

Zion News

"All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres." - Maltbie D. Babcock

When Maltbie Davenport Babcock was a minister in upstate New York, he would take walks along the cliffs of Niagara to enjoy the scenic view of the falls and Lake Ontario, telling his wife he was "going out to see the Father's world." Soon after his death in 1901, his wife released a collection of Babcock's poems entitled "Thoughts for Every-Day Living" that contained the poem "My Father's World."

One of Babcock's friends, Franklin Shepherd later adapted an English folk song to create the hymn version of the poem, "This Is My Father's World," that was first published in 1915.

April is a month where there are all kinds of holidays expressing the sentiments of Babcock's poem.

The most well-known holiday celebrating nature is Earth Day on April 22. First observed in 1970, it is a day to educate people about the issues affecting the planet and to raise awareness for the need to protect the environment.

However, April is chock full of other days to celebrate God's world.

While there are no records of who invented National Picnic Day, or when it was first created, but it is now observed on April 23. Picnics have a rich history that dates all the way back to the 17th century. "Picnic" was an expression used in 1692 to describe a group of people that brought their own wine to dinner at a restaurant.

Eventually, the term came to mean a meal where everyone brought some food or drink to contribute. The idea of picnics quickly spread throughout Europe, especially to England where, in the 18th and 19th centuries, they became big social events with elaborate meals and drinks. Picnics have been popular ever since because they can be enjoyed by anyone regardless of wealth or status.

On April 28 we celebrate Arbor Day which originated in the 1870s in Nebraska.

Julius Sterling Morton was a journalist who bought 160 acres of land in Nebraska. He and his wife planted several trees and shrubbery throughout their barren property.

Morton, as the editor for the Nebraska City News, found this to be a perfect platform to spread awareness about the importance of trees in the ecosystem. He helped make Nebraskans aware of how barren and void of greenery the state was.

Morton became a part of the Nebraska Board of Agriculture and, in 1872, his proposal to create a day dedicated to the planting of trees was approved, thus creating Arbor Day.

So, this month of April go out to enjoy our Father's world. Be aware of the need to care for and protect it. Picnic with family and friends and, with listening ears, experience nature singing. Plant a tree. "God reigns; let earth be glad."

Our Sunday Worship Service begins at 9:00 AM. This Sunday Ken Bunker will be our guest speaker. Everyone is welcome.

Softball, Baseball, Bass Fishing and Track activities

TIME IN WISCONSIN

Just got back from spending a few days in Wisconsin. Nice to get away and especially great to spend time with Kyra and the grandkids. Weather was beautiful on Thursday and Friday. Got to go to granddaughter Taylor's track meet on a gorgeous Friday afternoon at a very nice high school track facility in Menomonie followed by supper at Olive Garden. Saturday several of us 'girls' got pedicures and I got to visit grandson Shane at his new workplace, Verizon. He really likes it there and I know he knows his stuff. He's always been up on the latest in technology so working there is right up his alley. We all got together for pizza Saturday evening and a modified Easter egg hunt in the house as the weather took a pretty drastic turn during the day. Headed home Sunday before the expected snow, yes I said snow!, arrived! While I missed the snow I did drive home in rain and WIND all day! I do plan to be back up there soon!

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHARLEY CONDILL

This young lady, a senior at ALAH and daughter of Mac and Ginny, granddaughter of Bruce and Mary Beth, has long been making a name for herself on the volleyball and basketball court as well as the softball field, has received a couple of very nice honors recently. She was the featured Athlete of the Week in the Champaign-Urbana News Gazette last week and was recognized by the IHSA as an All State Academic Team Honorable Mention selection! After graduation from ALAH, Charley will be attending Millikin University this fall where she will play both volleyball and softball and major in art therapy. Your family and community are proud of you Charley and remember you will always be a KNIGHT!

KADEN FEAGIN

Town Talk

By Marty Yeakel

And we continue to hear from this young man as he graduated early from ALAH and has started his career at the University of Illinois. Both WCIA and the Mattoon and Decatur papers had pieces on him this last week and how impressed the coaches are with what they have seen so far. I think from quotes in the paper Kaden will tell you he understands he has a lot to learn but also am sure he will do quite well. I have mentioned it before but will again as former coaches and teammates will tell you that Kaden is one of the hardest working young athletes they have ever seen. That has to be an important part of any success he has and we have no doubt there will be success. Looking forward to hearing all about it.

BASS FISHING TEAM

Nice to see the picture of the Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond High School bass fishing team in last week's Graphic. What a nice size group. They have the Okaw Valley Open on April 22 at Lake Shelbyville with sectionals scheduled for May 4 also at Lake Shelbyville. They hope to host a tournament of their own sometime in May on Lake Decatur. Good luck at all these events!

SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL

These two teams have been making up for lost time it seems with lots of games lately. Fortunately the weather is finally cooperating somewhat. The softball girls recently had wins against Tuscola, Heritage and Oakwood although they didn't fare quite as well against Coal

City and Marshall at a tournament in Tuscola. The girls will play at Cerro Gordo on Friday. The baseball team had wins against Paris, Cumberland and Casey-Westfield and will have a home game (at Lovington) against Okaw Valley on Friday. Good luck Knights!

JUNIOR HIGH TRACK

The junior high invite took place this past Saturday and, fortunately again, the weather cooperated although I know there was concern all week about the rain in the forecast. Thankfully the bad weather held off and the track meet was a big success with both the 8th grade girls and boys placing first. The 7th grade boys placed 2nd and 7th grade girls were 4th. Junior High track is at the Tuscola Open on Thursday and at Arcola Invite on Saturday.

ALAH HIGH SCHOOL TRACK

Were at the big Tri-County Meet at Sullivan on Tuesday and will be at the Tuscola Open on Friday. The Boys Spartan Classic is at St. Joseph-Ogden on Friday, April 28 and the girls will be at the Lady Sages Invitational at Monticello on the same day. Good luck Knights!

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

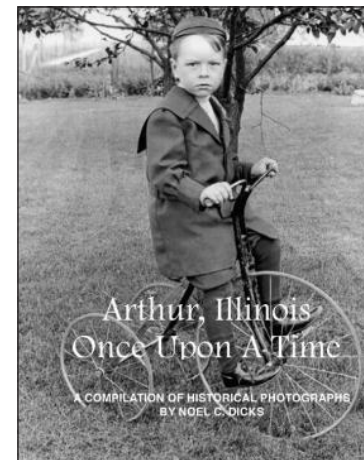
At the induction ceremony for NHS a couple of weeks ago, speaker Jared Blaudow mentioned a book he felt was important for them all to read, "The Traveler's Gift," by Andy Andrews. After that some anonymous community donors took it upon themselves to gift a copy of that book to each of the National Honor Society

See TOWN TALK on page 3

Noel Dicks Book Available

If you missed buying a copy of Noel Dicks book *Arthur, Illinois Once Upon A Time* the first two times it was printed and completely sold out, there has been a third printing and is now available to buy once again.

Only 100 have been re-printed and can be purchased at Yoder's Lamps and Antiques or the Arthur Graphic-Clarion office for \$40.00 per book.



MANNEQUINS Background: Shady Crest Market, Arthur, Illinois by Don S. Chambers

WEDGE IS TRYING TO THINK IF THERE'S ANY FOOD HE HASN'T EATEN TODAY.

