

Hearing Aid Service

...MEANS BETTER HEARING FOR YOU
Homer Community Building

500 E. Second St., Homer, Illinois

Wed., March 1, from 8 - 9 a.m.

- Free Electronic Hearing Test
- Free Cleaning on ALL Makes and Models
- Battery Sales
- In Home Service on Request

BELTONE HEARING AID SERVICE

816 N. Country Fair Dr, Champaign, IL 61821 • 359-3331 • M-F 8-4



CHURCH DIRECTORY

Camargo United Methodist Church

103 E. Main Street
 P.O. Box 122, Camargo, IL 61919
 Church—832-9388
 e-mail: umccamargo@gmail.com
 Office Hours:
 Tuesday and Thursday
 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 Pastor - Lenny Summar
 Traditional Worship - 9:00 a.m.
 Contemporary Worship 10:30
 "Come just as you are to worship"
 Open Communion first Sunday
 of each month
 Prayer Group - Meets after
 Sunday Service.

First Christian Church

(Non-Denominational)
 "Come Rejoice With Us"
 701 N. Sycamore St.
 Villa Grove, Illinois
 Phone (217) 832-5231
 Fax (217) 832-9348
 Website: www.fccvg.com
 E-mail: fccvg@frontier.com
 Minister- Mike Zylstra
 E-mail: fccvgnin@frontier.com
 Open communion observed weekly
 Morning Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School (all ages) 10:45 a.m.
 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
 1st & 3rd Sundays 6:00 p.m.

First Christian Church

100 E. Church St., Tuscola
 253-2394
 Sunday Worship services: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday school: 9:15 a.m.
 Youth Group 7th-12th @ 6:33 Sundays
 After school program
 5th-6th girls, Wednesdays
 www.fccuscola.com

Tuscola United Methodist Church

901 N. Prairie Ave.
 253-4232
 Sunday Worship Services:
 9:00 a.m.

If you would like your church
 featured in our directory, please call
 Jamie at (217) 369-1398.

First United Pentecostal Church

1 South Pine Street, Villa Grove
 Wheelchair Accessible
 Where Lives are Changed!
 Pastor Jerry L. Conner
 Church 832-7071 • Residence 832-8577
 Sunday School—10:00 a.m.
 Worship Service—10:00 a.m.
 Evening Evangelistic Service—6:30 p.m.
 Monday, 1st one of each month
 Ladies Auxiliary, 7:00 p.m.
 Monday—Friday
 Ladies Prayer Group—9:00 a.m.
 Tuesday Youth Service—7:00-8:00 p.m.
 Thursday Bible Study—7:30 p.m.
 Free Home Bible Study
 We welcome you to worship
 with us in all of our services

Forty Martyrs Catholic Church

201 E. Van Allen St
 Tuscola, IL 61953
 Pastor: Rev. Angel Sierra
 Office Phone: 217.253.4412
 Sacrament of Confession:
 Saturdays 5:00 pm
 Or by appointment by calling the
 church office: 217.253.4412
 Week-day Mass Times:
 8:00 am Monday, Thursday &
 Friday
 Weekend Masses:
 5:30 pm Saturday
 8:00 am Sunday

Immanuel Lutheran Church

600 E Northline Rd.
 Tuscola, IL 61953
 217-253-4341
 Services: Saturday 5:30 pm
 Sunday 9:00 am

Sacred Heart

Catholic Church
 208 N. Pine Street, Villa Grove
 Pastor -Rev. Aloy Ndeanaefo
 Office: 832-8352
 Hours: M-F 8:30am-1:30pm
 Email: villagrove.hume@gmail.com
 website: sacredheartandstmichael.com
 Mass Times: Saturday: 4pm
 Sunday 10:00am
 Sunday @ St. Michaels in Hume
 8:00am
 PSR:
 Sunday 9:00-9:45 am

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TUSCOLA PLANNING COMMISSION

City of Tuscola
 214 N. Main
 Tuscola, IL 61953
 The planning commission will hold a public meeting to consider a request for a Special Use Permit. The meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 9 th, 2023, at City Hall, 214 N. Main, Tuscola, IL.
 The request is made by Adenium Solar and is for a community solar project at parcel 1298 Egyptian Trail, Tuscola. The property is zoned T, transitional, which does not allow community solar projects without a special use permit.
 Michael Salmon
 Tuscola Building Dept.
 Published: 2/22/23

