

# ARTHUR GRAPHIC-CLARION

Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018

Serving Eastern Moultrie, Western Douglas, and Southern Piatt Counties

Arthur, Illinois 61911

## Over 70 teams signed for 15th BBQ Cookoff

By ROGER W. BONHAM  
Managing Editor

Downtown Arthur will host the Fifteenth Annual Central Illinois Bragging Rights BBQ Cookoff Friday and Saturday, October 12 and 13. The competition has grown over its 15-year history to a major competition on the KCBS circuit and remains a huge attraction for those who just like to cook out on the grill.

The competition has two divisions, professional and amateurs. The professional division offers a total of \$12,000 in prize money while the amateur division offers \$1,150 in cash prizes.

Headquarters for judging and announcements is Arthur United Methodist Church located at the corner of East Illinois and South Hickory streets. This is a change from previous years.

According to George Fritz, event chairman, competitors will arrive as early as Thursday afternoon to park their vehicles and cookers on the streets. Cookoff areas include Vine Street from Progress to Park, Walnut Street from Progress to Park, the 100 blocks of East and West Illinois Street, Hickory Street from Progress to Park, and the 100 block of West Progress Street plus the Gazebo Parking Lot, Municipal

Parking Lot north and east of the Welcome Center, and the IGA parking lot west of the store.

Fifty-five teams (the maximum) are expected for the KCBS division. Teams prepare four meats: chicken, ribs, pulled pork, and brisket.

Cash prizes for KCBS competitors are \$1,500 for Grand Champion, \$750 for Reserve Grand Champion, \$500 for third overall, \$250 for fourth overall, and \$100 for fifth overall. Also, 10 places in each category will receive cash prizes.

Thirty teams (the maximum) are expected to compete in the Backyard BBQ division. Teams prepare two meats: chicken and ribs.

Due to KCBS rules, teams are not allowed to sell their product at the competition.

However, food vendors will be set up all day to take care of visitors wanting a taste of barbecue for lunch or a snack.

“With over 75 teams coming in, that’s around 300 or 400 people coming to Arthur this weekend,” Fritz said. “They will do some shopping, eat at our restaurants, visit our attractions (Pumpkin Patch and unique shops), and buy gas here. That is good.”

Competition on Friday

begins with a sausage and wings contest for the KCBS teams.

Entries for Saturday’s competition will cook overnight for 12 to 18 hours.

Judging begins at noon as chicken entries are turned in. Ribs, pulled pork, and brisket follow every half hour.

Backyard entries are

due at 2 p.m. (chicken) and 3:30 (ribs).

Results will be announced at 3 p.m. on East Illinois Street near the intersection with Hickory Street.



**ALAH HS MARCHING BAND NUMBER ONE.** The Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond Marching Knights had a great day on Saturday, October 6, at the Newton Marching Eagles Band Classic. The band placed first in Class AA. The band also brought home trophies for Best Auxiliary, Best Percussion, and the Miss D Crowd Appeal Award for the second consecutive year. The crowd appeal award covers all four classes in competition who performed that day. Drum Majors Nisa Asghar, Gabe Hallford, and Taylor Nichols and music instructor Ryan Wood (above) display all four trophies. Photo was submitted.

## Happy trails to you, Arthur

By KENT A. STOCK  
Staff Writer

Living in the Arthur area, you are apt to see about anything, especially when it comes to livestock. However, on Friday, October 5, something a little different took place along the roads east and north of Arthur—an actual cattle drive complete with cowboys, cowgirls, horses and, obviously, cattle.

“This was our first year of doing this, so it was a bit of experimenting on how things would work out,” said Matt Best, owner of Handsome Duck Cattle Company located about three miles northeast of Arthur.

“People had talked about doing something like this with me since I moved here. I guess it took a California cowboy to get it started,” Best laughed.

Best, who works at CHI Overhead Doors in Arthur, put out the word to local friends and his western buddies to come and take part in the inaugural event.

“I was overwhelmed by the response.”

The enthusiastic team gathered up the nine-head of cattle and drove them three miles from the ranch to Arthur Sale Barn and then drove them back.

