



# The Journal-News

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## Renovated Panhandle Gym Project Almost Ready For Bids

by Kyle Herschel

Jamie Cosgriff of Graham & Hyde Architects was back in front of the Panhandle Board of Education on Monday, Jan. 27, as the drawings and specifications for the new Lincolnwood High School gym are ready to go out for bid.

Cosgriff said on Feb. 5 there will be a pre-bid meeting for the project, which includes renovation of the main gym floor and locker rooms, with new air conditioning and bleachers also set to be installed. There are also three main alternate

bids, which would add a weight room and space for bleachers for the multipurpose gym at Raymond Grade School, a corridor for a new entrance to that multipurpose gym and one for new flooring in the Lincolnwood cafeteria kitchen area. There is also an alternative bid for a moisture barrier if that is needed.

Cosgriff said there is already some interest from contractors and he believed that the bidding portion of the project is close to ready to go.

The board also received another look at the plans and project specs

for the renovated gym and the areas that will also be affected, including the hallways, hall of champions and gym entrance. Cosgriff said that some of the decisions on which graphics to use can be made closer to completion of the project.

Superintendent Aaron Hopper asked about the mural on the wall closest to the cafeteria, which was a gift from the Class of 1974. Cosgriff said that the wall is in desperate need of tuck pointing, but there were ways to preserve it digitally and maintain its presence in the gym.

Cosgriff also said that the addition of acoustical material on the ceiling is being looked at to improve sound quality, while still maintaining the look for the ceiling.

Board member Scott Cowdrey asked about the new air conditioning unit for the gym. Cosgriff said that it will be visible from the front area of the school, depending on how far back you are standing, but they believed that was the best area to put it. Superintendent Hopper asked about locating the unit on the other side of the building, over the boiler room, with Cosgriff saying

he would look at that possibility.

Cosgriff also brought in two samples of options for bleacher seats. He added that he has received some push back from the bleacher supplier on the schedule. Bleachers have to be done last and the plan is to do asbestos abatement in June, gym flooring in July and bleacher installation in August. Cosgriff said the supplier just picked up three large gym projects in Peoria, but he is confident the bleachers will be installed by the beginning of school.

Continued on page 6A



## Slithery Good Fun At Litchfield Library

Local youngsters slithered into some fun crafts and activities as the Litchfield Public Library District celebrated the Lunar New Year on Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 29, from 3 to 5 p.m. More than a dozen participants enjoyed a variety of stations celebrating the Year of the Snake. Pictured above, Noah, Liam and Olivia Semplowski create a snake out of paper cups.

## Lancer/Mohawk Co-Op Is Great, But Will It Survive?

by Kyle Herschel

Everyone, at least those who have spoken publicly, has expressed their desire to continue the athletic co-op between Lincolnwood and Morrisonville. The question that is still unanswered is to what lengths the Morrisonville and Panhandle school boards are willing to make that happen.

For more than an hour and a half on Monday, Jan. 27, the Panhandle Board of Education discussed the latest co-op proposal from Morrisonville, which came after a meeting between the president and vice president of both boards and the two district superintendents. Ultimately, no decision on the co-op was reached, with Panhandle planning to reach out to Morrisonville once again to discuss the situation further.

The latest proposal called for Morrisonville to host one varsity sport, baseball, which they hosted from 2017 until 2020 in a co-op with Lincolnwood. In return Lin-

colnwood would host junior high baseball. Both districts would also host two games at the co-op partners' field (two high school games in Raymond and two junior high games in Morrisonville).

Another piece of the proposal was that Morrisonville would host two high school softball, boys basketball and girls basketball games, while Lincolnwood would do the same for the three sports at the junior high level. The same would go for junior high volleyball, with high school volleyball hosting either the current tournament at Morrisonville or two games if that tournament ends.

Dana Pitchford, who was in the meeting on Jan. 23, when Morrisonville presented the proposal, said what she got out of the discussion was that Morrisonville loves the co-op and wants to keep it, but they feel that having a varsity sport would improve the morale and atmosphere of the school as a whole.

Continued on page 6A

## Nokomis Council Approves City Hall Improvements

by Ben Schwarm

The Nokomis City Council approved motions to proceed on both internal and external improvements to City Hall operations at its Monday, Jan. 27 regular meeting. The council accepted a bid from Milano and Grunloh Engineers, LLC in the amount of \$7,500 to provide three renderings of designs for new signage and facade upgrades for the City Hall building.

Commissioners also approved upgrading the city's operational and financial software program, Civic Systems, to add portals for both employees and city residents. The new features include a community portal and cash receipting that will allow employees to use digital time sheets and allow residents to pay their water bills online.

The council also approved the hiring of Cody Collins as an additional part-time police officer. According to

Nokomis Police Chief Talon Burton, the position is needed to ensure police coverage for instances when fulltime officers are using vacation or comp time. Currently, the police department finds itself paying overtime to fulltime officers to cover these shifts. Burton noted that it is more financially efficient to pay a part-time officer to work these hours instead of paying overtime wages to fulltime officers.

In other business, the council took action to remove former Commissioner Lou Stauder's name from the various city bank accounts and added new Commissioner Charlie O'Malley's name as a replacement. Stauder resigned from his position earlier this month and O'Malley was sworn in as a replacement.

Commissioners also voted to designate May 31, 2025, as electronic recycling day and May 5 through May 11 as city clean up days.

## Steele's Football Career Continues At EIU

by Isaiah Atkins

"I love being a football guy," EIU football assistant and recent Nokomis High School graduate Brody Steele said. "I just love it."

The 2024 Nokomis graduate has found himself in a unique position in the sport, as he has found an important role as a football assistant for the Division I football team at Eastern Illinois University.

Steele, coming off a successful career playing for Nokomis, wasn't eager to make a college decision. "I wasn't sure what I wanted to do," Steele says. "But I talked to my basketball coach and some of my teachers, who all went to Eastern, and decided I would give it a look."

He visited campus, toured the football facilities, and loved it all, drawn to "its small-town feel."

Eastern Illinois hasn't



Nokomis graduate Brody Steele has quickly caught on at Eastern Illinois University, spending his freshman year as an offensive assistant on the football team. Pictured above is Steele during the EIU season opener against Illinois, played at the Illini's Memorial Stadium.

always been known for its athletics; in fact, many refer to the school as 'the Harvard of the Midwest.' Still, most football fans

can identify several alumni on their TVs each Sunday. Tony Romo calls games each week for CBS after a long NFL career. Jimmy

Garoppolo is a three-time Super Bowl champion with the New England Patriots before taking his own 49ers squad to the big game. He too started in Charleston.

Mike Shanahan, a Super Bowl-winning head coach whose offensive genius set in motion nearly all of the high-scoring NFL offenses witnessed today, began as a college student at Eastern. So did Denver Broncos head coach Sean Payton.

Soon after making a decision, his father, Nokomis assistant football coach Frank Steele, was approached by local area legend football coach Ken Leonard, who had famously coached the highly successful Sacred Heart-Griffin squads and retired as the winningest high school football coach in Illinois state history.

Continued on page 7A

### Weather Forecast

Thu 30	47°/44°	Rain	86%
Fri 31	49°/30°	Cloudy	24%
Sat 01	46°/40°	AM Clouds/PM Sun	8%
Sun 02	60°/40°	Mostly Cloudy	8%

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### Kids' Page

Look inside today's edition on page 3B for a special Kids' Page with activities for our youngest readers!



# Journalisms

News About People and Events of Interest Throughout The County

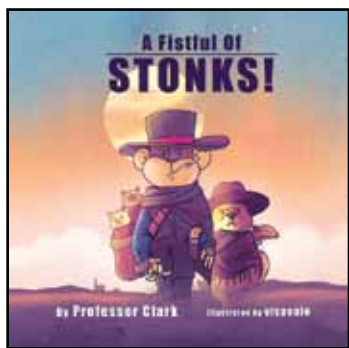
There's a scavenger hunt afoot with a really great prize! Blended Artists Imaginarium is hosting a scavenger hunt on their Facebook page and lucky winners may just have the chance to see their upcoming improv show on Saturday, Feb. 8, at The Event Center of Montgomery County. The fun games have included crossword puzzles and picture clues leading to hidden tickets around the community.

And if you're not lucky enough to find a ticket, you can still purchase one for \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. See their ad in today's edition for more information.

And speaking of tickets, there's only a limited number of tickets remaining for this year's second annual Pork Loin Dinner and Auction Fundraiser benefitting Haven Home of Hope in Hillsboro. There's been a misprint on the tickets. Doors for the event, held at the Hillsboro Free Methodist Church, actually open at 5 p.m. when participants will have the chance to check out some great silent auction items. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. followed by a video presentation and a live auction. Tickets are \$40 each or \$300 per table of eight. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [bit.ly/havenhomedinner](http://bit.ly/havenhomedinner) or contact The Haven.

Local author Dillon Clark of Litchfield is at it again, adding another book to his Stonks collection. His fifth book, *A Fistful of Stonks*, features a Wild West adventure, packed with action, humor and legendary showdowns as Stonks and Dodger take on the frontier with their trusty banana blasters.

To learn more about Stonks and his friends or to purchase any of the books, visit [www.stonksfriends.com](http://www.stonksfriends.com).



## Obituary

### Claude W. Snider, 84 Longtime Union Laborer



Claude "Frog" William Snider, 84, of Fillmore, died Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, at Hillsboro Health.

A visitation service will take place on Saturday, Feb. 1, at Hough and Sons Funeral Home in Hillsboro from 4 to 6 p.m.

Mr. Snider was born on Oct. 18, 1940, in Coffeen to his parents John W. and Iona (Traylor) Snider. He spent his life working as a union laborer and was a part of the Local 1084 Labor Hall and had just received his 60 year membership certificate for his dedication to his work. Mr. Snider loved his dogs and had a passion for camping. He loved to sit down and have a coffee with friends. He was one of a kind.

Mr. Snider married Judith Chumley and they later divorced. He then married Barbara Bailey and she preceded him in death on Dec. 9, 2020.

Mr. Snider is survived by his children Terri Theresa Romero of Coffeen, Scott Snider of Mesa, AR, Tina Snider of Coffeen and Wade Dean Snider of Coffeen; 13 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; son, Stacey Snider; granddaughter, Breezy Romero; great-grandson, Angelo Romero; and siblings, John Snider, Lila Warren, Ora May Hatcher and his twin brother Cloyde "C.O." Snider.

Hough & Sons Funeral Home in Hillsboro is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be left online at [www.houghfuneralhome.com](http://www.houghfuneralhome.com).

## Public Meetings

### Veterans Assistance Commission

The Montgomery County Veterans Assistance Commission has cancelled its regular monthly executive committee commission meeting scheduled for Monday, Feb. 3.

The next scheduled regular quarterly committee commission meeting will be March 3, at 7 p.m. in the joint conference room in the Courthouse Annex.

## TASC To Hold Variety Of Events In February

The Autism Support Connection (TASC) will host a variety of events throughout the upcoming month of February.

On Saturday, Feb. 1, the group will host a sensory friendly showing of "Dog Man" at 1 p.m. at The Orpheum Theatre in Hillsboro. The showing is open for all members of TASC and their families.

The monthly support group meeting will be held on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Hillsboro Free Methodist Church, located at 1400 Seymour Ave. Support group meetings are held on the first Thursday of each

month. Childcare is provided. TASC is also collaborating with Hilltop Elite Academy of Tumbling and Trampoline to host their first open gym event from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22. The gym is located at 130 E. Seward St. in Hillsboro.

There will be a TASC+ Night on Wednesday, Feb. 19, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The venue is to be determined. TASC+ events are for those ages 14 and over.

Those looking for more information can contact Lynn Sellers at 217-556-9535, Kim Draper at 217-710-3598 or email [tascillinois1@gmail.com](mailto:tascillinois1@gmail.com).



School Resource Officer Dan Marron was awarded with a plaque for his efforts. Marron, at left, is pictured above being presented with the plaque by Nokomis Police Chief Talon Burton.

## Marron Awarded For School Resource Efforts

Nokomis Police Department wants to publicly thank School Resource Officer Dan Marron, also known as "Officer Dan" to the hundreds of Community Unit School District 22 students that he mentors and helps every day. He is thanked for going above and beyond for students, on and off duty and always taking phone calls

from staff and students. He was awarded a plaque that reads, "In recognition of outstanding excellence. With great honor and appreciation for your commendable and dedicated service to the City of Nokomis, the Nokomis Police Department and the students you have impacted. Never forget the difference you make everyday."

## A Sweet Treat For Your Sweetheart Golden Tickets Still Remain



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## TASC FEBRUARY EVENTS

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1ST	<b>"DOG MAN"</b> SENSORY FRIENDLY MOVIE 1P.M. THE ORPHEUM THEATRE - HILLSBORO
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6TH	<b>SUPPORT GROUP</b> 6 - 7:30 P.M. FREE METHODIST CHURCH 1400 SEYMOUR AVE, HILLSBORO
WEDNESDAY FEB. 19	<b>TASC+ NIGHT</b> (AGES 14 AND OVER) 6 - 7:30 P.M. VENUE-TO BE DETERMINED
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22ND	<b>OPEN GYM</b> 10 - 11:30 A.M. HILLTOP ELITE ACADEMY OF TUMBLING 130 E. SEWARD ST., HILLSBORO
<p>The Autism Support Connection <i>Piecing it all together</i></p> <p>FOR MORE INFORMATION: LYNN SELLERS: 217-556-9535 KIM DRAPER: 217-710-3598 TASCILLINOIS1@GMAIL.COM</p>	

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# Obituaries

## David W. Johnson, 61

### Beloved Outdoorsman



David William Johnson, 61, died on Jan. 26, 2025, at his home.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 5, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Farmersville, at 11 a.m. A visitation will be held an hour prior to the service starting at 10 a.m. Fr. Florent Kanga will officiate. Burial will follow in Rovey Cemetery in Farmersville.

Mr. Johnson was born on June 6, 1963, in Hayward, CA, to Kevin and Thelma Johnson, and was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith. He grew up in Pekin and married Kathleen Murphy of Farmersville on March 11, 1995.

Mr. Johnson graduated from Southern Illinois University with a degree in mechanical engineering in 1985. He worked as an environmental engineer and later as a public service administrator for the Illinois Department of Public Health until his retirement in 2018. He was a licensed professional engineer.

Mr. Johnson was a lifelong hunter, fisherman and outdoor enthusiast. He served as a hunter safety instructor for many years. He seldom left the woods empty-handed due to his expertise. He passionately protected the woods and wilds of his country.

Mr. Johnson loved his Brittanys, of which he raised, trained and loved many, including: Sham, Willy, Max, Jesse, Josey and Lucy. He was a leader in the Heart of Illinois Brittany Club and worked to host field trials. He kept the club supplied with pigeons that he trapped all over the Springfield area.

Mr. Johnson loved traveling with his wife to experience the world. They went to Italy in the fall of 2019, and he traveled often with family and friends to hunting destinations.

Anyone spending time with Mr. Johnson was surely invited to join him in a taste of wine, either from his own vintages or commercial, raising a toast to someone or something special. He was always a happy, optimistic soul, ready to help anyone who needed his assistance. His love and devotion to his family and his wife's family was evident in his selfless service to us all. His infectious laugh warmed everyone's heart.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his devoted wife; brothers, Terry Johnson of Guffey, CO, Chuck (Donna) Johnson of Albuquerque, NM, and sisters, Pat Schmillen of East Peoria and Mary (Steve) LeGrand of Cape Girardeau, MO; 17 nieces and nephews; and 21 great-nieces and nephews.

Mr. Johnson was preceded in death by his parents, Kevin and Thelma Johnson.

Memorials may be made in Dave's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Hough Memorial Home in Farmersville is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be left online at [www.houghfuneralhome.com](http://www.houghfuneralhome.com).

## Betty J. Bledsaw, 86

### Longtime Educator



Betty Jean Bledsaw, 86, died on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, at Tremont Ridge in Hillsboro, surrounded by her family.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hillsboro beginning at 11 a.m. A visitation will be held an hour prior starting at 10 a.m. until the time of service. The Rev. Stefan Munker will officiate.

