

IN THIS ISSUE:



Oct. 15 health deadline

p. 5



Homecoming this week

p. 7



Sports coverage

pp. 10-11



Storm Tracker

THE United High School NewsLine

Volume 16, Issue 1

STORM ALERTS

School's out

Classes will be dismissed at 2:00 on Thursday, October 10, and there will be no school on Friday, October 11, in order for the district to offer parent/teacher conferences.

Conferences will be held 4:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 10, and 8:00-11:30 a.m. on Friday, October 11, at all United campuses.

Parents can schedule a conference by calling the individual school their child attends.

There will be no classes on Monday, October 14, in observance of Columbus Day.

A 2:00 p.m. dismissal is scheduled for Friday, October 18, as the first quarter of the 2019-2020 school year comes to an end.

November's schedule calls for an off day on Monday, November 11, for Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving break to run Wednesday through Friday, November 27, 28 and 29.

Student health

State of Illinois health requirements for the school year have been set with an October 15 deadline for meeting all requirements or a child will not be allowed to attend school.

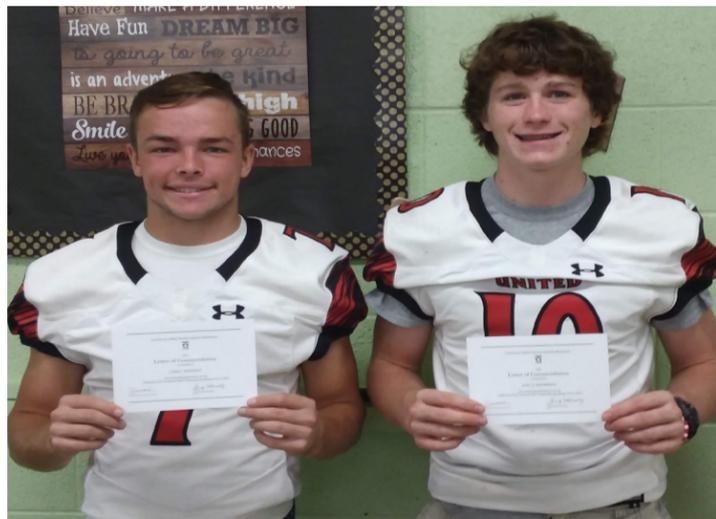
See Page 5 for comprehensive details per age group.

Senior pair named PSAT Commended Students

Two United High School students have been named Commended Students by the PSAT/NMSQT commission.

Alec Thompson and Cade Whitsitt earned the honor based on each having a superior score on the PSAT test taken this past April.

Whitsitt, pictured left, is the son of Jeff and Kelli Whitsitt of Alexis. He is



considering Iowa, Millikin and Notre Dame to study medicine.

Thompson, pictured right, is the son of Joe and Amy Thompson of Berwick. He has not made any college plans but is considered Purdue University and Rose-Holman, both in Indiana, to study computer engineering.

New tech classes added to curriculum

By Sullivan Ross

If technological based classes interest you, then these classes are for you.

This school year at United High School saw the addition of four new classes, all of which are technology based.

These classes include Audio Visual I, Audio Visual II, photography and survey of technology.

All of the new classes are taught by Sarah Horner, a new teacher at United High School.

In Audio Visual I students work with the equipment used in audio and visual productions.

Students also learn how to use sound editing and learn about proper use of cameras.

Students taking Audio

Visual II will use the skills they learned to produce videos for PBS.

In Survey of Technology students work with a variety of technologies, including Photoshop, 3D printing, computer programming and robotics.

As of now, however,

there is one student in the survey of technology class, senior Aaron Lee.

"It's fun and it's nice to be one on one with the teacher," Lee said.

In photography students will learn how to produce the best quality photos by using knowledge on

lighting, mounting and positioning.

The students will also learn about proper management of a photo studio and how to Photoshop.

The classes are

See "Tech" on p. 3



Students of the month named

Students of the month for the first month of the year are (left to right) senior Quentin McVey, junior Carter Demuth, sophomore Jaylee Hasten, and freshman Payton Crain.

Selection is based on a nomination and vote by faculty members.

The State of Illinois owes the United School District...

\$211,476.28!

Source:
Illinois State Board of Education (9/30/19)

STORM TRACKER

1905 100th Street
 Monmouth, IL 61462
 (309) 734-9411

The *Storm Tracker* is published monthly, with additional issues as warranted, by the journalism students of United High School, and is distributed online via the World Wide Web. The material published does not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of the administration of United School District #304.

While every attempt is made to determine the validity of advertising contained herein, the advertising in the *Storm Tracker* is not to be construed as endorsement of a specific product or service. The *Storm Tracker* assumes no responsibility of liability resulting from the content of paid advertisements.

The *Storm Tracker* does not knowingly accept advertisements that discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, handicapped status, veteran or sexual orientation, nor does it knowingly print ads that violate any local, state, or federal laws.

Parties interested in advertising in the *Storm Tracker* should contact Mr. Kozelichki at the address and/or phone number listed above.

Letters to the editor must be mailed to the address above and cannot be more than 350 words. The author's name and phone number must be included for verification purposes. The *Storm Tracker* only edits letters in cases of timeliness and obscenity and does not guarantee publication of all letters.

STORM TRACKER

Carson Clayton
 Editor in Chief

Reporters:
 Ariana Villarreal
 Avery Winking
 Austin Davis
 Lacey Deblieck
 Kiersten Johnson
 Ellie Vanfleet
 Sullivan Ross

WEBPAGE ADDRESS

www.u304.org

The webpage contains links to each district building and office, as well as access to the online grading system and calendar.

