



Birthplace of Johnny Gruelle, creator of Raggedy Ann & Andy

\$1.50

Broomcorn Festival Sept. 8-10

ARCOLA RECORD-HERALD

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

Chatter BOX

Homecoming entries

The Arcola High School student council is accepting registration forms for float entries in this year's homecoming parade. The parade will be on Thursday, Oct. 5, and will start at the school and end downtown at the intersection of Main and Locust streets. Contact Braden Phillips, Ava Simpson, Julissa Galaviz, Bailey Hendrix, Mr. Craig, Mr. Boyd or the high school office at Arcola High School by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, September 20, for parade entry forms. All floats or walkers must be registered and all floats must meet the guidelines. Floats should be at the parade lineup on Arcola Avenue no later than 12 noon on the day of the parade. See form on page 4.

Senior potluck

Arcola Seniors are invited to attend a potluck lunch at the Arcola Senior Center on Sept. 15. Lunch will begin at 11:30 am. Seniors may bring a dish to share.

Blood drives

D&M Woodcrafts will host a community blood drive with ImpactLife, the provider of blood components for local hospitals. The blood drive will be from 2-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 421 E. County Road 200N, inside D&M Woodcrafts. To donate, please contact Marlin Schrock at 217-268-3266 or visit www.bloodcenter.org and use code 71155 to locate the drive.

Central Wood will host a community blood drive with ImpactLife on Monday, Sept. 18. The donor bus will be at 220 E. County Road 200 N, Arthur, IL from 2:30-7 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call Willard Miller at 217-543-2662.

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.



Sept. 22 football game between Arcola and Villa Grove to honor Ghere family legacy that touched both towns

Bobby, Harry and Russ Ghere circa 1940-42

When Villa Grove fans leave their home football field named 'Russ Ghere Field' on Friday night, they will travel to long-time county and conference foe Arcola, and when doing so, they'll turn into Arcola High School's Thomas-Bradford Field off 'Ghere Brothers Memorial Highway' on Rte 133.

In Arcola, the Ghere legend is poignant and memorable and serves as the Arcola version of "Saving Private Ryan." Arcola-born Roy and Lillie Ghere sent all seven of their sons to fight in WWII. One son, Bobby, was killed in action in

- 75th meeting between Arcola and Villa Grove
- 7 Ghere Brothers all served U.S. in WWII, one KIA
- Estimated 40 Ghere descendants to be in attendance
- Arcola & Villa Grove VFW's to participate

Germany in 1945. The other six brothers went on to become model citizens and community leaders. One of them, Russ, achieved great success as a coach at Villa Grove from the late 1950s to mid-70s. As high schoolers at AHS in the 30s and 40s, the brothers starred on some of the greatest Arcola football teams ever to play.

Many of the children of the

ent the game ball at the opening coin toss. An estimated 40 Ghere Brothers descendants are expected to attend.

VFW's from both towns will be participating in the presentation of the national anthem.

The special event is set to begin at 6:50 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22, at Thomas-Bradford Field, Arcola High School.

The game, unofficially titled the "Ghere Bowl," is likely to begin presenting a traveling trophy honoring both towns' appreciation for the Ghere family, says Kevin Monahan, organizer of the event.



MEMBERS OF THE 2023 ARCOLA HIGH SCHOOL PURPLE RIDER football team include, (L-R): Front row, Manager Blain Helmuth, Oliver Diaz, Evan Rardin, Hunter Drake, Anthony Burgos, Gavin Storm, Anthony De La Garza, Manager Conner Truex. Second row: Ryder Wilcox-Rich, Carson Jewell, Brody Drake, Gael Elizondo, Logan Messer, Coach Adam Reel. Third row: Head Coach Steve Snider, Jackson "Tank" Griffith, Dawson McMillan, Orlando Marcos, Brayden Hatchel, Brandon Lyons. Fourth row: Coach Steven Franco, Jayden Henson-Stice, Caiden Helmuth, Braden Phillips, Alan Guevara, Brevyn Whisman, Haris Mayhall, Bryan Mendoza, Coach Tommy Eddleman. Fifth row: Coach Ronny Olvera, Anthony Garza, Brokton Morford, Chris Olivar, Wayne Humphrey, Alex Hawn, Aaron Gaona, Tyson Lewis, Oden Barron, Raul Guerra. Not pictured: Ryan Lindstrom, Remington Roberts-McGeheon, Brody Phillips, Photo by Kris Bott.

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