LEGAL NOTICE

Invitation to bid on mowing the town parks of Murdock and Fairland, Douglas County, Illinois, for a 3 year contract. The parks in question are comprised of approximately 76,800 sq. ft. in Murdock and 78,500 sq. ft. in Fairland.
 • Bidder must have and furnish a copy of their Liability Insurance to Murdock Township before starting work.
 • Bidder will bid both parks of Murdock and of Fairland.
 • Bid will be for one (1) amount for the 3 years. Bid for each mowing will be rejected.
 • Bidder will furnish all the equipment to do all of the work required.
 • Murdock Township ask that bidder not mow on Sundays, but during wet weather grass may have to be mowed and this will be permitted.
 • During hot, dry summer mowing may not be required; although, weeds may have to be cut so parks will be neat for all to enjoy the parks.
 • Murdock Township ask that all operators of mowers work in a safe manner to protect themselves and any bystanders.
 • Other announcements may be made at the bid opening.
 • Murdock Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids if not in the best interest of Murdock Township and the bidders.
 Bids will be opened March 27, 2023.
 Murdock Township
 P.O. Box 229
 Murdock, IL 61941
 Published: 2/22, 3/1, 3/8/23

State

From page 1

throws, so there were plenty of opportunities to grab a quick rest, unlike today's relentless 90 feet of constant movement. The coach, Curtis Pulliam, was a devout man who drove his team hard because he believed that they had a chance to win it all, according to Mike Reynolds in an article in the March 17, 1983, Journal Gazette newspaper. "He thought we had a chance, and he kept telling us we did," Reynolds said.

The team's odyssey started with a 37-9 win over Fisher and a 43-4 shellacking of St. Joseph to earn a spot in the district final versus Urbana. According to the Villa Grove News report from the contest, "This was a hard-fought battle marked by unnecessary roughness and slugging on the part of Urbana's five as they realized that victory was slowly but surely slipping from their grasp." The Villa Grove quintet maintained their composure and won by a 16-9 score. Barmore, the team's star, netted 10 of the squad's points, with Hulse contributing 4 and Reynolds two, after he had been "knocked loopy" in the fourth quarter. "I saw three baskets and aimed for the middle one," Reynolds quipped. Guards Sanders and Combs were the defensive stalwarts for the team, limiting Urbana to 4 field goals in the entire game.

The Grovers then moved on to sectional play, where they defeated Taylorville 28-19 and Mason City 35-13 before edging Mt Pulaski 17-16 in the final to earn a berth in the state finals in Champaign. According to the Villa Grove News, the Taylorville game was marred by controversy surrounding Tuscola's coach. "About the rottenest piece of work was the one pulled off by the Tuscola Coach, who seemed to do everything in his power to satisfy his desire to see Villa Grove lose the game on Friday night. He was discovered by some of our boys, apparently tipping off to Taylorville some of the methods Villa Grove used in their playing. When it became known what he had done, he certainly was given a warm reception, but such things as he pulled off down there are only a few of the deals he made to see Villa Grove beaten at nearly all of the games they played."

The Villa Grovians then moved to the State semifinal contest in Champaign, versus Canton. It was reported that over 200 people from Villa Grove, ten percent of the town's population, boarded a train to attend the contest. Again, our neighbors to the west showed their displeasure at Villa Grove's success, according once again to the Villa Grove News. "We do not know how Tuscola people feel over our victory, but by some of their actions, they did everything in their power to get Villa Grove beaten in some of their games, even going so far as to root for Canton on Friday evening." At any rate, the Grovers were up to the task, easily defeating their opponents 38-23 to advance to the final, against big, bad Rockford. Rockford was in the midst of a high school basketball dynasty, having participated in the previous five state championship tournaments. Rockford too had size on their side, as their shortest started measured a lanky 6 ft tall. The diminutive Grovers started no player over 5 ft 10 and a half but countered their lack of height by being extremely quick and superior passers. The game itself was a masterpiece, with one writer calling it "The greatest final in Illinois high school basketball history." Villa Grove managed to grab a 9-8 lead after one quarter, but Rockford was up for a battle and the game stayed tight, with Villa Grove holding a slim 23-21 as the final quarter started. Opening the final stanza with a burst, Rockford jumped out to a 26-23 lead. Sensing that the game was getting away from them, Captain Ernie Combs called a rare timeout. "Coach Pulliam didn't believe in using timeouts. He said, 'Let the other guy take time out.' As reported in the Journal Gazette Article, in the huddle, Combs was emphatic. "Give it to our best man. Give it to Bill and let him shoot, and we'll get out of this somehow." For his part, Barmore stepped up, scoring the final nine points of the night for Villa Grove, to finish with 22 for the game. Reynolds chipped in 8 and Hulse scored the remaining bucket. The defense held Rockford to 3 points the rest of the way and wrapped up a 32-29 win. David had indeed slain Goliath, and pandemonium reigned. The players were greeted by a raucous crowd when they arrived

home at 3:30 a.m., and for a moment, they were kings of the basketball universe. The game had long-term effects on many of its participants. Reynolds went on to play at the University of Illinois for four years after Coach Mike Ruby secured a job for him. He turned that education into a 42-year career in personnel with Good-year Tire & Rubber and retired in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Barmore, too, played two years at Illinois before starting a career in labor relations at U.S. Steel that lasted for 30 years. Of the starting quintet, only Combs moved back to Villa Grove, where he worked for the C&EI railroad and ran the water and filtering plant for the city before he passed away in 1972. Harold Sanders, the only junior among the starting 5, worked for 42 years for Pure Oil and Union Oil companies in Joliet before retiring.