UNITED CUSD #304
contact numbers

Superintendent's Office
 734-9413
 FAX 734-0223

United High School
 734-9411
 FAX 734-6090

United Junior High
 734-8511
 FAX 734-6094

United Elementary North
 482-3332
 FAX 482-3341

United Elementary West
 734-8513
 FAX 734-8515

Board of ed prioritizes major spending areas

By Carson Clayton
 Editor in Chief

The new year for the United 304 School District is full of new construction projects and decisions throughout the year.

United Schoolboard members met September 12, to go over some of these new projects for the 2019-2020 school year.

The biggest construction projects brought to the

board were the ideas of a new track drainage systems and auditorium at United High School, but that doesn't mean those projects are top priority for the District.

The board's biggest priority is the urgent need to repair the United Junior High School's roof. The school's roof is not falling through or crumbling apart, but when there is a

rain storm, there is definite water seepage.

The auditorium would cost around \$1.6 million and would seat around 432 people. There is enough room in the front to where the band can play during one of the future dramatic performances.

The track is being funded outside the district, but has the support of the board members. It will be a seven lane all-weather track with a new, improved long jump pit and shot put sector. There will be concrete poured for an 8th lane, but it will not be used for running due to placement of the current crow's nest.

Toward the end of the meeting a new project that had never been discussed before was introduced to the board: the use of solar panels. This source of green energy was thought about being placed on the south side of the West Campus location, and possibly on the roof of the new auditorium.

The board approved a deficit budget of \$18,071,790, mainly because of life safety expenditures in the amount of \$3,800,000 due to a variety of projects that have been

completed.

Three new teachers were recognized: Nicole Hull, junior high English; Keeley Brinkmeier, elementary teacher at United North; and Kristi Kramer, junior high science. Other new teachers unable to attend were Mary Schuytema, art; Sarah Horner, business ed; and Candy Smith, second grade at United West.

Snow removal bids were approved for Chris Carson for the high school; Tom Hall for the west campus; and Eric Olson for the north campus.

After an executive session, the following were employed: Amanda Keith, high school scholastic coach; Jennifer Stoneking, National Honor Society adviser; Chad Robertson, junior high boys basketball coach; Jeff Neal, junior high volunteer boys basketball coach; and Logan Thiele, junior/senior high wrestling coach.

Additionally, Carson Clayton was named as student representative to the school board.

The next meeting of the board of ed will be at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 10, in the unit office.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board of Education of the United Community Unit School District #304 is accepting applications for the following positions:

Licensed Position(s)

School Support Personnel

Paraprofessional--West Elementary School
 Part time Cook--West Campus Kitchen(s)
 Sub Bus Driver(s), Sub Cooks, Sub Paraprofessionals, Sub Teachers, Sub Custodians

Stipend Positions

HS Head/Assistant Softball Coach

All letters of application inquires and credentials are to be sent to:

Jeff Whitsitt, Superintendent
 United Community School District #304
 1905 100th St. Monmouth, IL 61462

The Superintendent of Schools will screen all applications. The administrative staff will conduct interviews. Applicants are not to contact board members.

In addition, the Knox-Warren Special Education co-op is accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year. Interested parties can email their resumes to kdeschamps@galesburg205.org

Joe DeBlieck
 Owner/Operator

Complete Carpentry
 of Knox and Warren Counties



Phone: (563) 580-5000
 Email: galesburgcompletercarpentry@gmail.com
 Website: complete-carpentry-carpenter.business.site/
 Working in Galesburg, Knoxville, Monmouth, and surrounding areas
 Kitchens, Baths, Drywall, Siding, Windows, and more.
 For all your carpentry needs, give me a call.

Amy Hennenfent
 Stylist
 309-337-9682
 101 N. Holloway St. | Open Tuesday-Saturday
 Alexis, IL | *Saturday by appointment only

MAUDE
 SPECKLEBELLY'S
 WHERE OUR GOODS ARE AS UNIQUE AS OUR NAME
 BOUTIQUE APPAREL, JEWELRY, STATIONERY,
 HOME DECOR, GIFT, BULK COFFEE & MORE!
 309-734-1000
 109 E BROADWAY · MONMOUTH

CLARK, GLASGOW
 McCLINTOCK
 ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
 • CRIMINAL DEFENSE • DUI & TRAFFIC
 DAVID REID CLARK STEVEN R. GLASGOW
 SCOTT P. McCLINTOCK
 309-734-8464 MONMOUTH, ILLINOIS

Turnbull Funeral Homes
 301 South Main Street
 Monmouth, Illinois 61462-0018
 Phone 309-734-2131 Cell 309-371-3595
 JOHN D. TURNBULL
tumbulls@frontiernet.net Fax 309-734-8056

SCENES FROM THE SOUTHSIDE

High school welcomes two new teachers

By Lacey DeBlieck

The 2019-2020 school year brings not one, but two new teachers to United High School.

The first new teacher is Sarah Horner, the school's new video/technology teacher, who replaces Joel Zink, who left to return home to be near his ailing mother.

She offers six different classes, including Photography, Consumers Education, Computer Applications, Yearbook, Audio Visual and Survey of



Technology.

Mrs. Horner switched to the United district from Abingdon-Avon, saying, "The environment is better, the students are more

respectful and willing to learn.

"I came here because I value the academic beliefs and I feel like I have a lot to offer the school regarding technology and moving forward, I know it sounds cheesy but it's true," Horner said.

