

ARTHUR GRAPHIC-CLARION

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Serving Eastern Moultrie, Western Douglas, and Southern Piatt Counties

Arthur, Illinois 61911

Mennonite Relief Sale Exceeds Last Year's Total

The 61st Annual Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale was held Friday evening and Saturday at the Otto Center and was well attended by people from several states as well as from all over Illinois.

Area businesses, woodworking shops, individuals, and churches donated furniture, quilts, and many other miscellaneous items for the sale and the silent auction.

The food at the sale was also a big draw and included a pulled pork dinner on Friday evening, Pedros food booth and a lunch stand and soft serve ice cream both days, breakfast on Saturday morning, butterfly pork chops and a grilled chicken dinner were on the menu for Saturday. The very popular homemade doughnuts, tea rings, cinnamon rolls as well as a variety of baked goods including fried pies, cookies, cakes, bread, and noodles were

also available for purchase from the Amish churches. Both days made by the women "Each year it is amazing to



This beautiful quilt, donated by Living Word Church, was just one of the many auctioned off at this weekend's Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale. A couple from Springfield who have been coming to the sale for over 20 years purchased the quilt for \$775.00. Locally made furniture and quilts were the big-ticket items once again at this year's annual sale.

see how the Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale comes together and blesses so many in this community and around the world in the name of Christ," Relief Sale Board President Glen and Rhonda Rhodes said. They went on to say, "So many businesses and individuals donate items and volunteer to make it a success each year. A huge thank you goes out from this year's Relief Sale board to all who had a part again this year."

This year's sale brought in \$103,500.00 according to Treasurer Noah Yoder. After expenses are covered, 20% of

that will stay here in the community for churches and ministries to meet needs here in Arthur and the surrounding communities and 80% will go to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) to help with various needs around the world including shelter, food, water, and other needs.

"During this year's auction one of the bedroom sets of furniture brought \$5,500 and one of the quilts brought \$1,400 during the Saturday auction. We also had a nice outdoor gazebo this year that was set

See RELIEF SALE on page 8



News Briefs

- Upcoming Events:**
- September 2-4-- 50th Annual Cheese Festival/150 Sesquicentennial Celebration
 - September 2- Founder's Day Dinner @ Penn Station
 - September 3- Community Worship Service @ Penn Station
 - September 4- Cliff Kauffman Memorial Tractor Drive
 - September 8&9- Town Wide Garage Sales
 - September 16- 3rd Saturday Market Bazaar @ Otto Center
 - September 16- "Amish Country Tour" Bike Ride
 - September 18- Senior Citizens Luncheon @ Community Building
 - September 20- The Great Pumpkin Patch Opens

Youth Flag Football Sign Up

Arthur Park District is offering Flag Football for the first time this year and is open to any boys or girls in first through sixth grades. There is no contact and the season runs the month of October only. Deadline for sign-up is Monday, September 11. For more information or a sign-up form contact Jeremy Hale at (217) 402-3351.

Parade entries needed for "Big Cheese" Labor Day Parade

Arthur Amish Country Cheese Festival is celebrating its 50th anniversary this Labor Day weekend and the "Big Cheese" parade, sponsored by the Arthur Area Association of Commerce, will be held on Saturday, September 2. The Village of Arthur Sesquicentennial celebration will also be held in conjunction with this year's festival.

The parade will step-off at 3:50 p.m. and lineup begins at 2:30 p.m. in the old Progress Tank facility located at 402 East Progress Street.

Parade forms are going out this week as everyone is invited to be a part of the event.

The committee strives to make it one of the best parades of the late summer and one of the highlights of the Cheese Festival.

Forms are also available at the Arthur Welcome Center, Arthur Graphic-Clarion newspaper office, or contact Stephanie Wierman at 217/620-7460.

Have A Good Week!

Kim Babb hired as the new School Crossing Guard

Verizon Wireless contacts village for an amendment to its cell phone tower lease

By ARIANA R. CHERRY
Staff Writer

In the past two years, Mindy Carter had been safely crossing students across the street before and after school, but now that she has accepted another position in Mt. Zion, that has left the crossing guard position open for hire.

At the last village board meeting, Chief Michael Goodman presented Kim Babb, a resident of Arthur for hire. After being unanimously approved by all members, Kim began her crossing guard duties Tuesday, August 22. Her service to keep our children safe will be much appreciated by the community.

Verizon Wireless contacted the Arthur Village Board to amend their current lease (created in 2015) for its cell phone tower. They would like to give the village a \$10,000 bonus and reduce its rent to \$833.34 (the current rate is \$1,005.82/month). The 2015 lease is scheduled to expire in 2025. The board took no action.

Other items that were discussed/voted upon include:

-The same street closures in previous years for the annual Cheese Festival were approved.

-Chief Goodman informed the board that Officer Mullen will be coming on board after her graduation from the Police Academy August 25. Officer Heston passed his power test, was outfitted with his equipment and will begin at the academy on August 29 and starts his classes on the 30th. Goodman said they are transitioning and is excited about getting everyone started.

-A temporary sign application was approved for the Mastermaze event which will be held from September 15- November 6, 2023. Trustee Matt Bernius commented that the event brought many people into Arthur last year.

-A TIF Construction Grant in the amount of \$13,540.00 was approved for the building at 214 South Vine Street owned by Taylor-Fritz properties. The previous roof was installed in 1970 and had been leaking.

-The board approved the annual fee of \$1,008 for the use of Google Workspace.

- The purchase of a 20-cubic yard dumpster from Advantage Disposal for the sludge removal process in the amount of \$7,560.13 was approved.

- Accessory buildings were approved for Kenneth and Emily Crossman at 223 South

Poplar Street and Lonnie and Marilyn Miller at 514 North Vine Street.

- Arthur Homes LP was approved to build within the rear yard setback area on Rhema Drive.



ALAH NEW STAFF. Joining the current staff at Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond High School for the 2023-2024 school year are Joel Lee teaching English and Hannah Uphoff teaching Agriculture and also the FFA Advisor.



AGS NEW STAFF. The Arthur Grade School welcomed seven new hires for the 2023-2024 school year and include Stacy Goodman, Junior High Science; Whitney Wynkoop, 5th grade; Mikhala Sumption, 3rd grade; Cassidy Dycus, teacher assistant; Hayley McDade, Kindergarten; and Sam Truppa, Junior High Social Studies. Not pictured are Madelyn Groom, PreK and Sarah Lemke, PreK aide.



TOURNAMENT CHAMPS. In a rematch of last year's championship game, Arthur Christian School put together a dominant performance to claim the 5th Annual ACS Volleyball Classic title held Friday and Saturday. ACS defeated Kankakee Trinity Academy in straight sets 25-20 and 25-13. Nine teams participated in the 2-day tournament. Pictured is (front row) Coach Maggie Davis, Addi Erwin, Phoenix Kelmel, Sherry Miller, and Evonda Herschberger. (Back row) Assistant Coach Lovina Beachy, Alana Gingerich, Brooke Herschberger, Lauren Ford, Selah Wheeler, Brileigh Mast, and Coach Sheryl Gingrich.