



emergency RESPONSE

Monday, May 7

At 7:35 p.m. Tuscola police were called to the 600 block of East Wilson Street for a report of a domestic problem.

At 11:25 p.m. Tuscola police reported a suspicious vehicle on the south side of the outlet mall.

Tuesday, May 8

At 2:27 a.m. Tuscola police removed illegally parked semis from North Progress and Triple A Way.

At 12:35 p.m. Tuscola fire was dispatched to Milepost 217.5 on Interstate 57 to provide mutual aid for an RV fire.

At 1:59 p.m. Tuscola fire and police were dispatched to Milepost 218 on Interstate 57 for a multi-vehicle accident. TFD helped to cover two scenes that included a car fire. TPD assisted Illinois State Police at the accident scene and by redirecting traffic through town.

At 10:04 p.m. Tuscola police were called to the 600 block of East Overton Street for a verbal disturbance between two females.

At 11:31 p.m. Tuscola police removed a semi parked in the fire lane at Road Ranger.

Wednesday, May 9

At 5:30 p.m. Tuscola police were called to Apgar and Prairie for a vehicle collision.

At 6:28 p.m. Tuscola police were called to the 900 block of East Wilson Street to remove a bike from the roadway.

At 6:48 p.m. Tuscola police were called to the intersection of Daggy and Niles streets where juveniles were reportedly throwing rocks into the roadway and hitting cars. The juveniles were advised to stop.

At 6:50 p.m. Tuscola police began to receive reports of storm damage including a tree down on Embarras Street and a light pole down in the Eagle Mountain Assembly of God parking lot.

At 8:48 p.m. Tuscola police were called to the 213 Milepost of Interstate 57 to assist Illinois State police with a semi in the median. No lane blockage was reported.

At 9:23 p.m. Tuscola police were called to the 600 block of East Wilson Street for a welfare check.

At 11:49 p.m. Tuscola police removed a semi from the fire lane at Road Ranger.

Thursday, May 10

At 6:30 p.m. Tuscola police were out with a K9 on Southland Drive at the resident's request.

At 7:50 p.m. Tuscola police were called to Nancy Drive in reference to a harassment report.

Friday, May 11

At 5:43 p.m. Tuscola police returned a phone call in reference to scam calls.

At 9:24 p.m. Tuscola police were called to the 400 block of South Ohio Street in reference to a complaint of an unattended fire pit. No safety concern was reported.

Saturday, May 12

At 5 a.m. Tuscola police were called to Casey's General Store in reference to a silent alarm. The alarm was accidentally activated by employees.

At 10:48 a.m. Tuscola police were called to the 200 block of East Daggy Street in reference to a report of burning garbage. No garbage was found, just a small fire with limbs.

At 7:56 p.m. Tuscola police were called to Burger King in reference to a dispute between the manager and employees. No physical contact was reported. The situation was resolved.

At 10 p.m. Tuscola police were called to It'll Do Too where an intoxicated male would not leave the business. The subject was taken home.

Sunday, May 13

At 5:29 a.m. Tuscola fire was dispatched to the 1200 block of Egyptian Trail for a request for medical assistance.

At 6:05 p.m. Tuscola police were called to the 700 block of East Newkirk Street in reference to a report that a child was involved in a bike vs vehicle collision.

At 7:25 p.m. Tuscola police found an open door at the First Church of God, located at the intersection of Barker and Enterprise. The building was searched and the door was secured.

Peace Meal May 21-26

Monday, May 21—Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Brussels Sprouts, Baked Corn Casserole, Bun, Applesauce

Tuesday, May 22—Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Mandarin Oranges

Wednesday, May 23—Ham and Beans, Copper Carrots, Cornbread, Sliced Pears

Thursday, May 24—Turkey Tetrazzini, Tossed Salad w/Dressing Packet, Peas and Pearl Onions, Whole Grain Wheat (1), Pineapple

Friday, May 25—Chicken Salad Sandwich, Tortellini Vegetable Soup, Creamy Cole Slaw, Bun and Crackers, Fruit Salad

Call 800-543-1770 for reservation information. Skim milk and desserts with no sugar added are available in many locations. Ask the site supervisor for information. Sometimes we need to substitute on our menus. We still guarantee a nutritious meal. The Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program suggests a donation of \$3.50 for each congregant and home delivered meal. No older person shall be denied a meal because of their failure to contribute all or part of the cost of the meal. We accept the Illinois Link Card.

