

Free Electronics Recycling event

Cass County, Jennings Beardstown and BHL Computers, Inc. are sponsoring a free electronic recycling event in Beardstown Sat. May 5 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Old WalMart Parking Lot Beardstown.

They are accepting the following items both functioning and non-functioning: Laptops, game systems, copiers, phones, controllers, hard drives, non-gas powered tools, desktops, VCR/DVD Players, typewriters, cell phones, keyboards, floppy discs, speakers, monitors,

printers, fax machines, cameras, mice, DVD Optical drives, Network equipment, TV's, scanners, calculators, pagers, cords/cables, vacuums, projectors.

For more information, contact: Leo Hill, Event Coordinator, 585-1580.

OEDC meeting

By June Conner
Star-Gazette editor

The Cass County Overall Economic Development Commission at their meeting Thursday April 26, heard Community and Economic Developer Dustin Fritsche say in his report that Illinois Manufacturers are just not finding enough skilled workers to fill their manufacturing positions. There was some discussion on

how to get a more trained work force in our area. Fritsche continued with his report that he was working with Beardstown Main Street on the Incubator Task Force to research possible properties for the project. He said he was working on a Mayor's Forum to get the mayors in the county to meet on a regular basis.

A meeting will take place May 3 with Klinger and Associates of Quincy

on the application to FEMA on the levee recertification. Klinger is the engineer on the project.

Illinois River Valley Transit is now being managed by Diane Feigl and Stacey Rock from the Cass County Human Resource Center. The time of operation has been extended from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Anyone needing transportation should call 323-4512, 323-4516, or toll free 855-803-7433.

Rally – continued from page 2

build tributary sediment traps and attempt to naturally filter sediments and contaminants from run-off. Collected funds from several sources aim to restore forest, prairie, and wetland habitats for migrating waterfowl. The project intends to provide passage for aquatic organisms between restored habitats and the river. This will also act as an emergency spillway to reduce damages from extreme floods.

The Meredosia National Wildlife Refuge is a 5,255 acre national wildlife refuge located along the Illinois River in Cass County and Morgan County. The refuge is adjacent to Meredosia, but is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from a headquarters located in Havana.

The Spunky Bottoms project was funded by The Nature Conservancy, IL DNR, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Illinois Natural History Survey, The Wetlands Initiative, The North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Wetland Conservation Act conservation easement, the Open Lands Trust Partnership, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, The Wetlands Initiative, several universities, colleges and additional gifts from over 40 large partners.

In 2010 Congressman Aaron Shock earmarked a

bill for the Spunky Bottoms Restoration in Brown County, IL that specified \$5,736,000 would go towards project modifications for improvement of the environment. The budget request was set aside for the Army Corps of Engineers in an Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, Section 1135. In the final bill it received \$24,220,000 and most earmarked projects were listed as priority projects but without specific funding amounts.

Millions have been invested for the environment around Spunky Bottoms & the refuge as a noble and necessary task. The City of Beardstown currently does not have the economic investment that the floodplain south of Beardstown does at this time. The money for the river access will need to come from a variety of sources as the Spunky Bottoms project, but it will not happen without the demand of the public. It was Bley's intention to get hundreds of concerned citizens to write a personal plea to open the marina on one of the thousand postcards she plans to deliver to the Rock Island Corps. She created a collection of cards that have been signed by voters. Featured messages will be shared via www.beardstownharbor.com or on Facebook after the final signatures have been collected.

Part of the event was a fund raiser for the signs and postcard supplies using a 50/50 drawing for two hanging ferns, a fire pit and a new playhouse for kids. "The signs are going to do the work for me," Bley stated. "A lot of people have put a lot of time into opening the marina and are getting burned out. The banners will be posted on my building facing the river (121 W Main St.) for three years. I couldn't use my money to buy a boat because I can't get to the river, so I invested it in the signs." She plans to permanently post five 2'x10' signs she displayed at the rally. The posters are high quality ink on vinyl and shout slogans in large bold capped letters: OPEN OUR MARINIA CORPS!, HELP! CORPS IS KILLING US!, STOP CUTTING EAGLE TREES!, STOP FLOODING OUR HARBOR! and BOATERS ARE VOTERS! The signs are intended to be seen by passing boaters and the Corps while they travel by.

