



Illinois State Representative from the 95th district Avery Bourne spoke to the Girard Chamber on Wednesday, September 14th, and reported that the state legislature is looking at how bad Illinois finances are. "If we keep spending more than we take in, we'll continue to be in trouble," she said.

## Final planning underway for this year's Pumpkin Festival scheduled Oct. 8

Pumpkin Festival committee member Jeanette Earley, said that this year's Pumpkin Festival will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Saturday, Oct. 8 on the Girard-Farmersville road between the two railroad tracks on the south edge of Girard.

Three pumpkin shooters are already expected to participate.

Volunteers are asked to help set up the pumpkin festival beginning Thursday evening at 5 p.m., Oct. 6, when the big tent will be assembled.

Volunteers will also be needed to help tear down the big tent and clean up beginning after 4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 8.

A parade will begin at 10 a.m., Oct. 8, and start at the corner of Mound and First Streets and travel south to around the Girard city square. The North Mac high school band, queens from the surrounding area, Girard firemen, Girard police and area residents and businesses riding on lawn mowers, golf

carts, wagons, cars and trucks will take part in this year's parade. Theme for this year's parade is the 50th anniversary of the Charlie Brown "The Great Pumpkin."

Guest speaker during the Chamber's September meeting was Illinois State Representative from the 95th district Avery Bourne.

She reported that the state legislature is looking at how bad Illinois finances are.

"If we keep spending more than we take in, we'll continue to be in trouble," she said.

Darrin Burnett with Pleasant Hill Village, said they were finalizing plans for this fall's fundraiser which will be hosted Oct. 15 at the Virden K.C. Hall. The Girard Chamber voted to donate \$100 to the fundraiser.

Dr. Todd Babcock said that construction at the Community Center is continuing. The grid work for the ceiling of the banquet hall is complete and his group is only about 50 tiles short to have the ceiling completed. He hopes that before the end of the year the hall

will be available to be rented out on a limited basis.

Rev. Mary Alice Cunningham said that a Christmas Cantata is being planned for Sunday, Dec. 18. A potluck dinner is planned at 6 p.m., Sept 27, with rehearsal following at 7 p.m. at the First Methodist Church in Virden

Attending September's meeting were President Victor Angulo, Vice President Darrin Burnett, Secretary Deb Burnett, Treasurer Mike Mauk, Peggy and Bill Giles, Bill Deck, Randy Gray, Miss Girard Colleen Nichols, Dr. Todd Babcock, Mary Alice Cunningham, Maureen Nichols, John and Jeanette Earley, Kathy Pierson, Sherri Gerdanc, Tom Stoecker, Phil Garner, Bob Ernst and Nathan Jones.

Peggy Giles and Dr. Juanita Rule sponsored the September 14th chamber breakfast which was hosted at Doc's Soda Fountain. The Chamber will next meet on Wednesday, October 12, at Doc's Soda Fountain. The October chamber breakfast will be sponsored by Prairie State Bank.