

December 1998

# THE PIPELINE

*"Where Lewis & Clark Began"*

## NEW CITY MANAGER HIRED



*Thomas Christie*

Thomas Christie who was recently hired as Wood River's new City Manager began his employment on November 30. Mr. Christie has been City Manager for Collinsville since 1996. He also served from 1992 to 1995 as City Manager for Shelbyville, Tennessee. Mayor Lon A. Smith stated that Mr. Christie seems to have the qualities needed for City Manager and came out on top of the five individuals interviewed for the position. The newly hired City Manager stated that he feels honored and very fortunate to be selected by Wood River. He commented that his earliest impression of the City is that it has citizens who are motivated to make Wood River the best city it can possibly be. He stated, "I look forward to working together with the citizens and City Council. My desire is to move into Wood River as quickly as I can. I'm looking at the job as a permanent position and want to get involved in the community." Mr. Christie and his wife, Betty, have two daughters, Virginia Ford, 24, who lives in Springfield, MO. And Caroline Christie 19, a junior at Evangel College in Springfield, MO.

## Glass to Tile facility breaks ground

On October 13, 1998, Environmentally Correct Projects (ECP) held a ceremonial ground breaking for the construction of their first development. The facility will be a 51,000 square foot plant which will convert mixed glass into floor tile that simulates granite or marble. The State of Illinois strongly supports the construction of this facility, as it will divert 22,000 tons of glass a year from our landfills. Attending the ground-breaking ceremony were Brent Manning, Director of the Department of Natural Resources, Norm Simms, Director of the Department of Commerce & Community Affairs and Representative Steve Davis. Congressman Jerry Costello was also represented at the ceremony.

The City is excited not only about the environmental impact of this facility, but also because of its economic impact. This facility, operated as Enviro-Tile of Wood River, Inc., will create 30 full-time jobs and is projected to have an annual payroll of \$750,000. The plant, upon completion, is projected to generate over \$30,000 a year in property taxes for the City of Wood River. In addition to these benefits, the project creates jobs for the local construction trades and industries.

Hours after Enviro-Tile's ground-breaking, Governor Jim Edgar, along with local dignitaries, cut the ribbon opening Illinois Route 255. This



*Tim Cadigan, Governor Edgar and Senator Bowles*

route, which is an extension of Interstate 255, provides Wood River with quick and easy access to the St. Louis interstate system. With the opening of I-255 to Route 143, the City is expecting new growth and development to occur on the east edge of our community. We are already being contacted by developers, and hope to see projects being implemented in the next several months. With the development that is occurring on both ends of the city, Wood River's future is looking bright.



*Several dignitaries were on hand for ground breaking*

## Upcoming Events

**Calls & Letters From Santa**  
(Refer to the enclosed insert)



**December 7**  
**Friends of the Library**  
**Bake Sale and Raffle**



**December 8**  
**Santa & Mrs. Claus**  
**Visit the Library at 10:30 a.m.**



**December 12**  
**Breakfast with Santa**  
**from 8-10:30 a.m.**  
**at the Roundhouse**



**December 17**  
**Winter Wonderland Tour**  
**and Casino Night**



**January 16**  
**Hidden Valley Ski Trip**



## Come Visit the NEW Midtown Theater and Cultural Arts Center

The Midtown Theater and Cultural Arts Center opened Saturday, November 7 to a packed and very satisfied house. We want to continue this success and can only do so with your support. All proceeds from the theater up and above the cost of operation go directly to the Civic Action Body who in turn, utilize the funds for economic and cultural development right here in Wood River. That means a better community for me and you and all the residents who call Wood River home. So come out and support the community while you see a fantastic show and have a great time.



*Bobby Powell, Terry Pyle, Richard Lenington, Tammy Iskarous, Carol Drake, Bob Drake, Mayor Lon Smith, City Manager Thomas Christie, Representative Steve Davis, and Lon Smith Jr.*

For information on shows, call 251-6095. Through the end of the year, ticket prices for all shows are \$9.00 at the door, \$8.00 in advance and \$7.00 for groups of ten or more. Tickets for children ages 4 - 12 are \$6.00 at the door, \$5.00 in advance and \$4.00 for groups of ten or more. Children 3 and under are free.

