

Marissa Russo closes book on collegiate basketball career

By Daniel L. Chamness
 Marissa Russo, the third of the Russo sisters to play for the Tuscola Lady Warriors, made an impact on Tuscola during her prep career.
 The soon-to-be Illinois State University junior did not stop there. She moved on to make an impact on the team at Lake Land College. When she became a player at Lake Land, the Mattoon-based school was the defending National Junior College Athletic Association Division II National Champions.
 "I was impressed with how close the women on the team were," said Russo. "I wanted to be on a team that had a successful program and a winning record. We had the kind of fam-

ily atmosphere both in practice and away from the court. The coaches went out of their way to make sure that we were not only improving as players, but as people. It was all that drew me to Lake Land."
 Russo made an immediate impact on the team and played in 31 of the 32 games during the 2021-2022 campaign. The 5-foot-8 power forward scored 123 points and grabbed 115 rebounds. Besides her 4.0 points and 3.7 rebounds per game, she had 20 assists and 18 steals. She nailed 52.4 percent from the floor, hitting 54-of-103 shots. From the charity stripe, she hit 15-of-19 for a percentage of 78.9.
 "My basketball IQ increased

while I was at Lake Land. My sophomore year, my teammates found me when I was open and I was more confident when I got into scoring situations" said the former Lady Warrior. "I already miss basketball. I miss the games, practices and workouts. Most of all, I miss my teammates and coaches. Those women that I suited up with are like family. My friendships with them will last the rest of my life."
 Her performance as a freshman helped Lake Land post a 22-10 overall record and a record of 9-5 in the Mid-West Athletic Conference.
 "In high school, I was a main part of the offense as far as scoring," said the youngest of the Russo sisters. "But, when I got to Lake Land, there were many good players. Our offense had so many different options and figuring out my role within the offense was a major challenge and a major adjustment for me. Once I learned that role, it was one of the big things I worked on throughout my years at Lake Land."
 During her freshman year, she earned a starting position. From her performance as a freshman, she earned a steady starting position. Once again, the Lady Lakers played in 32 games. Russo appeared in 31 of those games, earning 28 starts. She finished with more rebounds than she did points. She finished with 145 rebounds, which is a clip of 4.7 rebounds per game, and 120 points, which is 3.9 points per contest.

She also doled out 27 assists and 12 steals.
 She drained 51-of-98 field goals and 18-of-25 free throws for her sophomore season points.
 During her sophomore season, the Lady Lakers were 25-7 overall and 11-1 in the MWAC. They won the league. Parkland College took second in the MWAC with a 9-3 mark.
 "We practiced a great deal on finishing," said Russo. "Coach (David) Johnson preached about making layups and finishing around the rim. That was something that was a part of practice every day. Finishing with both hands has always been something I have prided myself on being good at. Coach was also very big on shot selection and taking the right shots. That was big for me taking the right shot at the right time. That led to the high shooting percentage from the field. For me, the biggest key was confidence, trusting my abilities and just playing."
 She posted a double-double in the Lady Lakers' 59-50 win over Lincoln Land Community College. She finished with 12 points and 10 rebounds.
 "Rebounding has been something I have always tried to do well," said Russo. "The double-double against KCC will forever stand out in my mind. I take pride in my rebounding and always have."
 The daughter of Tina and Mike Russo will be entering Illinois State to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice. The former



Marissa Russo

Lady Warrior earned an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. The Lady Warrior turned Lady Laker earned a junior college minor, satisfying the requirements in Humanities and Social Sciences. She was named a third-team National Junior Collegiate Athletic Association All-American. She earned the distinction of being named to the Lake Land President's List and the Lake Land Dean's List.

She finished her two-year degree with a grade point average of 3.8.
 "When I earn that four-year degree, there are many career paths I can pursue," said Russo of her degree choice. "I do not know specifically which path I want to take, but I am hoping that in my two years at ISU, I will learn which path I need to take."

Peace Meal Menu

Monday, August 7 - Stuffed Green Peppers, Redskin Potatoes, Buttered Corn, Fruit, Bread
Tuesday, August 8 - Turkey Burger, Ranchero Beans, Harvest Blend Veggies, Pea Salad, Bun
Wednesday, August 9 - Beef and Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Romaine Side Salad
Thursday, August 10 - Fried Chicken, Corn Casserole, Green Beans, Watermelon, Bread
Friday, August 11 - Grape Turkey Salad, Vegetable Soup, Tomato Salad, Fruit, Bread and Crackers

Call 800-543-1770 for reservation information. Skim milk and desserts with no sugar added are available in many locations. Ask the site supervisor for information. Sometimes we need to substitute on our menus. We still guarantee a nutritious meal. The Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program suggests a donation of \$3.50 for each congregate and home delivered meal. No older person shall be denied a meal because of their failure to contribute all or part of the cost of the meal. We accept the Illinois Link Card.

Emergency Response

Tuscola Saturday, July 30
 The City of Tuscola street department was called to the corner of Ohio and Sale Street for a broken down tree limb. The city erected barricades around the fallen tree limb.

Friday, July 28
 Tuscola Police were called to the 800 block of North Cen-

ter Road regarding an alleged burglary at 3 a.m.

Thursday, July 28
 Tuscola Police attempted to serve an ordinance violation in the 700 block of North Main Street at 3:14 p.m. No contact was made.
 Emergency Medical Services assisted a person with a ring stuck on their finger in the 700 block of East Houghton Street at 9:49 p.m.

