoppers
Monday, September 18
4 p.m. - Boys Golf vs. Vandalia, Marquette at Hillsboro Country Club
4 p.m. - Girls Golf vs. Vandalia, Carlinville, Gillespie, Staunton at Timber Lakes Golf Course
4:30 p.m. - Girls Tennis hosts Alton Marquette
5 p.m. - Boys Soccer hosts Lincolnwood (JV first)
6 p.m. - JV Football at Gillespie
Tuesday, September 19
4 p.m. - Boys and Girls Golf vs. Carlinville, Litchfield, Gillespie at Hillsboro Country Club
4:30 p.m. - Girls Tennis hosts Taylorville
5 p.m. - Boys Soccer hosts Staunton
Wednesday, September 20
4 p.m. - Girls Golf vs. Pana, Litchfield, Shelbyville, North Mac at Oak Terrace

Nokomis Redskins
Monday, September 18
6 p.m. - JV Football at Cerro Gordo
Tuesday, September 19
4 p.m. - Ramsey-Nokomis Golf vs. Altamont, Vandalia at Vandalia Country Club
6 p.m. - Volleyball vs. Springfield Lutheran at Our Saviors Lutheran School
Wednesday, September 20
4 p.m. - Ramsey-Nokomis Golf vs. Vandalia at Ramsey Lake Golf Course

Litchfield Purple Panthers
Monday, September 18
4 p.m. - Boys Golf vs. Litchfield, Southwestern, Pana, Greenville at Indian Springs
6 p.m. - JV Football hosts Greenville
6 p.m. - Volleyball hosts Metro-East Lutheran
Tuesday, September 19
4 p.m. - Boys and Girls Golf vs. Carlinville, Hillsboro, Gillespie at Hillsboro Country Club
4:30 p.m. - Boys Soccer hosts Carlinville
5 p.m. - Volleyball at Vandalia
Wednesday, September 20
4 p.m. - Girls Golf vs. Pana, Hillsboro, Shelbyville, North Mac at Oak Terrace

Lincolnwood Lancers
Monday, September 18
4 p.m. - Girls Golf vs. Staunton, Carlinville, Hillsboro, Mt. Olive at Timber Lakes
4 p.m. - Boys Golf vs. Staunton, Rochester
5 p.m. - Boys Soccer at Hillsboro (JV first)
6 p.m. - Volleyball hosts Gillespie
Tuesday, September 19
4 p.m. - Boys Golf vs. Greenview, Havana, Mt. Pulaski, Northwestern at Country Hills
4:30 p.m. - Boys Soccer at Maryville Christian

Get the scores when we do twitter.com/JNsports

Litchfield Picks Up Two More Victories

The Litchfield boys soccer team improved to 9-2 overall and 4-0 in the South Central Conference this week as they picked up a pair of wins over Pana and Metro-East Lutheran on the road.

The Panthers held a 1-0 advantage over Metro-East Lutheran on Saturday, Sept. 16, at halftime, then added three more goals in the second half to come away with a 4-1 win.

Freshman Landon Wernsing had a hat trick in the win over the Knights, while Chance Holliday also found the back of the net for the Panthers.

In the Pana game on Sept. 14, Litchfield scored early and often as they led 5-0 at halftime before adding three more goals in the second half.

Drake Gasperson and Landon Wernsing added to their multi-goal game count as they combined for seven of Litchfield's eight goals. Gasperson scored four this go-round, with an assist added for good measure, while Wernsing had three goals and two assists.

Casson Schmidt had Litchfield's other goal in the win, while Kenden Longwell (2), Brayden Ronco, Brody Dykema and Chance Holliday all had assists.

With the win, the Purple Panthers remain undefeated in conference play, with four South Central Conference games to go.

Litchfield won a share of the conference title in the 2020-21 season under the banner of their co-op partner, Gillespie, going 6-1 under Head Coach Jono Verticchio, but haven't done it in a Purple Panthers kit since tying Alton Marquette in 1999.

One of the toughest of those five remaining tests is Litchfield's next game, as they take on Carlinville, who beat them 1-0 in the Kickoff Classic on Aug. 30, on Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 5 p.m. in Litchfield.

Sept. 14 at Pana

Litchfield	5	3	-	8
Pana	0	0	-	0

Litchfield Statistics
Goals: Drake Gasperson 4, Landon Wernsing 3, Casson Schmidt 1. **Assists:** Landon Wernsing 2, Kenden Longwell 2, Drake Gasperson 1, Brayden Ronco 1, Brody Dykema 1, Chance Holliday 1. **Goalkeeper:** Cooper Martin (fifth shutout).
Record: Litchfield (8-2, 4-0); Pana (3-5, 1-2).

Sept. 16 at Edwardsville

Litchfield	1	3	-	4
Metro-East Lutheran	0	1	-	1

Goals: Litchfield - Landon Wernsing 3, Chance Holliday 1. **Assists:** Litchfield - Drake Gasperson 2.
Record: Litchfield (9-2); Metro-East Lutheran (2-8).

Lancers Tie Springfield Lutheran

Carson Contreras had one save and recorded his seventh shutout of the season on Friday, Sept. 15, as the Lincolnwood soccer team tied Springfield Lutheran 0-0.

The Lancers are now 8-1-3 heading into the Grace Cup against Hillsboro on Monday, Sept. 18. Junior varsity play begins at 5 p.m., with the varsity to follow.

Weiss Medals As Toppers Down Panthers, Trojans

The Hillsboro boys golf team improved to 8-0 on the season with a victory over North Mac and Auburn in Girard on Friday, Sept. 15.

Playing on the short, but unique layout of Oak Hills Country Club in Girard, the Toppers shot a 160 to beat the host school by 16 strokes and Auburn by 26.

Colton Weiss took medalist honors for the match, shooting a 3-over-par 35 on the day. Carson Walker tied for second individually with Auburn's Asher Root as both shot 39s.

Austin Loskot was right behind Walker as the Hillsboro senior shot a 40 to finish fourth individually. Tycen Thacker rounded out the scoring for the Toppers with a 46 as Hillsboro picked up their seventh and eight dual match wins of the season.

The Toppers will be at home to start this week as they host Vandalia and Marquette on Monday, Sept. 18, at the Hillsboro Country Club, followed by senior night for Walker, Loskot and Samantha Frailey from the girls team. Carlinville, Litchfield and Gillespie will also be in attendance for Tuesday's match at the Hillsboro Country Club.

Sept. 15 at Girard
Oak Hills C.C. - Par 32
Boys Team Results: 1. Hillsboro 160; 2. North Mac 176; 3. Auburn 186.
Medalist: Colton Weiss (Hillsboro) 35.
Hillsboro (160) - Colton Weiss 35, Carson Walker 39, Austin Loskot 40, Tycen Thacker 46.
North Mac (176) - Camden Earley 41, Aiden Hatala 42, Jack 45, Collin Etter 48, Griffin Keebler 49, Nolan Fester 56.
Auburn (186) - Asher Root 39, Ayden Copelin 46, Austin Komnick 50, Colton Patterson 51, Jacksen Behl 58.
Record: Hillsboro (8-0).

Litchfield Boys Golf Avenges Loss To Staunton

The Litchfield boys golf team avenged their lone loss of the season on Tuesday, Sept. 12, as they knocked off Staunton and four other South Central Conference teams at the back nine of Timber Lakes Golf Course in Staunton.

The Panthers shot a 168 to beat the second place Bulldogs by seven strokes on their home course. Southwestern was third with a 212, followed by Gillespie with a 218 and Greenville with a 233.

While Staunton didn't get the team win this time, they did have the individual medalist as Preston Denney shot a 3-over-39 to take the top spot. The Bulldogs also had a share of second place as Broc Best tied with Litchfield's A.J. Odle and Tug Schwab (who missed the match where Staunton defeated the Panthers) with a trio of 41s.

Odle and Schwab were just two of the five Panthers who finished in the top seven on Tuesday as Sam Schwab, Brawley Jacobs and Tucker Maguire each shot a 43 to tie for the fifth best score on the day. Sixth man Ian Otto wasn't far behind, posting a 47, which would have been a scoring round for each of the other four teams.

Litchfield had 17 pars and four birdies in Staunton, with Tug Schwab accounting for three pars and birdies on number six and number eight, while Odle also had three pars and a birdie on six. Sam Schwab and Maguire both had four pars, while Jacobs had two pars and a birdie on nine and Otto had one par.

Litchfield has three matches this week, starting today, Sept. 18, at Indian Springs Golf Course against Southwestern, Pana and Greenville. On Tuesday, Sept. 19, the Panthers play at the Hillsboro Country Club against the host Hiltoppers, Carlinville and Gillespie, before ending the week at the Jerseyville Country Club against the Panthers from Jersey County.

Sept. 12 at Staunton
Timber Lakes Back 9 - Par 36
Boys Team Results: 1. Litchfield 168; 2. Staunton 175; 3. Southwestern 212; 4. Gillespie 218; 5. Greenville 233.
Medalist: Preston Denney (Staunton) 39
Litchfield (168) - Tug Schwab 41, A.J. Odle 41, Sam Schwab 43, Brawley Jacobs 43, Tucker Maguire 43, Ian Otto 47.
Staunton (175) - Preston Denney 39, Broc Best 41, Owen Rizzi 47, Bryce Coalson 48, Drake Billings 50, Luke Goldasich 52.
Southwestern (212) - Ike Austin 45, Nic Ragsdale 55, Colton Huber 55, Ben Biciocchi 57, Austin Bates 59, Wyatt Johnson 61.
Gillespie (218) - Haeden Kellebrew 51, Josh Feeley 52, Adam Peterson 55, Bryce Buhs 60, Owen Schweppe 61.
Greenville (233) - Eli Ennen 54, Landon Hentze 59, Cameron Voss 60, Hunter Self 60, Max Edwards 62, Hunter Beard 63.
Records: Litchfield (15-1).

Panthers Shoot Season Best At Home Meet

The Litchfield girls golf team picked up their second win of the year on Tuesday, Sept. 12, as they finished second on their home course in a match with Glenwood and Pana.

The Panthers shot a 222 to finish 22 strokes behind Glenwood for the top spot and 10 strokes ahead of third place Pana. Hillsboro and Gillespie also sent players to the match, but didn't have enough to factor into the team standings.

Kennedi Isaacs finished third overall and was Litchfield's leading scorer, shooting a 50 on her home course. Isaacs was strongest on the back half of the course as she played the final four holes at 2-over-par with two pars and two bogeys.

Glenwood had three of the top five finishers, with Emma Mehaffy edging teammate Camry Ostermeier by one stroke, 47-48, for medalist honors. Isla Dunbar was the Titans' third scorer with a 51 and finished fourth, while Hillsboro's Sam Frailey was fifth with a 52. Like Isaacs, Frailey had two pars, which came on the fourth and ninth holes for the Topper senior.

Faith Ellinger added a 54 to Litchfield's scoring and like her teammate, excelled on the back half of the course, with four bogeys on the sixth through ninth holes. Keeley Tabor added a 57 for the Panthers, while Aryn Dooley shot a 61.

Litchfield's team score was 12 strokes better than their previous best on their home course, with Isaacs, Ellinger and Dooley all shooting their best nine hole scores of the year.

Litchfield's next match is Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 4 p.m. at the Hillsboro Country Club. The match will also be senior night for the Hillsboro golf program with seniors Sam Frailey, Austin Loskot and Carson Walker set to be recognized at 3:45 p.m.

Sept. 12 at Litchfield
Litchfield Country Club - Par 37
Girls Team Results: 1. Glenwood 200; 2. Litchfield 222; 3. Pana 232.
Medalist: Emma Mehaffy (Glenwood) 47.
Glenwood (200) - Emma Mehaffy 47, Camryn Ostermeier 48, Isla Dunbar 51, Mackenzie Murphy 54, Reese Wolfe 54.
Litchfield (222) - Kennedi Isaacs 50, Faith Ellinger 54, Keeley Tabor 57, Aryn Dooley 61.
Pana (232) - Claire Osborn 55, Kaylee Kuhn 56, Gabriella Heinrich 57, Nicole Arkebauer 64, Jayda Oary 65, Caitlin Vaughn 68.
Hillsboro - Sam Frailey 52.
Gillespie - Hailey Young 68, Emily Bergen 73.
Records: Litchfield (2-9).

Lincolnwood Girls Break 200 For First Time In '23

The Lincolnwood girls golf team broke 200 as a team for the first time this year as the Lady Lancers improved to 13-3 with a second place finish in the triangular at Pana Country Club on Thursday, Sept. 14.

The Lancers had hovered around the 200 mark this season, but jumped right past it on Thursday with a 191. Effingham St. Anthony took the top spot with a 171, while Taylorville had a 245, but for Lincolnwood, the match was about continued improvement.

Three players shot in the 40s for the Lancers, led by Kennady Klinger, who was lights out with a 43. Klinger had all three pars Lincolnwood shot on Thursday and had nothing worse than a double in her round.

While Klinger had all three pars, the Lancers did have two birdies on the day, both of which came on the par-5 third hole. Rian Deardorff had one of the one-unders en route to a 48, while Jenna Matli had the other as part of her 51. Carly Armentrout was the other Lincolnwood player in the 40s as she shot a 49 on the day.

The solid outing wasn't limited to the Lancers' top four, though. Kaylee Gerlach and Abby Norris tied for the fifth spot on the team with a pair of 52s. Lincolnwood's lowest four scores of the day would add up to a 204, which still would have been one of their better rounds of the season.

Now 13-3 on the year, Lincolnwood will try to continue their improvement this week as they play at Timber Lakes Golf Course in Staunton today, Sept. 18, against Carlinville, Hillsboro, Staunton and Mt. Olive.

Sept. 14 at Pana
Pana Country Club - Par 35
Girls Team Results: 1. St. Anthony 171, 2. Lincolnwood 191, 3. Taylorville 245.
Medalist: Addie Krouse (St. Anthony) 34
St. Anthony (171) - Addie Krouse 34, Gianna Frisbie 44, Sydney Kibler 45, Mia Schwing 48, Brooklyn Phillips 49.
Lincolnwood (191) - Kennady Klinger 43, Rian Deardorff 48, Carly Armentrout 49, Jenna Matli 51, Kaylee Gerlach 52, Abby Norris 52.
Taylorville (245) - Laura Wayman 59, Ryleigh Mizeur-Crist 59, Liz Martin 60, Jordan Dieterich 67.
Pana - Kaylee Kuhn 58, Jayda Oary 63, Nicole Akebaur 66.
Record: Lincolnwood (13-3).