The second teacher getting adapted to the school is Mary Schuytema, the new art teacher for 7th and 8th grade as well as art classes 1-4 in the high-school.

She used to be an edu-



cation developer for Dick Blick, taught art history at the prison in Galesburg and she taught GED programs.

She replaces Hannah Baker, who left last year

for the Mercer County school district which is closer to her home and where her children attend.

"I love teaching and sharing my passions," Schuytema said after being asked why she picked United over the other schools that offered her a job.

Schuytema was thinking about the students when she decided which school she wanted to work for.

"My favorite part about this school is the student body," Schuytema said.

United's musicians prepare for state contests

By Avery Winking

On October 5 the United High School's band and choir musicians will get on a bus heading to Geneseo High School to audition for ILMEA (Illinois Music Education Association), a districtwide competition to seek out the best musicians.

However, for the musicians at United High School, the pressure is on, not only with having auditions that morning but also having homecoming that night.

"I know the students get more nervous than me when it comes to auditions. I'm not the one singing, so it's a lot less pressure on

me. I have full faith in the ability of my students, but not all of them have that same faith in themselves," Mrs. Katie Pedigo, United's choir director, said.

"To me, I am just glad they have taken the chance for this experience and the opportunity to grow as musicians."

Students also feel the opportunity before them.

"I wouldn't have gotten this far or feel as confident in my music if it wasn't for the constant effort and dedication from Mrs Pedigo," senior Avery Leffler said.

On the band side, director Mrs. Madeline Wood believes the sophomores are always in for a shock by

how challenging the senior level music is compared to the junior level.

"One piece of advice I could offer my students is perfect practice makes progress," Wood said.

Tech classes expand

Continued from p. 1

good for a student who may be thinking about entering a tech career.

Admission in a majority of these classes, however, is low.

"We didn't do a good job of advertising our new classes, but I think enrollment will grow as time goes on," Horner said.



The United High School March Band opened its year at the Prime Beef Festival in Monmouth and appears at all home football games

ALEXIS
ALEXIS FIRE EQUIPMENT
109 North Broadway Alexis, IL
Building Fire Trucks Since 1947

Cameron
GRAIN CORPORATION
Steven Armstrong, Mgr.
Box 185 Cameron, IL 309-563-9612

Updates and publication dates always available on Facebook and Twitter

Jostens
FRANK ZUCKER
INDEPENDENT SCHOLASTIC REPRESENTATIVE
o • 1.800.JOSTENS (567.8367)
c • 563.271.8473
e • frank.zucker@jostens.com
4579 Valley Brook Drive
Bettendorf, Iowa 52722

Security Savings BANK
Member FDIC
On-the-Go Banking
Download the SSB Mobile App!
Don't miss any of the United Red Storm activities!
securitysavings.com
Good Luck Red Storm!

CSC Presents THE COLLEGIATE CONNECTION

Stories, clues and hints to help you prepare for life after high school

MBWI once again sponsoring ACT Bootcamp

Midwest Bank of Western Illinois will once again sponsor an ACT Test prep bootcamp this coming winter for high school juniors looking to improve their all-important ACT test scores.

Test prep sessions will begin on January 18, 2020, and will run six times prior

to the April 4, 2020, national testing date.

A second bookcamp will begin on April 11 and will run over other week through June 6, just prior to the June 13, 2020, national testing day.

All sessions are held from 8:00 a.m until noon at Midwest Bank's Com-

munity Room at their main building in Monmouth.

Tuition for either of the camps in \$520, however, discounts are available to bank customers or those interested in opening a variety of accounts at Midwest Bank.

Information on those discounts is available to students by picking up an application outside school counselor Kay Shaver's office at United High School.

Unless a parent in an alumnus of the program, he must attend one of informational meetings held Saturday, November 16, at 10:00 a.m. or Wednesday, November 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Both meetings are held

at the Community Room.

There is no obligation of purchase anything, but attendance at one of the meetings in required for the student to be enrolled in the program.

Also required is for the student enrolling to take a preliminary ACT test on Saturdays Deceber 14 or 28, or Friday, December 27. All sessions begin at 8:00 a.m. at the Community Room.

Additional requirements include a December 20 deadline for enrollment, a \$100 down payment, purchase of the 2019-2020 Official ACT Prep Guide, and the student must score at least a 70% of the

"Greatest Math Quiz in the World" which is available on the bootcamp's fact sheet in Mrs. Shaver's office.

The bank offers a money back guarantee that if the student's cuulating test score on either the April of June test does not increase by at least one point, the applicable full tuition refund will be granted. However, the student to be eligible for the refund, both the April and June tests must be taken.

Further information is available by contacting Dan Ashton at 309-457-6220 or Judi Chandler at 309-457-6263.

Upcoming College Recruiters

The following colleges will have representatives at United High School to meet with prospective students:

October 3 at 2:00 Knox College

October 17 at 2:00 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

October 17 at 2:30 Coe College

October 23 at 2:00 St. Ambrose University

October 30 at 2:00 McKendree University

October 30 at 2:00 Southern Illinois University- Edwardsville

Students interested in visiting with any of the reps are asked to see Mrs. Shaver for a pass.

Area college part of workforce program

Illinois Central College in East Peoria is taking the lead in a new statewide initiative to help boost employment and wages for underrepresented populations.

The \$18.7 million Workforce Equity Initiative across 15 community colleges aims to train 1,500 adults for jobs in areas with a high demand for workers. college President Sheila Quirk-Bailey said.