As for the players, they were proud of their accomplishments as a team, but remained humble about their individual accomplishments. Barmore, the only member of the team to be selected for admission into the Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame and was adamant in his 1983 Journal Gazette interview. "Don't get the idea that I was the tournament," Barmore stated.

It took all of us and I'm the first guy to say that. That was my night. That's all."

For his part, Combs too, remained proud, as evidenced by the treasure trove of collectibles about that magical March, but his grandson doesn't remember him ever boasting.

"I don't remember him talking about it too much," Bretz said. "It just wasn't a big deal to him." One thing that stood out to him? Tuscola's coach, trying to help Villa Grove's opponents. "He definitely talked about that," Bretz stated.

Heroes and villains. David and Goliath. Treachery from a county neighbor and a pint-sized hero who couldn't miss when it meant the most. This saga had it all, and even a century later, the story of Villa Grove's unlikely run to a state title, over the biggest name in the high school game, remains a legendary tale worth re-telling and celebrating.

VILLA GROVE STATE BANK SENIOR OF THE MONTH

Kyleigh Price

Kyleigh Price has been selected as the Villa Grove High School Senior of the Month for December 2022. Congratulations, Kyleigh!

A dedicated musician and scholar athlete, Kyleigh is a member of the National Honor Society, ACES, Science Club, Scholastic Bowl, and Writer's Club. She has also been involved in both Band and Jazz Band, the cross-country and track teams, and Girl Scouts.

In her free time, Kyleigh enjoys reading, cross-stitch, and watching movies. Since June of 2022, she has also worked at AMC in concessions and as an usher.

Villa Grove State Bank congratulates Kyleigh on her selection as the December Senior of the Month and wishes her continued success!

The Senior of the Month and Senior of the Year program honors Villa Grove High School students who have outstanding records in academics, leadership, and extracurricular activities. School personnel select the recipients, and Villa Grove State Bank presents each monthly winner with \$100. The Senior of the Year receives a \$1,000 scholarship.



P.O. Box 50 • 832-2631 • Member FDIC

Obituaries

Joan Cross

Joan Cross, 88, of Tuscola, passed away on Friday evening, February 17, 2023 at her residence with family members by her side.

Celebration of Life Services will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, February 25, 2023 at the Tuscola United Methodist Church. Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m., Friday, February 24, 2023 at the church.

Joan was born on May 10, 1934 in Colchester, IL, the daughter of Wilbur Gordon Jewsbury and Mary Maurine Hulson Jewsbury. She married Stanley L. Cross on August 27, 1954, in Colchester, IL. He survives.

Also surviving are her children and grandchildren: Lyn Kohlbecker and her husband Tim of Tuscola and their children: Jesse, Rachel, Aja and Samantha, Gordon Cross and wife: Sandi of Hanna City, and their children: Ashley, Taylor, Sara, Gabriel and Lucas, Laurie Mooney and husband Tim of Tuscola, and their children: Anthony, Audrey and Jackson, Fritz Cross and wife: Dawn of Peoria, and their children: Austin, Allison, Hannah and Madison, 17 great-grandchildren, sister: Janet (David) Stephenson of Ames, IA and brother: George Jewsbury and wife; Cheryl of Birmingham, AL.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Joan worked as a medical lab technician at Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago and Jarman Memorial Hospital in Tuscola for several years. Later in life, she enjoyed working at the Dress Barn at the Tuscola Outlet Mall.

Joan was a member of the



Joan Cross

Tuscola United Methodist Church and was very active in the Methodist Women Group. She was a Sunday School teacher and enjoyed leading a bible study at the church. Joan enjoyed swimming, playing bridge, tennis and golfing. She was an avid walker. She loved to play the piano for the residents of Jarman Center and was an active member of the Tuscola Women's Club. Joan attended the Parkinson's Support Group of Champaign County and enjoyed attending the Parkinson's Dance at the University of Illinois.

Joan helped with numerous Habitat for Humanity projects. She was blessed with many good friends and had a very loving family.

The family would like to thank her caregiver Judy and Transition's Hospice for their loving care given to Joan.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Habitat for Humanity or to the Parkinson's Support Group of Champaign County.

Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements. Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com

See more obituaries in Section B



Family: Parents John and Tori Price; brothers Duncan and Trevor, 23, and Ian, 21; sister McKenna, 26

Favorite subjects: Band and Math

Proudest high school moment: Qualifying for the cross-country sectional meet and the state track meet

Future plans: Attend Parkland College in the Pathways Program and then complete a degree in electrical engineering at the University of Illinois