

Obituaries

Paul Lawrence Cler

Paul Lawrence Cler was born October 27, 1921, the son of Henry and Hilda Cler, Pesotum. Celestine Eisenmenger and Paul were married June 10, 1941, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Pesotum, IL. He passed away Father's Day (June 16, 2019) at the Tuscola Health Care Center. Visitation was from 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Friday, June 21, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Villa Grove, IL. Funeral Mass took place at 11:00 AM, with Father Aloysius Ndeanafo officiating. Burial took place in the St. Mary's Cemetery, rural Pesotum, IL. Married for 74 years, Paul and Cel raised nine children: Jacquelyn (Glenn) Keever, Kenneth (Judy) Cler, Sandra (Gerald) Baumann, Edward (Dena) Cler, Thomas (Donna) Cler, Marvin (Pamela) Cler, Chloanne (Berton) Rund, Patrick (Alison) Cler and Keith (Lyn) Cler. Over 70 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren called Paul "Grandpa." Paul was preceded in death by his loving wife, three brothers (Bernard, Frank and Eugene), two sisters (Helen and Marilyn), a son (Kenneth), two grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He is survived by five sons, three daughters, and his baby sister, Juanita. The patriarch of a very large family, Paul was unwavering in his faith and raised his children to know and love God. He and Cel began their life together in South Carolina. Paul taught sheet metal work and did ship repair in the Navy shipyards during World War II



as a civil servant. Then he enlisted in the Navy to do ship repair in the New York shipyards. When they returned to Illinois, they settled in Villa Grove and Paul made a home in the garage until Paul finished building the house. Never one to be underestimated, Paul was a man of courage and resiliency, even in the recent years and months as he dealt with his failing health. If you knew Paul, you know of the endless love, support and guidance he provided to his family. If you knew Paul, you knew he allowed his children to learn thru experimentation (mingled with "tough love"). If you knew Paul, you knew that if you stopped in at "the shop" with broken equipment for your farming operation or other business, that failure would not reoccur. He relished making good as new what was labeled as, "It can't be fixed." In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, the family asks that donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org) or the International Rett Syndrome Foundation (www.rett Syndrome.org).

Jean M. Jessee

PESOTUM — Jean M. Jessee, 78, of Pesotum passed away at 11:03 a.m. Thursday (June 6, 2019) at home. Celebration of life services were held at 6 p.m. Friday, June 14, 2019, at Freese Funeral Home, 407 N. Bourne St., Tolono. Jean was born Nov. 1, 1940, in Charleston, the daughter of Homer and Marion McCord Snider. She married James Jessee on May 22, 1970, in Champaign. He preceded her in death May 20, 1990. She is survived by her children, Bradley Simpson of Rantoul, Eric Simpson of Mahom-

et and Marie Jessee of Tolono; 10 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Buzz Snider of Charleston and Bill Snider of Charleston; and one sister, Pam Rhodes of Texas. She was preceded in death by her parents and a son, Douglas Simpson. Jean worked at the University of Illinois for 22 years in Building Services. Jean enjoyed gardening, dancing and watching humming birds and butterflies. She loved to shop and go to church. Most of all, she loved to spend time with her family and friends.

Letter to the Editor

I wrote several weeks ago in reference to the Douglas County board and their impending vote to grant a permit to Energias De Portugal (EDPR) to construct 49, 59-story wind turbines in Newman and Murdock Townships. As you may know, last week the full Douglas County Board voted for the permitting by a 5-1 vote. Douglas County Engineer's, Jim Crane, recommendation was to not grant EDPR's request.

Crane cast his vote against the permits the day before in the sub committee hearing because it was his job to know and advise the county board if EDPR had met all requirements of the Wind Energy Conversion System (WECS Agreement). His conclusion was in fact, they had not. Even though the Board Chairman acknowledged it did not fulfill the mandatory WECS provisions, and one member "thought it could be worked out" the Chairman allowed the vote to take place thus granting EDPR the permits, along with other board members, and one abstention, who had readily admitted to having signed an agreement with EDPR.

