

Markwell named Illinois Funeral Directors Association president

As a third-generation funeral home operator, Jay Markwell of Markwell Funeral Homes was recently installed as president of the Illinois Funeral Directors Association during its 134th Annual Convention. He took over the role for the next year on June 24, 2014.

"The IFDA offers invaluable support and resources to hundreds of funeral home owners and members throughout the state," said Mr. Markwell. "I'm honored to serve as president of this time honored organization and to help further its mission of assisting members in providing the best and most

ethical services to their client families."

Founded in 1881, the Illinois Funeral Directors Association offers a forum for members to share information and operational methods while creating legislation to protect both themselves and their customers. As president of the IFDA, Mr. Markwell will serve as an advocate for the group and preside over board meetings and other functions. Additionally, he will respond to media concerns and represent the group at the local, state and national levels.

"At Markwell Funeral Homes, we built our reputa-



Jay Markwell.

tion by helping clients create the most personalized and meaningful memorials for their lost loved ones," said

Markwell. "As president of the IFDA, I

hope to provide funeral home owners with the support they need to do the same while growing their businesses in the process."

A third-generation funeral home owner, Jay Markwell developed a multi-location funeral home business that boasted leading market share before merging into a regional company in 2013. While serving as chief operator, Mr. Markwell drove efforts to enhance cremation offerings, local cemeteries and to adopt new technologies, including online presence, funeral telecasting and more environmentally-friendly burial options.

A fourth-generation graduate of Worsham College of Mortuary Science in Wheeling, Illinois, Jay recently was invited to deliver the commencement message to the 2014 fall graduates of Worsham. Mr. Markwell is an experienced public speaker, embalmer and acclaimed restorative artist.

In his free time, he has served as a volunteer funeral director during Hurricane Katrina and holds the president's post on the Casey Township Cemetery Board and Casey Industries, Inc. As the Mid-West Regional Director for Premier Funeral Management Group, Jay is currently pursuing the acquisition of a five-location business in Oklahoma.

About Markwell Funeral Homes

Founded more than 87

years ago, Markwell Funeral Homes are a third-generation business committed to providing personalized funeral services to members of the Casey, Martinsville, and Westfield communities.

Recently, Markwell Funeral Homes, Inc. established a partnership with Premier Funeral Management Group. Based in Indianapolis, Premier encourages funeral homes throughout the United States to retain their unique cultural identities and personal approaches based on their long-established reputations and legacies. Together, Premier and the staff at Markwell Funeral Homes strive to help families achieve ideal memorial celebrations that are just as unique and special as a lost loved one was in life.

National Radon Action Week

Radon is a naturally-occurring, invisible and odorless radioactive gas that will cause over 20,000 preventable cancer deaths this year in the United States! October 20th - 26th is National Radon Action Week (the 3rd full week in October) according to The U.S. EPA.

Health agencies throughout the United States have joined forces to promote awareness of the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers. The American Lung Association, Centers for Disease Control, and

National Cancer Institute all agree that radon is a National health problem and encourage radon testing during the October awareness drive.

According to the Surgeon General one in 15 American homes contains high levels of radon. Millions of Americans are unknowingly exposed to this dangerous gas. In fact, a recent study by Harvard University ranks radon as America's #1 indoor hazard and the leading source of radiation exposure to the American population.

By taking simple steps to test your home for radon and fix if necessary, this health hazard can be avoided.

Radon gas is not isolated to certain geographical areas or home types. Radon problems have been detected in homes in every county of the U.S. It caused more American fatalities last year than carbon monoxide, fires, and handguns combined!

If a home hasn't been tested for radon in the past two years, EPA and the Surgeon General urge you to take action. Contact your

state radon office for information on locating qualified test kits or qualified radon testers.

The federal commitment made by EPA, the General Services Administration, and the departments of Agriculture, Defense, Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Veterans Affairs will focus efforts on radon reduction and mitigation in homes, especially those of low-income families, many of whom do not have the resources to make the simple fixes necessary to protect their homes and loved ones.

EIU jazz concert

The EIU Jazz Studies program will showcase its three jazz combos on Tuesday, October 21, at 7:30pm, in the Doudna Fine Arts Center's Black Box Theatre. The groups will perform classic jazz compositions and standards along with new arrangements by EIU students. Outstanding student musicians will be featured playing the music of Horace Silver, J. J. Johnson and Wayne Shorter. The concert will be presented free of charge.

EIU's jazz performing en-

sembles have received recognition for excellent performances across the region. In recent years, Eastern's jazz groups have been recognized for their outstanding musicianship at the Elmhurst, Notre Dame and North Texas jazz festivals. The combos are coached by Paul Johnston and Nick Tucker.

The Doudna Fine Arts Center is located one block west of Ninth Street at Garfield Avenue on the EIU campus.

Letters to the Editor

Let's Start a New Streak

Wow! What a game last Friday night! It was very refreshing to see the high energy level and team work displayed on the football field at Newton. Two evenly matched teams, and this time Marshall finished their drives! On almost every offensive and defensive play, there was a different player that stepped up and made a difference in the outcome. That is teamwork. There was enthusiasm and evidence of leadership on the field. To all the players and coaches, congratulations on a great team victory.

Tonight the Lions are playing our county rival, Casey, at home on Senior Night. Marshall fans, young and old, get off the couch and come out to show your support for our football team!

By the way, boys, here is a little history:

Marshall-Casey
1965 13 12
1966 26 13
1967 20 0
1968 34 0
1969 22 0

Let's start a new streak! Go beat the Warriors!

