



ARTHUR GRAPHIC-CLARION

Vol. 114, No. 21

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Serving Eastern Moultrie, Western Douglas, and Southern Piatt Counties

Arthur, Illinois 61911



Michael Bradley, pictured with Police Chief Mike Goodman and Village President Rod Randall, was hired and sworn in as a part-time officer at last Monday night's village board meeting. Bradley previously worked for the Arthur Police Department from 2011-2016.

Michael Bradley hired as a part-time police officer for the Arthur Police Department

By ARIANA CHERRY
Staff Writer

Michael Bradley was sworn in as a part time officer for the Village of Arthur at their most recent meeting held Monday May 15. He had previously been hired in 2011 and then left in February 2016. Presently, Bradley lives in Arcola and works as the midnight officer for the Arcola Police Department. He has a masters degree

in History and Education and also student-taught in Arthur for a few years.

A joint purchase between Public Works and the Arthur Police Department for a 2023 Polaris UTV from the World of Power Sports in Decatur for the amount of \$19,923.82 was approved. The UTV was already a budgeted item and will be useful for day to day maintenance for the lagoons and spraying

herbicide up and down the alleys. In the past, the Arthur Police Department has had to borrow utility vehicles from other nearby departments for events and to put up signs. By making this purchase, there will not be a need to borrow other utility vehicles now. With average use, most of these vehicles can last up to 15 years. The cost will be divided 50/50
See VILLAGE on page 9

Village of Arthur will resume electric aggregation program in July with new supplier

The Village of Arthur will resume its electric aggregation program in July with a new supplier, Homefield Energy of Collinsville, and a new rate of 8.663 cents per kilowatt hour. The new rate is approximately 25 percent less than Ameren's residential

electric rate of 11.833 cents. The Village's rate will be fixed for 12 months—to July 2014. Ameren is expected to adjust its rate in June.

Following Illinois' deregulation of electric supply costs to homeowners and small busi-

nesses, Arthur voters authorized the Village Board to create an electric aggregation program. The Village Board in May 2022 suspended the program for one year when soaring electric prices in the competitive market
See Electricity on page 11

D.A.R.E. Graduation Held For Twenty-five Fifth Graders

"Every youngster should have the opportunity to grow up healthy, safe, secure, and equipped with the skills needed to succeed in life. There is no doubt that kids today grow up in a complex and confusing world. Through television, movies, music and most of all, their peers, our kids are exposed to drugs at a very early age. They're our kids, ... Our future, and we want their

futures to be bright, secure, healthy, and safe."

That was just part of D.A.R.E. instructor and Police Chief Mike Goodman's message to the 25 fifth graders who completed the Drug Abuse Resistance Education class during the graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 18 at Arthur Grade School.

The program brought to conclusion the school's 36th

class and the 25th year Chief Goodman has taught. Over 1,200 students have completed D.A.R.E. since the first class was offered in 1987.

D.A.R.E.'s primary mission is to provide children with the information and skills they need to live drug-free and violence-free lives. It establishes positive relationships between students and law enforcement, teachers, parents, and other



Retired Gunnery Sergeant James Cazel To Be Guest Speaker At Memorial Day Services

Arthur High School Class of 2002 graduate Gunnery Sergeant Cazel, USMC, will be the guest speaker at this year's annual Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 29 at 11:00 a.m. at the Arthur Cemetery.

Born in Decatur and an Arthur alumnus, he began his 20-year career in the United States Marine Corps in 2002. After completing Basic Training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California, he attended Marine Combat Training at the School of Infantry at Camp Pendleton, California. In November 2002, Gunnery Sergeant Cazel was given orders to Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida for "A" School as an aircraft mechanic and was assigned the Primary Military Occupational Specialty of A/UH-1 Airframes Hydraulic/Structures Mechanic upon graduation. In February of 2003, Cazel received orders to Camp Pendleton, California for "C" School and to compete specialized training for the AH-1W Supercobra and UH-1N Huey helicopters.

