Gomez-Vilaitis

Rueben Gomez and Crista Vilaitis were wed April 19, 2008, in The Church by the Side of the Road of Rockton, IL. A beautiful reception followed at the Hoffman House. Parents of the couple are Raymond and Carmella Gomez of Loves Park, IL and Gitta Vilaitis of Rockford, IL. The bride's attendants were Teresa Anderson (Matron of Honor), Cindy Breithaupt, Jenny Hermosillo, Amy Potter and Alexis Gomez (Flower Girl). The groom's attendants were Johnnie (Rene) Gomez (Best Man), Jonathon Lewis, Allan Whitmore, Justin Hermosillo and Fabian Perez (Ring Bearer). Rueben is employed at Chrysler, and Crista is employed at Hilander Foods. The happy couple reside in Loves Park.

Campbell-Johnson

Elizabeth Campbell and Steven Johnson are engaged to be wed on Aug. 16, 2008, in Rockford, IL. Parents of the couple are Avis Stram and William Eckhardt of Rockford, Maureen and Will Jacobson of Washington, Jim and Linda Johnson of Wisconsin. Elizabeth graduated from Harlem High School, Machesney Park, IL, and Steven graduated from Lincoln Park High, IL. The couple got engaged on Christmas Eve 2007. They've been together for four years.

Tropp-Juliano

Jennifer Leigh Tropp and Paul John Gerald Juliano are engaged to be wed Sept. 13, 2008, at Court Street United Methodist Church in Rockford. Parents of the couple are Anthony and Shelby Albano of Belvidere and the late Gerald Tropp of Rockford, and Lee and Arleta Juliano of Rockford. The bride-to-be graduated from Guilford High School in 1998 and from the Aveda Institute of Cosmetology in Minneapolis in 2004. She is employed by Taylor Stevens Salon in Algonquin. Her fiance graduated from Boylan Catholic High School in 1999 and received a Bachelor of Science degree from Illinois State University in 2004. He is employed with Stenstrom Companies. After a honeymoon in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, Jennifer and Paul will reside in Rockford.

Havens-Thornton

Cassandra J. Havens and Mathew T. Thornton are engaged to be wed Aug. 2, 2008, at Sinnissippi Gardens. Parents of the couple are Lonnie Havens of Rochester MN, Lori (Ketchum) Havens of North Carolina, Doug Thornton of Freeport, IL, and Lisa Taft of Rockford. The bride-to-be attends Rock Valley College. Her fiance graduated from Jefferson High School and is employed by HB Plastics.

Salin-Staver

Craig Salin and Shelley Staver were wed Aug. 18, 2007. Parents of the couple are Gus and Vonda Salin and Tom and Peg Heidecker. Craig graduated from East High School and Milwaukee School of Engineering. He is employed as a manager at Rockford Industrial Welding Supply. Shelley graduated from Harvard High School and the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. She is employed as a teacher for Capron Elementary School. The happy couple reside in Rockford.

Miller-Leese

Emily Miller and Michael Leese are engaged to be wed Oct. 18, 2008, in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. The reception will be on Oct. 25, 2008, at Lino's in Rockford. Parents of the couple are Ms. Pamela Miller of Rockford and Mike and Betsy Kendall, Rockford. Emily Miller graduated from Boylan Catholic High School in 2001. She is a licensed cosmetology teacher teaching at Tricoci University of Beauty Culture in Rockford. Michael Leese graduated from Auburn High School in 2001. Michael is a material handling specialist at Zenith Cutter Co. The couple reside in Rockford.

The Blums

Ed and Char Blum will celebrate their 50th anniversary. Ed and the former Char Frosch were wed on July 17, 1958, at St. Aloysius Church, Sauk City, WI. Their children are Corey, Port St. Lucy, FL; Jeff, Beloit, WI; Wendy, S. Beloit; Randy (Shawna), Loves Park. Their grandchildren are Niciole, Dan, Rachel, Alex, Blake, Branson, Dylan and Trianna.

The Maneys 50th Anniversary

John and Nancy Maney will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Saturday, July 19. John and the former Nancy Anderson were wed July 19, 1958, at St. Bridgette's Church in Loves Park, Illinois. John and Nancy have six children: John (Jennifer) Maney, Cathy (David) Lamb, Jeff (Vicki) Maney, Todd Maney (Kelly), Gina Maney and Melody Maney. They have 11 grandchildren and three great-grandsons. John owned and operated John's Full Service Station at N. Main St. and Auburn St. for 47 years. Nancy was a stay-at-home mom who opened her heart and home to almost 100 foster children. John and Nancy's children will be having brunch on Sunday, July 20, with family and friends to celebrate their anniversary at Giovanni's. We are so honored to have John and Nancy Maney as our parents. — John, Cathy, Jeff, Todd, Gina and Melody.

