

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

LLC joins nation in celebrating Community College Month this April

Lake Land College Board Chair Doris Reynolds led a celebration of national Community College Month at the regular board meeting on April 12.

"Lake Land College is very excited to be joining community colleges throughout the state of Illinois and the entire nation in celebrating National Community College Month this April. Just like we do here at Lake Land, community colleges provide opportunities for people to change their lives through the power of an education. We help people transfer their lives, and in turn, their families and their communities," Reynolds said.

She then read a proclamation from Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker that highlighted the valuable role community colleges have in Illinois including the following facts:

- Community Colleges in Illinois educate 60 percent of the students enrolled in



Submitted Photo

Lake Land College Board Chair Doris Reynolds led a celebration of national Community College Month at the regular board meeting on April 12. Pictured are 2020-21 Student Trustee Lucas Dudit and Board Chair Doris Reynolds.

Illinois public higher education, according to the Illinois Community College Board.

- Illinois is the first in the

nation in bachelor's degree completion rate among community college students who transfer, with 54 percent of

these students completing their degrees.

- Nine out of 10 of the state's community college

graduates live, work, pay taxes and raise their families in Illinois.

- Earning an associate of applied science degree or long-term certificate from an Illinois community college adds \$570,000 in lifetime earnings.

- Nearly 74 percent of Illinois employers have hired a community college graduate.

- Illinois community colleges have partnered with local school districts to offer 11,270 dual credit courses to 59,039 high school students.

The proclamation goes on to state, "Illinois community colleges share a common mission to prepare people for the workforce, to transfer students to other colleges and universities, and to continually respond to the communities they serve through adult, literacy, and continuing education services."

Reynolds concluded the celebration by stating, "On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express

our gratitude to the administration, faculty and staff for always putting students first in all that you do. National Community College month is a great opportunity to recognize the vital role Lake Land College plays in our community and in the state. We take this charge seriously and always strive for excellence."

Founded in 1966, Lake Land College offers pathways to successful careers, including programs that lead immediately to the workforce and those that prepare students to transfer. The college provides customized business training, adult education, alternative high school education, GED and English as a Second Language programs, as well as educational programs to correctional centers throughout the state. The main campus is located in Mattoon, Illinois with extension centers in Effingham, Marshall and Pana.

Votes are in for April 6 Consolidated Election throughout Douglas County

By Kendra Hennis

With 100 percent of the precincts reporting, the votes are in for the 2021 Consolidated Election in Douglas County.

Tuscola

In the Tuscola Board of Education election, James (Wade) Wilcox claimed 35 percent of the vote, and the seat for Ward 1. Incumbent Jessi Young was also voted to keep her seat. Write-in candidate Levi Miller will also join the board from Ward 4.

All City Officials ran unopposed and were voted to keep their seats. Those include, Mayor Dan Kleiss; City Clerk Elizabeth Leamon; Ward 1 Alderman Alan Shoemaker; Ward 1 Alderman Juanita Brace; Ward 2 Alderman Scott Day; Ward 3 Alderman Troy Rund; Ward 4 Alderman Tim Hoey; and Ward 4 Alderman Michael Morris.

Also reclaiming their positions are Tuscola Township Supervisor Stephen Hilgen-dorf; Tuscola Township Supervisor Barbara Alexander; Tuscola Township Assessor Laura VanCleave; Tuscola Township Highway Com-

missioner Danny Cleland; Tuscola Township Trustees David Lecher, Randy Hastings, Darlene Wiesener, and Holly Pflum.

Villa Grove

Remaining in their seats in Villa Grove are Mayor Cassandra Eversole-Gunter; City Clerk Michelle Osborne; Ward 1 Alderman Matthew Pangburn; Ward 2 Alderman Kerry Cheely; Ward 3 Alderman Thelma "Boots" Blaney; and Board of Education members Carisa Jones and Charles Mitsdarfer.

Camargo

Winners include Village Clerk Village President Bart Dann; Clerk Salisa Dann; Full-Term Trustees Laura Miller, Gary Gilpin, and Jeane Breiland, Two Year Trustee Jim Lansford; Township Supervisor Kent Elam; Highway Commissioner James (Frank) Miller; Township Clerk Deborah Cox; Trustees Richard Crouse, Peter Eisenmenger, Bernice Mitchell, and James Bragg; and Library District Trustee Amy Rose and Mary Hildreth.

