

## A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I am very excited about the future of Mater Dei Catholic High School! Throughout the past year, the Mater Dei school community has come together to plan, dream, review, and explore the possibilities that are in store for Mater Dei Catholic High School. This process, which is known as strategic planning, is presented here for you to review, discuss, and ultimately, embrace as our framework for the next five years.

To those of you who filled out a survey, served on a committee, provided feedback to a board member, or participated in the strategic planning process, I thank you for a job well done. The support provided by our school community has been outstanding. It is this support that will allow us to move forward and make our vision a reality.

For over fifty years, Mater Dei has provided the highest quality Catholic education and prepared students for the challenges of today and tomorrow. Our students continue to

challenge themselves as they attend universities across the country and become leaders in their church and communities.

Through the strategic planning process, we are ensuring that Mater Dei Catholic High School will continue to grow and improve in its mission to promote Gospel values in a caring environment, as we respect the individual differences of all our brothers and sisters.

Please review the plan for the road ahead with the understanding that it is a working document, one of vision and challenge. I ask for your prayers for our school and its students as we move forward with this plan for the future.

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Litteken  
Principal

## VISION FOR THE FUTURE

### The Strategic Plan Process

To plan for Mater Dei Catholic High School's future, the school community came together and established six committees to review, research, and plan on behalf of the students of Mater Dei. These committees were staffed by volunteers, faculty members, administrators and students of Mater Dei. This process began in the winter of 2009 with committee members coming together on November 21, 2009, to identify areas of improvement and set goals to address these areas. The strategic retreat was facilitated by Sr. Ann Marie Bonvie, a 1966 graduate of Mater Dei and a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

Out of the strategic retreat came a list of needs and strategies to be addressed to build upon our traditions and bring new opportunities to ensure that this school will continue to be a foundation of faith formation and

academic excellence while remaining financially sound now and in the future. These needs were reviewed by the administration and school board and through this review a strategic plan was formed by the way of developing goals, action plans, and time

lines to address these issues in a timely fashion. The plan focuses on the next five years, but it establishes a vision that will extend well into the future. The strategic plan is visionary, mission driven, realistic, and comprehensive, while keeping the students' needs and dreams in mind.

In a proactive effort to effectively plan for the future of Mater Dei Catholic High School, the administration and school board present in this issue of the *VITA* their Strategic Plan. It serves as our guide to provide quality Catholic education for all those families who desire to pass on their faith and the

faith of the Catholic church to their children and their children's children.

We hope you share our excitement about the challenges and





opportunities for the future. Without you, we will not be able to continue to grow in faith and love for the future.

#### **The Strategic Plan - Our Plan for the Road Ahead**

As our plans for the future shape up, it is important for us to share our vision with you. The Mater Dei school board gave its approval to pursue the following components of the strategic plan and to research the community's level of support for such plans.

#### **Creation of Student Center from Cafeteria and Patio**

Students currently gather for meals and meetings in a tired, dark, dated, crowded noisy room. We envision expanding the current space into the existing patio resulting in a beautiful, bright, energy efficient, contemporary student center, with technology equipment and software, much like a cyber café, where students will gather comfortably at round tables for meals, meetings, social interaction, and various extra-curricular activities. This new attractive space with adjoining updated kitchen facilities will also lend itself to gatherings of alumni, parents, and friends of the Mater Dei community.

#### **Campus Master Plan for Ongoing Facility Needs and Beautification**

With the passing of time and changing

seasons, our buildings and surrounding grounds require ongoing attention. Roof replacements, sidewalk, curbing, and exterior door improvements are needed to assure our outside reflects the excellence and quality educational experience that occurs every day inside the classrooms and halls of Mater Dei. Besides the immediate needs, we plan to develop a campus master plan designed to systematically address these types of needs annually.

**Outdoor Athletic Facilities** – While we continue to invest in repairs and attempt to keep the athletic field, stands, and restrooms in good condition, the passage of time and conditions resulting from extensive use by our football team, boys' and girls' soccer teams, track teams, marching band, intramurals, and others demand that we address these facilities in a comprehensive manner. We envision the replacement of the outside fences, front gates, playing surface, grandstands, and renovation of the restrooms. This will result in a facility that is safe, competitive, and attractive and will be an incentive for prospective students and a source of pride for the entire Mater Dei community.

