



The TUSCOLA JOURNAL

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Journal Entries

"Raise your words, not your voice. It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder."
—Rumi

Baccalaureate Service

The Tuscola Area Ministerial Association (TAMA) presents the annual TCHS Baccalaureate service Sunday May 20th 2018 at 7 p.m. at TCHS gymnasium. This ecumenical service for the 2018 Tuscola Seniors will feature encouragement through song, recognition of each Senior and guest speaker Steve Ingram. All attending Seniors will receive a free gift. Students are asked to wear their graduation gowns but not their caps. To RSVP call 217-253-2394.

Correction

In the May 2 edition of The Tuscola Journal Mackenzie Fleener and Marley Good were misidentified in the JV softball photo and the seventh grade track photo.

SIU-E Commencement

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville completed 2018 Spring commencement exercises for 2,091 eligible graduates Friday and Saturday, May 4-5 in the Vadalabene Center on campus. Among those degree candidates was Tuscola's Brooke Bryson, who graduated with a master's degree of biological sciences.

Dean's List

Stephen Gibson of Tuscola qualified for the Spring 2018 Dean's List at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C. Approximately 30 percent of Belmont's 8,080 students qualified for the Spring 2018 Dean's List.

Dine with a Doc

Jarman Center is happy to sponsor Dine With A Doc on Thursday, May 24 at 11:30 a.m. The featured speaker is Kaye Dent, J.D. of Frisse and Brewster Law Offices in Effingham. Kaye speaks frequently to public groups regarding Estate Planning, Nursing Home Planning, Special Needs issues and other topics. Dine With A Doc is a free program that welcomes the local senior public to hear an educational topic, while enjoying a complimentary lunch. Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 23 to reserve a spot for lunch.

Relationship Workshop

What makes a relationship work? Learn more in a one-day workshop for singles and couples led by Ralph Deal, minister and counselor. This class will be a combination of the latest information from John Gottman and the PREP Program. It will help participants to understand the dynamics of healthy relationships and to gain the essential skills to make a relationship work. The class will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 19 with a one hour lunch break at the Tuscola United Church of Christ. To register call 217-372-4727 or email dealralph5@aol.com.

Outdoor Movie

Tuscola Tourism and the Tuscola Public Library have teamed up again for the Artisan Market and Outdoor Movie. The summer series kicks off Friday, May 18 with a showing of Coco at Festival Corner in downtown Tuscola. The market will open at 5:30 p.m. and the movie will begin at dusk.

Regional Tournaments

TCHS will host the baseball and softball IHSA Regional tournament. Baseball action began Monday, May 14, though Tuscola (1) won't begin tournament play until Wednesday, May 16 at 4 p.m. Tuscola softball will open their tournament at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 15.

Stamp Out Hunger Results

Thank you to everyone who helped with the mail carriers' Stamp Out Hunger food drive. A total of 2,900 pounds of food was collected for SAM Food Pantry.



Oliver Dunn, Tuscola, was super excited about the cows at the TCHS Ag and FFA petting zoo.

TCHS student and FFA member, Hans Goodmann, held a goat so the Northward students could pet it at the FFA and Ag petting zoo.



City gives support for proposed downtown restaurant

By Kayleigh Rahn

Irma Lou Bailey was known for her delicious food as well—and maybe more importantly—her hospitality. In the Bailey household on South Main Street everyone had a seat at the over-sized dining room table, and her grandson Kenny

Hogue Jr. is hoping to continue that tradition with a new restaurant in downtown Tuscola. During its meeting Tuesday, May 14, the Tuscola City Council approved a Tax Increment Financing Grant in the amount of \$195,000 for Kenny and Angela Hogue to fund a portion of the overhaul of the former Downtown

Diner, 125 W. Sale Street to create sister businesses—Irma Lou's Kitchen and Cast Iron Pub. Mayor Dan Kleiss said he spoke with Hogue last week prior to his move home. "He said he was excited about this opportunity, and I think he is thrilled at the idea of moving home to raise his family," Kleiss said.

Hogue, a TCHS graduate, most recently worked for Air BNB in the San Francisco Bay Area and has spent about 15 years gaining culinary experience on both coasts. "Irma Lou's and the Cast Iron Pub will give Tuscola something

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Clelands move forward with a Promise and a prayer

By Kayleigh Rahn

Spencer Cleland is making good on a promise. Since Jan. 1 she has served as director of Tuscola's Promise Christian Academy. The former Wee Warriors program is now a not-for-profit educational facility with Cleland and her husband Duffy at the helm, along with a board of directors. Cleland had been working at the school, on and off, since it opened about seven years ago. Her

three children attended the school when she fell in love with the program. "I saw how great it was then," she said. "Then when I heard the previous owner was going to step down I couldn't see this school going under or closing, so I just put my hat in the ring to take it over. I have a love for all the kids here and a friendship with all the teachers. I feel I was chosen, because He previously closed the door at my job. I prayed about it and asked that He

show me the door for what is next. The next day is when I got the phone call from the previous owner about coming back to teach. I felt led to do this." "Everything is going in the right direction," she added. And that includes the new name, which is a personal statement for Cleland. "It was my way of saying I promise to take your child in to my heart, treat them as my own, give them everything they need, and to

support them in their education," she said. The not-for-profit is overseen by a board of directors who drafted a mission statement. "Promise Christian Academy's mission is to provide a happy, loving, and secure environment where children can learn, grow, and develop socially, emotionally, physically, intellectually, and spiritually in a program run by a dedicated, professional staff. We envi-

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Photo: Rachel Ray
TCHS recognized their Special Olympians with a pep rally before they compete at the Special Olympics on May 12. Results from the Special Olympics Games are: Bri Wait - Gold 100 Meters; Taylor Revell - Silver 100 Meters; Mikayla Helmuth - Gold 100 Meters; Luke Reed - Gold 50 Meters; Bryant Price - Silver 400 Meters; and Connie Pinson - Silver Tennis Ball Throw and Bronze 400 Meters.



'Reading takes you everywhere' in Summer 2018

By Kayleigh Rahn

Sign up is underway at Tuscola Public Library for the 2018 Summer Read Program. "Reading takes you everywhere!" is this year's theme that highlights a reader's ability to visit any place and time, in both reality and fantasy, with a simple turn of a page. This year's program will run for five weeks, Monday, May 28 through Friday, June 29, with the week of July 2 serving as a catch up week, according to Library Director Devin Black. Several year's ago, the library overhauled the program to freshen up the traditional program for readers both young and younger.

The reading challenge includes three age groups—children, teens, and adults. Children are challenged to read 20 minutes per day, while teens and adults are asked to read 30 minutes each day. "We are flexible," Black said. "I'm not picky about how you total your minutes, as long as you are reading." Adults also have an option to complete five challenges rather than reading. The nine challenge options are mostly linked to travel to fit this year's program theme. Challenges include: attending travel club at the library June 26, attend a local festival, check out a foreign film from the library or visit a foreign-food restaurant and



show a photo of the menu, among others. Children who complete the reading challenge and turn in their reading logs will receive small prizes (sponsored by Tuscola Kiwanis Club) each week and

will be placed into the drawing for the grand prize family pool pass for the summer of 2019, compliments of the city. Teens who complete all five weeks will receive a \$10 Amazon gift card (sponsored by Kris Clodfelder

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