Although outdated and inadequate in scope, our WECS was supposed to "protect" our residents by establishing guidelines and standards. These were adopted in 2009, and in no way were intended to address 591' towers, the megawatts they produce or the setbacks that monstrous height would require. Our current guarantee for setbacks of 1,000' (which is actually the manufacturer's rec. for a 320' tower) from a neighboring foundation, is 500' less than the manufacturer recommends for a 450' tower (ice throw has been known to travel up to 1/2 mile) and could prevent you from building a structure on your own property in the future.

Our towers are to be 591', what would a safe setback be? My interpellation tells me well over 2,000' but no one knows, because these will be the tallest towers on land in the United States. Furthermore, there was no mention in the WECS of shadow flicker (standard language in almost ALL other county WECS), ground current, real estate value protection, as well as many other issues that follow in the footprints of these industrial complexes, that we residents could have been afforded protection from.

The votes of these men, men we elected to represent us, also went in the face of the two townships that organized and adopted zoning, not to prevent, but to judiciously install the power plants in a manner to further afford protection to their citizens that the WECS amendment, did not. Only Bibby Appleby cast her vote as the constituents of Murdock and Newman had, to express their constitutional rights, to protect their property with zoning, they legally organized and voted to enact.

Most of us were ignorant about windmills before this all started and those not involved in a project tend to be kept that way. Once imminently posed with a power plant in your neighborhood, and information is gathered, it becomes very obvious, very quickly, that the only thing big wind has to offer is MONEY! The money they promise is money being redirected to us from government subsidies and tax breaks they have received from our tax money given back to us from a foreign company that keeps the lion's share overseas.

It is our observation that everyone who speaks "Pro Wind" is bought and paid for - or hopes to be so in the near future. We can site The World Health Association, NASA, Richard James, Rand and Ambrose, Steven Cooper, Davis Stetzer, Tom Tantan and many other independent studies that prove adverse health effects. By taking a few minutes to read real testimonials (some given by residents of other counties that appeared at our own open hearing) on the sleep deprivation, infrasound low frequency noise, the effects on pacemakers, autism, Parkinson's, and a plethora of others.

It seems impossible not to be concerned over these health issues and a multitude of others. Not to mention, the destruction our farm drainage system, killing of wildlife, adverse affects on livestock and horses, danger on the roads, and the potential loss of property value of up to 50%! Once you realize how real these have been in other people's lives, the wind company's shallow effort to throw money at, and attempt to disqualify, these claims

(sighting wind ambassador's "canned testimonials" - not mentioning they are contractually obligated not to speak negatively of the wind company) become absurdly inadequate.

In my original letter I had made reference to Phase II of the project, but that part was not printed, with my approval, because EDPR flat out denied there were any plans for Phase II.

I didn't want to misstate any facts. But low and behold, it slipped, out recently by EDP Representative Chris Brooks at the WECS sub committee meeting June 14, that he and the Chairman have had talks about Phase II. This is where other Douglas County residents might want to take note; Phase II very well might involve you!!! When were you going to find out? Like us, after it is too late to fight it?

Why are we being kept out of the loop? Isn't this our county, and our land, our homes, and our health? Please educate yourselves, once you do, you cannot unlearn the consequences of these catastrophic debacles.

Although apparently inevitable, Phase I construction has not yet begun; a couple of the little details are still yet to be ironed out. The above mentioned disregard for WECS specifications, oh and Longview. WOOPS!! Longview, which is in Champaign County thought their more stringent codes offered protection for them, only to find EDPR slated several, up to 5 towers on the Douglas County side, within the 1.5 mile proximity mandated by the state of IL. Details, details, details. Nothing money can't fix, right? It sure "fixed" the freedom of the Murdock and Newman residents to control their own property. When zoning was passed to protect them, EDPR our new "Good Neighbor" brought lawsuits against those townships, using whose money to do so? And, at the same time costing those townships dollars that could be going to roads and other improvements. When EDPR thought there could be a chance they might lose that battle, or at a minimum get the project delayed, they bought a law HB-2899 specifically to override those township's desired protections.

