

Zion News

Thought for the day: "Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance." - 1 Corinthians 13:7 (NLT)

This is an early heads-up that next Thursday is Valentine's Day. Even though Jay Leno jokes that, "As men like to call it, Extortion Day," it is a good time to think about those people in your life who you love and who love you.

Is there someone in your life who epitomizes the above scripture from 1 Corinthians? Wouldn't it be wonderful to be surrounded by love that never gives up and endures through every trial and trouble of your life?

There are opportunities for us to know that kind of love in our lives. There

are special relationships we have with others, with family and friends. There is a special relationship we can have with a church family and fellow Christians. But the surest way to know this love is through a special relationship with God who sent the world the greatest Valentine ever - his Son.

Let us celebrate Valentine's Day with a renewed awareness of the love that we have around us and the love that is available to us through Jesus Christ.

Last week was certainly a rough, COLD week! The pastor's wife, Ruthie, was born and raised near the Equator in South America, and Rev. Gartung was raised in central California. Those sub-zero temperatures and wind-chill factors were hard for people

to deal with. However, the Gartung's felt the Lord had blessed them with a beautiful, warm parsonage, and that they had everything needed to endure the brutal weather. We pray the same for everyone who had to deal with the Polar Vortex, knowing there are many who struggle every day to simply survive.

On Sunday, February 10, there will be a celebration of Mary Fern Carlyle's 94th birthday in the Activities Room at the Arthur Home from 1:00-3:00 PM. Everyone is invited to stop by and visit. She would be delighted to see you! Refreshments will be served.

On Sunday, February 17, we will have good fellowship and discussions during Christian Conversations after the worship service. Then our church members, family, and friends will go out for brunch at Pizza Hut in Tuscola.

Our prayer concerns continue to include Todd Martin, Jerry and BJ Hale, Katana Ponder, J B and Jean White, Bobby and Reagan Miller, Jim and Jackie Tholen, Sharon Parsano, Donna Schultz, Jeff Romine, Ben

Valerio, David Walker, Elsie Warnings, Betty Sawyer, Wilmer and Lela Otto, LaVerne Smith, Jim Dycus, Marvin Helmuth, and Henry Schrock.

New to our prayer list is Craig Chapman who is facing difficult health issues.

Central Illinois Outdoor Expo

(Continued from Page 1) products manufacturers. He is a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, as well as the Missouri Outdoor Communicators.

As a book author, Roux has recently released his new turkey-hunting book called, *If You Call Them... They Will Come*. This award-winning outdoor writer has

A Valentine's Day thought: "All you need is love, but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt."

Rev. Gartung welcomes your calls and email. You may reach him at 460-1892 or at dennis@gartung.me. He and his wife, Ruthie,

would be glad to visit with you. Just give them a call or send an email.

Zion's worship service starts at 9:00 AM each Sunday with various Sunday School activities following at 10:30 AM. Everyone is welcome.

spent over 35-years in the turkey woods and has published hundreds of articles on the topic of chasing gobblers.

This book is a collection of his very best works and is sure to please novice and veteran turkey hunters alike.

Each day there will be numerous giveaways as well as door prizes supplied by

event vendors and others. There will also be FOUR \$100 gift cards to area merchants given away over the two day event sponsored by the Central Illinois Outdoor Expo committee.

You are all invited to come out and experience the great outdoors in the Arthur area for a weekend of winter fun for the entire family.

Lake Land College Announces the Fall 2018 Graduates

Lake Land College is proud to announce that nearly 220 students graduated with degrees and certifications after completion of the 2018 fall semester.

Atwood: Megan Cornwell. Certificate - Cosmetology

Lovington: Hilary Bellmyer, Associate in Arts - English

Oakley: Thomas Noe, Associate in Arts - Liberal Arts

Linville named to Dean's Honor List

Cedarville University student Benjamin Linville of Bement, was named to the Dean's Honor List for Fall

2018. Linville is majoring in BS-Biology.

WISE AND OTHERWISE

By Kent A. Stock



Time to think about baseball!

"Don't turn the station," said my grandfather Martin Stock who was supposedly asleep on the couch when his daughters snuck in to turn the radio dial from the Cubs game playing on the radio. Yup, even half asleep, my grandpa and the rest of the family were big fans of the Chicago Cubs.

Well my parent's families both got off the boat, so to speak, in the late 1800's for my dad's side much earlier for my mom's side. When baseball came to be, not only did they instantly gravitate to the Chicago squad, they remained there, well, through their entire lives. The Chicago Cubs were "our" team do or die no matter what. Here I am still today.