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR LITCHFIELD BOWLING LEAGUES
• Monday Night Mixed
• Wednesday Night Mixed
• Looking for women for doubles on Thursday Night

THE COLLEGE REPORT • by Daniel Chamness

Belsher, Pence Killing It In College



When former Lincolnwood volleyball player and Morrisonville High School grad **Hailee Belsher** is not on the court, she is learning the sport of college volleyball.

But, with her performance and the performance of the other athletes on the team, the Lincoln Land Community College Lady Loggers have started by winning their first six matches. Belsher has played in 10 of those matches and had 58 kills. Besides her kill total and a .211 hitting percentage, the middle blocker/outside hitter, also has 18 blocks (four solos), 17 digs, three service aces and three assists.

Thus far, two of the Morrisonville resident's best matches have been against Southeastern Illinois College and Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. LLCC won both matches 3-0. In the win over Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, She finished with five kills and a .308 hitting percentage. She also had four digs, three blocks (two solos) and two assists. She finished with four kills and a perfect hitting percentage.

They are currently 10-4 overall.

Cara Pence (Litchfield) pounded down 11 kills to help Blackburn College overcome Luther College 3-1. She also had five digs and three blocks (two solos). It was their first win of the year. They also played Anderson University and Concordia University-Chicago, who topped Blackburn 3-1, and Earlham College, who topped the Lady Beavers 3-0. They are 1-3 overall and all four matches were at the Illinois College Tournament and held at the Sherman Gymnasium in Jacksonville.

Pence finished with 14 kills and two digs in the loss to CU-Chicago. She had 10 kills and a .240 hitting percentage. She also had two digs and two block assists. She tallied nine kills in the loss to Earlham.

Isaiah Atkins (Hillsboro), **Elijah Atkins** (Hillsboro), **Delanie Ulrich** (Litchfield) and **Vanessa Compton** (Hillsboro), all Greenville University cross country runners, competed in the Washington University XC Dual. It was held at Forest Park in St. Louis, MO.

Isaiah Atkins finished the 6,000-meter race in 20 minutes, 21.1 seconds. The race is the equivalent to 3.72 miles. Elijah Atkins took 22nd in the men's race, entering the chute at 20:51.6. For the Greenville women, Ulrich, a freshman, took 19th as the women ran 4,170 meters, which is 2.6 miles. She finished the race in 18:36.0. Compton ran a time of 19:33.5, which was good for 21st.

The Washington Lady Bears posted 15 points for the win. The Greenville Lady Panthers scored 50 points. On the men's level, Washington scored 15 points for the win. Greenville scored 48 points.

Dane Huber (Hillsboro) opened his senior season of golf at Illinois College by finishing 30th at the Highland Championships, which was hosted by Augustana College and held in Rock Island. Huber shot a 154 for 36 holes. He opened with a 78 and shot a 76 in the second and final round. As a team, IC took second by carding a 599. Millikin University won the team title with a 577.

Abbigail Schreiber (Hillsboro) has started every game at midfield for the Kaskaskia College women's soccer team. The sophomore defensive player does not have any stats. The Blue Angels have yet to taste defeat as they are 2-0-2.

Magnus Wells (Hillsboro) finished with two assisted tackles as his college team, the Augustana College Vikings, won a 49-27 decision over Simpson College. The Coffeen resident is in his sophomore year and the Vikings are 1-0.

~ ~ ~

This is the first article for the 2023-2024 school year. I have several issues to address at this time concerning sponsors and career completion articles. I will address that in a few paragraphs and in separate paragraphs.

First, I am letting everyone know that I need names for the upcoming year. At this point, I will be playing a little bit of catch-up, but eventually that will happen. I need the name of the athlete, the former high school, the college/university they are attending and of course, the sport they are involved in. When emailing me, please in every case put "*The Journal-News*" in the subject line of the email, which should be sent to *Dan62801@aol.com*.

As everyone knows, there are two rules to be included in this article. First, the athlete needs to have suited up for Hillsboro, Litchfield, Nokomis or Lincolnwood. If they did not compete for one of the aforementioned schools in Montgomery County, they either need to have special permission from the paper or they need to be from a town normally covered by the *The Journal-News*.

On the sponsors, I will be out there in the next two or three weeks getting sponsors. Until then, the sponsor list has been removed and I will do the next three or four articles without sponsors. I do not want to put a partial list up and then add more later, it will get very confusing for me. I truly appreciate during the time that I was working, very sporadically, and battling cancer, those sponsors stuck with me. I appreciate it more than you will know. I will never be 100 percent ever again, but I will struggle along and do the best that I can. I also want to inform the sponsors they will get the allotted time designated and were promised.

Finally, we have a few career completion articles and upcoming features that should have been done much earlier, but I am working from behind a little bit. Those will be done during this school year as we can get them done. When we do not have much to write about as the athletes will have holiday breaks, spring breaks or we will be between seasons, I will get them done, because each athlete deserves that great sendoff feature. I will make every attempt to reach out to every athlete.

So, let's have the names and I will try to put something together on the fine athletes from Montgomery County competing away from home. If you have a name to add or you want to make sure that I am aware of an athlete who finished their career during the 2022-2023 school year, do not hesitate to send me an email.

The College Report Is Sponsored By:
• Hillsboro Sports Association - Hillsboro
• First National Bank of Raymond
• Dr. Brian Quarton, M.D.- Carlinville
• Bank & Trust Company- Litchfield, Raymond
• MidLand & Associates - Pana
• Green Tree Lounge- Raymond
• Maverick Steaks & Spirits- Litchfield
• First National Bank of Nokomis



In front, from the left, are Emoree Shepard, Hanna Hughes, Reagan Lentz, Kennady Clayton, Maycie Fuller, Leah Satterlee and Amya Greenwood. In the back are Tyler Beard, Tatum Christian, Addison Lowe, Kearstynn Davis, Ellie Miller, Sophia Blankenship and Coach Emily Zimmerman.

Lady Hiltoppers Third At Vandalia Tourney

After losing a three-set heartbreaker at home to Carlinville on Thursday, the Hillsboro High School volleyball team was looking to rebound with a strong performance at the Vandalia Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 16.

The Toppers would get just that in Fayette County as they went 3-1 on the day, finishing in third place, with a technicality the only thing standing between them and a championship trophy.

Playing in a pool with Cowden-Herrick-Beecher City (CHBC), New Athens and Carlyle, the Toppers went to work immediately and won their first two games in straight sets. Ellie Miller (10 service points, two aces), Tatum Christian (eight kills), Amya Greenwood (7 assists, 1 block), Kearstynn Davis (1 block) and Kennady Clayton (15 digs) were Hillsboro's stat leaders in the win over CHBC, which went 25-16, 25-18 in the Toppers' opener.

The New Athens tilt was a little closer in the first set, with Hillsboro winning 25-22, before closing the door with a 25-16 win in the second set. Kennady Clayton had 25 digs in the win, with Hanna Hughes leading the way in kills with six and Amya Greenwood and Ellie Miller pacing the team in assists with 10 each. Miller also led the team in service points with 10, while Leah Satterlee had nine.

The Toppers' final game of pool play was against Carlyle, who they beat 17-25, 26-24, 25-20 in three games on Aug. 29, one of just three losses the Indians had suffered going into the Vandalia Tournament (Althoff and Wesclin were Carlyle's other losses).

As they did in Carlyle in August, the Toppers and Indians traded wins in the first two sets, with Hillsboro taking a 25-19 victory in the first game, only to have Carlyle return the favor in the second set with a 25-17 win.

The rubber match between the two equally talented teams was even closer. The pair blew past the 15-point threshold for the tiebreaker and were at 19-19 when Carlye took a one-point lead.

To keep things on time, the tournament set a 20-point cap on third sets in pool play as the Indians escaped with a rare, in volleyball, one-point win.

Addison Lowe had 10 kills to lead the Hillsboro attack, with Amya Greenwood dishing out 14 assists. Tatum Christian had nine service points, while Hanna Hughes had four points and two aces. Hughes also contributed two blocks on the defensive end, while Kennady Clayton led the team in digs with 28.

Rather than lament the fact that they were just a point away from playing in the championship, which Carlyle won in two games over South Central (27-25, 25-23), Hillsboro went to work in the third place game.

The Toppers beat East Alton-Wood River 25-20, 25-19 in their finale at Vandalia, improving their record to 13-3 on the season and adding a third place plaque to their runner-up trophy from the Montgomery County Invitational Grace Tournament.

Leah Satterlee led the team in serving with eight points and two aces, while Addison Lowe had a big game at the net with 11 kills. Hanna Hughes contributed another seven kills for the Toppers' attack, while Amya Greenwood had seven service points and 13 assists. Defensively, Kennady Clayton led the team with 19 digs, upping her total to 87 for the tournament, while Lowe picked up a block.

After playing 12 games in 10 days, Hillsboro has a few days off to recuperate before hosting North Mac on Thursday, Sept. 21. Thursday's game is the last home game of the month for Hillsboro, who will play at Nokomis and at Greenville on Sept. 25 and 28, in addition to a trip to the Morrisonvile Tournament on Sept. 27-30.

Sept. 16 at Vandalia

Vandalia Tournament

Pool Play Game One

CHBC	16 18
Hillsboro	25 25

Hillsboro Statistics

Service Points: Ellie Miller 10, Amya Greenwood 7, Hanna Hughes 5, Maycie Fuller 5. **Aces:** Amya Greenwood 2, Ellie Miller 2, Kennady Clayton 1, Maycie Fuller 1. **Kills:** Tatum Christian 8, Amya Greenwood 2, Maycie Fuller 2, Hanna Hughes 2, Kearstynn Davis 2. **Assists:** Amya Greenwood 7, Ellie Miller 5, Hanna Hughes 1, Kennady Clayton 1. **Digs:** Kennady Clayton 15, Amya Greenwood 7, Hanna Hughes 5, Ellie Miller 4, Maycie Fuller 3. **Blocks:** Amya Greenwood 1, Kearstynn Davis 1.

Record: Cowden-Herrick Beecher City (4-6).

Pool Play Game Two

New Athens	22 16
Hillsboro	25 25

Hillsboro Statistics

Service Points: Ellie Miller 10, Leah Satterlee 9, Hanna Hughes 5, Tatum Christian 1. **Aces:** Ellie Miller 2, Leah Satterlee 1, Hanna Hughes 1. **Kills:** Hanna Hughes 6, Tatum Christian 5, Kearstynn Davis 5, Amya Greenwood 4, Maycie Fuller 2, Ellie Miller 2. **Assists:** Amya Greenwood 10, Ellie Miller 10, Kearstynn Davis 1, Kennady Clayton 1. **Digs:** Kennady Clayton 25, Hanna Hughes 9, Ellie Miller 6, Maycie Fuller 3, Amya Greenwood 3, Leah Satterlee 2.

Record: New Athens (1-9).

Pool Play Game Three

Carlyle	19 25 20
Hillsboro	25 17 19

Hillsboro Statistics

Service Points: Tatum Christian 9, Hanna Hughes 4, Kennady Clayton 4, Amya Greenwood 3, Leah Satterlee 3. **Aces:** Hanna Hughes 2. **Kills:** Addison Lowe 10, Tatum Christian 6, Hanna Hughes 4, Kearstynn Davis 3, Amya Greenwood 2, Maycie Fuller 2. **Assists:** Amya Greenwood 14, Ellie Miller 11. **Digs:** Kennady Clayton 28, Leah Satterlee 13, Amya Greenwood 9. **Blocks:** Hanna Hughes 2, Addison Lowe 1, Ellie Miller 1, Kearstynn Davis 1, Tatum Christian 1.

Record: Carlyle (12-3).

Third Place Game

East Alton-Wood River	20 19
Hillsboro	25 25

Hillsboro Statistics

Service Points: Leah Satterlee 8, Amya Greenwood 7, Addison Lowe 3, Hanna Hughes 3. **Aces:** Leah Satterlee 2, Hanna Hughes 1. **Kills:** Addison Lowe 11, Hanna Hughes 7, Tatum Christian 5. **Assists:** Amya Greenwood 13, Ellie Miller 6. **Digs:** Kennady Clayton 19, Maycie Fuller 5, Amya Greenwood 4. **Blocks:** Addison Lowe 1.

Records: Hillsboro (13-3); East Alton-Wood River (12-8).

Sept. 14 at Hillsboro

Carlinville	20 25 25
Hillsboro	25 21 21

Hillsboro Statistics

Service Points: Ellie Miller 9, Hanna Hughes 8, Maycie Fuller 8, Amya Greenwood 6, Kennady Clayton 3. **Aces:** Hanna Hughes 3, Amya Greenwood 2, Ellie Miller 2, Maycie Fuller 1. **Kills:** Addison Lowe 10, Tatum Christian 7, Ellie Miller 4, Hanna Hughes 3, Kearstynn Davis 3, Amya Greenwood 1. **Assists:** Amya Greenwood 15, Ellie Miller 8, Kennady Clayton 2, Maycie Fuller 1, Addison Lowe 1. **Digs:** Kennady Clayton 23, Hanna Hughes 7, Maycie Fuller 7, Ellie Miller 6, Tatum Christian 6, Amya Greenwood 5, Addison Lowe 5, Kearstynn Davis 2.

Records: Hillsboro (10-2, 1-1); Carlinville (5-3, 2-0).

Nokomis Continues To Roll Along In 2023

Last year's 18-win season was the most prolific in 20 years for the Nokomis High School volleyball team, but 18 games into the 2023 season and the Lady Redskins are well ahead of the pace that they set last year.

On Wednesday, Sept. 13, Nokomis defeated Vandalia for the second time this season, making short work of the Vandals on their home floor with a 25-11, 25-16 victory. The win was Nokomis' 14th of the year thus far, a number they didn't hit until Oct. 17, last year.

While Vandalia may be a bit down this year, sporting a 3-9-1 record going into the game with Nokomis, they had won two straight games before Wednesday's loss and five of their losses came in three-set matches, including their games against Litchfield and Hillsboro. The Redskins were also without Natalie Brownback (injury) and Becca Hill (illness) for the game, which affected the depth of Coach Megan Mehochko's team.

