

# Arthur Through My Eyes

How neat it is when you get to meet someone who's dream has come true! That's what

happened to me this past week when I visited with Arthur born and raised owner Jolene

Stutzman of "Stitch and Sew" (a business that has been around since it opened in 1994).

After years of shopping at the store herself, Jolene dreamed of one day being able to own it, and in early 2020 when it became available, her dream came true.

Previous owners Sam and Dorothy Herschberger had reached retirement age, and their daughter who was managing it at the time moved to Oklahoma, so they placed "Stitch and Sew" up for sale. You can imagine the smile that must have been on Jolene's face, both inside and out, as she learned the news and set out to make her dream a reality. She's had to learn a lot over the past 3 years, but Margaret Schrock, who has worked at the store for nearly 19 years, "showed her the ropes". What a huge blessing that must have been to this new business owner.

In the short time I was able to interact with Jolene, you can still sense the joy she has in running the business. May is a busy time of year for the store, and they also were very active in Arthur's Quilt Show (Jolene being the president) where she was in charge of organizing 15 vendors of quilt supplies, crafts, etc. Some of the vendors this year included: Baskets by Marilyn from Africa, Country Shoe Shop and Furniture Plus. There was also a quilt auction organized by Karen Gingerich of "Amish Country Heirlooms". It's a huge undertaking, but one Arthur is proud to host. There are still quite a few area quilters, Jolene among one of them, who took up quilting after purchasing "Stitch and Sew". Be-

fore that, she primarily sewed clothing, but now says, "I would much rather sew a quilt than anything else as you never get bored. There's always something different you can make, and you can make it as easy or difficult as you want." Because of that, quilting appeals to various skill levels.

"Stitch and Sew" has customers driving from 2 hours away, as they have well over a thousand bolts of fabric in stock. They also try to carry a wide variety of pre-cut fabrics as well as "lots and lots" of panels.

Digital printing has increased the quality of panels, which can be framed alone, or placed in the center of a quilt as a "head start" on a full quilt to build upon. Many people making baby quilts find that panels work well as you will just have to add one or two borders and then the quilt is finished. It was quite interesting to learn about this art form. Jolene also shared that many people still enjoy doing cross stitch or embroidery while watching tv, so she also carries a wide assortment of materials for those needlework activities.

I asked Jolene what she likes most about having a business in downtown Arthur, and she happily replied, "The friendliness of the community and other shop owners who are quick to help out with advice and anything you need because they like to see each other succeed." My heart was full in hearing those words. And when it comes to what she appreciates about Arthur itself, she commented, "a small community is just a good place to grow up and do business." There is just

something special about small town life that truly is precious. I couldn't agree more!

Grateful to be a "Small Town Gal" as Well, Trudy Feyereisen

## Real Faith For Real Life

From Pastors of the Arthur Ministerial Association

### Vacation

I love the ocean! Just ask my friends.

I am currently in Florida with all the kids and grandchildren and whenever those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer come calling, I'm usually one of the first to hang the "gone to the beach" sign on my door, and off I go!

Consequently, I'm also one who routinely comes home with an award-winning sunburn, and if not me my husband.

I have such a good time while basking in the surf and sand that I forget to re-apply the suntan protection ointment and end up with quite a sear!

Just the other day, I ventured down to the tourist-packed beach here in Panama City and unfolded my favorite beach towel. With sunglasses perched squarely on my lotion-covered nose, I began to engage in the relaxing pastime of watching the waves as they rolled to the shore. As the foaming surf retreated, I watched as thousands of tiny glistening pebbles rolled end-over-end while the sun danced across their marbled surfaces. I managed to pick out a single stone and noticed how it had

become perfectly round by the constant movement of the tide.

Could there be a spiritual correlation? You bet there is.

I began to think about how often our own lives are molded and shaped by the pounding waves of adversity.

There is an old hymn that was written in 1873 by a man named Horatio Spafford. It is hard to imagine but he had just received word that his beloved wife and five children had all drowned at sea as a result of a sinking vessel. Though grief-stricken, he managed to pen the following words: "When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well, with my soul."

We all know the words. Whenever trials come our way, can we courageously respond in the same way? Is it well with your soul today? Are you drifting helplessly along? Do you feel like you are lost at sea? Many do in life, and I challenge you if you don't to find one who is and help them along.

Pastor Jill Bunker  
Arthur United  
Methodist Church



## 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 Marnier, 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 6:00 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.newlifesus.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

## The Wait is Almost Over!

By TRUDY FEYEREISEN

Arthur has been waiting a little over 2 years to see new owners open a restaurant where the "R & I" used to be, and the wait is almost over! Alex and Rebetha Ramirez have bought the establishment and are working hard to open "Max's Family Diner" sometime this summer. To save money, instead of contracting out, family members are working hard together to remodel the location. Rebetha's father, Kenneth King of Mattoon, is a contractor and is spearheading the project with Alex right by his side. Rebetha (a mail carrier in Mattoon), her brother and grandparents David and Linda Beachy are assisting with reupholstering existing chairs - a huge undertaking. David is originally from Arthur and recently retired from Kuhn's Equipment after working there for 47 years. He said he "needed something to do", so this family effort will keep him busy.

