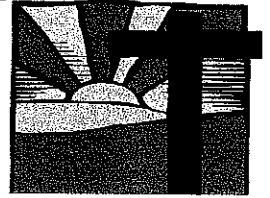


Uniondale Messenger

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Happy Graduation!!



THE SNEEZE

THEY WALKED IN TANDEM, EACH OF THE NINETY-TWO STUDENTS FILING INTO THE ALREADY CROWDED AUDITORIUM. WITH THEIR RICH MAROON GOWNS FLOWING AND THE TRADITIONAL CAPS, THEY LOOKED ALMOST AS GROWN UP AS THEY FELT.

DADS SWALLOWED HARD BEHIND BROAD SMILES, AND MOMS FREELY BRUSHED AWAY TEARS.

THIS CLASS WOULD NOT PRAY DURING THE COMMENCEMENTS—NOT BY CHOICE, BUT BECAUSE OF A RECENT COURT RULING PROHIBITING IT.

THE PRINCIPAL AND SEVERAL STUDENTS WERE CAREFUL TO STAY WITHIN THE GUIDELINES ALLOWED BY THE RULING. THEY GAVE INSPIRATIONAL AND CHALLENGING SPEECHES, BUT NO ONE MENTIONED DIVINE GUIDANCE AND NO ONE ASKED FOR BLESSINGS ON THE GRADUATES OR THEIR FAMILIES.

THE SPEECHES WERE NICE, BUT THEY WERE ROUTINE....UNTIL THE FINAL SPEECH RECEIVED A STANDING OVATION.

A SOLITARY STUDENT WALKED PROUDLY TO THE MICROPHONE. HE STOOD STILL AND SILENT FOR JUST A MOMENT, AND THEN, IT HAPPENED.

ALL 92 STUDENTS, EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM, SUDDENLY SNEEZED!!!!

THE STUDENT ON STAGE SIMPLY LOOKED AT THE AUDIENCE AND SAID,
'GOD BLESS YOU

AND HE WALKED OFF STAGE...THE AUDIENCE EXPLODED INTO APPLAUSE. THIS GRADUATING CLASS HAD FOUND A UNIQUE WAY TO INVOKE GOD'S BLESSING ON THEIR FUTURE WITH OR WITHOUT THE COURT'S APPROVAL.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

2nd-Brent & Paula
McAfee
4th- Madison Herstad
5th-Janet Garwick
7th- Larry & Elaine
McAfee
16th-Connie Hix
17th- Bryan & Natalie
Swineford
18th- Larry McAfee
19th- Kent Herstad
26th-Kathy Walters
29th- Helen Trout
30th- Cory Elzey

The Pencil-Maker

A PENCIL MAKER TOLD THE PENCIL 5 IMPORTANT LESSONS JUST BEFORE PUTTING IT IN THE BOX :

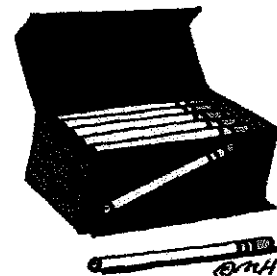
- 1.) EVERYTHING YOU DO WILL ALWAYS LEAVE A MARK.
- 2.) YOU CAN ALWAYS CORRECT THE MISTAKES YOU MAKE.
- 3.) WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS WHAT IS INSIDE OF YOU.
- 4.) IN LIFE , YOU WILL UNDERGO PAINFUL SHARPENINGS, WHICH WILL ONLY MAKE YOU BETTER.
- 5.) TO BE THE BEST PENCIL, YOU MUST ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE HELD AND GUIDED BY THE HAND THAT HOLDS YOU.

A Father's Blessing by Kent Herstad

Being a father is a great blessing, although there are times when it doesn't feel like it. I know for a fact that I made my father feel the same way. At the time, I just thought my dad was being too hard on me or too strict, but as the years went by I realized he was doing all the things a father should do for his children, even if it hurt him inside to do it. That's something as children we don't see with our fathers and mothers. We don't see the hurt inside of them when they are teaching us right from wrong or when we think we know better than they do and they hold firm.

