

[above] The geothermal field now supports a 34-megawatt power plant. [inset] Bird point measuring 1 and 3/16 inch long found in Utah.

by John Walters

I have been interested in many things in my life. In my schoolwork, I was interested in being a scientist. This was narrowed down to being a physical chemist as I worked on my PhD. The only definition of that discipline I have ever heard that made sense is, "Physical chemistry is what physical chemists do," and that is a good description of what I did for multiple decades. Phillips Petroleum hired me to do work explaining why the polyamides are so different from one another. After that, I worked in amazingly diverse areas of research. After ten years this evolved into geochemical research.

The Geothermal Division liked my approach to this work and asked me to develop a way of sampling and analyzing geothermal fluids fresh out the ground in various geothermal well tests. After some thought, I developed a lab design that was portable, could be easily assembled in the field, handled very hot fluids at elevated pressure, separated steam from brine, and

cooled it down to ambient temperatures. This allowed sampling of condensed steam and non-condensable gases in a few seconds. The non-condensable fraction was very important, as that fraction had a large impact on the efficiency of a future power plant. I got the entire lab to fit into six portable cases. The steam-brine separator was most important and one gallon size of one-half-inch thick stainless steel. I knew it was heavy, as it hurt my elbow when I carried it.

The first time I took it out into the field was to Roosevelt Hot Springs, 11 miles northeast of Milford, Utah. I flew out to Salt Lake City on TWA from Tulsa, Okla. I told the young lady who was checking me in that I thought the separator case might be overweight. She leaned over, grabbed the handle, and whipped it around like a tennis racket saying, "No, it's OK." Sometime later I weighed it. It was 85 pounds! They grow them tough in Oklahoma!

I needed chemicals out in the field, and some things

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EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Meadowlark Travelers trip

You asked to see a performance at Kauffman Center in Kansas City, and we listened. Planning has begun to see Christmas-themed shows in the Kansas City area with a two-night stay in downtown KC. Dates are Dec. 17-19. If you are interested in learning more as details become available, please sign up in the Blue Book or reach out to Monte Spiller, resident services leader. Total tour price will vary, depending on transportation and group ticket fees. In general, deeper discounts are offered the larger the group.

Fall Sermon Series with Melanie Nord

Beginning Sept. 7, Rev. Melanie Nord, Spiritual Life Leader, will begin a new sermon series titled "Lessons of Faith from Popular Culture." She will examine successes from popular culture and how we can apply them to our faith and religious communities.

Corporations have developed company cultures and methods for growth and success. In the age of religious decline, maybe we can find insight from the secular world on how to carry the message of our faith to the next generations.

Empowered LIVE!

Friday, Aug. 22, at 5 p.m.

Join us Friday, Aug. 22, at Holiday Inn at the Campus for an uplifting evening of creativity, connection, and motivation at Empowered LIVE!, a special event celebrating Meadowlark Parkinson's Program and its participants.

From 5 to 6:30 p.m., guests can enjoy conversation, vendor exhibits, and the creative talents of our VIPDs (Very Important People with Parkinson's). A selection of sweet and savory foods will be available; meal tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at www.meadowlark.org/speedy-pd or by calling (785) 323-3899.

Attendance is free for those not wishing to eat.

At 6:30 p.m., keynote speaker Troy J. Cook will take the stage. Diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2017, Troy brings humor, heart, and hard-won wisdom in his talk, *"Success, Fulfillment, and Parkinson's."* His newly published book, *Change is Inevitable, Growth is Optional*, will be available for purchase for \$18. A portion of proceeds from the

book sales will be donated to Meadowlark Parkinson's Program.

Thanks to Vanderbilt's for their generous presenting sponsorship, and to all who make this meaningful evening possible. Transportation from Meadowlark is available. Please sign up in the Blue Book at the Hospitality Desk.

Church Ladies

Friday, Aug. 22, at 7 p.m.

Meadowlark is excited to welcome back the Church Ladies at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22, in the Event Center. The Church Ladies are a harmony-based acoustic trio from the Manhattan area. They have performed together for many years and have become a favorite among residents. If you like Americana with a twist, this show is for you.

Speedy PD Race for Parkinson's Disease

Saturday, Aug. 23, at 7:30 a.m.