*Lon Smith, Jr.*  
Executive Director

## PUBLIC SERVICES PROJECTS:

### Wood River Avenue

At a cost of over \$300,000, the City used Motor Fuel Tax money to make improvements to Wood River Avenue from Lorena Avenue, north to the City limits. The improvements consisted of rotomilling off the old asphalt and putting down a new asphalt overlay. Also, storm drains were moved back to the curbs to improve stormwater drainage and take out some of the dips at the intersections. Handicap ramps were added, where possible, along with sidewalk replacements. The City hopes you enjoy your ride down Wood River Avenue.

### Edwardsville Road

In a joint effort with the Village of East Alton, a Safety Project was undertaken to make improvements to Edwardsville Road from Wood River Avenue to Lincoln Street in East Alton. A \$90,000 Safety Grant was obtained by the Public Services Director, Tim Palermo, from the State of Illinois. The improvements included an asphalt overlay and a bi-directional turn lane to help resolve rear end collisions for people turning into businesses. This will also help with the flow of traffic. As this is a high traffic area, the City reminds you to stay alert while driving in this area.

# Hall Of Fame

## Water Department Receives Certificate of Commendation

The City of Wood River was one of 185 communities in the State and one of ten communities in Madison County to receive a Certificate of Commendation for 1997 for achieving the highest standard of compliance in accordance with the Illinois Fluoridation Act. Director of Public Services, **Tim Palermo**, stated that this was accomplished with the assistance of Superintendent, **Gene Blasa**, for taking care of all the sampling, and Water Plant Operators, **Bill Redfern**, **Bob McCann** and **Bob Brown** together with assistance from **Mark Little** and **Jeff Warren**.

## Brian Crawford & Bill Hall



**Brian Crawford** and **Bill Hall** are to be commended for their efforts above and beyond the call of duty in their organization of the City's Halloween Parade on October 31. It was enjoyed by all who lined the streets to see the floats, Shriners, local school bands joined by Fred Bird, and dozens of costumed characters who showered candy on gleeful children along the route.

## Harrison B. Paisley

The City of Wood River extends its heartfelt gratitude to **Harrison B. Paisley**, who has been Interim City Manager since May of this year. Mr. Paisley has given the City his vast expertise in handling matters from everyday occur-

rences at City Hall to more difficult matters. His wisdom and good sense of humor were very valuable to the Staff at City Hall. The City was very fortunate to be able to count on Mr. Paisley, who came out of retirement, to serve in this capacity. We wish him the very best on his re-entering retirement with many good years of health and happiness ahead of him.

## Keith Riesberg



**Keith Riesberg**, Community and Economic Development Director can breathe a sigh of relief as the groundbreaking ceremony for Enviro-Tile was held last month. Construction has now begun on the \$13 million waste-glass recycling facility in Wood River's EnviroTECH Business Park. The 51,000 square foot recycling plant will process about 22,000 tons of waste glass each year, turning it into special tile that resembles marble or granite. Mr. Riesberg worked diligently with Terry Pinto, president and CEO of Environmentally Correct Projects (the company building the recycling facility) and various other individuals to bring this project to fruition. Eventually, the entire 158-acre park will be developed, with various facilities which will convert waxed cardboard into fuel pellets and tires into chemicals and other byproducts. Mr. Riesberg should be commended on his professional handling of such a worthwhile endeavor for the City of Wood River.

## REMINDERS FROM THE PUBLIC SER- VICES DEPART- MENT

### STORMWATER

Please remember the City has a combined Sewer System, meaning it handles both sanitary and stormwater in the same pipes. If it rains or snow melts, there is a possibility this water could backup into basements. It is best to take all precautions necessary to keep the water from backing up and causing damage. Examples for protection are drain plugs, a valve off the main line or a backflow preventer on the main line.

If you have any questions on the above information, call the Public Services Department at 251-3122.

## Check Out the Pro Shop at Belk Park Club House This Holiday!

We offer a wide variety of golf apparel for the golfer in your family.  
Call 251-3115 for information.



# Library News

## CHECK IT OUT

•With school in full swing, the library is "a buzz" with busy little bees! Children from Lewis & Clark Elementary and River Bend Christian Schools visit the library on a regular basis. During the course of a week, children from 18 classes come to see films and check out books. Children from St. Bernard's After School Program enjoy attending the K-5 children's program on a monthly basis. We are very pleased to see the little ones get acquainted with the library!

