



Sister Miriam and Sister Anna Marie, Dominican Nuns currently living at the Sacred Heart Convent in Springfield, have purchased 34 acres of wooded terrain southwest of Girard to build a monastery. Currently there are 19 sisters. The Dominican Nuns were located in Elmira, New York, but moved last year to the central Illinois. They were at the monastery in New York for 70 years.

Girard Chamber learns that a monastery is planning to be built southwest of Girard

Guest speaker during the Chamber's November meeting was Sister Miriam and Sister Anna Marie from the Dominican Nuns which have purchased 34 acres of wooded terrain and a home southwest of Girard.

The property is located at 15635 Greenridge Road and includes an 8 acre stocked lake and 1 acre stocked pond.

Sister Miriam and Sister Anna Marie explained that they had moved from Elmira, New York, where they had been in a monastery for the past 70 years.

As soon as they raise the funds they hope to build a monastery at their new location. Currently there are 19 sisters in their group which are currently living at the Sacred Heart Convent in Springfield. Four of the sisters just arrived from college and are ready to begin serving.

Darrin Burnett with Pleasant Hill Village, said the fall auction fundraiser which was hosted on Oct. 15 at the Virden K.C. Hall was a big

success. They had hoped to raise \$38,000 and were able to net nearly \$46,000.

Dr. Todd Babcock said that construction at the Community Center is continuing and they hope to be able to host the Kiwanis Christmas breakfast on 10 December in the Community Center. If the Community isn't ready, then the Girard Kiwanis Club Christmas Breakfast will be hosted at St. Patrick's Hall. Breakfast with Santa will take place from 8 a.m. to noon.

Miss Girard Colleen Nichols said that she and Mr. and Miss Girard were able to give out Halloween Goody Bags to residents at Pleasant Hill Village in late October.

John Earley informed the chamber that the Carlinville Fire Department was forming a district. He said that representatives from both the Girard Fire District and the new Carlinville Fire District are working together to produce a map that has all properties in either one district or the other.

Area churches and social organizations will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 15, at Pleasant Hill Village so that the community can coordinate all social services which are available for the needy.

Attending November's meeting were President Victor Angulo, Vice President Darrin Burnett, Secretary Deb Burnett, Treasurer Mike Mauk, Peggy and Bill Giles, Bill Deck, Miss Girard Colleen Nichols, Maureen Nichols, Dr. Todd Babcock, John and Jeanette Earley, Sister Miriam, Sister Anna Marie, Millie Burgess, Dr. Juanita Rule, Hilda Bettis, Dottie Dambacher and Nathan Jones.

Burgess and Son, Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning, sponsored the November 9th chamber breakfast which was hosted at Oak Leaf Country Club. The Chamber will next meet on Wednesday, December 14, at Pleasant Hill Village. The December chamber breakfast will be sponsored by John and Jeanette Earley.