Ms. Bledsaw was born on Nov. 12, 1938, in Hillsboro to her parents Ray Logan and Phyllis (Matthews) Bledsaw. She attended

Schram City Grade School from 1944 to 1952 and Hillsboro High School from 1952 to 1956. She graduated from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in education. In 1965, Ms. Bledsaw attended the NDEA Science Institute at Western Illinois University in Macomb. In 1978, she earned her master's degree in education at Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville.

Ms. Bledsaw was a member of the Illinois Retired Teachers' Association, the Montgomery County Retired Teachers' Association, Illinois Education Association, National Education Association, the Phi Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Edwardsville Education Association and the Madison County Historical Museum in Edwardsville.

Ms. Bledsaw headed class reunions for Schram City School and Hillsboro High School, the Vacation Bible School and Ladles of Love programs at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hillsboro. She also provided private tutoring for over 20 students free of charge and she volunteered for the TEAL and GED programs at Lincoln Land Community College. Ms. Bledsaw taught grades one, four and five at Glen Carbon School from 1960 to 1993.

Ms. Bledsaw is survived by her brother, Ray Allen (Sharon) Bledsaw and sister, Alice McDice, both of Hillsboro; nephews, Kenny (Teresa) McDice and Kevin (Tina) McDice; a niece Heidi (Mike) Bullock; and several great-nieces and nephews; and a few great-great-nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her nephew, Ryan Bledsaw and brother-in-law, Connie McDice.

Memorials may be directed towards Hillsboro St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Ladles of Love program, the Hillsboro Education Foundation, or the Hillsboro Sports Association. Hough & Sons Funeral Home in Hillsboro is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be left online at [www.houghfuneralhome.com](http://www.houghfuneralhome.com).

[www.thejournal-news.net](http://www.thejournal-news.net)

### THANK YOU!

Thank you for the cards, calls, texts, food and memorials given on the loss of our mom, grandma and great-grandma Dorothy Archibald.

Thanks to all who attended the visitation and funeral and shared your memories of her. And to Fr. Michael, Fr. John Burnette, Fr. Dan, Deacon O'Brien, the choir and organist for the beautiful mass.

Thanks to the CCW ladies for preparing the luncheon and to Stiehl-Dawson Funeral Home for their guidance and excellent service.

Special thanks to Tremont Ridge for the wonderful care and love shown to mom the past 14 months. We are humbled by the outpouring of love and acts of kindness shown to us.

**Roger and Elaine Archibald and Family**  
**JoAnn and Roy Marquess and Family**  
**Greg and Helen Archibald and Family**

## Glenn A. Rovey, 77

### Co-Founder Of Rovey Seed Co.



Glenn Allen Rovey, 77, of Farmersville, died on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025, at his home surrounded by his family.

A visitation will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, located at 310 Nobbe St. in Farmersville on Sunday, Feb. 2, from 2 to 5 p.m. A prayer service will be held before the visitation at 1:30 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, Feb. 3, at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Farmersville, with the Rev. Emmanuel Kanga, celebrant. Burial will follow at St. Martin's Cemetery in Farmersville with military honors.

Mr. Rovey was born on April 28, 1947, in Springfield, to Lester and Alberta (Goetsch) Rovey. He served in Vietnam from November 1967 to November 1968. He married Kathy M. Murphy at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Farmersville on June 7, 1969.

Mr. Rovey was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, where he was a Eucharistic Minister and member of the choir. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council #1152, the Elks #158, a trustee for Pitman Township and a treasurer for the Legion Post 701. He farmed in the Farmersville area most of his life and worked alongside his dad, Lester, and brothers, Stanley and Leonard, in starting Rovey Seed Co., which is still operating today. He continued farming and working at Rovey Seed Co. until his death.

Mr. Rovey knew no strangers and enjoyed having coffee on weekday mornings with his friends. His laugh was infectious and will forever be remembered. He also loved attending his grandchildren's activities and spending time with his great-grandchildren. He was a season ticket holder with the St. Louis Cardinals for many years. He and his wife spent part of the winter in Florida each year. They loved family vacations, but the nights spent around their fire pit at home were most treasured.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy of Farmersville; daughter, Elaine M. Wagner of Morrisonville; sons, Derek G. (Erica) of Auburn and Zachary A. (Christina) of Girard; nine grandchildren, Samantha (Derek) Bourke, Trevor (Charlotte) Wagner, Kellen and Jack Rovey, Blaize and Pierce Rovey, Natalie, Shelby and William Herman; three great-grandchildren, Jaxson and Grady Bourke and Caleigh Wagner; four brothers, Stanley (Jeanne) Rovey of Springfield, Leonard (Lynda) Rovey of Farmersville, Wayne (Catherine) Rovey of Chatham, and Dale Rovey of Girard; as well as numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Martin's Cemetery, Knights of Columbus Council #1152 or Sarcoma Foundation of America, 9899 Main St., Ste. 204, Damascus, MD 20872. The family is being served by Butler Funeral Home in Springfield. Condolences may be left online at [www.butlerspringfield.com](http://www.butlerspringfield.com).

## Kenneth L. Leetham, 67

### Loved Bowling, Darts



Kenneth Lester Leetham, 67, of Schram City, died on Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025, at HSHS St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Hough & Sons Funeral Home in Hillsboro is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Leetham was born on Aug. 2, 1957, in Hillsboro, to his parents Virgil Lee and Anna Belle May (Coppie) Leetham. He graduated from Hillsboro High School and worked as a truck driver delivering for Anheuser. He married Joy Leetham and they later divorced. Mr. Leetham later then married Shirley Stewart, and they later divorced.

Mr. Leetham had a love for the games of bowling and darts. He was the best father, grandfather, uncle, son and friend to all those that loved him. His fun-loving self will be missed by all.

Mr. Leetham is survived by his son, Brett Leetham; stepchildren, Jenetta, David, Mindy, Bethany and Jamie Portwood; grandchildren, Hunter and Cooper Leetham and Christopher, Kaizleigh, Laiken and Bentleigh DeArmond; as well as his brother, Dennis Leetham of Coffeen.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter, Juneanne Leetham.

Memorials may be directed to the American Heart Association or the American Diabetes Association. Condolences may be left online at [www.houghfuneralhome.com](http://www.houghfuneralhome.com).

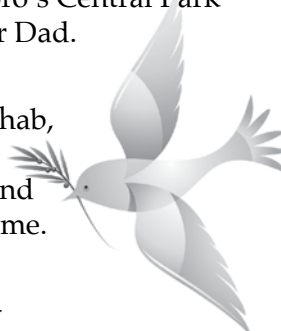
Our Sincere Thanks from the Family of

### Kenny Hemken

We would like to thank our family and friends for the thoughts, prayers, flowers, cards, and memorials to Imagine Hillsboro's Central Park Pool Fund with the loss of our Dad.

Specials thanks to the staff at Montgomery Nursing and Rehab, Pastors Ron Butler and Jeff Hemken, Vitas Hospice, and Bass-Patton-Dean Funeral Home.

~ Dad's Girls ~  
Rhea, Sue, and Becky



### HELLO, MONTGOMERY/MACOU PIN COUNTIES.

We would like to introduce ourselves. We are a family owned and operated monument company from Illinois that takes great pride in all of the memorials. We create, install and guarantee our work while assuring you the finest quality. The location we would like to very much introduce you to is Montgomery County Monument Company which is located at 1350 East Union Avenue, Litchfield.

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## Meghan L. Harmon, 41

### Scholar And Explorer



Meghan Lynn Harmon, 41, of Divernon, formerly of Litchfield, died Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, at the Illinois State Library in Springfield, in the Atrium, at 12 p.m. A reception will follow. Location will be announced. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until the time of service. Plummer Funeral Home in Litchfield is in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Harmon was born in Springfield on Dec. 22, 1983, the daughter of Robert Joseph and Beth (Hermsmeyer) Harmon. She excelled in her educational endeavors and was a graduate of Litchfield High School with the class of 2002. She went on to attain several degrees, including Associate Degree in Secondary Education from Lincoln Land Community College in 2004; Bachelor of Arts in English in 2006 and Master of Arts in English in 2008, both from University of Illinois, Springfield. She later earned a Master of Science in Library and Information Science in 2012 from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She felt it was important to continue with many educational opportunities whenever possible.

She married her high school sweetheart, the love of her life, Greg Bishop, on Sept. 17, 2015, in Springfield.

In her professional capacity, Ms. Harmon used her education to teach young adults English and humanities as an adjunct professor at Lincoln Land Community College. She then served as the local history and genealogy reference librarian at the Chatham Area Public Library District before taking the position of reference librarian at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum where she earned the nickname "Megstar." She then worked for the Illinois Secretary of State at the Illinois State Library as a library program specialist.

Ms. Harmon thrived off taking on challenges and doing things right. With her impeccable research and planning skills, she planned and made four trips with her husband to Iceland, traversing the island nation each time to seek out all its majesty. Alongside her husband, they've also hiked ten miles of the Alaska wilderness, toured many of the national parks in the Southwest, and taken in some of nature's most amazing caves. Together, the two have seen countless live concerts of their favorite groups all over the Midwest and beyond. Wonderful dinners and game nights with close friends were a regular occurrence. Holidays with her immediate family were also a must. Her love of books found her providing professional presentations about rare manuscripts and how the public can access a wealth of information from their local and state libraries.

Ms. Harmon also enjoyed bonding with her fellow honors students as part of International College Honor Society Phi Theta Kappa. She was involved in the Friends of the Chatham Area Public Library, volunteering and performing in a decade's worth of murder mystery fundraisers. When not busy training for a foot race, kayaking with her husband or taking in arts and culture, she enjoyed home renovation projects and making everything she touched so much better.

In addition to her husband, Ms. Harmon is also survived by her parents, Bob and Beth Harmon, of Litchfield; her brother, Kyle R. Harmon of St. Peters, MO; paternal grandmother, Margaret Harmon of Hillsboro; her four-legged daughter figure, "Pause the Cat"; "The Honors Girls" Biz, Adrienne, Tiffer and Meesa; and aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Carl and Joyce (Satterlee) Hermsmeyer; and paternal grandfather, William Harmon.

Condolences may be left online at [www.plummerfuneralservices.com](http://www.plummerfuneralservices.com).

### THANK YOU!

Whether you kept us in your thoughts and prayers, sent a lovely arrangement, gave a memorial donation, or helped us out in any way, your love and kindness brought us great comfort and will always be remembered.

Love,  
The Family of Sarah Suhrenbrock

## The Journal-News

The Newspaper of Record for Montgomery County

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# Family

4A - Thursday, January 30, 2025



## Green Honored With Congressional Certificate

Montgomery County's Harold Green was honored by Illinois Congresswoman Mary Miller on Tuesday, Jan. 21, with a congressional certificate celebrating his 100th birthday on behalf of Miller's office. Green turned 100 years old on Nov. 8, 2024. Despite the frigid zero temperature, Green tended to his cows on the farm before coming to town to receive the award. Green also stays active with the Montgomery County Soil and Water District and Meals on Wheels.

Green is pictured above with Susan Petty of the office of Mary Miller. *Journal-News Photo*

## Nokomis Library Hosting Kids Valentine's Day Party

Nokomis Public Library is hosting a Valentine's Day Party for kids ages four to ten years old on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 10 to 11 a.m.

"The library wanted to do a little something extra for the kids in the community and the surrounding area, and the staff and board members are always up for a reason to celebrate, so a Valentine's Day Party was just the excuse they needed," explained NPL Director Lisa Casterline.

like this, the main attraction is always story time with Ms. Margie (Eisenbarth), kids and parents alike love to hear her read books aloud to them.

The crafts and snacks are never far behind on popularity," added Casterline.

To reserve a spot for your child, parents or guardians should call NPL at 217-563-2734 or stop by at 100 N. Spruce in Nokomis. More information and updates will be available on line at [nokomispl.org](http://nokomispl.org) under events.

## Births

Garrett and Katherine (Bass) Gutierrez of Alton announce the birth of their first daughter, **Wrenleigh Beth Gutierrez**, born at 7:39 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, at Alton Memorial Hospital. She weighed 6 lbs., 2 ozs. and measured 17.5 ins. long.



Her father is a training device technician at Boeing, while her mother is a homemaker.

Paternal grandparents are Chris and Sherri Gutierrez of Hillsboro and Randy and Lisa Reck of Hillsboro. Maternal grandparents are Michelle Bass and Mike Moler of Schram City and the late Joseph Durbin of Pana.

Paternal great-grandparents are Art and the late Dixie Gutierrez of Taylor Springs, Leslie and Connie Caulk of Hillsboro and Tom and the late Judy Robbins of Hillsboro.

Maternal great-grandparents are Jim and the late Violet Patton of Fillmore and Joseph Durbin of Fillmore.

on-line all the time  
[www.thejournal-news.net](http://www.thejournal-news.net)

## Lincolnwood Student Spotlight

Makayla is a junior at Lincolnwood and is an excellent role model and a hard working student. She is on the high honor roll and is a member of the scholastic bowl team and the Drama Club.



Makayla Suffer

Brought To You By Pleasant Hill Christian Church  
[www.pleasanthill.cc](http://www.pleasanthill.cc)



## Shirt Sales Raise Funds For Sports Association

Farm Wife Designs was able to give back \$150 to the Hillsboro Sports Association from their recent Topper Pride shirt sales. Pictured above accepting the donation on behalf of the sports association is a local grade school basketball team. Pictured above, from the left are Carter Gutierrez, Ellis Limbaugh, Finn Timo, Harlo Stokes, Tysen Davidson, Tessa White, Charley Herschelmann, Rhett Carlock, Kyrie Miller, Bryer Reitz, Remington Gutierrez, Alyvia Allen, Audrey Evans, Bobby Cantrell and Coen Guinn.

## Natasha Mizera Earns Honors At Carthage

Carthage College recognizes Natasha Mizera from Hillsboro for their academic achievement and being named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List.

Dean's List honors are accorded to Carthage students who achieve a minimum 3.5 grade point average while carrying at least 12 letter-graded credits in a given semester.



## Youngsters Learn About Birds During Story Hour

Nancy Redman of Hillsboro led a special program on cardinal birds during Story Hour at the Hillsboro Area Public Library on Monday afternoon, Jan. 27. She read a book about the beautiful birds and children made a cardinal craft and a special birdfeeder. Pictured above, Redman helps the Lynch family with their birdfeeders. From the left are Stryker Lynch, Nancy Redman and Thyssen and Haley Lynch. The next Story Hour program will be held on Monday, Feb. 3, beginning at 4 p.m. at the library. *Journal-News Photo*

## THANK YOU!

Thanks you for the many prayers, cards with well wishes and messages during my stay in the hospital and assisted living.

A special thanks to the drivers and those providing 'care packages.' Our family will be forever grateful for each message and act of kindness.

Linda Meyer and Family

# 2025 Farm Days Tool & Filter Sale 2/10 - 2/28

<b>DINNER</b> <b>HILLSBORO</b> Tues. Feb 4th Hillsboro Lions Club 212 E Fairground Ave 5:00p Doors Open 6:00p Dinner	<b>DINNER</b> <b>STAUNTON</b> Thurs. Feb 6th Concordia Hall 709 S Union 5:00pm Doors Open 6:00p Dinner	<b>LUNCH</b> <b>JERSEYVILLE</b> Tues. Feb 11th McKay NAPA Auto Parts 1203 S State St LUNCH 11a - 1p
<b>LUNCH</b> <b>RUSHVILLE</b> Wed. Feb 12th McKay NAPA Auto Parts 201 W Adam St LUNCH 11a - 1p	<b>LUNCH</b> <b>CARLYLE</b> Thurs. Feb 13th McKay NAPA Auto Parts 18077 Eula Mae Pky LUNCH 11a - 1p	<b>LUNCH</b> <b>VANDALIA</b> Tues. Feb 18th McKay NAPA Auto Parts 500 N Kennedy Blvd LUNCH 11a - 1p
<b>LUNCH</b> <b>PITTSFIELD</b> Tues. Feb 25th McKay NAPA Auto Parts 113 E Jefferson St LUNCH 11a - 1p	<b>Be sure to stop in for LUNCH or stop by for DINNER at a location near you!!</b>	



Scan here for the latest McKay NAPA Auto Parts News, Events and Sales!