Still, on Wednesday, Vandalia had no answer for the Redskins, particularly at the net. Addison Glenn and Reaghan Jonas were disrupters at the net, with Glenn posting two solo blocks and three assists, while Jonas also had a solo block and three assists. All told, Nokomis had nine total blocks, with Kinley Stolte also adding a solo block and two assists.

The presence up front continued on the offensive end with Mackenzie Mehochko, who had 11 kills to lead Nokomis. Glenn also had a solid night on the attack, posting six kills in eight attempts. Stolte led the team in assists with 23, while committing just one error in 56 attempts.

In the serving game, Elizabeth Hill had 12 points, including a pair of aces, while Mackenzie Mehochko added seven points and an ace. Presley Mehochko and Maddison DeWerff also had four points apiece from the serving line.

Hill and Mehochko also led Nokomis in digs with 16 and 12 respectively, while DeWerff added eight digs and Stolte contributed seven. Grace King also had six digs as Nokomis improved to 14-3-1 on the season.

The Redskins' next game is their second MSM Conference game of the season as they travel to Springfield to face the Crusaders of Lutheran High School.

Lutheran, who will play the Redskins at Our Saviors Lutheran Grade School in Springfield after a mine collapse closed their high school in 2022, has won the last seven MSM Conference championships and has beaten Nokomis in their last three meetings.

Lutheran did lose seven seniors off last year's team that finished second in the Class 1A state tournament and are just 6-7 on the year thus far, but four of their seven wins are against MSM Conference competition.

Sept. 13 at Vandalia

Nokomis	25 25
Vandalia	11 16

Nokomis Statistics

Service Points: Elizabeth Hill 12, Mackenzie Mehochko 7, Presley Mehochko 4, Maddison DeWerff 4, Grace King 2, Kinley Stolte 2. **Aces:** Elizabeth Hill 2, Mackenzie Mehochko 1. **Kills:** Mackenzie Mehochko 11, Addison Glenn 6, Camryn Engelman 2, Reaghan Jonas 2, Kinley Stolte 2, Remi Tester 2, Presley Mehochko 1. **Assists:** Kinley Stolte 23, Mackenzie Mehochko 1, Camryn Engelman 1, Presley Mehochko 1. **Blocks:** Addison Glenn 5, Reaghan Jonas 4, Kinley Stolte 3, Mackenzie Mehochko 1, Camryn Engelman 1. **Digs:** Elizabeth Hill 16, Mackenzie Mehochko 12, Maddison DeWerff 8, Kinley Stolte 7, Grace King 6, Presley Mehochko 2, Remi Tester 1, Addison Glenn 1, Camryn Engelman 1.

Records: Nokomis (14-3-1); Vandalia (3-10-1).

Soccer Toppers Get Big Win At North Mac

After a hard fought tilt against the Greenville Comets on Tuesday that took just about all of the allotted 80 minutes to decide, the Hillsboro High School boys soccer team traveled to North Mac Thursday, Sept. 14, for a varsity-only contest against the Panthers.

For the Toppers, this one wouldn't take as long to get on the board as just 90 seconds was all it took to start the scoring as the orange and black would come away with the 8-0 win.

As was stated, it only took until the 1:30 mark of the first half for Hillsboro to get the scoring started as junior forward Nico Clark took a terrific lead pass from fellow junior Clayton Rufus and buried the shot on goal, as the Toppers would jump out to the 1-0 lead.

Clark would nearly assist on one the next possession as he connected with sophomore midfielder Mark Mattson up front, but Mattson would shoot right into the keeper's hands and end the attack.

For Mattson, though, he'd quickly redeem himself as Rufus would find him just a minute later and a great juke move to draw the keeper out allowed the sophomore an easy look on goal and an even easier score. Just like that, Hillsboro led 2-0.

At the seven minute mark of the first the Toppers would strike again. This time sophomore Tony White made a great play to keep the ball alive deep in the Panther zone before connecting with Rufus all alone on the back post for the 3-0 lead.

Mattson would add another tally in the 11th minute to stretch the lead to four and Clark would add his second of the half on a fantastic breakaway effort to round out the scoring for the visitors as they enjoyed a 5-0 lead at the half.

When play resumed in the second it would only take Clark 1:20 to complete the hat trick to make it 6-0, Rufus would add a second of his own and junior Mitchell Cunningham would make it 8-0 with a rocket from just inside the 18 yard box. From there it'd be cruise control for the Toppers as they improved to 8-3-1 on the season and 2-1 in SCC play.

Hillsboro returns home this afternoon for the 1st Annual Grace Cup against their arch rivals the Lincolnwood Lancers. JV will kick off action at 5pm before the big boys take the pitch under the lights at the Sports Complex.

Sept. 14 at Virden

Hillsboro	5 3 - 8
North Mac	0 0 - 0

Scoring: Nico Clark 3, Clayton Rufus 2, Mark Mattson 2, Mitchell Cunningham 1. **Goalkeeper:** Mitchell Lowe (3rd shutout)

Records: Hillsboro (8-3-1, 2-1); North Mac (1-11-1, 1-3).

The Grace Cup

Hillsboro vs. Lincolnwood Boys Soccer

Sept. 18 at the Hillsboro Sports Complex

JV at 5, Varsity To Follow

Lancers Bounce Back, Get Denney's 300th

The Lincolnwood-Morrisonville volleyball team saw their season-long 12-game winning streak come to an end on Friday, Sept. 15, at the Ray Long Volleyball Classic in New Berlin, but came back with a pair of wins on day two of the tournament to end things on a high note.

The Lancers went 3-2 overall in the tournament, going 1-2 in pool play before winning their last two games in the bronze bracket to finish 13th in the 16-team tournament.

Like in the Caribbean in the 1700s, Lincolnwood's problems in pool play stemmed from pirates. On Friday, the Lancers dropped their first game to the Valmeyer Pirates, who went on to finish third, 25-22, 25-16, before bouncing back to beat North Mac in a barn-burning two-set match 29-27, 25-23. On Saturday, the pirates plundered again, this time the ones from Cumberland High School as they handed Lincolnwood their second loss of the tournament 25-18, 25-21, and relegated them to the unfamiliar territory of the bronze bracket.

In their semifinal match, the West Central Cougars kept it close in the first set, with Lincolnwood eeking out a 25-23 win, but the Lancers putt the throttle down in the second set and won 25-13 to advance to the 13th place game against Springfield Lutheran, another traditional power who wasn't used to being in the bottom bracket at New Berlin.

But Saturday's game wasn't against the Lutheran squad that was the runner-up in the state tournament last year. With seven seniors gone from last year's team, the Crusaders are currently 7-8 on the season, including a 25-7, 25-8 loss to Lincolnwood in the 13th place game at New Berlin.

The Crusaders had no answer to the serve of Morgan Cowdrey as the junior served up 18 points, including 11 aces. Taryn Clarke and Jazmin Seaton-Hobson led the attack with seven and six kills respectively, while Cowdrey added five kills and 14 assists. Clarke also had 13 digs on the defensive end for the Lancers.

The win was Lincolnwood's first over the MSM Conference juggernaut since 2014 and was a momentum boost leaving the tournament.

While the result of the tournament may not have been what the Lancers had hoped going in to New Berlin, they do have some positives to build off of coming out of the weekend. Lincolnwood, who beat South County 25-15, 25-21 on Sept. 14, to improve to 4-0 in the conference, and Lutheran are two of the three teams in the MSM Conference who haven't lost in conference play yet (Nokomis is the other). Saturday's win should give them a slight psychological advantage over the Crusaders for their regular season meeting on Oct. 12.

That doesn't mean that either team will still be undefeated in the MSM at that point as both have the aforementioned Lady Redskins on the schedule in the next two weeks (Lutheran on Sept. 19, Lincolnwood on Sept. 26).

The win total for the weekend also pushed Coach Kimberly Denney over the 300 victory mark for her career. Now in her 13th year as head coach at her alma mater, Denney sits at 301 wins, 102 losses and two ties. Only her high school coach, program founder Mary Hammersley, has more wins at 476.

Her next opportunity to add to that win total comes tonight, as the Lancers play host to Gillespie at the Woodshed. After a span in which they played 14 games in 13 days, Lincolnwood will have a week off after the Gillespie game, before starting back up with away contests against county rivals Litchfield on Sept. 25 and Nokomis on Sept. 26.

Sept. 15-16 at New Berlin

Ray Long Pretzel Classic

Pool Play Game One

Valmeyer	25 25
Lincolnwood	22 16

Lincolnwood Statistics

Service Points: Ella Jenkins 6, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 2, Taryn Millburg 2, Taryn Clarke 2. **Aces:** Ella Jenkins 1, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 1. **Kills:** Morgan Cowdrey 6, Tori Elvidge 5, Kierstyn Denney 4, Ella Jenkins 3, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 2, Taryn Clarke 1. **Assists:** Morgan Cowdrey 9, Kierstyn Denney 5, Ella Jenkins 1, Taryn Clarke 1, Camryn Poggenpohl 1. **Blocks:** Tori Elvidge 1. **Digs:** Taryn Clarke 5, Taryn Millsburg 4, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 4, Morgan Cowdrey 4, Kierstyn Denney 3, Ella Jenkins 2, Camryn Poggenpohl 1, Macie Daugherty 1.

Record: Valmeyer (14-2).

Pool Play Game Two

North Mac	27 23
Lincolnwood	29 25

Lincolnwood Statistics

Service Points: Morgan Cowdrey 8, Kierstyn Denney 8, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 5, Ella Jenkins 3, Taryn Clarke 1, Taryn Millburg 1. **Aces:** Morgan Cowdrey 2, Kierstyn Denney 2, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 1. **Kills:** Morgan Cowdrey 7, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 4, Kierstyn Denney 4, Tori Elvidge 4, Ella Jenkins 4, Taryn Clarke 3. **Assists:** Morgan Cowdrey 16, Kierstyn Denney 4, Taryn Millburg 2, Taryn Clarke 1. **Blocks:** Tori Elvidge 1, Kierstyn Denney 1. **Digs:** Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 10, Taryn Clarke 8, Taryn Millburg 7, Morgan Cowdrey 6, Kierstyn Denney 5, Tori Elvidge 4, Ava Walton 2, Macie Daugherty 1.

Pool Play Game Three

Cumberland	25 25
Lincolnwood	18 21

Lincolnwood Statistics

Service Points: Morgan Cowdrey 11, Taryn Millburg 2, Kierstyn Denney 2, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 1. **Aces:** Morgan Cowdrey 4, Taryn Millburg 1, Kierstyn Denney 1, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 1. **Kills:** Kierstyn Denney 4, Ella Jenkins 3, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 2, Morgan Cowdrey 1, Tori Elvidge 1. **Assists:** Morgan Cowdrey 8. **Blocks:** Tori Elvidge 1. **Digs:** Taryn Clarke 6, Morgan Cowdrey 6, Taryn Millburg 5, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 4, Ava Walton 3, Kierstyn Denney 1, Tori Elvidge 1, Ella Jenkins 1.

Bronze Bracket Semifinal

West Central	23 13
Lincolnwood	25 25

Lincolnwood Statistics

Service Points: Taryn Millburg 9, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 8, Kierstyn Denney 6, Taryn Clarke 3, Morgan Cowdrey 2, Ella Jenkins 2. **Aces:** Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 2, Taryn Millburg 1, Kierstyn Denney 1, Taryn Clarke 1, Morgan Cowdrey 1. **Kills:** Morgan Cowdrey 9, Ella Jenkins 6, Kierstyn Denney 3, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 2, Tori Elvidge 1. **Assists:** Morgan Cowdrey 10, Kierstyn Denney 6, Taryn Clarke 2, Taryn Millburg 1. **Blocks:** Ella Jenkins 3, Kierstyn Denney 2, Tori Elvidge 2, Morgan Cowdrey 1. **Digs:** Taryn Clarke 8, Taryn Millburg 5, Kierstyn Denney 5, Ava Walton 4, Morgan Cowdrey 4, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 3.

13th Place Game

Lincolnwood	25 25
Lutheran	7 8

Lincolnwood Statistics

Service Points: Morgan Cowdrey 18, Kierstyn Denney 6, Taryn Clarke 5, Taryn Millburg 5, Ella Jenkins 3, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 1. **Aces:** Morgan Cowdrey 11, Taryn Millburg 1, Ella Jenkins 1. **Kills:** Taryn Clarke 7, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 6, Morgan Cowdrey 5, Kierstyn Denney 3, Tori Elvidge 3, Ella Jenkins 1. **Assists:** Morgan Cowdrey 14, Kierstyn Denney 5, Taryn Millburg 1. **Blocks:** Tori Elvidge 2. **Digs:** Taryn Clarke 13, Taryn Millburg 4, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 3, Morgan Cowdrey 3, Ella Jenkins 2, Ava Walton 2, Kierstyn Denney 1.

Records: Lincolnwood (15-2); Lutheran (7-8).

Final Finishing Order: 1. Calhoun; 2. Athens; 3. Valmeyer; 4. Liberty; 5. Carrollton; 6. Carlinville; 7. Southeast; 8. North Mac; 9. Southeastern; 10. New Berlin; 11. Cumberland; 12. Greenfield-Northwestern; 13. Lincolnwood; 14. Lutheran; 15. West Central; 16. Deland-Weldon.

Sept. 14 at Fanklin

Lincolnwood	25 25
South County	15 21

Lincolnwood Statistics

Service Points: Kierstyn Denney 13, Morgan Cowdrey 4, Taryn Millburg 3, Taryn Clarke 2, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 2, Ella Jenkins 1. **Aces:** Kierstyn Denney 4, Taryn Millburg 3, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 2, Morgan Cowdrey 1. **Kills:** Morgan Cowdrey 9, Ella Jenkins 5, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 4, Tori Elvidge 3, Kierstyn Denney 3. **Assists:** Morgan Cowdrey 15, Kierstyn Denney 7. **Digs:** Kierstyn Denney 9, Camryn Poggenpohl 7, Taryn Clarke 5, Morgan Cowdrey 4, Ella Jenkins 3, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 1.

Records: Lincolnwood (12-0, 4-0); South County (6-10, 0-4).

Grace Cup

Continued from 1B

A few months ago Matt Lentz contacted me with an idea of resurrecting the Grace Cup in a new form. Matt, who is an assistant for the Hillsboro High School soccer team and a driving force in Hillsboro youth sports over the years, said he, Hillsboro Coach Jason Burke and Lincolnwood Coach Joe Webb had talked and proposed turning the annual meeting between the Toppers and Lancers into the Grace Cup.