The 17th Annual Speedy PD Race for Parkinson's Disease is almost here! Drawing inspiration from the upcoming Aer Lingus College Football Classic in Dublin, Ireland, where K-State will face Iowa State, we're celebrating by *Dublin the Fun!*

This year's Speedy PD features three race options: the Half-Mile Memorial Walk/Run, the Don Rasmussen 5K, and the 10K. All courses are flat, paved, and lined with encouragement from our wonderful volunteers. Whether you're a seasoned runner, a weekend walker, or just showing up to cheer others on, all participation is gratefully accepted. Checks should be made out to *Meadowlark Foundation* with *Speedy PD Donation* in the memo line and can be left at the Hospitality Desk for Becky Fitzgerald.

For race questions or details about the Parkinson's Program, contact Michelle Haub, Special Programs Leader, at (785) 323-3899.

KSU Football Watch Party!

Saturday, Aug. 23, at 11 a.m.

Join us at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, in the Kansas Room, Pub, and Event Center as our K-State Wildcats open the 2025 football season against Iowa State in Ireland. A Game Day at Ireland lunch special will be offered on the lunch menu at Prairie Star. Go Cats!

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Worship Services

Sunday, Aug. 24, at 10 & 11 a.m.

Join Rev. Melanie Nord, Spiritual Life Leader, for worship at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 24, in the Community Room/Chapel. This week, Melanie will explore the book of Jude.

ARTFul Memories

Tuesday, Aug. 26, at 10 a.m.

ARTFul Memories is a Meadowlark Memory Program collaboration with the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art using Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS). Kim Richards, Education Assistant, will conduct a facilitated discussion of three different art images with joint participation by memory care receivers and caregivers. All are invited to attend.

Farewell (for now) to Bayer Pond

Wednesday, Aug. 27, at 9 a.m.

As part of our renovation and expansion plans, Bayer pond will be drained starting Thursday, Aug. 28. The process may take up to a week to completely empty the pond, then crews will work to remove the muck from the pond to allow the bottom surface to dry.

Residents, employees, and guests are encouraged to fish and visit Bayer Pond on Wednesday, Aug. 27, to enjoy our final day at Bayer Pond. Coffee and donuts will be available starting at 9 a.m. with additional snacks throughout the morning. Fishing poles and bait will be available. Prairie Star Restaurant will feature fried catfish for dinner. Golf carts will be departing every 30 minutes from the Village Entrance between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. to assist residents to and from the pond.

Page Turners Book Club

Wednesday, Aug. 27, at 11:30 a.m.

Join the Page Turners Book Club at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27, in the Patriot Room as we continue our discussion of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. This epistolary novel, meaning it's told through a series of letters, is set in 1946, after World War II. The novel explores themes of community, resilience, and the power of literature.

We have copies of the book available from the Manhattan Public Library. You do not need to attend each group to participate. Please join us when you are able! If you have questions or would like to borrow a copy of the book, please contact Katie at (785) 323-3899.

Diabetic Wellness Group

Wednesday, Aug. 27, at 1:30 p.m.

The Diabetic Wellness Group will meet at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27, in the Flint Hills Room. All who are interested are invited to attend.

College Avenue UMC Luncheon

Thursday, Aug. 28, at 12 p.m.

College Avenue United Methodist Church friends are invited to join in fellowship and lunch with Rev. John Collins at 12 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, in the Bison Room. **Please sign up by Tuesday, Aug. 26, in the Green Book at the Hospitality Desk.**

Knitting & Crocheting Group

Thursday, Aug. 28, at 2:30 p.m.

Are you interested in learning how to knit or crochet? Or maybe you have ongoing projects you'd like to work on? Whether you are just beginning or have years of experience, join other yarn creatives in the Bison Room at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, for a fun, social, creative opportunity. All skill levels are welcome!

Dr. Sławomir Dobrzański

Friday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m.

The Bell Family Foundation Music Series presents Dr. Sławomir Dobrzański at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29, in the Community Room. Praised by the Buenos Aires Herald as "one of the best Polish pianists," Sławomir Dobrzański currently serves as Professor of Piano at the School of Music, Theatre and Dance at Kansas State University.

KSU Football Watch Party!

Saturday, Aug. 30, at 6 p.m.

Join us on Saturday, Aug. 30, in the Kansas Room, and Prairie Star Restaurant Bar, at 6 p.m., as our K-State Wildcats have their home opener against North Dakota. Light refreshments will be served.