## Come Sail the Seine with Seas The Day Travel July 14 - July 23, 2026

Sail Ama Waterways round-trip from Paris through the French countryside. Visit Monet's home and gardens, the historical city of Rouen and the unforgettable beaches of Normandy.

Journey includes complimentary two night pre-cruise stay in Paris at a first-class hotel plus city excursions.

Contact Nancy Richardson at Seas the Day Travel for itinerary and pricing. Call 217-823-1432 or email [seasthedaytravel.21@yahoo.com](mailto:seasthedaytravel.21@yahoo.com).



## Food Pantry Needs Donations

Harvest of Hope Food Pantry is currently low on staple foods such as canned pastas, kid snacks, tuna and spaghetti sauce.

Monetary donations may be made via venmo @lsahbr1 or by mail to PO Box 543, Hillsboro, IL 62049. Food may be purchased and dropped off at the pantry, located at 109 S. Hamilton St. in Hillsboro. Food donors are asked to call 217-560-7533 to arrange pickup or delivery of food.

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LANCER LINES • by Abilene Norris at Lincolnwood

## Lancer Basketball Teams Keep Busy Schedule



Welcome back Lancer fans! I hope we all are enjoying the warmer weather that we have this week.

Both the girls and boys basketball teams have been busy this past week. The boys have been keeping up their win streak, as they picked up two wins last week. They played Tri-City last Friday, where they held the score 54 - 46. This week, they played a close match against Pawnee, only winning by two points. Their final score ended 49 - 47.

This Saturday, the boys will be playing their rescheduled game against Nokomis at home and will travel to Ramsey next Tuesday as well.

The girls basketball team has been in action a lot for the past week. They played Nokomis last Thursday, and unfortunately came up short with their score being 64 - 46. They set up to play Liberty over the weekend, but could not hold onto the win. They followed that game up with a game in the Carrollton Tournament, in which they played Roxana. They only lost to them by six points, with the final score being 38 - 32.

This week, the team is looking to travel to Hillsboro to play against them, and then end the week with a

home game against Illini Central next Friday.

Not only is basketball getting busy, but so is scholastic bowl. Last week, they sadly lost to Nokomis but followed it up with a win against Tri-City. This week they travel to Franklin to battle it out against North Mac and South County. Good luck, Lancers!

Attention to any Lincolnwood High School student that is interested in track, there was an informational meeting held on Wednesday. If you did not make it, please see Coach Stone to learn more.

Also, LCSO members are encouraged to sign up to work the blood drive that is being held at the Raymond Knights of Columbus Hall on Feb. 18. The two shifts that are available are 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. or 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. See Mr. Gunn if you are interested in signing up.

As the spring sports season is nearing, anyone that is wanting to order a Lady Lancer softball t-shirt, long sleeve shirt, crew neck or hoodie is advised to pick up a form from the high school office. There are six styles to choose from and payment will be due at the time of order.

That will be all for this week Lancers. If you are looking for something to do, come out and support the Lancers in the upcoming week. See you all next Thursday.



## LECC Announces Recipients Of Principal Award

Litchfield Early Childhood Center Principal Adam Favre is pleased to announce Principal Recognition Award winners for Friday, Jan. 17. Award winners are picked by their classroom teachers based on achievements in academics, social skills or citizenship. Award winners are recognized in front of the entire student body during their weekly awards ceremony and each winner receives a certificate. In the photo on the left, are kindergarten winners Marci Conlee, Greyson Feldmann, Jaxon Brackett, Nora Gilleland and Louanne Wright. In the photo to the right, are first grade winners Charlee Rettig, Ellis Sweeny, Brinley Zuniga, Kooper Morgan and Willow Gudgel.

## Scholarship Funding Available To Local Students

The Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln is now accepting applications for the 2025 scholarship program. There are more than 45 different post-secondary scholarships available. Last year, more than \$260,000 was awarded in scholarships and scholarship renewals.

In Montgomery County, students who meet the qualifications are eligible for the following scholarships.

### American Legion Post 32 Scholarship

To assist graduating seniors or first-time college students who have been in the workforce with obtaining a post-secondary education who live in Cass, Christian, Logan, Macoupin, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan or Sangamon counties in Illinois.

### Camp Care-A-Lot Scholarship

Former Camp Care-A-Lot campers who demonstrate financial need.

### Mid-Illinois Communications Association Scholarship

Open to rising juniors, seniors and graduate students majoring in communications, journalism, public relations or related fields such as mar-

keting, design, videography, photography, etc., that are from central Illinois or attend a college or university in central Illinois.

### Girls on the Run Founder Scholarship

Graduating female senior who participated in the GOTR of Central Illinois program.

### John and Judy Woodruff Performing Arts Scholarship

Graduating high school senior or college freshman from Sangamon County or adjacent county planning to major or minor in the performing arts.

### Linda S. Culver Memorial Scholarship

Be a graduating senior, returning undergraduate or graduate student attending an accredited college and is currently registered as a Girl Scout with the Girl Scouts of Central Illinois.

### Roland Machinery Scholarship

Open to students pursuing a degree or certificate in a profession related to construction, mechanical engineering or other related trades. Must be a graduating senior from a high school in

one of the following counties: Sangamon, Christian, Montgomery, Macoupin, Scott, Morgan, Cass, Menard, Mason and Logan

### SAHBA Construction/Robert E. Von Behren Memorial Scholarship

Open to students pursuing a career in the building industry in the following counties: Sangamon, Christian, Logan, Macoupin, Mason, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan and Scott.

### World War II Illinois Descendants Statewide Scholarship

Must be a direct descendant of a WWII Illinois Veteran and have a 4.0 GPA on a non-weighted scale (or be the projected valedictorian or salutatorian).

Full details and criteria for each award are posted on the Community Foundation's website at [www.CFLL.org](http://www.CFLL.org).

Students with questions or limited computer access should contact the Community Foundation at [scholarships@CFLL.org](mailto:scholarships@CFLL.org) for assistance. High school students also may contact their school guidance counselors for details on the scholarship awards available.

The deadline to submit applications is Saturday, March 1. Students should review the specific requirements, criteria and due dates for each scholarship application. The recipients will be notified by early May. All scholarships are for post-secondary education.

DRAGON BEAT • by Audrey Billington at HJHS

## Dragon Boys' Basketball Season Wraps Up



Welcome back to another week of the Dragon Beat!

On Saturday, Jan. 25, the seventh grade boys' basketball team concluded their season with an unfortunate 31-30 loss to Pana in the first round of the regionals. A highlight in this game was Henry Shultz scoring an impressive 22 of the 30 total points. Great job this season, boys!

Eighth grade regionals tip off on Saturday, Feb. 1. The Dragons will be playing Litchfield at Staunton at 9 a.m. If they win, they will advance to the second round on Tuesday. Good luck!

Tomorrow, five Dragon choir members, Alice Beckett, Kate Cunningham, Will Netemeyer, Layla Spinner and Autumn Wildhaber, will be traveling to the ILMEA all-state choir festival. They will be at Peoria to practice and perform a number of choral pieces with other singers from across the state. Congratulations on qualifying, and good luck this weekend!

The Dragon volleyball

team was away at Taylorville on Thursday, Jan. 23, and both games were lost in two sets. The first set of the eighth grade match was very close, 26-28. At this game, eighth grader Kaelin Cress stood out with seven service points.

They traveled to Greenville on Monday, and while seventh grade lost in three sets, eighth grade won in two sets, 25-12 and 25-9. Piper Walk stood out at this match, scoring 19 service points and 10 aces.

The scholar bowl season starts next Thursday, Feb. 6, with a home match against Ramsey and Raymond after school. There will be both a JV and a varsity game. Good luck on the new season!

Today's slang word of the week is "big back," a noun that refers to someone who eats a lot of food. This is most often used in a joking manner to tease a friend. It can also be used as a verb, as seen in this sentence: "I plan to big back at Thanksgiving dinner."

This concludes another successful week for the Dragons. Always remember that no act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

## Sophia Blankenship Named To Alabama President's List

Sophia Blankenship of Hillsboro was named to the President's List after the fall semester at The University of Alabama.

A total of 14,631 students enrolled during fall semes-

ter 2024 at Alabama were named to the dean's list with an academic record of 3.5 (or above) or the president's list with an academic record of 4.0 (all A's).

**Litchfield Chamber Of Commerce Trivia Night**  
 Saturday, Feb. 8 • 6 p.m.  
 Litchfield Community Center  
 Teams of 10 Players  
 Prizes Awarded  
 Chamber - \$100 per team  
 Non-Chamber - \$150 per team  
 Snack Bar Available  
 Call 217-324-2533 to reserve your spot!

**66th Annual Country Sausage Supper**  
 Sponsored by ZION MEN'S CLUB & LADIES' AID  
 Sunday, Feb. 2 • 11 A.M. - 5 P.M.  
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## Brody Steele

Continued from page 1A

"He asked my dad what my future plans were," Steele said. "And when he heard I was going to Eastern, he said we should get in touch with Kyle Derickson."

Derickson, the current offensive coordinator at Eastern, had previously met Frank Steele at a coaching clinic. After several conversations, Derickson offered the soon-to-be graduate a chance to help out with the school's football program.

Immediately, "I started making the commute to Charleston every Tuesday and Thursday after school," Steele explains. He was invited to watch practice, work with the team's quarterbacks, sit in on team meetings, and then sit in the QB room for position group meetings, where they would watch film and discuss plays. "I figured out pretty quick that I didn't know anything," he says with a laugh. "But I loved learning something new every day. It's awesome."

Upon graduation in May, Steele enjoyed his summer before being reunited with the football team for training camp on July 30, beginning a grueling stretch of non-stop practices, meetings, and more meetings. "They threw me in the fire in the beginning," Steele says. "But the spring prepared me for what the actual season would be like."

An average day at the Division One football camp begins with position group meetings, followed by a morning practice, all led by the program's head coach, Chris Wilkerson. Wilkerson is a highly accomplished head coach at multiple levels and was in 2023 a finalist for the FCS coach of the year.

"He always commands the room, and he always knows exactly what he's talking about," Steele says.

After practice, while the players returned to their dorm rooms, Wilkerson and the rest of the coaches would meet and discuss their observations, Steele included. "It's a lot of information to take in," he admits. "I then would go meet with Coach Derickson to discuss more."

Derickson would ask Steele for his analysis on certain plays, testing the young assistant on his understanding of the game while also looking for feedback and new ideas. "He'll ask what I think went wrong, or what I think we should do," Steele says. "He's very open to giv-

ing feedback and always respectful. He's a great guy to understudy."

After his meeting, it was time to hit the field once again, and the team would go through walkthroughs before watching film of practice and ending the game with position meetings. Once the school year begins, the training schedule condenses into a similar daily routine.

Despite the intense schedule, Steele's love for the game is unwavering. "It's a long day, but it feels short because I just love all of it."

While playing for Nokomis most definitely prepared him for his role at EIU, there's a major difference between the philosophies of the two football programs. While Nokomis' commitment to a punishing run game is highly effective, the Panthers of Charleston have a different way of going about things. "We throw the ball 75 percent of the time," Steele says with a laugh. "At Nokomis it was always 'run left' or 'run right.'"

Steele sees the contrast in playbooks as positive and expresses his gratitude for each. "Coach Watson always had a creative system and run schemes, and here they have a creative passing game," Steele says. "I'll have some great and balanced offensive knowledge."

Despite being a newcomer to the program, Steele quickly took on an important role. While several football divisions have moved towards headsets and radioing plays into the quarterback, teams in the FCS still use creative hand signals to get the play call out to the quarterback. When Derickson decided he wanted to call plays from the coaches box upstairs, Steele was handed a headset on the sideline along with an important role. "Coach will radio the play down to me, and I'll give it to the backup quarterbacks, who signal the play out to the field."

"It reminds me of playing quarterback in high school," Steele says, "because I have people counting on me. I like being in a role where what I'm doing is important and is helping the team."

When Eastern kicked off its 2024 season with a road game at the University of Illinois, Steele couldn't help but be in awe. "It was just an incredible atmosphere," he says. "I've been to Illini games before, but being in Memorial Stadium on the sideline, that was just ridiculous." The Panthers also

played a game at Northwestern University's new stadium complex that sits just a few hundred feet from Lake Michigan, which Steele recalls as a neat experience.

A home shootout against Western Illinois, which saw Eastern's QB Pierce Holley throw for 338 yards and five touchdowns, is another highlight from the year. "Western had just hired our previous offensive coordinator as their head coach," Steele explains. "So all of the players were familiar, and we run similar high-scoring offenses. We knew it would come down to who had the ball last."

While the season didn't go as many expected for the Panthers, Steele is optimistic for the next season. "We had a lot of injuries early on that set us back," he says. "But Coach Wilkerson is a winning coach, and we're getting ready to be back to our winning ways this fall."

The Panthers' future isn't the only one Steele looks forward to. While he's still an undecided major, he cites his experiences with Coach Dan DeWerff and Coach Watson at Nokomis as coaches and teachers as something to aspire to. "I love their teaching styles and how they educate the kids," Steele says, "while also being around the high school and being involved with coaching." While nothing is certain, Steele likes the idea of coming home to Nokomis and teaching at the school and coaching sports.

After all, the Nokomis community has done so much for him, he says. "My teachers all helped me get things figured out when I was trying to go to Charleston after school," he says. "My mom figured out all my schooling and traveling, and my dad is just such a key component to the whole story. He sparked my interest in coaching."

"Everyone just put in so much work to help make this happen, and I'm just so thankful."

One of Steele's favorite memories comes from a special event that alumni of the program visit with the football team. "Jimmy Garopolo opened the door for me," Steele says. "It was all four of them sitting there, meeting with us. It was incredible to be in the same room as those guys, the guys on those big banners you see every day walking into the facility."

Amidst the decorated alumni and committed coaching staff and players, Steele has found himself at home.



Dr. Ross Billiter presented a \$50,000 donation to the Litchfield Student Education Foundation on Jan. 17. Pictured from the left are Litchfield High School Principal Hilary Wagenblast, Litchfield Superintendent Dr. Kelly McClain, Dr. Billiter, Litchfield Board of Education President Julie Abel and Litchfield Board of Education member Jimmy Gorowski.

## Donation To Help Litchfield Teachers

The Litchfield Student Education Foundation received a \$50,000 donation from Dr. Ross Billiter on Jan. 17, as the retired physician continues to make an impact on his community.

"His support for the district and our staff is evident," Litchfield Superintendent Dr. Kelly McClain said during the board of education meeting on Jan. 21. "His generosity to our community and his commitment to helping support the education of students in Litchfield make

such a difference in the services we can provide."

Dr. Billiter requested that his contribution be directed toward supporting teachers in Litchfield by helping them purchase items or resources they feel would most enhance their classrooms and teaching environments.

Each certified teacher in the Litchfield School District will receive a \$250 gift card. Dr. McClain will also work with the administrative team to discuss the remaining funds and how they can best

support Litchfield teachers and students.

"On behalf of Purple Panther Nation, we want to express our gratitude to Dr. Billiter," Dr. McClain said.

Also, the foundation had a new donor this year as Kent Redfern donated \$2,500. Dr. McClain stated that the support of the community in Litchfield continues to amaze.

"It is clear that there is a tremendous sense of community and pride here in Purple Panther Nation," Dr. McClain said.

## Hillsboro Library Plans February Events

The Hillsboro Area Public Library is continuing the new year with a host of February events planned on the docket.

Story Hour programming is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 3, 10 and 24, at 4 p.m. Topics include snowman, Valentines Day and penguins.

Stitchn Chat is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 4, and Tuesday, Feb. 18.

On Tuesday, Feb. 11, the UMWA will meet at 9:30 a.m., followed by a morning book club meeting at 11 a.m. An IL birth to five meeting will be held in the basement from noon to 2 p.m.

A birth to age three event is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

A special Valentines Day event is scheduled from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14, for Valentines Build Bear and Read Day. School is dismissed at 11:30 that day.

