Hills & Homes

Volume 4, Issue 3 A Newsletter for Friends and Clients of Galena Realty, Ltd. Sept `04 - Nov `04

A Gift of Words

Linda Yutmeyer Dupasquier

In recent years, has there been a nicer summer? Who could complain? Even September has been beautiful. It took forever (end of August) to finally get a good tomato from the garden, but it was worth the wait. Good, homegrown tomatoes are probably one of the few things that just can't be found anywhere else but in the garden. This year we tried some heirloom varieties and conducted "tomato tasting" in our kitchen. We really fell in love with the Brandywine variety. Yum. Also grew several heirloom winter squashes that are pretty for decoration besides being tasty. Our garden gives us endless pleasure, either with non-stop annuals for cutting or delicious vegetables. The sunflowers you see on this page were grown by Jerry in his vegetable garden; and I, of course, love capturing their beauty with the camera.

The Emerson quote in this edition is especially pertinent as Glee Bilderback and I "scatter joy" for the 9th annual Hearts and Art event and the first "An Elegant Evening in Red", sponsored by the Friends of The Galena Library. February 5 and 6, 2005, are really going to be special, so mark your calendars now, and start shopping for your red dress or red tie! Everyone is getting on board for this fun weekend. The Saturday night event will be a live auction of special art items, including US postage stamps featuring Galena images and a special Hearts and Art post office cancellation. Beth Bird fans will be

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Scatter Joy!

- Ralph Waldo Emerson -

Real Estate Stats

January 2004 - August 2004

In The Territory

Single Family Homes

Homes Sold	71
Average Price	$246,805
Average Days on Market	192

Vacant Land

Land Sold	72
Average Price	$ 31,142
Average Days on Market	339

Condos & Townhomes

Homes Sold	45
Average Price	$135,060
Average Days on Market	218

In Galena

Single Family Homes

Homes Sold	50
Average Price	$160,191
Average Days on Market	130

In Jo Daviess County

Single Family Homes

Homes Sold	56
Average Price	$ 97,982
Average Days on Market	165

Based on information from the Freeport-Galena Area Association of Realtors from Jan. 1, 2004 August 31, 2004.

IN THE OFFICE

with Rhonda

THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

I had the wonderful opportunity to spend five glorious days with my sister-in-law, Trish, and four nieces Taylor, Tanner, Tori, and Tessa on a road trip to a family wedding in Ohio. Most people I spoke with thought I was nuts. Five days in a car with young ladies ranging in ages 15 months to seven years could be culture shock for someone with no children of their own.

We visited the childrens' museum in Indianapolis, the childrens' museum in Columbus, swam, played, and had enlightened conversations. If you find yourself in Indianapolis or Columbus, spend the night and visit the museums. It is definitely worth the trip.

Upon return I felt how fortunate I was to have spent that time with my lovely neices. The culture shock came when I returned to my quiet, yet busy, life at home. I miss the love and kisses!

THE DOG HOUSE

Many of you know my best buddy, Ridge, passed away early July. Ridge was diagnosed with Luekemia in April. I was fortunate to have him for the eight weeks that followed.

Not long after, I couldn't stand the silence and found, Franklin Cole (aka: Frankie)! His antics will keep me on my toes for months to come. Frankie, or as a friend dubbed him el Diablo, just turned 17 weeks old. He is a deliciously adorable Chocolate Lab.

THE BOOKSHELF

Linda and Jerry's Shelf

- Cry No More, *Linda Howard*

Linda's Shelf

- The Proper Care and Feeding of Husbands, *Dr. Laura Schlessinger (whom Linda usually avoids)*
- In the Fall, *Jeffery Lent*
- Eats, Shoots, & Leaves, *Lynne Truss*

B'Ann Dittmar's Shelf (President of U.S. Bank in Galena and new mom)

- The Girlfriends' Guide to Surviving the First Year of Motherhood, *Vicki Iovine*

Maren Coates' Shelf (Director of Galena Public Library District)

- The Namesake, *Jhumpa Lahiri*
- The Buffalo Soldier, *Christopher A. Bohjalian*
- East of Eden, *John Steinbeck*

A Gift of Words

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excited about the Beth Bird stamp! Yes, a US postage stamp of Beth's work! We're also excited that this auction will be the recipient of original photos by Spike O'Dell.

