

IVCC student recognized by Phi Theta Kappa

SHAW LOCAL NEWS NETWORK
contact@shawmedia.com

Illinois Valley Community College student Danica Scoma recently was recognized for academic accomplishment, leadership and campus and community service by the Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

Scoma received the state's highest score in a fall scholarship competition and was named a 2026 PTK New Century Transfer Pathway Scholar. She also was selected as a 2026 All-USA Academic Team member.



Danica Scoma

Scoma received a \$2,750 scholarship and New Century Transfer Pathway Scholar recognition during a luncheon on Friday, March 27, in Baltimore, Maryland. The society selects only one New Century Transfer Scholar per state. Phi Theta Kappa had more than 2,300 students from 1,400 college campuses nominated nationally.

"We congratulate Danica for receiving this prestigious scholarship, and we are honored to partner with the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and The Coca-Cola Foundation to recognize

these outstanding achievements," Phi Theta Kappa president and CEO Lynn Tincher-Ladner said in a news release.

She will also receive a \$3,000 All-USA Academic Team scholarship, medallion and will be recognized April 13 at the PTK's Presidents Breakfast in Seattle.

"The All-USA program is a prestigious recognition of a student's exceptional abilities both in and outside of the classroom," Phi Theta Kappa Foundation director Amanda Karpinski-Gorman said in the release. "We are incredibly proud of the individuals named to the 2026 team and eagerly anticipate the continued impact they will make."

IVCC students have received PTK scholarships over the years but Scoma's achievement stands out, said Phi Theta Kappa advisor Eric Schroeder. "Earning multiple distinguished awards speaks not only to academic excellence but to the determination, hard work and drive that will continue throughout Danica's educational and professional journey."

Scoma is a peer mentor, member of the college's soccer team and the college board of trustees 2025-26 student trustee. She intends to study global studies, communications and Spanish at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the fall.

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Granville library to screen 'The Tallest Dwarf' documentary

The Putnam County Public Library District will hold a free screening of the Independent Lens movie "The Tallest Dwarf" at 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, at the library's Granville branch, 214 S. McCoy St.

The 60-minute film follows filmmaker Julie Forrest Wyman as she searches for a place in the little people community. She also unpacks dwarfism rumors in her family. "The Tallest Dwarf" asks whether society should change people or the structures limiting them through stories, archival history and collaborations.

For more information, call 815-339-2038 or visit the library.

McNabb library to hold pollinator event April 8

The Putnam County Public Library District will hold a "Bee Kind: Stories & Seed Bombs" story and craft activity for children ages five and older to celebrate Earth Day and pollinators at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at the library district's McNabb branch, 322 W. Main St.

Attendees will be able to create pollinator seed bombs with seeds, soil and clay.

Participants also can listen to a pollinator and bees story. No registration is required.

For more information, call 815-339-2038 or visit the library.

- Shaw Local News Network

CLASS OF 2026 INDUCTION



JIM MORE

La Salle-Peru



Photo provided by Purdue University

Join us for the
Class of 2026 Induction Ceremony

Thursday, June 4 | 5:00 p.m.
The Auditorium Ballroom



Scan the QR code to purchase tickets
visit <https://www.illinoisvalley.edu/hof>

Gold Sponsors

State Farm
Cody R Burroughs

FIRST STATE BANK

Silver Sponsors



HuVee

Bronze Sponsors

Hall High School | Happ Family Foundation | Kurt Bruno - State Farm | Maze Lumber | Princeton High School/Princeton High School Booster Club | St. Bede Academy | V

To be considered for the Shaw Media's Illinois Valley Sports Hall of Fame, an area during his or her accomplishments or have attended an area high school or school. The inductees will be announced in a ranc

SHW-LA2115910