- The Friends of the Library sold apple slices with caramel and nut toppings at downtown Wood River's Octoberfest. They will hold their annual bake sale on Monday, December 7, 1998. At that time, the drawing for the Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls and the "Romance Basket" will be held. Just a reminder, tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. A big thanks to a great group of people!!!
- Both children and adults enjoyed a special Family Reading Night Program at the library on Thursday, November 19th. Jan Goodwin, ventriloquist, gave a wonderful program, "Read Together, Grow Together", to promote literacy among family members. The program was sponsored by the Lorena Avenue PTA and the library. Refreshments and a good time were had by all.
- Amoco surprised the library with a wonderful new computer ensemble! It is in the reference section with INTERNET access. This new computer addition allowed us to move the one previously housed in the reference section to the juvenile area of the library. The children now have a computer for their own area. We thank Amoco very much for this enhancement for the library, with a special thanks going to Sherry Boldt and Greg Jevyak.
- Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit the preschoolers on Tuesday, December 8th at 10:30 a.m. The children always enjoy seeing the Christmas legends—just as much as The Clauses enjoy seeing the wee ones.
- The library wants to thank Delta Theta Tau and the Moose Lodge for their continued support of the library. Their donations are greatly appreciated.
- TAX TIME is just around the corner. AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) volunteers will prepare taxes for the elderly and low to moderate income people for free. They will be at the library on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. during the period of February 4 - April 15, 1999.

*A Happy Holiday Season to All of You  
From All of Us at the Library!*

## Honored at Council Meeting

### Werts Family Recognized

The Werts Family was recognized at a City Council meeting on winning the "Captain of the River Bend" award for economic enhancement from the River Bend Growth Association.



Congratulations to Dwight, Robert & Verna Werts, and all employees. This family business originated in 1957 as a one man welding shop and has grown to a full-time tank trailer parts distributor for over 30 lines serving North America and several foreign countries. In December 1997, Werts purchased Mid South Tank and Equipment Company which added three new locations for a total of five branches nationwide. These locations are in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Texas and their headquarters in Wood River.

Werts is also a major contributor to the area with over \$15,000 annual cash donations and countless hours of community service with their involvement with several local charities, schools, social and professional organizations.

The City is proud to have Werts Welding and Tank Service, Inc. as a part of our community who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to community services and economic enhancement in the area.

### EAWR Cross Country Team



The East Alton Wood River Community High School Cross Country Team and Coach Russ Colona were recognized at a Council meeting for being the first team to win a conference title

since entering the South Central Conference and the first team to advance to State Finals since 1961. Members of the Cross Country Team are Noah Herrin, Joey Harris, Chad Pritchard, Kerry Studnicki, Mike Marshall, Tyler Lane, Josh Weigler, Isaac Sever, Ed Shaidnagle, Eric Ottwell, and Allen Bartholomew, who devoted many countless hours of hard work and preparation to form the successful Oiler Cross Country Team.

The City is extremely proud of the Cross Country Team and grateful for the recognition they have brought to the School and the City.

## PARKS & RECREATION



WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS

### RULES OF THE ROAD

Rules of the Road is provided free of charge through the Secretary of State's Office, in conjunction with the Recreation Department. The class is geared toward Senior Citizens, although others may attend. The class is to be taught at the Round House from 9-11 a.m. on March 9, 1999.

### GYMNASTIC LESSONS

Tumbling and gymnastics, under the instruction of Melissa Bateman and Christy Law are offered for pre-school through Jr. High children. Instruction on the balance beam, uneven bars and vault, as well as tumbling techniques are given. **Session 3 will begin Monday January 4.** Registration Deadline is December 31. Please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 251-3130 for more information.

### HIDDEN VALLEY SKI TRIP FOR ADULTS

The Annual Hidden Valley Ski Trip will be held Saturday January 16, 1999. You can be sure this will be an exciting adult event. One fee will include lift ticket, ski rental and transportation. The bus will leave the Roundhouse parking lot at 6:45 a.m. and return at 3:30 p.m. **Registration deadline is Monday, January 4.**

### KARATE LESSONS

Karate instructions are offered for all ages, by instructor George Manns. Classes are Wednesdays and Fridays, from 8-9 p.m. These lessons are taught at the Recreation Shelter on 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Wood River. For more information call the instructor at 465-5904.

