

Arthur Through My Eyes

Truly grateful to have been able to attend many of the Arthur Sesquicentennial and 50th Cheese Festival festivities this past Labor Day weekend. What a special celebration it was!

I heard from Kaskaskia Valley Young Marines Unit Commander, James Cazal, that he and his unit were blessed to volunteer at the Fireman's

Breakfast Saturday morning, which kicked off the festival.

The firemen were grateful for their service as it freed them up to focus solely on the cooking as the Young Marines

served guests and cleaned up. The firemen enthusiastically invited them back next year to serve! Way to go Young Marines!

At 10:00 downtown that first morning, the ceremonial cutting of the cheese took place, which many enjoyed. It's always fun to see Mayor Rod Randall and his wife Carol dressed in centennial attire and to observe the joy that this summer's queens have in serving the community. These young ladies also had a big role in Saturday night's "Founder's Dinner" serving cake and ice cream and passing out envelopes from the time capsule... serving with a smile...so sweet and appreciated.

Historical memorabilia was displayed beautifully around Penn Station by Marty Yeakel and others. The tables were lovely with unique, historical centerpieces put together by Christy Miller, who also was our "hostess" for the evening. The program that evening was filled with much music, past videos, and reminiscing.

Everyone present had a front row seat to history in the making, which was a privilege. I know my Uncle Rod spent countless hours planning this event out of love for his hometown. I was thankful to be present.

And I don't know about you... but I sure don't mind having carnival eats (love that fun show by the same name) right in my backyard within walking distance for 3 days! Hmm... what shall we have for lunch

today? A jumbo tenderloin? Corn dog? Street corn? French fries? Wash it down with a lemonade shakeup along with an elephant ear for desert. YUM!

My Mom has always said that her favorite part of going to ANY fair type event is the food! Couldn't agree more! I'm my mother's daughter! Ha!

We also had a lot of really interesting and diverse vendors with quality items to purchase. I always enjoy seeing the creativity of others on display like that!

Speaking of diversity and creativity...that's exactly what we had Sunday morning at Penn Station during the Community Worship Service. To me, this was the highlight of the weekend, as so many people turned out to attend (even sitting in the balcony) and the service was absolutely wonderful!!

All the different styles of music coming together to honor and thank the LORD for all He has done for our town, with a truly inspiring message from the former pastor of Vine Street Christian Church, Michael Johnson. My heart was overcome with JOY! Especially as we all sang together the closing hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness". Quite fitting.

How many places in the world, truly, would such a meaningful event take place? Not many. We are abundantly BLESSED! A shout out to the ministerial team for planning this event!

Then Sunday afternoon I journeyed to the basement of Vine Street Christian Church for 2 scoops of "Heavenly Dips of Homemade Ice Cream" and was surprised to also receive a yummy brownie and little bottle of water (much needed

amidst the heat) but grateful it didn't keep people from coming.

The various musical groups and styles represented this weekend in either "Blondie's Beer Tent" or the gazebo parking lot were all quality entertainment which brought life to the streets.

The last offering I partook of was the delicious biscuits and gravy Monday morning at the Community Center from the Lion's Club. A wonderful tradition to have. I especially enjoy it, as it brings back memories of my late Dad who LOVED biscuits and gravy.

Interesting the way food reminds us of loved ones, which is why sharing such events is an important memory making activity to enjoy with your family.

I hope many of you took advantage of all this weekend had to offer us here in our small town.

A shout out to Stephanie Wierman for all the countless hours she spent planning the event as well as many who routinely come alongside her like Randa Carson, Marty Yeakel and Angie Parsons.

I was also realizing all the work both the Police Department and Public Works put in to reroute our streets and place all needed signs, etc. as well as the village staff.

Shout out to you all and the many others who worked behind the scenes to bring about such a wonderful event!

It's really worth it to keep such a longtime tradition going, and I hope we see our history being preserved in this way for many years to come.