#### **Technology Support and Equipment**

– Shifts in technology equipment and software for educational purposes present a continual, costly challenge that must be met to make certain our students are well

prepared for the future at the colleges and careers of their choice. In this strategic plan, our vision is to have new technology sources that would be incorporated into the creation of the Student Center, such as wireless areas and upgrades to the network, and to have the highest level of technology support and education possible.

#### **The Next Step**

With the Strategic Plan in mind, the Mater Dei School Board has approved conducting a feasibility study, and the school has engaged the services of Partners' in Mission to direct the study. The purpose of the feasibility interviews is to learn the level of support the community has for our plan and vision. If you are interested in being part of this study, please call the Mater Dei office. Interviews will be scheduled for sometime after the first of the year.

As Mater Dei Catholic High School continues to grow in its proud tradition linking the past with living the present in anticipation of the future, now is the time to recognize and respond to the call for vision, leadership, and renewed commitment to the mission of Mater Dei Catholic High School. It is the vision and mission that we invite all of you to share and embrace with us.





# LOYALTY – COMMITMENT – DEDICATION

These three very powerful words typify the “spirit” that is very much a part of the community of Mater Dei Catholic High School. Whether it is our students, the parents, grandparents, faculty/staff, alumni, benefactors or friends, these three words characterize the attitude that is felt when speaking of Mater Dei and in the stewardship that is provided. One cannot help but be amazed at and admire the strength of continued support that Mater Dei receives from its constituents through the years. The themes that have been chosen the past five years for the Annual Fund Drives have attempted to illustrate that trend:

- ‘06-’07 “Give the Gift of Catholic Education”
- ‘07-’08 “Share in the Mission”
- ‘08-’09 “Rooted in Tradition for a Faith-filled Future”
- ‘09-’10 “You Help to Make the Difference”
- ‘10-’11 “We’re Counting on You”

Your loyalty, commitment, and dedication have contributed to the stability and viability of Mater Dei Catholic High School and have made it available, affordable and accessible. And that same loyalty, commitment, and dedication must continue to be experienced if Mater Dei is to continue to be an outstanding Catholic secondary school. Each new year brings more challenges and required updates that need to be faced and implemented and these are met through the Annual Fund Drive. But each new decade also brings major overhauls and modernizations that become identified through a strategic plan and feasibility study that can only be met through a capital campaign.

Both the annual fund drive and a capital campaign work together to maintain and build a strong foundation upon which Mater Dei Catholic High School can grow and flourish into the future. As we recognize the needs that lay before us, may we respond, after prayerful reflection, in such a way that we help contribute to the success of those goals.



Fr. Chuck Tuttle

Director, Office of Institutional Advancement



# MATER DEI STUDENTS EXCEL ON ACT

The Mater Dei Class of 2010's average ACT test score not only exceeds the state average, but is also the highest average for a Mater Dei class in the past 20 years. With a composite average of 23.3, the Class of 2010 outscored the state average (20.5) by almost three points!

Students in the Class of 2010 scored above the state average on all four tests:

ENGLISH	MD	23.5	State	19.9
MATH	MD	23.4	State	20.5
READING	MD	23.1	State	20.6
SCIENCE	MD	22.6	State	20.3

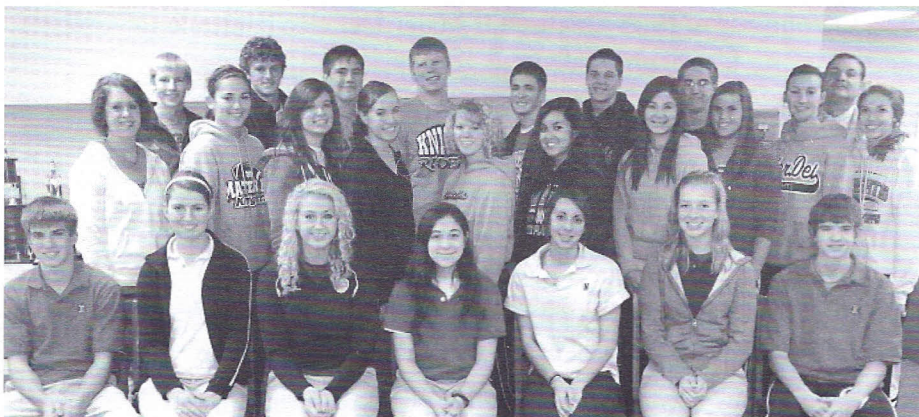
For the members of the Mater Dei Class of 2010 who enrolled in a college preparatory curriculum (four years of English, three years of mathematics, science, and social studies) the averages are:

