

Bertha's C o r n e r



By
BERTHA PARSONS

Words

What are they? How many do you use in a day or write in a letter? What's the big deal about words? Well, try writing a letter or calling a friend without words! Important? You bet!

I'm a letter-writer and a talker. I would be in big trouble without words. Usually I use simple, small words. I'm not good at spelling, but I know how to use a dictionary to look up a word. I'm often amazed at the meaning and I continue to learn a lot.

I learned the importance of words from my Mother. She taught me and hundreds of children she babysat that your words tell about you: who you are, how you think and what matters to you. Yes, no matter the size of the word, big or little, strong or simple, it can make a difference to others.

Do you think about how your words may affect a friend or family member? You're angry, and in your mind, for good reason, Before you know it, unkind, dirty, damaging words fly out of your mouth! Why on earth do we do that? Can't we just calm down and think of other, nicer words to use?

After graduation, I got fulltime job at Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul in the accounting office. (I still dislike numbers.) The General whose office was right next to mine told me I would have to learn to cuss to fit into that office. It did not work for me. As hard as I tried I couldn't use the awful words.

My dirty, get mad, can't take it any more words were, "Huckleberry Finn." I still use those words. They work for me and put a smile on the face of all in the room! If words tell you who I am, you could say I'm careful, cautious, friendly and kind. You may have other words for me!

The real power of a word is how it makes one feel when reading or hearing the word. Momma was right, our words can make or break us. They tell a story wherever they land. So maybe we should STOP before we say a word. Think how our words will help or hurt a person? If you know me at all by now, you know that I am all about helping others.

The next time you get ready to write or say something be sure the words will say, "That's a nice person." Your words show who you really are!

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Lourdine Florek, Owner

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Two nights of pulls, float contest to be part of 77th festival

Joyce Clingenpeel was selected to chair the 2020 National Sweetcorn Festival, which was canceled due to Covid-19. With those restrictions lifted, Clingenpeel is looking forward to overseeing the 2021 model.

A touch of the familiar and a touch of the new will be part of the 77th festival this weekend.

New this year is a "bigger, better and much louder" two-day truck and tractor pull on Friday and Saturday evenings, she said. Thunder in the Corn, a National Tractor Pullers Association Grand National event will start at 7 p.m. each night in the McFerren Park Annex.

New vendors will also be setting up in the park for the festival.

In a mix of old meets new, this year's Grand Parade

will have an Old Fashioned Float Contest. Recent parades have not had traditional floats, something Clingenpeel remembers from her childhood and something she wanted to bring back for her festival.

Float contest winners will be named at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Center Stage in McFerren Park.

Also, in a departure from recent festivals, no big-name talent will perform this year. "We made the decision with the pandemic still happening, not to do a big concert this year," Clingenpeel said... However, area bands will perform in the Jaycee Shelter, with Brat Pack at 10 p.m. Friday and Cougar Trap at 9 p.m. Saturday.

A crowd favorite returning this year is the demo derby, **See FESTIVAL on other side**

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September

Pop-Up Market

Thursday 3-6 p.m. Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

We're back and the shop is full of great fall decor for your home, porch & yard! Stop in and say hi!

The Blossom Basket

16 E. Lyle St.

Milford, IL

Sue Crawford

Ph. 815 471-5289

Watch for future Pop-Ups on our Facebook Page The Blossom Basket - Milford, IL

Fun for All

Miniature Golf

Played in the Shade

Last Day of the Season

Tuesday, Aug. 31 4:30-7:30

weather permitting

The PIT STOP at EAST LANES

Getting ready for Festival guests?
Don't sweat it! Let us cook for you!

Lunch & Dinner Specials

Monday: Spaghetti, Taco Salad or grilled and breaded Tenderloins

Tuesday: Speedway Burger and Chicken or Beef & Noodles

Wednesday: Rib eye sandwich and Prime Rib sandwich

Thursday: Swiss steak or Popcorn Shrimp

Friday: Cod and Rib eye steak dinners

Saturday: Prime Rib and Rib eye steak dinners

Breakfast: 6-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri.

6:30-11 Sat.

6:30-Noon Sun.

Breakfast Buffet: Serving 7-10 a.m. this Saturday so you can get to the parade! 7 a.m.-Noon Sunday.

719 W. Elm

(217) 283-6505

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

5 p.m. Gates, Display Area, Midway, open
 5-10 p.m. Ride Special
 Bracelet Night
 6:30-9 p.m. Bingo
(Jaycees Shelter)
 Souvenir Sales
(Jaycees Shelter)
 Midway closes
 11 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

5 p.m. Gates, Display Area, Midway open
 5-10 p.m. Ride Special - Bracelet Night
 6:30 p.m. Beer Garden opens *(Annex)*
 7 p.m. Thunder in the Corn Tractor Pull
(Annex)
 10 p.m. Brat Pack
(Jaycees Shelter)
 1 a.m. Beer Garden closes