Neubauer-Novay

Breanda Neubauer and Deputy Chief John Michael Novay are engaged to be wed on Aug. 22, 2009, at Riverside Community Church in Loves Park. The couple are planning an engagement party for August 2008 at the Radisson Hotel in Rockford for family and close friends. Breanda has two children: Spencer and Hayley Neubauer. Mike works for the Metro Police. Mike has three children: Heather, Ian and Brianna; and three grandchildren: Alley, Owen and Ella. This is a happy and exciting time as we join as a family.

The Chabucoses

George and Miz Chabucos celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. George and the former Mary Young wed on July 4, 1958, in Rockford, IL. Their children are son Jim Chabucos of Kenmesaw, Georgia, and daughter Janice Yagle of Loves Park. They have 3 grandchildren. There was a private celebration.

The Richardsons 65th Anniversary

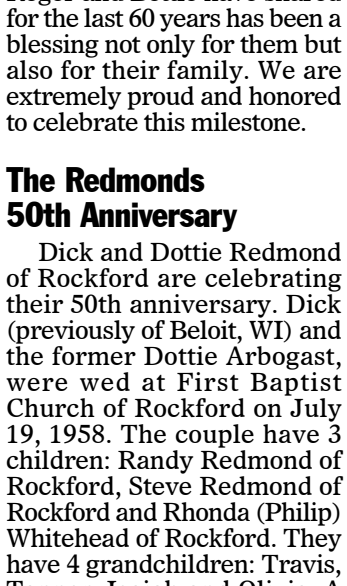
Jim and Myrt Richardson of Ashton recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. James and the former Myrtle Haun were wed in San Diego, Calif., on June 24, 1943. The Richardsons celebrated their 65 years of marriage in Rockford with their three children: Dixie (Eldon) McClain of Ocean Springs, MS, Marilyn Blasam of Rockford and Craig (Teri) Richardson of Bettendorf, IA. Seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren from IA, MI, MA, AL, and MS were able to attend this special occasion.

The Benges 60th Anniversary

Paul and Dorothy Benge will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with a family gathering. Paul and the former Dorothy Albert were wed July 24, 1948, in the Post Chapel at Fort Knox, KY. They have lived in Rockford for 52 years. They have three children: Julie (Isaac) of Florida; Joy Benge of Nashville, TN; and John Benge of Nashville, TN. They have twin grandsons, Alexander and Andrew, and one great-grandson, Maximus.

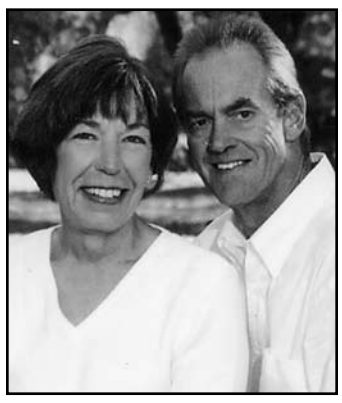
The Eversons

Roger and Bettie Everson are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary this month. Roger and the former Bettie Turkelson were wed on July 18th, 1948, at Sycamore Methodist Church in Sycamore, Illinois. Their children are Linda Fichtner of Janesville, Wis., Larry (Jeanne) Everson of Rockford, Laura Latta of Omaha, Nebraska, and Loren Everson (deceased). They have four grandchildren: Kelli Ochs of Janesville, Sarah (Brian) Skinner of Omaha, Teresa (Keith) Trzebiatowski of Milwaukee, and Amy (Rex) Harbison of Rockford. They also have 10 great-grandchildren: Kennedy, Gariel and Ezra Ochs of Janesville, Evan and Colin Skinner of Omaha, Tyler, Bryan, Brittany and Jessica Trzebiatowski of Milwaukee and Layne Harbison of Rockford. There will be an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 20th, at Alpine Lutheran Church, 5001 Forrest View Ave., Rockford, Illinois. The love and commitment Roger and Bettie have shared for the last 60 years has been a blessing not only for them but also for their family. We are extremely proud and honored to celebrate this milestone.



