

Hills & Homes

Volume 3, Issue 2

A Newsletter for Friends and Clients of Galena Realty, Ltd.

May - July 2003

A GIFT OF WORDS

Linda Yutmeyer Dupasquier

Today is Monday, April 7. It's cold and snowy outside...a perfect day to stay home (thanks to Rhonda who made it to the office), make a big fire (thanks, hon!), and peruse the seed and flower catalogs. Of course, my eyes are always bigger than my gardening energy, but, hey, it's spring (according to the calendar, but looking outside, you would think it was January).

It's one of those big, fluffy, clinging-to-the-branches snows and we're spending a lot of time with our binoculars watching at least 20 birds taking their turn at the feeder outside the kitchen window. The red cardinals are even more striking against this lovely stark white backdrop.

When you're planning your garden this year, don't forget two of my favorites: moonflowers and morning glories, both wonderful companions for climbing fences and mailboxes. Last year I planted some dahlias for the first time. At the end of the summer and early fall when other blooms are fading, here comes a grand show. They were cheap — I bought them in a big bag at the hardware store — but beautiful. They're not hardy and need to be dug up after frost if you want to replant the next spring. Two of my other favorites for cut flowers and a big

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Books
are not
made
for
furniture,
but
there is
nothing
else
that so
beautifully
furnishes
a
house.

Henry Ward Beecher

Real Estate Stats

First Quarter 2003

In The Territory

Single Family Homes

Homes Sold	12
Average Price	\$199,158
Average Days on Market	191

Vacant Land

Land Sold	19
Average Price	\$ 20,000
Days on Market	540

Condos & Townhomes

Homes Sold	12
Average Price	\$134,625
Days on Market	243

In Galena

Single Family Homes

Homes Sold	12
Average Price	\$128,825
Days on Market	188

In Jo Daviess County

Single Family Homes

Homes Sold	17
Average Price	\$97,585
Days on Market	272

Based on information from the Freeport-Galena Area Association of Realtors from Jan. 1, 2003 - March 31, 2003.



A Gift of Words con't

splash for little cash are zinnias and cosmos. Direct seed, water, boom...instant flower garden. Can words describe the pleasure of seeing a beautiful bouquet of flowers from the garden sitting on your kitchen table? I can hardly wait!

I like Rhonda's idea about what everyone is reading. My choice of The Secret Life of Bees made me want to underline passages (something I think is a sin to do in a book), but I would like to refer back to some things. There's one quote that I've put in my will to be read at my funeral. Sometimes I listen to WGN coming to work and Kathy and Judy have also chosen this book to discuss on air. Let us know what you are reading, too!



Meet Josh Ries

Young, energetic, ambitious, and intelligent are just a sampling of qualities that make up our newest sales associate.

Josh, a carpenter by trade, has a strong knowledge in the building and construction of homes. Born and raised in Jo Daviess County, he maintains a vast knowledge of the area. Now that he has his license, Josh diligently researches the real estate market.

In his spare time, which isn't much, Josh engages in the sport of investing. As an investment club member, he works with the group researching stock, setting goals, and implementing the attack on the market. Thus far, they've done well.

Recently married, Josh and his wife, Katie, reside in Elizabeth, Illinois.



TOOLBOX TRIVIA

Jerry Dupasquier

It is about that time...The 2nd Annual Northgate Builders Goodwill Golf Benefit is scheduled for Saturday, August 2. Last year was a tremendous amount of fun for all who participated. We will begin taking open reservations Monday, June 23, 2003. If you are interested in partici-



Jerry Dupasquier, Matthew Roberts, our inspiration, Kathy Fisher, Executive Director NICIL, Bill Roberts, Matthew's Father

pating as a sponsor, golfer, or financial contributor please give us a call. We appreciate all the support for this fantastic event. All proceeds will be donated to the Northwestern Illinois Center for Independent Living.

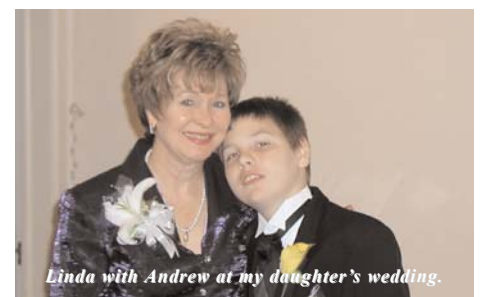
The Northgate Builders website is fully functional! We recently expanded the Gallery of Homes to include some of our most recent abodes. Visit the site and let us know what you think. A special thanks to Craig Raymon of Imageworks in Scales Mound for developing our internet showcase. www.northgatebuilders.com



I recently had the opportunity to spend a few days with my grandson, Andrew. We had a wonderful time. I think he enjoyed visiting the construction sites and being my right hand man for the day. He certainly has a fresh outlook. I look forward to spend-

ing more time with him as well as my future grandchild whose arrival is expected late summer.