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

6 a.m. Flea Market opens
 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Car show registration
(Southeast corner of park)
 9 a.m. Gates Open
 10:30 a.m. Grand Parade *(Downtown)*
 12 p.m. Midway, Display Area Open
 Ride Special - Bracelet all day
 12:-1 p.m. East Central Illinois Baggers Cornhole
 Tournament Registration *(Jaycees Shelter)*
 12:30-2 p.m. Dawn Hively Music *(Center Stage)*
 12:30-5 p.m. Souvenir Sales *(by Center Stage)*
 1 p.m. East Central Illinois Baggers Cornhole
 Tournament begins *(Jaycees Shelter)*
 Beer Garden Opens *(Jaycees Shelter)*
 Ponytail Contest Registration *(by Center Stage)*
 1:30-2 p.m. **FREE SWEETCORN**
 Ponytail Contest Registration *(by Center Stage)*
 2 p.m. Parade Float Contest Awards *(Center Stage)*
 2:30 p.m. Car Show Awards *(southeast McFerren Park)*
 3 p.m. Car show awards *(southeast McFerren Park)*
 3 p.m. Frank Muffin Band *(Center Stage)*
 3-5 p.m. National Sweetheart Pageant Preliminary *(Civic Center)*
 Beer Garden Opens *(Annex)*
 7 p.m. Thunder in the Corn Tractor Pull *(Annex)*
 9 p.m. Cougar Trap Band *(Jaycees Shelter)*
 11 p.m. Midway Closes
 12 a.m. Beer Garden closes
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
 8 a.m. Flea Market opens
 9 a.m. Gates open

Laughter and Cheer



11 a.m. Children's Fishing Derby Registration
(Crabtree Shelter)
 12 p.m. Midway, Display Area open
 Ride Special - Bracelet all day
 Children's Fishing Derby *(Lagoon)*
 12-1 p.m. Holly Halliwell Music
(Center Stage)
 12-4 p.m. **FREE SWEETCORN**
 12-5 p.m. Souvenir Sales
(by Center Stage)
 12:30-1 p.m. Kids' Pie Eating
 Contest Registration
(by Center Stage)
 1 p.m. Kids' Pie Eating
 Contest
(Center Stage)
 1:30-2:30 p.m. Will and Katie
 Clayton Music
(Center Stage)
 3 p.m. Annex, Beer Garden open
 3-5 p.m. Nuthin' Fancy
(Center Stage)
 5 p.m. Demo Derby
(Annex)

6:30 p.m. National Sweetheart Pageant Finals *(Civic Center)*
 9 p.m. National Sweetheart Pageant Reception *(Civic Center)*
 10 p.m. Midway closes
 12 a.m. Beer Garden closes *(Annex)*

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8 a.m. Flea Market Opens
 9 a.m. Gates, Display Area Open
 9-9:45 a.m. Cream of the Crop Pretty Baby Contest registration
(Civic Center)
 10 a.m. Cream of the Crop Pretty Baby Contest *(Civic Center)*
 12 p.m. Midway opens
 Ride Special - Bracelet all day
 12-12:45 p.m. Thompson's Tunes Sing-a-Long *(Center Stage)*
 12-4 p.m. **FREE SWEETCORN**
 12-4 p.m. Souvenir Sales *(by Center Stage)*
 12:45-1:30 p.m. Princess Meet and Greet *(Center Stage)*
 2-4 p.m. Doc Ashton and the Root Canals *(Center Stage)*
 2-4:30 p.m. Bingo *(Jaycees Shelter)*
 9 p.m. Midway closes

**Sponsored by Hoopeston Jaycees
 McFerren Park, Hoopeston**

Gate Fee \$3 per day - 7 & younger FREE

Please bring your own chair to sit at Center Stage

Hoopeston Jaycees reserve the right to change the schedule

Festival continued from other side

which will be begin at 5 p.m. Sunday in the annex.

Also returning is the East Central Illinois Baggers' Cornhole Tournament Saturday at the Jaycees Shelter. Registration begins at noon and matches start at 1 p.m.

It wouldn't be a festival without a National Sweetheart Pageant. This year, 28 young women from around America have come to Hoopeston to vie for the crown.

Miss Hoopeston, Asti Scharlach, who, like Clingenpeel, was selected for her role in 2020, will act as hostess for the contestants while in Hoopeston.

The pageant will be held at 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the McFerren Park Civic Center. Contestants will compete in lifestyle and fitness, talent and evening gown competitions.

Clingenpeel is not down about not being able to chair a festival last year, instead focusing on what this festival will hold. One of the best things about leading the project is "being able to do something for our community and seeing everyone enjoying themselves. I also love meeting people from all over the U.S.," she said.

There is no "hardest part" to her job. "Honestly, we have such an awesome group of people that help put everything together, there isn't much hard about it," she said. "Everyone knows what needs to be done and gets it done. (I) can't wait to see everyone for the 77th Sweetcorn Festival. Please stay safe and enjoy yourself."

Pageant tickets are available at www.national-sweetheartpageant.com. Gate and ride passes are available at Mr. B's/Global Fashions until Wednesday or sold out.

Weather

Chance of thunderstorms today. High 80. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 60. Tomorrow, sunny. High 78, low 66.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.



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