

A Legend Has Retired Cerro Gordo bids Dr. Shackelford farewell

By CHRISTY JANKOWSKI
Staff Writer

Dr. William Shackelford opened a small family practice in Cerro Gordo in 1956 where Susan Lange's hair salon currently sits.

He started out with \$100 worth of equipment bought from Dr. Lamb, a colleague of his from Decatur Memorial Hospital.

The family clinic grew and eventually moved directly across from Cerro Gordo High School, where it still stands. Dr. Shackelford graduated high school early as Valedictorian of his class at the age of 14! He attended Southern Illinois University in Carbondale with scholarships and went on to attend medical school at the University of Illinois in Chicago. He interned at Decatur Memorial Hospital. Asking Dr. Shackelford how he grew the clinic to what it became, "I did it little by little." Adding, "My style back then was non-stop." And, Doc has not stopped much during his time. To many in the village, they knew he was available 24/7.

On June 30 from 3-5pm the Cerro Gordo Village

held a retirement party for Dr. Shackelford and over 70 people showed up to bid him ado. Refreshments were served, gifts exchanged, and laughter heard throughout.

The village presented him with two gifts, both pictured. The plaque is to go to the Veterans Memorial Park, as Dr. Shackelford served in the Korean War. It states: "Physician, Farmer, Land Developer. He has been our Doc for 62 years. He has an incredible work ethic. Cerro Gordo is a better place because of him."

Speaking with villager Carol Olsen, she only had delightful things to say calling him the "original country doctor." Olsen stated, "Doc's home phone number has always been in the phone book, and no one in this town took advantage of it." Shackelford often made house calls. Olsen experienced this with her husband as he was losing his battle with cancer. Her husband eventually was bedridden inside their home and early one morning, after Dr. Shackelford made his morning rounds, he stopped by.

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New teachers hired at Arthur's June school board meeting

By ROGER W. BONHAM
Staff Writer

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 Vanusdoll, 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 Bornreger, 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

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The milling machine of Feutz Construction was interesting to watch as it took away about three inches of asphalt.

Work on Atwood Main Street progresses

By DORIS ELMORE
Staff Writer

Work continues on North Main Street in Atwood by Feutz Construction Co. of Paris. This project has been a long time in the planning and will be a great improvement to the village.

Milling work was done on Main Street last week. The crew had to remove about

three inches of asphalt to get to the concrete and then check to see what shape it is in.

Richard VanDeVenter, foreman, explained to this reporter how the machine operates. The man walking along beside the milling machine controls how deep it is cutting to get to the concrete. As the asphalt

runs through the machine it grinds it up and then taken up the conveyor belt to the truck. It takes only a short amount of time to fill a big dump truck. It is then taken to a village site and dumped. Don Cordts, Supervisor of Street & Alleys, will use it for patching. Nick Hutchings is the supervisor

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A-H Class of 1960 held a mini class reunion on July 2. Pictured left to right are: Judy (Crist) Martin, Mary Beth (Hanners) Shipman, Gail (Randall) Howard, Betty (Moody) Hug, Sharon (Musick) Romine, Mary Ann (Schable) Swartz and Delbert Allen.

A-H Class of '60 Holds Mini Reunion

By DORIS ELMORE
Staff Writer

A few members of the Atwood-Hammond Class of 1960 had an impromptu mini class reunion on Monday, July 2, at McDonalds in Tuscola. Classmate Gail

Howard was in the area for a visit and wanted to meet up with some friends. Gail resides in Florida.

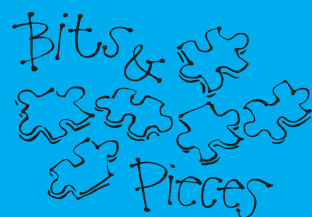
According to information provided by Mary Ann Swartz, there were 40 members of their graduat-

ing class. Approximately 13 class members are deceased.

Ideas were discussed on where and when to have their 60th class reunion in 2020. The remainder of the time was spent visiting.



50/50 DRAWING WINNER. The Hammond Fire Department held their annual pancake and sausage breakfast on Wednesday, July 4. The winning 50/50 ticket was purchased by David Pantier and was donated back to the department. Pictured are Hammond Fire Chief Roger Sebens and Assistant Chief Gary Gee with their half of the 50/50 drawing.



Atwood American Legion Open House set for July 12

Atwood American Legion Post #770 will hold an open house on Thursday, July 12 from 3-5:30 p.m. for the public to see the improvements that have been made to their facility at 323 N. Missouri St.

The legion home is a vital part of the Atwood community. It is used for the legion and auxiliary meetings as well as rented for other meetings, family gatherings, dinners, parties and more.

The public is invited to join the members on July 12 and take a look at the refurbished facility. Light refreshments will be served.

Lake Fork Church Ice Cream Social

Lake Fork United Church of Christ will be holding their annual Homemade Ice Cream Social on Saturday, July 14, serving at 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Featured flavors are chocolate, pineapple, lemon and vanilla. Homemade pie and cake will also be available.

The church is located 2 1/2 miles north of Atwood.

Free sign up for the Cerro Gordo Town Rummage Sale Flier

To participate, please call one of the numbers no later than Wednesday, July 18.

You will be asked to provide the following information: address, number of families participating at that address, days and times open (26, 27, 28), and kinds of rummage offered.

These sale fliers will be distributed around town prior and during the days of the sale. This is a volunteer effort.

Call 763-4071 or 763-6526.

Shadyrest to perform live at Bement Lions Club Community Center

Shadyrest, a new local country, classic rock band, is set to perform at the Bement Lions Club Community Center (117 S. Macon, Bement) on Saturday, July 21 from 7 pm - 10 pm.

This is a free family friendly event. Non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase.

All patrons must be 21 years of age to enter unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Mark your calendars, dig out those dancin' boots and join us for a fun evening of music and dancing!!



A total of 212 American flags were purchased and displayed at the Cerro Gordo American Legion Auxiliary annual Flag Garden ceremony held downtown on July 4. The Flag Garden is dedicated to the memory of those who fought to keep the freedoms that were incorporated into this country at its beginnings. The flags serve as a remembrance of the fallen heroes, those currently serving and loved ones from the Air Force, Army, Marines, Navy and POW/MIA. Additional photos on Page 9.