

ROCKET NATION

WITH DIANE DUCEY



National volunteer week has me thinking about my hometown and how much fellow volunteers do for our community! I'm grateful to those who serve others, often times without pay, to make the world a better place! That's the case with our recent clean up day, for those who help our kids, getting involved in their education or extracurricular

activities as well as our summer festival being planned out now! Tolono Fun Day has music and a beer tent planned for June 24th and 25th in the downtown area, kids games and activities, the parade, a movie outside, shuttle rides, helicopter rides and all of these activities need people to help manage participants to keep

everyone safe and to ensure a good time is had by all! Our park programs need coaches, officials, those helping with the grounds as well as concessions.

Church groups and programs like our Giving Place or St. Pat's Food Pantry as well as programs for seniors and mothers who may need extra supplies for their family need people to step up and help manage donations. I'm so grateful for faithful friends offering such great resources to those who may be struggling. It takes someone special to be of assistance to kids who may be in a home that has parents who have issues. It's important to keep young, innocent children safe in an environment where they can prosper and I'm glad we have so many options for those who are stressed to get help if they ask. A big thanks to those who step up!



Catholic Charities Steak Dinner organizers meet to discuss the upcoming May 1 event at the Philo Tavern.

Unity Student Council Weekly Senior Spotlight



Senior Spotlight
Who did this curly haired cutie grow up to be?
This week's senior spotlight is...
Krystal Crossin!
Plans after graduation:

"I'm going to Parkland, then transferring to ISU to study education."
Best StuCo Memory or favorite thing about StuCo:
"Setting up for homecoming sophomore year was super

fun!"
Why join Student Council?
"A lot of my friends were in Student Council and I thought it would be a fun way to get involved with the school and community."

IHSA Organizational Contest featuring the Heritage High School Bass Choir, Mixed Choir, Concert Band and Jazz Band



Heritage High School Music Department on a 2nd place finish in the IHSA Sweepstakes Championship. This is a fantastic follow-up to last year's State Championship - consecutive big trophies are always a reason to celebrate. 300 points were earned through Solo & Ensemble Contest, which brought 1st place finishes in Band and Vocal points. 75 points came from the 1st Division Rating for Mixed Chorus. 37.5 points each came from 2nd Division Ratings for Bass Chorus and Concert Band. The outstanding musicians will be recognized at the Spring Concert on May 7.



Hastings; Principal For A Day Hosts Easter Egg Hunt, Lunch, Trivia and More at St. Thomas School

April 14th was a busy day for St. Thomas Catholic School's Principal for the Day, Mr. Hastings. During his buy day he could be spotted reading a story to PreK-3 and 1st grade, taking care of some office work, surprising staff with a special lunch from the Philo Tavern, being the Easter Bunny for a kindergarten egg hunt, trying to stump 6th grade with trivia questions, and giving a school tour to a new school family were some of the things he accomplished during his one day stint as principal!



Photo above: Story time with Mr. Hastings. Photo right: Hastings leads a group of kindergarten students on an Easter Egg Hunt.



Village of Philo Clean-Up Day

Annual Village of Philo clean-up day is set for Saturday, April 30 from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

patrons may be required to show proof of residency. Dumpsters will be available at the Premier Coop (elevator) lot located at the northeast corner of East Washington &

Adams Streets. Items that cannot be put in the dumpsters: Tires, Batteries (see recycling below) Paint, Motor Oil, Propane Tanks, Acid or Alkaline Products, Any other Hazardous Materials, Grass clippings, brush or other yard debris

Jesse White Announces 18th Annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition

Entry forms are now available; Deadline is June 30
Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White announced today that entry forms are available for the 18th annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Award.
"We created the Illinois Emerging Writers Competition to promote creative writing and provide an outlet

for talented writers," White said. "Great poems have the ability to enrich and enhance our lives, and I am looking forward to celebrating talented poets with this year's competition."
The competition is named in honor of the late Pulitzer Prize-winning Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks, and is co-sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book and

Illinois Poet Laureate Angela Jackson.
The competition is open to Illinois residents age 18 and over. Entries must be postmarked by June 30, 2022. Cash prizes will be awarded for first (\$500), second (\$300) and third place (\$100). Winning poems will be submitted for possible publication in the "Ninth Letter" literary arts journal, "Quiddity International Literary Journal and Public Radio Program" and "RHINO Poetry" magazine.

Winners of the Illinois Emerging Writers Competition have gone on to achieve other great accomplishments, including winning other prestigious competitions, writing screenplays and publishing books.
Entry forms can be found at ilsos.gov/departments/library/center_for_the_book/emerging-writers.html. For more information, contact Illinois Center for the Book Coordinator Bonnie Matheis at 217-558-2065 or bmatheis@ilsos.gov.

Start saving today with our LITTLE CHIEF C.D.

A premium interest rate C.D. for kids up to the age of 16.

- Current APY is 3.03% with an earnings rate of 3.00% (APY = Annual Percentage Yield)
- Deposit up to \$600.00 per year
- Open the account with as little as \$10.00
- Account will mature on the month of the child's 16th birthday.

Only one CD allowed per child's Tax Identification Number. Requires a parent, guardian, or grandparent to be on the account as a joint owner. Responsible adult on CD must maintain an active checking account. APY can change annually. Penalty for early withdrawal.

Camargo 217-832-2061 Sidney 217-688-3150
Newman 217-837-2404 St. Joseph 217-469-8866
Ogden 217-582-2175 Villa Grove 217-832-8179
Royal 217-583-3102

www.longviewbank.com

LONGVIEW BANK Member FDIC

GREAT gift for newborn babies, birthdays, Christmas

QWEN'S TREE CARE

FULL EQUIPPED AND INSURED

TREE TRIMMING, TREE REMOVAL, STUMP GRINDING

*Specializing in Large Hazardous Removals

*Free Tree Assessments and Quotes

(217) 778-8030