The game has become one of Montgomery County's best rivalries. It's close. It's physical. It's intense. It's everything a soccer game should be. And I kind of hate it. Well, not really. I hate that one team has to lose. When it comes to Hillsboro (my home) and Lincolnwood (my alma mater), I'm the guy holding the sign that says, "I just hope both teams have fun."

But I also appreciate competitiveness and want that to continue. It makes both programs better, sharper, more successful. I always thought that a traveling trophy might add to the rivalry, but I never really found anything that felt right. As a college football fan, I love the rivalry trophies in the Big Ten, from the historic (Michigan and Minnesota's Little Brown Jug) to the iconic (Iowa and Minnesota's Floyd of Roseday, a 96-pound pig statue that replaced… a real pig) to the ludicrous (Minnesota and Nebraska's $5 Bits of Broken Chair) and I always pictured something like that for the Lincolnwood/Hillsboro game.

So when Matt asked me about a trophy, I went to work finding something that both honored Grace and was unique… but not too unique. It took everything in my power not to suggest a golden armadillo or a guy in lederhosen riding a horse, but I somehow resisted the urge. What I did find was a medium-sized, black, carling-style cup in Canada on Ebay. The material, cast iron, was what made me know it was the right choice. Before Grace was ever diagnosed with INAD, before we even knew what those four terrible letters meant, she had an MRI, which showed that she had an excess of iron on her brain. That was our first sign that what we thought was a minor delay might be something more serious. It was the start of our journey.

And now an iron trophy is the start of a new leg of that journey, and a new chapter in the Hillsboro/Lincolnwood soccer rivalry. I hope the players and fans get into it. I hope it adds to a rivalry that so many people already anticipate. But most of all, I hope it makes the players realize that life is extremely unpredictable and if you don't make the most of it, you'll regret it. That, and that both teams have fun.

Litchfield Football

Continued from 1B

With the ball back, Litchfield's offense though would not be able to capitalize on the interception, as they would be kept out of the endzone. Even though the Comets would run into a well executed defense in the first quarter, Greenville would finally crack into the endzone. With just over three minutes to play in the opening quarter the Comets would put their first points on the board. A failed extra point would keep the score squared at six points a piece. Neither team would leave the opening quarter with the upper hand as the score would remain 6-6 as the first quarter expired.

The Comets would get their offense in gear in the second quarter. Greenville hosting their third home game through the first four weeks would take over the lead for the first time in the contest. With just a few ticks into the second frame the Comets would cross into the end zone as they would now hold a 13-6 lead, after the successful extra point.

The Comets offense would continue to strike as they would add points on the board with just over three minutes to play in the half and then again with just under three minutes to play. The two touchdowns would help the Comets build a 27-6 lead late in the first half. Even though Litchfield's offense would not produce any points during the Comets run they would have some opportunities that would be ended by Greenville's defense.

The Purple Panthers offense would benefit from the aerial attack, as the Comets would leave the airways open for the Purple Panthers. This was due to the performance from A.J. Sypherd a week earlier. Sypherd, who collected 344 total yards on the ground during week three would be held to only 21 first half rushing yards in this contest. Litchfield, though, would not let this hamper their spirts as the Purple Panthers would continue to strike through the air.

Tate Dobrinich would put the ball in the air 18 different times in the first half and would supply 167 passing yards on those attempts. Of those 167 passing yards 102 yards would result in touchdowns for the Purple Panthers, a 31 yard touchdown pass in the opening quarter and a 71 yard touchdown pass in the second quarter.

With 1:08 on the clock, Dobrinich would collect his second touchdown as he would find Martavious Jones racing 71 yards to pay dirt, as Jones would receive the ball and shoot to the endzone like he was being shot out of cannon, outrunning all the Comets. A.J. Sypherd would add the two point conversion as Litchfield would move closer to the Greenville lead with a 27-14 score.

Knowing the Comets' offense, they would not be done trying to put points on the board with a minute to play in the half. Litchfield though would prevent the Comets from putting any further points on the board and would regain possession with 14 seconds left in the 2nd quarter. Litchfield would also attempt to put more points on the board but a Comet interception as time expired would prevent the Purple Panthers from entering the endzone, as the score would remain the same, 27-14, entering the locker room.

Litchfield, trailing by 13 entering the second half, might have had a little momentum on their side. The Purple Panthers knew they were capable of knocking off the undefeated Comets, and they would show that throughout the first half. Looking to carry that edge into the second half, the Purple Panthers would strike first in the half. Again, the Purple Panthers would get points on the board coming through the air. This touchdown though would not from the Purple Panthers' pigskin tosser, instead the Comets' quarterback would hit Easton Grammer for a touchdown. Grammer would collect the second interception of the game for the Purple Panthers and would rush the pick into the endzone for a pick 6. The touchdown would bring the Purple Panthers within a touchdown of the Comets, as Greenville would hold a 27-20 lead. The interception would be the only points either team would put on the board in the third frame as Litchfield would remain in striking distance of the Comets.

Litchfield would enter the final quarter in a position they haven't seen in many years, a chance to overcome the Comets. Greenville on the same hand would not be in this position, including this year. The Comets defense throughout the first three weeks of the season has only surrendered seven points. In this contest the Purple Panthers have almost tripled that production with 20 points. The Panthers would tighten their threat in the early minutes of the final quarter. Litchfield would put together a solid drive that would bring the Purple Panthers into the Comets' redzone. In this position the Purple Panthers would usually turn to their workhorse Sypherd, but AJ would get a little banged up in an attempt to get into the endzone. The injury would sideline the Purple Panthers' rusher and make Litchfield dig into their play book. The attempts, including a rush by Tyler Diamond, would not result in a touchdown and lead to a 4-1 on the Comets six yard line. Sypherd would not allow the injury to keep him on the sideline as he would enter the contest for the crucial fourth down attempt. The Purple Panthers would turn to Sypherd who would be stood up and not allowed to collect the first down. The big stop by the Comets would be the game changer the Greenville squad needed as the Purple Panthers would not get any closer to the Comets' lead. Greenville would get the lone touchdown in the second half, an insurance touchdown as the Comets would hold a 34-20 lead. The Comets' touchdown would be the last action the scoreboard would see in the contest as Greenville would defeat Litchfield by 14. The loss for the Purple Panthers would drop their record to 1-3 overall and the Comets would improve to 4-0 and remain in the first spot in the conference. After only gaining 21 yards in the opening half, A.J. Sypherd would put 34 more yards on the stat sheet to give him 55 total yards. One would expect this to happen as the Comets would look to prevent Sypherd from running wild in the contest. This would not slow Litchfield down though as the air attack would be in full force in this contest. Tate Dobrinich would complete 15 of his 30 attempts and collect a season high 231 yards. Martavious Jones would lead the Purple Panthers in receiving yards as he hauled in four passes for 100 yards. Jones would also help lead the Purple Panthers' defense as he collected 13 tackles, 11 in which were solo tackles. Sophomore Cal Frerichs would follow with 11 tackles, seven solo tackles. The Purple Panthers will return home next week as they will entertain the 2-2 Hillsboro Hiltoppers. This week will also be homecoming week, as Litchfield will look to put on a show for the returning alum.

Sept. 15 at Greenville

Litchfield	6	8	6	0	---20
Greenville	6	21	0	7	---34

Scoring Summary

1st - Litchfield - Tate Dobrinich 31-yard TD pass to Keenan Powell (extra point failed)
1st - Greenville - Declan Garber 1-yard run (extra point failed)
2nd - Greenville - Declan Garber 1-yard run (kick good)
2nd - Greenville - Ben Hutchinson 12-yard TD pass to Eli Shadowens (kick good)
2nd - Greenville - Ben Hutchinson 9-yard TD pass to Eli Shadowens (kick good)
2nd - Litchfield - Tate Dobrinich 71-yard TD pass to Martavious Jones (A.J. Sypherd run)
3rd - Litchfield - Easton Grammer 73-yard interception return (extra point failed)
4th - Greenville - Carson Bearley 6-yard TD run (kick good)

Litchfield Statistics

Rushing (21-56) - A.J. Sypherd 19-55, Tate Dobrinich 1-1, Tyler Diamond 1-0.
Passing - Tate Dobrinich 15-30-231.
Receiving (15-231) - Martavious Jones 4-100, Kayden Bergman 2-40, Keenan Powell 3-34, Carson Saathoff 4-30, Easton Grammer 2-26.
Tackles (Solo/Assist): Martavious Jones 11/2; Cal Frerichs 7/4; Keaton Morgan 6/3; A.J. Sypherd 4/4; Caiden Lamb 7/0; Easton Gammer 5/1; Carson Saathoff 3/1; Max Leitschuh 2/1; Harrison Thomas 2/1; Devin Hansel 3/0; Jayden Ellinger 1/1; Tate Dobrinich 2/0; Hunter Law 1/0; Mannix Hancock 1/0.
Records: Greenville (4-0); Litchfield-Mt. Olive (1-3).

Eagles Land Lancers In Second

It was a good day for eagle watching on Sept. 14, as the Lincolnwood boys golf team scored not one, but two eagles in their match at the Pana Country Club on Thursday.

Bryce Cowdrey and Zeke Castleberry accounted for the two 2-under-par holes for the Lancers, with Cowdrey's coming on the par-4 fifth hole and Castleberry picking his up on the par-5 third hole.

The pair were also two of Lincolnwood's leading scorers as they shot 41 and 42 respectively on the par-35 private course. Cowdrey added in pars on the fourth and ninth holes, while Castleberry had pars on holes number two, four and six to go along with his eagle.

Brady Schmedeke matched Castlebery's 42 and also had three pars, which came on the first, eighth and ninth holes. Lance Weitekamp finished out the scoring for the Lancers with a 43, scoring pars on number four and number seven.

Just four strokes separated Lincolnwood's six varsity golfers on Thursday, though, with Zach Waldeck adding a 44 and Jonah Elvidge finishing with a 45. Elvidge and Waldeck both had pars on number seven, with Waldeck also parring the first and fourth holes.

As a team, Lincolnwood shot a 168 to finish just four strokes behind Vandalia. The Vandals had the top two individual finishers in Conner McCall and Jonah Beesley. McCall shot a 1-over 36 with eight pars and a bogey, while Beesley had a 37 with seven pars and two bogeys.

Taylorville was third in the team ranks with a 196, while Pana was fourth with a 199.

The two wins over the Tornadoes and Panthers upped Lincolnwood's record to 23-7 on the season. They will be at Timber Lakes Golf Course in Staunton today, Sept. 18, to play the host Bulldogs and Rochester, followed by a trip to Country Hills Golf Course in Greenview on Tuesday, Sept. 19, to play Greenview, Havana, Mt. Pulaski and Northwestern.

Sept. 14 at Pana

Pana Country Club - Par 35

Boys Team Results: 1. Vandalia 164; 2. Lincolnwood 168; 3. Taylorville 196; 4. Pana 199.
Medalist: Conner McCall (Vandalia) 36.
Vandalia (164) - Conner McCall 36, Jonah Beesley 37, Owen Halford 45, Colton Justice 46, Will Calhoun 50, Gabriel Weischedel 58.
Lincolnwood (168) - Bryce Cowdrey 41, Zeke Castleberry 42, Brady Schmedeke 42, Lance Weitekamp 43, Zach Waldeck 44, Jonah Elvidge 45.
Taylorville (196) - Luke Poor 44, Evan Parks 49, Isaac Corso 50, Jacob Franklin 53, Aiden Sieler 56.
Pana (199) - Harrison Cawthern 48, Dane Epley 48, Logan Sims 50, Jacob Dorn 53, Brynn Ade 59, Noah Gorenz 67.
Records: Lincolnwood (23-7).

Nokomis Football

Continued from 1B

They would only get three more yards in the series before turning the ball over on downs and didn't get in the Nokomis red zone before then, and only once after.

"I thought defensively we played really, really well. We didn't meet our goal; our goal at halftime was to have that zero stay up on the board, but we're still happy," said Watson, whose reserves allowed the Broncos' lone score on a 16-yard run by Ian Bettinger with 6:47 to play in the fourth quarter. "We haven't gave out hitman stickers in several years, but I told those guys on several of those hits, we're going to have to break some out for their helmets."

Of Cerro Gordo-Bement's 33 offensive plays, only five went for more than 10 yards and only one went for more than 20. Riley Reynolds and Daryl Evans led the defense with six tackles each.

In all facets it was a return to where Nokomis wants to be as they stand at 2-2 entering week five against Tri-County. The Kansas/Shiloh/Oakland co-op program is 0-4 on the season, including a 16-0 loss to Cerro Gordo-Bement in week two. It's also Nokomis' homecoming next week, making it two games straight for the festivities as the Broncos celebrated homecoming during halftime of Friday's game with the Redskins. It was a time of celebration for them, but a motivating factor for Nokomis.

"We take it kind of personally whenever another team puts us on their schedule for homecoming. It's something we brought up to them all week," Watson said. "Next week is our homecoming and we don't lose on homecoming, no matter whether its ours or theirs."

Sept. 15 at Bement

Nokomis	16	22	8	0	---46
Cerro Gordo-Bement	0	0	0	7	-----7

Scoring Summary

1st - 7:49 - Nokomis - Nolan Herpstreith 10-yard TD run (Nolan Herpstreith run)
1st - 4:05 - Nokomis - Nolan Herpstreith 4-yard TD run (Nolan Herpstreith run)
2nd - 11:09 - Nokomis - Brenton Lyons 11-yard TD run (Nolan Herpstreith run)
2nd - 6:14 - Nokomis - Nolan Herpstreith 10-yard TD run (pass failed)
2nd - 0:26 - Nokomis - Nolan Herpstreith 1-yard TD run (Nolan Herpstreith run)
3rd - 3:21 - Nokomis - Brenton Lyons 15-yard TD run (Daryl Evans run)
4th - 6:47 - Cerro Gordo-Bement - Ian Bettinger 16-yard TD run (kick good)

Nokomis Statistics

Passing: Brody Steele 3-5-57
Rushing: Nolan Herpstreith 21-211, 4 TD; Brenton Lyons 10-113, 2 TD; Daryl Evans 7-68; Drake Taylor 1-19; Skylar Pavolko 3-18; Saint Newman 3-17; Dolan Harrison 2-14; Garrett Engelman 1-9; Brody Steele 1-6.
Receiving: Ryan Quinn 1-22; Kadynn Petty 1-19; Brenton Lyons 1-16.
Tackles (Solo/Assists): Riley Reynolds 2/4; Daryl Evans 2/4; Skylar Pavolko 2/3; Garrett Engelman 0/4; Trenten Clark 1/3; Drake Taylor 2/2; Hunter Arkebauer 0/3; Dolan Harrison 1/1; Brenton Lyons 2/0; Nolan Herpstreith 1/1; Bruno Fox 0/2; Atticus Bertolino 1/1; Kadynn Petty 1/0; Lucas Stinson 1/0; Ryan Quinn 0/1; Levi German 0/1.
Records: Nokomis (2-2); Cerro Gordo-Bement (1-3).

