

# Arthur Through My Eyes

This week I sat down with Eli Shrock of "Yoder's Lamps and Antiques" and learned so much about this thriving business Arthur is blessed to have on our main street. Its roots go back to the 1950's in Chesterville when it was known as "Marner's Lamp Shop". After Mr. Marner passed away, Eli's brother-in-law Wilmer Yo-

der bought the business and renamed it "Yoder's Lamps" in conjunction with "Country Shoe Shop" (which is still located less than a quarter mile south of Vine street after you cross route 33). The two successful sales enterprises soon outgrew each other, and in 1997, Eli bought "Yoder's Lamps" from his brother-in-

law and had a shop out in the country. Changes in society with less need/desire for gas and kerosene lighting, and the move to modern batteries and LED lighting caused Mr. Shrock to move his business to Vine Street, where he has been for the past 14 years. It is at this time that the antique portion of the business was added, which has been very profitable. He appreciates being on Vine where there is more traffic, as a thriving establishment needs to be where there is a flow of traffic.

As you enter "Yoder's Lamps and Antiques" you are immediately walking down memory lane with approximately 13 consignment booths boasting antique dealer's fairs. You see collectibles of all kinds - figurines you remember your grandparents having, beautiful dishes of times gone by, quilts, doilies, pictures, denim durable rugs, license plates, gadgets that used to be a part of every day life. Hanging above are seed bean and seed corn bags a plenty, wooden decor and just cabinets full of treasures. There are many quality cast iron skillets and cookware and old crocks (which Eli says they sell a lot of). It is just a fun treat for the eyes and a place where antique lovers come a finding. The impact of this store, right here in our small town, is quite impressive, fascinating and far reaching.

They ship lamp parts worldwide and buy and sell to antique dealers all over the U.S. - some of the most interactions coming from California, New Hampshire, Texas and Mon-

tana. Yellowstone National Park cabins where outfitted and restored with items from "Yoder's". In fact, the dealer in Montana who searches out items to renovate comes to Arthur with a list 2-3 times a year. Tommy Hilfiger's resort in Colorado is outfitted with old kerosene lights and antiques that were purchase from Eli's store, and two world champion chuck wagons where also outfitted by "Yoder's Lamps and Antiques" for the contest in Fort Worth, Texas. I asked Eli how people hear about his store, he simply said, "word of mouth." Incredible! Arthur is on the map in people's minds across the United States. That is exciting!

As we closed our time together, I asked Eli what he appreciates most about being in Arthur and he replied, "friendly town, having a downtown, the people, and never knowing who you'll meet." So... stop in sometime to visit a unique, noteworthy shop because, as Eli aptly said, "you never know what we've got from one day to the next as we buy antiques all over and we're always looking to buy." In fact, as I was walking out, I overheard a gentleman who had brought items for Eli to look at to make sure they meet his criteria say, "You need to come to the house sometime" to which Eli replied, "I really want to come to the house"...continuing to look for treasures to sell, as we need to open our eyes to the treasures we have, right here in Arthur.

Treasure Hunting Always,  
Trudy Feyereisen

## CUSD 305 from page 1

as it has gone well and has been beneficial for both districts.

The 2023-2024 school calendar was approved, with one of the changes being that the students would be taking off the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr for that school year - and possibly years after.

The A/C Project at Lovington Grade School would now include expanding and including the gym since the estimates came in way under budget.

The new high school football scoreboard is scheduled to ship the last part of May. The football, baseball and soccer fields are due for some much needed care and preventative maintenance in the school districts. Cheek spoke with Allen Wall with Professional Outdoor Solutions about some of the district's options. Cheek suggested to the board that it would be best to take care of the solution and repair them now or the district would look at paying more later on. The estimate for the cost of the football field could cost anywhere between \$10,000-\$14,000 which would pay for an entire year of preventative services and would go beyond just fertilizing the field. "This would definitely be worth our time and consideration to work with them by looking at our fields," said Cheek.

At the end of the public portion of the school board meeting, Cheek announced that the district had received a letter of resignation from long-time Director of Maintenance, Bill Coleman. He has been employed for 22 years. Coleman's resignation will be effective at the end of this school year. Cheek said they would soon be celebrating his years and dedication to the district.

