

DOWN MEMORY LANE

100 years ago Aug. 9, 1923

• It is asked that all business in Arcola suspend Friday afternoon and the public unite in memorial services in honor of our deceased president, Warren G. Harding. The memorial exercises will be held at the M. E. Church at 2:30 p.m. and Mayor O. F. Barnes will act as chairman.

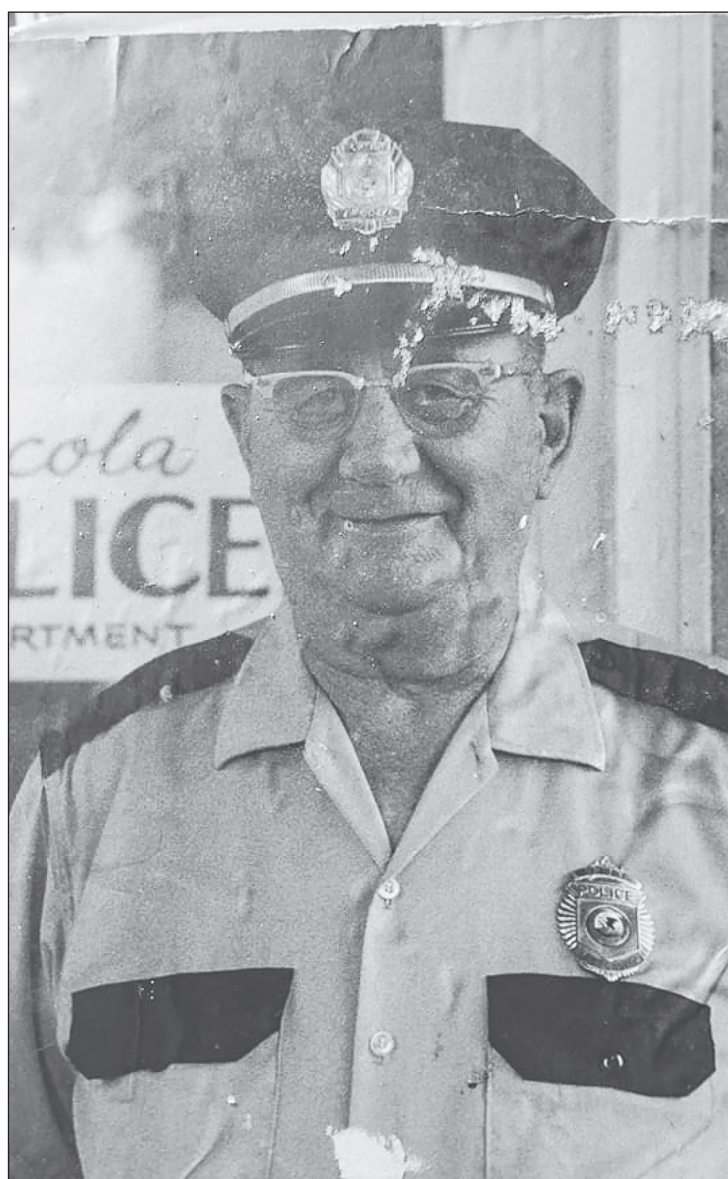
• The storm of last Saturday evening did considerable damage to growing crops especially broom corn which was badly blown down and tangled, many of the fields almost ready for the knife suffering particularly. Later broom corn did not suffer as much. Wheat harvest has been at a standstill this week on account of the rains. The rainfall Saturday evening amounted to 1.13 inch and that of Tuesday night .75 inch, making a total of almost two inches for the week. It has been a very hot portion this past week with the mercury registering 96 Tuesday.

• While Bright Sloan and family were away from home Sunday someone entered their home and stole something over \$30 (\$535.28 today) in money as well as three savings banks the contents of which are not known. Nothing else was taken. Mr. Sloan says it was evidently taken by someone who is friendly with their Airedale dog as he is not inclined to let strangers enter the home.

• Arcola School treasurer Walter Reinheimer has tabulated the amount of taxes levied for school purposes for the year in the districts in his township. Last year District 151 (the high school district) levied \$40,000 (\$713,705.26 today). They have cut it to \$35,000 (\$624,492.11 today) for this year. The grade school has levied \$22,000 (\$392, 537.89 today) each year.

50 years ago Aug. 9, 1973

• School officials of Arcola Community Unit No. 306 announced this week its student registration schedules for the coming school



APRIL HUNTER PROVIDED this photo of James Hunter, her great grandfather on the Remembering Arcola Facebook page. He retired as Arcola's chief of police in 1974.

year and confirmed that the youngsters will be back in class beginning Aug. 27.

