

Rocket Nation

By Diane Ducey



The Office of Catholic Schools in the Peoria Diocese gathered for its annual "End of the Year Celebration" on Thursday, May 7. Bishop Louis Tylka traveled around his district honoring retiring educators, milestones of service and this year's 'Distinguished Pastor of the Year' with St. Thomas/St. Mary's Catholic Church in Philo/Pesotum's Father Keith Walder given an award as St. Thomas School Principal Jean Cothron talks about how especially proud the parishes and school have been after nominating him for this well-deserved recognition. Tracy Cain is part of the school staff saying, "Father Keith has been a tremendous blessing through his faithful leadership, guidance and dedication to Catholic education."

At the beginning of May, nearly two dozen First Communicants (pictured with Fr. Keith Walder and Deacon

Don Koberlein in the back corners) between St. Mary's and St. Thomas churches received the sacrament of Holy Eucharist and 29 young adults went through Confirmation (pictured here with Bishop Tylka). The first few days of the month also brought on 19 new female candidates in the strong Cursillo movement felt in this Eastern Area Cursillo Conference. Around 15 people on the planning team volunteered hours of service to support those who spent the night in this overnight retreat at Our Lady of the Lake in Mahomet to make it a special experience for those taking steps to get closer to God.

The first Tuesday of the month, Catholic Charities for Champaign and Piatt counties gathered to hear reports about the pantry supported at St. Patrick's in Tolono (open Mondays 5-6:30 p.m. and Fridays 9-10:30 a.m.) with dona-



tions coming in and statistics on who's served as clients pick out what they want with gluten-free and refrigerated options (meat), too. Some of the volunteers also point out a section with toiletries and cleaning products in case that is needed.

The St. Nicholas Charity on Wheels van makes monthly drop-off visits the first Thursday of the Month at St. Mary's in Champaign for a half hour starting at noon, then in Rantoul's St. Malachy at 1 p.m. Most of the items are for young families that may need diapers, wipes and formula.

The Light of Hope program has been helping people struggling to make ends meet as they go through a process to get a bill paid or catch up on rent to keep from being evicted. The Senior Luncheon program for those 55+ meets the second Wednesday of the month (May 13th) at the St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 306 N Vine St. with attendees bringing \$3 and a side dish to share before the blessing and going through the buffet line at 11:30am. The month of May spotlights mothers and will have Bingo as entertainment with white elephant prizes brought in for winners.



Rocket Rundown

By Olivia Witheft



Hi! So excited for summer (which is fast approaching)! So many sports this week as we gear up for graduation! Baseball played three games last week and won two. They started the week with a conference game against the St. Joe Spartans. The Rockets beat the Spartans 5-2. They had a short two day break in between then played Rantoul on Thursday. The Eagles took another loss when the Rockets beat the 8-4. Saturday they played Marquette and lost 0-12. The team will play four

games this week. They will play Tuscola Monday, Mt. Zion Tuesday, Charleston Thursday, and Saturday they will play a tournament.

Softball played only four games this week since the games on Saturday were cancelled. They also started their week with a conference game against St. Joe. The girls played their best and won 9-2. Wednesday they took on Mt. Zion. The Rockets won 12-8 with three home runs. Another conference win took place on Friday against Rantoul, they won 6-0. They played their

third conference game against IVC on Friday and won again, but this time 10-0. This week they play four games. Monday they take on the Charleston Trojans, Tuesday the Rockets play Pontiac, Maroa Forsyth on Thursday, and Pinckneyville on Saturday.

Track and Field had Illini Prairie Conference this week! Both teams were crowned conference champions. The boys had ten top three finishes. In running events, Mason O'Neill placed third in the 400m, Camden Fairbanks placed second in the 800m and first in the 1600m, Eli Crowe placed third in 3200m, Carter Schmid placed first in the 300m, and two relays placed in the top three. Throwing events did great with Coleson Miller placing second in shot put while Hudson DeHart placed second in discus. Liam Logsdon placed second in High Jump. The girls had 15 top three finishes, so for simplicity I'll only name the five first places. Emma Swisher won first in both the 100m and 200m, Mackenzie Pound placed first in the 800m, the 4x100 and 4x200 relays placed first, and no field events placed first. The girls have now won Conference six years in a row! There is a JV meet on Monday, but Sectionals is taking place in Matton on Thursday. Friday there is an Invite at St. Teresa for the boys.

Go Rockets!
Have a great week!
Olivia Witheft

The Sidney Scoop

By Ann Rhoton
Phone 217-688-2812



Your correspondent was informed on Monday, May 4, that the Monday, May 4 Village of Sidney Board of Trustees meeting was postponed until Wednesday, May 13, so the next regular monthly meeting of the Village of Sidney Board of Trustees will take place on Wednesday, May 13, at 7 p.m. in the Sidney Community Building located at 211 E. Main St. in Sidney. All monthly meetings, unless otherwise posted, are held in the Sidney Community Building meeting room.

Look for your correspondent's Sidney Lions Club Fish Fry SCCTP Feature Article published in this week's edition of the Southern Champaign County Today Paper.

Look for your correspondent's Inaugural The Goose & The Gander, LLC and Sidney Improvement Group Sidney Spring Fling Event SCCTP Feature Article published in this week's edition of the Southern Champaign County Today Paper.

The Sidney American Legion Post 433 will be distributing poppies on Friday, May 15 and Saturday, May 16 at Sidney and Philo Casey's General Store locations, at the Philo Dollar General, and at Lowes Home Improvement in Champaign.

Donations from distribut-

ing poppies are to be used for veterans and their families and active-duty military and their families when a need arises.

The next "The Mid Central Woman's Christian Temperance Union" meeting will take place on Saturday, May 16 at 11:30 a.m. at Monical's Pizza in Villa Grove. A representative from Empty Tomb in Champaign will speak about the services they provide and provide an opportunity for folks to ask questions.

New members (men and women) are welcome and folks can call Vice President Marjorie Miller at (217) 202-4397 for more information.

The Sidney American Legion Post 433 will hold their next monthly meeting at the Post Home located at 221 South David Street in downtown Sidney on Monday, May 18 at 6 p.m. Prospective new members are always welcome and encouraged to attend, and all monthly meetings, unless otherwise posted, are held at the Post Home.

The Sidney American Legion Post 433 will place American Flags on the graves of military veterans in the Mt. Hope Cemetery and Lynn Grove cemeteries in Sidney on Wednesday, May 20. Legionnaires will start at 9 a.m. at the Mt. Hope Cemetery, and Bill

and Susan McLane will place American Flags at the Lynn Grove Cemetery.

The Sidney American Legion Post 433 will host their Memorial Day ceremony at the Mt. Hope Cemetery in Sidney beginning at 10:00 a.m. A cannon provided by Jim Wood will be fired and a 21-gun salute will be fired by the Sidney American Legion Post 433 Honor Guard followed by the playing of Taps.

Sidney American Legion Post 433 Commander Bill Hensch reached out to your correspondent and asked me to publish a request that anyone that was around when the Sidney Village Board time capsule was buried in 1976, please reach out to him at (217) 649-6989 as he would like to find out more about the capsule.

Have a wonderful week!

If you or your organization have news items you want published, drop a line to Ann Rhoton at P. O. Box 491, Sidney, IL 61877 or call (217) 688-2812 between 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Don't hesitate to leave a message if there's no answer.

News items must be turned in by 10 a.m. each Friday to be published in the following week's paper. Items submitted after the deadline will be published in the following week's column.

Be prepared before the next power outage.

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 618-714-1164 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply.

GENERAC