

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber welcomes new business, upcoming events announced for the holiday season

by Janice Smith

President Victor Angulo called the Nov. 8 Girard Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting to order at 7 p.m., followed by Pledge and prayer. Burgess and Son Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning sponsored the meal at Pleasant Hill Residence.

Unanimous approval was given previous minutes and treasurer's report, presented by Todd Babcock. Randy Gray reported Festival Days as listed by the State of Illinois for unclaimed funds, Babcock will research the publishing of the list.

Field organizer for Elevate Energy, Marissa Joyce, was guest speaker, distributing informational brochures and providing recommendations for smarter energy use, both for business and residential.

Todd Babcock provided an update on Community Center

construction progress, with the time drawing nearer for opening, citing some electrical yet to be completed, and the ongoing campaign to gather funds to complete the building's kitchen.

On a motion by Babcock, seconded by Randy Gray, approval came for the purchase of materials for improvements targeted to the Girard Business Listing sign located near the four way stop. Bill Giles is coordinating the project. (See related article.)

Peggy Giles updated all on the city's website and Dr. Juanita Rule reported a future auction will be held to offer many new donated items by Dr. Robert Jenkins, the Chamber's Education Fund/Scholarship program the beneficiary. Information will be published in the newspaper concerning the event.

Miss Girard 2017 Maddie Robinette attended the meeting

and volunteered for several local events about to take place, including the Dec. 10 Festival of Doors at Pleasant Hill Residence and the Dec. 9 Breakfast With Santa sponsored by Kiwanis.

Victor Angulo announced volunteers are needed for Salvation Army bell ringing. Majority of the local proceeds remain locally used within our community. With no bell ringers, Girard would not benefit from Salvation Army funds.

Byron Berry was introduced as bringing a new business into Girard. Pharmacy Plus will be located just west of the Girard Shell station. A renovation project will be underway at the former Walden property to house the full-service pharmacy, which will include a drive-through. With 43 years experience, Berry also owns pharmacies at Winchester, Berry, Carrollton, Rood-

house and White Hall. Ground work is set to begin, weather permitting, with Berry estimating perhaps a two to three month remodel turnaround before opening.

Nominating Committee approved Todd Babcock as interim treasurer for the group.

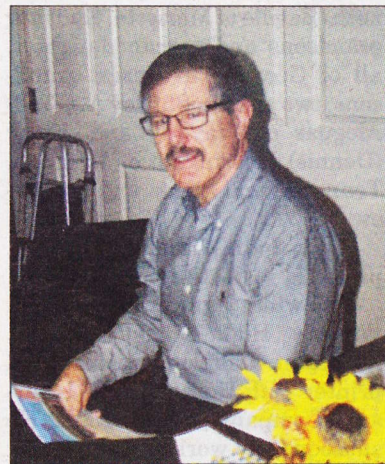
Darrin Burnett updated Chamber on the recent Pleasant Hill Village Dinner/Auction, proceeds estimated at \$42,000; reviewed the Haunt the Hill event; and the Festival of Doors event is set for Dec. 10 from 1 to 4 p.m., public invited.

Randy Gray reported for City Council, stating the square micro-resurfacing project was complete and city officials continue efforts enforcing nuisance violation properties.

On a motion by Peggy Giles, seconded by Todd Babcock, all approved the purchase of candy

to distribute during the Chamber-sponsored Santa's visit during the holidays.

The next meeting will be Dec. 13 at 7 a.m. at Pleasant Hill Residence, John and Jeanette Earley as sponsor.



Representing Pharmacy Plus, Byron Berry attends Nov. 8 meeting of Chamber of Commerce.