

Obituaries

Kenneth H. Smith

Kenneth H. "Mick" Smith, 89, of Fairland died at 6:10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at his home.

Mick was born on April 17, 1931 in Heyworth, IL to David and Tressie (Johnson) Smith. He married Phyllis Lee Smith on June 5, 1965. She passed away on March 22, 2006.

He is survived by five children, Betty Ludwig of Tuscola, Virginia Martin of Chester, David Smith of Bloomington, Paul Wahls of Bloomington, and Julie (Terry) Millsap of Fairland; and several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, one daughter, two sons, and nine siblings.

Mick loved his horses and mules and would go down to Kentucky for mule wagon rides on old trails. He would also use his mules for nativity scenes around Christmas time. Mick loved to be around his family and friends and would always make people smile and laugh. Mick was an encouraging, giving man of faith who loved his church and church family.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at the Living Hope Fellowship Church in Villa Grove. Pastor Randy Walters and Mr. Pete Lake officiated. Masks were required during the service. Burial followed at the Fairland Cemetery and military rites were conducted. Joines Funeral Home (Villa Grove) assisted the family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Living Hope Fellowship Church.

Brian W. Binion

Brian Wilson Binion, 89 of Arthur, IL passed away at 2:37 p.m. on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021 at his residence.

Funeral services were held at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 8, 2021 at Penn Station in Arthur, IL. Burial with Military Rites conducted by the Arthur American Legion Post # 479 was in the Arthur Cemetery. Visitation was held from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Penn Station. The Edwards Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

Billy was born on July 2, 1931 in Scottsville, KY. He was a son of Roy and Flossie (York) Binion. He married Wilma Mae Snyder on May 18, 1951 in Arcola, IL. She passed away on July 29, 2004.

Billy is survived by three daughters, Marsha Hayse and her husband Ronnie of Oakland, IL, Debbie Kingery and her husband Andy of Hindsboro, IL and Angie Utsler and her husband Jeff of Arthur, IL; one son-in-law, Sam Bontrager of Purdin, MO; 10 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, two brothers, Wilbur Binion and James Binion and his wife Eileen all of rural Sullivan and one sister Doris Rich of Arthur, IL.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Wilma, one son Bobby Binion and his wife Lydia, one daughter, Pamela Mae Bontrager, two granddaughters, Misty Lynn Binion and Nichole Ann Bontrager, one great-granddaughter, Madison Faith Collier, one sister, Clarine Howard and four brothers Neal Binion, Donald Binion, Hillious "Red" Binion and Robert Binion.

Billy was a Navy Veteran of the Korean War.

He had worked at Progress Industries, Casket Division in Arthur, IL in the late 1960s delivering caskets all over the United States. He later worked at Firestone in Decatur, IL and retired with over 20 years of service.

Billy enjoyed working on lawnmowers, weed eaters, and chainsaws for neighbors and friends; he could fix almost anything.

He used to get many kids to and from school (not just his grandchildren) but everyone still called him "Grandpa" or "Uncle Billy".

Billy really enjoyed scratch off tickets and playing stringed instruments, like his guitar and mandolin and he also enjoyed playing his harmonica but his greatest joy of all was spending time with his friends and family.

Billy was a member of the Arthur Southern Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Arthur American Legion Post #479.

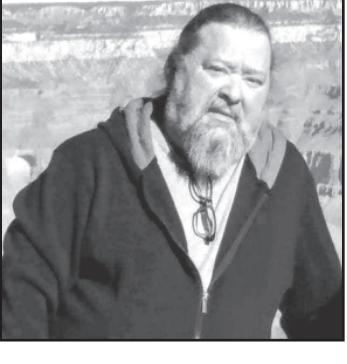
Timothy C. Lisanby

Timothy Clay Lisanby, 57 of Kingman, AZ., formerly of Tuscola, IL., passed away on Thursday, March 11, 2021, in Kingman, AZ.