Was it just the men? OH NO! Both men and women on both sides of the family tree passionately adopted the Cubs as their team along with baseball and softball as a sport to play. At least my (very) oldest relatives got to see them win something and then 2016 came along and WE got to see them win. Whatever loyalty for the team it was that started in those young years was passed down from generation to generation. It was a passion for the game of baseball and an activity added to almost any family event over the years on the radio, the TV and then the internet.

Our Chicago Cubs were part of holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, and every family event including funerals. Grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins had a Cubs tribute at their own funeral. Many hats, gloves and other paraphernalia were buried with them. My own mom was sent to rest with a Cubs blanket that was a favorite.

I have to admit, I tried to break free from this Cubs fandom thing. I knew the rivals from St. Lou were off limits if I wanted to remain at home even as a ten year old. I tried the White Sox and the Kansas City Royals for a while too.

My folks knew better. I had been to several games at Busch Stadium simply due to proximity when I was younger. The time came for Mom and Dad to take me to a game at Wrigley Field. From the very moment I stepped into the Friendly Confines, I was HOME. This was my team, this was my family's team win, or more than likely lose, no matter what.

Don't get me wrong, I love watching a live baseball game in St. Louis or anywhere else. When I lived on the east coast I loved Memorial Stadium followed by Camden Yards in Baltimore. No matter what, nothing compares to Wrigley, my team, my Cubs. This is family. This is my history. This is my team, wise or otherwise.

Actually, it does not need to be wise and probably won't be to some. It is dedicated to my first sports hero, Mr. Cub, Ernie Banks. To paraphrase "a beautiful day, the team is behind you, let's play two". Family. Baseball. Cubs. Heaven might just be like that.

Micro Hearing Aid

Concealed. Virtually Invisible. Extraordinary.



ONLY
\$798* ~~\$2,021~~
 original
 LIMITED TIME ONLY
 JANUARY 28TH - FEBRUARY 28TH, 2019

GET STARTED WITH A **FREE** HEARING SCREENING + DEMONSTRATION

Schedule a **FREE** hearing screening with our Beltone Factory trained specialists.

Get a **30 Day Trial** when you stop into Beltone and try a new pair of hearing aids.



BELLEVILLE | O'FALLON | EDWARDSVILLE | ALTON | GRANITE CITY | WATERLOO
 STAUNTON | NASHVILLE | MT. VERNON | CENTRALIA | SALEM | EFFINGHAM | DECATUR

SCHEDULE TODAY

1-844-468-8682

Southern Piatt

RECORD-HERALD

The newspaper for Atwood, Bement, Cerro Gordo, Hammond, Ivesdale, LaPlace and surrounding areas

Business Office: 113 E. Illinois St. • Arthur, IL 61911

Mailing Address: PO Box 589 • Atwood, IL 61913

Ph: 217-543-2151 FAX: 217-543-2152

Email: recordherald@consolidated.net

Website: www.southernpiattrecordherald.com

Periodical Postage (036-740) Paid at Atwood, IL 61913

The Southern Piatt Record-Herald, is a result of the merging of the Atwood Herald (established in 1887), and the News-Record (established in 1987) in January 2009. It is published each Wednesday by Arthur Publishing Company 113 East Illinois Street, P.O. Box 19, Arthur, IL 61911

Publisher - Greg Hoskins

General Manager/Advertising - Stephanie Wierman

Production Manager - Kim Gee

Staff Writers - Doris Elmore, Kent Stock and Christy Jankowski

Subscription Rates - 1 year

\$32.00 in Piatt, Douglas, Moultrie and Macon Counties

\$29.00 for local senior citizens (60 and over)

\$31.00 for senior citizens rest of Illinois (60 and over)

\$34.00 in the rest of Illinois; \$36.00 Outside of Illinois

\$22.00 subscribe to online newspaper only

"Letters To The Editor"

We welcome letters. They should be brief, timely and to the point. Letters which do not contain a telephone number (for verification only) and legible signature will not be published. As necessary, letters are edited for content, clarity and grammar.

Single Copy - \$1.00

Postmaster: Please send address changes to Southern Piatt Record-Herald, P.O. Box 589, Atwood, Illinois 61913-0589

Deadlines: All advertising, news articles and photos for publication must in by noon Friday before desired publication date.