One of the supporters, Jack Fearneyhough of the Project Tiger Pride, made his opinion known.

"If the community wants to win this battle, hundreds of people are going to need to speak up. It is a crime that we don't have river access. People have to get back in the fight again and again," said Fearneyhough.

Co-Business of the month



Submitted photo

Congratulations to ILLINOIS GLOVE COMPANY for being chosen for April's Co-Business of the Month! Illinois Glove Company has been in business since 1919 and is in their 4th generation of family ownership. They have been at this location, 217 East Main Street, in Beardstown since 1963 and are owned by Bob, David, and Jay Shmikler. Jason Shade of Jacksonville and Kim Shade of Virginia are the managers of this facility that employs 6 people. Although, Illinois Glove Company no longer manufactures gloves at this location, it is a warehouse for many styles of high quality work and mining gloves, which also offers a wide variety of custom imprinted gloves. Pictured left to right are: Roger Ward, Jason Shade (Manager), Kimberly Shade (Manager), Jennifer Briggs, Kristin Marquis, Christine Shaffer.

Chamber of Commerce News

Illinois Glove Company and DD Homes were named Co-Businesses of the Month for March.

Riverview Restaurant and Family Bowling Center have joined the Beardstown Chamber of Commerce.

The 18th Annual Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing will be Friday, May 11 at Scripps

Park Golf Course in Rushville. This will be a four person best ball scramble with carts provided and a shotgun start at 1 p.m. All entries must be turned in by May 3 to JJ DeSollar and Wessler Bros. Agency, 111 W. Main Street, Beardstown. The cost is \$50 per person with dinner being served following golf. For members who do not golf, you

may Sponsor a Hole for \$50.

The "Buy Beardstown" Program will be hosting a Trivia Night on Saturday May 19 at the Beardstown Elks Club. Buffet (\$12.50 per person) will begin at 6 p.m. and Trivia (\$10 per person) will start at 7:30 p.m. There will be a maximum of 10 players per team. Cash awarded to the first place team.

Virginia High School to host a blood drive

To help ensure an adequate blood supply for our region, Virginia High School located at 651 South Morgan is hosting a blood drive on the CICBC donor bus on Monday, May 7. The hours of the blood drive are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. T-shirt for donors are compliments of CICBC. Please call the high school to sign up at 452-

3363 or schedule online using sponsor code 60086 at www.bloodcenterimpact.org. Walk-ins are also welcome and truly appreciated.

Central Illinois Community Blood Center, a not-for-profit organization, is the provider of life-saving blood for 12 hospitals throughout central Illinois, including

Memorial Medical Center and St. John's Hospital in Springfield. A division of Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center (MVRBC), Central Illinois Community Blood Center and MVRBC collect over 180,000 units of blood annually and serve a total of 80 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin.

A new transmission line to meet our need for reliable, cost-effective and safe energy

Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois (ATXI) proposes to construct new 345 kilovolt transmission lines that will interconnect Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. The project, known as the Illinois Rivers Project, is part of a portfolio of Multi-Value Projects (MVPs) that has been approved by the Midwest ISO, a regional transmission organization.

The MVPs will facilitate the delivery of renewable energy, improve reliability, and provide economic and efficiency benefits. The Illinois Rivers Project is directly aligned with Ameren's strategic goals of providing our customers with reliable, efficient and environmentally responsible energy.

We need your help.

ATXI invites you to attend an Open House.

Thursday, May 17th
Elks Club
205 East Second Street
Beardstown, Illinois

Stop by anytime between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

At this Open House, we will explain why this new transmission line is needed and what it will look like. We will answer your questions.

By sharing your thoughts and concerns with us on May 17th, you will help us determine the best possible routes for this new transmission line.

For more information, please visit our Web site at ilriverstransmission.com or call us at (800) 229-9280.



Visit ActOnEnergy.com and learn how to use less to spend less!

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**Boneless Skinless
Chicken Breasts**
\$2.19 lb.

