



The TUSCOLA JOURNAL

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Journal Entries

"Spend each day trying to be a little wiser than when you woke up."

Coaches vs Cancer

The 10th annual Coaches vs Cancer event during the Tuesday, Jan. 15 boys' basketball game raised \$1,758 for the American Cancer society. Great work to all who planned, prepared, and participated in the great event!

SIU-E Dean's List

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has announced the names of students qualifying for the Fall 2018 Dean's List. To qualify, a student must maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or better and have 12 hours calculated (B is equivalent to 3.0; A to 4.0). Tuscola students named to the list include: Taylor Bosch, accountancy; Michelle Porter, accountancy; Elizabeth Rund, mass communications; and Cassidy Westjohn, art.

5Essentials Survey

Tuscola parents have been invited to take the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, which is open through Friday, Feb. 15. A link to the survey can be found online at the Tuscola schools homepage.

Boys' CIC Tournament

The Tuscola boys' basketball team has been named the #4 seed in the 2019 Central Illinois Conference tournament. The Warriors will face Meridian (#5 seed) in the opening round at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 at Warrensburg Latham (#3 seed).

Girls' CIC Tournament

The Tuscola girls (#5 seed) topped Clinton (#4 seed) in the first round of CIC tournament action on Monday, Jan. 21. The girls will move on to face Sullivan (#1) seed at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23 at St. Teresa.

Prom Dress Sale

The annual Miss Moultrie Douglas Pageant Prom Dress Sale will be at the Tuscola mall in Store A1100 Jan. 25-27. The pop up store will be open Friday, Jan. 25 from 5-9 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 26 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 27 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Gently used formal dresses can be put into the sale for \$5. Dress owners price the dress, and if it sells you keep the proceeds. Dress drop off will be Jan. 21-23 from 5-7 p.m.

It's Sub Time

Tuscola MOPS will be selling sub sandwiches just in time for Superbowl Sunday. The sub sandwiches will be made with LaGondola bread. Orders can be made by emailing tuscolamops.finance@gmail.com or calling/texting 217-508-6761. Orders are due Friday, Jan. 25.

Tuscola Shopko to remain open despite bankruptcy

The Tuscola Shopko store is not on the list of 105 that will be closed as part of a bankruptcy filing and court-supervised financial restructuring filed by the company on Wednesday.

The Chapter 11 bankruptcy was filed by Specialty Retail Shops Holding Corp., Shopko's parent company, along with 12 of its subsidiaries.

"The company is seeking to facilitate the restructuring as a result of excess debt and ongoing competitive pressures," stated a

press release issued by the retailer. "The petitions have been filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nebraska. During the restructuring process, Shopko will continue to operate and serve its customers, vendors, partners and employees.

Shopko was already in the midst of shuttering at least 60 locations, and added 38 more to the list with its bankruptcy announcement.

Shopko has obtained up to \$480 million in debtor-in-posses-

sion financing from secured lenders to help fund and protect its operations during the Chapter 11 process, which will include the relocation of 20 optical centers to freestanding locations and auctioning off its pharmacy business.

A company spokesman confirmed to The Tuscola Journal that there is no closure of the Tuscola store planned and shoppers should not see changes to the store or its operations at this time.

The Tuscola location does have a pharmacy but not an opti-

cal center. The store at 700 S. Progress Blvd. housed a Pamida store until 2012, when it was converted to a Shopko Hometown location after the two companies merged.

Among the stores to close are ones in Dwight and Mount Carmel. There are currently 11 stores in Illinois

The entire list of locations to be closed can be found at <http://info.shopko.com/closing-locations.pdf>.



East Prairie Middle School Spelling Bee winners pictured from left are seventh grader Catie Gibson—first place, fifth grader Braxton Moody—second place, and fifth grader Jazmine West third place. Catie won by correctly spelling "garrison."

Photo: Rachel Ray



East Prairie sixth grader Emily Veach participates in the East Prairie Middle School Spelling Bee Tuesday, Jan. 15.

Photo: Rachel Ray

Douglas County dispatchers to receive software upgrade, board says

By Kayleigh Rahn

The Douglas County Board, during its meeting Wednesday, Jan. 16, approved a \$274,917 purchase through the sheriff's office to upgrade the dispatching software.

The software licensing and service system from

Zuercher Technologies, which will be financed through Arcola First Bank, will update the public safety software suite used by Douglas County E911 dispatchers. The sheriff's office will pitch in \$164,743 for the purchase while Douglas County E911 will cover \$110,174.

"It's our dispatching software as well as the software we'll use to do our reports," Sheriff Josh Blackwell said. "It will allow us to become more efficient. Right now when someone gets brought into the Sheriff's office. It could take an officer up to 45 minutes to book them. By

upgrading the software it allows us to pre-book, which would move that time down to 15 minutes."

The upgrade will also allow E911 to dispatch more efficiently, Blackwell said. Currently when a resident calls in for assistance, the dispatcher manually logs the

caller's name, contact information, and location into the CAD system. With the upgrade, that data will be digitally imported to the system.

"The dispatcher will be able to see the location of officers in real time," Blackwell said. "So the dispatcher

will be able to log the chief complaint and see which officer is closest."

The officer is then able to read, in real time, the situation.

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Lyondell takes leadership role in global effort to end plastic waste

LyondellBasell, one of the largest plastics, chemicals and refining companies in the world today announced CEO Bob Patel has joined with Procter & Gamble CEO David Taylor and Veolia CEO Antoine Frérot in leading the newly announced global Alliance to End Plastic Waste (AEPW).

The AEPW is the first-ever international coalition of chemical and plastics manufacturers, converters, con-

sumer goods companies, retailers and waste management companies dedicated to partnering with the finance community, government, and environmental and economic development NGOs to find market-based solutions to ending plastic waste in the environment. LyondellBasell is a founding member of AEPW.

"From helping to reduce food waste and improving healthcare products to cutting fuel consumption and emissions from lightweight vehicles, there is no doubt that plastics have played a positive role in improving quality of

life for billions of people around the world," said LyondellBasell CEO Bob Patel. "But like so many other products, responsibly managing their disposal or reuse has become a concern — not just for governments or NGOs, but for all of us."

The nearly 30 companies and organizations that comprise the AEPW have a goal to commit \$1.5 billion over the next five years to develop and bring to scale solutions that will minimize and manage plastic waste and promote post-use solutions.

"This approach is unique because it brings

together and focuses the efforts and knowledge of plastics producers, consumer goods companies and retailers, as well as waste management companies," Patel said. "Having the resources and knowledge of the entire global value chain under one umbrella with the same goal is really very powerful."

AEPW focus areas
The AEPW's efforts will focus on four key pillars:

- Infrastructure development to collect

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