One of my all time favorite restaurants in Galena is Fried Green Tomatoes. A special thanks to proprietor Fred Bonnet for such a fabulous



Linda with Andrew at my daughter's wedding.

place to enjoy incredible food! My favorite dish...the traditional fried green tomatoes. Located off Highway 20 at 1301 Irish Hollow Road in Galena. Reservations are recommended. Please call 815-777-3938. Visit their website at <http://www.friedgreen.com>



IN THE OFFICE

with Rhonda

IT'S A GIRL! I am the proud aunt of my eighth beautiful niece, Tessa Lynn. Congratulations to my brother, Todd, and his wife, Trish. Tessa looks just like her sisters, Taylor, Tanner, and Tori - irresistible.

THE BOOKSHELF!

It is about the time when I can close the textbooks and delve into something solely for pleasure. Of course, I am totally prepared. Once I leave the campus, I need something to fill the void. Between now and Statistics in June, I have a stack of books to read. I am engulfed in three to be exact. I discovered one through word-of-mouth and the other by a review. The third is a favorite author who I originally discovered through a friend. I think that is how we find some imaginative works, some we may have never thought of reading.

I asked several people "What's on your bookshelf?" and compiled this diverse list. After all, I will need some "reads" to get me through August. In upcoming newsletters we would like to give you a glimpse into our bookshelf and include some books from yours. Let us know your favorites and where you like to read them!

A book is like a garden carried in the pocket. 

Rhonda's Shelf

- The Hunt for Bin Laden, Robin Moore
- Longitudes and Attitudes, Thomas L. Friedman
- Prey, Michael Crichton

Linda's Shelf

- The Secret Life of Bees, Sue Monk Kidd
- The Chili Queen, Sandra Dallas

Jerry's Shelf

- Lie Down with Lions, Ken Follett
- On Wings of Eagles, Ken Follett
- Ghost Soldiers: The Epic Account..., Hampton Sides

Matt Dittmar's Shelf (a talented carpenter)

- Panther in the Sky, James Alexander Thom

Ray and Carol Scarpelli's Shelf (wonderful people)

- Rudy!, Wayne Barrett
- Seabiscuit: An American Legend, Laura Hillenbrand


Maren Coates' Shelf (the library director and friend)

- The Killer Angels, Jeff Shaara
- Bel Canto, Ann Patchett

Glee Bilderback's Shelf (Linda's good friend)

- The Chili Queen, Sandra Dallas
- Peace Like a River, Leif Enger

John Prellberg's Shelf (my Dad)

• Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus, Barbara Park (Dad reads books from the Junie B. Jones series to my niece, his granddaughter, Allyson every week while he visits! This was the first.) 

A Linda Survey

In the last issue of Hills and Homes we had asked:
What grammatical error do you think is most common?
We received some wonderful responses.

Kirk Foecking thought the misuse of their, they're, and there.

M. N. Bruder (*see the e-mail address below*) graciously responded to our e-mail and stated she thought the misuse of the apostrophe in general would be her top choice.

When in doubt on the proper use of a word send an e-mail to mary@grammarlady.com or visit her website @ www.grammarlady.com

Trivia...Trivia...Trivia

**Are you familiar
with the picture
on the front
of this newsletter?
E-mail or call
with your guess
where this
was taken.**



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A Few Fun Things...

Tea Tasting

2/22/2003 to 6/30/2004 -Saturdays

3 p.m. at Bernadine's Tea Room in Galena. Taste a variety of teas and learn about the history of tea and the tradition of Afternoon Tea. Reservations appreciated. Free. (866) 777-0557.

2nd Annual Great Galena Balloon Race

6/20/2003 to 6/22/2003 -Friday through Sunday

at Eagle Ridge Inn & Resort near Galena. Fri: night glow on the North Course driving range. Sat/Sun: more than 25 hot air balloons launch for "Hare and Hound" races. Bicycle race, kite flying, and skydiving show. Free. (815) 776-5035. www.greatgalenaballoonrace.com

Galena Realty, Ltd.

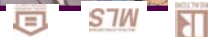
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www.galenahomes.com



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