

Have Fun at the 88th Moultrie-Douglas County Fair!

Vol. 109, No. 28  News from the Heart of Amish Country \$1.00

ARTHUR GRAPHIC-CLARION

Wednesday, July 11, 2018 Serving Eastern Moultrie, Western Douglas, and Southern Piatt Counties Arthur, Illinois 61911

School board fills teaching, assistant coaching vacancies

By ROGER W. BONHAM Managing Editor

Arthur School Board hired three new teachers and added to its part-time and coaching staff during the June board meeting.

In addition, the board adopted an amended budget for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

The new teachers will be at Arthur Grade School. They are Zachary Senger, junior high social studies; Anne Patterson, junior high ELA and math; and Pam Evans, science.

Jama Ray was hired as a part-time pre-K through kindergarten aide at Atwood-Hammond Grade School.

The board authorized a 2.75 percent raise for non-certified staff.

Resignations were accepted from Jason Rennert, Arthur Grade School science teacher and Candi Thomas, AGS English teacher.

The board rescinded the resignation of Vanessa Davis.

The board renewed the contracts of Brandon Stone, Lovington Grade School principal, and Jared Vanasudoll, high school assistant principal, for three years.

A 2.75 percent raise for principals and assistant principals was also authorized.

New hires for extracurricular activities include Jory Borntreger, high school assistant football coach; Curtis Plank, high school assistant basketball coach; and Zach Senger, Arthur Grade School scholastic Bowl coach.

The meeting opened with a public hearing on an amended budget for the 2017-2018 school year. The budget was available for public inspection in the superintendent's office during the 30 days preceding the hearing.

There were no questions concerning the amendments, which were to earmark money for the purchase of an activity bus and to clean up some accounts, according to district superintendent Kenny Schwengel.

Grade school principals reported they have been meeting to discuss electives that will be offered in grades six through eight. Changes will have to be made due changes in personnel.

Sixth grade electives include band, chorus, one semester of computers (AGS, AHGS), and one semester of Character ED (AGS, AHGS).

(Continued On Page ???)



DEHART CROWNED 2018 Junior Miss Moultrie-Douglas County Fair Queen. The 2018 Moultrie-Douglas Junior Miss Pageant was held on Monday, July 9, at the fairgrounds with fifteen young ladies vying for the title. Pictured is 2017 Little Miss Moultrie-Douglas Bostyn Wesch, 2017 Miss Moultrie-Douglas Madeline Clabaugh, 2017 Jr. Miss Moultrie-Douglas Brook Tucker, newly crowned 2018 Jr. Miss Moultrie-Douglas Andrea Dehart (Atwood), Julia Hildebrandt (Bethany) 1st Runner-Up, and Morgan Smith (Villa Grove) 2nd Runner-Up and Jr. Miss Congeniality. Dehart is the daughter of Brad and Amanda Dehart and was sponsored by AJ's Auto Body. Photo by Stephanie Wierman

Second annual Steam Threshing Show to be held at Illinois Amish Heritage Center east of Arthur

The second annual Steam Threshing Show will be held August 3 and 4 at the new Illinois Amish Heritage Center three miles east of Arthur.

Times are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

The 2018 show will center around harvesting and threshing oats rather than wheat. The oats will be cut and bound into sheaves by a horse-drawn mechanical binder two weeks before the event. The sheaves will be stacked into shocks for drying in the field.

At the event, they will be loaded onto horse-drawn wagons and transported to the threshing machine which will separate the grain from the chaff and straw.

The grain will be directed to a bin, and the straw will form a hay stack that will continually grow with each new round of threshing.

The threshing process uses antique farming equipment, including a 1924 steam tractor and threshing machine made by the Keck-Gonnerman Company of Mt. Vernon, Indiana.

Other antique and vintage agricultural equipment will also be on display, including a 1954 Massey Harris model 44 tractor owned by Sam Miller, a 1931 John Deere D owned by George Kauffman, and many other antique tractors.