• The Arcola Purple Riders will begin their practice sessions on Aug. 20, according to coach Steve Thomas and football equipment will be issued at the high school gym on Aug. 13. The Purple Rider's first varsity game will be at Oakland, Friday, Sept. 7. This is a week earlier than usual because of the new nine game schedule. Tri-Captains for this year's Purple Riders are Mick Snyder, Larry Stenger and Ken Stark. The coaching staff for the coming season includes Thomas, Byron Bardford (assistant varsity), Randy Rohtrock and Jim Strange (freshmen-sophomore coaches).

• Crossroads Motors of Arcola announced this week that they have been appointed as a dealer for Chrysler Corporation for Douglas County and surrounding

areas. The firm is changing their name to Crossroad Chrysler Plymouth Dodge.

• The Arcola Purple Riders will begin their practice sessions on Aug. 20, according to coach Steve Thomas and football equipment will be issued at the high school gym on Aug. 13. The Purple Rider's first varsity game will be at Oakland, Friday, Sept. 7. This is a week earlier than usual because of the new nine game schedule. Tri-Captains for this year's Purple Riders are Mick Snyder, Larry Stenger and Ken Stark. The coaching staff for the coming season includes Thomas, Byron Bardford (assistant varsity), Randy Rohtrock and Jim Strange (freshmen-sophomore coaches).

• Many old timers will remember the fine old-time band concerts given in this area by Henne's Band. The 53-year-old band will present a concert at the Arcola City Park Pavillion on Monday, Aug. 13 at 7:30 p.m. The 1 1/2 hour concert under the sponsorship of the Arcola Chamber of Commerce, is free and the public is invited to attend. Everett Henne, a former circus musician, founded the band in 1920 and was the only original

member of the group still playing in August of 1969 when he died. Members of the 24-member band from Arcola are Daniel Fuller and Mark Eadie.

• Mike Conlin and Rick Hackler of Arcola Boy Scout Troop 88 have joined Troop 66 of Pesotum to attend the 1973 Scout Jamboree-East being held at Moraine State Park, Pennsylvania, Aug. 3-9. Some 40,000 Boy Scouts have flocked to the park near Butler, Pa., and are housed in 22,000 wall tents for the international affair, which included scouts from all 50 states and 20 foreign countries. The opening night show featured comedian Danny Thomas.

• S & K Rigging softball team of Arcola is 44-17 and is now competing in a 27 team regional softball tournament at Effingham. The top four teams from this tournament advance to the state tournament at Caey later this month. The pitching staff is composed of Whitey Fitzgerald, Dale Doehring of Lovington, who will be the football and basketball coach at St. Joseph-Ogden this year; and Neil Ganley. The outstanding hitter on the team is Steve Leonard of Tuscola, who is batting .396. Others batting high are Fitzgerald (.392), third baseman Mike Mulvey (.375), outfielder Frank King (.346), shortstop Paul Mulvey (.329), outfielder Randy Rothrock (.307), second baseman Mike Kerner (.299) and outfielder Ken McLane (.287) Kerner was a starter for Eastern Illinois University this past season that finished third in the college baseball World Series.

25 years ago Aug. 13, 1998

• As the Arcola Provisional Rotary Club gets closer to the number of members required to attain its charter, it is becoming increasingly involved in the community projects. On Wednesday, August 5, Sandy Arthur and Chloanne Greathouse of the club presented a Dreamhouse Playhouse to the Arcola Public Library. Supplies for the Dreamhouse placed

at the Arcola Public Library were donated by Mike and Sandy Arthur.

• A card shower is planned for Kathryn Lutz in celebration of her 80th birthday. She was born in Charleston August 19, 1918, the daughter of Elmer and Mae Lenau Dodds. Mrs. Lutz was married to John F. Lutz for 53 years. Mrs. Lutz retired in 1978 after a 22-year teaching career. She is the mother of Marcy Delgado, Marjorie Phelps of Charleston, Patty Eadie of Arcola and John Lutz of Oakland. She has 11 granddaughters, three step-grandchildren and four grandchildren.

• Don and Jorgia Clements of Arcola have announced the birth of a daughter, Heidi Jeslyn Clements, who was born August 6, 1998. She is welcomed home by a sister, Heather Jeslyn. Maternal grandparents are the late Tom and Wilma (Dilliner) Reece. Paternal grandparents are Mrs. Madlyn Rarich of Ravenswood, WV and Mrs. Julia and the late Charles Clements of Charleston WV.

• Registration at Arcola Elementary School was Thursday and Friday Aug. 6 and 7. Pictured on the front page of the R-H were Kim Leinweber, Dayton Leinweber, Sheri Clark and Stephanie Clark registering for the upcoming school year. Arcola Elementary School secretary Janice Gee helps them register. The first day of school is Aug. 19, with dismissal at 10:30 a.m.

10 years ago Aug. 8, 2013

• About 16 months after breaking ground the Carriage Crossing Senior Living facility on the east side of Arcola is now officially open for business after receiving its state license. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Tuesday morning, kicking off a weeklong grand opening celebration that concludes on Saturday.