April 2003, he received orders to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167 "Warriors" aboard Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina and was assigned to the Airframes Division. He then deployed stateside to Marine Corps Air Yuma, Arizona and Marine Corps Base Twenty Nine Palms, California in support of multiple unit training detachments. In December HMLA-167 was activated from a non-deployable home guard unit to a fully deployable unit and received the warning order for deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

It was in February of 2004 when Cazel deployed to the USS Bataan to ferry 27 H-1 Aircraft to Kuwait to push further into Iraq for follow-on operations. During stateside dwell time in November of 2004, he attended Combat Life Saver training in Monterey, California to provide critical lifesaving care while in theater during his remaining deployments with the Warriors. While attached
See Memorial Day on page 11

News Briefs

- Upcoming Events:**
 May 25- 8th Grade Promotion
 May 26-27- Poppy Sales (Downtown & other locations)
 May 26- ALAH High School Graduation
 May 29- Memorial Day Service @ Arthur Cemetery
 June 1-4- Walldogs Mural Painting (Downtown)
 June 2-3- Strawberry Jam Festival (Downtown)
 June 2- Strawberry Social @ Otto Center
 June 2- Heart of America Pony Sale @ Tri-County Auction Facility
 June 2- JFL Signups @ Firehouse
 June 17- 3rd Saturday Market Bazaar @ Otto Center

National Poppy Day is Friday, May 26

The Arthur American Legion Auxiliary Unit #479 will be selling Poppies on Friday, May 26 from 9-2 and Saturday May 27 from 8-noon at various locations in Arthur. They have also placed donation buckets at several locations in town, as well.

Please contribute as the money they collect goes to help our local veterans first and foremost and supports several programs in our school district.

To donate by check, make it payable to Arthur American Legion Auxiliary % Billie Bernius, PO Box 375, Arthur, IL 61911.

Volunteers Needed

The Arthur American Legion Post #479 needs volunteers to help set out the flags at the Arthur Cemetery on Saturday, May 27 starting at 8:30 a.m.

Rotary seeks donations for fireworks

The Arthur Rotary Fireworks has become one of the biggest, and literally brightest, events in the region, and they are looking for sponsors to help pay for the display. There are several different levels of giving from as little as \$50 to more than \$5,000.

The event this year starts off at 4 p.m. Saturday, July 1, with an evening of entertainment featuring Captain Rat and the Blind Rivets, food vendors, kids activities and, around 9:30 p.m., a moving display of fireworks including hundreds of shells, the Ultimate Fireball, Vesuvius and the Wall of Fire complete with the Rural Patriot. Sponsors will be featured in advertising and will receive VIP seating on the west side of the Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond football field.

Donations can be made at The State Bank of Arthur.

John Adams once said, of the significance of Independence Day: "It will be celebrated with pomp and parade, bonfires and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other," and Arthur plans on doing its part. The Arthur Rotary Fireworks promises a spectacular celebration with the best and biggest display in the area.

Volunteers Needed

The Welcome Center is needing volunteers. Call 217-543-2242 or email info@simplyarthur.us



The annual Arthur Grade School D.A.R.E. graduation for students in the fifth grade was held on Thursday, May 18 in the grade school gym. Arthur Police Chief Mike Goodman, Principal Andrew Peralta, and Mayor Rod Randall spoke to the class and audience members. Mrs. Emily Kauffman and Mr. Roger Panches are the fifth grade teachers. The student participants did an outstanding job with their portion of the program. Pictured here are the graduates, front row, Brianda Calvillo, Harley Stone, Miley Collins, Lilly Lisanby, Bridget Chupp, Halle Oye, and Noah Kellogg. Back row, Police Chief Mike Goodman, Cassie Olivero, Avery Sisk, Brynlee Hood, Vianney Briseno, Jennifer Plank, Ayanna Sarr, and Devyn Peeler.