Hillsboro Football

Continued from 1B

Topper safety Jace Stewart intercepted two of them; he returned one of his picks to the Miner 5, but a block-in-the-back penalty erased most of that yardage.

The Miners' placekicker was accurate too, as Treagan Madeline, a junior, made both PATs he attempted, plus a 33-yard field goal.

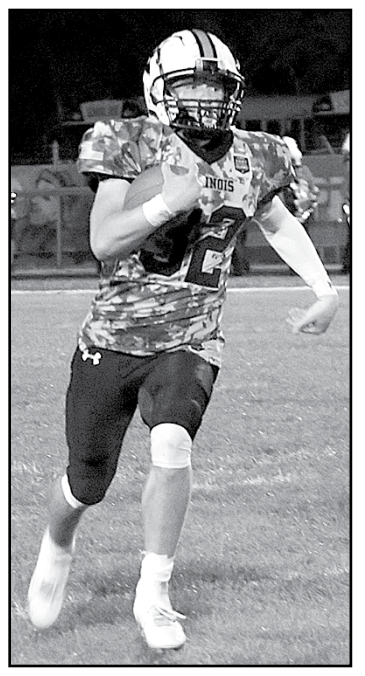
The young Miners hung tough for the first quarter, but Lessman's 48-yard sprint after the Miners had taken a 17-14 lead on Wargo's 19-yard dash to the endzone early in the second quarter boosted Hillsboro's morale.

The defense held the Miners on downs when Ketch Mills tackled Wargo for a loss on the Topper 42; four plays later Lessman scored again.

Trailing 28-17, the Miners began to pass more than run. Eight (of 12) passing plays later, the Topper offense took over on downs again (thanks, defense) on the Topper 41 with two minutes to play in the half.

Lessman rolled around his right end on a reverse for 59 yards for his fourth score of the half on the next play. When Payne booted the extra point, it was 35-17. While Gillespie strove mightily on the field, the scoreboard battle was all but officially over.

In the second half, Hillsboro controlled the ball and the clock, although the visitors recovered the half-opening onside kick. Stewart's interception ended that threat. Wells gained 34 yards down his left sideline before Lessman went right for a 23-yard score.



Dylan Lessman ran for 234 yards and five touchdowns in Hillsboro's 62-17 victory over Gillespie on Sept. 15.

Journal-News/John Galer

The Toppers, trying to end it early, attempted an onside kick of their own, with Jackson Tuetken recovering it. On the next play Wells completed his point tally for the night by fleeing for a 48-yard score. Kuhl's run set the clock in quick mode as the last quarter began.

Now 2-2, Hillsboro goes to Litchfield this coming Friday, Sept. 22, for a rivalry renewal night. Game-time is 7 p.m.

Sept. 15 at Hillsboro

Gillespie	10	7	0	0	--- 17
Hillsboro	14	21	20	7	--- 62

Scoring Summary

1st - 8:22 - Gillespie - Collin Griffith 4-yard TD run (Treagan Madeline kick)
1st - 7:27 - Hillsboro - Dylan Lessman 66-yard TD run (Hunter Payne kick)
1st - 4:11 - Hillsboro - Zander Wells 25-yard TD run (Hunter Payne kick)
1st - 1:04 - Gillespie - Treagan Madeline 33-yard field goal
2nd - 11:18 - Gillespie - Tristen Wargo 19-yard TD run (Treagan Madeline kick)
2nd - 10:57 - Hillsboro - Dylan Lessman 48-yard TDrun (Hunter Payne kick)
2nd - 7:21 - Hillsboro - Dylan Lessman 10-yard TD run (Hunter Payne kick)
2nd - 1:54 - Hillsboro - Dylan Lessman 59-yard TD run (Hunter Payne kick)
3rd - 7:03 - Hillsboro - Dylan Lessman 23-yard TD run (Hunter Payne kick)
3rd - 6:51 - Hillsboro - Zander Wells 48-yard TD run (Hunter Payne kick)
3rd - 0:05 - Hillsboro - Treyton Kuhl 2-yard TD run (run failed)
4th - 10:47 - Hillsboro - Zander Wells 53-yard TD run (Hunter Payne kick)

Hillsboro Statistics

Passing: Jace Stewart 1-5-13.
Rushing: Zander Wells 10-238, 3 TD; Dylan Lessman 10-234, 5 TD; Treyton Kuhl 4-32; Jace Stewart 3-15; Rheese Malloy 2-8.
Receiving: Dylan Lessman 1-13.
Tackles (Solo/Assist): Landon Reincke 3/10; Seth Hubbart 6/7; Zander Wells 7/1; Hayden Titsworth 2/4; Treyton Kuhl 4/1 Drake McSperritt 2/3; Jackson Tuetken 1/4; Hunter Payne 1/3; Alec Leetham 1/3; Jace Stewart 1/2, 2 INT; Olan Lentz 1/2; Dylan Lessman 2/0; Ethan Hamby 1/0; Elias Baney 1/0; Ketch Mills 1/0; Cody Boerckel 0/1; Chase Knetzer 0/1, 1 fumble recovery.

Gillespie Statistics

Passing: Tristen Wargo 13--25-226, 2 INT; Brody Shaw 0-2-0.
Rushing: Logan Griffith 22-78; Tristen Wargo 6-35, 1 TD; Brody Shaw 5-33; Collin Griffith 4/5, 1 TD; Cameron Hailstone 2/2; Cash Reynolds 1/1; Dawson Morgan 3/0.
Receiving: Collin Griffith 5/92; Logan Griffith 3/70; Dawson Morgan 2/32; Dawson Lancaster 2/27; Charles Payne 1/5.





Three New Doctors Join Veterinary Staff

Hillsboro Advanced Veterinary Care welcomed three new doctors to the staff with an open house meet and greet on Saturday, Sept. 16. Lunch was provided and tours were given of the clinic.

Pictured above, from the left, Dr. Carina Kilduff, Dr. Becky Berton and Dr. Elizabeth Johnson.

Record-Breaking Numbers Attend Illinois State Fair

Governor JB Pritzker announced record-setting attendance totals for the 2023 Illinois State Fair. The more than 700,000 attendees over the 11-day event make the 2023 fair the most highly attended fair since industry standards were enacted.

"Once again, the hard work of the Department of Agriculture and hundreds of dedicated fair staff have resulted in shattered attendance records, serving as a testament to the value of our increased Fairgrounds funding and the spirit of Illinois," said Governor Pritzker. "Attractions like the new multi-purpose arena and our highly attended concerts drew in hundreds of thousands of fairgoers from across the state and the country, bringing our community together in an unprecedented way."

"While mother nature will always be a driving force in attendance for any outdoor event, the 2023 fair benefited from a return of programming at the newly renovated multi-purpose arena (MPA), a result of Governor Pritzker's $58.1 million dollar capital investment to address years of deferred maintenance on our historic state fairgrounds," said IDOA Director Jerry Costello II. "The 2023 Fair also greatly benefited from new promotions and big attractions aimed at bringing visitors to the fairgrounds mid-week to capitalize on discount admission days."

The Illinois State Fair also unveiled new theme and discount days to enhance the fairgoer's experience. On Thursday, Aug. 10, the fair started with a full day promoting county fairs and horse racing day. On Tuesday, Aug. 15, the fair discounted admission as part of the new weekday theme "TWOsday."

This new promotion resulted in more than 27,000 additional fairgoers. The week also allowed for more opportunities for families to attend before the start of school.

"Enhancing the fairgoer's experience is a vital part of the planning process," said fair manager Rebecca Clark. "Providing additional entertainment on opening day, exposing more Illinoisans to our state's number one industry, and offering more ways for families to affordably enjoy the Illinois State Fair are priorities that proved to be a driving factor in the growth we experienced at the 2023 Illinois State Fair."

The high attendance numbers reflect the second highest grandstand tickets sold in the last five years; an 86 percent increase from 2021 ticket sales for events at the MPA which sat dark in 2022 due to construction; and record-breaking carnival revenue ($1.58 million) led by robust sales of mega and jumbo passes. Thanks to dry weather on the final weekend, race fans were able to enjoy two popular auto races in the grandstand.

The fair contributed $89,800 in scholarships awarded to youth exhibitors, including 600 new first-time exhibitors, and 60 charities volunteered 20,000 service hours.

Governor Pritzker has obligated over $80 million in infrastructure investments on the fairgrounds. Construction resumes this fall on phase 2 of the coliseum, which focuses on an electrical overhaul, underground plumbing, new seating, new restrooms, an elevator and adding an HVAC system that will allow for year-round use.

Planning is now underway for the 2024 Illinois State Fair, which will run Aug. 8 to 18.

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

Business and Professional Directory

Accountant

Behme CPA
421 N. Broad Street
Carlinville, IL 62626
217-854-2334 • 217-556-2766
behmecpa@yahoo.com

Accountant

HTA HILLSBORO TAX & ACCOUNTING
Gary Wemple EA
Shannon Boerckel EA
Farm Bureau Building
Courthouse Square
102 North Main St.
Hillsboro, IL 62049
Phone: 217-532-2111
Fax: 217-532-3516
Email: gwempleea@gmail.com
hillsborotaxaccounting.com

Auction Services

HEATED & AIR CONDITIONED INSIDE AUCTION FACILITY
LIVE, INTERNET ONLY OR COMBINATION AUCTIONS AVAILABLE
Micenheimer & Meyer Auction Services
James Micenheimer & Cory Meyer, Auctioneers
IL Lic. #440.000896 & #441.002281
micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com • micenheimerauctionservices.com
48 N. 200 East Road • Harvel, IL 62538
NOW BOOKING ONLINE ONLY AUCTIONS
Jim: 217-820-9324
Email: auction@ctitech.com
Cory: 217-710-5642
Email: corymeyer_il@yahoo.com

Automotive

Gerl's AUTO BODY
613 E. St. John Street • Litchfield
217-324-6637
We also do mechanic work

Automotive

SRS
Steve's Repair Service
Cars • Trucks • Farm Machinery
100 East Main
Coffeen, IL 62017
Darin Spinner
(217) 534-2511

Campground

RAINMAKER CAMPGROUND
863 Rainmaker Tr. • Butler • 217-741-7595
Your Hosts: Steve Dunlevy & Family
–SEASONAL & TEMPORARY–
Shaded Sites • Playground
Restrooms • Showers
General Store • Ice • Propane • Firewood
–ACCESS TO LAKE LOU YAEGER–

Dirt Work/Demo

BDS Trucking & Excavating
Litchfield • 217-556-3612 or 556-4848
Matt Gerdes
Demolition • Tree & Fenceline Clearing
New Ponds & Pond Clean-ups
Rock & Dirt Hauling
Available Nights and Weekends
• All Types Rock Available •

Dirt Work/Demo/Hauling

DURB'S DIRT WORK
Hillsboro, IL • 217-710-0606
Grading, Hauling, Concrete Demo,
Brush Removal, Drainage Tile, Rock,
Culverts, Driveways, Sand, Demolition
Jon Durbin, owner/operator

Electrician

LAUGHLIN ELECTRIC, INC.
Commercial • Residential • Farm
Generators • Cable Locating
TRENT LAUGHLIN • 217-246-4113
laughlinelectricinc@hotmail.com
1285 Longbridge Tr. • Walshville, IL 62091
Free Estimates • Insured

Garage Doors

J. DAVID HADLEY
AUSTIN HADLEY
Cell 217-710-3607
C.H.I. OVERHEAD DOORS
Applied Contracting & Engineering
Garage Doors
Sales • Service • Installation
121 N. Cedar, Nokomis • Cell 217-851-1771

Garage Doors

Delta Door, Inc.
Garage Doors & Openers
Sales, Service, Installation • (217) 250-9066
Family Owned & Operated Since 1997
BOB EAST

Don't Be Left Out! • • •
Call 217-532-3933
For Details!
Have Your Business Listed
In Journal Publications'
Business & Professional Directory

Heating / A.C.

HILLER'S
HEATING & COOLING
CUSTOM SHEET METAL
YORK INSTALL CONFIDENCE
Office: 217-532-2595
Fax: 217-532-2118
hillersheetmetal.net
AMERICAN QUALITY

Hospice/Home Health

QUAD COUNTY
Hospice • Home Health Agency
Home Medical Supplies & Equipment, Inc.
217-562-6380
Serving Christian, Fayette, Macoupin, Montgomery and Shelby counties since 1984!
Medicare/Medicaid Certified • Licensed by the State of Illinois

Insurance

SECURUS INSURANCE SERVICE
Home Auto Farm Business
Life Medicare Supplement
Contact me for all your insurance needs.
Scan me!
Georgia Adams
217-608-0238

Insurance

Brown's Insurance Agency
Brown's Insurance Agency
217-532-9447, Hillsboro
217-229-4588, Harvel
For all of your insurance needs, please contact us.