If you have press releases, announcements, news briefs or other copy you would like included in The Tuscola Journal, please email them to kayleigh@thetuscolajournal.com. Story ideas and contact names are also most welcome.

www.thetuscolajournal.com

Dog days of summer are near

With warm weather here to stay it's safe to say dog owners will have their furry friends along for walks throughout every corner of town.

Dogs may accompany owners anytime on the public right of way; however, all pets must be in direct, effective, physical control once they are off your property, according to the city ordinance titled "Leash Law."

Additionally, all dogs must be on leash within the city parks—including Ervin Park, Wimple Park, and Festival Corner, according to the city park rules. Also, all pet

waste must be picked up and disposed of within park limits. And, of course, all dogs—leashed or not—are not permitted onto any of the ball diamonds at Ervin Park.

These rules are in place for the health and safety of all two- and four-legged residents.



Man arrested following Interstate 57 wreck

One man was arrested following two vehicle collisions near Tuscola on Interstate 57 on Tuesday, May 8.

According to Illinois State Police, the initial collision took place at 1:56 p.m. near I-57 Milepost 218 where Jess Plunkett, 41, of Paragould, Ark., was traveling northbound on I-57 in a 2016 Freightliner semi.

Rayna Murphy, 23, Willow Springs; David Simpkins, 65, Newman; Amy Salmon, 41, Monticello; and Gerald Case, 50, Indianapolis were stopped in the right lane due to a traffic backup from a

stalled trunk in the roadway. Plunkett failed to stop and caused a rear end collision with the other motorists. He was cited for DUI-drugs and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

Simpkins and Salmon were transported to a local hospital for non-life threatening injuries.

The stopped traffic behind this collision, caused a secondary wreck moments later when Brandon Boyd, 35, Brownsville, Tenn.; Andrew Bergan, 31, Champaign; and Amanda Drummond, 40, Mattoon, were

traveling northbound on I-57 near Milepost 217.8 when they approached the first wreck. Bergan and Drummond stopped in the right lane. Boyd struck Bergan who struck Drummond.

Boyd's vehicle left the roadway and came to rest in the right ditch, while Bergan and Drummond left the roadway to the left and came to rest in the grassy median.

Bergan's 2012 Chevrolet caught fire during the incident. He was extricated from the burning vehicle by three motorists and an Illinois State Trooper. Bergan was trans-

ported by helicopter to an area hospital for life-threatening injuries. He is recovering. Drummond and her passenger were transported to a area hospital for non-life threatening injuries.

Boyd was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

Throughout the incident response, investigation, and cleanup motorists were directed through Tuscola on US Route 36 to Route 45 where they were rerouted to I-57 near Pesotum.

Members of DAR daytrips to visit the Lincolns

Members of the Stephen A. Douglas Chapter, NSDAR took a whole day to spend a few hours at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum

in early May and had their picture taken with the Lincolns! It was a leisurely day to read everything we wanted to read, to watch "Lincoln's

Eyes" (special effects theater) and the "Ghosts of the Library" in the Holavision Theater, and to view the newest exhibit "From Illinois

to the White House" (Lincoln, Grant, Reagan, Obama). Great way to celebrate The Illinois Bicentennial.

CITY COUNCIL Continued from 1

that it hasn't had for quite some time; quality, upscale-casual, family-friendly places to gather," Hogue's business proposal said. "I plan to take what I've learned during my 15 year career in nationally acclaimed restaurants and distill it into an approachable, comfortable environment that serves great food and unique libations with Midwestern sensibilities."

Irma Lou's is, of course, named after Hogue's grandmother.

"...I want this restaurant to be as welcoming, returnable, and delicious as her kitchen was," the proposal says. "There was never any pretension about the food, everyone was invited and there was always great conversation. Diners should feel like they've been invited over to someone's house for dinner in a warm, classy, comfortable space that immediately makes them feel at home."

The restaurant will feature an open kitchen to display the excitement of the kitchen and the façade will feature large windows to give the effect of al fresco dining.

The sister business, The Cast Iron Pub plans to have a similar feel—a comfortable space for friends and family to enjoy.

"It will be as fitting to have a drink after work as it will be for watching the big game on the weekend or having an evening out with friends," the proposal says. The menu will include hand-crafted cocktails, a large craft beer selection, and a wine list that will feature local favorites as well as a selection of those that aren't as easily found in the area.

The bar will feature outdoor seating and a back room that can be rented out for special events and meetings.

The city's TIF grant will foot the bill for the restaurant and bar remodel; however, the remaining balance of the \$549,899 project, including a second floor apartment remodel, will come from owner investments.

