

Clinton County News

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The Swine Production Placement State Proficiency Winner was Zach Kampwerth of Central Breese. Pictured are (L-R) Harley Carlson, advisor; Zach Kampwerth, recipient; and his parents Tanya Kampwerth and Matt Kampwerth.

Central and Wesclin FFAs Earn State Convention Honors

Members of the Central Breese and Wesclin FFA chapters were recognized during the 93rd annual Illinois FFA State Convention, hosted in-person and virtually throughout the state over two weeks this summer.

With a 2021 theme of "Dare to Be," the convention annually recognizes achievements of Illinois FFA members, elects the major state officer team, and celebrates agriculture. In response to continuing coronavirus concerns,

Illinois' FFA State Association officer team and staff adjusted the convention to honor achievements in-person, at three different outdoor venues for smaller groups.

During the convention, the following awards were presented to the Central Breese FFA chapter.

-Foundation \$3,000 Club Award Recipient: The chapter was recognized for coordinating a local campaign for the Illinois Foundation FFA which raised at least \$3,000. The chapter's fundraising

total was \$3,000.

-Swine Production Placement State Proficiency Winner: Zach Kampwerth is the son of Matt and Tanya Kampwerth of Bartelso. Zach is a member of the Central Breese FFA Chapter and his FFA advisor is Harley Carlson. For his Supervised Agricultural Experience, Zach keeps records on his job at his family's farrow-to-finish swine operation.

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Bank of Belleville To Open Three New Banks Including Bank of Clinton County

By Dennis Grubaugh
Herald Publications

Three new banks representing one of the largest financial industry expansions in many years in Southwestern Illinois are in various stages of making their debuts.

After two years of planning, Bank of Belleville is rolling out the Bank of Madison County, Bank of Clinton County and Bank of Monroe County.

The Bank of Clinton County, located on Hanover Street in New Baden, will open sometime in June, and the Bank of Monroe County in Waterloo in September/October.

The Bank of Madison County opened in a temporary location at Main and Vandalia streets in Edwardsville in April. Plans call for opening a permanent facility in 2022 in a building the bank has purchased further south on Main Street.

"It depends on the construction season," said Ron Stephens, president and CEO of the Bank of Belleville.

Meanwhile, a growing team is already in place to begin serving those markets, and even without the official opening in Clinton and Monroe counties, the reception "has been amazing," he said.

It's part of a strategy the bank has been working on the last few years.

"We think we've got a recipe that works well. Hire good people, have good processes, take care of people, and it works," he said.

The bases of operation were chosen by the bank presidents themselves.

The bank has hired veterans of Southwestern Illinois banking to lead the new operations. The market presidents in Monroe and Clinton counties were hired two years ago. Ryan Osterhage is market president in Monroe

County. Todd Juehne is president in Clinton County.

Paul Abert, an Edwardsville native and longtime local banker, was hired almost a year ago to be market president of the Bank of Madison County.

"Paul is somebody that several of us at the bank have known for 25 or 30 years. We used to work together back in the day and remained friends, and close," Stephens said. "When the opportunity came up to join forces, it made sense. You like to pick people you know, you like to pick people that are known in the market. When you think of the boxes you want to check, he checked a lot of those for us."

Juehne was previously a banker in New Baden and had lived years in that area.

"That's where he and his team are from so it made sense to put the bank there," Stephens said of Juehne.

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Spring Sports Draw To A Close For Area Teams

By Larry Thoeming
Clinton County News

Softball season came to a close last week, as both Mater Dei and Wesclin girls lost in Regional play. The Lady Warriors went down 3-1 to Carlyle, while the Lady Knights lost a slugfest to Breese Central by a 12-9 count.

Highlighting the offense for Wesclin were Bailey Bell, with a pair of hits, and Lexie Oster, Hailey Rakers, Ava Spalding, Georgia Litteken, Grace Travirus, and Abbie Oster each had one hit. Erin Harpstrite started the game and Rakers finished, going the last four innings without allowing a run. The Warrior girls finished with a 6-13 mark for the Spring.

Mater Dei fought hard against their crosstown foes, and led 3-0 before Central erupted for 6 runs in the top of

the 5th. The Lady Knights plated 2 in their half of that frame, and the teams traded runs until the game was knotted at 7-7 after the seventh, both teams notched two runs in the eighth and none in the ninth. Central scored 3 unanswered runs in their half of the 10th to gain the gritty victory and send Mater Dei home empty-handed. MD, with a roster filled with underclassmen, finished 14-12 on the season.

Wesclin's Boys lost to Carlyle without much fanfare to finish 7-6 on the year.

Mater Dei's Boys beat Roxana by a 1-0 count behind a stellar pitching effort by Reed Braundmeier, who scattered 6 hits while striking out 9. Landon Albers knocked in Grant Cox in the fourth inning for the lone score of the game. The win sent MD up against the powerful Freeburg Midgets for the Regional crown. Results of that game will be in next week's Clinton County News.

Unsightly Local Property Be Cleared

By Randy Pierce
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NEW BADEN - Clean-up of a deteriorated property at the 300 block of South 9th Street in New Baden is moving forward as a result of action taken by its village board of trustees Monday, June 7.

The board voted unanimously to call for bids for the demolition of a mobile home structure and complete restoration of the property to its original state. The bids will be due by 2 p.m. on Friday, June 18, then the

village board will vote on the awarding of a contract for the demolition at its next meeting set for Monday, June 21.

The work will include not only the complete removal of the trailer at this location but also the existing debris, foundation, footing and the pad upon which the structure currently sits.

Mayor Taylor Zurliene explained that the village had pursued and obtained a court order to bring about this pending clean-up project. He also mentioned that a property lien has been procured

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Police Activity Shared With Village Board

By Randy Pierce
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NEW BADEN - Activity involving calls answered by the local police department was presented to the New Baden Village Board of Trustees at its meeting held Monday, June 7.

Among the seven items presented by Police Chief Charles Mackin were circumstances involving a man under the care of the Royal Living Center at 400 block of Franklin.

This individual has been

leaving the residence without permission and allegedly entered the garages of two homes nearby, stealing a soda from one and breaking a lamp in the other. Mackin said the police are working with the center to address this situation.

There have been problems at the community park, Mackin stated, with juveniles throwing toilet paper in bathrooms, break gazebo spindles, climbing on the roofs of the gazebo and baseball

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