"It will go a long way toward providing life-changing credentials" to

people in the community eager to work and to get a better education.

The initiative was championed in the Legislature by state Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth, D-Peoria, with support from the Legislative Black Caucus. Gordon-Booth worked at ICC before entering the Legislature, and said she saw then firsthand that "community colleges are uniquely situated to address many issues we're facing in our communities."

ICC will help coordinate efforts among all the schools, and will hire a staffer to oversee the initiative. It's taking the lead role because of longstanding work at the school with workforce development curriculum as well as a proven commitment to diversity, Gordon-Booth noted.

"They're a leader on this (program) because they were a leader long before this existed," she said.

See "Workforce" on p. 8

CSC Nursing Program Applications Open Oct. 1

Applications for the fall 2020 start of Carl Sandburg College's licensed practical nurse, registered nurse and LPN-to-RN programs will be open October 1-March 1.

Applicants must meet with a nursing program advisor to receive required paperwork as part of the application process.

To make an appointment with an advisor, contact the Sandburg Student Services Office at 309-341-5237.

Applicants also must complete the TEAS test

(Test of Essential Academic Skills) prior to the March 1 application deadline. Nursing program advisors will provide TEAS test registration forms and information sheets.

Visit www.sandburg.edu for more information on Sandburg's nursing programs such as program admission requirements, curricula and estimated costs.

For questions, contact academic advisor Jennifer Holmes at 309-341-5237 or jholmes@sandburg.edu.

CSC CALENDAR REMINDERS

Thursday, October 10 Fall Midterm

Friday, October 11 NO Classes Fall Break

Monday, Nov 4 Registration for Spring Term

Thursday, December 5 Fall semester ends

Mon-Thur 12/9-12 Final Exams

Get a Jump Start on your College Education with Dual Credit Courses



"It was just really an opportunity to get a little bit ahead. I graduated from Sandburg in the beginning of May, and then two weeks later I had my high school graduation. That was pretty cool."

— Matt Wolford
Associate in Science



Carl Sandburg College,
2400 Tom L. Wilson Blvd.,
Galesburg, IL 61401
309.345.3500

Branch Campus,
305 Sandburg Dr.,
Carthage, IL
217.357.3129

For more information call
309.345.3500
or email Welcome Center
welcomecenter@sandburg.edu

October 15 is deadline for state health requirements

By Jenna Roberts
District Nurse

Students will NOT be able to attend school after October 15, 2019, until ALL required information is received.

Requirements by Grade Level:

Preschool Students:

• Physical Exam (Parents please complete the yes/no questions on the back and sign and date)

• Complete immunization record signed by a doctor: (4) DTap, (3) Polio, (4) Hib, (3) Hep B, (1) MMR, (1) Varicella, (4) Pneumococcal

• Birth Certificate

Kindergarten Students:

• Physical Exam (Parents please complete the yes/no questions on the back and sign and date)

• Complete immunization record signed by a doctor: (5) DTap, (4) Polio, (4) Hib, (3) Hep B, (2) MMR, (2) Varicella, (4) Pneumococcal

• Dental Exam on IL form due May 15, 2020 (dated within 18 months of May 15th deadline)

• Eye Exam on Illinois

form dated within one year of the first day of school

• Birth Certificate

Second Grade Students:

• Dental Exam on IL form due May 15, 2020 (dated within 18 months of May 15th deadline)

Sixth Grade Students:

• Physical Exam (Sports physical NOT acceptable, IL Certificate of Child Health Exam form required) Parents please complete yes/no questions on the back and sign and date

• Complete immunization record signed by a doctor, including (1) Tdap, (1) Meningitis—these are 6th grade requirements

• Dental Exam on IL form due May 15, 2020 (dated within 18 months of May 15th deadline)

Ninth Grade Students:

• Physical Exam (Sports physical NOT acceptable, IL Certificate of Child Health Exam form required)—Parents please complete yes/no questions on the back and sign and date

• Complete immunization record signed by a doctor

• Dental Exam on IL form

due May 15, 2020 (dated within 18 months of May 15th deadline)

Twelfth Grade Students:

• Proof of receiving (2) Meningitis: First dose received on or after the 11th birthday and second dose received at least 8 weeks after the first. Only one dose is required if the first dose was received at 16 years of age or older.

Tuesday October 15, 2019, is the deadline for all required health information.

For the 2019-2020 school year any child entering the 12th grade shall

show proof of having received two doses of meningococcal conjugate vaccine prior to entering the 12th grade. The first dose shall have been received on or after the 11th birthday, and the second dose shall have been received on or after the 16th birthday, at least eight weeks after the first dose. If the first dose is administered when the child is 16 years of age or older, only one dose is required.

Please speak with your child's healthcare provider over the summer regarding your child's vaccination

needs. United High School must have documentation of when the vaccine was administered in order for your child to be in compliance with state of Illinois requirements.

Walgreens and the Warren County Health Department have options available for various forms of insurance/medicaid. Proof of receiving the meningitis vaccine must be turned in to the school office no later than Tuesday October 15, 2019, or your child will face exclusion from school until documentation is received.

New Teacher Pay Raise!

By Carson Clayton
Editor in Chief

By the start of the 2023-24 school year, new teachers across the state of Illinois will make a minimum salary of \$40,000.

The teachers' salaries will be raised incrementally under the new law passed by Governor J.B. Pritzker from \$32,076 for the 2020-21 school year to \$34,576 in 2021-22, \$37,076 in 2022-23 and \$40,000 in 2023-24.