Insurance

C. A. Kessler & Associates
30 W. Broadway • Witt, IL 62094
All Your Insurance Needs In One Place!
Do you have Final Expense Insurance?
We can help. Call and make an appointment today. We'll come to you!
Cell: 217-827-5820

Insurance

Roy A. Simmermaker, LUTCF
Insurance and Financial Services Agent
FARMERS INSURANCE
303 N. Monroe • Litchfield, IL 62056
Tel 217.324.2700 • Fax 217.324.7735
rsimmermaker@farmersagent.com
Registered Representative, Farmers Financial Solutions, LLC
30801 Agoura Road, Bldg. 1, Agoura Hills, CA 91301-2054
Tel 818.584.0200 Member FINRA & SIPC

Insurance

LET US HELP PROTECT YOUR DREAMS.
AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE
24-HOUR CLAIMS REPORTING & CUSTOMER SERVICE 1-800-MYAMFAM (692-6326)
HOME | AUTO | LIFE | BUSINESS | FARM & RANCH AMFAM.COM
Jonathan Tucker, Agent
Litchfield, IL 62056
Bus: (217) 324-7779
Greenville, IL 62246
Bus: (618) 664-9717

IT/Office Equipment

CDS OFFICE TECHNOLOGIES
We Deliver Solutions
www.cdsot.com
akirby@cdsot.com
lenovo SHARP
Microsoft GOLD CERTIFIED
KONICA MINOLTA
LEXMARK Panasonic
Angela Kirby *Digital Imaging Manager*
ALL office equipment and technology needs for Central Illinois
Cell (217) 899-7717 · (217) 528-8936 · Fax (217) 753-6536

Mental Health

There is hope.
Call, text, or chat
https://988lifeline.org/chat
988
National Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Line
Montgomery County Health Department

Moving & Storage

BRADFORD'S MOVING & STORAGE, INC.
(217) 349-8393 - Ashmore
(217) 534-6058 - Coffeen
ILL. C.C. 169986 MC • U.S. DOT 3502268
Chris Bradford
bradfordsmoving@hotmail.com
@bradfordsmoving
@bradfordsmoving

Nursing Uniforms

Cherokee Scrubs Store at Shopping Cart, Hillsboro
Featuring Cherokee Scrubs
ASICS Shoes
M-F 10-5
503 S. Main St. • 217-532-6711

Plumbing

WALCH Plumbing
(217) 710-5250
Residential Plumbing • Sewer Cleaning Lic. #055-044191

Pools/Spas/Landscaping

Sales - Service - Installation
LESSMAN
Pools • Spas • Landscaping Supplies
9181 IL Rt. 127 • Hillsboro • 217-532-9316
"Your full service pool store and more!"
Financing Available

Pump & Motor Repair & Sales

Litchfield Pump & Motor
217-324-3898
Pool Pump Repair
Residential • Farm • Industrial
Litchfieldpumpandmotorcompany@gmail.com
327 W. Chapin, Litchfield, IL 62056

Rentals

HILLSBORO RENTAL
Equipment Rentals
Jack Hammers • Air Compressors
Bulldozers • Bobcats • Trenchers
Lawn & Garden Equipment
1600 School St., Rt. 16, Hillsboro
217-532-6751 or 1-888-532-6751
KEVIN RENCH

Sandblasting

DMD Sandblasting
217-899-5330
David DeWerff
17255 N. 21st Ave.
Nokomis, IL 62075
dmdewerff@gmail.com
* FREE ESTIMATES *

Tire Service

Allen's Tire & Auto LLC
214 W. State, Nokomis, IL 62075
217-563-2909
Monday-Friday 7:30AM-5PM · Closed Saturday-Sunday

Trucking/Excavating

DURBIN EXCAVATING
Terraces - Ponds - Brush Removal
Rock & Dirt Hauling
13209 IL Rt. 127 • Butler
217-532-2693 • 217-246-6173
Mike Durbin, Owner/Operator

Trucking/Excavating

For Trucking, Excavating Or Snow Removal, Call
PLM/JACOB TRUCKING & EXCAVATING, INC.
217/324-3265
If No Answer, Please Leave A Message
1825 N. Washington, Litchfield, Il

Advertise Here Monthly
And Be Seen
By Thousands
Of Potential Customers!
Call 217-532-3933
For Details.

Announcements

Notices

PRAIRIE FIRE WOOD HEAT, INC.: Providing sales, service and installation for Central Boiler outdoor wood burning furnaces. 217-710-1799

Employment

Clerical, Office

PART-TIME SECRETARIAL work which could lead to full-time. Respond to Dept. A, P.O. Box 100, Hillsboro, IL 62049

Domestic Care

PART-TIME HELP
wanted to assist with senior citizen. Could possibly work into full-time. 618-616-3066

General Help

NEED PART-TIME housekeeper at Countryside Inn, Hillsboro. Apply in person.

Merchandise

Furniture

MATTRESS SALE: Twin mattress $169, full $199, queen $239, Mattress Direct across from Litchfield Walmart. 217-324-3636

Pets & Supplies

MALE MINI-GOLDEN DOODLE puppies, non-shedding, hypo allergenic, vet checked with immunizations. Both parents on site. Call or text 217-827-5125

Want To Buy

WANTED TO BUY: Unwanted vehicles, running or not. Cash. 217-246-0068

WANTED: Wild ginseng. Kirchhofer Ginseng Co., Shumway, IL Start buying Saturday, September 16. 217-246-1835

www.thejournal-news.net

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

18 FT. DOVETAIL trailer, new tires, deck and LED lights. 618-363-4477

Time and Money



SAVE BOTH
with the
Central Illinois
Classified Advertising
Network
25 word classified ad,
96 central Illinois newspapers,
over 359,891 circulation.
Call
217-532-3933



Hillsboro FFA Attends Farm Progress Show

On Wednesday, Aug. 30, members of the Hillsboro High School FFA chapter headed up to Decatur for the annual Farm Progress Show. While there, members got to check out all the new advancements in agriculture. Along the way, there were several antiques and freebies to look out for. Some of their favorites included the corn cob hats from Calmer Corn Head, custom hats from FS and so much more. Many celebrities also joined in on the fun. Students enjoyed getting pictures with popular agriculturists and seeing many friendly faces from local areas. Members who attended, in front, from the left are Jackson Tuetken, William Wilson, Milla Anderson, Brekin Swick, Mackenzie Jarman and Harmony Werner-Long. In back are Tycen Thacker, Cody Boerckel, Elbert Jones, Peyton Chesney, Kaleb Knodle, William Meyer and Blake Cullison.

Submitted by Hillsboro FFA Reporter Milla Anderson



President
Cydney Bertolino



Vice President
Levi German



Secretary
Kinley Stolte



Treasurer
Kaeden Loafman

Nokomis FFA Officers Ready For New Year

With the 2023-2024 school year off and running, officers in the Nokomis High School FFA chapter are busy making plans for another great year.

President Cydney Bertolino is a senior at NHS this fall. She plans to attend college and major in agriculture. Her favorite FFA memory is when they waited three extra hours at the Lincoln Land Community College livestock judging contest on her birthday without food. A fun fact about Bertolino is that she is also the FFA Section 19 vice president.

Vice President Levi German is a sophomore at NHS. He plans to become a teacher or an engineer someday. His favorite CDE is Greenhand Quizbowl and his favorite FFA memory is the Ground Zero Conference. A fun fact about German is that he was on the 2023 state-winning Quizbowl team.

Secretary Kinley Stolte is also a sophomore at NHS. Her favorite CDE is livestock and poultry judging and her favorite FFA memory is bus rides after events. A fun fact about Stolte is that she shows cattle and has goats.

Treasurer Kaeden Loafman is a senior at NHS. His favorite FFA event is the Build Conference and his favorite FFA memory is running off two hours of sleep on the second day of state convention. His future plans include to complete a five-year apprenticeship for plumbing.



Sentinel
Walker Stewart



Reporter
Grace King

Sentinel Walker Stewart is a sophomore at NHS. His favorite CDE is livestock judging and his favorite FFA memory is cooking pork burgers at games. His future plans include going back to work on his family's farm.

Reporter Grace King is a sophomore at NHS. Her favorite CDE is livestock judging and her favorite FFA memory is the bus breaking down at state livestock. A fun fact about King is that she shows livestock.

VACANCY NOTICE
Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3
Position: High School Assistant/Freshman Boys' Basketball Coach
Qualifications: ISBE certification or IHSA approved coaching certification
Description: Help to organize and manage practices and competitions and fulfill other duties as established by the head coach; promote athleticism and sportsmanship; promote and grow the program; adhere to all IHSA and District rules and guidelines
Salary: Per Teacher's Contract Schedule B
Submit Letter of Interest and District Application to: Patricia Heyen, Principal; Hillsboro High School; 522 E. Tremont St.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; E-mail to pheyen@hillsboroschools.net; Phone 217-532-2841
Due By: September 29, 2023
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

VACANCY NOTICE
Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3
Position: Full-Time Special Education Teacher - Junior High
Duties: Responsibilities include working with student accommodations, writing IEPs, managing classroom behavior, developing differentiated instruction for diverse needs, teaching/co-teaching in instructional classes and general education classes. Effective communication and strong collaboration skills with other professionals are essential to this position
Qualifications: Illinois Professional Educator's License and LBS 1 Endorsement or willingness to attain
Starting Date: ASAP
Salary/Benefits: Regionally competitive. District paid TRS. Health insurance and tuition reimbursement. Final salary and other potential incentives to be discussed with successful candidate
Submit Application/Résumé/Transcripts/Certificates/Letters to: Donald VanGiesen; Hillsboro Junior High School; 909 Rountree St.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; Email to: dvangiesen@hillsboroschools.net
Due Date: Interviews will begin immediately and continue until filled
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

4-H Youth Development Extension Educator
The University of Illinois Extension is seeking an individual to provide educational leadership for program delivery in Christian, Jersey, Macoupin, and Montgomery counties. Master's degree related to subject matter emphasis required. To view complete job description and apply, visit go.illinois.edu/1019786.
Closing date is **September 22, 2023**.
The U of I is an EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled go.illinois.edu/EEO that participates in the federal e-Verify program and participates in a background check program focused on prior criminal or sexual misconduct history.

VACANCY NOTICE
Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3
Position: Full-Time Classroom Teacher's Aide-Junior High
License: Current Para Professional Certification or willingness to obtain certification with district assistance
Job Description: Working with junior high age children in the classroom
Salary: Teacher's Aide Salary Schedule
Submit Application/Résumé/Transcripts/Certificates/Letters to: Donald VanGiesen; Hillsboro Junior High School; 909 Rountree St.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; Email to: dvangiesen@hillsboroschools.net; Phone: 217-532-3742
Application Due Date: September 27, 2023
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

Crop Condition

There were 6.4 days suitable for field work during the week ending Sept. 10. Statewide, the average temperature was 71.2 degrees, 1.2 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 0.3 inches, 0.34 inches below normal.

Topsoil moisture supply was rated 22 percent very short, 43 percent short, and 35 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture supply was rated 23 percent very short, 33 percent short and 44 percent adequate.

Corn dough reached 98 percent, compared to the five-year average of 95 percent. Corn dented reached 87 percent, compared to the five-year average of 80 percent. Corn mature reached 42 percent, compared to the five-year average of 32 percent. Corn harvested reached 2 percent, equal to the five-year average. Corn condition was rated 6 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 48 percent good and 10 percent excellent.

Soybeans setting pods reached 97 percent, compared to the five-year average of 95 percent. Soybeans dropping leaves reached 27 percent, compared to the five-year average of 18 percent. Soybean condition was rated 6 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 44 percent good and 14 percent excellent.



TUES., SEPT. 26 - Online auction for City of Nokomis liquidation of vehicles & equip. such as lawn mowers, 4-wheeler, snow plows & more at 22 S. Cedar, Nokomis. Viewing at Nokomis City Hall M-F 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Bidding open now at aumannauctions.com. 10% buyers premium.

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., Hoopeston; & 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.

SAT., SEPT. 30 - 9 a.m. Live onsite auction of RE located at 307 Cundiff, Coffeen. Open house: Sept. 11, 4-6 p.m. RE consists of a 3BR/1BA home located on a large lot, 2-car garage, storage shed and a gazebo in the back yard. There are 2 lots to the S. of the home across Cundiff w/an older storage garage as well that will sell separately after the main residence. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

Clip & Save!

SUN., OCT. 1 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends for Dale, Jr. and Sarah Williams farmland consisting of 21+/- acres (with 20+ tillable) in Fayette County located at xxx 325 E. Hurricane Township, Bingham. Sold as one. View at will. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

SUN., OCT. 8 - 6 p.m. Bidding ends for online only farmland auction. Located in Macoupin Co., 3.6 mi. W of Hettick on Scottville-Hettick Rd. to Hunter Rd., watch for signs. 46.12 A, tillable-CRP-recreational. Register to bid, view catalog & terms at www.corycraig.com. Justin Releford, owner. Cory Craig, auctioneer, 217-971-4440.

THURS. & FRI., OCT. 12 & 13 - Taking consignments now for lawn/garden, heavy equipment, construction & farm related items such as: tractors, tillage tools, harvest and hay equipment, semi tractors, trailers, mowers, tillers, golf carts, ATVs, tools, etc. By appointment now, call Adam or Wayne. Consignment drop off dates: Sept. 22 & 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 937 US Rt. 40 Frontage Road, Greenville. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

Pro Bilt

Pro Bilt Buildings, LLC
513 Pipeline Road
Hillsboro
217-532-9331

Help needed in construction of post frame buildings and metal roofing.
Also hiring college-age help
Fill out application at
Pro Bilt Buildings, 513 Pipeline Rd., Hillsboro
—JOB OPENINGS NOW—

Masinelli Management & Construction Inc.
APARTMENTS for RENT
Complexes Located in:
**Litchfield *Nokomis *Witt *Irving *Carlinville*
**Staunton *Hardin and *St. Libory, IL*
Accepting Applications
CALL FOR DETAILS
Rental Assistance May Be Available.
618-635-2005
"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Police

Litchfield Police

• Kenneth Costello, 56, of Litchfield was jailed on an outstanding Montgomery County warrant at 3:09 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, at the 1400 block of W. Ferdon.

• Cameron A. Hokenson, 30, of Litchfield was jailed for failing duty to register at 11:09 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the 1100 block of S. Old Rt. 66.

• Kevin P. Honaker, 30, of Litchfield, was jailed for failing duty to register at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the Litchfield Police Department.

• Michael W. Reynolds, 46, of Litchfield, was cited for possession of stolen property at 11:48 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the intersection of Sargent and Clinton.

• Craig A. Farmer. 36, of Litchfield, was jailed on an outstanding Montgomery County warrant at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the intersection of Adams and Clark.

• Ricky L. Flynn, 48, of Litchfield, was jailed on outstanding Montgomery County and Macoupin County warrants at 7:34 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the 1200 block of Franciscan Dr.

• Ronald G. O Brian, 54, of Litchfield, was cited for criminal trespassing at 9:56 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at 1 Litchfield Plaza.

Litchfield Fire Department Battles Structure Fire

The Litchfield Fire Department responded to the report of a structure fire at 416 N. Madison in Litchfiled at 4:46 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 14.

Upon arrival, the first unit found a two-story house with smoke showing and requested a full still. Additional crews arrived on scene pulled a 1 ¾" cross-lay to the rear of the house.

