

OPERATION HONOR GUARD

Did you know?
The Average Honor Guard Volunteer spends \$800 on their Uniform

May 10, 2023

6 am - 7 pm

SavMor Parking Lot



MAY IS MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

Series by Carolyn Cloyd starts on page 8

Program seeks to end homelessness in region

The Illinois Office to Prevent and End Homeless along with the South-Central Continuum of Care Eastern Regions (seven counties of Clark, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar and Jasper) marked April 24 as day one of the 100-Day Rural Homeless Challenge:

There are 49 families on a waitlist. The goal of this 100-Day Rural Homeless Challenge is to safety and stably house 29 families and the additional 20 families will be supported with connections to behavioral health services in these seven communities.

To make this happen, the community needs to be involved, the group said. This means people with lived experiences (formerly homeless), front-line staff from health services, behavioral health services, homeless shelters, service providers, landlords, police, EMT, education, community, city and county, busi-

nesses and concerned citizens, can assist in a few different ways:

- 1 - Give input - ideas to end homelessness
- 2 - Sign a letter to show others you support the 100-Day Rural Homeless Challenge
- 3 - Become a team member - attend weekly Zoom meetings and work on goals.

There are programs available to house these families. These programs vary from deposit and first month rent to rental assistance. Landlords are needed to work with these programs and give clients a place to call home.

To get involved contact: Team Sponsor Dana Tell at 217-549-9045 or danat@hourhousecovery.org, Team Leader Sandy Deters at 217-331-7031 or sandyd@er-bainc.org, or use the link to enter your contact information at: <https://form.jotform.com/231095570420045>.

Catholic Charities host murder mystery dinner

Mattoon Catholic Charities will be hosting its annual fundraiser at The Walkway located at 1501 Lake Land Blvd in Mattoon on Saturday, May 13.

Unlock the mystery at this Murder Mystery Dinner by Mafia Murders. The event starts at 6 p.m. Tickets include a meal by Griffin's Catering. Ticket(s) may be purchased in advance or online at website at cc.dio.org. If you are unable to attend but would still like to make a donation you may do so on the website: cc.dio.org/ways_to_give/donate/.

"Everyone falls and needs a helping hand from time to time. With the continued help from our highly motivated staff, selfless volunteers and generous board members, we are able to provide that helping hand to those in need. We

are grateful for community members who continue to extend kindness and grace to Catholic Charities," said Joshua Benton Area Director of Catholic Charities of Coles, Douglas and Edgar Counties.

Programs offered by Catholic Charities of Coles, Douglas and Edgar Counties include: Food Pantry, Mobile Food Pantry, Clothing, Housewares, and Furniture Assistance, MedAssist, Blessed Baby, Adaptive Equipment Loan Program, & Boomerang Blessings Resale Store.

For more information about Catholic Charities of Coles, Douglas and Edgar Counties, to make a donation or to volunteer contact Josh Benton, Area Director at 217-235-0420 or jbenton_matt@cc.dio.org.



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LOYALTY DAY PARADE

Sponsored by Arcola's American Legion, VFW & Aux.

Saturday, May 6th • 11 AM

at Masonic Community Center & Methodist Church parking lot

All parade entries welcome!

Parade line up time starts at 10 am sharp!

Hot Dogs, Drinks & Chips following the parade.

Contact Charlie McGrew with questions:
C: 217-649-7821 or H: 217-268-4393

American Flag (tattered & torn) Disposal Ceremony to follow in front of Arcola Senior Center at Rt. 45 & West Main Street. Conducted by Arcola VFW Post #7862