### AEROBICS

Aerobics classes are offered Monday and Wednesday from 7-8 p.m. through the winter months at the Roundhouse. Each six week session is \$20.00. Pre-registration is not necessary. Call 251-3130 for more information.

## OTHER NEWS

The *1998 Annual Halloween Party* hosted by the Parks & Recreation Department was a great success again this year. There were 250 children in attendance who enjoyed games, refreshments, entertainment and prizes. As in the past, a costume contest was held. Winners of the toddler costume contest were Scariest, Cody Millering who came as a vampire, Most Original, Emily Harszy, dressed as a sunflower in a flower pot, and Cutest, Brandy Moore who was a Hershey's Kiss. In the Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade division, winners were Scariest, Cory Terry who dressed as a witch, Most Original, Andrew Ross who came as a parrot, and Cutest, was Colby Hall a Ty Beanie Baby. Winners in the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade division were Scariest, Ashley Lemmons, who was dressed as a witch. The winner of the Most Original costume, was Josh Williams, the invisible man and Cutest costume winner was Danielle Valdez, who was an ice skater.

### Recreation Department Invites You to the Winter Wonderland and Tour and Casino Night

Come and join the Wood River Recreation Department for a night of fun on Thursday December 17. We will first tour the beautiful Christmas lights display at Our Lady of the Snow. Next will be a dinner at the Casino Queen's Courtyard, followed by a cruise on the Casino Queen. Just \$13.00 gets you admission to all the events and chartered bus transportation. Must be 21 years or older. **Registration Deadline is Friday, December 4.**

### Aquatic Center Season Passes Make Great Christmas Gifts

The Aquatic Center is offering special rates on season passes. 1999 season passes are being sold at promotional prices. Don't miss out on this great opportunity. You may purchase your pass at the Water/Finance Office at City Hall during regular business hours. The following prices are good until opening day!

	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non Resident</u>
<b>Child</b>	\$45.00	\$55.00
<b>Adult</b>	\$55.00	\$65.00
<b>Senior</b> (60 and older)	\$35.00	\$35.00
<b>Family</b> (Includes 3 immediate family members. Each additional family member is \$20.00.)	\$120.00	\$130.00

## UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS:

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Breakfast with Santa will be held on Saturday December 12 from 8-10:30 a.m. at the Roundhouse for great family fun. Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be taken for a small fee.

### CALLS OR LETTERS FROM SANTA

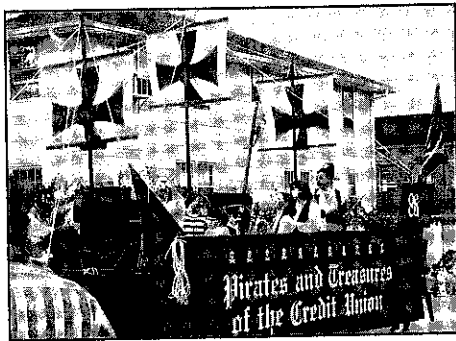
The City of Wood River Parks & Recreation Department is sponsoring the 17<sup>th</sup> annual "Calls from Santa" program. The program is designed for youngsters 3-6 years of age only. Calls and letters will be made free of charge to Wood River area residents. If your child would like to receive a call or letter from Santa, fill out the enclosed application and return it following the instructions. Please be sure to complete one per child.



# Halloween Parade Draws Big Crowd



*Grand Marshal Jean Bruce*



*Olin Credit Union Pirate Ship Float*

Crowds lined the streets on a beautiful autumn day to view the biggest and best ever 15th Annual Halloween Parade in Wood River.

Retired City Clerk Jean Bruce was honored as the parade's "GRAND MARSHAL". Jean served as City Clerk for the City of Wood River for 21 years and retired last December. Cash prizes were awarded for the best floats and costumes. The first place float was sponsored by Fitness-n-Fun, with Olin Credit Union and Paula's Stitchery winning second and third place, respectively.

For adult costumes, Nathan Cromwell won first place as a dragon, and Sarah Sherman came in second as a headless woman. Karen, Debbie and Alex Stairs shared third place as the Three Blind Mice.