Monday, July 25
 Tuscola Police performed a welfare check on an individual in the 200 block of South Embarras at 10:36 p.m.
 Tuscola Police performed a welfare check on an individual in the 300 block of North Center Street at 3:03 p.m.
 Tuscola Police investigated a 911 hangup in which an individual asked for help but hung up immediately after. Police searched the 700 block of East Barker for the caller. Police were unable to locate the caller.

Traffic violations- 25
 Informational- 6
 Return property- 1
 Agency assist- 4
 Suspicious activity- 3
 Motorist assist- 1
 TASER certification- 1
 Juvenile issue- 1

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DOUGLAS COUNTY, TUSCOLA, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BETTY RANDELL WIEKERT, DECEASED 2023PR18 NOTICE OF PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Tuesday, July 26
 Emergency Medical Services transported an individual with a twisted ankle from Ervin Park to a local hospital at 10:04 p.m.
 Emergency Medical Services transported an individual to a local hospital from the 1200 block of the Egyptian Trail at 1:41 p.m.

Sunday, July 24
 Tuscola Police were called to the 100 block of West Scott regarding an alleged theft at 5:30.
 Tuscola Police were called to the Tuscola Outlet Mall regarding a hit-and-run traffic crash at 11:44 a.m.
 Tuscola Police were called to the corner of Scott and Nile regarding a two-vehicle traffic crash at 2:43 p.m.
 Saturday, July 23
 Tuscola Fire Department was called to a two-vehicle crash on the corner of Daggy and Carico Street at 12:20 p.m.
In addition:

Villa Grove
 The following is Villa Grove Police Department activity July 23-29:

Verbal Warnings-1
 Written Warnings-10
 Traffic Citations-2
 Animal Complaints-3
 Welfare Check-2
 Juvenile-3
 Reckless Driver-1
 Assist Arrow Ambulance--2
 Assist Douglas County Sheriff's Office-1
 Assist Champaign County Sheriff's Office-1
 Assist Illinois State Police-1
 Ordinance Violations-4
 Civil-1
 Unsecured Residence-1
 Warrant Arrest-1
 Criminal Trespass to Property-1
 Mental Subject-1
 Possession of Methamphetamine Arrest-2

Villa Grove BINGO
 Every Friday Night VFW post 2876

6:30 pm- Early Bird
 7:00 pm- Regular Bingo

Jackpots:
 Egg in a Basket Raffle Chance up to \$2000
 Blackout Jackpot Chance up to \$1000

Bingo Lic# B1934
 Pull Tab Lic# P-48

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Camargo United Methodist Church
 103 E. Main Street
 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 Baptist Church
 300 E Daggy, Tuscola
 Pastor: Mike Wilder
 Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
 217-417-6842

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.fctuscola.com

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

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 Stret, 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

Notice is given of the death of BETTY RANDELL WIEKERT, of Douglas County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on July 28, 2023 to JEAN ELLEN LEONARD and JERRY W. LEONARD, 691 North County Road 1475 East, Tuscola, Illinois 61953, as Independent Co-Executors, whose attorney is Robert G. Grierson of Craig & Craig, LLC, 1807 Broadway Avenue, PO Box 689, Mattoon, IL 61938-0689. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 5/28-4 (ILCS Ch. 755, sec. 28-4) of the Probate Act any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Douglas County Courthouse, 401 South Center Street, Tuscola, Illinois 61953, or with the Independent Co-Executors on or before February 15, 2024 or three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of notice to creditors who are required to receive notice under Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/18-3), whichever is later. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Co-Executors and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. DATED this 28th day of July, 2023.
 JEAN ELLEN LEONARD and JERRY W. LEONARD, Independent Co-Executors
 Robert G. Grierson
 Craig & Craig, LLC
 Attorneys for Independent Co-Executors
 1807 Broadway Avenue
 PO Box 689
 Mattoon, IL 61938-0689
 Telephone: (217)234-6481
 Published: 8/2, 8/9, 8/16/23

Council
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 ary to account for problems that are discovered that could not have been known at the time of bidding. They often

One person dead in car crash

Phyllis Webster, 69, Urbana, died during a car crash on July 25 just north of Villa Grove according to Illinois State Police (ISP).
 One other person, Alexis Puetz, 20, Champaign, was injured and transported to an

area hospital.
 Illinois State Police (ISP) responded to the incident at 8:29 a.m. at County Road 200N and Illinois Route 130 intersection. Puetz was charged with alleged failure to yield at an intersection and disobeying a stop sign.

intersection while driving northbound on Illinois Route 130. Both drivers entered a ditch after the crash.
 Puetz was charged with alleged failure to yield at an intersection and disobeying a stop sign.

LEGAL NOTICE
STATE OF ILLINOIS CIRCUIT COURT DOUGLAS COUNTY PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT)
 Request of:
 Mark James Timlin Case Number 23MR11
 There will be a court date on my request to change my name from Mark James Timlin to the new name of Kelsey Reine James. The court date will be held on September 26, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at 401 S Center St., Tuscola, Douglas County in Courtroom #1.
 Mark James Timlin
 Published 8/2, 8/9, 8/16/2023

add costs but can also result in cost savings.
 Hoel said he thinks the final tally will be much lower than the bid, perhaps as much as \$150,000 (accounting for change orders that could add costs as well).
 The City Council approved the bid unanimously during a special meeting Monday. The full Council attended with the exception of Terra Waldrop.
 The project includes paving several alleys downtown and developing the green space between the Community Building and The Vault

Art Gallery, which includes lighting, electrical power for events and parking.
 In other business Monday, the Council approved a request from Cliff Ponder to annex a house at 508 E. Northline Rd. into the city. For those familiar with the former Ponder Farms on the north edge of town, Hoel explained that the annexation does not include the large, brick house and associated outbuildings; it is for the smaller house next to the Lutheran church property.