

Arthur Through My Eyes

Our destination this week is "Tools Plus" located just south across 133 after Vine Street ends.

What fun it was to learn more about this local, family owned business that has been operating since September 1, 1977 when Howard and Mary Plank opened its doors in what was formerly just a hay field.

Woodworking was what Howard and Mary did before opening "Tools Plus" and for many years, they crafted Lincoln rocking chairs with cane

backs and bottoms as well as lazy susans.

When requested, Mary Plank would even hand-cane the chairs, which took much time.

At the east end of the wood-working building, Howards started a retail store called, "H&M Discount", which sold some of the woodworking items along with Buffalo branded tools.

As the retail side grew, other brands and items were added, and the woodworking portion of the business was discontin-

ued in the early 1990's.

By 1995, they had outgrown the old store, so a new one was built and they renamed it "Tools Plus".

This well established business is still going strong and now owned and operated by their son Glendon Plank who took over April 1, 2006. He and his wife Susan have 7 children - 4 boys and 3 girls.

Prior to becoming a business owner, Glendon worked for 3 years at F&B Woodworking and then 9 years at CHI.

Howard and Mary both still work at the store, as well as Glendon's oldest son LaWayne and other employees Lonnie Plank, Lisa Chupp and Leona Chupp, and Glendon's nephews Brian Plank and Verlin Yoder. The staff is eager to help anyone who comes in, which is so wonderfully obvious as you enter...even having a bowl of candy for customers to enjoy as they are shopping.

You can find an array of hardware essentials and general merchandise. Glendon said, "we try to listen to what the customers want and try to stock something for everyone. I like to think we give people a good experience and a reason to come back."

Their number one draw to the store is Milwaukee tools, but they also have many who travel a distance to purchase walking plow handles, which they buy from Arkansas.

I was also very surprised to learn of the wide variety of frozen seafood and fruit they sell in bulk amounts, as well as organic grass fed beef - quite a helpful resource for larger families, especially.

Another incredibly helpful resource is the large sharp freezing freezer they operate, which has individual locker boxes inside that customers can purchase for an average of \$85 a year to keep their frozen goods. This service has been a part of "Tools Plus" since its inception.

It was a wonderful business opportunity for father Howard to pursue, since the polio he contracted at the age of 16 months just as he was learning to walk, disabled his legs

and made it difficult to work full time on a farm. The LORD helped him find other ways to provide for his family and to serve the community, and we are so glad he did!

Some particular items they sell that the family would like to highlight are: the Rogue garden hoe which is very well made here in the US from hardened disc blades of tempered steel (they sell close to 200 of these a year), the Nut Gatherer - which is a garden tool you roll on the ground and it collects pecans and walnuts, and a large inventory of canning supplies and pressure canners. They also carry fun snacks, some sports items, a few games, etc. Just come in and see for yourself!

In closing, what Glendon says he appreciates most about having a business in Arthur is that "the village provides an environment where small

businesses can thrive. They are looking out for us." "Also, we have out-of-town visitors coming to Arthur to make a day of it, and the Arthur Tourist and Welcome Center is well equipped and helpful with maps and information to create a memorable experience for them."

As far as what he appreciates most about Arthur itself, he shared, "it's a caring community. If anyone needs help and the word gets out, there is no shortage of people to help out."

He also commented about how "fascinating" the rhythm of life is here in Arthur as you watch how busy it is during the day, but once evening arrives, it becomes so quiet and peaceful. It's a community that works hard and rests well. I like that!
Enchanted Once Again
by Meeting a
New Business Owner,
Trudy Feyereisen

Real Faith For Real Life

From Pastors of the Arthur Ministerial Association

Don't you believe it

Have you ever told yourself something that wasn't true? Negative self-talk is on the rise. You know, when you tell yourself negative things about what is going on in your life and make sweeping generalizations about who you are. You might convince yourself that no one likes you, or that you aren't good at anything. You might say to yourself that you are a failure, or that you can't face your day. Negative self-talk can be a problem that can cripple you if it is left unchecked. Here are a few things you can do:

1. When you are being self critical, check for truth. Remember that our thoughts and feelings aren't always true. Jeremiah 17:9 says "The heart is more deceitful than anything else, and incurable- who can

understand it?" So, when you are experiencing negative self-talk it is essential for you to check to see if what you are believing is true. I Thessalonians 5:21 tells us to "...test all things. Hold onto what is good."

2. If you are telling yourself things that aren't true, take those thoughts captive. II Corinthians 10:5 reminds us that, "We demolish arguments and every high-minded thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, taking every thought captive to obey Christ." Find the things that you are telling yourself that aren't true and don't let them run free anymore.