The fire was contained to the kitchen, and the investigators determined that the cause of the blaze was an unattended grease fire on the stove.

A search was completed with no further occupants or fire located throughout the house. The structure was ventilated using a positive pressure fan. Ameren Gas and Electric was requested to the scene. The kitchen was overhauled to ensure the fire was out.

Nine personnel, staffing four apparatus responded to the fire. Litchfield cancelled the call for mutual aid, except for the request for Hillsboro Ambulance to cover the town while LFD crews continued to operate on the scene.

The only occupant was located behind the house. He was evaluated and found to have second degree burns and soot on his face. The occupant refused transport by EMS and went to the hospital by personal vehicle.

The Litchfield Fire Department would like to remind everyone that grease fires are dangerous because the fuel source is a liquid that can easily splash and spread to cabinets or other flammable areas of the kitchen.



The Litchfield Fire Department responded to a structure fire on Thursday, Sept. 15 at 416 North Madison, where a grease fire started in the kitchen.

Nearly 10 percent of residential cooking fires spread beyond the cooking vessel, and can cause significant damage and injuries. Leaving the stove unattended while cooking is a leading cause of home cooking fires.

Grease fires happen when oil, grease or fat on a stovetop, oven, or deep-fat fryer gets hot enough to ignite. These fires burn very hot and can spread if not handled properly.

The instructions below, for how to put out a grease fire, must be followed in this exact order.

Turn off the stove;

Cover the pot, pan, or fryer with a lid;

Douse the fire with baking soda, salt, or a fire extinguisher, never water.

IDOA Celebrates National Senior Center Month

With National Senior Center Month in full swing, the Illinois Department on Aging (IDOA) is encouraging older adults to visit their local senior center for the first time or to try a new activity if they're already a regular attendee.

"Senior centers are a gateway to critical community services that can help older adults stay healthy and independent," said IDOA Director Paula Basta. "They're also places to make new friends, tap into your creativity, and explore new interests. This month, discover everything your local senior center has to offer. You might be pleasantly surprised by the wide array of activities to choose from and find yourself coming back for more!"

September is National Senior Center Month, emphasizing the tremendous potential senior centers deliver in their communities. Today's senior centers cater to three generations of older adults, offering a vibrant, action-packed combination of educational, arts, and evidence-based health and fitness programming. They are also a great place to find volunteer opportunities that match one's talents and experience.

Nationwide, more than 11,000 senior centers serve 1 million older adults ages 50 and older every day. Aiming to reach more older adults, particularly those who face physical, cultural, and/or geographical barriers that isolate them from their peers and communities, IDOA and the National Council on Aging are encouraging older adults to discover their local senior center during National Senior Center Month this September.

To find a center in the area, please reference the list available on IDOA's website or call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966.

Apply Now For Youth Wingshooting Clinics

Young hunters between ages 10 to 17 can apply now for youth wingshooting clinics and pheasant hunts in October at three state parks.

The upcoming youth opportunities include Saturday, Oct. 21 at Edward R. Madigan State Fish and Wildlife Area in Lincoln, Saturday, Oct. 28 at Clinton Lake State Recreation Area in DeWitt and Saturday, Oct. 28 at Eldon Hazlet State Recreation Area in Carlyle.

Youth will participate in a wingshooting clinic during the morning. Wingshooting instructors certified by the National Sporting Clays Association and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources will lead the activities. Participants will practice safe shotgun handling and operation while advancing their wingshooting skills.

A pheasant hunt will take place during the afternoon. Participants must have successfully completed an approved hunter safety course and have a valid hunting license.

Permits for the Madigan, Clinton Lake and Eldon Hazlet events are available through the IDNR's Controlled Pheasant Hunting online reservation system. Select "Click here for applications," then select "Illinois Youth Pheasant Hunts" to apply. Hunters must review the Illinois Youth Pheasant Hunt information and the Illinois Youth Pheasant Hunt regulations on the controlled pheasant hunting website prior to applying.

Co-sponsors assist the Illinois Department of Natural Resources staff with the wingshooting clinics and pheasant hunts. They provide funding for clay targets, target and field shot shells, and lunch for participants. Through the assistance of some of their members, co-sponsors also provide bird dogs, bird dog handlers, and hunting guides.

For the Madigan clinic and hunt, co-sponsors are the Logan County chapter of Pheasants Forever and the Logan County chapter of the Quail and Upland Game Alliance. At Clinton Lake, the co-sponsor is the DeWitt County chapter of Pheasants Forever. Co-sponsors of the Eldon Hazlet event are the Little Bluestem and Silver Creek chapters of Quail Forever.

For complete details, visit *https://dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/controlledpheasanthunting.html.*

To access the 2023 IDNR wingshooting calendar and information about registering for upcoming clinics, visit *https://dnr.illinois.gov/recreation/wingshooting.html.*

TRY THE JOURNAL-NEWS
DIGITAL
www.thejournal-news.net

Safety Tips For This Harvest Season

Harvest season is beginning across the state, and for farmers, this means early mornings, long days and the potential for exhaustion that can lead to accidents.

University of Illinois Extension specialist and Department of agricultural and biological engineering assistant professor Josie Rudolphi says that agricultural workers can prevent fatigue during this busy time of year by eating protein-packed snacks to maintain energy throughout the day. She also recommends drinking plenty of water, not just caffeinated drinks, and whenever possible, taking frequent breaks, naps or energizing walks.

For a safe harvest, Illinois Extension also recommends performing routine maintenance and cleaning of equipment including cab windows, checking for electrical hazards, testing and repairing vehicle lights and "slow moving vehicle" signs, watching for overhead electrical hazards and managing stress.

Combine fires are one of the most common and expensive types of incidents in production agriculture. They can also cause substantial setbacks during harvest. Prevent debris fires by frequently blowing off debris with a portable leaf blower or air compressor and inspect the engine compartment where chaff may have accumulated around bearings, belts and other moving parts. Check fuel or hydraulic system lines before harvest and replace any leaking, cracked or worn-looking lines.

When in the field, keep an eye out for power lines, which are a threat to tall or extended farm equipment. Be aware of overhead power lines and plan a safe route. Survey the environment before beginning work, taking note of power lines and their location before moving any equipment or extending augers.

"Always work with a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines," Rudolphi says. "Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance."

When driving on public roads, avoid heavy traffic times.

"Since many non-farm drivers are unfamiliar with the size and maneuverability of farm equipment, operators should use their hazards and turn signals diligently," Rudolphi says. "When yielding to oncoming traffic, slow down and be aware of soft shoulders."

Illinois State Police reminds motorists and farmers to use caution and remember that passing farm implements at intersections and no passing zones is unsafe and illegal. Drivers are encouraged to slow down, allow extra travel time and stay alert by avoiding distracted driving.

Learn more about sharing the road safely from Doug Gucker, extension local foods small farms educator.

PUBLIC NOTICE

WITHDRAWAL NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, August 31, 2023, a supplementary certificate for withdrawal was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Montgomery County, Illinois setting forth the names or names and post-office address or addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: COFFEEN TRUCKING CO. located at COFFEEN, IL 62017.

Dated
Thursday, August 31, 2023
Sandy Leitheiser,
County Clerk
33-3tM*

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Surface Coal Mining Land Conservation and Reclamation Act (PA-81-1015, as amended) and the rules and regulations of the Act, Hillsboro Energy, LLC, Deer Run Mine, 12051 9th Avenue, P.O. Box 457, Hillsboro, IL 62049 hereby gives notice that on September 12, 2023 a permit renewal application was determined to be complete by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Mines and Minerals, to renew permit number 399 and 424 together, which are existing permits for an underground coal mine including surface support facilities.

The permit area is located in Montgomery County, IL as described:

Surface Permit Area (1,190.67 acres): Parts of Sections 7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 27, and 28 T8N, R3W; and Parts of Sections 12, 13, and 24, T8N, R4W.

Shadow Area (12,565.90 acres): All or parts of Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, and 18 T7N, R3W; All or parts of Sections 1, 12, and 13 T7N, R4W; All or parts of Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 T8N, R3W; and All or parts of Sections 13, 24, 25, and 36 T8N, R4W.

The applicant seeks to renew Permit 399 and 424 together, which are existing underground mine permits including surface support facilities.

The application is filed at the Montgomery County Clerk's Office (Hillsboro, Illinois) and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Mines & Minerals, Land Reclamation Division, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271.

Comments, objections or requests for informal conference or public hearing may be submitted to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Mines and Minerals, Land Reclamation Division, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271 or via email at DNR.Mmlrd@Illinois.gov.

37-4tM

PUBLIC NOTICE

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE FOURTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
- IN PROBATE**

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
JIMMY LEE LOHMAN,
DECEASED.

No. 2023-PR-26

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION - WILL AND CLAIMS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES AND NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF WILL ADMITTED**

Notice is given of the death of Jimmy Lee Lohman of Hillsboro, IL 62049. Letters of office were issued on August 25, 2023 to Kenneth W. Lohman, whose attorney is Alan Pretnar, 510 Hillsboro St., P.O. Box 310, Taylor Springs, IL 62089.

Notice is given to unknown heirs, legatees and devisees in the above proceeding to probate a will and whose name or address is not stated in the petition to admit the will to probate, that an order was entered by the court on August 25, 2023 admitting the will to probate.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the will by testimony of the witnesses to the will in open court or other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/6-21). You also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 6/8-1) to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after admission of the will to probate.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court at the Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the first date of publication and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it had been filed.

For further information regarding the electronic filing of claims, contact the Montgomery County Circuit Clerk at the Montgomery County Courthouse in Hillsboro, IL.

___/s/ Alan Pretnar___
Alan Pretnar #6182987
Attorney at Law
510 Hillsboro St., P.O. Box 310
Taylor Springs, IL 62089
217/532-9298
apretnar@alanpretnar.com
33-3tT

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPERVISOR'S STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
Bois D'Arc Township
FY 2022-2023
COMMISSIONER'S FUNDS

REVENUES:	
Property Tax	$168,090.34
Replacement Tax, State of IL	14,989.19
Rovey Seed	4,500.00
Others under $2,500	1,708.33
TOTAL REVENUES	**$189,287.86**
EXPENDITURES:	
David Stieren	16,500.00
AB Truck Repair	11,488.28
Metal Culverts	34,341.00
Falling Springs	42,198.18
TOIRMA	8,481.00
Murphy Bros. Trucking Inc.	6,331.05
Springfield Plastics Inc.	5,572.42
Wooley Trucking	15,760.07
Jim Stieren	3,432.50
Home Oil Co.	7,914.62
Martin Equipment	2,888.93
Gerlach Ag	7,359.82
Sullivan Trucking	9,189.44
Louis Marsch	6,383.28
Montgomery Co Hwy Dept	2,758.32
Prairie State Bank & Trust	18,875.44
Others under $2,500	17,514.36
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**$216,988.71**
Summary Statement of Condition	
Beginning Fund Balance, April 1, 2022	$258,439.69
Revenues	189,287.86
Expenditures.	216,988.71
Adj. for Labor Withhold	6.23
Ending Fund Balance, March 31, 2023	**$230,738.87**

SUPERVISOR'S FUNDS

REVENUES:	
Property Tax	$ 68,109.93
Replacement Tax	5,253.78
Others under $2,500	2,180.36
TOTAL REVENUES	**$ 75,544.07**
EXPENDITURES:	
David Stieren	$ 16,590.00
Robert Wagahoff	6,690.04
Meredith Yard	5,749.96
TOIRMA Ins	4,771.00
IMRF	4,902.88
EFTPS	4,255.39
Others under $2,500	12,852.69
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**$ 55,811.96**
Summary Statement of Condition	
Beginning Fund Balance, April 1, 2022	$158,386.22
Revenues	75,544.07
Expenditures.	55,811.96
Adjustment for Labor Liabilities	70.07
Ending Fund Balance, March 31, 2023	**$178,118.33**

GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND

REVENUES:	
Property Tax	$ 3,874.22
Others under $2,500	126.55
TOTAL REVENUES	**$ 4,000.77**
EXPENDITURES:	
Others under $2,500	$ 970.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**$ 970.00**
Summary Statement of Condition	
Beginning Fund Balance, April 1, 2022	$ 38,474.23
Revenues	4,000.77
Expenditures.	970.00
Ending Fund Balance, March 31, 2023	**$ 41,505.00**

I, Robert Wagahoff, Supervisor of Bois D'Arc Township, Montgomery County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the above statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2022, and ending March 31, 2023.

Subscribed and sworn this 12th day of April, 2023.