Hearts and Art will be the grand finale for two weekends that I am calling "Festival of Hearts", an umbrella of events I am coordinating for Galena shops, B&Bs, hotels, and restaurants. There will be special dinners, scrapbooking weekends at the B&Bs, etc. It's going to be two winter weekends of fun for Galena!

Jerry's Stuffed Peppers

8 medium green peppers
1 lb ground meat sprinkled with salt and pepper
1cup chopped onions
1 can V8 picante mild tomato juice (12oz)

1 pkg Rice-a-Roni Fried Rice or *2 cups other cooked rice*
1 small can of tomato sauce
parmesan or asiago cheese

Cut off tops of green peppers; remove seeds and membranes. Pre-cook peppers in boiling water for five minutes. Cook Rice-a-Roni as directed. Brown meat and set aside. Cook onions in butter until translucent, add onions to meat and pour in 1/2 can of V8 picante mild tomato juice. Cook 10 minutes. Add Rice-a-Roni. Stuff peppers. Sprinkle tops with cheese. Fill bottom of baking dish with remainder of picante juice. Bake 40 minutes at 350º.

TOOLBOX TRIVIA

Jerry Dupasquier

Goodwill Golf Benefit

Thanks to all who participated in the Goowill Golf Benefit. With the help of our sponsors, golfers, and friends, we raised $9,000 for non-traditional student education assistance. The funds will be distributed by the Galena Territory Foundation.

We want to give a special thanks to those who support the outing with sponsorships and gifts. Without their generosity, we couldn't succeed. Thank you!

Goodwill Golf Benefit Sponsors

Security First Title Company
First Community Bank
Galena Moving & Storage
Storybrook Country Club
Galena State Bank
Boyd Meyer - Scales Mound
Gary Saam Construction
Galena Porta-Potty
Advance Technologies
Holland Heating
Peter & Marty Vexter
R.T.&T. Trucking
Nack, Richardson, & Kurt
Dubuque Glass
Bäder Custom Cabinets
Holland Plumbing
Montgomery Trucking
Perfectly Sprayed Textured Ceilings & Master Chef Mike Steinhauser
Elizabeth Garage
Dan Kane Landscaping
Schultz Appliance
Almost Heaven Rentals
The Law Offices of Robert Kartholl - Itasca
Ed and Marsha Rinetti - Galena
Metro Insulation
Hometown Quality Construction
Floor Emporium
Spahn and Rose - Dubuque
ABC Supply Co.
IZSO Architecture
Hoskins Building Center
Rockford Insulation
Ideal Window and Door
Utility Equipment Company
Curves for Women, Galena
Menards, Dubuque
Oppold Masonry
Vaassen & Pluemer, Platteville
Richard and Hillary Austin
Fried Green Tomatoes
Buzz Goldstein
Lena Maid Meats
Raymond Chevrolet Olds, Antioch
First Community Bank
Patten Tractor of Rockford
Galena Massage & Reflexology
Cindy's Catering
U.S. Bank
Pella Window and Doors
Maren and Steve Coates

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPENTS

NORTHGATE BUILDERS

Communication Excellence Scholarship recipient

Maggie Curry of Cascade, Iowa

Communications Major at Clarke College

NORTHGATE BUILDERS

Education Excellence Scholarship recipients

Jolene Bastian of Hanover, Illinois

Criminal Justice Major at Highland Community College

Julie Bysinger of Stockton, Illinois

Liberal Arts Major at Columbia College at Highland

Christine Redfern of Galena, Illinois

Nursing Major at Highland Community College

Kraig Marcure of Elizabeth, Illinois

Mathematics Major at Western Illinois University

Molly Thommen of Stockton, Illinois

Nursing Major at Highland Community College

Jerry's Restaraunt Pick

Snowshoe Inn, Northwest Territory