3. Replace the negative with truth. Philippians 4: 8 says, "Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is

pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable — if there is any moral excellence and if there is any praise — dwell on these things." Negative self-talk is more of an issue than it has been at any time in my lifetime. Perhaps it is being magnified by social media. Perhaps it is being magnified by the aftermath of the pandemic. Perhaps it is just a sign of the times. But whatever the cause, you can be free of it! Check for truth. Take the lies captive. Replace what is negative with what is good. When negative self-talk raises its ugly head, don't you believe it!

To God be the Glory!
Pastor Doug Davis
Arthur Southern
Baptist Church

SBL Providing Physicals to Arthur Athletes

Sarah Bush Lincoln will provide sports physicals to athletes from Arthur schools.

Sports physical clinics will be held from 9 am to noon, and 1 to 4 pm, on Tuesday, July 11, at the SBL Arthur Clinic, 211 South Walnut Street, Arthur.

The cost is \$20 per physical with all fees being donated to the Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond Athletic Booster Club. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 217-543-3444.

Town Talk

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started early on by playing football and then baseball with her brother on his teams. She was then asked to play with an all Florida girls baseball team, the Florida Bolts. She also enjoys playing golf, basketball and bowling. Her coach noted that she has a great attitude, shows sportsmanship and just a love of the game. Best wishes to Shyanne this summer and in the future. Hope to hear more about her exploits from the family.

UPDATES AT OUR SCHOOLS

So many good things are happening in the school district - new scoreboard dedicated to the memory of a special young man, air conditioning work at the grade school and new track installation. A busy, busy summer and much needed improvements. Hope you get a chance to check some of these projects out sometime over the summer.

ARTHUR LEGACY OF LOVE

News from this very worthwhile effort and a great cause. From the organization's facebook page: "ALOLF Raise the Roof Fundraiser Set for July 14. The Arthur Legacy of Love Foundation is sponsoring a "Raise the Roof Fundraiser" on Friday, July 14, at Penn Station in Arthur. Serving will be from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Advance tickets are required. Yoder's Kitchen will prepare a delicious menu of pot roast, party potatoes, green bean casserole, broccoli / cauliflower salad, dinner rolls, and peach, cherry, and strawberry / rhubarb cobbler. Tickets for "Dine In" or "To Go" may be purchased from any Foundation Board member. They are Joe & Martha Yoder; Bruce & Kathy Oye; Omer & Nancy Miller; Joe & Roseanna Mast; Merv & Barb Helmuth; Melvin & Clara Mae Helmuth; Loyd & Judy Gingerich; Howard & Judy Diener; and Dave & Cathy Allen, as well as Oye's Hardware. A minimum donation for tickets is \$25 for adults, \$15 for children 4-10 years old, and children under four years old are free. Arthur Legacy of Love Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization working to generate funds to help build quality CILA housing for the special citizens of the Arthur community. The first lot has been purchased at the corner of Beech and Second Street in Arthur and plans are being finalized to begin home construction soon. If you can't attend the "Raise the

Roof Fundraiser" and would like to contribute, donations may be deposited directly to the ALOLF Foundation's account at the State Bank of Arthur or by mailing a check made out to ALOLF, P.O. Box 222, Arthur, IL, 61911. All contributions to the Foundation are deductible for income, estate, and gift tax purposes." Hope you will all consider supporting this group and their plans for a population that is much in need of this kind of housing.


SESQUICENTENNIAL INFO IN ALUMNI MAILING

Mentioned the alumni mailing last week but was glad to see that those in charge of the mailing were able to include an informational brochure about Arthur's upcoming sesquicentennial celebration along with other events taking place throughout the year. A good way to let our alumni know just what an active and busy community we have here. Also included is information about the District #305 Education Foundation and its fundraising arm 100 People Who Care. More information can be found at u-knited.org or by calling 217-543-2511.

LOSSES

We have lost several Arthur stalwarts in the last week. Margaret Collins was an almost lifelong resident and mother to Cheryl, Kevin and Kerry. Cheryl was my classmate (AHS '68) and Margaret was a graduate of Arthur High School as well. Then we learned of the passing of Iris Ramsey on Sunday and Jean Barnhart on Monday. Both ladies and their late husbands were long time members of the Arthur United Methodist Church where both couples were valuable to the congregation in so many ways. All four could be counted on to pitch in and help out where needed. Both ladies were involved with Crafty Crafters at the church. In their personal lives, Iris worked for many years at the nursing home and, to be honest, I for one am happy that that is the place she spent her final days. Iris was always so pleasant, looking for the best in everybody and finding it. Jean was a nurse who cared for many people for many years. Jean could be counted on to not hold back when sharing her opinions and we loved her for that. Our sympathy goes out to all the families of these ladies. We will miss them in our community as we know you will miss them in the lives of your families.

And that's -30- for a great fair week!



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.worshipnew.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: jcreek.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.fbclovington.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

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