

Council

From page 1

candidate to replace White, said Kleiss.

The Council approved the Tuscola parents' group request to close Prairie Street on Sept. 10 from 5 -8 p.m. The group will repaint block "T's" on the road leading to Tuscola High School and its football field.

The event also serves as a fundraiser for the school.

According to Hoel's report, Wohlman Construction prepared the subbase on the South Fire Station and delivered steel for the street shed foundation. Work on both foundations should begin after Labor Day.

Terra Waldrop and Troy Rund were the only Council members missing from Monday night's meeting.

The Council approved several other items:

Approved the appointment of probationary firefighter Alison Morenz.

Approved Rob Hardwick's promotion to Chief Engineer.

Approved the appointment of Joyce Ragle as part-time police administrative assistant at a rate of \$17.66 per hour.

Approved the payment of bills for \$172,026, which included \$10,837 for fire turnout gear for municipal emergency services.

Community Building leases with alcohol for a Quinceanera on Nov. 21-23 and the TCHS Alumni Association for a reunion on Sept. 22-24

Approved Prairie Street Closure and "T" Painting on Sept. 10 from 5-9 p.m.

Press box

From page 1

price tag and seat 83 fewer fans and have multiple obstructed views.

He said the School Board "had about opportunities to get help, opinions and insight from many sources."

He said he had been asked by two School Board members to weigh in. He said he visited more than a dozen schools to see what they were doing and sent photos and drawings to them. "None of the pictures or illustrations that were discussed are even remotely close to what we have out there now."

After five minutes, the School Board stopped Wienke per its rules for public comment. They did not respond.

Superintendent Gary Alexander noted that Arcola attorney Mark Petty has submitted a Freedom of Information request for all payments, contracts and other documentation regarding the new scoreboards.

In other business, the School Board set a public hearing on the budget for the September meeting (7 p.m. Sept. 25). The budget is available for review in the district office.

Alexander noted that the corporate tax funds from the state (personal property replacement tax) is expected to be down 28.8 percent from last year. It's still higher than it was five years ago, he said, but a significant drop from the prior year.

Transportation funds from the state also are expected to be down, he said.

In the consent agenda, the Board approved closing the "Can Do" student activity account and moving funds from the marine biology and science clubs to the Science Olympiad.

During the superintendent's report, Alexander said that more than four-fifths of the bills paid for the month were for capital projects. The district paid \$5 million in bills, and \$4.1 million of that was for improvements.

He also advised the Board that the compressor at North Ward that provides air conditioning to the office and library stopped working. He said it is under warranty but that he thinks the district will need to install a chiller system. It could be expensive, he said, but should cut down on costly repairs. He said North Ward's heating and cooling system has needed work every year he's been here.

He also presented this year's enrollment numbers. There are 899 students currently enrolled in the district; 298 at the high school, 276 at East Prairie Middle School and 325 at North Ward Grade School, including preschool.

At the high school, the sophomore class is the biggest with 90 students. There are 63 seniors, 73 juniors and 70 freshmen, according to Justin Bozarth, dean of students.

Bozarth said the school was holding an open house on Tuesday, Aug. 29, and that the community will have another opportunity to view the improvements during homecoming in late September.

He said the improvements have lifted spirits at the school. "The educational atmosphere is off the charts." He said the school is focused this year on building relationships - students developing relationships with each other and in the community.

Jared Vanausdoll, principal at East Prairie, also commented on the improvements made there, including air conditioning. "It changed the emotional climate," he said.

The Board also approved declaring furniture and technology equipment, including old smart boards, as surplus. Alexander said that a decision will need to be made as to what to do with the excess property.

Some of the old furniture is going to the high school, he said, and some will be kept in storage.

Board member Darold Spillman asked whether other furniture discarded by the school this summer had been declared surplus. Alexander said it had not because it was trash.

Donations were accepted as follows: \$543.55 from Music Boosters for band and chorus; \$107.08 from TE Connectivity, Ian Rominger for social skills; \$400 from TCHS boys' basketball for social skills; and another \$10,000 donation from Mark and Judy Furlong for TCHS boys' basketball.

Following a closed session, the Board accepted the resignation of Johanna Steffens as homecoming sponsor. They approved the hiring of Katie Burlew as jr. high scholastic bowl coach, Ashley Lewis as bookkeeper, Nicole Wilcoxon as North Ward PE teacher, Kathy Frye as East Prairie science teacher, Lainey Banta as TCHS girls' golf coach, Ali Yantis and Terra Waldrop as homecoming sponsors and Ashley Ginther as jr. high basketball volunteer assistant.



VILLA GROVE'S SCARLETT HOWARD runs the Saber Corn Classic on Aug. 26 at St. Thomas More High School in Champaign. Howard finished 29th overall with a three-mile effort of 24 minutes, 37.80 seconds. All the runners battled the oppressive heat of Saturday morning. Photo by Moto Johnson.



VILLA GROVE CROSS COUNTRY RUNNERS Ryan Schlueter (1727) and Eamon Reedy (1569) run side by side at the Saber Corn Classic on Saturday. Reedy finished the three-mile race in 22 minutes, 16.4 seconds to take 45th. Schlueter crossed the finish line in 22:34, which was good for 51st. The Villa Grove boys finished fifth as team with 129 points. Photo by Dan L. Chamness.



BILL WILSON EXCAVATES GRASS AND DIRT in the alley between North Central Avenue and East Sale Street in Tuscola. The alley and greenspace are being redone as part of Phase 2 of the Downtown Alley Improvement project. Photo by Jaclyn Henry.



THE ALLEY will have a new concrete surface, similar to the improvements made in the alley next to City Hall. A new green space will be cultivated next to the Community Building. Photo by Jaclyn Henry.

Peace Meal Menu

Monday, September 4 - CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Tuesday, September 5 - Turkey Burger, Ranchero Beans, Harvest Veggies, Pea Salad, Bun

Wednesday, September 6 - Beef and Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Romaine Side Salad

Thursday, September 7 - Fried Chicken, Corn Casserole, Green Beans, Watermelon, Bread

Friday, September 8 - 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.

Villa Grove BINGO

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

Every Friday Night
VFW post 2876

Jackpots:

Bingo Lic# B1934 Egg in a Basket Raffle Chance up to \$2000
Pull Tab Lic# P-48 Blackout Jackpot Chance up to \$1000

Let Us Bring Things Into Focus

Accepting VSP, Eye Med and Medicare!

Tuscola Eye Care & Sullivan Eye Care

We offer quality, one-stop vision care for the whole family.

Jamison T. Boyd, O.D.

www.tuscolaeyecare.com

<p>Tuscola 253-2220 902 South Court Suite 1</p>	<p>Sullivan 728-4451 108 E. Harrison</p>
---	--

CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>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.</p> <p>First Baptist Church 300 E Daggy, Tuscola Pastor: Mike Wilder Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. 217-417-6842</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>Tuscola United Methodist Church 901 N. Prairie Ave. 253-4232 Sunday Worship Services: 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Immanuel Lutheran Church 600 E Northline Rd. Tuscola, IL 61953 217-253-4341 Services: Saturday 5:30 pm Sunday 9:00 am</p> <p>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: villagrovehume@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</p>
---	---