



Villa Grove News



Serving Villa Grove, Camargo and the surrounding areas!

Vol. 111 No. 45

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Pages 8

Side Tracks

your express route to upcoming VG events

Devilettes; Jr Devilettes IDTA Season Finale



Devilettes took home 2nd place, Jr Devilettes took 1st in the IDTA State Final Competition on Saturday, February 9.

Owner of Gire Roofing Sentenced to Three Years in Prison for Visa Fraud; Harboring, Employing Illegal Aliens

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – U.S. District Judge Sue E. Myerscough today sentenced Edwin J. Gire, 47, owner of Gire Roofing, Inc., of Champaign, Ill., to three years in prison for visa fraud and for harboring and employing illegal aliens. In addition, Gire was ordered to pay a fine of \$30,000, and to remain on supervised release for two years following his release from prison. The Bureau of Prisons will determine the date and facility where Gire is

to self-report to begin serving his sentence. Grayson Enterprises, Inc., Gire Roofing's parent company, was sentenced to a three-year term of probation and ordered to pay a fine of \$250,000. In January 2018, Gire and Grayson Enterprises were convicted of visa fraud (four counts) and harboring illegal aliens (three counts) following a bench trial before Judge Myerscough. Gire had previ-

ously entered pleas of guilty to three misdemeanor counts of unlawful employment of aliens. At today's hearing, Judge Myerscough found that both Gire and Grayson Enterprises obstructed justice during the trial by committing perjury and providing false information to the court. The court found that as a result of the fraud, more than 100 fraudulent H-2B worker visas were issued to Gire Roofing from

2011 to 2014. To justify the number of H-2B worker visas requested, Gire provided multiple fraudulent roofing contracts, including contracts for work that customers never agreed to and contracts with forged signatures of the alleged customers or their representatives. At trial, the court found that undisputed evidence proved that Gire knew or recklessly disregarded the fact that illegal aliens were allowed to

live in a building owned by his company. Gire did this to make the aliens' employment as roofers for Grayson Enterprises attractive despite the fact that Grayson Enterprises was paying them less than the applicable prevailing wage. By giving the aliens a place to live, the court found that Gire safeguarded the aliens from the authorities by making it more difficult for authorities to locate them. The charges Cont. pg. 2

Local Couples Share Their Love Stories

By Tony Hooker Staff Writer
Ah, Valentine's Day. A time for showering your beloved with gifts and chocolate and sweet nothings, right? Depending on which story you choose to believe, Valentine's Day is either an extension of the old Roman Holiday of Lupercalia, in which drunken, naked Roman men would sacrifice dogs and goats and then strike the eligible women of Rome with the bloody hides of the animals they had just killed. Ah, romance, Roman style. This was somehow supposed to make the damsels more fertile in the coming year. Another popular story about the origins of Valentine's day involve St. Valentine of Rome, who was a roman priest who was said to have overseen the weddings of Christians, who were being persecuted under emperor Claudius. He was subsequently beaten with stones and clubs and beheaded for his troubles.

So, with these rather bloody origins in mind, we here at the Villa Grove News and Southern Champaign County today will continue our tradition of printing the love stories of some of our readers who were brave enough to share them with us. **Ami Hays and Andy Currie**
"Give me time, and I'll give you the world!" This is Andy's common refrain to his girlfriend, Amariah Hays. The couple will be celebrating five years together on March 14, and Ami was kind enough to share a letter she wrote him in celebration of his 30th birthday. My Dearest Andy Lee, thank you for pursuing a single woman. You were charming, respectful and patient. You didn't have any corny one liners, you were not making any moves, you didn't ask for my number for months, you quietly sat at the end of the bar where I worked, in the small town we both lived in, drank your beam and water

and waited for closing time. I tried to kick you out at 3am, I got no rebuttal. You quickly grabbed a rag and we sang along to the juke box as we wiped down tables, you took out my trash, stocked my drinks and walked me home at night. I learned about you and you learned about me. No secrets, no lies, no hiding out and nothing to recover from. There was no plan, no motives. We just were. We were in the moment. It's been nearly five years since you last walked me home and you are turning 30 in a few short days. (yes I know I robbed the cradle!) Thank you for loving me and the boys. Thank you for being an example. Those loving strong hands that toss Landon in the air and catch him, are the same hands that held mine walking down Davidson St. to take me home at 3:00 am after work, they are the same hands that go to work every day, and the same hands that fix ouchies, and build forts and tree houses, the same hands that hug so



Andy Currie and Ami Hays enjoy family time. Photo courtesy of Ami Hays
tight before bed time. There is always love in those hands. I am so grateful for how we started out. Because of your mindfulness our love story will always be one the boys can respect, and it's given us a springboard to our future. Cheers to 30 my love!
Tater and Danielle Daly
1. What are your names and ages?
Tater Daly 36. Danielle (Helm) Daly 34
2. How did you meet?
Tate's dad RJ Daly, told him to meet a good-looking

bartender, and told Danielle that she needed to meet his son, after telling me stories about his 9 lives. We met at the country club when Danielle was working the dining room. RJ introduced me to the man behind the beautiful blue eyes and we went on a date and have been together ever since. We have an eight-year old son named AJ
3. What advice would you offer to newlyweds?
Our advice to newlyweds is to run like Forrest. Lol!

Villa Grove School: January Students of the Month



January students of the Month. From left to right. Chase White, Jamison Duke, Margot Howard, Carter Leith, Sarah Bloom, Riayn Cisna, Ella Uptmor

- Camargo Champs 4-H Club Tuscola IGA Round-Up Days 2/10-2/16
- VG Schools Data Day 1:30 pm dismissal 2/13
- VG Booster Club Mtg 2/13 @ 6:00 pm
- VALENTINE'S DAY 2/14
- Scholastic Bowl @ Tri-County 2/14 at 5:00 pm
- VGH Frosh BBB vs Sullivan 2/14 @ 6:00 pm
- VGH BBB vs Martinsville 2/15 @ 6:00 pm
- VG Schools Improvement Day-11:30 am dismissal 2/15
- Scholaastic Bowl @ Masoonic Tourney at Arcola 2/16 times TBA
- NO SCHOOL VG schools-President's Day 2/18
- VGH BBB at IHSA Regional Tourney @ Broadands vs ALAH 2/18 at 7:30 pm
- VG school Board Mtg 2/19 @ 6:00 pm
- VGJH VB @ Decatur LSA 2/19 at 6:00 pm
- FFA Appreciation Breakfast Thursday, February 21st 6:30-7:30AM Located in the Ag Shop
- VG Schools K-8 spring Picture day 2/21
- VGJH VB vs Cerro Gordo 2/21 @ 6:00 pm

If you have an upcoming event that you would like to see featured in Sidetracks, email us at vgnews@mchsi.com or call us at 832-4201