"I don't want to be the minimum for our teachers at United. United plans to meet the new minimum salary starting next school year," United 304 School

District Superintendent Jeff Whitsitt said.

There is going to be a more competitive edge between schools to see who is going to pay their teachers more than the next school over.

"There has always been a competition between schools on who is going to be that school in the area who's starting salaries are higher than the rest. The difference between these next few years and years past is the bar has been set higher; therefore, some small schools in Illinois may not be able to keep up," Whitsitt said.

The previous minimum salary for teachers in Illinois was an astonishingly low \$9,000-\$11,000 annually.

"It's a good show of faith in Illinois seeing that there is care for the education system, and to see the starting salary get raised is wonderful. I couldn't imagine any school paying their teachers like that, but overall this law passed is a good thing for Illinois," Whitsitt said.

Golfer makes the Hall

Continued from p. 9

nant on the links throughout the state, primarily competing against boys due to the lack of a United girls' team. Justine was the precursor to the development and stability of girls' golf at United High School and will forever be the standard by which Red Storm golfers will be measured," Sharp said.

To be in Hall of Fame is a great opportunity here at United and is very prestigious.

"I never considered myself for the hall of fame. I just enjoy golfing. I didn't realize my ability to golf was anything worthy of recognition because I just love doing it."

**Save
a lot**

Darren DeJaynes
Owner

200 North Main St.
Monmouth, IL 61462
dejaynessavealot@frontiernet.net

(Store) 309-734-5450
(Fax) 309-734-6785
(Cell) 309-371-5041

Seven Hills Alpacas



The Steinbeck Family
217 U.S. Hwy 67 Alexis, IL
Phone: 309-482-3579
Visit us on FACEBOOK!

Email or visit our website:
sevenhillspacac@frontiernet.net
www.sevenhillspacac.com

Alpaca socks, gloves, fleece, and yarn for sale

95 Public Square
Monmouth, IL 61462

Telephone: (309) 734-8388
Fax: (309) 734-8083
Toll Free: 1-800-248-8583

E-mail: shelly@kelloggprinting.com
Website: www.kelloggprinting.com

For All Your Printing Needs...


CHEVROLET

Tim Bresnahan
Sales Consultant

BRUCE FOOTE CHEVROLET, INC
1349 S MAIN, P.O. BOX 888
MONMOUTH, IL 61462

phone (309) 734-2138
fax (309) 734-6906
www.brucefootechevy.com

United District Lunch Menu & Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Crispitos Lettuce/Tomato/Cheese Corn Spanish Rice Fruit Choice	2 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy Cooked Carrots Fruit Choice	3 Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce Spinach Salad w/Tomatoes Bosco Stick Fruit Choice	4 Bacon Cheeseburger Crrrots w/Ranch Dip
7 Storm Burger Tator Tot Gems Ranchero Beans Fruit Choice	8 Chicken Fajita Lettuce/Tomato/Cheese Corn Mexican Rice Fruit Choice	9 Chicken Strips AuGratin Potatoes Green Beans Fruit Choice	10 Ham & Cheese Sandwich Carrots w/Ranch Dip Fritos Apple Slices	11 NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conf.
14 NO SCHOOL Columbus Day	15 Teriyaki Chicken Brown Rice Broccoli Fruit Choice	16 BBQ Rib on Bun Broccoli & Cheese Carrots Fruit Choice	17 Baked Ravioli Spring Salad Mix Bosco Stick Fruit Choice	18 Personal Pan Pizza Veggies and Dip Ice Cream Sandwich Fruit Choice
21 Hot Dog w/Coney Sauce Tator Triangles Southern Beans Fruit Choice	22 Soft Shell Tacos Lettuce/Tomato/Cheese Refried Beans Corn Fruit Choice	23 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Fruit Choice	24 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomoto/Chicken Soup Carrots w/Ranch Dip Fruit Choice	25 Stuffed Crust Pizza Spring Salad Cookies and Cream Fruit Choice
28 Hamberger French Fries Baked Beans Fruit Choice	29 Super Nachos Fiesta Black Beans Corn Fruit Choice	30 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Corn Bread Fruit Choice	31 Chicken Patty on Bun Sweet Potato Fries Cole Slaw Fruit Choice	



FARMERS STATE BANK of Western Illinois

Member FDIC

Equal Housing Lender

Alpha 629-4361 • Aledo 582-3150 • Alexis 482-5511

New Windsor 667-2735 • Viola 596-2189 • Woodhull 334-2802

Visit our website at www.fsbwil.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Girls Golf @ Gibson B&G CC @Spring Lake	2 B&G Golf @ LTC VB vs ROWVA	3 B&G Golf @ Oak Run JHGGB vs West Prairie	4 HOMECOMING FB vs Stark County	5 VB @ Orion Tourney ILMEA @ Geneseo B&G CC @ Quincy
6	7 Boys Golf Regionals JHGGB vs West Central VB vs West Central FS FB @ Stark County	8	9 VB @ Princeville FFA Sect 4 Ag Sales JHGGB @ M-R	10 2:00 Dismissal P/T Conf Girls Golf Regional B&G CC @ Kewanee School Board Meeting	11 No Classes P/T Conf FB @ Mercer County	12 VB @ United Tourney
13	14 NO SCHOOL Columbus FFA Conf @ Decatur JHGGB @ Farmington FS FB @ Mercer County	15 FFA Conf @ Decatur B&G CC @ Carthage VB @ Mercer County JHGGB vs A-Town	16 PSAT Testing @ UHS JHGGB @ Galva	17 VB @ Wethersfield	18 END OF QUARTER 2pm Dismissal FB @ Cambridge	19 VB @ Sherrard Tourney B&G CC @ Detweiler
20	21 JHGGB vs Williamsfield VB vs Galva FS FB vs Cambridge	22 FFA Sect 4 Land Use VB vs Alleman	23 VB vs Stark County JHGGB vs Visitation	24 JH Fall Band Concert	25 SENIOR NIGHT FB vs West Central	26 B&G CC Sectional TBA JH Speech @ Lewistown
27	28 JHGGB vs ROWVA FS FB @ West Central	29 District Family Night @ JH Internet Safety FFA Greenhand Supper	30 FFA National Convention NO Pre-K Classes JHGGB vs Stark County	31 FFA National Convention Halloween Parties		

