

Jim's IGA In Lacon Under New Ownership

After fifty years of ownership by the Lambrecht family, Jim's IGA has officially been sold. The store was purchased by Anil Patel of Ocala, Florida and will be managed by his cousin, Yatish Patel of Chiefland, Florida. The transfer of ownership took place after the close of business on Thursday, January 8th.

The Lambrecht family has owned the store since Jim Lambrecht purchased the store from what was then an A&P back in 1976. He passed away during COVID in 2021. His son, Mike Lambrecht took over ownership after the passing of his father and ran it until his untimely death on May 28, 2025. Mike and Terri's son, Lucas, has been running the store ever since.

Lucas told the Journal that he had been seeking a buyer since the end of July, 2025 and enlisted the services of a broker, which then contacted the new owner, Anil Patel. "Everything is staying the same," stated Lucas. "I'm literally the only thing that's going to change," stated Lucas. "The employees are all staying."

Lucas has agreed to stay on for the next three weeks to insure a smooth transition.

The Lambrecht family would like to thank all the employees for all they have done over the years

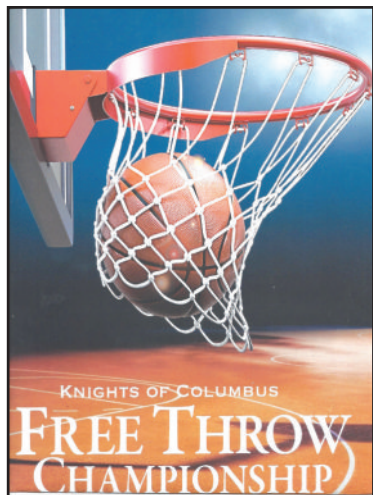
and also to the the City of Lacon and the surrounding communities for all their support over the years.



Pictured above on the left is new owner, Anil Patel of Ocala, Florida and his cousin, Yatish Patel of Chiefland, Florida who will be relocating to Lacon to manage the store.

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Eugene M. Dunn Council Knights of Columbus Host Free Throw Contest Sunday, February 15



The Knights of Columbus, Eugene M. Dunn Council 8321 is excited to announce details about their 2026 youth basketball free throw contest. The event is scheduled for Sunday, February 15th. Doors will open at 3:00 p.m. for registration and practice. The contest will begin at approximately

4:00 p.m. All Boys and Girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in this no cost event. Age eligibility is determined by the age of the participant as of January 1, 2026. The contest will be held at the Midland Elementary School Gym in Lacon, Illinois.

Each contestant will shoot 15 free throw attempts. The winner of each boy and girl age group with the most made free throw attempts will be presented with a plaque. In the event of a tie for the number of free attempts made the participants will be awarded a series of five attempts until the tie is broken.

Winners will be given the opportunity to advance to the next round of competition, the district free throw contest. Location of this event will be at the St Jude Gymnasium on Saturday, March 7th starting at 1:00 p.m. for registration and practice.

For any additional information about this event call Richard Dubois at 309-361-4807.

Midland High School Announces Second Nine Weeks High Honor Roll & Honor Roll

High Honors

Seniors: Tucker Bickerman, Morgan Blunier, Daniella Bumber, Sophia Coccia, Lauren Colby, Ca-iLynn Day, Joseph Denham, Mariska Faulkner, Ethan Fishel, Evan Fishel, Ella Foster, Emma Franks, Heather Gilbert, Angelina Gonzalez, Zoey Holmstrom, Hannah Klingbiel, Rayden Marliere, Jordyn Pyles, Claudia Quimby, Evan Robbins, Dominic Rosa, Kiryn Schaer, Delaney Stoecker, Landon Vangelisti, Bryce Zenor, Zachary Zinser

Juniors: Lilian Auza, Jane

Bella, Caleb Dorsey, Margaret Dorsey, Autumn Dreger, Kyler Gauwitz, Hayden Grandsart, Stevie Green, Beau Hattan, Samuel Lord, Anna McGlasson, Anna Marie Rinaldo, Adalynn Stickel, Isabella Thompson

Sophomores: Silas Bakel, Benjamin Braun, Sophia Cordio, Jacob Deffenbaugh, Chloe Doran, Henry Elsasser, Addison Graham, Caden Hannon, Kyndal Hattan, Skyler Hohstadt, Norah Keinath, Abigail McCaskey, Valerie O'Day, Lily Pelphrey, Brecken Pyles, Icie
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Anna McGlasson Scores 1000th Career Point

Pictured above is junior Anna McGlasson who scored her 1000th career point on Thursday, January 8th in a win over Peoria Heights. McGlasson became just the third Midland girl's player to accom-

plish that feat. See complete story on page 5.

Pictured above from left to right is assistant coach Vicki Van Zandt, Anna McGlasson and head coach Xavier Warren.

The Fourth Annual Student Craft Fair Coming To MMS On Saturday, February 21st

The 4th Annual Student Created Craft Fair will be held at Midland Middle School on Saturday, February 21st from 8am-12pm. Students have been busy crocheting, making jewelry, painting, making dog treats, air fresheners, bookmarks, and many more unique items for your purchasing pleasure.

We will be set up in the front entrance and cafeteria of the Middle School while the gym will be hosting the Timberpups Basketball Camp with a concession stand also in the cafeteria.

Please come join us, buy some amazing student crafts, buy a treat, and watch a fun basketball game. The crafts are 100% student created and the students keep 100% of their sales.



Saturday, January 17 Doors Open at 4:30
Rutland American Legion



Bring Snacks and Dress in your White Trash Attire
Proceeds to go to Truck n For a Cause Truck Show for Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans
Pre-Register Your Spot! \$20 Per Person
Contact: Julie Chromchak at (815) 530-6300 to Pre-Pay Julie
Denise Wilcox at (815) 252-6742
Venmo Denise-Wilcox-11 or Cash App \$DeniseWilcox3

FREE RETAIL MARKETPLACE ZERO COMMISSION AUCTIONS

TRACTOR TUESDAY More Information (402) 702-2222 Register on the Website tractortuesday.com

Cochran's

FRONT END ALIGNMENTS AVAILABLE!

Who You Gonna Call?

Jeff Cochran! We will no longer be accepting credit cards
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COCHRAN'S COLLISION CENTER

Located at Lacon's East Edge - 1218 Ninth Street (Just Off Route 17)
(309) 246-8000
www.cochranscollisioncenter.com