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DESERT, from page 1

cannot be carried on airplanes. Phillips Petroleum has a department to review such things. If it passes the "rabbit test," it is okay. That involves shaving the back of a rabbit, applying the chemical and looking for a reaction. But they did not want to involve rabbits, so they would apply the chemical to the back of one of their hands and look for the reaction. I needed fuming nitric acid for the acidification of solutions to a pH of two. We did not need to test this, as we knew it would not pass. I bought 1-liter bottles of acid in Salt Lake City, Utah and Reno, Nev. And kept them in the field offices in Reno and Milford, Utah.

Stuart Johnson from the Salt Lake City, Utah office and I were assigned to work together to make sure that everything was ready for the test. The production well was already in place. We arrived two weeks early and worked from sunup to sunset, which totaled 16 hours a day in June! We would arrive at the Hong Kong Cafe (the only cafe in town) for breakfast. We sometimes got there before the waitresses and could hear the owner swearing in Cantonese. At least that is what it sounded like. I would eat three pancakes, sausage, orange juice, and coffee. I was under 40 at the time and ate a lot! We drove out to the well site and performed whatever labor was needed. We returned to town at dark, after the cafe was closed. Our only other choice was B&J's Bar and Grill, "The Entertainment Capital of Southwest Utah." They had *two* pool tables and had a few frozen pizzas on hand. That was our supper. After a while, we considered that the company owed us a day off. We drove around the nearby countryside and saw the massive obsidian flow there, 50 feet high and a mile or so long. The locals of long ago would collect a large block of volcanic glass, retire to a nearby ridge (good visibility of any approaching hostiles), and knock off pieces and keep the ones suitable for arrowheads, knives, and spear points, then discard the rejects and go home. We did not find any nice projectile points in those locations. We decided to look for likely camp sites. The first one was at an arroyo that would have flowing water in the spring. I parked the car and looked out the driver's side window

and saw a tiny black object ten feet away. I got out and it was a wonderfully perfect bird point, 1 and 3/16 inch long! Later when I got home, I put it on a silver chain as a necklace.

The time for the well test came and we had a lot of people there to watch. The assembly of the well head was incorrect, and we had to abort the test. It was rescheduled for September.

Stuart and I arrived early and worked long days again. We took Labor Day off and he went deer hunting, the first day of hunting season. I had taken my Eagle Claw spin-fly rod and equipment. I caught a few "brookies," but they were too small to keep.

The test day came, and I had my lab-in-the-desert ready to go. I discovered that my quarter-inch stainless cooling coil could melt 500 pounds of ice in 5 minutes! I analyzed for CO₂. It was VERY low! I collected various water samples and acidified them to a pH of 2 (one tenth the acidity of stomach acid) to prevent precipitation of the metals, and we were done.

I packed my water samples into my suitcase and headed for the Salt Lake City airport. I checked in and discovered that Denver was snowed in. All sorts of flights from Salt Lake City were canceled, including mine. It looked like there were at least 1000 standbys in the airport. I waited around and suddenly was told if I could get to the gate for the flight to Minneapolis-St. Paul in 20 minutes, they would get me home that day! But ... I would have to carry my suitcase to the gate. I put my full-sized suitcase under my arm and RAN! They had to X-ray my suitcase and "saw" the water bottles and asked me, "What are those?"