Homecoming Week on the horizon

By Avery Winking

“Oh, I wanna dance with somebody I wanna feel the heat with somebody Yeah, I wanna dance with somebody, With somebody who loves me,” sang Whitney Houston.

United High School’s Homecoming theme this year is “Throwing U Back to the 80s” which was chosen by the student council’s executive board.

The student council plans on incorporating the theme into the dance by decorating with very bright neon colors.

“We have a new DJ this year [Russ Ulrich]. We have had him in the past but it has been quite a few years. Hopefully, the students enjoy him and his music,” Mrs. Brooke Anderson, math teacher and student council co-advisor, said.

Although the dance is the main focus of the week, the dress up days leading up to the dance really “hype” up the student body for homecoming.

Dress up days include Spirit Day on Monday, September 30; Walking Yearbook Day on Tuesday, October 1, where students will wear a solid colored shirt for other students to sign.

Eighties Day is set for Wednesday, October 2; Thursday, October 4, is Class Clique Day where seniors are to dress as jocks and cheerleaders, juniors as nerds, sophomores as frat members and VSCO, and freshman are designated as hicks,

Homecoming Friday finds the seniors wearing neon pink, the juniors neon green, neon yellow for the sophs and the freshmen get neon orange.

“We will start decorating for the dance on Thursday (September 27) during the school day, We will also decorate Friday during the day and after school until finished,” said co-advisor Mrs. Jennifer Stoneking.

“The dance takes a lot of preparation to get ready

for but the whole week involves quite a bit too. Funday Friday will hopefully be as fun as in years past. I really enjoy seeing the lip syncs from the different classes.”

The doors to the dance

will at 7:30 p.m. Saturday night, October 5, and there will be bottled water and candy available.

There will not be a professional photographer that night, but instead a backdrop surrounding the theme

will be set will allow students to take pictures in front of.

Cost of the dance is \$15 after a \$10 discount registration date passed last week.

Prime Beef Fest participants



United’s Prime Beef Festival queen candidates were (left to right) Cassie Tierney, Avery Winking, Olivia Mitchell, Josie Sharer and Kiersten Johnson.

McGuire & Davies
Funeral Home and Crematory
309-734-6008

Aloysius J. "Al" McGuire | Trevor J. Davies

BURIALS | ON SITE CREMATORY | PRE-PLANNING

Advanced
Plumbing & Mechanical
309-734-PIPE

MARTIN SEED **MISSAVAGE**

PIONEER. DU PONT.

School district launches own “App”

United CUSD 304 has unveiled an “App” in an effort to bring community members even closer to the district.

In March of 2017, the United Board of Education set goals for the district, one of which being improved communication and the inclusion of an App to “push” notify district residents about things going on in the district.

On August 1, 2019, that goal was met with the opening of the United

CUSD 304 App.

The app can be found on App Store or Google Web Store and works on both Android and IOS platforms.

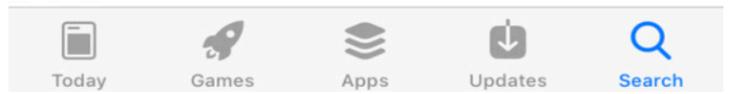
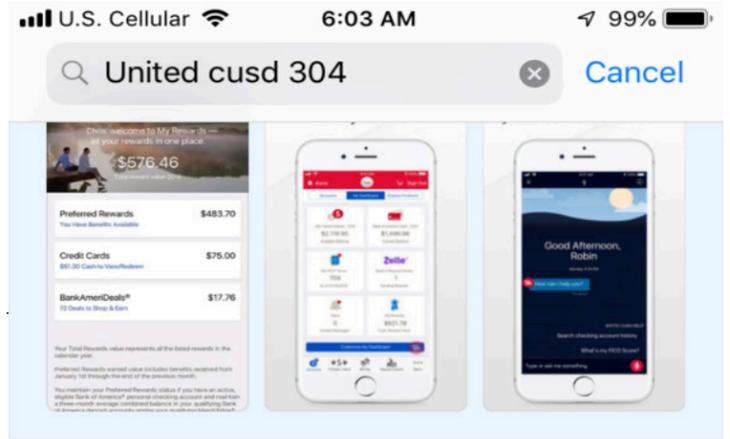
App users will be able to set which building(s) they wish to receive notifications from and in which formats.

The app is a product of Apptegy services. Along with the app will be an update to the United District website --which will still be located at www.u304.org.

Any update to the website, will automatically update to the website and vice versa.

The district hopes that by subscribing to the app (no cost), community members will be more in touch with the things happening in our district buildings.

In the near future, the district will post some “how to” videos to help people properly set up their personal notifications and utilize the app.