In the child costume category, Emily Harzey won first place as a Flower Pot Girl, and Skie Mounce took second as a blue dog in a dog house. Katie Hall won third place as a lady-bug.

## Special Congratulations To:

**Lena Sly**, who is still going strong at the age of 97 waiting tables at the Wood River Moose Lodge on Thursday night for bingo. Lena has been serving tables at the Moose for more than 40 years and is the longest member of the Moose Lodge of 56 years.

**Michael Cleary, R.Ph.**, of the Medicine Shoppe at 901 E. Edwardsville Road on receiving the 1997 Community Service Award from Medicine Shoppe Internations, Inc., in recognition of providing healthcare screenings and wellness programs for consumers.

**Wood River Area Garden Club** on celebrating their 60th anniversary with an Open House on October 21 at the Wood River Museum.

**Virginia Kirkpatrick** for being honored as a Woman of Distinction for her dedication at Operation Blessing. Virginia is the founder and executive director of Operation Blessing which she started in 1982. She was quoted as saying, "I certainly didn't earn this by myself, without the support of my volunteers all these years, none of this would have been possible."

**East Alton Wood River Community High School Freshman Football Team** for going undefeated in their 1998 season. Members of the football team were Todd Burris, Jonathan Calame, William Carmen, Bryan Enlow, Nicholas Full, Garrell Herron, Christopher Lauck, Kevin Marshall, Lance Millican, Benjamin Moore, Jacob Norris, Evan Paynic, David Sanders, Matt Scott, Andre Shaw, Joshua Timmons, David Tinnon, Ruben Villarreal, Jason Wheeler and Travis Williams. The football team was coached by David York and Mike Redman.

**Patty Anderson of Sunbird Travel** and the **Civic Action Body** for a successful OctoberFest held on October 17. Fun was had by all who attended and the winners of the Hot Wing Cook-off were Franchise Bar & Grill for Overall and Cuzzo's for People's Choice.

### New Emergency Warning Sirens are Here

The second week in November, the City received its new warning sirens. The three Whelan Vortex sirens are to replace the two aging existing units. Each is over 120 decibels and when mounted on 50 foot class A poles, they have a warning radius of nearly one mile. The new sirens also have a 20 minute, continuous duty, battery back-up power supply in case of electrical failure.

After installation, though capable of silent testing, some audible testing will be necessary and we want Wood River citizens to be warned ahead of time.

## Notes from Planning & Zoning

### "Wood River Deserves a pat on the Back"

During his daily routine of monitoring properties throughout Wood River, the General Inspector has noticed an improvement in the overall appearance of our community. This improvement is a result of our residents and businesses making various improvements to their property. Little things such as re-siding a house, painting a fence or planting some flowers goes a long way toward improving the image of our city. Because of the things everyone has done to help our community's appearance, you should give yourself a pat on the back.

## Holiday Reminders From The Wood River Police Department

1. Park your vehicle at well-lit locations, lock it, and pocket the keys.
2. Don't shop alone, and place all packages in the trunk of your vehicle.
3. Carry your purse under your arm.
4. Retain or destroy all credit card cards.
5. Do not allow young children to be on their own. If they become lost from you, instruct them to contact a store employee.
6. When you leave, make sure your home appears occupied. Leave lighting, radio or TV on, and be sure to lock all doors.

If you plan to be out-of-town for the holidays, contact the Police Department at 251-3113, and we will make arrangements to check your home while you're away.

**BUCKLE UP AND DON'T  
DRINK AND DRIVE!**

## NEW BUSINESSES

**Advance America**  
*Cash Advances*  
Betty Schug, Manager  
14 W. Edwardsville Road  
254-7686

**Hi-Energy Weight Control Center**  
*Weight Loss & Management*  
Linda Hollis, Owner  
1702 Vaughn Road  
259-4000

**Power Systems - Midwest Industries**  
*Warehousing & Sale of Diesel Equipment*

Brian Fleming, Manager  
205 N. Old St. Louis Road  
254-8355

**H & R Block**  
*Income Tax*  
Linda Lauer, Manager  
1415 Vaughn Road  
259-2591

**Nicole's Almost Antiques**  
*Antiques & Collectibles*  
Sandy Shaw, Owner  
118 E. Ferguson Avenue  
258-8202

**Your House Hair Care**  
*Hair cuts & styles*  
Freddie Hartmann, Vesta Myers,  
Marveline Knipping  
118 E. Ferguson Avenue  
254-3989