In other business, the council heard a heartfelt farewell from longtime City of Tuscola police officer Cliff Ponder. In recent years, Ponder has stepped down from his fulltime role on the force, but has stayed active as a part-time officer. However, he's at a point with his business that he has issued his official resignation.

"It's been awesome here," he said. "I can remember wanting to be a part of this agency when I was in high school and I am strug-

gling with stepping aside now, but it's the right time. I will miss working for the city, and I greatly appreciate everything that Chief Hastings has done for all of us. He is a man of integrity and has also had a huge part in making this the best job I ever had."

He thanked the council for the opportunity to serve the city throughout the past decades.

"My father used to say to me that there is no other place in the entire world where the security and the rights of 5,000 people are more important than they are right here in Tuscola, Ill. He told me to take this job very seriously if I was going to step away from the family farm to do it."

In other business, City Administrator Drew Hoel explained the \$168,500 discrepancy in the Joint Water Agency billing with the City of Arcola.

"Back in 2007 the Joint Water Agency, which is Arcola and Tuscola together, entered into an agreement to sell water to West Prairie Water Company," Hoel explained. "The City of Arcola sold the first 100,000 gallons per day, that agreement had been in place some years prior to that, and starting in 2007 the Joint Water Agency sold up to 150,000 gallons per day."

In 2010 a second water meter, unbeknownst to Tuscola officials, was installed from Arcola's pipeline. West Prairie interconnected with the supply line at that second point, Hoel explained.

"The error was that Arcola did not report to us the second meter readings, only the first," he said. "I think it was an honest error. There internal procedures are such that they send us the meter readings every week, and they kept doing that, except for now there was another meter."

The result of that oversight is a fairly substantial amount of water that should have been billed by the Joint Water Agency rather than by the City of Arcola.

"We have gone back and reconciled that," Hoel said. "We first met with the Joint Agency Board to inform them of the issue. We informed you in writing, then (City Treasurer) Alta (Long) and her counterpart in Arcola reconciled those figures independently. It's extremely complex accounting and billing going back eight or nine years. We were hoping they would get somewhere within the same ballpark, and I was absolutely shocked to learn they got to within \$66 of each other."

The water agency will work with a third-party, independent accounting firm to verify the amount owed before the City of Arcola begins work to repay the agency.

"The impact of that affects the fund balance of the joint agency," Hoel said. "The most current number we have is that Arcola owns about 47 percent of the Joint Water Agency and 53 percent of it is owned by us. When people use terms like they owe us, it's not entirely true."

"Arcola has acknowledged their error, and they have been good to work

with," Hoel added. "I don't want to portray this as any animosity between our staffs. They made an honest mistake, and they are working with us to get to the bottom of it."

Also, the council waived formal bidding for the end bearings replacement before approving a service proposal with DPS Equipment Services, Inc. in the amount of \$25,500.

In other business, the council:

- Learned the city is preparing to demo the City Hall sign on the intersection of Main and Pembroke before preliminary work begins to replace the sign.

- Learned Kleiss will be awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the East Central Illinois Economic Development Corp.

- Approved the award for the annual oil and chip to Earl Walker Co. in the amount of \$68,410.44.

- Approved the preliminary engineering and construction guidance agreement with James E. Crane in the amount of 7.5 percent of the awarded contract.

- Approved the temporary summer employee appointments of David Frye as assistant manager of the Tuscola pool and Audrey Henningsen as a lifeguard.

- Approved the payment of bills in the amount of \$134,324.22.

- Approved a street closures for the Downtown Artisan Market and Outdoor Movie nights.

- Approved the minutes from the April 23 city council meeting.

- Adjourned until the

<p>Two 14" Thin Crust Pizzas with 1 Topping each</p> <p>Must buy in multiples of two. Limit 2 Offers.</p> <p>\$23⁵⁰ Additional toppings may be purchased. Upgrade to a 16" for an additional charge.</p> <p>Dine-In, Carry-Out & Delivery. No Coupon Required.</p> <p>Must mention offer. Call restaurant or visit www.monicals.com for terms & conditions. Certain restrictions apply. Delivery charges may apply. Available at participating Monical's Pizza® locations. Offer Expires 5/27/18</p>	<p>16" Thin Crust Pizza with 1 Topping</p> <p>\$15²⁵ Additional toppings may be purchased.</p> <p>Dine-In, Carry-Out & Delivery. Coupon Required. Limit 2.</p> <p>Must show coupon. Call restaurant or visit www.monicals.com for terms & conditions. Certain restrictions apply. Delivery charges may apply. Available at participating Monical's Pizza® locations. Offer Expires 5/27/18</p>
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