### Personnel Report February 15, 2023 Certified:

-Accept Melissa Nichols letter of resignation as the Certified District Nurse

-Accept Wendy Wallace letter of resignation as JH Math Teacher at AHGS  
-Recommend for hire, Sara Rawlins as the Math Teacher at AHGS JH

### Non-Certified:

-Accept letter of resignation

from Christine Giorgi as the LGS Paraprofessional/Library Aide

-Recommend for hire, Stephanie Harris as the Paraprofessional at LGS replacing Christine Giorgi

-Accept Mr. Bill Coleman's letter of retirement as the Director of Maintenance

### Extra-Curricular:

-Recommend Mikayla Graham as a volunteer assistant coach for JH track

-Recommend for hire, Mike Haste as the JH Assistant Track Coach

-Accept Jonathan Parsons letter of resignation from High School Boys Basketball Assistant Coach

-Accept Lyle Dorjahn letter of resignation from Cross Country Coach

-Recommend Brian Keagle as a volunteer assistant bass fishing coach

### ALAH High School Principal's Report

• Mrs. Beckmeir took 9 students to the FFA Ground Zero Workshop in Champaign on Friday February 3 and February 4. FFA held three of these workshops throughout the state and there were 440 students that attended the East Central IL workshop. Students said that they worked on life skills, took a personality test to learn their strengths and how to apply these skills as they worked in groups and as individuals. They also addressed knowing your role in group work. There was also more learned about agribusiness. Students thought that the Ground Zero workshop was a great opportunity and hope more students can participate in the future.

• Freshmen Orientation was held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 with 94% of the Class of 2027 attending with their parents. We had nearly 40 tables set up with our faculty and extra curricular options. The gym was buzzing. Students from our leadership class, student council and NHS all helped with the set up, tours of the building, and putting the gym back together.

• Scheduling for 2023-2024 - Classes have been meeting with Mrs. Hart to start planning their schedules for next year. Students enter their re-

See CUSD 305 on page 8

## Real Faith For Real Life

From Pastors of the Arthur Ministerial Association

### Take up something for Lent

This Wednesday, February 22nd, is Ash Wednesday. For many people, the only significance, if any, that Ash Wednesday has is that it is the day following Mardi Gras. And we all know that Mardi Gras is a great day for a party.

In the life of the Church, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a period of forty days leading up to the celebration of Easter. Lent is traditionally a period of fasting, repentance and preparation for baptism by new converts. It reminds us of the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tempted by Satan.

Some people give up something for Lent. This is traditionally something that the person likes, perhaps a certain food or an activity. I have always given up Brussels Sprouts for Lent, but that is not hard for me to do, since I don't like them anyway. A few years ago, a fellow pastor

told that he and his wife gave up their favorite television program for Lent, but they recorded it and, on Easter Sunday afternoon and evening, they "binge-watched" it.

In recent years, there has been a movement to encourage people not only to "give up" something for Lent, but also to "take up" something for Lent. Perhaps a new healthy habit, or the practice of doing random acts of kindness. The idea being that we can all do something that makes a difference in the world and to those around us.

May I encourage you to "take up" something for Lent that will make your corner of the world nicer for others in Christ's name.

Peace,  
Leroy Allison  
Retired Minister,  
writing for the  
Arthur Ministerial  
Association



# Church Directory

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE

**ARCOLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** - USA, 311 E. Jefferson, Arcola. Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m. Phone 268-3212

**ARCOLA FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE** - Rev. Ivan Jess 268-4769, 276-3020; Sam Miller, SS Supt. 202-6094. Sunday School, 9:30am Morning Worship, 10:30am; (Sign Language Interpreter) Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm; Wednesday evening Bible Study 6:00pm; Missionary Meeting second Wednesday night of each month.

**ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH** - 710 E. Park St., Arthur. Worship begins at 10:30 am each Sunday. Christian Education classes for all ages begin at 9:30 am. All are welcome, come and join us! Call 543-2781 for more information. Ministry Team: Glen Rhodes, Minister of Discipling & Administration; Jeff Marner, Minister of Worship and Youth; Emily Kauffman, Minister of Outreach; Nancy Kuhns, Minister of Community Life. Website: arthurmennonite.org Email: arthurmennonite@gmail.com

**ARTHUR SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH** - 530 N. Vine St., Arthur. Pastor: Doug Davis, Worship 10:00am; Children's Church every Sunday morning at 9:30am, Nursery provided. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00pm, Wednesday: Service 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited. 543-2672.

**ATWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH** - 229 S. Main, Atwood. Pastor Don Gerkin. Phone 578-2880. Sunday School 9am; Church, 10am; Bible Study 6:30pm

**BOURBON BAPTIST CHURCH** - David Babb, Pastor, Sunday Worship, 9:30am; Sunday School 10:45am; bourbon.baptistchurch@yahoo.com

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH** - Missouri Synod. 1 mile south of Sullivan on Highway 32. Glenn Strohschein, Pastor. Sunday Morning Service 10:00am; Sunday School 9:00am; Saturday services 5:00pm. Online services: www.worshipanew.com

**FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH** - 320 Surrey Lane, Arthur, Timothy Froese, Pastor. Sunday School 10am; Sunday Worship & The Word 11:15am; Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm. Website: www.facarthur.org

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (ABCUSA)** - 120 E. Park, Arthur. John Stewart Pastor; Sunday School 9am, Worship 10am; American Baptist Women's Ministries meets 2nd Mon. 7pm; Prayer chain, 543-2296. For other activities and information, call church 543-2592 or Internet at www.firstbaptistarthur.com

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** - 231 N. Illinois, Atwood, 578-2555. Woody White, Pastor. Sunday School 9am; Morning worship 10am; Youth 5:00pm; Discipleship Class 6pm; Woman's Bible Study Tues. 9am; IGNITE Children's Ministry Weds. 6:30-8pm. Child care provided at all services. Website www.firstbaptistatwood.org

**FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH** - 300 Northline Rd., Tuscola, 253-2084, Sunday School 9:30am; Morning Worship 10:30am; Evening service 6pm; Wednesday Evening 6:30pm. A Ministry for Everyone: Sunday School for all ages, King's Kids, Teen Dept. Homebuilders & more! www.faithtuscola.org

**LOVINGTON FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH** - Corner of County (Route 32) and Church Streets. Worship 9:30am; Children's Church 4 yrs.-1st grade 10:15am; Sunday School 10:45am for all ages; Wednesday night Bible Study, 6:00pm. Craig Swinford, Pastor.

**LOVINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** - 241 S. Broadway, Lovington Sunday School 9:15am; Worship 10:30am Larry Bricker, Minister.

**FAITH FAMILY FELLOWSHIP** - 228 N. Broadway St., Lovington. 873-8791. "Real Faith, Real Life". Sunday Service 10am. www.lovingtonfaith.org

**EAGLE MOUNTAIN** - Assembly of God. Pastor Darin Elder, 253-4444, 401 E. Sale St., Tuscola. Sunday Services, 10am and 6:30pm and Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm Nursery and children's ministries provided during all services.

**SUNNYSIDE MENNONITE CHURCH** - Larry Rocke, Senior Pastor, Luke Goss, Assistant Pastor. Sunday School 9:30am; Services 10:30am

**COWBOY CHURCH** - Penn Station, 122 E. Progress, Arthur. 217-273-4202. Services 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings. Darrell Helmuth, Minister. Everyone welcome.

**JONATHAN CREEK CHRISTIAN CHURCH** - "Forward in Christ, United in Love, Come as You Are". 1425 Jonathan Creek Rd, Sullivan, 728-4369.

Website: jrcreek.org. Email: jonathancreekchurch@yahoo.com. Pastor Tim Henderson. **Sunday Worship:** 8:00am Traditional Service, 10:00am Contemporary Service; 10:00am FROG (Fully Rely on God) Super Kids Church (for children 4-12); 6:00pm Believers Meeting (Contemporary Service.) **Corporate Prayer:** Tuesdays at 6:30pm. **Family Night:** Wednesday Evenings @ 6:30-8 pm Summer Schedule: 5/15, 5/22, 5/29, 6/5, 7/3, 8/7. Will start back weekly in September. Lite meal at 6:30-7pm then break up into classes til 8pm. **Bus Service Available** Call 521-9576 for bus info. Jonathan Creek Christian Church a Regional Life Transformation Center, LovingPeople to Life; Everyone Welcome.

**NORTH VINE MENNONITE CHURCH** - 312 N. Vine, Arthur, Brian Petersheim, Sr. Pastor; Mike Helmuth, Asst. Pastor. Sunday School for all ages 9:30am; Message 10:30am; Sunday evening services 6pm. No services on last Sunday night of every month. All are welcome.

**SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH** - Washington & Pine Streets, Arcola, 268-3766. Rev. Angel Sierra, Pastor. Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.; Weekday Mass Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Confessions Wednesday 6:15 p.m. or by appointment. Affirmations Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Email: johnbaptist@consolidated.net

**LIFEPOINTE CHURCH** - 700 E. Main, Arcola. Nondenomination/Spirit-Filled Church. Ph. 217-268-4586. Rev. Gephard and Judy Warman. Sunday Worship Service: 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Pastor Rogelio Gutierrez - Spanish Church. Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m. Friday Service: 7:00 p.m.