The event was not purely just for fun either. Best’s close friend and co-owner of the cattle company in California suffers from PTSD. Best wished to use this to raise awareness about the issue.

“My friend was supposed to be here, but he was having some struggles and had to check in for outpatient treatment. He is impacted everyday by PTSD but knows when and where to seek help. There are so many people who have put their lives on the line in serving our country that are just like him. We need to find ways to support them!”

Best indicated that there would be another drive in the future.



**CATTLE DRIVE.** Head ‘em up and move ‘em out was the call on Friday morning, October 5, as 15 or so cowboys and one cowgirl drove nine-head of cattle three miles into town to Arthur Sale Barn. The cattle drive was organized

by Matt Best of Handsome Duck Cattle Company, located northeast of Arthur. The “trial run” was planned to raise awareness of PTSD. Future drives are planned. Photo by Regina Yoder



**UNDEFEATED.** Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond JFL Heavyweight Knights finished their 2018 season in the Little Illini JFL East Division undefeated. Pictured here are team members after their 46-0 victory over the Sullivan Okaw Valley Colts on Saturday, October 6, at Wilson Field. The Knights’ perfect season included victories over Maroa-Forsyth, Villa Grove, Tri-County, Cerro Gordo/Bement, Tuscola, Cumberland, Arcola, and SOV. The team is comprised of seventh- and eighth-graders. First row, left to right: Mason Allen, Kaulin Morfey, Madyson Lucas,

Caleb Corum, Jeffrey Arwine, Hunter Grant, Noah Garrett, Kaden Shaede, Isaiah Bates, Jayce Parsons, Daniel Arwine, Connor Nettles, Christopher Miller, and Max Duzan. Second row: Assistant coaches Jared Grant and Cody Duzan, Trevor Duzan, head coach Justin Wierman, Kody Kornewald, Brody Loudon, Drew Cotton, Jacob Tighe, Bobby Schanuel, Tanner Beckmier, Dalton Eads, Kaden Feagin, Malachi Gutierrez, Jacob Stroh, Andrew Jeffers, Timothy Tighe, and assistant coaches Ryan Nettles and Darrel Duzan. Photo by Sally McCarthy

## News Briefs

### Library to host program about Illinois Amish Heritage Center

Have you ever driven down Route 133 and wondered what was going to be developed at the Illinois Amish Heritage Center?

At 1 p.m. on Saturday, October 13, Tom Vance, historic and restoration consultant from the Illinois Amish Heritage Center, will be at Arthur Public Library to give a presentation on the history, development, and current programs at the center.

This program is open to the public.

### Lovington Fall Festival activities set for Oct. 14

Lovington Revitalization Coalition will hold the Fourth Annual Lovington Fall Festival Weenie Roast on Sunday, October 14. The free event will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. at Lovington park.

There will be activities for all ages including a pumpkin carving/decorating contest and bobbing for apples. Gail Wolfe will offer free rides in his horse-drawn wagon from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Youth activities include sack races, pumpkin races, and games. Races start at 5. Games include candy corn bowling, pumpkin putt-putt golf, corn cob ring toss, and more.

Free food and beverages for the public include hot dogs, chips, sides, hot chocolate, water, and S’mores.

For more information about the festival and for pumpkin carving contest entry forms, please see the “Putting Back the Love in Lovington” Facebook page.

### Senior Citizens Meal will be held at Eberhardt

The October Senior Citizens Luncheon will be held on Monday, October 15, at Eberhardt Village. Serving begins at 11:30 a.m.

Please bring a covered dish. Meat and drinks are furnished.

Everyone is welcome.

Please note the change of location for this month’s luncheon.

### Woman’s Club ‘Coat Drive’

Arthur Woman’s Club is collecting new and used coats for children attending local schools.

Coats needed are sizes for kindergarten through eighth grade, approximately children’s sizes 5 thru 14. Coats should be in good condition, clean, new or used.

Collection boxes are located at IGA, Vine Street Christian Church, and Arthur Mennonite Church.