Celebration of Life services for Tim were held at 2:00 p.m., on, Saturday, April 10, 2021, at the Urbana V.F.W. Hall, 1303 E. Main St., Urbana, IL. 61802.

Tim was born on November 21, 1963 in Dawson Springs, KY., a son of Joseph and June Lisanby. He married Tracey Mullins Lisanby on September 25, 2009 in Champaign, IL., and she survives of Kingman, AZ. Also surviving is his mother; June Lisanby, children; Timothy Lisanby, Charles Lisanby, Travis Gould and Joseph Downs. Tim is also survived by 2 brothers; Robert Wilbur, and Philip Patton, as well as his sister; Ladonna Wilbur. He was preceded in death by his father, grandmother; Mammy Beulah McDaniel and 3 brothers; Martin Wilbur, Joseph Lisanby and Larry Redmiles.

Aaron and Susie Hinds of Hinds Funeral Home, Bement, IL., has the honor to serve the family of Timothy Lisanby, "Our Family is Here to Serve Your Family". Please visit our website at www.hindsfuneralhome.com to offer condolences.



Nancy J. Otto

Nancy J. (Beachy) Otto, 79, of Arthur, IL passed away on Saturday, March 27, 2021 at her residence.

Funeral services were held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at the Otto Center, South of Arthur on the County Line Road. Bishop Larry Diener officiated. Burial was in the Otto Cemetery, just West of Otto Center. Visitation was held after 1:00 p.m. on Monday, March 29, 2021 at the Otto Center and after 10:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at the Otto Center. The Edwards Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

Nancy was born on March 21, 1942, she was a daughter of Joseph S and Lydia Ann (Stutzman) Beachy. She married Edward Nisley on January 10, 1991, they lived in Holy Matrimony for over 8 years. He passed away on June 23, 1999. She later married Noah J Otto on October 13, 1999 they lived in Holy Matrimony for over 6 years. He passed away on September 10, 2006.

She is survived by a stepson, Aden Otto and wife Darlene (Schrock) of Arthur, IL; a stepson-in-law, Ivan Troyer of Arcola, IL; two brothers, Eli J Beachy and wife Martha Ferne (Schrock) of Arthur, IL and Ervin J Beachy and wife Mary Kathryn (Plank) of Ontario, Canada; three sisters, Edna Smith and husband Dale of Tuscola, IL, Annie Kaufman and husband Dan and Alma Helmuth and husband Adlai all of Arthur, IL; two step-granddaughters, one step-daughter-in-law and eleven step-great-grandchildren.

Nancy was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Lydia Ann (Stutzman) Beachy, her first husband, Edward Nisley, her second husband, Noah J Otto, two stepdaughters, Ruth Ann Troyer and Naomi Sue Otto, one step-grandson, Noah Troyer, one brother, Jacob M Beachy and his wife Abbie (Schlabach) and three brothers-in-law, Andy J Miller, Norman Lee and Ben A Miller.

Nancy was a member of the Old Order Amish Faith.

Hoskins acquires two additional newspapers in Taylorville, Illinois

By Pamela Rensing

Greg Hoskins, publisher of Better Newspapers, Inc., is proud to announce the acquisition of two Illinois newspapers: The Breeze Courier and The Shopping Spree, both located in Taylorville, IL.

Based in Mascoutah, IL, Better Newspapers, Inc. is a family-owned company now operating 26 publications in Illinois and Missouri. The Breeze Courier is the first daily newspaper in the Better Newspapers, Inc. group.

"This is an exciting time for us," Hoskins stated. "My staff and I are looking forward to the challenges and, more importantly, meeting the needs of the community."

Hoskins bought his first group of newspapers in Mascoutah when he formed Better Newspapers, Inc. on May 1, 1991, and the newspapers included: the Mascoutah Herald, Clinton County News, Fairview Heights Tribune, and Scott Flier (which serves Scott Air Force Base).