COMPOSITE	24.0
ENGLISH	24.8
MATH	23.8
READING	24.0
SCIENCE	23.0

For a comparison of Mater Dei average ACT scores with other area high schools, please visit the Illinois State Board of Education website at [www.isbe.state.il.us](http://www.isbe.state.il.us)

## HISTORY OF COMPOSITE ACT SCORES

	MDHS	State
'93	20.3	21.0
'94	21.5	21.1
'95	20.8	21.1
'96	21.1	21.2
'97	22.2	21.2
'98	22.3	21.4
'99	21.9	21.4
'00	22.2	21.5
'01	22.4	21.6
'02	21.7	20.1
'03	21.4	20.0
'04	22.0	19.6
'05	22.0	20.1
'06	22.0	20.3
'07	22.3	20.3
'08	22.7	20.7
'09	23.1	20.8
'10	23.3	20.5



## CLASS OF 2011 ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS

**(Sitting):** Mark Hofelich, Haley Albers, Ali Mueller, Forest Hempen, Sarah Denaro, Hannah Goring, Justin Luitjohan

**(Middle row):** Casey Mueller, Alexa Becker, April Rose, Maria Hemann, Katie Hughes, Michelle Parr, Caitlin Schlueter, Lauren Brauer, Morgan Schulte, Sara Richter

**(Back row):** Spencer Fuehne, Connor Endres, Ben Patton, Justin Arentsen, Alex Seger, Tyler Detmer, Justin Vogt, Principal Dennis Litteken



Senior Haley Albers was named a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student.



## MEMORIALS

Vincent Arentsen  
Mel Becker  
Annette Erlinger  
Victor Eversgerd  
Mark Feldmann

Lorraine Gonzalez  
Mary Hitpas  
Otis Holtsclaw  
Howard Ice  
Anna Kampwerth

Joseph Kampwerth  
Valeria Korte  
Wanda Lager  
Sophie Leonard  
John and Marie Pickford

William Schwarze  
Roger Schwierjohn  
James Varel  
Eleanor Wiegman

## IN HONOR OF

Don Schomaker  
*On the occasion of his Birthday*

Dave and Mary Beckemeyer  
*On the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary*



*On November 22, Fr. Chuck Tuttle celebrated a Memorial Mass in the Mater Dei chapel for families of deceased loved ones for whom Mater Dei received memorials throughout the year.*



## SAVE THE DATE

*Music of the Knight*

***Saturday, March 19, 2011***

**Mothers and Friends Dinner Auction**





## MATER DEI LADY KNIGHTS - 2010 IHSA 3A State Volleyball Champions

**(Front):** Sam Bedard, Alyssa Hitpas, Abbey Winter, Mallory Mensing, Chelsea Crocker, Kayla Eversgerd, Abby Luebbers

**(Back):** Ali Mueller, Brooke Schulte, Kaley Boeckmann, Nicole Stricker, Ashley Rakers, Emily Koelling, Ali Lampen, Bailey Kampwerth

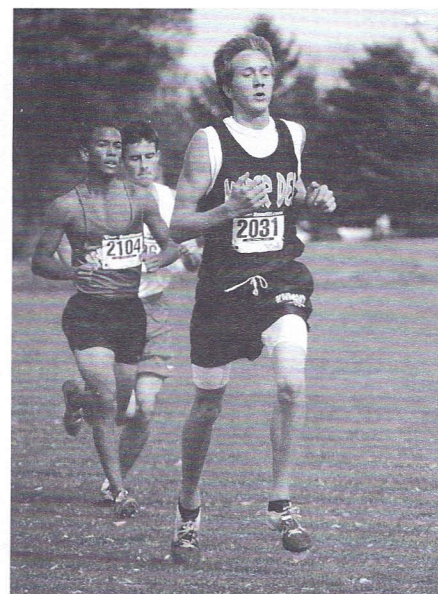


## FRED RAKERS RETIRES FROM COACHING

Fred Rakers is the only head coach the Mater Dei volleyball program has ever had, a total of 35 years. Next year, the Lady Knights will begin a new chapter in its long storied history as Coach Rakers has decided to step down as head coach. During his tenure, Coach Rakers compiled a 1,046-200 career record, including six state championships.

His dedication to Mater Dei and the volleyball program is immeasurable.

The entire Mater Dei community would like to thank Fred Rakers for all he has done to put Mater Dei Catholic High School on the map and for making it a volleyball powerhouse in the state of Illinois.