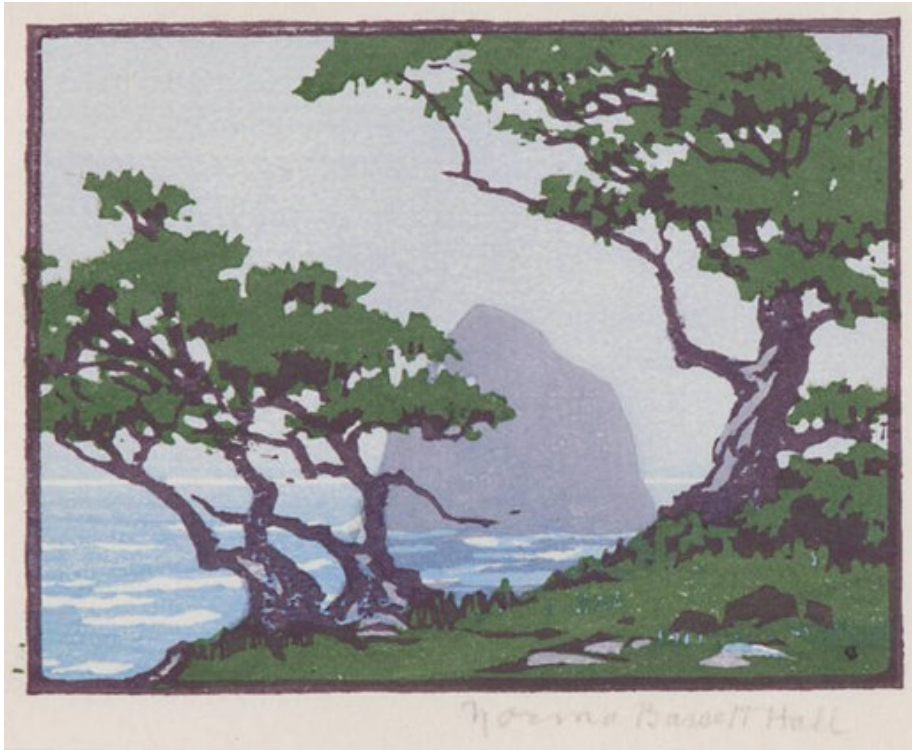
I was going to tell them that they were water samples. Instead, I said, "Those are water samples, some of which are acidified. I heard the agent say, "Acid? Isn't that dangerous?"

I tried to tell the agent that the acid was too weak to be dangerous. He said, "You need to talk to my supervisor." I discussed the samples with the supervisor, and he said, "If you say so."

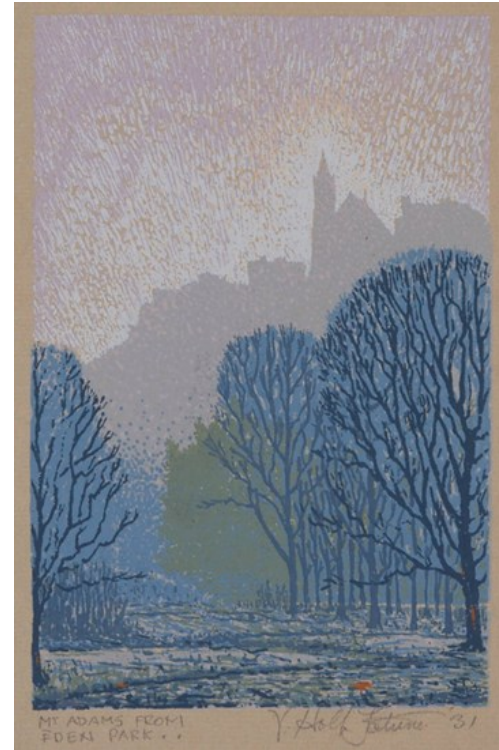
I did not like them taking my word for the innocuousness, but I accepted the okay. I did get home that night.

Art Engagement *from the* Beach Museum of Art

Screenprints and woodcuts are two printmaking techniques that allow the artist to build an image by layering color. This requires the printmaker to think through the order the colors will be printed. The materials used in each technique can aid the artist in creating texture and expressiveness. One of the prints shown here is a screenprint, and the other is a woodcut. Take some time to look at each one. Find similarities and differences between them while considering texture, composition, color, color value, and space.



Norma Bassett Hall (United States, 1888 - 1957)
Haystack Rock, ca. 1930
Color woodblock print on paper
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, Friends Kansas Art Fund, 2007.147



Victor Holt Tatum (United States, 1894 - 1973)
Mt. Adams from Eden Park, 1931
Screenprint on paper
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, Friends of the Beach Museum of Art purchase, 2001.47

EVENTS, from page 3

Farewell & Graduation Reception

Sunday, Aug. 31, at 9 a.m.

Join in the Community Room, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 31, as we share pastries and wish Ethan Xin well before/after the morning worship services.

Celebration of Life: Stephanie Upson

Thursday, Sept. 4

Longtime Meadowlark resident, Stephanie C. Upson passed away peacefully at Lyle House on June 30, 2025. Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m.

Thursday Sept. 4, 2025, at First Presbyterian Church, 801 Leavenworth, Manhattan. Inurnment will follow at the Sunrise Cemetery.

