

MANNEQUINS Background: University of Illinois Vet. Med. Prairie Garden mymeadow.com by Don S. Chambers

A recent study found that individuals spend an average of 47% of their day daydreaming.

I'M FINALLY ABOVE AVERAGE AT SOMETHING!

Businesses are expanding

By BOB DOAN
Community Development Coordinator

It is good to see the growth occurring in Cherterville and south of that village. Due to the growth of Okaw Truss Company, Okaw Valley Woodworking and Okaw Valley Tours will move to a new location in the next few months.

They are in the process of constructing a huge (approximately 170 by 200) building just east of Simply Amish on the south side of Springfield Road. Merv Yoder is the owner of Okaw Valley Woodworking and Okaw Valley Tours.

This is positive news for the continued growth and development of the economy throughout the Arthur Area. Congratulations to Fred Helmuth (Okaw Truss Company) and Merv Yoder on this growth and expansion created by their sales efforts.

In my most recent article, I mentioned the large number of visitors downtown on Friday, September 28. I think there were even more visitors downtown, and throughout the Arthur Area, on Saturday.

I think sometimes we forget the economic impact which events and activities in the countryside make on the entire Arthur Area. We all realize that most visitors to the Arthur Area make more than one stop during their time in Arthur.

The Arthur Area Economic Development Corporation (AAEDC) continues to encourage each business professional to be keenly aware of all events/activities occurring in the Arthur Area. When approached by a customer, it is rewarding to provide each of them accurate information concerning that event/activity.

Growing In Arthur

AAEDC

arthur area economic development corporation

The events I am recalling from last weekend was the huge Tri-County Auction on Friday night and all day Saturday. The Great Pumpkin Patch was open as was Aikman's Wildlife Adventure.

I certainly hope, and encourage, all Arthur Area businesses to find a way to "connect" with venues, events, and activities occurring at any location in the Arthur Area. These places and events provide tremendous opportunities for us to connect our business to their visit. That is a tremendous asset for our area and especially each individual business in the Arthur Area.

I continue to be pleased and impressed with the size of the crowds attending any type of sale at Arthur Sale Barn. Dr. Paul and Rachel Marx have done an exceptional job of growing and developing the facilities while attracting people from a wider-range of central Illinois and beyond. These people also visit more than one business when attending the sales at the Arthur Sale Barn.

One of the many Arthur Area businesses I know provides visitors (i.e. customers) to other businesses is the Poultry Processing Plant south of Arthur. I have interacted with numerous people who have brought their chickens, and sometimes turkeys, to be processed at this plant.

While they are waiting they visit 2, 3 and sometimes 4 other businesses in the Arthur Area. This is an excel-

lent example of "connecting the dots," which our booklet promotes and encourages.

Speaking of the *Connecting the Dots* booklet, we are set to go to press in the near future. I realize I have been saying that for several months now, but we hope by the end of the calendar year to have the third edition of this booklet printed and available for sale. Copies will be available for \$10 each at the AAEDC office at 223 South Vine Street in Arthur.

I recently attended the Governor's Summit on Workforce Development on the campus of Illinois Central College located in East Peoria. It seems the primary "challenge" of businesses, especially manufacturers, is finding a reliable work force for their future.

This conference demonstrated that need and the focus was "What do we need to do, as a company, to improve the workforce of our future?" One of the changes many companies are making is to first review their application and interview process as well as requirements for entry level positions.

As I returned home following this conference, I realized few of our companies have methods of hiring for entry-level positions which provide opportunities for high school students on a part-time basis. In future articles, I will discuss possible options which businesses have for opening up their entry-level positions to high

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Police Report

By ROGER W. BONHAM
Managing Editor

A routine traffic stop resulted in the arrest of a St. Elmo man on Saturday, October 6.

Police stopped Trampas W. Grove, 39, of St. Elmo at 7:28 p.m. southbound on Vine Street near the intersection of Luke Street.

Grove was charged with driving while driver's license is suspended or revoked, possession of methamphetamine, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Arthur Police transported Grove to the Moultrie County Jail in Sullivan where he was held in custody pending the setting of

bond, according to Arthur Police Chief Mike Goodman.

Police cited Riley T. Gibbs, 26, of Mattoon on October 4 for driving while license is suspended. Riley was stopped at 5:11 p.m. on County Road 100 East at Sunrise Drive. Gibbs was released with a Notice to Appear on November 5 in Douglas County Circuit Court.

Robert D. Fisher Sr., 45, of Arthur was cited October 4 for operating a motor vehicle with an expired registration sticker. Fisher was stopped at 4:12 p.m. on Ash Street at Douglas Street.

Cory M. Schultz, 43, of Atwood was cited October 4 for a city ordinance viola-

tion, unlawful use of an electronic communications device in a school zone.

Schultz was stopped at 3:17 p.m. on Vine Street in front of Arthur Grade School.

Loren E. Thompson, 34, of Mattoon was cited October 3 for driving while his license is suspended, operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration, and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

Thompson was stopped by Arthur Police at 4:04 p.m. on Vine Street at 2nd Street. He has a court appearance date of November 8 in Douglas County Circuit Court, Tuscola.



CLASS OF 1941. These two ladies from Arthur High School Class of 1941 were the oldest attendees at the AHS Alumni Banquet held Saturday, September 29. They are June Regenold Shrader and Georgia Ellen Reeder Fitzjarrald.



CLASS OF 1948. Standing: Alberta Watson Bradford, Janece Blaase Dicks, and Anne Beckman. Seated: Margaret Pyle Collins. These ladies celebrated their 70th high school class reunion.

It's 'Paint It Pink Week' at ALAH HS

The ALAH Leadership class is sponsoring a "Paint it Pink Week" the whole week of October 15-19. Events during this week honor Breast Cancer Awareness and serves to raise money for causes near and dear to the hearts of ALAH students.

The week starts off with the "Dig Pink" volleyball game on Monday, October 15, hosted by ALAH whose opponent is cross-town rivals are Arthur Okaw Christian. Game time is 6 p.m.

That day at school students will be given ribbons to wear all week.

On Tuesday, October 16 students will celebrate "Socktober" day where students can wear fun socks and are encouraged to bring in a dollar if they do so.

Wednesday, October 17, there will be a teacher versus student, 5-touch volleyball game beginning at 6 p.m. One-dollar admission/donation will be charged and, along with proceeds from concessions, will be

combined with all other money collected during the week.

Students will make cards to send to hospitals and people in the community on Thursday, October 18, and on Friday, October 19, the ALAH Knights Football team plays Cumberland at home. Wear your pink for the pink-out theme, and there will be donation boxes at each of the admission gates.

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CLASS OF 1958. These four people were on hand at the Arthur High School Alumni Banquet to celebrate their 60th year since graduating from AHS. Members of the Class of 1958 are, standing, Delilah Beachy England, George Freese, Diane Fitzjarrald Mackey and, seated, Edward Dean Cookson. Cookson was last year's recipient of the AHS Hall of Fame Award.

Did you know?

The United States is the third largest country by area, after Russia and Canada.

Kentucky produces 95% of the world's bourbon, but their official state drink is milk.

Johnny Cash's "A Boy Named Sue" song was written by the beloved children's book author Shel Silverstein.

A solar eclipse helped end a six-year war between the Medes and the Lydians in the 6th century BC. When the sky suddenly darkened, soldiers took it as a sign to cease fighting.

You'll probably never see a great white shark at an aquarium. They rarely survive in captivity.

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