*MD senior Colten Strotheide earned All-State honors at the state cross country meet by completing the race in 24th place.*



*Earning All-State honors for his 7th place finish in the state golf tournament was MD junior Parker Lawrence.*



SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR KNIGHT CLUB MEMBERS

**KNIGHT CLUB -  
GOLD CIRCLE**

**2010 - 2011**

CC Food Marts, Breese, IL  
Excel Bottling Company Inc.,  
Breese, IL  
Feldmann, Dr. Marilyn,  
Cullowhee, NC  
Huels Oil Company, Carlyle, IL  
Kruse, George B. & Robin,  
Bartelso, IL  
Kuhn, Charles & Evelyn,  
Trenton, IL  
Orr, Brian & Cindy,  
Highland, IL  
Rakers, Marvin & Anita,  
Damiansville, IL  
Southern Bus & Mobility,  
Breese, IL  
State Farm Insurance,  
Steve Klostermann, Breese, IL  
Wade Sales & Service, Inc.,  
Breese, IL

**KNIGHT CLUB -  
SILVER CIRCLE**

**2010 - 2011**

Albers, Don & Claudia,  
Germantown, IL  
Auto-Tech Automotive, Inc.,  
Gary & Jean Tebbe,  
Highland, IL  
Aviston Lumber Co.  
Becker, Rocky & Marilyn,  
Conroe, TX  
Beckmann Construction Co.,  
Rod & Carol Beckmann,  
Breese, IL  
Breese Dental Care, PC, Tim &  
Kathy Droege, Breese, IL  
Comprehensive Care Pharmacy,  
Breese, IL  
Country Financial,  
Theresa Richards, Breese, IL  
Country Financial, Keith Wilken,  
Breese, IL  
Dairy King Inc., Breese, IL  
Deiters, Dale G. & Jan,  
Breese, IL  
DHN Graphics, Darrell &  
Dawn Heimann-Neumann,  
Aviston, IL  
Foppe Insurance Agency,  
Breese, IL  
Haag, Chip,  
Breese, IL

Hempfen Funeral Home,  
Breese, IL  
Hill Law Offices,  
Highland, IL  
Hoerner, Dennis & Francie,  
Trenton, IL  
Holthaus, Bryan S.,  
Carlyle, IL  
Hudspeth Jr., John A.,  
Carlyle, IL  
Jansen Chevrolet,  
Germantown, IL  
Kalmer Lumber & Pallet  
Mfg. Inc., Albers, IL  
Koentz D.M.D., William G.,  
New Baden, IL  
Korte, Kevin & Kathie, Breese, IL  
Lampe, Mr. Jim & Dr. Mary,  
Germantown, IL  
Litteken Construction Co.,  
Breese, IL  
Luebbers Welding & Mfg. Inc.,  
Carlyle, IL  
Moss Funeral Home, Breese,  
Germantown & Trenton, IL  
NACO Printing & Advertising,  
Greenville, IL  
Norrenberns, Pat & Esther,  
Carlyle, IL  
Quad-County Ready Mix Corp.,  
Okawville, IL  
R & B Plumbing, Heating & Air  
Conditioning, Inc., Breese, IL  
Revermann, Darin & Tina,  
Breese, IL  
Rivera, M.D., Chris, Carlyle, IL  
Robke's Auto Body,  
Germantown, IL  
Usselman, Steve & Mary,  
Breese, IL  
Wessol, Sid & Kay, Carlyle, IL

**KNIGHT CLUB -  
INDIVIDUAL  
2010-2011**

Abert, Karl & Amy  
Albers, Leon & Ruth  
Antonacci, Tony & Deb  
Arentsen, Tom & Tammy  
Baer, Erick & Lisa  
Beckemeyer, Dave & Mary  
Beckemeyer, Doug & Julie  
Becker, Albert & Judy  
Becker, Bill & Joanie  
Beckmann, Alfred & Helen