The library will be closed in honor of Presidents' Day on Monday, Feb. 17.

A representative from Congresswoman Mary Miller's office will be at the library on Tuesday, Feb. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a Biometrics event that same day from 1 to 4 p.m. Friends of the Library will meet at

4:15 p.m. and the library board will meet at 6 p.m. that evening. There will also be a class of 1975 reunion meeting at the library at 6 p.m.

The Hillsboro Public Library Book Club will meet at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 20.

The Ed Foundation will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 24, and the Ministerial Alliance will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at noon. The Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at 6 p.m. that evening.

An All Booked Club meeting is scheduled for 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27.



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The Red Rooster raised \$221.20 from the Charity of the Month Collection in their tap room in the month of December. The charity for the month was The Autism Support Connection.



Local quilters presented three quilts to Chase Wilhelm in December which will be sent to three Ukrainian refugees, now in Norway.



HHS senior Greg Bland signed with the Illinois Army National Guard on Thursday, Dec. 19. Bland was joined by friends Mark Mattson and Mitchell Cunningham, as well as a strong support system from HHS and HJHS faculty and staff.



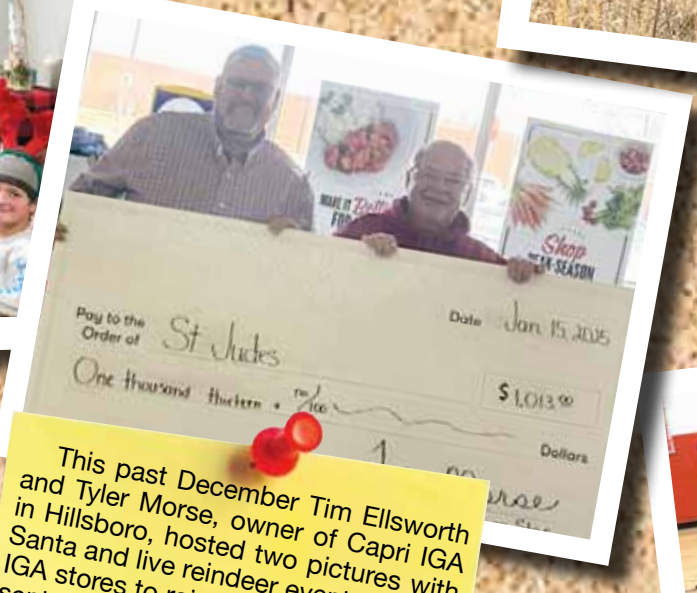
Members of the Borgic Farms team and family recently presented the Panhandle Food Bank with 35 hams.



Several members of Imagine Hillsboro's Parks and Recreation group sowed their wild oats and other wild flower seeds at the Sports Complex Pollinator Patch on Saturday, Jan. 4



One of the annual traditions of community service for the Starr Shooters 4-Hers is singing carols to residents at Tremont Ridge in December.



This past December Tim Ellsworth and Tyler Morse, owner of Capri IGA in Hillsboro, hosted two pictures with Santa and live reindeer events at both IGA stores to raise \$1,013, which was sent to St. Jude Children's Hospital.



Nokomis FFA Officers recently put on an Anti-Bully workshop for the after-school program at Nokomis Junior High and North School. The kids participated in activities related to kindness and preventing bullying.



Pack 89 Cub Scouts from Litchfield and Hillsboro went caroling at Timber Creek Village and Evergreen Place in Litchfield on Monday, Dec. 16. The scouts sang three songs and passed out gingerbread ornaments to those in attendance.



Kindness posters made by fourth grade students at Beckemeyer Elementary School in Hillsboro were put on display at Hillsboro Area Public Library in December and remained posted through Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



Litchfield's Rilynn Younker picked up her second straight tournament title on Saturday, Jan. 25, as she went 3-0 to take the championship at 110 pounds at the Anna-Jonesboro Girls Tournament.

## It's Deja Vu For Younker, Bono In Anna

Rarely is the sequel as good as the original, but for Rilynn Younker and Charlie Bono it came pretty close.

A week after the two Litchfield-Mt. Olive wrestlers placed first and second in their respective weight classes at the Mary Kelly Mahomet Invite, the pair brought home another 1-2 finish from the Anna-Jonesboro Girls Tournament, held Jan. 25, in Anna.

With 141 wrestlers competing in 14 different classes, the tournament drew some of the best female wrestlers in the state, plus teams from Caldwell County, Ohio County and Paducah, KY.

Younker won all five matches by fall at Mahomet, but was tested a little more in Anna. After beating Elizabeth Farney

of Tolono Unity and Vida Folis of Marion by fall, Younker drew eighth ranked Genevieve Dykstra of Edwardsville in the 110 pound championship match.

The Litchfield sophomore's pin streak came to an end, but she would earn a 16-4 major decision victory over Dykstra to take the title.

Bono also went up against a state-ranked Edwardsville wrestler in her championship match at 135 pounds, after pinning April Gosk of Ohio County and beating Joelene Nappier-Feth of Marion in a 10-6 decision in her first two matches.

In the championship match, Bono held her own against third ranked Holly Zugmaier, but fell to the Tiger senior in

a 13-1 major decision.

Despite having just two wrestlers competing, Litchfield-Mt. Olive finished 12th out of 29 teams with 43 points. Vandalia also finished fifth in the team ranks with three medalists: Sophie Bowers, champion at 125 pounds; Gracey Simmons runner-up at 235 pounds; and Brynn Sawyers, third at 170 pounds.

The tournament was a warm-up for the IHSAA girls regional, which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1, at Mt. Zion High School. The top three competitors from each weight class will move on to the Highland Sectional on Feb. 14, with qualifiers from the Pontiac and Civic Memorial regionals.



Mt. Olive's Charlie Bono took second at the Anna-Jonesboro Girls Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25, with her only loss coming against third ranked Holly Zugmaier of Edwardsville.

## Highland Pulls Away Late At Hillsboro

A strong second half by the visitors from Highland kept Hillsboro from knocking off the visiting Lady Bulldogs on Tuesday, Jan. 28, as the Lady Hiltoppers fell 57-49 on their home court.

The Toppers gave Highland everything they wanted in the first half as they outscored them 11-8 in the first and 21-17 in the second to take a 32-25 lead into the locker room at halftime.

While the score was tied five times in the first two quarters, Hillsboro only trailed twice, for less than 40 seconds total.

The Toppers led by as many as five in the first quarter, when Ella Greenwood hit a three to make it 11-6 after Delaney Adams and Amya Greenwood split Hillsboro's first eight points equally.

Highland erased the lead with a pair of free throws by Jordan Bircher and a three to start the second quarter by Sophia Fleming, but three baskets from Adams, Kearstynn Davis and Ella Greenwood in less than a minute got the lead back up to six, 17-11, with 6:41 to play in the first half.

After trading points with the Toppers, Highland took their first lead of the game with a seven-point run that was capped by a three from Paige Kleiboecker. The lead lasted all of 23 seconds, with Davis putting back an offensive rebound to return the lead to Hillsboro.

A minute later, Highland took another one-point lead on a free throw by Hailey Ritz, but again the advantage was short lived as Ella Greenwood knocked down another three to make it 25-23 with 2:26 to go in the second quarter.

Greenwood's second three was part of a 10-2 run by the Toppers in the final two and a half minutes, with her third three also coming in that span. The senior finished the first half with 12 points as Hillsboro led 32-25 at the break.

In the third quarter, the Bulldogs tightened things up on the defensive end and kept Hillsboro from getting to the basket. The Toppers still managed eight points, including another three from Greenwood and three more points from Kearstynn Davis, but Highland countered with 20 points, including a pair of threes by Sophie Schroeder.

Schroeder's second three erased Hillsboro's last lead of the game, making it 37-37 with four and a half minutes into the third quarter as Highland outscored the Toppers 8-3 after that to take a 45-40 lead into the final frame.

Highland's defense continued to shackle the Toppers in the fourth, never letting them get any closer than seven.

Continued on 2B



Sangamon Valley had a tough time keeping up with Litchfield's Adia Melchert (#21) on Tuesday, Jan. 28, as the Panther freshman scored 27 points in Litchfield's 46-30 win over the Storm.

Photo courtesy of Tabitha Ostermann

## Melchert's 27 Shields Panthers From Storm

The Litchfield girls basketball team got a big performance from one of their freshmen against Sangamon Valley/Tri-City on Tuesday, Jan. 28, as Adia Melchert nearly outscored the Storm on her own.

Melchert, who is averaging nine points per game for the season, but 13.75 points over the last eight games, dropped a career-best 27 on the Storm in Litchfield on Tuesday, just three fewer points than Sangamon Valley scored in Litchfield's 46-30 victory.

The freshman guard had nine of Litchfield's 15 points in the opening quarter, with senior Elise Walch and

Melchert's fellow freshmen Lynzie Reid and McKenna Harmon splitting the other six points equally.

Defensively, they held Sangamon Valley to just two field goals in the first quarter, then repeated that accomplishment in the second as the Panthers led 24-8 at halftime. Melchert had seven points in the second, with Walch adding two for the Panthers.

The Storm nearly doubled their point total from the first half in the third quarter as they finished with seven points in the frame. Even with the slight increase, Melchert outscored the visitors for the third straight

quarter, netting nine of Litchfield's 12 points, with Walch knocking down a three to account for the 36-15 lead going into the fourth.

Melchert and Walch added two more points each in the fourth, as both scored in all four quarters in the win. Daphney Hartel added a three and Jennah Longwell hit a free throw for four more points, with Charlotte Reyes scoring her first varsity points with two in the final frame.

Sangamon Valley doubled their output in the fourth, but would have had to more than triple it to pass the Panthers, who walked away with a 16-point victory.

Litchfield will be back at home tonight, Jan. 30, when they play Pana at Simmons Gym. Both teams are 1-4 in South Central Conference play going into Thursday's bout.

**Jan. 28 at Litchfield**  
Sangamon Valley 4 4 7 15--30  
Litchfield 15 9 12 10--46  
**Sangamon Valley (30)** - Gideon 6, Closs 6, Espinoza-West 6, Whitacre 5, Ishmael 4, Deenwester 3.  
**Totals:** 12 3-7 30.  
**Litchfield (46)** - Adia Melchert 27, Elise Walch 9, Daphney Hartel 3, Lynzie Reid 2, McKenna Harmon 2, Charlotte Reyes 2, Jennah Longwell 1. **Totals:** 19 4-6 46.  
**Three-point field goals:** Sangamon Valley 3 (Deenwester 1, Whitacre 1, Gideon 1); Litchfield 4 (Melchert 2, Walch 1, Hartel 1).  
**Records:** Litchfield (8-14); Sangamon Valley/Tri-City (2-18).

## Lancers Slip Past Pawnee In MSM Play

The Lincolnwood-Morrissonville boys basketball team picked up their fifth MSM Conference win of the season on Tuesday, Jan. 28, beating Pawnee by two points thanks to a pair of free throws by Jared Klein with 48 seconds to play.

The whole game was as close as the final score as the only time the advantage was more than six points was a 30-second span in the third when Pawnee led by eight.

In the first half, neither team led by more than five, with the Lancers building up an early 5-0 advantage on a field goal and free throw by Jared Klein and a two by Tucker Armentrout. Pawnee bounced back to tie the game at seven on a three by Jace Jankousky, but a three from Karson Hayes gave Lincolnwood the lead once again with two minutes to go in the first.

The Indians scored the next six points to pick up their first lead of the game, but back-to-back baskets by Jonah Elvidge and Klein gave the Lancers a 14-13 advantage after one.

Pawnee took their turn at a five point lead late in the second quarter as the two teams traded points. Lincolnwood was up three after a three by Jonah Elvidge and a two by Tucker Armentrout, but six straight points from

freshmen Ty Lederbrand (4) and Gavin Greer (2), plus a pair of free throws by Carson Wort put the Indians up five with 1:46 to play. The two teams traded points down the stretch, with Tucker Armentrout picking up the final basket of the first half to make it 29-26 in Pawnee's favor.

The Indians snagged the biggest lead of the game in the first two minutes of the third quarter, with Carson Wort hitting a three, followed by a two from Cory Banister. The eight-point lead lasted 30 seconds, before Karson Hayes got it down to five with his second three of the game. Hayes' third three came with 54 seconds to go in the quarter and got the Lancers even closer as they trailed just 36-35 after the senior's trey. A putback on an offensive rebound by Jankousky made it a three-point game once again, but a three by Jonah Elvidge tied the game at 38 with 16 seconds to go.

It looked like it would stay that way after Jankousky bobbed a pass as time ticked off the clock, but the Pawnee freshman regrouped and banked in an off-balance three at the buzzer to put the Indians up 41-38 going into the fourth.

Jankousky's Hail Mary didn't change the momentum Lincolnwood picked up with

the two late threes as they attacked the basket early and picked up a free throw from Tucker Armentrout and an old fashion three-point play by Jared Klein. Elvidge took the easier route to three points with his third three of the game as Lincolnwood now led by four, 45-41, with five minutes to go.

Wort did his best to keep his team from disappearing down the stretch as he made back-to-back baskets to erase the lead. Neither team scored for another two minutes, with Armentrout dropping in a bucket at the 2:29 mark to give Lincolnwood the lead momentarily, with two free throws by Caden Ward tying the game again at 47.

That's how it stayed until Klein's two free throws with 48 seconds left as the two teams traded defensive stands. That continued after the charity tosses as Pawnee tried to get the equalizer. Their best chance came on a drive to the basket by Wort, one that resulted in a shot that rolled off the side of the rim after it was well defended by Donny Daugherty.

Lincolnwood had a chance to ice the game with a pair of free throws, but missed one and had another disallowed due to a violation. Kennady Cook came up big on the Indians' last opportunity as he picked off a pass from Wort

to finish off the win. Wort led all scorers with 17 points, while Jankousky added in 12 for Pawnee.

Only five players scored for the Lancers, but three were in double figures: Jared Klein (15), Jonah Elvidge (13) and Tucker Armentrout (11). Karson Hayes also added nine points, while Donny Daugherty finished off the scoring with a second quarter free throw.

Lincolnwood is in the race for a MSM Conference title, but at 5-1, they still have three more conference games to go. The first of those three is on Saturday, Feb. 1, when they take on Nokomis in Raymond. The Redskins have a five-game winning streak against the Lancers, with Lincolnwood's last win coming on Jan. 10, 2020, in Nokomis.

**Jan. 28 at Pawnee**  
Lincolnwood 14 12 12 11--49  
Pawnee 13 16 12 6--47  
**Lincolnwood (49)** - Jared Klein 15, Jonah Elvidge 13, Tucker Armentrout 11, Karson Hayes 9, Donny Daugherty 1. **Totals:** 16 11-18 49.  
**Pawnee (47)** - Carson Wort 17, Jace Jankousky 12, Cory Banister 6, Ty Lederbrand 4, Gavin Greer 4, Caden Ward 2, Ryder Smith 2. **Totals:** 20 4-9 47.  
**Three-point field goals:** Lincolnwood 6 (Elvidge 3, Hayes 3); Pawnee 3 (Jankousky 2, Wort 1).  
**Records:** Lincolnwood-Morrissonville (12-8, 5-1); Pawnee (5-14, 1-4).

## Eagles Fire 13 Threes To Beat Toppers

by Ron Deabenderfer

For those familiar with both Tennyson's poem, "Charge of the Light Brigade" and last week's basketball tournament in Litchfield, the similarities for Hillsboro's boys team riding the bus to Bethalto Tuesday evening, Jan. 28, to battle the Eagles were striking.

The odds against Topper success were high; Civic Memorial is a bigger school who had an eight game winning streak snapped when another "big" school, Triad, defeated them in the championship game of the Rick McGraw Invitational.

Their previous success and recent failure probably motivated them. Four Eagles, senior Adam Ogden, August Frankford, Charlie Kilpatrick, and Riley Lamb, were on the top-25 scorers list. Ogden and Frankford made the all-tournament team; no Toppers did, though stalwart Nathan Matoush easily topped all scorers in the twelve-team field. The Eagles finished in second place, the Toppers in twelfth; though the teams didn't face each other, the odds against Hillsboro seemed staggering.