Making Memories and History Along with You,
Trudy Feyereisen

Real Faith For Real Life

From Pastors of the Arthur Ministerial Association

You can't change your past

Were you entertained in some way this past weekend? Was it the Illinois football game? Our annual Cheese Festival? The Founder's Day Dinner? Or even the church service honoring 150 years of Christian community and togetherness throughout the history of Arthur? That's a good, long time to spend engaged in life together - nearly three-fifths of the existence of our country! It causes me to think back over my own history here in Arthur and some of the places I'd been before landing at the church in 2003. Many of those were good times and there are a few I'd rather forget.

We all have a past. Our history is what makes us who we are today. We're not static. We are the accumulation of choices we've made over time. What

to eat for breakfast? What am I going to wear today? How am I going to react to the situation I'm in - with thought and patience or rashly without thinking? Who will I marry? How much effort am I putting into this relationship, this project, this desire of mine? Am I seeking God's opinion and allowing Him to direct my path? All of those decisions bring us to where we are now. Who we've become during our time in this place.

Are we contented, if not happy, with the results of those choices? Hopefully we are, but there are plenty of us who are not. If not, are we doing something about it? The truth is: you can't change your past, but you can transform your future. It takes work. We have to apply ourselves in the present. The

opportunity is there to make different decisions today. Right now. Do you wish something was different? Choose to act on that desire. Does a relationship need healing? Make the first move. Unhappy with your well-being? Do your best to act positively. Have dark times in your past? Seek forgiveness. Need to get right with God? Call on Jesus.

Our history is what it is. Not much to be done about it. It can be improved with better choices today. Maybe now is the time for change. Look for God's direction and follow-through on His leading. The future is still to be seen.

Much love and many blessings,
Pastor John Stewart
First Baptist Church of Arthur

by Don S Chambers

MANNEQUINS

Background: Arthur, Illinois

Always give a word or sign of salute when meeting or passing a friend, or even a stranger, if in a lonely place.

-Tecumseh



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. Worship 10:00am. Rev. Leland Legg.

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 Con-

temporary 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

NEWLIFE 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 evening.

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

Meals

from page 1

to serve that every week, as people would tire of that fairly quickly. As many know, the cost of groceries has sky-rocketed over the past year-we all have found that we are spending more money at the grocery store.

But because of our volunteers and donors, and those who have been willing to serve, Community Meals has been able to feed many people here in our community each week. And now, this community project of love is in need of your help for additional funding so that it can continue to do what it has been doing for over 10

years.

If you feel led to donate to Community meals, it would gratefully be appreciated. You can pay by check written to Community Meals, come and make a donation in our box on Wednesday night anywhere from 4:30 to 6:00 pm, mail it to the church (128 E Illinois St; Arthur), bring it to the office or even donate by Paypal (just note that it is for Community Meals and send it to ArthurUnitedMethodistChurch@gmail.com).

Community Meals would be blessed to have your donation... Thank you to all of those who continue to bless us - whether it be monetary or food. We are always grateful for your help.

Town Talk

from page 2

I said about four days. I said don't worry, my mix partner at New River, Jim Thomas can sit in for me. I came to Wisconsin for the funeral. Both Jimmy and Russ called me at home to give their condolences. That touched me. When I got back to Florida and walked into the control room, I noticed "Frenchman for the Night" was still up on the board. Jimmy and Russ decided to wait for me to come back rather than continue production. It touched my heart deeply and I considered them friends from that day forward. Everytime I hear that song, I think of my grandfather and the kindness of Jimmy and Russ. After the album was done, I would run into Jimmy periodically and he always remembered my name, shook my hand and bought me a beer. I will truly miss him, his music, his philosophy on life

and hearing him say, "Hey Riley, it's 5 o'clock, let's go get a beer!" For his work on "Fruitcakes," Riley was able to share in the Platinum Album Award. I read many great tributes to Buffett after his passing. I think Riley's story is probably just one of many that showed the kind of person he was. Very nice remembrance.

DEANS LISTS

Last time I checked the editors at the Graphic and Record Herald had not received news of deans lists recipients who are also ALAH graduates so thought I would share them here. For spring 2023 from Eastern Illinois University - Abby Abercrombie, Emma Lee, Zackary Woodard and Kaylee Yeakel (all from Arthur). For spring 2023 from the University of Illinois - Max Allen Lovington; Meredith and Erin Schrock, Arthur. Congratulations to all!

And that's -30- for out of town guests!

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