Farm equipment demonstrations will feature a John Deere stationary hay baler, old engines and steam engines, a grist mill, field demonstrations of plowing and disking, with Belgian horses, and the old methods of threshing grain by hand with flails and a fanning mill.

Blacksmithing will also be demonstrated, as well as goat milking and butter churning. All demonstrations will be "learn abouts" as they will be accompanied by explanations of the processes.

The event will once again feature a petting zoo including baby lambs, baby goats, a baby pony, baby calves, ducks, chickens, a peacock, and other familiar farm animals.

Visitors will also be able to enjoy pony rides, buggy rides, and train rides.

Other activities for children include tug-of-war and the popular "quarters in a haystack."

Pitching horse shoes and other activities will be available for the adults.

The 1882 Daniel Schrock house will be open for tours, and various domestic activities and displays will be featured in the house.

Tours will be conducted by Owen Schrock who grew up in the house and is a grandson of the last owner of the house.

Visitors can also see the progress being made on the restoration of the 1865 Moses Yoder house.

A food tent will serve meals and ice cream made by machines powered by early gas or steam engines. Vendors will also sell kettle corn, lemon shake-ups, crafts, and other items of interest.

Admission is \$10 per person or \$20 per car or buggy load. All funds go to the restoration of the historic Amish houses and the development of the heritage center.

Everyone is welcome and invited to come out for a day of fun for the whole family at the Illinois Amish Heritage Center.

The Illinois Amish Heritage Center is located at 284 Illinois Route 133, three miles east of Arthur and one mile west of Chesterville. For more information, call Wilmer Otto at (217) 721-9266 or Bob Doan at (217) 543-2232; visit www.illinois-amish.org or www.facebook.com/Illinois-Amish-Heritage-Center.

News Briefs

Senior Citizens Luncheon to be held July 16

The July Senior Citizens Luncheon will be held on Monday, July 16, at the Community Building. Serving begins at 11:30 a.m. Meat and drinks are furnished. Everyone is welcome. The Community Building is located at 120 East Progress Street, Arthur.

I-57 northbound to be one lane near Tuscola

Illinois Department of Transportation announces that traffic on northbound Interstate 57 near Tuscola will be restricted to one lane beginning Monday, July 9. The restrictions are necessary so that crews can perform bridge repairs to the structure that carries I-57 over Scattering Fork. Work is expected to be completed by Thursday, July 26, weather permitting. Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. To avoid the work area, when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain from using mobile devices, and be alert for workers and equipment.

For IDOT District 5 updates, follow us on Twitter at @IDOTDistrict5 or view area construction details on IDOT's traveler information map on GettingAroundIllinois.com.

Apple Dumpling Festival adds flea market to line-up

Have you ever thought about trying your hand at a flea market? For newbies and those more experienced, the Atwood Chamber of Commerce is adding a flea market to their festival this year. It will be located by Unity Grain, east of Main Street on Central Street. Booths will be set up in the grass at Unity Grain. The flea market will be held on Friday and Saturday. So many people like to have garage sales, so why not set it up as a flea market and join a group of other people with "treasures" to offer. Those interested should contact Mike Drake, 871-2929, or Kris Issler at the First State Bank of Atwood, 578-2221.



STATE SENATE HONORS RETIRING DOCTOR. Dr. William Shackelford was presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the Illinois State Senate for his 28 years of service to the Arthur area. Matt Bernius, former village president and a current village trustee, presented the award at an open house for Dr. Shackelford held Sunday, June 24, at the Otto Center. Dr. Shackelford's distinguished medical career served patients in several central Illinois communities. Photo was submitted



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. Arthur Community Vacation Bible School was held June 11-15 and included five local churches. Theme this year was "Mega Sports Camp" and the children learned about team spirit among followers of Jesus and how to work together for God's Kingdom. This Community VBS averaged around 240 children and included around 70 volunteers from the various churches and community. Photo was submitted