Still, as the British felt long ago, "Their but to question why, Theirs but to do and die" was the unexpressed invaders' mission. Thankfully, the die part was only on a basketball court, not on a literal battlefield.

The Eagles primary weapons were long-range bombs - 11 threes in the first half carried them to a 55-22 halftime lead en route to a 78-49 victory. A buzzer beating rebound basket by Bethalto at the end of the third quarter re-established the home team's lead at 30 (70-40), which meant the fourth quarter would be played with a running clock.

The Eagle's scoring was evenly spread; four were in double figures, led by junior guard Charlie Kilpatrick with 21, including five threes. Neither he nor Ogden played in the last eight minutes. Ogden had 14, while sixth man Tanner Hokamp and junior center Riley Lamb each had 10; Lamb had eight in the first half plus two free throws in Quarter Three.

Matoush was the only Topper in double figures as he reached the 20 point plateau for the fourteenth time (in 22 games). Only Rochester, in the first game of the season, held him to less than ten points thus far in 2024/2025. Jackson Tuetken contributed 13, including one trey; Mark Mattson and Tony White also had one long bomb each. Those two had seven points.

Continued on 2B



## Loop, Swoop And Pull

Jake Wilkinson was tasked with calling fouls and traveling at the second and third grade rec basketball tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25, but he also made sure Gentry Chambers and others were laced up and ready to go. One of the volunteers who makes the youth basketball program possible, Wilkinson spent his Saturday morning and afternoon officiating nine straight games, focusing on teaching players the ins and outs of the sport, all while trying to keep it fun for the kids.

Journal-News Photo

# Panthers Pin Down Win At North Mac Dual

Nicholas Adam and Thayden Bailey both picked up pins on Monday, Jan. 27, as the Litchfield-Mt. Olive wrestling team picked up a 60-10 victory over North Mac in Girard.

The Panthers picked up the bulk of their points by forfeit as the fledgling wrestling program at North Mac continues to build its ranks. Rilynn Younker, Vincent Moore, Charlie Bono, Clayton Hauter, Draven Jones, Tristan Staggs and Devin Hansel all earned free passes on Monday, with Jayden Ellinger also picking up six points after his match versus Russell Dearing was stopped due to injury.

Adam picked up his pinfall at 150 pounds as he stuck Colton Copelin 56 seconds into their match. Bailey's pin came at the 2:35 mark against Con-

stance Brand at 120 pounds.

Devin Hansel defeated North Mac's Andrew Scroggins in an extra match in addition to his forfeit win, pinning Scroggins at the 1:56 mark. Scroggins won earlier at 190 pounds, a class lighter than Hansel, but the extra match gave both wrestlers some more experience in the final week of the regular season. The win gave Litchfield a 3-1 record in the South Central Conference, with victories over Carlinsville, Hillsboro and North Mac and a loss to conference champion Vandalia.

Litchfield's last dual of the season will be on Thursday, Jan. 30, at East Alton-Wood River, with Jerseyville also in attendance. On Friday, Jan. 31, the Panthers kick off the Rich Lovellette Invitational, with the tournament fin-

ishing up on Saturday, Feb. 1.

**January 27 at Girard Litchfield 60, North Mac 10**

- 106: Double Forfeit
- 113: Rilynn Younker (L) won by forfeit
- 120: Thayden Bailey (L) def. Constance Brand (NM) by fall at 2:35
- 126: Vincent Moore (L) won by forfeit
- 132: Noah Cabrera (NM) def. Carter Sperry (L) by major dec. 14-5
- 138: Charlie Bono (L) won by forfeit
- 144: Clayton Hauter (L) won by forfeit
- 150: Nicholas Adam (L) def. Colton Copelin (NM) by fall at 0:56
- 157: Double Forfeit
- 165: Draven Jones (L) won by forfeit
- 175: Jayden Ellinger (L) def. Russell Dearing (NM) by injury default
- 190: Andrew Scroggins (NM) def. Braedyn Knapp (L) by fall at 5:16
- 215: Tristan Staggs (L) won by forfeit
- 285: Devin Hansel (L) won by forfeit
- Ex: Devin Hansel (L) def. Andrew Scroggins (NM) by fall 1:56.

# Free Throws Send Shells Past Lancers

Lincolnwood's run at the Lady Hawk Invitational in Carrollton came to an end on Tuesday, Jan. 28, as the Lady Lancers fell to Roxana in the consolation bracket 38-31 in overtime.

Neither team led by more than five in regulation, with Roxana waiting until 23 seconds to go in overtime to surpass that mark.

Lincolnwood held a five-point lead midway through the opening quarter after getting a basket by Tori Elvidge, two free throws by Sophia Foster and a three by Leah Anderson to make it 7-2 at the 3:56 mark of the first.

Anderson's basket proved to be the last one in more than eight minutes, though, as Lincolnwood was stuck on seven points until Jolee Downs' three with 2:47 to play in the second.

Fortunately, the Lincolnwood defense stepped up and filled the gap during that span, holding Roxana to just nine points as the Shells led 11-10 after Downs' basket.

The Lancers continued to struggle with Roxana's defensive pressure, which caused several turnovers throughout the game and limited Lincolnwood's shot

opportunities. In the final two minutes of the first half, Roxana outscored the Lancers 5-2, with Leah Anderson netting a pair of free throws for the Lancers, who trailed 16-12 at halftime.

Lincolnwood didn't have to wait as long for their first basket of the second half as Tori Elvidge drew the Lancers within three, 17-14, after a free throw by Ava Cherry in the first two minutes by the Shells.

Cherry picked up another charity toss to make it 18-14, but Lilly Terneus' first basket of the game cut the lead in half with 3:22 to play in the third.

Terneus wasn't done. After a basket by Cherry, the senior hit a three to get Lincolnwood within one. After another Roxana free throw, Taylor Lush completed the comeback with her first points, making it 21-21 with 1:54 to play.

The Shells were held scoreless after that, with Lincolnwood taking their first lead since early in the second quarter on a free throw by Terneus and a basket by Sophia Painter.

Up 24-21 going into the

fourth, Lincolnwood matched their biggest lead of the game at five points with another basket by Terneus, but they'd be held scoreless for a long stretch again as Roxana put in the next six points to take a one point lead in a low scoring frame.

Terneus kept her team alive with a free throw to tie the game in the final 64 seconds of regulation, but neither team could avoid bonus basketball with a basket in the final minute.

Roxana left plenty of points at the free-throw line in regulation as they went 9-for-20 from the stripe. That was just the start of the march to the foul line for the Shells, who shot 18 more free throws in the four-minute overtime period, making 11 to account for all of their scoring.

Lincolnwood tried to survive and cut the lead down to two with 1:06 to play on a basket by Terneus after Roxana went up 31-27, notching one point at a time. The Shells' defense kept Lincolnwood from getting any closer as they went 5-for-8 on their next four trips to the free-throw line to boost their lead to 36-29.

Terneus added three more free throws in the final 12 seconds, with Roxana knocking down two in that span as well as they moved on to the consolation semifinals.

After being held scoreless in the first half, Terneus finished with 14 points, second only to Ava Cherry, who had 16 points to lead all scorers.

Leah Anderson and Tori Elvidge added five and four for the Lancers, followed by Jolee Downs with three and Sophia Foster, Taylor Lush and Sophia Painter with two apiece.

The early exit from the tournament means the Lancers get a few days to recuperate before their next game on Feb. 3, when they visit the Lady Hiltoppers in Hillsboro.

**Jan. 28 at Carrollton Lady Hawk Invitational**

- Lincolnwood 7 5 12 3 4---31
- Roxana 6 10 5 6 11---38
- Lincolnwood (31) - Lilly Terneus 14, Leah Anderson 5, Tori Elvidge 4, Jolee Downs 3, Sophia Foster 2, Taylor Lush 2, Sophia Painter 2. **Totals:** 10 9-12 31.
- Roxana (38) - Ava Cherry 16, Daisy Daugherty 11, Kylee Slayden 5, Josie Brannon 3, Hayley Schlemmer 2, Tatum Shaw 1. **Totals:** 9 20-38 38.
- Three-point field goals:** Lincolnwood 3 (Downs 1, Terneus 1, Anderson 1); Roxana 0.
- Records:** Lincolnwood-Morrisonville (5-20); Roxana (11-13).

## Sports Calendar

**Hillsboro Hiltoppers**  
**Thursday, January 30**  
 6 p.m. - Girls Basketball at Gillespie  
**Friday, January 31**  
 4:30 p.m. - Wrestling at Rich Lovellette Classic in Litchfield  
 5 p.m. - Boys Basketball hosts Litchfield  
**Saturday, February 1**  
 9 a.m. - Wrestling at Rich Lovellette Classic in Litchfield  
 9 a.m. - Girls Wrestling at Mt. Zion Regional

**Nokomis Redskins**  
**Thursday, January 30**  
 6 p.m. - F/S Boys Basketball at Central A&M  
**Friday, January 31**  
 6 p.m. - Boys Basketball hosts Meridian  
**Saturday, February 1**  
 3 p.m. - Boys Basketball at Lincolnwood

**Litchfield Purple Panthers**  
**Thursday, January 30**  
 6 p.m. - Girls Basketball hosts Pana  
 6 p.m. - Wrestling at East Alton-Wood River with Jerseyville  
**Friday, January 31**  
 4:30 p.m. - Wrestling at Rich Lovellette Classic in Litchfield  
 5 p.m. - Boys Basketball at Hillsboro  
**Saturday, February 1**  
 9 a.m. - Wrestling at Rich Lovellette Classic in Litchfield  
 9 a.m. - Girls Wrestling at Mt. Zion Regional

**Lincolnwood Lancers**  
**Saturday, February 1**  
 3 p.m. - Boys Basketball hosts Nokomis

Get the scores when we do  
[twitter.com/JNSports](https://twitter.com/JNSports)

**50th Annual Carrollton Girls Invitational**  
**Monday, January 27**  
**Consolation Bracket**  
**Game 9:** Beardstown 54, Metro-East Lutheran 22  
**Game 10:** Granite City 36, Greenfield-Northwestern 31  
**Game 11:** West Central 63, Payson-Seymour 42  
**Tuesday, January 28**  
**Consolation Bracket**  
**Game 12:** Roxana 38, Lincolnwood 32  
**Championship Bracket**  
**Game 13:** Carrollton 51, Liberty 34  
**Game 14:** Marquette 40, Staunton 33  
**Wednesday, January 29**  
**Consolation Bracket**  
**Game 15:** 5 p.m. - Beardstown 31, Granite City 29  
**Championship Bracket**  
**Game 16:** Calhoun 51, Father McGivney 36  
**Game 17:** Nokomis vs. Jersey (Late)  
**Thursday, January 30**  
**Consolation Bracket**  
**Game 18:** 5 p.m. - West Central vs. Roxana  
**Championship Bracket**  
**Game 19:** 6:30 p.m. - Calhoun vs. Winner Game 17  
**Game 20:** 8 p.m. - Carrollton vs. Marquette  
**Friday, January 31**  
**Fifth Place Bracket**  
**Game 21:** 6 p.m. - Liberty vs. Father McGivney  
**Game 22:** 7:30 p.m. - Staunton vs. Loser Game 17  
**Saturday, January 27**  
**Consolation Championship:** 2 p.m. - Beardstown vs. Winner Game 18  
**Fifth Place:** 3:30 p.m. - Winner Game 21 vs. Winner Game 22  
**Third Place:** 5 p.m. - Loser Game 19 vs. Loser Game 20  
**Championship:** 7:30 p.m. Winner Game 19 vs. Winner Game 20

## Bowling League

**Men's Thursday League**  
**Jan. 23 at Nokomis Town Pump Bowl - Week 20**

	W	L
Liquor Box	48.5	31.5
The Outsiders	43	37
Average Joe's	42.5	37.5
Town Pump	41	39
Dirks	39.5	40.5
Globo Gym	38.5	41.5
Kamer's Cove	34	46
Taylor Trucking	33	47

**Week 20 Review**  
 • Globo Gym 4, Taylor Trucking 0  
 • The Outsiders 3, Town Pump 1  
 • Average Joe's 3, Dirks 1  
 • Liquor Box 3, Kamer's Cove 1

**Week 20 Top Scores**  
**Team Scratch Game:** The Outsiders 1068; Globo Gym 1022; Dirks 1001

**Team Scratch Series:** The Outsiders 2910; Liquor Box 2892; Dirks 2853  
**Team Handicap Game:** The Outsiders 1175; Globo Gym 1102; Kamer's Cove 1075  
**Team Handicap Series:** The Outsiders 3231; Liquor Box 3135; Kamer's Cove 3043  
**High Scratch Game:** Shea Tuetsken 290; Chris Johnson 277; Adam Bertolino 258  
**High Scratch Series:** Chris Johnson 696; Adam Bertolino 668; Jim Tester 664  
**High Handicap Game:** Shea Tuetsken 299; Chris Johnson 277; John Vedder 263  
**High Handicap Series:** Chris Johnson 696; Jim Tester 688; Shawn Perkins 671

## Hillsboro Boys

Continued from 1B

High points for Hillsboro? With both squads at full charge on the floor in Quarter Three, the Toppers outscored the Eagles 18-13 to almost avoid the entire last eight minutes as a quick-clock experience before the last second Eagles' bucket. Perhaps that led to another plus for the visitors (and hosts), though, as both teams used bench players in that last period.

The Topper junior varsity didn't fare any better in the preliminary game as Bethal exploded for a 21 point second quarter to break open a 9-9 game. Sophomore Eli Zaidi had 21 in the losing cause while Ryder Dettman added 10.

Reed Wallace had 21 for the visitors, while Lukus Zangori (17), Grant McKey (13), and Grady Farrell (11) were also in double figures.

Hillsboro plays again tomorrow night, Jan. 31, as

they end the month by hosting Litchfield, who downed the Toppers 53-47 in tournament play last week. A triple header, the freshman action begins at 5 p.m. The varsity game, which is a conference game, then follows the junior varsity contest.

**Jan. 28 at Bethal**  
 Hillsboro 6 16 18 9 - 49  
 Civic Memorial 22 33 15 9 - 79  
**Hillsboro (49)** - Nathan Matoush 20, Jackson Tuetsken 13, Mark Mattson 7, Tony White 7, Caleb Greenwood 2.  
**Civic Memorial (79)** - Charlie Kilpatrick 21, Adam Ogden 14, Riley Lamb 10, Tanner Hokamp 10, Jack Piening 8, Parker Pennell 5, Brayden Eardley 4, August Frankford 4, Matt Lyman 3.  
**Three-point field goals:** Hillsboro 3 (White 1, Tuetsken 1, Mattson 1); Civic Memorial 13 (Kilpatrick 5, Hokamp 2, Ogden 2, Piening 2, Pernell 1, Lyman 1).  
**Records:** Hillsboro (9-13); Civic Memorial (14-6).  
**Junior Varsity**  
 Hillsboro JV (2-5) 9 8 20 4 - 41  
 Civic Memorial 9 21 19 14 - 63  
**Hillsboro JV (41)** - Eli Zaidi 21, Ryder Dettman 10, Elijah Patton 5, Jalen Stewart 3, Ryan Page 2.  
**Three-point field goals:** Hillsboro JV 1 (Patton 1).

# Calvary Shooters Send Panthers Packing

If the Rick McGraw Memorial Invite didn't challenge the Litchfield boys basketball team enough, their first opponent outside the tournament definitely did. On Tuesday evening, Jan. 28, Litchfield traveled to Springfield to battle the 14-win Calvary Saints. The Saints' offense would be too much for the Purple Panthers in this contest as Calvary downed Litchfield 81-52.

Litchfield and Calvary first met in 2021, with the Purple Panthers taking the first two games of the series. Since then, Calvary has claimed the last three meetings. In those three meetings, the saints have defeated Litchfield by a 217-173 margin, including the 29-point win on Tuesday.

In the opening quarter Litchfield gave Calvary a challenge as they trailed the Saints 12-10 after one quarter of action. Brody Dykema had the strong offensive output in the quarter as he scored eight of the ten points, including two three-point baskets.

