



**NORTH WARD FOURTH-GRADERS**, left to right, Ellary Harris, Harper Peter, and Charlie Dean play with a new set of magnetic blocks. The students enjoyed the newly donated toys on the first day of school, Aug. 21. *Photo by Dominik Stallings.*



**NORTHWARD FIRST-GRADERS** left to right, Bella Keller, Julia Francis, Marissa Heredia, Emma Ingram, Nora Rahn and Olivia Koehne play dress up with barbie dolls on the first day of school on Aug. 21. The students were kept inside due to the high heat conditions. *Photo by Dominik Stallings.*

## Council

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anticipated the previous week. Surowka said that 176 people had created accounts on the summer rec web page.

According to Surowka, fall soccer practice for U4-U12 would begin on August 28.

Finally, she noted that the rooftop units were scheduled to be shipped on August 18, and that she would be meeting with the general contractor and site manager soon, and that she would have an updated schedule for the council at the next meeting.

In Public Works director Marc Mixell's absence, Mayor Eversole Gunter noted that they continued to work with Jake Wolf on turning the Richman Park ball diamonds, and that the splash pad project was ongoing. She also noted that the Public Works department had done a great job supporting Ag Days and the rodeo events.

Moving to new business, the council unanimously approved Broeren Russo's pay request #14 in the amount of \$277,293. They then approved a reimbursement to Mayor Eversole Gunter for Main Street Flowers in the

amount of \$41.80.

The Council approved the hiring of two new police officers, along with related PTI attendance and other expenses. They then approved a quote in the amount of \$7,610, for installation of an ADA door and \$4,541, for another commercial door.

The council, along with Mayor Eversole Gunter, heard comments from local resident Robert Finley, asking about a violation for having chickens on his property, and mayor Eversole Gunter informed him that an ordinance banning livestock from residences within the city limits was

written in 2019, and it was determined that there would be no discussion of altering the ordinance at this time.

All council members other than Alderman Pangburn present.

The city approved the consent agenda, which included: Previous meeting minutes from July 10 and July 24, payments in the amount of \$586,942.

An agreement with Moran Economic Development on future projects

Approved the continued removal of downed trees from the storm from late June.

## Board

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students of staff to attend the district tuition-free. The Board also approved the update of Board Policy 5:330 Sick, Vacation, Holidays to match the Personnel Manual. This was updated to match current holidays.

The Board appointed members to committees. The current committees are Athletics and Building and

Grounds. Jerrad Zimmerman and Jim Clark comprise the Athletics committee, with Kristin White and Charlie Mitsdarfer comprising the Building and Grounds committee. The Board will form new committees as necessary.

For the superintendent's report, Munson noted that the annual audit has been completed. Results will come in October.

For baseball field updates, Munson reported that the

poles are to be set on September 2. Concrete will go in around early October with netting to be installed after.

For window and door project updates, all have been set with minor adjustments being made at present.

For the Junior High/High School Principal's report, Sara Jones said this year felt like the best start to the school year yet. The current seniors celebrated the second annual Senior Sunrise at

6 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 17.

Jones also met with Douglas County Mental Health with other area principals to discuss mental health training to come in the Spring. Students will be trained in mental health first aid and to look for signs among their peers. This will provide better awareness and guidance surrounding teen mental health.

## Scouts

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Villa Grove fire department, thanks to the efforts of Kenton, whose husband is a volunteer with the department.

For Fire Chief Chuck Black, the experience was an important one, in addition to being fun.

"We talked about being prepared for an emergency, how to write out a family emergency and having a safe place to meet after a fire emergency," he related. He also said that the girls enjoyed the challenge course, being tasked with fire ground activities, the most. "I think it got a little competitive," he beamed.

For Webster and Kenton, the planning for this year's activities is well underway.

"We're doing a bridging ceremony on Sunday and we will have our first meeting in September," Webster noted.

Of course, in addition to doing cool things, the girl scouts are really focused on developing leaders, something both ladies think is important.

"The point is to be girl-led," Webster stated. "In the Daisies, we focused on getting the petals and

then giving them options, but we're hoping that with the brownies, we'll get to a point where the girls will say OK, this is what we want to do; We want to teach them how to be good people and community leaders and hopefully get rid of a lot of the issues they come into in junior high and high school," she added.

The scouts aren't the only ones enjoying their time together; Webster, an Instructor of Cosmetology at Lake Land College, and Kenton, who works in Human Resources at UIUC, are also having a ball.

"We've talked about this, and we don't know if we'll get to a point where we can give it up, even if our girls get to an age where they don't want to do this anymore. You form a connection and a bond that I don't know if I'll be able to walk away from," Webster emoted. "My youngest is starting this year, so that will add more time to it."

For those who have children who might wish to get involved, there will be many chances for them to sign up.

"They can reach out to either one of us," Webster said. I think we're going to try to have something at the open house. There's a kinder-

garten mixer at the school, and I'm going to try and get something put together for the new kindergarteners as well."

As for the ubiquitous product sales that come

with girl scouts, Webster thinks she's got a fool-proof plan for success.

"It would be really hard to tell our girls no," she said with a laugh.



**VILLA GROVE GIRL SCOUTS** explore the ins and outs of a fire truck. *Submitted photo.*

## Peace Meal Menu

**Monday, August 28** - Biscuits and Gravy, Paco Vegetable Blend, Hot Fruit, Fruit Juice

**Tuesday, August 29** - Swiss Steak with Peppers, Onions and Tomato, Peas, Fruit, Mac and Cheese

**Wednesday, August 30** - Taco Salad with ground beef, Lettuce, Beans, Tomatoes and Salsa, Pears, Taco Chips, Dessert

**Thursday, August 31** - Ham and Swiss, Penne Pasta, California Blend, Green Beans, Cherry Fluff

**Friday, September 1** - Southern Breaded Fish Sandwich, German Potato Salad, Hot Spiced Peaches, 3 Bean Salad, Bun

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.

## On behalf of Villa Grove Ag Days Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors & Volunteers:

Villa Grove State Bank, Longview Bank, Rick's Country Market, Trisia's Quilting Corner, Traders Joe's Auto and More, Bill Bozdech, Hillard Agency of Villa Grove, Graber Supply of Tuscola, Lowman Ray, Chix in Training, Marion County Horizon Center, Allen's Tax Service, Monical's Pizza, Campbell Contructions, The Embarass, Baker, Jones Dental, Travis Albin, Bailey's Catering, Mow Bros, Shunk Farms, Woller Custom AG, Central Roofing, Paul's Machine, Heath Wilson and the HS Football Team, Boy Scouts, Villa Grove School, City of Villa Grove Workers.

## Villa Grove BINGO

Every Friday Night  
VFW post 2876

Bingo Lic# B1934  
Pull Tab Lic# P-48

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



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728-4451  
108 E. Harrison

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### Camargo United Methodist Church

103 E. Main Street  
Camargo, IL 61919  
Church - 832-9388  
e-mail: unccamargo@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:  
10:00 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 Ndeanafo  
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