I can't put into words how much I respect my father and thank him for doing the things a father should do and for all the special memories of

We all need to be constantly sharpened. This parable may encourage you to know that you are a special person, with unique God-given talents and abilities. Only you can fulfill the purpose which you were born to accomplish. Never allow yourself to get discouraged and think that your life is insignificant and cannot be changed and, like the pencil, always remember that the most important part of who you are, is what's inside of you and then allow yourself to be guided by the hand of God.



family, church, camping and fishing. I also respect him and thank him for providing for all of our needs and some of my wants and for being raised in a Christian home. The Christian base that was provided and growing up watching my father lead the life of a Christian man was crucial to making me who I am today. I hope that I am able to be to Kolson, Madison, and baby the father that my father was and is to me. To all of you fathers, may God bless you and guide you and Happy Fathers Day!



Confessions of a single girl, living in a small town...

I'm a very lucky girl. Not only do I have a wonderful and fabulous mom, I have an amazing father as well. Growing up, I've always been told that I look just like my mom... "mini-Mindy" has been my nickname. However, as much as I look like my mom, I act like my dad. We are much more alike than meets the eye. He and I are strong and like to take care of others. We have a tendency to put our own emotions on the back-burner, which isn't always a good thing. However, we do that because we want to be strong for others. (I'm learning to express my emotions more...everyone needs to have a good cry!!!) I have a close relationship with my dad. There are times when we give each other a hard time and mom doesn't always know if we're serious or just playing around. Its just apart of our relationship. My dad has always provided for me. When I first started driving, he made sure I had a car that ran and he got to be very good at installing CD players. And even to this day, when something is wrong with my car, the first person I call is my dad. My dad would do anything for me. One of my favorite things to do with my dad is to watch movies. Growing up, we would have movie nights. As my sisters have gotten older, we still get dad a movie or two for his birthday or Christmas...we like to contribute to dad's movie collection. When dad was fighting his bouts of diverticulitis, and ended up in the hospital, it was difficult to see him in so down. And it was even worse when he had his surgery and was in so much pain...I left for California the day after his surgery and it was SO hard to leave him despite the fact that I knew he was in good hands. In fact, I almost wanted to cancel my trip. (Although dad was in lots of pain, he did hear me say this and shook his finger NO...) I'm so blessed to have a dad like the one I have. I don't always take the time to tell him just how truly I appreciate him...THANK YOU, DAD for all you do and your constant love and support! I love you...

Amanda



Let's Not Forget...

Norm Jackson
801 N. Huntington
Warren, IN 46792

Maxine Crum
River Terrace
300 Caylor Blvd.
Bluffton, IN 46714

Doris Emily
The Woodlands at River-Terrace
300 Caylor Blvd. Apt 214
Bluffton, IN 46714

Margaret Hassler
37446 Carson Street
Farmington Hill, MI 48331

Helen Trout
801 Huntington Ave.
Warren, IN 46792

Prayer Petitions

Our Country
Foster Children/Foster families
Our Servicemen Abroad
Our Missionaries
Norman Jackson
Helen Trout
Opal Gilbert
Unemployment
Campus Life students/directors
Students and Teachers
Homeless people
Crops & Farmers
Illnesses

Getting to Know Me by Leslie Crockett...

When Amanda asked if I'd write a little bit about myself for the newsletter, I wasn't quite sure what format to use. When my daughter was young, she always bugged us to play "20 Questions" with her. I thought that instead of using "20 Questions", it would be easier to skip right to "20 Answers".

So, here we go:

1. I was born at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska.
2. My grandfather served in the Army Air National Guard, my father served in the Air Force
and I served in the Marine Corps.
3. I mostly grew up in Missouri, although I've lived in a total of 6 states.
4. I love to travel and have visited 30 states and one overseas country.
5. I have one daughter, Briana, who just turned 19.
6. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education (Northeast Missouri State University)
and a Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy (Tennessee Technological University).
7. In between pursuing degrees, I served with the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat
Center Band in Twentynine Palms, California (clarinet & alto sax).
8. I've been playing the clarinet for 36 years.
9. I am currently a member of the Fort Wayne Community Orchestra and sub for the
Symphony of the Lakes in Winona Lake.
10. I currently work for the VA Hospital in Marion as a music therapist.
11. I've been a Board Certified Music Therapist for 14 years.
12. I love being outdoors and am happiest when I'm hiking in the woods or exploring
State Parks, Federal Parks and historical sights.
13. My favorite place on earth is the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
14. In my "down-time", I enjoy reading, drawing and cross-stitching.