In the second frame, the Saints' offense began to flex its muscles as they tallied

over 20 points in each of the next three quarters. Even though the Saints' offense was almost unstoppable, the Litchfield offense tried to stay with them as they put in 15 points in the quarter.

Nate Schaake had the hot hand as he put in seven points in the quarter. Ethan Saathoff would also help the Litchfield offense in the quarter as he put in six points.

Even with their efforts, the Purple Panthers found themselves trailing 33-25 at the half. Schaake led the Purple Panthers in the scoring column at the half with nine points.

The beginning minutes of the second half can sometimes the difference in a ball game. Throughout the season, the third frame has not been a favorable one for the Purple Panther defense. Of all the quarters, the third frame has been the quarter that Litchfield has given up the most points. On Tuesday, that was almost the case as they gave up 23 points in the third and 25 in the fourth.

As the Purple Panther defense struggled to contain the Saints, their offense kept fighting as they added 18

points to their total before the end of the quarter.

Schaake continued to help Litchfield on the offense end of the court as he added six more points to give him 15 points through three quarters. Harrison Thomas added four points in the quarter and Max Leitschuh helped off the bench as he connected on a three-point basket, to give him five points through three quarters.

The defensive woes in the third quarter may have been the difference in the ball game as Litchfield trailed Calvary 56-43 after three quarters. If giving up 23 points in a quarter wasn't a problem, the fourth quarter production from Calvary definitely was.

The defense gaps may have been the result of not having three key players in the ball game as Keenan Logan, Brayden Ronco and Sam Schwab were all scratched from the lineup due to illness before the opening tip.

Even though these three players were sidelined, Litchfield continued to get production from Schaake as he added five more points to his total to give him 20 for the

game. Schaake would also complete a double-double as he pulled down ten rebounds.

Litchfield's offense ran out of gas in the final frame as the Purple Panthers were only able to put a nine spot on the board as Calvary cruised by the Purple Panthers for an 81-52 victory.

Brody Dykema joined Schaake with double digits in the contest as he would put in ten points in the contest.

The loss would drop Litchfield to 10-13 overall. They will look to rebound from the loss on Friday, Jan. 31, when they travel east down Route 16 to battle the Hiltoppers in a South Central Conferene showdown.

**Jan. 28 at Springfield**

- Litchfield 10 15 18 9---52
- Calvary 12 21 23 25---81
- Litchfield (52) - Nathan Schaake 20, Brody Dykema 10, Ethan Saathoff 9, Harrison Thomas 6, Max Leitschuh 5, Landon Wernsing 2. **Totals:** 21 3-8 52.
- Calvary (81) - Luke Blackford 29, Antoine Hunter 18, Josiah Reynolds 15, Aaron Wilson 8, Joshua Long 6, Reese Huffman 5. **Totals:** 33 5-8 81.
- Three-point field goals:** Litchfield 5 (Dykema 2, Schaake 1, Saathoff 1, Leitschuh 1); Calvary 10 (Blackford 4, Reynolds 3, Long 2, Huffman 1).
- Records:** Litchfield (10-13); Calvary (15-7).

## Hillsboro Girls

Continued from 1B

The Bulldogs also went 6-for-6 from the free-throw line in the fourth, part of a 17-for-21 performance from the stripe.

While the eight-point loss delivered a small hit to the Toppers' record, which now stands at 16-8, the experi-

ence against solid larger schools like Highland and Effingham the last two games should help Hillsboro going into the last stretch of the season.

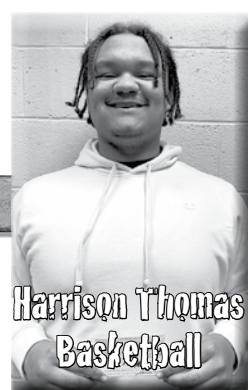
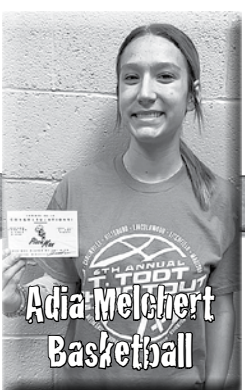
That stretch includes four South Central Conference games in their final five outings with a rescheduled date with Lincolnwood on Feb. 3

the outlier. The conference gauntlet starts tonight, Jan. 30, at Gillespie, as Hillsboro looks to serve the Miners their first SCC loss of the season.

**Jan. 28 at Hillsboro**

- Highland 8 17 20 12---57
- Hillsboro 11 21 8 9---49
- Highland (57) - Jordan Birchler 16, Paige Kleiboeker 15, Sophie Schroeder 10, Sophia Fleming 9,

- Ari Nanney 4, Payton Frey 2, Haily Ritz 1. **Totals:** 18 17-21 57.
- Hillsboro (49)** - Ella Greenwood 15, Kearstynn Davis 12, Delaney Adams 8, Amya Greenwood 8, Kamryn Langston 2, Tatum Christian 2, Karsyn Greenwood 2. **Totals:** 18 9-14 49.
- Three-point field goals:** Highland 4 (Schroeder 2, Fleming 1, Kleiboeker 1); Hillsboro 4 (E. Greenwood 4).
- Records:** Hillsboro (16-8); Highland (12-14).



**Litchfield's Home For Pizza For 50+ Years**

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**Open Six Days A Week!  
Closed Tuesday**

I hope the groundhog sees the... ...sun so we can keep having winter fun. Kids: color stuff in!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2025 V4

Are you awake, Mr. Groundhog? I don't mean to hound you, but maybe you can predict the winner of the Super Bowl, too? Hello!

Do you think that a groundhog can predict the weather? On February 2, some people will get up very early to watch the groundhog come out of its home. They will stand around the groundhog's hole in the ground and study the sky. As soon as they see the groundhog poke out of its hole they will snap pictures. Who do you think will see the funnier sight...the people or the groundhog?

- Read the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle:**
- a long winter's nap
  - a warm-blooded creature
  - another name for the groundhog
  - curls into this to sleep
  - something people believe in or think will happen without facts or proof
  - the groundhog's \_\_\_\_\_ pumps more slowly when it hibernates
  - the groundhog is part of this family
  - young are born in this month
  - males are about two feet long and weigh about twelve pounds; females are \_\_\_\_\_
  - to tell about an event before it happens

**Time to Rhyme!**  
Find and circle the ten words that rhyme with "ground."

count  
mound  
frowned  
wound  
pound  
crowned  
groaned  
hound  
crouch  
sound  
browned  
found  
crowd  
round  
pounce

Our whole family doesn't weigh a pound!

## Groundhog Weather Forecaster?

Hey, let me shine!

What's that sound? Do I hear cheering?

Ahhhh...I'm ready for springtime weather!

Look at the mound of dirt!

11. it is said that when the groundhog pokes out of his hole and sees the sun there will be six more weeks of winter, but when he sees clouds, \_\_\_\_\_ is near

12. where the groundhog lives

1 squirrel  
2 mammal  
3 underground  
4 heart  
5 hibernation  
6 ball  
7 April  
8 superstition  
9 smaller  
10 woodchuck

## Football Fever

Find and circle these football terms:

touchdown tackle  
offense referee  
defense kickoff  
teams field goal  
huddle quarterback

Look at him bound off to watch the game!

Off to watch the Super Bowl...chicken wings, potato chips, veggies and dips...yay!

Word search grid:

H C B R T B N B A S X K Z A O K I C K O F F  
D A O F I T F G O V L D R Z C Q W C L P K H  
Y B S A G O Q F D Z U N M E K V A H U A E R  
L X W J T U F A E R A N I X F B A K Y L X X  
E F S V C C Z I F G P Y E V R E X B K O W A  
P A J W A H Z H E Z D Y I E L Q R C V F K N  
P O I O I D L L N L Q W T L M R A E H F T R  
O U W T A O G L S U D R H C X T E Q E E E B  
P E P X Y W L K E S A G D M V G I G C N A Y  
F H G D U N Z A I U Q X O J L X H U V S M P  
P R W O G D T G Q O G P D A Q L R L C E S  
J A H U D D L E V Q J I U C L W N Z E

## Is Winter Almost Over?

Why did the groundhogs cheer when they came out of their burrows and saw only clouds? Use the alphabet code to fill in the blanks and find out:

^ o # ) [ { # ❄️

^ o + ^ ( || } ? { &

❄️ + ( { # + }

Yay! It's cloudy.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
+	!	@	*❄️	#	⬢	&	o	?
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
\$	□	<	⬢	{	⬢		~	}
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
(	^	*	*❄️	>	)	%		

## Weather Superstitions and Forecasts?

Grrrr... Who woke me? Don't look at me!

Fill in the blanks to spell weather words!

- \_\_ ain \_\_ ow
- cl \_\_ ud \_\_
- met \_\_ oro \_\_ ogis \_\_
- \_\_ liz \_\_ ard
- o \_\_ erca \_\_ t
- cli \_\_ at \_\_
- tem \_\_ era \_\_ ure
- dr \_\_ zzl \_\_

r y e b o \ m p b e z s i v t o t

- Match these weather superstitions and forecasts:
- (More than 1 superstition can have the same forecast...you'll see!)
- If squirrels store large numbers of acorns
  - When frogs croak louder and faster
  - If March comes in like a lion
  - When tree leaves flip over
  - "Red sky at night, sailor's delight Red sky in morning,..."
  - If animals grow heavy fur
  - If a groundhog awakens from hibernation and sees sunshine and his shadow
  - When your bones ache
- it is going to rain.
  - it will go out like a lamb.
  - it is going to rain.
  - sailors take warning.
  - it will be a long, cold winter.
  - spring is far away!
  - it will be a long, hard winter.
  - rain is coming.

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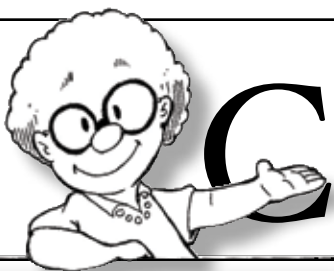
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**4B** - Thursday, January 30, 2025



# Classifieds

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EMAIL: thejournal-news@consolidated.net

**Announcements**

**Notices**

GIVE YOUR Valentine a Boro Bar, available at The Journal-News, Hillsboro.

SWEETS FOR your valentine! Boro Bars at The Journal-News, Hillsboro.

ORDER SELF INKING stamps at The Journal-News, 217-532-3933.

**For Rent**

**Apartments**

APARTMENT FOR rent: No smoking, no pets allowed. 217-839-4777

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WANTED TO buy: Late model IH 1466 or 1566 with good cab. 618-772-3824

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MATTRESS SALE: Twin mattress \$159, full \$209, queen \$249, Mattress Direct across from Litchfield Walmart. 217-324-3636

**Merchandise**

**Miscellaneous**

SELL UNWANTED items in The Journal-News classifieds. 217-532-3933

NEWSPAPER bundles. \$1 ea. The Journal-News. Great for pets, moving etc.

SWEETS FOR your sweet valentine! Boro Bars at The Journal-News, Hillsboro.

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**Want To Buy**

WANTED FOR free or cheap: lawn mowers, cars, motorcycles, tillers, golf carts, go carts, and mini bikes. Call or text: 217-204-8592

**Services**

**Domestic Care**

I DO in-home care. 217-532-2536

**General Services**

NOTARY STAMPS can be ordered at The Journal-News.

**Fire Calls**

**Stove Fire**

Shoal Creek Fire Department responded to a shed fire on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 2:17 p.m. at a residence on Old Brushy Trl. Eight firefighters were on the scene and it was deduced to be stemming from a wood-burning stove. They were on the scene for about an hour.

**Lift Assist**

Hillsboro Fire Department provided mutual aid on Tuesday evening, Jan. 28, providing lift assistance at Hillsboro Health at 5:45 p.m. There were 15 members on site.

**Trash Fire**

Hillsboro Fire Department was later dispatched to a small trash fire at 11:49 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 822 E. Seward St. Twenty members were on the scene for 20 minutes.

**FOR RENT:**  
**1-3 BR homes**  
See Facebook - Cornerstone TL or call 217-839-9919

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**Police**

**Litchfield Police**

• Renetta D. Holmes, 44, of Schram City, was cited on an outstanding Macoupin County warrant at 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, at the 200 block of Ohren Ln.

• Jerald E. Mantor, 47, of Litchfield, was jailed for obstruction of identification at 2:20 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, at the 600 block of E. Union.

• Brendon L. Gerdes, 33, of Springfield, was jailed for possession of meth and on an

outstanding Macon County warrant at 2:52 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, at the intersection of Rt. 16 and Corvette.

• James W. Holland, 58, of S. Roxana, was jailed for retail theft at 12:09 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, at Walmart.

• Paul R. Mosher, 48, of Hillsboro, was jailed for possession of meth and theft over \$10,000 at 3:06 p.m., on Sunday, Jan. 26, at the 500 block of E. Edwards.

**— SEEKING BIDS —**  
Oak Grove Cemetery, Hillsboro is seeking bids for mowing. The mowing consists of all burial sections of the cemetery and the area around the Mausoleum. All areas shall be mowed, trimmed and remove grass clippings from grave markers, structures and sidewalks. Mowing shall be done on an as needed basis. Usually once a week during normal conditions, less during droughts.  
Any redundant equipment should be noted. This is a large cemetery and has to be maintained. Equipment break down is a concern of the Cemetery Board. Any questions call 217-827-0660 and leave message. **Bids must be received by March 1, 2025.**  
The Oak Grove Cemetery Association reserves the right to reject any and all Bids.  
Submit Bids to: **Oak Grove Cemetery, P.O. Box 392, Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**WANTED: CDL DRIVERS**  
Full-time or part-time. Dump experience preferred.  
**Miller's Lime Service**  
**217-538-2456**

**LARGE SPRING MACHINERY AUCTION**  
**Begins Monday, March 3**  
**Ends Thursday, March 20 at 6 p.m.**  
For info & to bid: <https://micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com>  
**Micenheimer & Meyer Auction Services**  
**James Micenheimer & Cory Meyer, Auctioneers**  
217-820-9324 217-710-5642  
Chase 217-820-2473 Curt 217-820-8691  
IL Lic. 440000896 IL Lic. 441.002281

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**Online Only**  
**150 Acres Farmland Auction**  
**2231 Morrisonville Ave., Farmersville, IL 62533**  
**Pitman Township in Montgomery County, IL**  
**Ending February 4, 2025 at 6 p.m.**

150 total acres split in two tracts is available for online bidding now! Located just south of Farmersville, IL this land is all completely tillable and an incredible opportunity waiting to happen. Tract 1 consists of 75+/- acres subject to Survey. This farm is all tillable with predominate soils of 46A Herrick silt loam and 50A Virden silt loam. Tract 2 consists of 75+/- acres subject to Survey. This farm is all tillable with predominate soils of 46A Herrick silt loam and 50A Virden silt loam. Don't miss this opportunity to purchase a quality farm in a great location! Bidding ends on February 4th, 6pm CST. Head on over to our website for more details and to bid!

**BIDDING OPEN NOW AT**  
**AUMANNAUCTIONS.COM**  
**217-563-2523**

**Online Only**  
**Westbrook Estate and Home Auctions**  
**1803 Summit St., Hillsboro IL 62049**  
**Ending March 5th, 5 p.m. & 6 p.m.**  
**OPEN HOUSE: February 19th & 27th • 3-5 p.m.**

Online bidding is now available for the home of Paul and Peggy Westbrook, as well as the Estate auction, which includes a great variety of items! Located in Hillsboro, the home features three bedrooms and one full bath on the main level along with living room, kitchen, and family room with a wood burning fireplace. The basement consists of a one-car built-in garage, storage area and bath/laundry area. There is a hot tub located off the rear of the basement area as well! There is also a garden shed for storage of lawn and garden items. This cozy home is very nice and is move-in ready! The real estate auction will be ending at 5pm, with the personal property auction ending at 6pm, both on March 5th. Various lawn and garden items, tools, furniture, décor, appliances and more are included in the estate auction! Don't miss out!

