

# Community Spotlight

## Bethany Sorowka discusses career in Parks and Recreation

**By Tony Hooker**

Bethany Sorowka never intended to have a career in Parks and Recreation.

In fact, she saw herself in a completely different role as a public servant, but as often happens, events conspired to lead her to her life's work.

Did you always want to be a PE teacher?

Actually, I started out in school as a photography major, but I realized quickly that I wanted to pursue something different, and I became a PE and Health teacher. I taught for six years, but I always worked in recreation during the summer. I grew to love recreation so much more, and I wanted to do it full-time, and I've been moving across the United States ever since.



Bethany Sorowka

It's a small sample size, but are you finding the job to be what you expected?

I'm very excited to be here and to learn more about this community and to be a part of this process of growing and creating is awesome for a town this size. Being from the area, when I was in Colorado, I thought 'how awesome would it be to do something like this in my hometown area? Sidell is not that big, but it's not too far away.

Do you envision this as being more of a regional facility?

In rural areas, there is a lot of sharing that goes on. You have to drive to go places, so I do, but this is also for Villa

Grove, so that's where the focus will always be.

*What do you think your're main first task will be?*

I want to know what the community wants, and what the staff wants. What everyone wants to make this place home. What can we do to fill the building and keep everyone happy?

*Are you going to be polling others?*

A survey is in the works, and people will be aware of it, very soon.

*I know it's only been four days, but you've done this before, so do you have a plan for one year, five years, and so on?*

That's what I've been working on this week as I've been getting to know everyone. I do have a timeline and goals that I'm working towards, but I also need to learn about what is best for the community.

*What do you think the biggest challenge will be?*

Four days into it is too soon to say!

*Will you be instructing as well?*

I am certified and able to do so, so it really depends on what I'm needed for as we

move forward. I'm willing and happy to do it.

*You're able to do the administrative piece? Step in and officiate a kids' volleyball game if you need to? Go out and throw some batting practice? Whatever needs to be done?*

Yep! It really is a fun job!

*What was your main job emphasis in Colorado?*

I was the recreation supervisor there. I was over all the sports leagues and senior recreational activities.

*So you had to hire umpires and all that? Did you have to make sure that the fields were ready to play on?*

Oh yeah. I've drug fields, chalked them. I've painted soccer fields and I've done it all. I was also over the fitness area, so I've hired fitness instructors as well.

*Do you think there will be a market for that in Villa Grove?*

I hope so!

*Is there anything we haven't covered?*

I just want to say that I'm happy to be here and be a part of it, and I can't wait to meet everyone.



### 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 Sumner  
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: fccvgmin@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.fccvtuscola.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. Alay Ndumaebo  
Office: 832-8352  
Hours: M-F 8:30am-1:30pm  
Email: villagrove.hcme@gmail.com  
website: sacredheartandstnichael.com  
Mass Times: Saturday: 4pm  
Sunday 10:00am  
Sunday @ St. Michaels in Home  
8:00am  
PSS:  
Sunday 9:00-9:45 am

### LEGAL NOTICE

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS ss.  
CERTIFICATE**

I, Elizabeth A. Leamon, certify that I am the duly elected and acting Municipal Clerk of the City of Tuscola, Douglas County, Illinois.

I further certify that on February 27, 2023, the Corporate Authorities of the City of Tuscola passed and approved Ordinance No. 2023-0-3, entitled AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A FIRE TRUCK SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING SALE OF THE SAME which provided by its terms that it should be published in pamphlet form.

The pamphlet form of Ordinance No. 2023-0-3, including the Ordinance and cover sheet thereof, was prepared, and a copy of such Ordinance was posted in City Hall, 214 N. Main St., commencing on February 28, 2023 and continuing for at least ten days thereafter. Copies of such Ordinance were also available for public inspection upon request in the office of the City Clerk.

DATED at Tuscola, Illinois, this 27th day of February, 2023.

Elizabeth A. Leamon, City Clerk

Published: 3/8/23



GLEN SIMPSON AND TIM HOEL MAKE PANCAKES during the March 4 Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast. Hoel made pancakes in the shape of Mickey Mouse. Photo by Dominik Stallings.



SUZANNE ROMINGER, ELLE JONES AND ALY RUCKER help plate pancakes and sausage during the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast on March 4. Photo by Dominik Stallings



ELLE JONES hands a plate full of pancakes and sausage to a guest during the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast on March 4. Kim Higgins and Aly Rucker help Jones. Photo by Dominik Stallings.



# BRIGHTEN Your SUMMER



## Vacation Club

You can save **\$480 a year** for your next Vacation  
by setting aside just **\$40 a month!**

Vacation Club payments will be set up as an AFT  
(Automatic Funds Transfer) from any deposit account at Prospect Bank.

An AFT will be issued around April 15 for the amount  
that has been deposited. Set aside up to \$1,000.00 per month!



## PROSPECT BANK

BANKPROSPECT.COM



Disclosures: The above example is intended to be used as a guideline. Automatic funds transfers will continue until an account is closed. Withdrawals from a Vacation Club account are not permitted prior to annual disbursement. There will be a \$20.00 fee for closing a Vacation Club account early. The rate may change after the account is open. Minimum opening deposit of \$100.