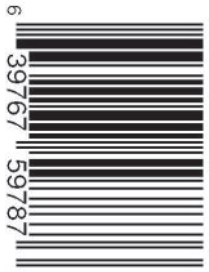


Alpaca shearing and Bumpus bench dedication in the B Section



# Arcola RECORD-HERALD



Birthplace of Johnny Gruelle, creator of Raggedy Ann & Andy

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Volume 157 — Number 2

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

## Kosic new state's attorney

ROBERT E. KOSIC was sworn into office as Douglas County State's Attorney on May 15.



## Monahan proposes broom palace Matt Henson swears in as Ward 3 alderman



PAT MONAHAN proposed building a \$600,000 "broom palace" on the old Metropolitan Block downtown if the city would donate three lots for it. He said he thinks it would draw tourists, help fill vacant buildings and be "a town changer." Photo by David Porter.

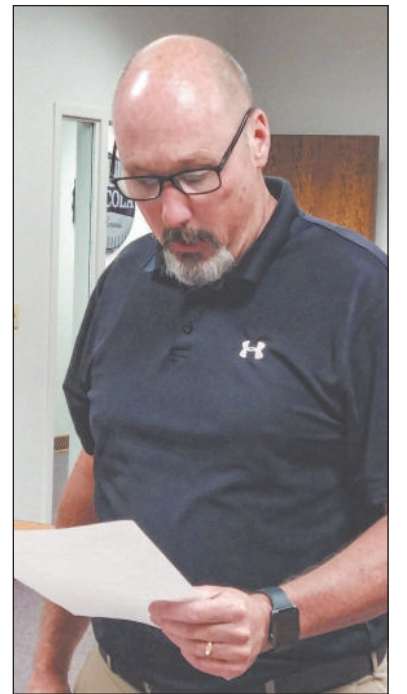
Pat Monahan wants to bring a 125-year-old icon back to downtown Arcola in a permanent way. At Monday's Arcola City Council meeting, he proposed building a \$600,000 "Broom Palace" modeled after a temporary "Broom Corn Palace" built downtown in 1898. There were other broom corn palaces over the years, but none quite as majestic as the 1898 model that drew 20,000 over five days during what was then called Harvest Festival.

That was before cars, he noted, so people had to make a real effort to get to Arcola. He said a corn palace in Mitchell, S.D., draws 500,000 tourists annually, and he thinks a broom palace would do the same for Arcola.

The proposed building would be the same size as the original palace at 45 feet by 45 feet and 32 feet tall. He said Libman Company in Arcola, the largest U.S. manufacturer of cleaning products, has committed to placing an outlet store in the building.

He said the building could also house a display of craft brooms — Arcola hosts the world craft broom competition every year. Maybe it could have a "selfie throne" for visiting kings and queens. The third floor, he said would be an observation deck "for views of downtown from an open rooftop." Large, brightly colored fiberglass brooms would decorate the exterior in homage to the city's broom and broom corn history.

See CITY COUNCIL on page 3



MATT HENSON takes the oath of office as Ward 3 alderman succeeding Homero Garza, who resigned due to work and personal obligations. Photo by David Porter.



### Blood drives

D&M Woodcrafts will host a Community blood drive 2-7 p.m. Tuesday, May 30, at 421 E. County Road 200N. To donate, call 1-800-747-5401 or visit www.bloodcenter.org. A photo ID is required, and donors will receive a gift.

The Red Cross will be hosting a blood drive at The Arcola Center on Wednesday, May 31, from 12:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

### Senior potluck

Arcola Seniors are invited to attend a potluck lunch at the Arcola Center on May 19. The lunch will begin at 11:30. Feel free to bring a dish to share.

### Quilters meet

Quilters are invited to gather Friday afternoons at 1 p.m. in the Arcola Center to share their time and mutual interests with other quilters. For information contact 217-417-1388.

## New members take seats on Arcola School Board

Prior to the regular Arcola School Board meeting last Wednesday, the Board reorganized following the recent election. Superintendent Dr. Tom Mulligan presented the four exiting board members, Craig Wesch, Chad

Strader, Jim Crane and Dr. Robert Arrol, with plaques from the school district thanking them for their many years of service to the district.

Strader reported on the election results from April 4. Newly

elected Board members incumbent Hannah Myers, Casey Conlin, incumbent Jeremy Shonkwiler and Julie Leyva-Sanchez were administered the oath of office. The Board adjourned one last time and the new Board was seated.

The new Board convened and appointed the following officers: Lucas Shonkwiler to be Board president, Sue Stout to be vice-president and Hannah Myers as

See SCHOOL BOARD on page 5



THE ARCOLA HIGH SCHOOL - the AHS Class of 2023 seniors received honors and scholarships at the annual Honor's Night held on Tuesday, May 9 in the Junior High Gym. Over \$350,000 was awarded in scholarships, including over \$23,000 from the Arcola Foundation. Pictured are members of the class who were present for the award presentations. Front row (l-r): Jose Aguilar, Maria Torres, Reyli Vega-Condarcó, J'Lea York, Ella Chupp, Emily Gavis, Isabelle Hensley, Morgan Doud, Hailey Trotter, Emma Vazquez. Second row: Braden Shonkwiler, Austin Kutz, Vanessa Condarcó, Gracie Wagoner, Makenna Wagoner, Keira Hohlbauch, Cecilia Hardin, Kaylee McKinney, Alexander Gutierrez. Third row: Makenzie Thomas, Eadie Budd, Melissa Marcos, Eva Hopkins, Rachel Sigrist, Evelyn Garza, Tiya Patel, Aaliyah Garza, Mark Vazquez. Fourth row: Karina Warfel, Michael Gauna, Andy Castro, Daniel Galaviz, Nickolas Gomez, Eric Chupp, Mitchel Myers, Reynol Oyervides, Grant Wilson Fifth row: Fatima Cabrera. See page 2 for list of honors. Photo by Nancy Rairden.



Meet the SBL cardiology team at the SBL Heart Center. We are pleased to bring these great minds together to care for the cardiovascular needs in our community.

Sarah Bush Lincoln

www.sarahbush.org

Pictured left to right  
Cardiologists  
B. Lakshminarayanan, MD  
Michael LaMonto, DO  
Advanced Practice Provider  
Allyson Gough, APRN  
Interventional Cardiologist  
Dean Katsamakias, DO