The family encourages friends, staff, and caregivers from the Meadowlark community to join them for Stephanie's services. They also warmly invite everyone to a reception in the Event Center between 1:30 and 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4. Drop in anytime to share fellowship, refreshments, and memories. Please come and help us celebrate Stephanie!

RESTAURANT **SPECIALS**

Sunday, Aug. 24	Sunday Brunch Brunch Menu available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.	\$16 Dinner Beef Tips Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Broccoli
Monday, Aug. 25	\$11 Lunch Cheeseburger Sliders French Fries	\$15 Dinner Chicken Fajitas Refried Beans Mexican Rice
Tuesday, Aug. 26	\$10 Lunch Bacon-Cheddar-Egg Salad <i>served on a Croissant</i> Breakfast Potatoes	\$15 Dinner Beef Stroganoff Garlic Breadsticks Roasted Broccoli
Wednesday, Aug. 27	\$11 Lunch Buffalo Chicken Wrap Sweet Potato Fries	\$16 Dinner Fried Catfish Cornbread Pudding Coleslaw
Thursday, Aug. 28	\$9 Lunch Reuben Bratwurst Potato Salad	\$14 Dinner Garlic-Rosemary Chicken Smashed Potato Broccoli
Friday, Aug. 29	\$11 Lunch Pizza Bar	\$17 Dinner Pecan-Crusted Trout <i>served with Dijon Sauce</i> Wild Rice Asparagus
Saturday, Aug. 30	\$11 Lunch BBQ Chicken Sandwich Broccoli Salad	\$15 Dinner Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Corn

Weekly Opportunities Calendar Aug. 24 to Aug. 30

Sunday • Aug. 24 *Put your trash at the curb!*

8:45 a.m. ~ Transport to College Ave UMC, VE
10:00 a.m. ~ Transport to College Ave UMC, VE
10:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service, CR
10:30 a.m. ~ Transportation to FUMC, VE
11:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service, CR

Monday • Aug. 25 *Trash pick-up*

9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR/**1960**
9:30 a.m. ~ Memory Care Partners Group, **STM**
10:30 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR/**1960**
11:00 a.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, **BF**
11:30 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR/**1960**
1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Exercise Class, CR/**1960**
1:30 p.m. ~ God Talk, KSU CL
2:00 p.m. ~ Tai Chi, EC/**1960**
4:15 p.m. ~ Hable Espanol, FHR
7:00 p.m. ~ Community Bingo, CR

Tuesday • Aug. 26

10:00 a.m. ~ ARTful Memories, BR
10:00 a.m. ~ Mat Yoga, KSU CL
10:30 a.m. ~ Steady Yourself, CR/**1960**
11:15 a.m. ~ Chair Yoga, CR/**1960**
11:30 a.m. ~ Page Turners Book Club, PR
2:00 p.m. ~ 10-Point Pitch Group, GR
2:00 p.m. ~ Social Circles, PS
3:00 p.m. ~ Coffee Corner, EC
5:30 p.m. ~ 3rd Floor Supper, BR
6:30 p.m. ~ Summer Vespers, CY

Wednesday • Aug. 27

9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR/**1960**
10:00 a.m. ~ Walmart/Dillons Shopping Trip, VE
10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Care Partners Group, FHR
10:00 a.m. ~ Memory Café, KSU CL
10:30 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR/**1960**
11:30 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR/**1960**
1:00 p.m. ~ Complaint-Free Meadowlark, CR
1:30 p.m. ~ ARTful Making, KSU CL
1:30 p.m. ~ Diabetic Wellness Group, FHR
2:00 p.m. ~ Tai Chi, EC/**1960**
3:00 p.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, KSU CL
3:00 p.m. ~ Sing-A-Long, FHR
3:30 p.m. ~ Watermelon Feed, CY

Thursday • Aug. 28

9:00 a.m. ~ Messenger Team, KSU CL
10:00 a.m. ~ Mat Yoga, KSU CL

Thursday • Aug. 28, continued

10:30 a.m. ~ Steady Yourself, CR/**1960**
11:15 a.m. ~ Chair Yoga, CR/**1960**
11:30 a.m. ~ Caring Conv. For People w/ PD, FHR
11:30 a.m. ~ PD Care Partner Social, PS
12:00 p.m. ~ College Avenue UMC Luncheon, BR
1:00 p.m. ~ Parkinson's Exercise Class, CR/**1960**
1:00 p.m. ~ PD Care Partners Group, FHR
2:30 p.m. ~ Knitting & Crocheting, KR