**ARTHUR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** - 128 E. Illinois, Arthur. Pastor Jill Bunker. Worship 8am & 10am; Sunday School 9am Nursery for Sunday School and 10am Service. www.arthurunitedmethodist.org

**VINE STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH** - 249 S. Vine, Arthur. Pastor Bob Silvanik. Sunday School 9am; Worship 10am. Christian Women's Fellowship meets first Wednesday each month 1:30pm, September-June. Nursery and air conditioning.

**ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST** - P.O. Box 252, Arthur. 2 1/2 miles south of Garrett. Church Worship 9:00am.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m

**LOVINGTON FIRST CHURCH OF GOD (ANDERSON)** - 301 W. State St. Lovington, IL 61937. Pastor Rodney Houser. Phone 873-4749 9am Sunday School, 10am Morning Worship, Wednesday 7pm Midweek Services, adult and childrens ministries.

**PRAIRIE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH** - 2423 CR 500 E, Lake City, IL 61937. Phone 677-2464. Nursery available for all services. Sunday School for K4-Adults 9:30 a.m. Worship and Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening services 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night Bible Study 7 p.m. with Flyer's Club (K4-1st Grade), King's Kids (2nd-6th Grade) and Teens (7th-12th Grade) every Wednesday (Sept.-May). Email: info@prairieviewbaptistchurch.com Website: www.prairieviewbaptist.com

**LOVINGTON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** - 360 W. Springfield Rd. Sunday School 9:30am, Morning Worship 10:30am, Evening Service 6pm, Wednesday Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study, 7:00pm Church phone: 873-5116. www.fblovington.org

**NEW LIFE CHURCH** - R.R. 1, Sullivan, IL 61951 (3 1/2 miles east of Sullivan on the Cadwell Rd.) Ph. 728-4200 Dave & Debra Dolan, Pastors; Liz Dolan, Minister of Music; Debra Dolan, Secretary. Sunday Worship 9am. Wednesday Worship Service (for all ages), 7pm. Website www.newlifesullivan.org

**CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP** - 212 E. Third Street, Arthur. Sunday Worship services 10am, Sunday evening worship service 6:30 pm. Everyone warmly invited to join us for worship.

**UNITED CHURCH OF ATWOOD** - 210 N. Main St., P.O. Box 379 • Atwood, IL 61913 • 578-2832. Mike Drake, Pastor. Non-Denominational Christian Church. Service: 10:00am. Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-Noon



**Bob Brady** INTERSTATE 72  
**Auto Mall**

DODGE CHRYSLER Jeep RAM  
BUICK HYUNDAI HONDA FIAT GMC

4025 E. Boyd Rd.  
Decatur, IL 62521  
800-634-6889 / 217-876-3800  
www.bobbrady.com

**Call: Curt Welch**  
Sales & Leasing Specialist  
Cell: 217-840-4105 • welchx62@yahoo.com

### Arthur History Fact #38

## Early Business

- 1872 – John W. Sears General Store
- 1872 – Dr. John P. Lamb, Physician
- 1873 – J. W. Barrum Drug Store
- 1881 – Naurice (Watkins) Maxwell Millinery and Ladies Apparel
- 1887 – Herman Stock Shoe Store
- 1892 – Warren Fleming Funeral Home
- 1893 – Dr. P.W. Murton, Dentist
- 1896 – Marion Watson Law Office
- 1905 – Housman & Wells Men's Clothing
- 1906 – Eads Brothers Grocery & Dry Goods
- 1908 - Reeves Bros. Furniture & Stoves
- 1917 – Dr. Thomas L. Graham, Veterinarian
- 1918 – John M. Ellison Maxwell Motor Co Dealer
- 1918 – Fleming Bros. Overland Automobile Dealer

Since 1994  
**A.J.'s AUTO BODY**  
111 N. Vine Street, Arthur, IL 61911  
217-543-3691  
ajsautobody@consolidated.net  
Division of A E Jess Inc.

**Dutch Valley Meats, Inc.**

- Hickory Smoked Hams & Bacon
- Fresh Beef & Pork
- Freezer Bundles
- Deer Processing

On the curve on Rt. 133 in Chesterville  
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. • Sat. 8 a.m.-3 p.m.  
(217) 943-3354  
www.dutchvalleymeatsinc.com

**ARTHUR GRAPHIC-CLARION**

113 E. Illinois • Arthur, IL  
543-2151  
www.thearthurgraphic.com