A Proud Marshall Fan,
Tom Murphy

Property Owners Beware

Don't think that if you get a notice from the city about rezoning in your neighborhood that it will matter what you say or do.

Don't think that 30-plus signatures on a petition from neighbors against the rezoning and the type of building to be built will matter.

Don't think that the zoning committee will care about you, the devaluing of your property or the dangerous intersection involved. They won't.

Don't think that you have to own a piece of property before you apply for rezoning of it. He didn't.

Don't think you will be treated with respect if you attend the rezoning meeting. You won't be.

Don't think that you have to stay 10 feet away from the neighbor's property line. He didn't.

Don't think new construction has to be "harmonious" to the neighborhood. It isn't. (Please refer to the city's web site regarding rezoning).

Don't think your voice and that of your 30-plus neighbors matter. It doesn't.

Oh, and by the way, don't think you have to shop for building materials in Marshall. He doesn't.

Don and Laurie Sweitzer

Letters to the Editor Policy

The *Marshall Advocate* encourages individuals to share their observations and opinions on topics of the day with our readers, whether they are of local, statewide or national interest. Letters may not exceed 500 words. All letters will be edited for length and clarity as necessary.

The *Advocate* will not publish letters that contain potentially libelous statements, unsubstantiated incidents, or unwarranted personal attacks. We also will not publish letters from accused criminals disputing the facts in their criminal case. Letters must bear the signature, full name, address and telephone number of the author or the letter will not be published.

In election years, the *Advocate* will not publish letters in the weeks prior to the primary and general elections concerning merits of particular candidates.

Letters must be received by noon 2 days before publication.

Send letters to: The Marshall Advocate, "Letters to the editor" P.O. Box 433, Marshall, IL 62441. Letters may also be sent by email to strohmnews@joink.com

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Peace Meal Nutrition Program

Please call one day in advance 217-251-6539

Monday, October 20- Ham and beans, copper carrots, cornbread, tropical fruit.
Tuesday, October 21- Soup n' Salad bar.
Wednesday, October 22- Riblet, seasoned, steamed cabbage, corn casserole, spiced apple rings, blueberry muffin.
Thursday, October 23- Sweet & sour chicken w/brown rice, chunky applesauce, gelatin w/fruit, cake.
Friday, October 24- Turkey, mashed potatoes w/gravy, California mixed vegetables, dressing cranberry salad.

SENIOR DINERS CLUB MENU

Please call one day in advance. 826-2498

Monday, October 20th- Cook's choice, dessert.
Tuesday, October 21st- Hamburger, French fries, cottage cheese, dessert.
Wednesday, October 22nd- Beef goulash, salad, dessert.
Thursday, October 23rd- Soup n salad, dessert.
Friday, October 24th- Ham n cheese casserole, green salad, bread, dessert.

School Menus

Marshall Elementary & Jr. High/High School

Breakfast

Offered Daily for Junior High: Poptart or cereal
Monday, October 20- Choice of Poptart or choice of cereal, applesauce, juice or milk Jr. High Cinnamon bagelful
Tuesday, October 21- Bacon scramble pizza, diced pears, juice or milk
Wednesday, October 22- French toast sticks, diced peaches, juice or milk
Thursday October 23, - Breakfast burrito, apple slices, juice or milk
Friday, October 24- Parent Teacher conference no school

Elementary - Lunch

Monday, October 20- Cheese pizza, corn, broccoli florets with dip, peaches, sugar cookie, milk
Tuesday, October 21- Chicken fryze with BBQ sauce, scalloped potatoes, peas, bread slice, sidekick frozen fruit icee, milk
Wednesday, October 22- Hot dog with bun, tater tots, kidney beans, pears, milk
Thursday, October 23- Beefaroni, lettuce salad with dressing, green beans, breadstick, applesauce, milk
Friday, October 24- Parent Teacher conference no school

Jr. High/High School - Lunch

Offered daily: Salad Bar
Monday, October 20- Cheese, pepperoni, or sausage pizza, corn, broccoli florets with dip, pears, peaches, or pineapple, sugar cookie, milk
Tuesday, October 21- Chicken fryze with BBQ/honey mustard sauce, scalloped potatoes, peas, bread slice, applesauce, mixed fruit or peaches, sidekick frozen fruit icee, milk
Wednesday, October 22- Hot dog with bun, tater tots, kidney beans, mandarin oranges, applesauce, or pears, milk
Thursday, October 23- Beefaroni, lettuce salad with dressing, green beans, breadstick, applesauce, pears, peaches, milk
Friday, October 24- Parent Teacher conference no school

Martinsville Community Unit School - Breakfast

Offered daily: Cereal, & toast
Monday, October 20- Mini waffles, juice or milk
Tuesday, October 21- Breakfast sandwich with egg and cheese, juice or milk
Wed., October 22- Blueberry muffins, juice or milk
Thursday, October 23- Scrambles eggs, juice or milk
Friday, October 24- Parent teacher conferences - no school

Lunch

Elementary offered daily: Peanut butter & jelly sandwich
Jr./Sr. High: Pizza or chef salad
Monday, October 20- Chicken sticks, carrot sticks, ranch cup, applesauce, milk
Tuesday, October 21- Spaghetti, broccoli and cheese, breadstick, peaches, milk
Wednesday, October 22- Turkey manhattan with bread, mashed potatoes, green beans, pears, milk,
Thursday, October 16- milk
Friday, October 17- Parent teacher conferences - no school

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