Since that time, Hoskins has purchased Altamont News, Arthur Graphic Clarion, Record-Herald News in Arthur, Bond and Fayette County Shopper, The Shoppers Review in Highland, The Nashville News, The Troy Times-Tribune, The Journal and the Tri-County Journal both in Tuscola, The Leader Union in Vandalia, Southern Champaign County Today in Villa Grove, IL, and the Illinois Business Journal (a monthly business publication).

Missouri publications include: Wayne County

Journal-Banner and Reynolds County Courier both in Piedmont, MO, Ste. Genevieve Herald, Ozark Horse Trader in West Plains, MO, the Mountain Echo and Mountain Echo Extra in Ironton, MO, and the Douglas County Herald in Ava, MO.

In 2012, Hoskins expanded his corporation by building a regional press plant in Altamont, IL. This plant not only prints publications owned by Better Newspapers but also a variety of other newspapers in the area.

Hoskins attended the University of Iowa where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts. His first newspaper job was in the sales department of the Times Press in Streator, IL. Hoskins discovered his love and respect for newspapers at the local company.

After leaving the Times Press, he began working for American Publishing Company in West Frankfort, IL. The experience took him to Arizona to work for Kramer Publications which produced a daily newspaper and approximately 17 weekly newspaper and shopper publications.

The corporate headquarters of Better Newspapers Inc. is located in Mascoutah. It is an organization founded on family loyalty. Greg Hoskins is president of the corporation, and his wife Linda, works in the editorial department. His son, Scott Hoskins is the Metro East General Manager, and his other son, Mark, is the Regional Manager for the press plant and newspapers in Altamont, IL.

Catholic Charities of Coles, Douglas and Edgar Counties celebrates 25 years

Agency hosting virtual auction this year; continues to remain open to provide support to public

In March 2020 as the pandemic was making its way into headlines, Deborah Albin, Area Director for Coles, Douglas, and Edgar counties, was rolling up her sleeves to get to work.

"Catholic Charities has continued to stay open and help people as much as we are able because we are seeing that they need help now more than ever before," said Albin. "We haven't wavered in our support of the community for 25 years, and we're not going to stop now," she added.

This year Catholic Charities of Coles, Douglas and Edgar counties is celebrating 25 years of helping people get through tough times in life.

That help is arranged through programs like the Food Pantry, Mobile Food Pantry, MedAssist, Blessed Baby, and Medical Equipment Loan Program. Additionally, Boomerang Blessings helps community members with thousands of dollars of vouchers annually with clothing assistance, housewares and furniture assistance.

"Unfortunately last year we had to cancel our fundraiser because of the pandemic, and so this year we moved to hosting an online auction to raise funds for our programs and operations. We are calling it 'Purchase with a Purpose' because all proceeds will go right back into serving our local communities" said Albin.

Packages are available to bid on at catholiccharities.afrogs.org starting on Friday, April 9, and ending on Monday, April 19, 2021.

The virtual auction includes packages such as:

- * Flight over Coles County
- * EIU Collector's Item
- * Walk-In Greenhouse
- * Kate Spade purses
- * Dairy Queen for a Year
- * And many more exciting gifts that would be perfect for graduation & anniversary gifts, Mother's Day, Father's Day and more!

To learn more about Catholic Charities of Coles, Douglas and Edgar Counties, or to make a tax-deductible gift, visit cc.dio.org.

Lake Land College to host Virtual Automotive Open House

Lake Land College will be hosting a Virtual Automotive Open House at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 28.

Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from automotive technology faculty members on how Lake Land automotive academic programs prepare students with the entry-level skills and knowledge needed to get a job in auto repair shops as service or parts technicians.

Participants will also be able to see the recently renovated automotive lab, including the latest diagnostic equipment and tools students will use to work on vehicles and gain valuable technical knowledge.

Registration for the event is now open at lakelandcollege.edu/visit/.

"We want to encourage anyone who may be interested in the program to attend this virtual open house," Automotive Technology Instructor and Program Coordinator Brian Madlem said. "It will be a great way to explore the options the program has to offer, enjoy

a virtual tour of the Lake Repair Shop and have your questions answered."