Finally, but for Mrs. Appleby, this county board did virtually nothing, one concession on de-commissioning that will most likely still be inadequate - however the board got them to raise the amount per tower total EDPR was going to post bond from \$35,000 up to the \$200,000 range, within 2 meetings. Wouldn't it have been great to have a board that would have negotiated on all of these other concerns starting a year ago?

Will they make any effort to protect you when Phase II comes your direction? Or Phase III? And, if they do decide to provide some basic safeguards, didn't the "Guinea pigs" of Murdock and Newman deserve the same protection, when they did everything within their power to make others aware, and tried to limit their family's exposure to the various detrimental effects?

Darrell McCumber, VP KMAC Ltd.



With Jim Balmer

Micah 4:1-5 Good News Translation (GNT)

The Lord's Universal Reign of Peace 4 In days to come the mountain where the Temple stands will be the highest one of all, towering above all the hills. Many nations will come streaming to it, 2 and their people will say, "Let us go up the hill of the Lord,[a] to the Temple of Israel's God. He will teach us what he wants us to do; we will walk in the paths he has chosen. For the Lord's teaching comes from Jerusalem; from Zion he speaks to his people." 3 He will settle disputes among the nations, among the great powers near and far. They will hammer their swords into plows and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will never again go to war, never prepare for battle again 4 Everyone will live in peace among their own vineyards and fig trees, and no one will make them afraid. The Lord Almighty has promised this. 5 Each nation worships and obeys its own god, but we will worship and obey the Lord our God forever and ever.

Letter to the Editor

I would like to express my gratitude to this community of the Villa Grove School District. Being the father of one of our 2019 high school graduates lends me cause to share this perspective. Maybe many of the other parents, my friends, would share these feelings also.

Most of us had entered our children into the north end of the school for kindergarten. They were all so small and full of fun for life. We went with them, grade by grade and project by project, as they learned. As the years went on, we let them try sports, band, choir, art, dance, etc, etc, to their hearts' content. Then high school came, and now, time to master some things for themselves. It was so very rewarding to witness their skill and understanding for the things they chose. Our system still works as a whole, and we have the graduates with their parents to prove it.

My lasting wish is to express my satisfaction and

pride in being part of it all. I can believe again in the cause for our future of this community, if we all work together. Thank you to the staff of our school at Villa Grove. All of you have made a difference in my daughter's life. Thank you to all the parents who chose to prove that action speaks louder than words. Thank you to all of the people who have watched over and encouraged these graduates of the 2019 class. The churches of our area have made their hearts grow beyond themselves, and I have a daughter to prove it with.

Lastly, I would like to thank my daughter and her friends. You all have allowed me to be a part of a wonderful journey for 13 years. It has been a ton of fun and I love you all for who you are. Time to apply what you have learned, but the lessons of life never end nor do the possibilities that await you!

Sincerely,
Timothy Wegeng

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EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Submit these items by the following dates/times for the July 3rd Edition!

Classified/Legals-

Thursday June 27 @ 2pm

News-

Thursday June 27 @ 2pm

Advertising-

Friday June 28 @ 2pm

Menus

Villa Grove Peace Meal July 1 - July 5

Monday: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Green Beans, Roll, Pineapples

Tuesday: Breakfast Casserole, Rosy Applesauce, Fruit Juice, Cinnamon Roll, Cranberries

Wednesday: Ham Salad, Creamy Broccoli Soup, Gelatin w/Fruit, Crackers, Peaches

Thursday: Closed for Independence Day Holiday

Friday: Pork Tenderloin, Potato Casserole, Mixed Vegetables, Texas Toast, Pears

For Reservations Call at 832-9445

Skim milk and desserts with no sugar added are available in many locations. Ask the Site Supervisor for information. Sometimes we need to substitute our menus. We still guarantee a nutritious meal. The Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program suggests a donation of \$3.50 for each congregate and home delivered meal. No older person shall be denied a meal because of their inability to contribute towards the cost of the meal. We accept Illinois Link Card.



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