37-1t





23 BUICK ENCLAVE ESSENCE
M127, FWD, cherry red tincoat
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $47,385



24 BUICK ENCLAVE ESSENCE
N111, AWD, ebony twilight metallic
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $48,760



24 BUICK ENCLAVE ESSENCE
N112, AWD, emperor blue metallic
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $53,050



23 CHEVY BLAZER PREMIER
M163, FWD, black
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $45,195



24 CHEVY BLAZER RS
N115, FWD, sterling gray metallic
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $48,065



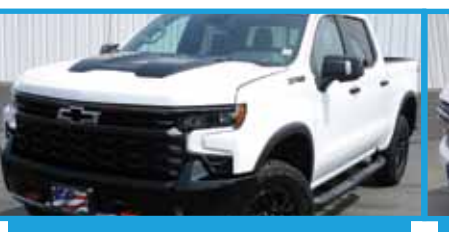
23 BUICK ENCORE GX SELECT
M126, FWD, moonstone gray met.
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $30,740



23 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 RST
M175, crew cab, 4WD, red hot
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $57,410



23 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 LTZ
M174, Crew, 4WD, iridescent pearl
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $66,405



23 CHEVY SILVERADO K1500 ZR2
M158, summit white
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $72,260



23 CHEVY TAHOE PREMIER
M165, 4WD, iridescent pearl
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $88,043



24 CHEVY EQUINOX RS
N110, AWD, mosaic black metallic
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $37,555



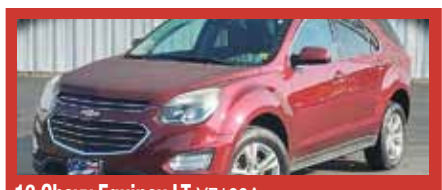
24 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500HD
N102, Custom, Duramax, summit white
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $68,263



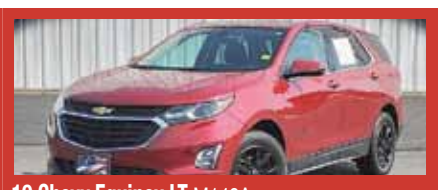
24 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500HD
N104, crew cab, Duramax, dark ash
RJI SALE PRICE* ... $75,003

INBOUND . . . and soon to be arriving on our lot

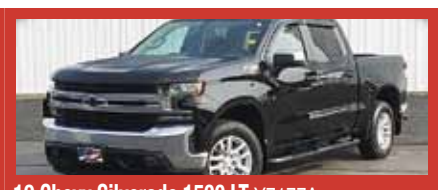
24 CHEVY BLAZER RS, AWD, black	$49,315
23 BUICK ENVISION AVENIR, AWD, sapphire metallic	$47,425
24 BUICK ENVISTA SPORT TOURING, white frost	$28,865
23 CHEVY COLORADO TRAIL BOSS, 4WD, sterling gray met.	$42,318
23 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 RST, 4WD, black	$56,030
23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT, sterling gray metallic	$27,638
23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT, mosaic black metallic	$27,973
23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT, mosaic black metallic	$28,158
23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT, AWD, sterling gray metallic	$29,763
23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT, AWD, summit white	$29,763
23 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER RS, crimson metallic	$33,263
23 CHEVY TRAVERSE 1LS, AWD, sterling gray metallic	CALL
24 CHEVY EQUINOX LT, sterling gray metallic	$31,865
24 CHEVY EQUINOX RS, riptide blue metallic	$35,770



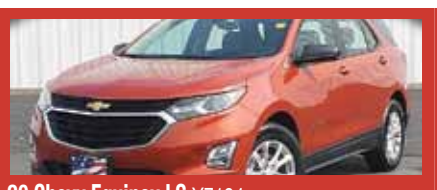
16 Chevy Equinox LT Y7199A
AWD, 118k miles $12,900



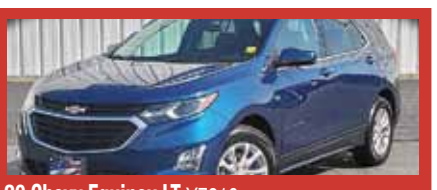
19 Chevy Equinox LT M149A
AWD, 42k miles $23,900



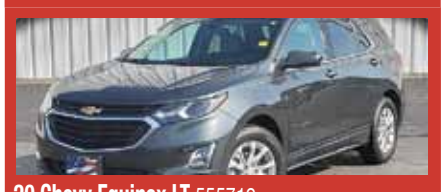
19 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT Y7177A
Crew cab, 4WD, 30k $41,900



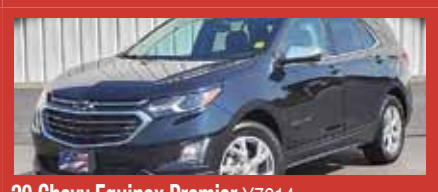
20 Chevy Equinox LS Y7194
FWD, 18k miles $24,900



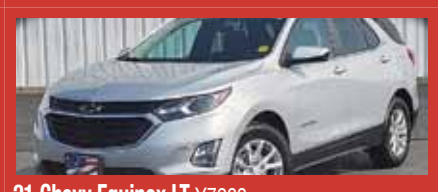
20 Chevy Equinox LT Y7216
FWD, 12k miles $25,900



20 Chevy Equinox LT 555719
FWD, 13k miles $25,900



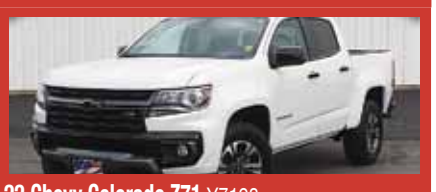
20 Chevy Equinox Premier Y7214
AWD, 22k miles $28,900



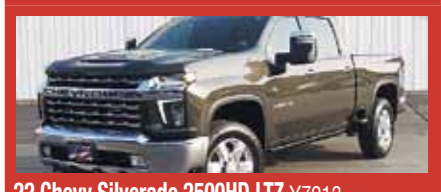
21 Chevy Equinox LT Y7203
FWD, only 6k miles..... $27,900



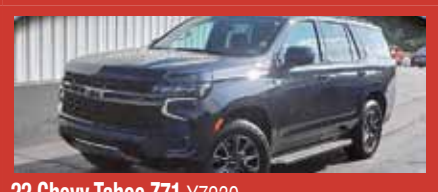
21 Chevy Traverse 2LT Y7168
AWD, graphite metallic, 20k..... $43,900



22 Chevy Colorado Z71 Y7198
Crew cab, 4WD, 11k $40,900



22 Chevy Silverado 2500HD LTZ Y7213
4WD, crew cab, 14k..... $69,900



22 Chevy Tahoe Z71 Y7230
4WD, only 8k miles..... $69,900



21 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L Y7166
FWD, granite crystal, 64k $31,900



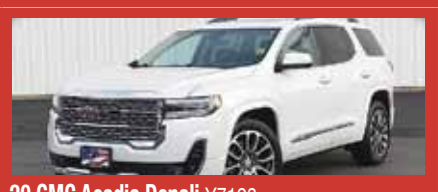
19 Ford Escape SE M152A
4WD, 41k miles $21,900



20 Ford Escape SE M151A
FWD, blue, 34k miles $24,900



21 Ford Escape SE Y7204
AWD, only 1478 miles $27,900



20 GMC Acadia Denali Y7193
AWD, 49k..... $37,900



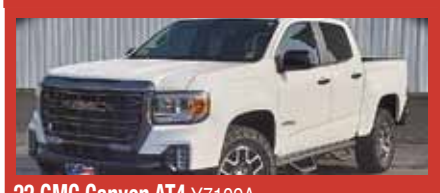
20 GMC Terrain SLT Y7173A
FWD, 42k miles $24,900



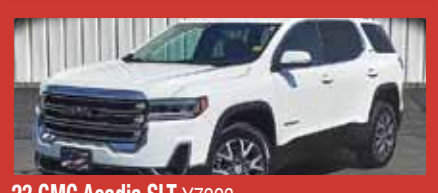
20 GMC Terrain SLE Y7212
FWD, 23k miles $26,900



20 GMC Terrain SLT Y7217
FWD, only 9k miles..... $28,900



22 GMC Canyon AT4 Y7109A
Crew cab, 4WD, only 7k miles $41,900



23 GMC Acadia SLT Y7223
AWD, 22k miles $36,900



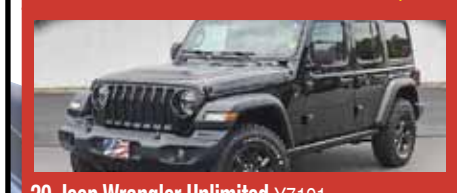
23 GMC Terrain SLT Y7222
AWD, 18k miles $31,900



23 GMC Terrain SLT Y7219
AWD, 11k miles $32,900



16 Jeep Cherokee Latitude M173A
4WD, 84k miles $17,900



20 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Y7191
Willys, 4x4, only 9k miles $43,900

21 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo Y7202
4x4, 18k miles $33,900

22 Jeep Compass High Altitude Y7187
4x4, only 3k miles..... $34,900

20 Ram 1500 Big Horn Y7133
Crew cab, flame red, 16k $42,500

21 Ram 1500 Big Horn Y7174
Crew cab, hydro blue pearl, 19k $44,900

Roger Jennings
Hillsboro, Illinois
The All American Auto Dealer™

KENNY MARKEZICH
General Manager
kmarkezich@rogerjenningsinc.com

JOSH BRAY
Finance Manager
jbray@rogerjenningsinc.com

ZACH PARKER
New Car Sales Manager
zparker@rogerjenningsinc.com

GREG BRUCKERT
Sales Consultant
gbruckert@rogerjenningsinc.com

PHIL WENTZEL
Service Manager
pwentzel@rogerjenningsinc.com

AUSTIN DODDS
Service Consultant
adodds@rogerjenningsinc.com

BART PADEN
Parts Manager
bpaden@rogerjenningsinc.com

www.rogerjenningsinc.com
217-532-3200 or 1-800-886-2322

FOR THE PEOPLE · BUICK

*Take new retail delivery by 9/5/23.



Established in 1854, Heinz Furniture has been a mainstay in downtown Carlinville for nearly 170 years. Recently, the store has been remodeled inside and outside, with the exterior restored to a similar look to the 1860s.

Heinz Furniture Remodels Shop Inside And Out

Established in 1854, Heinz Furniture has been a mainstay in downtown Carlinville for nearly 170 years. Recently, the store has undergone some major renovations both inside and outside.

Current owners Greg and Danlee (Heinz) Whitler have restored the front of the building to its original look from the 1860s. Inside the shop has also been redesigned to give it a more modern feel.

Although they restored the front of the building to its original feel, the store now offers much more to local customers than just furniture. They now provide flooring, cabinets, blinds and masonry as well as kitchen and bathroom remodeling.

"Our team offers many solutions to help our customers meet their renovation needs," said Greg Whitler. "We can provide a one-stop shop for customers from all over central Illinois and the St. Louis area."

In early 2020, Heinz Furniture added a Kitchen and Bath Design Center, which is now led by Katie Jackson. Customers looking to renovate those spaces in their homes may make an appointment with Jackson. She will help customers through the entire process, including helping to design a layout using the latest in 3D rendering software. This type of program allows Jackson to show customers exactly what their finished renovations will look like.

Jackson even helps customers in the decision-making process, helping them to select wood for their cabinets and stone or onyx for their countertops. She can also help them select tile for a backsplash, and prides herself on helping customers stay within their budgets.

"Katie is amazing and she can take a dream and pull all the elements together by laying everything out so the customers can see exactly what they are getting," Whitler said. "Our goal when we added the Kitchen and Bath Center was to provide our clients with a comfortable environment where Katie and I work directly with them to pull together the flooring, cabinets, countertops, hardware, backsplash, blinds and more, as well as offering our customers bulk discount pricing."

Together, Jackson and Whitler have more than 30 years experience in the construction industry and they specialize in helping the customer navigate through the experience and coordinate directly with the contractors and designers. They offer free estimates and design services to customers through brands like Cambria, Schrock, Wilsonart, Waypoint, The Onyx Collection and more.

"If you're getting ready to start a construction job, I encourage customers to come in our store first with the plans and let our team work with you to provide a realistic budget," Whitler said.

In addition to the Kitchen and Bath Design Center, Heinz Furniture provides a wide selection of windows, stone, office furniture and tile for the floor or walls.

When it comes to flooring, Whitler or a member of his team offer free in-home estimates to customers for a variety of brands like Shaw, Congoleum and Dream Weaver.

"We have over 40 displays of all types of flooring in our showroom," said Whitler. "We offer installation and other services like removal/disposal of the old flooring, furniture/appliance moving, trim work and whatever else our customers may need us to do."

In addition to all of their home renovations, the Heinz Furniture family also provides a wide range of services to commercial customers in the area.

"We have grown our commercial business considerably in the last few years leading jobs for the Macoupin County Courthouse, the new Carlinville Police Station, the Champaign County Housing Authority, Northwestern High School and Blackburn College to name a few," Whitler said. "No job is too small or too big and we can compete in pricing with any box store or online stores. We sell all types of flooring, like carpet, tile, LVT, sheet vinyl, carpet tile and hardwood, while also stocking all the top brand accessories one would need like adhesives, self levelers, shower systems, floor patch from Schluter, Ardex, Mapei and more."

Continued on next page



FARMERS INSURANCE
Roy Simmermaker
217-324-2700 (Office)
217-324-7735 (Fax)
rsimmermaker@farmersagent.com
www.farmersagent.com/rsimmermaker
303 N. Monroe Street, Litchfield, IL 62056-2027

MARTEN LAWN CARE
LITCHFIELD, IL
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
(217) 313-4466

Pro Bilt

Farm - Equine - Suburban
Residential - Commercial
POST FRAME BUILDINGS
Quality Buildings Bilt For You
Experienced Crews ~ Fully Insured
1-877-999-BILT (2458) • 217-532-9331
Hillsboro, Illinois



United Builders Inc.
• New Construction • Remodeling
• Roofing • Additions
UNITED BUILDERS
36 Years in Business • Family-Owned
109 Old Route 66 South • Litchfield, IL 62056
www.unitedbuildersinc.com
Larry Pence Cell: (217) 273-0331
Wyatt Pence Cell: (217) 313-6255
larrypence@hotmail.com
wyattpence83@yahoo.com
Find us on Facebook





We've Got It Covered!
FLOORING
WINDOWS
*Free Estimates
800-888-8745
*Free In-Home Consultation
217-324-2117
Wood
LVT
LVP
Ceramic
Area Rugs
Carpet
SHORT FURNITURE & DECORATING CENTER
Hours
M-F 9-6, Sat 10-4
319 N.State
Litchfield

HILLER'S
HEATING & COOLING
CUSTOM SHEET METAL
YORK
INSTALL CONFIDENCE
Office: 217-532-2595
Fax: 217-532-2118
hillersheetmetal.net
AMERICAN QUALITY
DESIGNED, ENGINEERED & ASSEMBLED IN THE USA

Fall Home Improvement

A Special Supplement to The Journal-News and Macoupin County Journal



Pictured above is a kitchen designed by Katie Jackson in the Kitchen and Bath Design Center at Heinz Furniture.

Heinz Furniture

Continued from previous page

Other options for both residential and commercial renovations are window treatments, including traditional blinds, as well as Graber blinds, which offers shutters, cellular, roller shades and more. Heinz Furniture now has a dedicated blind installer, Norm Gillen, who is sometimes assisted by Whitler. The duo will measure and install blinds customized to meet customer needs.

Both graduates of Carlinville High School with the class of 1995, Greg and Danlee (Heinz) Whitler, encourage local customers to give Heinz Furniture a try when shopping local.

Heinz Furniture is located at 208 W. Main Street in Carlinville. For more information, call 217-854-3184 or visit their newly redesigned website at *www.heinzfurniture.com*.



Pictured in front of the newly remodeled Heinz Furniture, from the left are retired owner Greg Heinz and new owners Danlee (Heinz) and Greg Whitler.

www.thejournal-news.net



HILLSBORO | 549 S. MAIN ST. | 217.532.6104

www.cnbil.com

Member FDIC

NMLS #637573

CNB BANK & TRUST, N.A.
Helping to Open Doors • Since 1854



Shop Local