FFA gets “elite” status for second time

By Ellie Van Fleet

This year’s United High School FFA) has attended the Elite Conference for the second time.

The Elite Conference is for FFA members who would like to pursue a career in agricultural education.

Mr. Scott Riden, who has been an agriculture teachers for 28 years, took three members to the conference this year: Kaylynn Hennenfent, Elaina Allaman, and Aubrey Thompson.

“Being influenced by great ag teachers just drags me to want to be like them,” Hennenfent, a sophomore who in her second year of FFA said.

“I’ve always been interested in both teaching and agriculture, and all the ag teachers I’ve met love

their careers,”m Allaman, another sophomore said

“I’ve always been told I’d make a good teacher, and I think it would be a good fit for me,” junior Aubrey Thompson said. “I’ve always loved animals and

would like to work with them.”

When asked what his favorite part of FFA was, Mr. Riden said, “Watching students grow and develop in to great leaders.”

Workforce Equity program underway

Continued from p. 4

The program is designed to offer “earn and learn” opportunities, because such educational options are often out of reach for people who are working two or three low-wage jobs to support their families, said Andrew Kerr, the school’s associate vice president of workforce development. Those enrolled will not just receive tuition and fee assistance, but can also be eligible for a stipend.

Some certification programs for high-demand industrial jobs like CNC operators, welders and CDL truck drivers can be completed in as a little as four to eight weeks, he said. Other fields that will be included in the endeavor include LAN technician, licensed practical nurse, emergency medical technician and paramedic.

To sign up for the Workforce Equity Initiative, go to icc.edu/wei or call 309-690-7600.

Tradition continued



Youngsters perform with the United High School cheer squad at the 9/13 football game

flatt's
ELECTRIC
MONMOUTH, IL
734-7219
flatt's
PUMP & WELL

LAIR'S
COLLISION
CENTER
JERRY LAIR & DAVE BOETTCHER
Owners
309-734-1949
Fax 309-734-1968
106 East 6th Avenue
Monmouth, Illinois 61462
lairbs@hotmail.com

BOB JON ANGUS
JOHNSON CHI-ANGUS
Bulls - Heifers- Club Calves
Terry & Meredith Johnson
Drew & Lauren Johnson
337-1503

Axline **Pharmacy**
220 N. Main
Monmouth

MC
SPORT
AND MORE
419 E. Main Street
Galesburg, IL 61401
309-315-2105
201 S. Main Street
Monmouth, IL 61462
309-734-5912

IT'S A STORE TO EXPLORE!
PENN'S
NEW & USED FURNITURE
260 S. SEMINARY ST. • GALESBURG
309-341-1726
STORE HOURS: MON-SAT ~ 9-5
New furniture, clean pre-owned furniture and appliances
(maybe even an antique or two)

RED STORM SPORTS

Newest HOFers didn't expect honor

By Ariana Villarreal

Hall of Fame! A time to make memories, or a time to remember the past?

“One night a year the United Hall of Fame hon-

ors and recognizes those men and women athletes, coaches, and teams that have been outstanding in athletics. This award could also be given to others

who have given meritorious service to the athletics programs at United High School,” athletic director Jeremy Sharp said.

On Friday, September

13, Justine (Peel) Brentise was recognized for her years at United as an amazing golfer throughout her four years.

“It is the rare athlete that can claim four individual trips to State, so Justine (Peel) Brentise would be considered rare. Justine set the bar for all golfers at United High School by

winning the Lincoln Trail Conference Girls golf tournament four consecutive years and advancing to the state golf tournament in 4 consecutive years, never placing less than 18th at state. Included in her four trips were two top ten finishes. Justine was domi-

See “Golfer” on p. 5



Warren County Dental Clinic

Dr. Brian Good

304 S Main Street
Monmouth, IL 61462
309-734-7402
www.warrencohealth.com

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Examinations
- Cleanings
- Extractions
- Sealants
- Fillings
- X-rays

We serve all ages with Medicaid and private insurance. Sliding fee offered for those without dental insurance.



STANTON INSURANCE

Insurance Agency in Monmouth & Oquawka, IL

Family Owned and Serving the Community since 1919



Auto • Home • Life • Business • Farm|Crop • Motorcycle • Boat

(309) 734-2171



RED STORM SPORTS

Another year, another competitive volleyball program

By Keirstyn Johnson

Each season the coaches choose a motto to encapsulate that individual teams personality.

The 2019 United Volleyball motto is C.U.L.T.U.R.E., a mnemonic device used that only the players on the team know the unique meaning.

“The coaches chose our motto to suit our team’s individuality. I think our motto this year does a great job doing just that,” senior Olivia Mitchell said.

They use this motto



each game when they break out, and CULTURE is what they play with and makes them work well with each other.

“They trust each other to do their jobs, and that makes them work well together,” assistant coach Amy Thompson said.

Off the court the girls work hard in school and are close friends.

If there are any prob-

lems or disagreements outside of volleyball, the coaches don’t notice it on the court.

“They communicate well, and there isn’t any disagreements on the court,” Thompson said.

This seems to make the whole experience of volleyball much more exciting and enjoyable for all involved.

Although the public may never know what C.U.L.T.U.R.E really means, the players of the 2019 team will forever hold it close to their hearts.

LEFT: Soph Karragan Sperry gets as high as she can in an attempt to get the ball over the net

Injuries always seemingly take their toll in football

By Ariana Villarreal

United Football season kicks off again with Friday Night Lights!

This year’s football team is very close, some would even say they are another family.