**BIDDING OPEN NOW AT**  
**AUMANNAUCTIONS.COM**  
**217-563-2523**

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**Heating & AC, Inc.**  
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**Apply in person at 10235 S. Old Rt. 66, Litchfield or send résumé to [kim@neuhausvac.com](mailto:kim@neuhausvac.com)**

**NOTICE OF PIPE CULVERT LETTING**  
Montgomery County Highway Department is currently accepting bids for new steel pipe culverts. Proposals can be picked up at the County Highway Department located at 11159 IL Route 185, Hillsboro, IL 62049. **Bid proposals must be returned by 8:30 A.M., Wednesday, February 5, 2025. Please call (217) 532-6109 with questions.**

**VACANCY NOTICE**  
**Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3**  
The following sponsorship position is available for the 2024-25 school year.  
**Position:** Curriculum Director  
**Certification:** Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction or School Administration; Hold a valid Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL); Five years of teaching experience; Two years of leadership experience preferred.  
**Job Description:** Work directly with administrators and teachers throughout the district to implement curriculum and instructional methods in the classroom; Lead the creation and modification of grade level or course specific assessments and rubric-based scoring practices; Ensure the established curriculum is being implemented with fidelity; Observe in classrooms and provide teachers with regular feedback to improve instruction; Coordinate district-wide screening and state testing for measuring the effectiveness of the total educational program; Analyze assessment data, share data with instructional staff, and use data to make instructional decisions; Maintain the consistency of the MTSS process and eligibility across buildings; Plan and execute professional development to support curricular decisions and other needs; Organize and lead district induction and mentoring programs.  
**Starting Date:** July 2025  
**Length:** 10 month position  
**Salary Range:** \$60,000-\$85,000  
**Send Letter, Résumé, copies of transcripts and certificates, and 3 letters of reference to:** Superintendent David Powell, Hillsboro CUSD3, 1311 Vandalia Road, Hillsboro, IL 62049. Or email to: [dpowell@hillsboroschools.net](mailto:dpowell@hillsboroschools.net).  
**Due By:** February 7, 2025  
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

**PUBLIC AUCTION**

**THURS, JAN. 30 - 7 p.m.** Bidding ends for online only Motorcycle Parts Auction. Register/bid at [mollettauctions.com](http://mollettauctions.com). Preview & pickup at 729 E. Bowman Dr., Greenville. Preview Jan. 27, 4-6 p.m. Check out Jan. 31, 4-6 p.m. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Adam 618-267-3086, Wayne 618-920-6694, [auctionzip.com](http://auctionzip.com) Auctioneer #23925, [mollettauctions.com](http://mollettauctions.com), FB Mollett Auction Service.

**THURS, JAN. 30 - 6 p.m.** Bidding ends for online only 65.974 Acres Farmland Auction located at 18051 N. 3rd Ave., Coffeen, in South Fillmore Township in Montgomery County. This auction is split into two tracts. Tract 1 has 50.102 acres with 49.31 tillable acres. Tract 2 is 15.872 acres, nearly all tillable. There is a small portion in the NW corner with timber. Aumann Auctions, 217-563-2523, [aumannauctions.com](http://aumannauctions.com).

**FRI, JAN. 31 - 1 p.m.** CST Virtual Online Christian County, IL Land Auction. 80 taxable acres +/-, 1 tract. The Ruth Dearth Estate and Nita J. Large Rev. Tr. are located 3 miles southwest of Morrisonville or 12 miles southwest of Taylorville or 20 miles northeast of Litchfield in Section 15, T11N-R3W, Ricks Twp., Christian County. Sullivan Auctioneers, a BigIron Company, 844-847-2161, [www.SullivanAuctioneers.com](http://www.SullivanAuctioneers.com).

**TUES, FEB. 4 - 6 p.m.** Bidding ends for online only 150 Acres Farmland Auction located at 2231 Morrisonville Ave. Farmersville, in Pitman Township in Montgomery County. This auction is split into two tracts. Both tracts consist of 75+/- tillable acres. Aumann Auctions, 217-563-2523, [aumannauctions.com](http://aumannauctions.com).

**THURS, FEB. 6 - 6 p.m.** Bidding ends with soft close for online only Coin Auction. 403 lots including old & new gold; Morgan & Peace dollars; Silver Eagles; silver proof, proof, prestige & mint sets; commemorative; (4) 1909-S V.D.B. wheat cents; wheat pennies; half dollars; silver quarters; silver dimes; rolls Presidential & Sacagawea dollars; bags & rolls of state quarters; large cents; Indian pennies; etc. Preview Sunday, Feb. 2, noon to 2 p.m. Pickup Sunday, Feb. 9, noon to 3 p.m. Go to [whiteauctionservice.hibid.com](http://whiteauctionservice.hibid.com) to register & bid. Eric White, auctioneer, 217-556-2135.

**WED, MAR. 5 - 5 p.m. & 6 p.m.** Bidding ends for online only Westbrook Estate and Home Auctions. Home features 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, basement, 1-car built-in garage, hot tub off the rear of the basement and garden shed. Personal property consists of lawn & garden items, tools, furniture, appliances and more. Open house: Feb. 19th and 27th from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. Aumann Auctions, 217-563-2523, [aumannauctions.com](http://aumannauctions.com).

**THURS, MARCH 20 - 6 p.m.** Bidding ends for online only Large Spring Machinery Auction that begins March 3. For info & to bid: [micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com](mailto:micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com), Micenheimer & Meyer Auction Services, James Micenheimer & Cory Meyer, auctioneers, 217-820-9324, 217-710-5642, [micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com](http://micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com), [micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com](http://micenheimerandmeyer.hibid.com).

**Clip & Save This Directory.**

**PARKS DEPARTMENT PART-TIME POSITION**  
The City of Hillsboro is seeking a responsible, reliable individual for part-time employment in the Parks Department. This position works seasonally from around March 1st to November 15th with a limit of 999 total hours per calendar year. The employee may work independently or assist full-time employees during regularly scheduled city hours. The employee will be responsible for mowing, weed eating, general landscaping, and other duties as assigned while maintaining professional appearance and interaction with the public. Preferred candidates will possess experience in trades, landscaping, or operating small tools and machinery.  
**Applications should be submitted to City Hall no later than 4 p.m. on January 31, 2025.** Applications are available at City Hall or on the city's website at <https://hillsboroillinois.net/wp-content/uploads/Application-for-Employment.pdf>. Questions about the position should be directed to Jim May at 217-532-6778.

**SOLD!**

Tell your auctioneer it needs to be advertised in call 217-532-3933

**The Journal-News**

431 S. Main St. • P O Box 100 • Hillsboro, IL 62049-0100  
Phone 217-532-3933 • FAX 217-532-3632

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Board of Education for Panhandle CUSD #2 will receive sealed bids from prequalified abatement contractors at the office of the Superintendent, 509 North Prairie Street, Raymond, Illinois 62650 for:

Asbestos Abatement Work  
**Lincolnwood High School**  
 507 North Prairie Street  
 Raymond, Illinois 62650

**Bids shall be delivered in a sealed bid envelope to the office of the Superintendent, 509 North Prairie Street, Raymond, Illinois 62650, prior to 2:00 p.m. prevailing time, February 18, 2025.**

Generally, the work includes removal and disposal of asbestos-containing floor tile, mastic, pipe insulation, and miscellaneous materials in accordance with all federal and state rules and regulations for abatement in public and private schools.

Bids shall include:

1. Properly completed Proposal Form in duplicate.
2. Bid Bond in the amount of 10% of Bid.
3. Not less than the prevailing hourly wage rate as determined by the Illinois Department of Labor pursuant to Illinois Revised Statutes, Ch. 489, Sec. 39s-1 et. seq.

Specifications and Drawings will be available via email from Allen Service Corporation, 217-793-1761, or from Central Illinois Plan Room at their website [plans@ciplanroom.com](mailto:plans@ciplanroom.com).

All Bidders are advised that all work of this Contract shall be subject to the provisions of the "Illinois Prevailing Wage Act". Prevailing wage rates have been determined and are on file at the Office of the State of Illinois Department of Labor, telephone (217) 782-6206.

All Bidders shall submit and enclose with their bid a notarized certification that the Contractor is not barred from bidding on the Contract as a result of a violation of either Section 33 E-3 or 33 E-4 of Article 33E, Public Act 85-1295 (Senate Bill 2002) effective January 1, 1989. Certification is located in the Proposal Form, Section 00300, of this Project Manual.

Bids shall be accompanied by a bid bond in the amount of 10% of Bid, made payable to Panhandle CUSD #2, Raymond, Illinois. Failure of Bidders to submit bid bond or cashier's check in the amount of 10% of the bid shall be cause for rejection of bid.

Successful Bidder will be required to provide Surety Performance Bond and Payment Bond, each equal to 100% of the Contract cost on prescribed forms within ten (10) days after notice of acceptance is issued by Owner. Surety on bond shall be by a duly authorized U. S. Treasury Backed company licensed to do business in the State of Illinois, acceptable to Owner.

**A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at Lincolnwood High School on February 6, 2025 at 3:15 p.m. at the Superintendent's office in the Elementary School.**

The Board of Education for Panhandle CUSD #2 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and reserves the right to waive any irregularity in bidding, which in their considered opinion is warranted. No bid shall be withdrawn for sixty (60) days after opening of bids without written consent of the Owner.

Board of Education  
 Panhandle CUSD 2

76-1t

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
 OF THE FOURTH  
 JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
 VILLAGE OF BUTLER,  
 Plaintiff,

DATE ON OR AFTER  
 WHICH DEFAULT MAY BE  
 ENTERED AGAINST SUCH  
 PARTY: 30 days after the  
 first publication of this Notice  
 by Publication Notice  
 of Intent to Declare Property  
 Abandoned.

ERIKA HAWKINS, and  
 UNKNOWN OWNERS, and  
 NON-RECORD CLAIM-  
 ANTS,

That if the Court determines that the property is abandoned, then notice shall be sent by certified or registered mail to all persons having an interest of record in the property, including tax purchasers and beneficial owners of any Illinois Land Trust having title to the property, stating that title to the property will be transferred to the Village of Butler unless, within 30 days of the notice, the owner of record enters an appearance in this action, or unless any other person having an interest in the property files with the Court a request to demolish the dangerous or unsafe building or to put the building in safe condition.

Defendants.  
**Case No. 2024MR30**  
**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**  
**NOTICE OF INTENT TO**  
**DECLARE PROPERTY**  
**ABANDONED**

Notice is hereby given to Erika Hawkins and all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, if any, that the above-entitled complaint for declaration of abandoned property was filed on December 6, 2024, and is now pending against you and other Defendants wherein the Village of Butler seeks to declare certain property as abandoned.

The property sought to be declared abandoned is described as follows:

A. Common address:  
**203 Railroad St.**  
**Butler, IL 62015**

B. Lots 5 and 6 in Block 13 in William Seward's Addition to Butler according to the plat thereof recorded in Deed Record 9, Page 341, situated in the Village of Butler. Except all coal and minerals underlying said lands, together with the right to mine and remove the same.

Brittany N. Meeker,  
 Attorney for  
 Village of Butler

**Document prepared by:**  
**Brittany N. Meeker**  
**Of Law Group Ltd.**  
**307 North Third Street**  
**P.O. Box 1108**  
**Effingham, Illinois 62401**  
**Telephone: (217) 347-0555**  
**Fax: (618) 283-3037**  
**Email:**  
**meeker@lawgrouppltd.com**

72-3tT

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

Taylorville Community  
 Credit Union, a corporation,  
 Plaintiff,

vs.

Michael A. Moler, Non-Record Claimants, and Unknown Owners, Defendants.

Case No. 2025FC5  
**NOTICE OF PENDENCY**  
**OF ACTION**

NOTICE is hereby given to NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS and UNKNOWN OWNERS of the Complaint (For Mortgage Foreclosure) filed in the above-entitled cause on January 23, 2025, and that he/she/they are named Defendants in the above-entitled case, pursuant to the provisions of 735 ILCS 5/2-206, 5/15-1502, and that the above-entitled mortgage foreclosure suit is now pending in said court and the day on or after which a default may be entered against said Defendants is March 6, 2025, and that the following information applies to said mortgage foreclosure proceeding:

1. The name of the Plaintiff and the case number is identified above.
2. The Court in which said action was brought is identified above.
3. The names of the titleholder of record is: Michael A. Moler
4. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:
  - i. Legal description of mortgaged real estate: Lots Twenty (20) and Twenty-Two (22) as

shown on the recorded Plat of the Town of Kortkamp, now within the corporate limits of the Village of Schram City, situated in the Village of Schram City, Montgomery County, Illinois

Parcel I.D. Number: 17-05-129-014

ii. Common address or location of mortgaged real estate:

**813 Elm St.**  
**Hillsboro, IL 62049**

5. An identification of the Mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

A. Nature of Instrument: Mortgage.

B. Date of Mortgage: April 10, 2023

C. Name of Mortgagee: Michael A. Moler

D. Name of Mortgagee: Taylorville Community Credit Union, a corporation.

E. Date and place of recording of Mortgage: April 11, 2023 in the Recorder's office, Montgomery County, Illinois

F. Identification of recording of Mortgage: Document No. 202300000982

Montgomery County Circuit Clerk

**This Document Prepared by:**

**Rocci L. Romano, Esq.**  
**Reg. No. 2371294**  
**Meyer, Austin & Romano, P.C.**

**Attorney for Plaintiff**  
**210 S. Washington St.**  
**P.O. Box 140**  
**Taylorville, IL 62568**  
**Phone: (217) 824-4931**  
**Fax: (217) 824-8892**  
**Email: roccioromano@mac.com**  
 76-3tT

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Panhandle CUSD #2 will receive sealed bids from prequalified general contractors at the Office of the Superintendent, Panhandle CUSD #2, Panhandle Unit Office, 509 North Prairie Street, Raymond, IL 62560, for:

Lincolnwood Jr./Sr. High School  
**Gym Renovation & Addition**  
 507 N. Prairie St.  
 Raymond, Illinois 62560

Bids will be received by the Owner until 2:00 p.m., prevailing time, February 18, 2025, or authorized postponement thereof for the Complete Work.

**All General Contractors planning to bid shall submit to the Architect a completed copy of their Contractor's Qualification Statement (AIA Form A305), Certificate of Insurance with contractor's current limits, proposed construction superintendent's resume, and list of completed projects of similar scope within the past 5 years including project cost, description of work, timeline, and Owner and Architect references.**

Generally, the work includes a base bid project to renovate the existing high school gymnasium and locker rooms. The work includes new court floor, new roof, new HVAC as well as bleachers. There is an additional miscellaneous scope including new doors, painting and HVAC work in the kitchen area. The alternate bid scope includes a 3,500 sf weight and cheer room addition.

Construction for the project is scheduled to commence promptly upon Board approval and be substantially complete by 08-13-2025.

The District will open and read aloud all bids immediately after the specified closing time. All bidders are invited to attend the formal opening of bids.

Specifications and Drawings will be available by email from the Office of the Architect, Graham & Hyde Architects, Inc., 1010 Clocktower Drive, Springfield, Illinois, 62704, 217-787-9380, the Central Illinois Plan Room, 1620 South Fifth Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62703, 217-679-1077, or via the following online PLANROOM address: <https://www.grahamandhydeplans.com/>.

All Bidders are advised that all work of this Contract shall be subject to all applicable laws of the State of Illinois and the United States of America, including but not limited to the "Preference to Citizens (Illinois) on Public Works Projects Act" and the Wages of Employees on Public Works (Prevailing Wage Act).

All Bidders shall submit and enclose with their bid a notarized certification that the Contractor is not barred from bidding on the Contract as a result of a violation of either Section 33 E-3 or 33 E-4 of Article 33E, Public Act 85-1295 (Senate Bill 2002) effective January 1, 1989. Certification is in the Proposal Form in the Project Manual.

Bids shall be accompanied by a bid bond in the amount of 10% of the Base Bid, made payable to the Board of Education, Panhandle CUSD #2. Bids not accompanied by a bid bond will be rejected.

The successful Bidder will be required to provide a Surety Performance Bond and Payment Bond, each equal to 100% of the Contract cost on prescribed forms within ten (10) days after notice of acceptance is issued by Owner. Surety on bond shall be by a duly authorized U. S. Treasury Backed company licensed to do business in the State of Illinois, acceptable to Owner. The Contractor shall pay the premiums for these bonds.