Nearly 70 attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony including Carriage Crossing CEO Carrie Bentley, Carriage Crossing Executive Director Brenda Hearn and Arcola Mayor Larry Fergu-

son. The 56-room assisted living facility features apartments ranging from studio to one-bedroom and two-bedroom units.

There is also a memory care/dementia wing that features 14 rooms. In addition to the apartments, Carriage Crossing has a restaurant-style-dining room, which is open to the public, and a variety of other amenities running from physical therapy services to respite care and social/recreational activities.

• A former Arcola man was killed Saturday morning on U. S. 45 when his bicycle was struck by a pickup truck. Michael T. Partridge, 41, of Champaign, formerly of Arcola, was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident at 10:57 a.m. Saturday by Douglas County Coroner Joe Victor. Partridge was born on July 30, 1972, in Torrance, CA. He was the son of Thomas L. and Susan K. (Rippey) Partridge. Mr. Partridge graduated from Villa Grove in 1991.

• Eastern Illinois hosted nearly 400 girls at Illinois Girls State earlier this summer. Representing Arcola High School were Olivia Catanzaro, Maria Climaco, Alexis Conlin, Katrina Gauna, Klairyn Karmazinas and Samantha Reece. The girls are selected by a committee of AHS teachers and are sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. During their experience, they learned about the election process, participated in mock government and elected officials for the week. The motivational speaker was Habeeb Habeeb.

• The Arcola High School marching band and drum majors for the 2013-14 school year are seniors Eunice Perez and Maria Climaco. They have attended drum major clinics to prepare for their upcoming season. Led by Director Christopher Gore members of the Arcola High School marching band attended a weeklong band camp July 29 to August 2 in preparation for the upcoming marching season. This year's halftime show will be music from the legendary rock 'n roll band Queen.

Seed genetics help crops withstand drought stress

By DANIEL GRANT
FarmWeek

Widespread drought issues in May and June likely put a significant dent in corn yield potential. But all is not lost due in part to advancements in seed genetics along with some timely rain, according to Mike Kavanaugh, director of product development for AgReliant Genetics.

"It's all about genetic improvement and adaptation," Kavanaugh told FarmWeek at the AgriGold specialty products conference in Ivesdale. "This year in particular will be about yield compensation. We had a very challenging first half of the season."

USDA in July lowered its national corn yield estimate by 4 bushels to 177.5 bushels per acre, which would still be a record, and left its soybean yield estimate unchanged at 52 bushels despite the drought. Many traders believe those estimates could decline later this season as impacts of the drought come into light.

Looking back at previous drought years, Illinois corn yields averaged just 73 bushels per acre in 1988 (when the trend line was near 129) and 105 bushels in 2012 (when the trend line was near 173). Last year, small portions of eastern and western Illinois battled drought, but the state corn yield still averaged a record 214 bushels per acre.

Kavanaugh believes genetic improvements in the crops are part of the reason for better performance in challenging environments over time.

"Twenty-five years ago, the germplasm may not have had the drought tolerance, that aggressive root system and maybe the tropical germplasm in the background to withstand some of these conditions," he said. "That's not to say we haven't had the top end of the yield knocked off (this season).

"But, when you compare the germplasm we had 25 years ago to what we had 50 years ago, it was a major step change," he continued. "That's where adaptation and improvement continue to come in."

Corn yield potential continues to grow at an annual clip of about 2 to 2.5 bushels per acre since the introduction of hybrid varieties, according to Kavanaugh.

"I think we'll continue to see that with the technology and breeding we have," he said. "It's all about finding the germplasm that adapts to the environment."

AgReliant recently launched new full-season hybrids with next level germplasm that offer a potential yield advantage of 5 bushels per acre compared to just a year ago, Kavanaugh said.

AgReliant seeks to develop germplasm with higher yield capability, but also better hy-

brid characteristics such as emergence, standability and greensnap tolerance. Disease screening also helps AgReliant develop seed products that better withstand pressure from diseases, such as tar spot.

"We're really excited about our pipeline right now," Kavanaugh said. That pipeline includes additional development and testing of short stature corn, which Kavanaugh believes could be widely available at the commercial level by 2026 to 2030.

Short stature corn varieties produce corn at an average ear height of 20 to 24 inches as opposed to the common height now of 32 to 48 inches.

"There's definitely a lot of benefits (of short stature corn) - better standability, less greensnap and more season-long access to deliver nutrition and pesticides to these plants," Kavanaugh said. "The industry is in a major testing phase right now. It has to learn how to manage it."

AgReliant will spotlight its latest crop advancements during its innovation tours next month in Champaign along with stops in Westfield, Indiana and Ames, Iowa.

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