**Sliced
Slab Bacon**
\$2.89 lb.

**Georgia
Green Cabbage**
49¢ lb.

**Pike County, Illinois
Hydroponic Tomatoes**
\$2.59 lb.

**Prairie Farms
French Onion Dip**
16 oz.
\$1.79

**Imperial
Margarine**
pound
75¢

**Sugar-Free
Popsicles or Fudgicides**
8 count
\$1.39

**Prairie Farms
Ice Cream**
half gallon
\$3.49

**Bush's
Kidney Beans**
16 oz.
\$1.09

**Hunt's
Tomato Sauce**
15 oz.
99¢

**Valsic
Pickle Relish**
10 oz.
\$1.79

**IGA
Paper Towels**
65 sheets
\$1.11

Maxine Pilger celebrates 90th Birthday



Maxine Pilger will celebrate her 90th birthday on May 15.

She was born in Versailles, the daughter of Glen and Rozella Davis. She married Daryle Pilger on April 11, 1942. Mr. Pilger passed away December 27, 2009.

Mrs. Pilger is the mother of Richard (Marilyn) Pilger, Mary Ann (Larry) Lambert and Barb Lovekamp. Her son David (surviving wife Claudia) and daughter Donna Pilger are deceased. Mrs. Pilger has five grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Friends and family are invited for cake at Evergreen place in Beardstown from 2 -4 on Saturday, May 12.

Reddishs celebrate 40th Anniversary



Dennis and Muriel Reddish will celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary. Please send your best wishes to them at 13 French Drive, Virginia, IL 62691.

Georgia celebrates 102nd birthday



Georgia Lillian Dieterich Baker of Mt. Sterling will celebrate her 102nd birthday on May 20, 2012. She was born on May 20, 1910 in Brown County, Illinois. She married Everett Albert Baker on January 30, 1930 in Carthage, Illinois. He passed away on August 3, 1957.

She is the last surviving child of George August Dieterich and Lillie Dunbar Dieterich. Siblings were Beulah Simmons, Annabel Gollither, Dorothy Dieterich, Berniece Grady, Lyle Dieterich, and Lillie Grady.

Mrs. Baker worked on the family farm and was a homemaker. Later in life, she owned and operated a restaurant in Versailles.

She is the mother of eight children, Bonnie Cullves of Beardstown; Mardilee Lawson and Lyle Marvin (wife, Sharon) Baker, all of Mt. Sterling; Beulah Butler of Versailles; and Marguerite Koenig, Everett L. Baker, Lillian Jones, and Ruthie VanDeVenter, all deceased.

Wood's welcome a new son



Lindsey and Shannon Wood of Arenzville are pleased to announce the birth of their son Carter William Wood on April 12 at 5:42 a.m. at Passavant Area Hospital in Jacksonville. Carter weighed 7 lbs. 13 oz. and was 20 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Bob and Joann Gielau of Beardstown. Paternal grandparents are John and Debra Wood of Arenzville.

Great Grandparents are Arthur and Mary Gielau of Beardstown, Kenneth and Alma VanHyning of Winchester and Beatrice Wood of Strafford Mo.

Bluffs High School to host blood drive

To help ensure an adequate blood supply for our region, Bluffs High School located at 100 West Rockford in Bluffs is hosting a blood drive on Monday, May 14. The hours of the blood drive are 1 to 5 p.m. All donors that register to donate blood at this blood drive will receive a t-shirt compliments of CICBC. For your convenience, please call the high school

to sign up at 754-3815 or schedule online to earn points for rewards using sponsor code 60008 at www.bloodcenterimpact.org. Walk-ins are also welcome and truly appreciated.

Central Illinois Community Blood Center, a not-for-profit organization, is the provider of life-saving blood for 12 hospitals throughout central Illinois.

Extravaganza – from page 6

invited to attend either event! Reservations are required. The events are free; just call or email the health department to make a reservation. Please call Kay at 217-452-3057 ext. 302 or email

kpatterson@cassco-health.org. Let us know which evening of the Women's Health Extravaganza you plan to attend - and bring your mother, sisters and friends along!



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May Special
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large chef salad, &
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Fri., & Sat.: 3:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.; Sun. 3:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.

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