Arcola

Jesus Garza was elected



Wade Wilcox; Winner - Tuscola BOE Seat Ward 4

the new mayor of Arcola. Other winners include Ward 1 Alderman Jose Becerra; City Clerk Carol Turner; Treasurer Rita Anderson; Ward 2 Alderman James Hensley; Township Supervisor John "Corky" Clark; Township Clerk Zachary Domelt; Assessor Melissa Petrie; Highway Commissioner Mark Nacke; Trustees Adlai "Butch" Mast, Gary Sente, Robert "Butch" Clark, and Dale Knowles; Board of Education members Sue Stout and Lucas Shonkwiler; and Library District Trustees



Matt Pangburn; Winner - VG City Council Ward 1 Alderman

Lynda Fishel, Deborah Sosamon, Allen Yoder, and Mark Eadie.

Arthur

Elected officials include Village President Rod Randall; Clerk Rhonda Rhodes; Full-Term Trustees David Tiffan, H. Michael Hilgenberg, and Jim Fleming; Two-Year Trustee Matt Bernius; Two Year-Term Park District Commissioner Mark Krutsinger; Full-Term Park District Commissioners Danny Miller and Kevin Strong; Public Library District Trust-

ees John Stewart and Stevi Stutzman; Board of Education Members Kristie Mechling, Suzanne Berkich, and Ryan Nettles.

Atwood

Elected officials in the Village of Atwood include Village President Bill Fleming; Clerk in Nancy Wierman; Full-Term Trustees Allen Kibler and Scott Harris; Two-Year Trustee Ronald Wallace; Public Library District Trustees Catherine Adcock, Amanda Barbee, and Lynsey Herring; Supervisor Kevin Duffe, and Fire Protection District Trustee Travis Tiffan.

Bowdre

Allyson Wise was elected Bowdre Township Clerk. Other elected officials include Highway Commissioner James Hendrix; and Trustees Garrett Stenger, Scott Warfel, Steve Prosser, and Ryan Albin.

Bourbon

Elected officials in Bourbon included Township Supervisor Terry Ferchow; Township Clerk Jodi Clayton; Assessor Mary Kingery; Highway Commissioner Steve Helton; and Trust-

ees Michael Kingery, Daryl Earnst, Joe Gingerich, and Ervin Crist.

Garrett

Rocky Warner was elected Garrett Village President. Other winners include Full-Term Trustees Carol Hardig and Donald Issler; Two-Year Trustee Eli Stutzman; Township Supervisor Gary Appleby; Township Clerk Mary Appleby; Assessor Allen Romine; Highway Commissioner Ed Swisher; Trustees Matthew Perkins, Howard Kamm, Curtis Harshbarger, and David Stumeier.

Hindsboro

Elected officials in the Village of Hindsboro included Village President Kent Douglas; Village Clerk Danielle Duck; Trustees David Coleman, Nancy Hendrix, and Jane Roe.

Newman

Dennis Kibler was elected Newman City Mayor. Other elected officials include City Clerk Judy VanSickle; Ward 1 Alderman Wade Hales; Ward 2 Alderman Brandiss Wills; Ward 3

See ELECTION page 5



Historic Amish German school on the move in Arthur, Illinois. Part of Arthur's Amish history was moved on Friday, April 9 along Route 133 and through the back-roads to its new location at the Illinois Amish Heritage Center. The Miller German schoolhouse was built in 1920 and was used until 2002. In 2011 it was moved to the Miller farm two miles further west on Route 133 where it was preserved in its original historical condition by Karen Miller, whose father and grandfather taught in the school. After graduating 8th grade, the Amish youth would go there during the winter months to learn the German language as Amish church services are conducted in high German. The student and teacher's desk along with the wood/coal burning stove and original granite-ware basin are still in pristine condition. Even the original paint is still on the walls and German lessons are written on the chalkboard. Miller stated, "Today is very sentimental for me but this is where it belongs. I hope many former students will come visit and reminisce." Students paid six cents per day to attend the school and the teachers earned \$15 per month. The journey began shortly after 9:00 am as the tractor pulled the schoolhouse down Route 133 making their way through the countryside where keeping with tradition a four-horse Belgian hitch took over for part of the way and then switched back to the tractor as it arrived at its new home about three hours later. Pictured top left is Lavon Schrock driving the team of Belgian mares named Beauty, Ann, Nicky and Kalene.

Thank you Rural King!
Cross County Mall is alive and well thanks to you