**Midtown Theater  
& Cultural Arts Center**  
*Entertainment*  
Lon Smith, Jr., Executive Director  
145 E. Ferguson Avenue  
251-6095

**A-1 Limo & Holly the Trolley**  
*Tour Company*  
Sonny Irvin, Owner  
101 Whitelaw Avenue  
254-7874

**Changed Name**  
Magna Bank is now  
**Union Planters Bank**  
100 N. Wood River Avenue  
and 501 Wesley Drive

Clark Oil Station is now  
**Y's Choice**  
851 N. Wood River

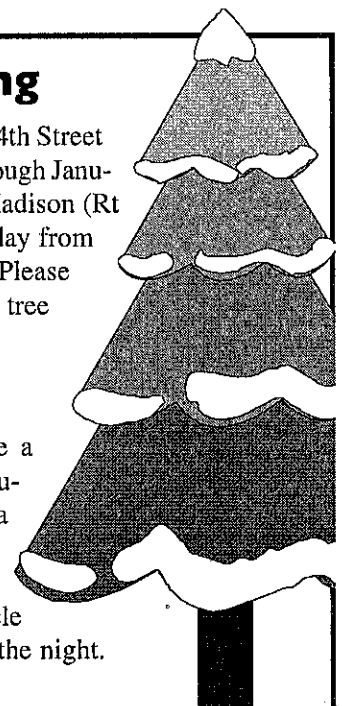
## Christmas Tree Recycling

You may dispose of your Christmas tree at the 14th Street Garage Facility at no charge from December 26th through January 25th, 1999. The Center is located at 14th and Madison (Rt 143), and is open every Friday, Saturday, and Monday from 8 am to 4 p.m. and Sunday from Noon to 4 p.m.. Please remove all ornaments and tinsel from the Christmas tree before bringing it to the facility.

## Snow Routes



Please remember when we have a snowstorm of two inches or more accumulation, it is unlawful to park on a Snow Route until the streets are cleared from curb to curb. If it is expected to snow overnight, please move your vehicle off the street before you go to bed for the night.



# A Tribute to Service

Congratulations to the following City employees with significant service anniversaries during 1998.

## 20 Years

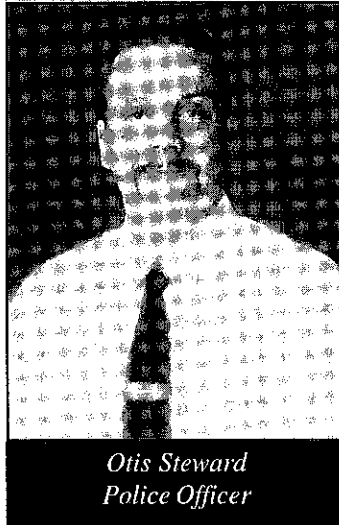


*Rick Dwiggins  
Water Serviceman I*

## 10 Years



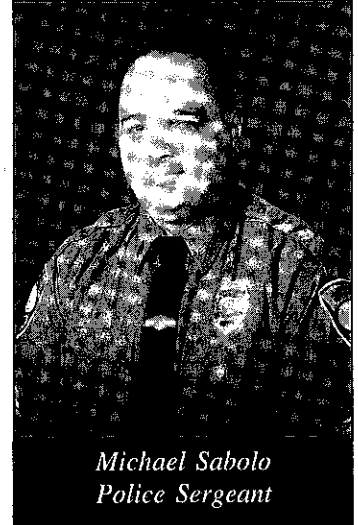
*Jeff Norton  
Firefighter*



*Otis Steward  
Police Officer*



*Janet York  
Records Clerk*



*Michael Sabolo  
Police Sergeant*

### Photographs were not available for the following:

#### 25 Years

Terry Crawford, Police Officer  
Mike Hendricks, Laborer

#### 20 Years

David George, Police Officer

#### 10 Years

Dana Emerick, Fire Captain  
Patty McReynolds, Administrative Secretary