The Board of Education, Panhandle CUSD #2 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and reserves the right to waive any irregularity in bidding, which in their considered opinion is warranted. No bid shall be withdrawn for sixty (60) days after opening of bids.

**A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held for this project on February 5, 2025, at 3:15 p.m., and will be conducted at the project site in the cafeteria.**

Board of Education  
 Panhandle CUSD #2  
 Panhandle Unit Office  
 509 North Prairie Street,  
 Raymond, IL 62560

76-1t

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

VILLAGE OF IRVING,  
 ILLINOIS  
**110 E. State St.**  
**Irving, IL 62051-0308**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC**  
**HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Village Board of the Village of Irving will conduct a public hearing at Village Hall at 110 E. State St., Irving, IL 62051 on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:15 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to provide an opportunity for public input regarding the proposed water system improvements to serve the Village of Irving, Illinois.

The hearing will include a presentation on the planning, design, and evaluation of the water system improvements. Monetary and non-monetary factors associated with the project will be discussed and the final recommended plan and preliminary budgetary impacts will be presented.

Detailed information on the project together with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination documents will be available for public inspection at Village Hall, 110 E. State St., Irving, IL 62051. Persons and/or organizations wishing to make a statement on the proposed project will be asked to identify themselves and their respective interests at the public hearing. Written statements regarding the subject of the public hearing will be accepted until 10 days after the hearing and should be addressed to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency as indicated in the Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination document.

Posted January 30, 2025.  
 76-1t

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

BANK & TRUST COMPANY,  
 Plaintiff,

vs.

LAWANA L. ANDERSON, LYLE D. MICHAEL, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,

Defendants.

**2023 - FC - 23**  
**NOTICE OF SALE DATE**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered by the Court in the above-entitled cause, the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment will be sold to the highest bidder.

A. For information regarding the real estate, contact: Dan Fleming, Bank & Trust Company, Litchfield, IL 62094, 217-324-0201

B. The information on the real estate:

**Parcel 1:**

Lot One (1) in Block Two (2) in Spruill's Subdivision and also of a part of the Northwest Quarter (NW ¼) of the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section Twenty-Three (23), Township Ten (10) North, Range Two (2) West of the Third Principal Meridian, Montgomery County, Illinois, described as follows: Beginning at the Northeast corner of said Lot One (1) in Block Two (2) above described and running thence South Forty and One-Half (40 ½) feet to the South line of the Northwest Quarter (NW ¼) of the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of said Section Twenty-Three (23), thence East along the said quarter section line Two Hundred Thirty-two (232) feet, thence North Forty and One-Half (40 ½) feet, thence West Two Hundred Thirty-two (232) feet to the place of beginning, all being situated in the City of Nokomis, Montgomery County, Illinois, except the coal within and underlying the land and all rights and easements in favor of the estate of said coal.

PIN: 08-23-451-014

**Parcel 2:**

Lot Fourteen (14) in Block One (1) of H.E. Weaver's Addition to Nokomis, situated in the City of Nokomis, Montgomery County, Illinois, except the coal within and underlying the land and all rights and easements in favor of the estate of said coal.

PIN: 08-15-485-013

1. Commonly known as:

**Parcel 1:**  
 809 Capps Ave.  
 Nokomis, IL 62075

**Parcel 2:**  
 310 Oberly St.  
 Nokomis, IL 62075

2. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: residential building.

C. The real estate will not be open for inspection prior to sale date.

D. The time and place of the sale will be on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Montgomery County Courthouse, 120 N. Main St., Hillsboro, IL 62049

E. The real estate will be sold to the highest bidder. The terms of the sale will be 10% down on the day of the sale and the balance will be due within 24 hours.

F. Title will be conveyed subject to all delinquent taxes and all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, and special assessments, if any, easements and restrictions of records, and any liens not foreclosed herein.

G. Upon and at the sale of real estate under Section 15-1507, the purchaser shall pay to the person conducting the sale pursuant to Section 15-1507 a fee for deposit into the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, a special fund created in the State Treasury. The fee shall be calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser to the person conducting the sale, as reflected in the receipt of sale issued to the purchaser, provided that in no event shall the fee exceed \$300.

No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale of any mortgage, judgment creditor, or other lien or acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. Upon confirmation of the sale under Section 15-1508, the person conducting the sale shall remit the fee to the Clerk of the Court in which the foreclosure case is pending. The Clerk shall remit the fee to the State Treasurer as provided in this Section, to be expended for the purposes set forth in Section 7.31 of the Illinois House Development Act.

Bank & Trust Company,  
 Plaintiff

**/s/ Erik D. Hyam**  
**#06311090**  
**Attorney for Plaintiff**  
**314 N. Monroe St.**  
**P.O. Box 98**  
**Litchfield, IL 62056**  
**Telephone: 217-324-6147**  
**Facsimile: 217-324-6249**  
**erik@silverlakelaw.com**  
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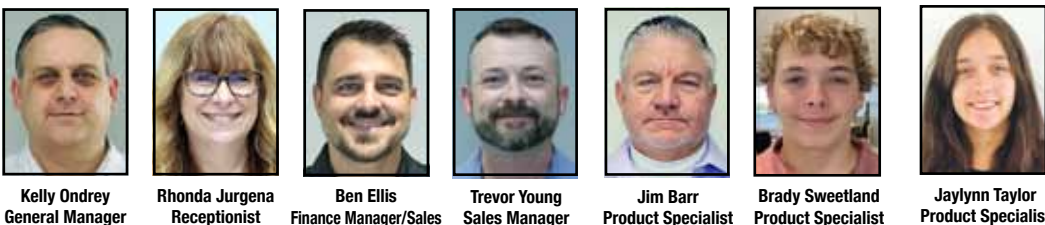


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# Steve Schmitt

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Six members of the Litchfield High School choir were honored with all-state recognition from District 5 of the Illinois Music Educators Association recently. From the left are Lukus Middleton, Avarey Fetter, Gretchen Heigert, Clayton Logsdon, Sydney Weatherford and Camron Zumwalt. Middleton and Fetter earned honors all-state status, the highest award a high school musician can achieve in Illinois. *Journal-News Photo*

### Six Earn ILMEA All-State From Litchfield

Six members of the Litchfield High School choir earned all-state honors from District 5 of the Illinois Music Educators Association (ILMEA) recently, including two who earned honors all-state status.

In order to receive all-state recognition, students must prepare and submit a rigorous audition that includes singing (chorus) or playing (band and orchestra) various musical skills and selections from difficult music on their own. The top students from each ILMEA district are selected for district-wide festivals.

After the district-level festivals are completed, the top musicians from each district festival are selected for all-state festival ensembles. There are two levels of bands, choirs, orchestras, and instrumental and vocal jazz groups: the

all-state ensembles and the honors all-state ensembles.

The division between the honors all-state ensembles and all-state ensembles is based on audition scores, with the top scorers of all the all-state musicians going into the honors groups. This is the highest award a high school musician can achieve in Illinois.

Seniors Avarey Fetter and Lukus Middleton were both selected for the honors all-state chorus, with Fetter, a Soprano 1, selected for the second time and Middleton, a Bass 2, selected for the third time. Middleton also finished in the top two amongst Bass 2 auditioners and was given the opportunity to audition to sing the National Anthem at a state-level sporting event.

Sophomores Gretchen Heigert, Sydney Weatherford and Camron Zumwalt were all selected for the all-state chorus for the second time. Heigert sings Alto 1, Weatherford sings Soprano 1 and Zumwalt sings Tenor 1.

Senior Clayton Logsdon was also honor with all-state chorus recognition for the first time in his high school career.

These students will represent ILMEA District 5 and the Litchfield school district at the ILMEA All-State Music Festival in Peoria on Jan. 29 through Feb. 1. While there, they will rehearse with other all-state caliber students from around the state and listen to incredible ensembles and compositions in the evenings. All the rehearsals will culminate in concerts on the afternoon of Feb. 1, at the Peoria Civic Center.

### TOPPER TALK • by Milla Anderson at Hillsboro High

### Life Skills Classes Sell Crush Soda



Welcome back, Toppers! Happy fourth week of school. For those who answered the riddle last week, if you said stamp, you're correct. Just a reminder, from Feb. 3-7, the life skills classes will be having a fundraiser of selling Crush Sodas for a crush, friend or boyfriend/girlfriend.

They will be selling them for \$1 during lunch modules. These will be handed out Feb. 10-13 during the 6th hour.

The annual National Honors Society trivia night will be on Feb. 22 at 6 pm. Make sure to get a team together and try to win. While there, a silent auction, bake sale, and 50/50 raffle will be there too. All the proceeds will go toward the NHS Scholarship Fund.

Just a reminder, for those who enjoy basketball, the last BTOP half-court shot contest/

fundraiser will be on Feb. 3. Make sure to come and support the Eaker family in the battle against cancer.

Happy week four! Make sure to keep an eye out on Facebook and the high school's website for the most up-to-date information because most plans are subject to change.

The riddle for this week is: What has a head, but no brain?

Signing off with a smile, I hope to see you next edition, Topper Nation.

### Hillsboro Announces Fall Honor Roll

Hillsboro High School has announced the students named to the Honor Roll lists for the first semester.

**Seniors:** Clara J. Armbruster, Dylan A. Baker, Drew N. Ballhurst, Elias H. Baney, Kydin M. Benson, Greg C. Bland, Cody A. Boerckel, Peyton J. Brewer, Gavin R. Buckley, Anika N. Camp, Tatum L. Christian, Dominic G. Clark, Kaiser A. Clevenger, Brodie R. Clinard, Addison T. Compagni, Brynne E. Connor, Mitchell W. Cunningham, Samuel D. Dilley, Caleb M. Duff, Natalee C. Fenton, Zoe J. Fulhorst, Gideon P. Fuson, Miah G. Garmon, Keltian J. Garte, Dominic A. Granito, Caleb A. Greenwood, Ella G. Greenwood, Brennan J. Harston, Cheyenne S. Harston, Carter J. Heintz, Leah A. Hemken, Hunter S. Hockett, Elijah J. Howard, Seth M. Hubbard, Andrea J. Huber, Frances E. Huber, Quinn L. Hunt, Sebastian C. Jeffries, Shelby S. Kaliyan, Brenden S. Kershaw, Kamryn K. Langston, Emily N. Lanter, Alyssa M. Leisure, Reagan E. Lentz, Addison C. Lowe, Nathan C. Matoush, Caden J. Mayer, Addison N. McLaughlin, Drake M. McSperritt, William A. Meyer, Aiden T. Meyers, Hailey S. Meyers, Matthew H. Michaelis, Sara I. Milanos, Lauryn R. Miller, Kaycee J. Nave, Gerhard J. Netemeyer, Austin L. Newingham, Ashley N. Oiler, Tanner D. Olson, Mason C. Paden, Samantha J. Page, Ryan M. Petcher, Audrey J. Shultz, Jaide-Olivia J. Sloan-Williams, Kaeden E. Smith, Presley S. Smith, Lauren E. Storm, Jadenlynn M. Summers, Ava G. Swick, Tycen M. Thacker, Anastasia M. Thompson, Jackson D. Tuetken, Antonio M. Valentin, Ryleigh N. Van Doren, Gaven K. Vollintine, Samantha L. Weiss, Carter J. White, Gunnar L. Wilson and Giana F. Zaidi.

tian, Xavier D. Clark, Olivia T. Collins, Blake M. Cullison, Kearstynn F. Davis, Jenna A. Durbin, Skylar K. Durbin, Kaleb D. Eller, Brayden L. Elliott, Kaidyn E. Elliott, Westin L. Fenton, Brooklyn R. Fisher, Logan W. Gill, Ethan R. Hamby, Derek T. Hartman, Devin R. Hartman, Alexa M. Hendricks, Sadie L. Houchle, Mackenzie J. Jarman, Payton R. Jenkins, Karley A. Jernigan, Elbert F. Jones IV, Rylie A. Jones, Liam G. Kalar, Brody A. Kieffer, Brooklyn D. Kirby, Kaleb M. Knodle, Aidan J. Law, Rumer L. Lemon, Maui G. Lemons, Olan L. Lentz, Violet S. Lentz, Makayan M. Leonard, Annastasia M. Marcum Winkler, Claire E. Matthews, Mark M. Mattson, Rachael M. McDonald, Sophia R. Mullen, Ryan L. Page, Jozhua M. Pineda, Jayden Poggemoeller, Avery D. Reynolds, Mellissa N. Robinson, Samuel S. Sanchez Ramos, Kale J. Simonton, River K. Smith, Brady A. Stritzel, Maryn K. Tarver, Kinsley S. Trader, Owen D. Trader, Ian H. Van Doren, Madison M. Vanostran, Taylor L. Vanostran, Reagan M. Voyles, Colton J. Weiss, Colton D. Wernsing, Alivia R. Willman, William H. Wilson, William W. Yeske and Makenna L. Zanni.

**Freshmen:** Xander W. Baney, Mazalin A. Bookamer, Aden T. Brent, Raelyn M. Brown, Lorelai M. Carlock, Gracie A. Chambers, Jayden A. Christ, Kaya R. Connor, Jackson D. Cunningham, Bentleigh M. Dearmond, Ryleigh J. Dilks, Ava L. Dosssett, Hunter L. Elwood, Kohl H. Fuller, Owen W. Fuller, Grayson G. Gile, Bentley H. Giller-Childress, Kinley O. Greenwood, Zachary R. Hamilton, Callen J. Hanger, Emily A. Harston, Liberty J. Helton, Matthew L. Hemken, Davin W. Hubbard, Katelyn M. Hughes, Emily R. Irvine, Aubrey E. Jeffers, Kenley A. Jernigan, Kiera B. Jones, Taegan L. Kieffer, Lillian E. Kirn, Dylan E. Koen, Madelyn H. Krummel, Joseph T. Lanter, Lainey M. Lessman, Landon G. Lipe, Autumn E. Long, Avery L. Maddaleno, Joel W. Malloy, Calie M. Martinic, Randal A. Matthews, Abigail J. McArthur, Maddux C. McLaughlin, Kylie M. Meyer, Aubrey E. Milanos, Kent Oljol, Easton L. Page, Alec C. Pollard, Lux L. Reynolds, Aiden J. Robinson, Rylee A. Rogers, Noah T. Satterlee, Ella M. Schaake, Tenleigh S. Schulte, Nicholas J. Scroggins, Rilynne G. Segrest, Addison G. Smith, Kael M. Smoot, Braylen W. Stewart, Jason T. Stewart, Skyler M. Sturgeon, Lilly M. Taylor, Kiera A. Thomet, Claire A. Trader, Emersyn G. Trader, Kason L. Trone, Harrison D. Tuetken, Samantha D. Vollintine, Sophia M. Watkins, Kailey J. Weiss, Colby A. Wilkinson, Brookelyn B. Wright, Alexander L. Yeske and Raya M. Yount.

**Sophomores:** Delaney N. Adams, Noah J. Andrews, Natalie L. Atkins, Landon D. Bandy, Avery E. Batty, Hunter J. Beaudry, Sloan E. Bertolino, Liam C. Blackburn, Kaden D. Brown, Peyton S. Chappelle, Peyton S. Christian, Kamdin J. Civitate, Isabella E. Collins, Anika S. Cunningham, Mason A. Currie, Bailey A. Davis, Lexi M. Downey, Owen S. Earnest, Amelia T. Fuller, Shaylea A. Gibson, Amya J. Greenwood, Karsyn A. Greenwood, Jacklyn R. Harris, Emma A. Harwood, Kenley J. Hefley, Sawyer W. Hindle, Kaylee A. Hood, Isaiah D. Hopley, Carson E. Huber, Austin L. Hughes, Mackenzy L. Jenkins, Garrett W. Kalaher, Olivia G. Keiser, Albany S. Kindernay, Natalee P. Kuhns, Hannah L. Laurent, Jackson M. Law, Chanse W. Liebscher, Jaida B. Linn, Kash D. Malloy, Aleigha C. Marburger, Mikenna M. Mc-