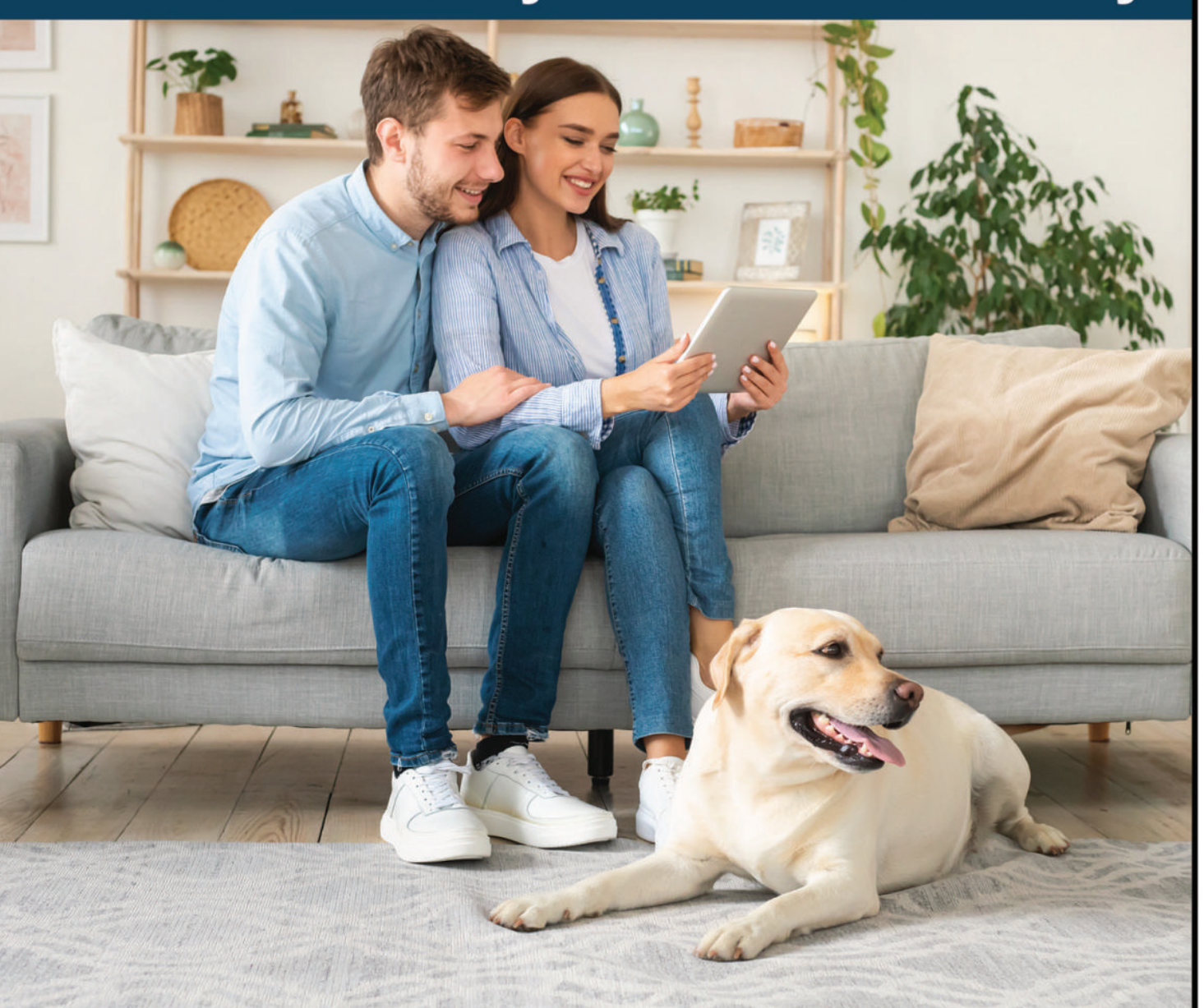
IT LOOKS LIKE THE MARKET WILL NEED TO EXPAND AGAIN SOON!

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DOUGLAS COUNTY, ILLINOIS NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, PLAINTIFF, VS. WILLIAM BUTCHER, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF DAVID R GRABER SR, DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; DAVID I GRABER; ALAN GRABER; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF DAVID R GRABER, DEFENDANTS. NO. 22 FC 7 205 SOUTH OAK STREET ARCOLA, IL 61910 NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on March 14, 2023, Sheriff of Douglas County will on 05/23/2023, in FIRST FLOOR ROTUNDA OF THE DOUGLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TUSCOLA, IL, at 09:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Douglas, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment: THE WEST ONE HUNDRED FEET OF LOT TWO (2) IN BLOCK EIGHTEEN (18) IN THE ORIGINAL TOWN, NOW CITY OF ARCOLA, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. TAX NO. 01-14-04-431-003 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 205 South Oak Street Arcola, IL 61910 Description of Improvements: The property is a single family. The property has no garage. The exterior is wood siding. The color is yellow. I am unable to verify that the gas is on or off. The water is off. The property does not have a fence. The property is vacant. The judgment amount was \$31,341.63. Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds;

balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file # 22-100771L PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale. 13216022 published 04/12, 04/19, 04/26/2023

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NEWS FROM THE HEART OF THE AMISH COUNTRY

ARTHUR GRAPHIC-CLARION

Published every Wednesday by Arthur Publishing Company (USPS 032-960) at 113 E. Illinois Street, P.O. Box 19, Arthur, Illinois 61911. Telephone (217) 543-2151, e-mail arthurgraphic@consolidated.net or arthurgraphic@yahoo.com, web site: www.arthurgraphic.com.

Deadline for advertising and editorial content, noon on Friday before desired publication date. Long legal ads noon on Thursday. Classified deadline is 4 p.m. Thursday.

Periodical Class postage paid at Arthur, Illinois 61911.

Subscription rates: \$50 per year in Douglas, Moultrie, and Piatt counties; \$60 out of county/state. A \$2.50 Senior Citizens discount is available. On-line subscriptions are \$40 per year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Arthur Graphic-Clarion, P.O. Box 19, Arthur, Illinois 61911.

Personnel: Greg Hoskins, publisher; Stephanie Wierman, general manager and advertising manager; Kim Gee, production manager; Britney Kirby, circulation manager.