The Redmonds 50th Anniversary

Dick and Dottie Redmond of Rockford are celebrating their 50th anniversary. Dick (previously of Beloit, WI) and the former Dottie Arbogast, were wed at First Baptist Church of Rockford on July 19, 1958. The couple have 3 children: Randy Redmond of Rockford, Steve Redmond of Rockford and Rhonda (Philip) Whitehead of Rockford. They have 4 grandchildren: Travis, Tanner, Isaiah and Olivia. A celebration for Dick and Dottie is being planned by their children.



The Cannons

Cecil and Susan Cannon will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. Cecil and the former Susan McGee were wed on June 28, 1968, in Rockton, IL. They have two children, Kellie (Jake) Miller of Pecatonica and Chad (Stephanie) Cannon of Rockford. They have five grandchildren.

The Craigs

Jim and Monica Craig recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 28th. Jim and former Monica Johnson were wed on June 28, 1958, Brooklyn, NY. The couple's children are Dan and Linda Craig of Carol Stream, IL, and Tom Craig of Lake Villa, IL. They have five grandchildren. The Craigs had a private celebration with family. Recently the couple moved from 40 years living in Wheaton, IL.

The Dennys

Irene and Delbert D. Sr. will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Delbert and the former Irene L. McLin were married on July 12, 1958, in Rockford, They have three children: Angela Holliman of Columbus, OH, Diahann Woodard of Baton Rouge, LA, and Delbert D. Denny Jr. and Wonda. They have five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The Petersens

James and Marian Petersen will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary July 21, 2008. James married the former Marian Laeser in Rockford on July 21, 1948. The couple have three children: Alan Petersen, Rockford; Sallie (Ray) Wright Buffalo, WY; Brian Petersen, Loves Park, IL. They have four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. There will be a private celebration with close family.

In Loving Memory of Mary Jane Cooper Nov. 1, 1928 — July 20, 2007

A year has passed since we said goodbye to you. Our lives have not been the same without you here to watch over us, to worry about us, and to shower us with the unconditional love you so freely gave us as a wife, mother and grandma. We miss you so very much. You will be in our hearts forever. We love you. — Your family.

CARD SHOWER FOR DAVIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

Berniece Davis of Box 54 Leaf River, IL 61047 will celebrate her 80th birthday with a family dinner. Berniece was born July 17, 1928, in Leaf River, the daughter of William and Louise Hartje. She is a 1946 graduate of Leaf River High School. She married Duane Davis on Aug. 21,1947, in Leaf River. She was secretary and bookkeeper for Davis Oil Company and several other businesses Berniece and Duane operated for over 25 years. She is a member and organist of Leaf River United Methodist Church and an active member of the Leaf River Historical Society. She enjoys sewing, quilting, embroidery, reading and spending time with family and friends. Her family includes children and spouses Roger and Sharri Eickman of Geneseo, Quentin and Rachel Davis of Forreston and grandchildren Renee Eickman of Bettendorf, Iowa, Kyle Eickman of Geneseo, Mark and Tracey Robinson of Davis Junction, and Daniel Davis of DeKalb. Your card or letter with a favorite memory would be a great surprise for Berniece.

Jessie Woodhouse Manring

Jessie will be celebrating her 80th birthday at an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Aug. 2, 2008, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 827 16th St., Rockford. Friends and family should come to help her celebrate. Given by daughter Linda and her son-in-law Scott Ferguson.

Ruth Earlywine Happy 80th Birthday

Ruth Earlywine will turn 80 on July 24th. Born in 1928. She will celebrate her 80th birthday on July 19 with family. Cards may be sent to 5439 Dale Arc, Loves Park, IL 61111.

In Memoriam Lt. Col. Martin H. Nelson July 11, 1963 — June 14, 2008

Died after a short illness. Survived by his wife and four daughters. Mother — Marilyn. Sisters — Michelle and Marcella. Brothers — Mitchell, Mark, Matthew and Marshall. Predeceased by his father Raymond, brother Michael, and niece Sarah. Marty, a wonderful father, brother, friend, patriot, will be forever missed and loved by his family and friends.

Print your milestone

Call 815-962-2400 to request a form or visit the News Tower, 99 E. State St. in Rockford. People will print engagements, weddings, anniversaries and birthdays. We offer free space for short versions of engagements, weddings and anniversaries, and you can purchase additional space to share more information and larger photos for your special events.