With new freshmen coming in this year, and the seniors being even more experienced, they have seem to be very welcoming and helpful to each teammate.

“Since summer workouts, our upper-classmen have done a great job of showing the young guys

how to act both on the field, in the classroom, and in the community. Their example is important to our program,” assistant coach Ryan Molek said.

This year the team has had new strategies which are helping them move forward everyday.

“Coach Milroy has done a great job of adjusting our offensive and defensive schemes to the strengths of the players that are on the team.” Molek said.

This year United’s foot-

ball year has had more success than in previous years, despite a winless record.

“I feel a lot more confident going into the second half of the season this year than last year,” senior Dylan Cheline said.

With football season getting into play, there have also been some injuries with the players this year.

“We’ve had some guys banged up. We lost several lineman right off the bat like Tyler Mur

See Football on p. 11



New QB Declan Flynn has fit in well with United’s offensive scheme

SPORTSCARDS

BUY - SELL- TRADE

CASH PAID for wood bats, old gloves, programs, scorecards, books, statues, pennants, cards, etc. for personal collection

335-7480

SPECIALIZING IN CHICAGO SPORTS ITEMS

LK Design and Alterations

Linda Kozelichki
Designer/ seamstress

202 East Hunt Ave
Alexis, IL 61412

Also available: Mobile sewing services!

Phone: 309-335-3601
E-mail: lindaskozelichki@hotmail.com

1134 N. Main
Monmouth
734-6701

HAASE

EMBROIDERY & PRINTING

400 North 11th Monmouth, IL

Phone 309-734-7483

FAX 309-734-7972

Enjoy the convenience of Mobile Banking with

Midwest Bank

- Check Balances
- Transfer Money
- Deposit Checks
- Pay Bills
- Find an ATMs & More

MIDWEST BANK
Strong · Honest · Loyal

Find our App in:

www.mbwi.com

Member FDIC

RED STORM SPORTS

Gregory back, and healthy, as Cross Country preps for sectional

By Austin Davis

Earlier this year senior Anne Gregory ran the whole 2018-2019 track season with a fractured hip, and she nearly made state.

“It was a stress fracture in the hip,” she said, having injured it by “running too hard without stretching.”

“I still wanted to run, but it was frustrating because I couldn’t get better.” Gregory said.

Gregory won her first two meets this season.

“Winning the first two meets was surprising because I only won only once before. I actually PRed (personal record) in my first meet of the season.”

She wants to break 18 minutes, make it to state, and keep improving now that she’s healthy.

Gregory is considering running cross country or track in college, but doesn’t

know if she’ll have time.

“It’s also intimidating to run at that level and competition.” Gregory said.

“Cross country is a sort of conditioning for the upcoming track season for me, personally.” Gregory said.

Gregory is confident in her abilities, and thinks she will do well, not only in cross country, but also the upcoming track season.



Golfers’ record certainly up to par

By Ellie Van Fleet

This year’s United High School’s golf team has improved in many different ways, including new records, new golfers, and new experiences.

The old record for the girls’ team was 188 strokes in 18 holes, and they have a set a new record this year of 179 strokes.

The first year United offered golf, there was only one girl who went out, now there are six girls and six boys.



“I think I have gotten a lot better since the beginning of the year.” said Rebecca Merry, a junior who is one of the new golfers

who went out this season.

The golf team also gone on a trip to Top Golf in Naperville, an indoor driving range where golfers

can focus on the speed and distance of their hits.

“My favorite part of coaching is seeing how quickly students improve week to week. I love to see the golfers be resilient,” Mrs. Madeline Wood

said when asked what her favorite part of coaching gold is.

Wood has been coaching golf for six years, and this is her second year coaching just the girls.

Football battles on

phy, Matt Holmes, and Blake Edwin. But all of those guys have been rehabbing with medical personnel and are doing what they can to get back

soon in practice.” Even with some injuries that does not stop United’s football team from overcoming the challenges this season has thrown at them.

Special Olympics Illinois

Cathy Brennan-Betar
Director - Region F

Special Olympics Illinois
P.O. Box 104, Monmouth, Illinois 61462-0104
Tel 309-734-5903 Cell 309-337-0502 Fax 309-734-8324
Email cbetar@soill.org
www.soill.org

FUSION TECH

ftiinc.org

TURNING YOUR NAPKIN SKETCH IDEAS INTO REALITY

From concept to completion, Fusion Tech does it all

774-4275

MAPLE CITY TUMBLERS

209 South Main Street Monmouth

Back Flips & Tumbling Lessons

Openings for Rec. Classes
Training State, National & Junior Olympic Champions

For More Information Call Ken or Marty 221-6876; 221-6875 or 734-6875

facebook.com/maplecitytumblers

OLSON BROTHERS TILING

2800 Tenth Avenue Alexis
309-482-9902

Ben Olson Cell 337-7559

John Olson Cell 337-3483

Waterway Reconstruction • Field Tiling • Bulldozer Work

Parkins TRUCKING L.L.C.

Roseville, Il

TRENT MCKEOWN CONSTRUCTION

306 S. Main St. Alexis, IL 61412

Mobile-309-337-5142
Fax-309-482-9962
Email-mckeownconstruction@frontier.com

License# 104-012300

Building Our Business By Building Your Dreams!

THOMPSON BROTHERS INC'S PAINTING

P.O. Box 105
Naperville, Illinois 61773
309-426-2012 309-221-0616
thompsonpainting.com

MR FIXIT A L E C

iPhone and iPad Screen Replacement
309-299-8181