Beckmann, Randy & Lori  
Bedard, Don & Beth  
Beer, Darlene S.  
Benhoff, Paul & Jeanette  
Berndsen, Tom & Phyllis  
Boeckmann, Monica  
Buehne, Randy & Michelle  
Chiarolanza, Charlie & Jackie  
Connelly, Kevin & Diane  
Corbus, Mark & Susan  
Cowgill, Mark & Allison  
Crocker, Dick & Carolyn  
Dall, Mark & Jan  
Darr, Jim & Sue  
Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Gary  
Deiters, Wayne & Ginny  
Detmer, Tom & Maribeth  
Diekemper, Bernard & Catherine  
Diekemper, Ed & Marie  
Diekemper, Gervase & Kay  
Diekemper, Leroy  
Dierkes, Maurice & Jeanette  
Dulle, Brian & Diana  
Dumstorff, Rich & Kim  
Essenpreis, Dale & Helen  
Etter, Craig & Penny  
Etter, Jack & Mary Alice  
Etter, Jim  
Etter, Mark & Fran  
Faust, Allen & Milissa  
Fields, Mike & Marlene  
Fields, Terry & Suann  
Fischer, Fr. Henry  
Fischer, Joseph & Mary Lou  
Fowler, Jay & Linda  
Fuehne, Ben & Linda  
Fuehne, Roger A.  
Fuehne, Ron & Sue  
Garber, Bill & Lynn  
Garcia, Arnel & Julie  
Garcia, Philip  
Gerstner, Rick & Barbara  
Goestenkers, Rick & Cindy  
Gonzalez, Ben & Jan  
Gonzalez, Bryan & Krista  
Gross, David  
Haag, Rob & Dana  
Haar, Curt & Heidi  
Haar, Joe & Louise  
Haas, Dan & Shirl  
Haas, Greg & Tina  
Hamilton, Mike & Stephanie  
Hampel, Barry & Ann  
Harper, Lawrence & Colleen  
Haukapp, Brent  
Heimann, Joseph & Annette

Hellmann, Paul & Pat  
Hemann, Tony & Beth  
Hemker, Jeff & Susan  
Hempfen, Dale  
Hempfen, Deacon John & Kim  
Henken, Arthur G. & Sylvia H.  
Henrichs, John & Martha  
Hilmes, Charles & Vicki  
Hilmes, Gene & Marita  
Hitpas, Gary & Donna  
Hitpas, Mark & Becky  
Hitpas, Tom & Colette  
Hollenkamp, Paul & Carol  
Holtgrave, Brian & Kellye  
Holthaus, Norbert & Sharon  
Holtmann, Diane  
Huegen, Corey & Lynn  
Huegen, Moe & Chris  
Huelskamp, Gerard & Rose  
Huelsmann, Marcellus & Dolores  
Huelsmann, Mike & Kathy  
Hughes, Jode & Geri  
Hummert, Brad & Donna  
Husmann, Joe & Judy  
Isaak, Craig & Tammy  
Johnson, Mark & Donna  
Johnson, Mildred, Jansen, Rosie  
Josten's, Lawrence, Corey  
& Colleen  
Kampwerth, Brian & Sara  
Kampwerth, Dan & Cheryl  
Kampwerth, Ray & Etta  
Kampwerth, Ron & Lori  
Kasson, Bob & Terese  
Kasson, Dennis W.  
Kasson, Henry & Ruby  
Kauling, Doris & Ray  
Kauling, John & Ruth  
Kauling, Paul & Jan  
Kelso, Steve & Mary  
Ketterer, Daniel L.  
Kloeckner, Del & Gerry  
Kloeckner, Roman  
Knolhoff, Stewart & Brenda  
Koelling, Dennis & Jackie  
Koerkenmeier, Dan & Cheryl  
Koerkenmeier, Jerome  
Koerkenmeier, Jim & Deb  
Koerkenmeier, John & Deb  
Kohnen, Dennis & Laurie  
Kohnen, Mark & Trishia  
Korte, Jerry & Judy  
Kreke, Fred & Rose  
Kuhl, Jim & Cooky  
Kuhl, Todd & Amy  
Kunkel, Roger & Melinda



## Mater Dei Catholic High School

900 N. Mater Dei Drive

Breese, IL 62230

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ST. LOUIS, MO  
PERMIT NO. 3252

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Kuper, Turk & Barb  
Lager, Paul & Ruth  
Lake, Steve & Kelly  
Lampe, Jeff & Tina  
Langenhorst, Tim & Vicky  
Litteken, Bob & Donna  
Litteken, Dennis & Rita  
Litteken, Gary & Sue  
Litteken, Ron & Cindy  
Loepker, Dennis & Mary Jane  
Loepker, Roger & Cheryl  
Lohman, Dennis & Barb  
Lohman, Wayne & Sandy  
Martz, Sue  
Maue, Bob & Lynn  
Maue, Steve & Diane  
Mazeka, Lynn  
Mazeka, Mary  
McCray, Jeff & Susan  
McNamara, Joe & Barb  
Mueller, Judy  
Netemeyer, Steve & Shelley  
Niemann, Jim & Mary  
Niemann, Mark & Erika  
Olliges, Joyce  
Padfield, Rita A.  
Parr, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony S.  
Patton, Kevin & Barbara  
Perkes, Bruce & Rose  
Petermeyer, Greg & Kim  
Peters, Dale & Sherri  
Pingsterhaus, Norb & Alice  
Pingsterhaus, Phil & Michelle  
Pollmann, Kevin & Laurie  
Pulver, Roy & Rose  
Ratermann, Doug & Michelle  
Rehkemper, Gerald & Paula  
Rehorst, Susan & Reed

