

Doesn't seem possible that its August already

"For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish." Psalm 1:6

"Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? Prudent, and he shall know them? For the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein." Hosea 14:9

The hope of the righteous shall be gladness: but the expectation of the wicked shall perish. The way of the Lord is strength to the upright: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity." Proverbs 10:28,29.

We had some really warm days last week but by Saturday it seemed the heat wave had lifted. Saturday evening was one of the nicest evenings I have experienced in a long time.

Of course, we are usually in bed before it is completely dark. But Saturday evening we were up later than usual. Probably because our Scrabble games lasted too long. But anyway, I went out to check for messages. It was the most awesome evening, so quiet, clear, no wind. The fireflies, or lightnings bugs, if you will, were flitting about all over the hay field. Their little lights twinkling like so many stars coming down from the sky. It

looked so pretty. I just wanted to sit out there and soak it all in.

I think lightning bugs are on one the most intriguing critters God ever made.

And yes, it is now August. Did anyone see July fly by? It just doesn't seem possible that it is now August already.

School houses are being cleaned and prepped for another term. Are the walls bracing themselves for all the drama and noise, laughter and maybe tears?

I decided last week, I am surely getting old. Used to, the heat really didn't bother me, but those few days last week, whew! I know I used a fan more than I ever have before.

I was thinking maybe I shouldn't have talked so "big" about not having an air conditioner. I told sister Cora I hope we don't ever have to have one. I like my windows open and having fresh air. But I tell you, last week I almost changed my mind.

Our granddaughter Regina Beth Miller from Dale, IL. Was here for the night Friday night. We sure enjoyed it.

Since she is teaching school, she came for the school meeting held in our area.

She was here for breakfast, therefore, I went to work later. It was no big deal. I wanted to



My Amish Home
By Millie Otto

spend time with her instead of rushing off to work.

I was actually two hours later than usual. It really didn't matter, it just felt weird.

Next week plans are for the girls and granddaughters to descend upon our humble abode with brooms, mops, cleaners and what have you. They want to thoroughly deep clean for me. It seems I just can't get it done.

Oh, I'll clean, but to have the whole thing deep cleaned all at the same time, it just doesn't happen.

So, they want to come and help me get it done. I want to do some washing beforehand, like some curtains, dresser scarves, etc. Maybe I can even wash a few of my too many knick knacks.

It's not like the house is filthy, you know, unhealthy dirty, just dusty, neglected. I'm

hoping it will also be a fun day.

Hubby isn't so sure. He's afraid he'll get dusted and scrubbed, too. He may have to camp out next door in Rachel's house. We'll each lunch there.

I almost had another not so pleasant episode today. I was on the way to the workshop to get my hubby. I was headed north on the County Line road.

My horse was pretending to be spooked about something cleaning weeds out of their

shrubs. I was getting him straightened out about that.

There was a truck pulling a trailer coming from the front. All of a sudden, it sounded like a gunshot, then this flubbety, flubbety noise as it passed me. Whatever?!

I was having my hands full, keeping Diamond in control.

I then realized a tire had blown on the trailer. Was I ever thankful it blew while it was still ahead of me, instead of waiting until it was right even with me. Had that happened, I probably would have lost control and me and diamond would have been scarred for life!

As it was, nothing bad happened. Except Diamond was kind of jumpy after that. He'll probably forget it. Unless he has a memory like an elephant.

In closing---Grandchildren don't make a man feel old, it's the knowledge that he's mar-

ried to a grandmother.--G. Norman Collie

Maybe you'd like these croissants for coffee break or brunch.

Chocolate Cherry Croissants

4 large croissants, split
½ cup cream cheese spread (from 8 oz. container)

8 tps. cherry preserves (or tiny strawberry)

¼ cup semisweet chocolate chips

1 tsp. powdered sugar

Heat oven to 400 degrees.

Spray 15x10x1-inch pan with cooking spray. On bottom half of each croissant, spread 2 tbsps. cream cheese and 2 tps. preserves; sprinkle with 1 tbsps. chocolate chips. Replace top halves of croissants. Place in pan.

Bake uncovered 7-9 minutes or until heated through. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Serve warm.

Atwood Apple Dumpling 150th Sesquicentennial Parade...Don't Miss It

There's nothing people enjoy more than a parade and the Atwood Apple Dumpling 150th Sesquicentennial Parade for 2023 promises to be one to remember.

A lot of work has gone into the Sesquicentennial this year and it will be carried on with parade entries.

Alora Murphy, parade chairman, is excited about all the entries signed up to date and they keep coming in on a daily basis.

If you haven't signed up to be a part of the Sesquicentennial Parade, now is the time to do it. Contact Alora at 217-840-2961 or email AMURPHY@amfam.com.

Lineup for the parade starts at 12:30 p.m. on Magnolia Street.

Directions to the parade ground are as follows: turn into Atwood from Rt. 36, proceed to Cedar Street. The Atwood Christian Church is located on the corner of Main & Cedar Streets to assist you in locating Cedar Street. Turn west (left), go one block, turn north (right) on Illinois and proceed to Magnolia.

The parade area will be in front of you.

Participants MUST stop at the registration table located on the North lawn to pick up your lineup number for the parade. The parade committee will be on hand to assist you with any

questions.

Whether you have a special car, tractor, float, politician, business, decorated bicycle, golf cart, etc., sign up for the parade. The only thing better than watching a parade is being in one. Join the fun.

Quality Vendors Will Line the Streets at Apple Dumpling Festival

By DORIS ELMORE
Staff Writer

Jami Bowles, Vendor Chair, is excited about the vendors she has booked for the Atwood Apple Dumpling 150th Sesquicentennial Celebration on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 18 & 19 in downtown Atwood. Jami says she has around 40 quality miscellaneous vendors and approximately 12 food vendors. Hours for vendors will be 3-9 p.m. on Friday and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday.

Food vendors to date include: Piggyback Barbecue,

Burrito King, D & D Concessions, El Taco Rico, One Smart Cookie, Sunshine Concessions, Sticky Fingers, Fat Jacks, Tropical Snow, Yoder's Kettle Corn, Bronuts and Sweet Tea & Jesus. Miscellaneous vendors are too numerous to mention, but you don't want to miss them.

Festival goers have missed the pork chop on a stick that was unable to come, so the Atwood Firemen decided to bring them back. You will be able to enjoy a pork chop on a stick again with their efforts to bring back a popular item.

Atwood Community to host Community Blood Drive with ImpactLife Saturday, Aug. 19

Atwood Community will host a community blood drive with ImpactLife, the provider of blood components for local hospitals. The blood drive will be from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday, August 19 at 108 S. Main St., inside Donor bus in the former Kirby Clinic parking lot.

What: Atwood Community Blood Drive

When: Saturday, August 19, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Donor bus in the former Kirby Clinic parking lot, 108 S. Main St., Atwood, IL
Appointments: To donate,

please contact ImpactLife at (800) 747-5401 or visit www.bloodcenter.org and use code 71038 to locate the drive.

Donor Eligibility Criteria: Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission form available through www.bloodcenter.org) and weigh more than 110 pounds. A photo I.D. is required to donate. For questions about eligibility, please call ImpactLife at (800) 747-5401. Donors who last gave blood on or before 6/24/23 are eligible to give at this drive.

About Blood Donation: Blood donation is a safe, simple procedure that takes about 45 minutes to one hour. Individuals with diabetes or controlled high blood pressure may be accepted as eligible donors.

About ImpactLife: ImpactLife is the provider of blood and blood components to more than 125 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin. In your area, ImpactLife is the exclusive provider to Carle Foundation Hospital, OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center, and Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center.

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