

ARTHUR GRAPHIC-CLARION

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2019

Serving Eastern Moultrie, Western Douglas, and Southern Piatt Counties

Arthur, Illinois 61911



LOVC NORTHWEST CHAMPIONS. Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond girls' basketball team brought home the Little Okaw Valley Conference Northwest Division title last week. The Knights defeated Blue Ridge and Arcola to capture the trophy. Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond will play Tri-County for the all-LOVC title at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday night in Arthur. The contest was rescheduled from Saturday due to weather. Front

row, left to right: Shaylie Miller, Jolynn Barbee, Shae Slabaugh, Marissa Herschberger, Emma Harris, Alexa Miller, and Addi Tinkle. Second row: Assistant Coach Tracy Hood, Abby Abercrombie, Annie Snyder, Nisa Asghar, Mallory Nichols, Marcy Petersheim, Makenzi Bowles, Taylor Nichols, Mackenzie Brown, Head Coach Mac Condill, and Assistant Coach Brianne Eads. Story on Page Six. Photo courtesy of Jann Harris

District 305 teachers, staff participate in ALICE training on first day back from Christmas break

By **ROGER W. BONHAM**
Managing Editor

District 305 administrators, teachers, and support staff joined local law enforcement officials to participate in ALICE Training on Monday, January 7.

The program offers training in how to react to potential threats in schools.

High school principal Stefanie Seegmiller talked about the program during the Wednesday, January 16, school board meeting.

Principal Seegmiller received many positive comments from faculty who felt "empowered and prepared" after participating in the training.

High school assistant principal Jared Vanausdoll and area police officers attended a training session prior to presenting the program to the school faculty. Vanausdoll helped plan the January 7 session.

He said many schools have already adopted the program.

"We are catching up," he said.

Arthur Grade School principal Sage Hale said it was a good experience. The program offered training in how to handle many scenarios, she explained.

"Jared and the officers did a great job.

Seegmiller said they spent over two hours working through specific scenarios at the high school.

"We plan to bring the information to our parents and then to our students within the next month."

Similar meetings for parents will be held in Atwood and Lovington, she added.

Also Wednesday, the school board hired Jordan Morris to teach junior high math beginning next school year (2019-2020) at Lovington Grade School.

District Superintendent Kenny Schwengel reported he was contacted by Future Green Energy Consortium, a business that deals in selling and setting up solar energy systems.

Superintendent Schwengel said he would put the offer on the agenda for next month's meet-

ing. "You are not obligated to go solar; this is just an option, and you have time to discuss it."

He also plans to set up a review of pay for substitute teachers working in the district.

"We are at \$85 per day now; most other schools pay \$90 or more," he said.

Work on the portions of the flat roof at the high school remains incomplete.

"We owe the contractor \$28,000 and we won't pay it until the work is finished and the warranty is in place," Schwengel said.

It is only January, but the list of summer projects is grow-

ing. Work projects include finishing the high school roof over the gym foyer and boiler room, remodeling the restrooms at Arthur Grade School, and upgrading the baseball diamond at Lovington.

School board president Jake Kamm, on behalf of the board, expressed appreciation for Audrey Fleener's 25 years of service as school board secretary (at Arthur and Atwood-Hammond).

Fleener is retiring in February. Haley McGrath was hired to fill the position and has been working alongside Fleener this month.

The board approved a resolution appointing McGrath as the district's IMRF authorized agent.

Vanausdoll, who is also high school athletic director, reported that 60 students—20 girls and 40 boys—signed up to participate in track.

In addition, 25 students are participating on the high school Scholastic Bowl team.

Vanausdoll reported the junior high boys basketball teams did well in the conference tournaments. The eighth grade won their tournament, and the seventh grade placed second in their competition.

High School Principal's Report

Freshman Orientation will be held February 12 at Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond

High School. Inclement weather date is February 27.

The construction class completed the winter decoration fundraiser. Students built over 90 trees that they sold to school and community members, raising more than \$400 for the Industrial Technology Fund that is used to purchase material for end of the year projects.

Faculty hosted a cookie party for students before school on Friday during final exams.

"We had cookies and milk before heading into the final stretch of exams," Seegmiller said. "We even had a surprise

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STUDENTS TOUR CHI. Last week, CHI President Dave Bangert showed the Douglas County CEO students a portion of the million-square foot facility in Arthur where garage doors are manufactured before being sent all across the country. Bangert shared how CHI is

a family that focuses on core values of quality, service, and continuous improvement. Several prospective students visited the CEO class on the tour to gain a better understanding of what they can expect if they join next year's program. Photo courtesy of Douglas County CEO

News Briefs

Winter Crop Seminar planned for January 31 in Tuscola

Country Financial and Illinois Farm Bureau will present a Winter Crop Seminar on Thursday, January 31, at Douglas County Ag Center, 900 S. Washington Street, Tuscola.

The seminar includes a 2019 crop insurance update.

Registration begins at 9:45 a.m. and will be followed by presentations at 10 and lunch at noon. Speakers include Doug Yoder, Country Financial crop agency manager, and Bruce Henrikson, Star program.

The informative session is one in a series of seminars to be held throughout Illinois to help farmers plan and prepare for a successful season.

Seminar topics include Federal Crop Insurance offerings, using drones to provide aerial views for crop monitoring, navigating the crop insurance claim process should devastation hit your farm, and a market outlook on grain prices for 2019.

For a list of additional scheduled seminars, visit countrycrop.com.

February 2 chili supper and auction will benefit EMTs

Arthur EMT Association will hold its Annual Chili Supper and Auction on Saturday evening, February 2.

Proceeds from the event are used to fund local training events for the EMTs. The fundraiser will be held at the firehouse, 323 West Columbia (Route 133 West) in Arthur.

Serving will be 4 to 8 p.m. with the auction beginning at 6.

Arthur EMT Association members will soon be out in the community seeking donations for the auction. Items will be collected up to and including the day of the auction.

Anyone having an item to contribute to the fundraiser should contact the EMT Association at (217) 543-3754.

They will arrange for picking up the items, or for someone to be at the firehouse so the donor can drop off the item. Please contact the EMT Association ahead of time to assure someone will be at the firehouse to receive the donated items being dropped off.

Everyone is invited to attend and support Arthur EMT Association.

Rep. Halbrook to conduct traveling office hours in Arthur

State Representative Brad Halbrook will conduct traveling office hours from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 23, in Arthur.

Rep. Halbrook will be available in the Village Board Room at the Municipal Building, 120 East Progress Street, to talk with residents and answer questions.

Have a Great Week!