Remmert, Deanne  
Richter, Bruce & Missie  
Richter, Gary & Carol  
Richter, Jack & Deane  
Rinella, Bob & Lynn  
Ripperda, Kurt & Lynn  
Robben, Betty  
Robben, Leonard & Jeanette  
Robben, Tom & Connie  
Rogers, Jack & Samantha  
Ruth, Jim & Betty  
Schleper, Gervase & Mary  
Schmitz, Don & Mary Ann  
Schmitz, Kurt & Jackie  
Schnieder, John & Bonnie  
Schomaker, Don & Sherri  
Schomaker, Steve & Debbie  
Schuchman, Charles G.  
Schulte, Joe & Lynn  
Schwierjohn, Dan & Jan  
Sommers, Mark J.  
Sprehe, Jim & Jackie  
Steinmann, Jim & Barb  
Strieker, Bob & Joyce  
Sudholt, Bryan & Teresa  
Tebbe, Don & Karen  
Thole, Marcellus H.  
Timmermann, Alan & Karen  
Timmermann, Craig & Peggy  
Timmermann, Duane & Dana  
Timmermann, Tony & Marcella  
Toennies, Dave & Shelley  
Toennies, Jerry & Bernice  
Trame, Floyd & Denise  
Tuttle, Fr. Chuck  
Van Dorn, Gene & Jean  
Vandeloo, Dave & Micki  
Varel, Al & Geri

Venhaus, Bob & Joannie  
Venhaus, Mike & Marilyn  
Venhaus, Ron & Kathy  
Vogt, Jim & Jean  
Voss, Bernice  
Voss, Jerry  
Voss, Jim & Donna  
Voss, Joe & Joan  
Voss, Ted & Laura  
Webb, Bill & Mary  
Weinberg, Kraig & Monique  
Wieter, John & Kim  
Winkeler, Gary & Diane  
Winkeler, Rich & Brenda  
Winter, Dean & Sharon  
Winter, Terry L.  
Wuebbels, Rich & Deb  
Zurliene, Craig & Shelise  
Zurliene, Russ & Pam

**KNIGHT CLUB -  
BUSINESS  
2010 - 2011**  
Breese Journal & Publishing Co.  
Centrue Bank, Aviston &  
St. Rose, IL  
Cook Tractor Co., Inc.,  
Germantown, IL  
Donnewald Distributing Co.,  
Centralia, IL  
Edward Jones, Jim &  
Kim Kueper, Breese, IL  
First National Bank in Carlyle  
& Aviston, IL  
Foppe Ace Hardware, Breese, IL  
Fuehne's Tavern, Damiansville, IL  
Germantown Trust &  
Savings Bank

Gerstner Plumbing Co.,  
Breese, IL  
Hansen Foods, Inc., (Hardees),  
Breese & Carlyle, IL  
Heiligenstein LTD., Bernard G.,  
Attorney at Law, Carlyle, IL  
Hellige's Market & Lockers, Inc.,  
Breese, IL  
Jan's Hallmark, Granite City, IL  
Kohnen Air Conditioning &  
Heating, Inc., Germantown, IL  
Kohrmann Electric Co. Inc.,  
Bartelso, IL  
Logullo, Dr. Jon & Stephanie,  
Greenville, IL  
LRB Construction, Inc.,  
Breese, IL  
Motion Control Systems,  
Wayne Waldman,  
St. Peters, MO  
Netemeyer Engineering Assoc.,  
Inc., Aviston, IL  
The Timmermann Group,  
Jerome A. Timmermann,  
Breese, IL  
Timmermann Milk Service, Inc.,  
St. Rose, IL  
Tom's Cleaners, Breese, IL  
Turf Lounge, Breese, IL  
Wiegmann Woodworking &  
Fireplaces, Inc.,  
Damiansville, IL