In order to make room for two accessible, handicapped bathrooms, the grills and hoods were moved, which caused more construction than was originally planned. And since the floor plan changes were over the 60% allotted, the new diner could no longer be "grandfathered in", so this has resulted in more expense and time. It was also discovered that the hoods were outdated, so they need to install brand new ones. Owner Alex Ramirez has "always wanted to own his own restaurant and be his own boss" shared his wife Rebetha and then added, "I'm along for the ride and being supportive". The name of the new restaurant, "Max's Family Diner" comes from a shortened form of Alex's formal first name, "Maximo" and his father's, who has passed on. Alex wanted to both honor his father's memory and use a name that was more "American". The menu will include breakfast all day,

hamburgers and cheeseburgers, french fries and the typical diner style food. Rebetha commented that "there's not a lot of this type of food in Arthur, so it has potential" to do well.

The restaurant location has a rich background of success. Mayor Rod Randall recalls going to "Moses Cafe" when he was a kid with his brother Bob, sister Donna and his parents Bob and Grace Randall, commenting that they served "wonderful cheeseburgers", sodas, shakes, malts. Past owners Darwin and Pauline Moses bought cheese from Canada back then that added extra flavor to the cheeseburger. He shared that Moses was quite a character and his wife Pauline a sweetheart. He remembers his Dad, Bob Randall and Dr. Robert Graham going hunting in Canada with Darwin Moses. Fun fact: Moses would make the softest gloves out of doe skin that he would kill on those trips and have them on sale at the diner, and he was also known for having championship bird dogs.

In 1980, Red and Irene McMullen bought the cafe from Moses and opened what present day residents of Arthur have known for decades as the "R & I" restaurant (initials of their first names). Tim Mast of Arthur worked there for 35 years and said it was a "good place to work." As the McMullen's reached retirement age, Tim became manager for one and a half years until March 2021, when his diabetes took a tragic turn and he had to have both legs amputated and replaced with two prosthetic legs. It was then that the "R & I" closed.

The community of Arthur wishes new owners Alex and Rebetha Ramirez all the success this location has brought the owners that have come before them. Welcome to town "Max's Family Diner"! Welcome to town!

## School Board

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**Thank you:** I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the board for allowing me to lead Arthur Grade School. It has been a wonderful experience and has allowed me to push myself professionally and personally. Thank you for the tireless work and dedication to the Arthur Grade School families, students, staff, and community. We look forward to doing it again next year.

**Atwood-Hammond Grade School Principal's Report**

**Spring Concerts:** On Wednesday, April 19 and Wednesday, May 3, AHGS hosted their Spring Concerts. Dr. Gobbo has been working hard since the return from Winter break preparing Disney songs for our littlest and biggest students to sing, along with selections from our 5th and 6th grade bands. Several highlights included songs from Moana, and the Kindergarten

class wearing Hawaiian leis. The band students have been working so hard this year on several selections. The highlights for the band were the 6th graders Jazz individual improvisations with Dr. Gobbo and friends, and the 5th grade song, When the Saints Go Marching In. Both concerts hosted a reception for families before and after for cupcakes, cookies and punch as well as photo opportunities for Social Media with a beautiful spring backdrop prepared by Mrs. Fleming and Ms. Greger.

**AHGS Book Fair:** We held our Book Fair this year the night of the second spring concert. The week prior students had a chance to tour the book fair and make a wish list to take home for their parents and/or guardians to approve of purchases. The night of the concert the book fair was open from 6-8 pm. The fair was a huge success with profits exceeding one-thousand dollars. **See CUSD 305 on page 9**

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
DOUGLAS COUNTY - IN PROBATE

In the Matter of the Estate of  
ELENORE R. MOBERLEY, Deceased  
NOTICE  
NO. 2023-P-11

Notice is given to creditors of the death of ELENORE R. MOBERLEY. Letters of office were issued to Marla Goss, 5530 North Route 48, Decatur, Illinois 62526, and Michelle Chaplin, 109 Jones Boulevard, Tuscola, Illinois 61953, as Independent Executors on May 10, 2023 whose attorney of record is Crossman Law Office, 225 South Vine Street, Arthur, Illinois 61911.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk in Room 204 Douglas County Courthouse, Tuscola, Illinois 61951, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before November 24, 2023 being six months from the date of the first publication, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is re-

quired by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Marla Goss,  
Independent Executor  
Michelle Chaplin,  
Independent Executor

Document Prepared By:  
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