The high-demand automotive technology program curriculum is based on, and follows Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) guidelines and is designed to prepare students for ASE certification.

The program covers vehicles' mechanical, electrical and electronic systems, including light duty diesel fuel and emissions systems. Instruction is provided by ASE certified instructors in a shop with modern tools and equipment.

For more information on the automotive technology program, contact Kevin Miller at 217-234-5286 or kmiller@lakelandcollege.edu. To learn how to get started at Lake Land College, visit lakelandcollege.edu/getting-started/ or contact Counseling Services at 217-234-5232 or counsel@lakelandcollege.edu.

2 1/2 Hour Auction
Bertha Schrock Roan
PUBLIC REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION
 Location: 250 N 1425 E Road, Atwood, IL
 North of Atwood to Magnolia St. then west 1 mile to CR 1425 E, then North 1.5 miles to auction site. Watch for signs.
 Saturday, April 17 • 10:00 a.m. (Real Estate Sells at Noon)



1961 SQ FT, 3 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH HOME. APPLIANCES INCLUDE REFRIGERATOR, STOVE, WOOD BURNING STOVE. PROPERTY INCLUDES SEVERAL STORAGE BUILDINGS AND A CHICKEN COOP ALL ON 2.5 WOODED ACRES.

• 60" ANTIQUE BUFFET • HICKORY ROCKER • OAK CABINET • OAK TABLE WITH 4 CHAIRS • 6 TABLE CHAIRS • MESSING OF DRAWERS • 42" ANTIQUE CONSOLE • REFRIGERATOR • 2 SOFAS • 1 LOVE SEAT • MATCHING SOFA W/RECLINING ENDS • MILK CAN WITH SPIGOTS • ELECTROLUX SWEEPER • LIBRARY TABLE • ANTIQUE CABINET • 2 BEDS • SHEETS AND CLOTHS • TOWELS • HOUSEHOLD ITEM • MASSAGE TABLE • KITCHENWARE • TUPPERWARE PICNIC TRAYS • POWER WHEELCHAIR • TABLE SKIRTS • CHILDRENS TOYS & BOOKS • BOOKCASE • 2 MAN SAW • ANTIQUE 55" SAW • LAWN FERTILIZER • TORO Z MASTER MOWER • METAL TRASH CAN • PET TAXIS • 2 WAGONS • LARGE ROCKS • PUZZLES • HANDWARMERS • Many other items to numerous to mention.

Real Estate Terms: Real Estate terms: 10% down payment auction day, balance due at closing within 30 days, possession at closing. Auction is subject to sellers approval.
 Auctioneer's Note: This is a beautiful country home on 2.5 acres with plenty of trees, birds & wildlife. New windows in 2019. Food stand by Paul's BBQ.

John Miller
 Auctioneer/Managing Broker
 Ph: 217-543-2883
 Lic # 471-018531 • Lic # 441-001855

Sam Miller
 Ph: 217-268-3465
 Lic # 441002092

WESTFORK AUCTION & REAL ESTATE, LLC
 Your Auction & Real Estate Specialist
 More info & pictures on AuctionZip ID #3360

Douglas County Ag Center extends Bateman Memorial scholarship deadline to April 15

The Douglas County Ag Center committee has extended the deadline to receive applications for the Dale Bateman Memorial Ag Scholarship to Monday, April 15.

Requirements for this scholarship are:

1. resident of Douglas County
2. course of study is agriculture
3. in at least their second semester or more as a student. Advanced degree Ag students are also encouraged to apply.

Interested college students need to supply college grade transcripts, resume, and information indicating career intent in the field of agriculture. Applications may be mailed or turned in by April 15 to: Dale Bateman Memorial Ag Scholar-

ship c/o East Central IL Farm Business Farm Management at 900 South Washington St., Suite B — Tuscola, IL 61953.

For more information, contact Dennis Ochs at (217) 202-2333 or Pat Titus at (217) 202-5204.