Friday • Aug. 29

7:30 a.m. ~ Rock Steady Boxing, **BF**
9:30 a.m. ~ Seated Strength, CR/**1960**
10:30 a.m. ~ Weights 101, CR/**1960**
11:30 a.m. ~ Sit & Be Fit, CR/**1960**
2:30 p.m. ~ Fanny & Furby, KR
7:00 p.m. ~ Dr. Slawomir Dobrzański, CR

Saturday • Aug. 30

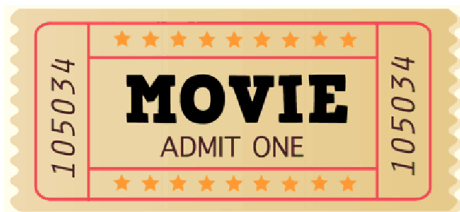
9:00 a.m. ~ Tai Chi, **1960 only**
9:30 a.m. ~ Band Bust Exercise Class, **1960 only**
6:00 p.m. ~ KSU Watch Party, PS, KR, EC

Room Abbreviations

1960, TV Channel 1960
BF, Body First
BR, Bison Room
CR, Community Room
CY, Courtyard
EC, Event Center
FHR, Flint Hills Room
GC, Grosh Cinema
KR, Kansas Room

KSU CL, KSU Classroom
MM, 120 Scenic Drive
MR, Manhattan Room
PR, Patriot Room
PS, Prairie Star Restaurant
STM, St. Thomas More Church
VBL, Verna Belle's Lounge
VE, Village Entrance
WPL, Wamego Public Library





GROSH CINEMA SHOWTIMES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY 1:00 P.M. / 4:00 P.M. / 7:00 P.M.
SUNDAY 2:00 P.M. / 6:00 P.M.

SUNDAY: Aug. 24

LONG DISTANCE (2024) PG-13, 1 hr. 27 min. *Drama, Science Fiction*

Cast: Anthony Ramos, Naomi Scott, & Kristofer Hivju

An asteroid miner crashed on an alien planet and must make his way across the harsh terrain, running out of oxygen, hunted by strange creatures, to the only other survivor.

MONDAY: Aug. 25

WIDOW CLICQUOT (2023) R *for sexuality & nudity*, 1 hr. 30 min. *Period Drama*

Cast: Haley Bennett, Tom Sturridge, & Sam Riley

The story behind the Veuve Clicquot champagne family and business that began in the late 18th century.

TUESDAY: Aug. 26

BONNIE & CLYDE (1967) R *for violence*, 1 hr. 51 min. *Caper, True Crime*

Cast: Warren Beatty, Faye Dunaway, Michael J. Pollard

Bored waitress Bonnie Parker falls in love with an ex-con named Clyde Barrow and together they start a violent crime spree through the country, stealing cars and robbing banks.

WEDNESDAY: Aug. 27

THE BLUE MAX (1966) PG, 2 hr. 36 min. *Tragedy, Action, War*

Cast: George Peppard, James Mason, & Ursula Andress

A young pilot in the German air force of 1918, disliked as lower-class and unchivalrous, tries ambitiously to earn the medal offered for 20 kills.

THURSDAY: Aug. 28

THE GOOD NURSE (2022) R *for language*, 2 hr. 1 min. *True Crime, Biography, Thriller*

Cast: Eddie Redmayne, Jessica Chastain, & Nnamdi Asomugha

An infamous caregiver is implicated in the deaths of hundreds of hospital patients.

FRIDAY: Aug. 29

BEVERLY HILLS NINJA (1997) PG-13, 1 hr. 29 min. *Comedy*

Cast: Chris Farley, Nicollette Sheridan, & Robin Shou

A well-meaning but hopelessly inept ninja ventures to the Hills of Beverly to rescue a mysterious beauty.

SATURDAY: Aug. 30

THE KARATE KID (2010) PG, 2 hr. 20 min. *Action, Drama, Family*

Cast: Jackie Chan, Jaden Smith, & Taraji P. Henson

Work causes a single mother to move to China with her young son. In his new home, the 12-year-old boy embraces Kung Fu, taught to him by a master.