



COMING TUESDAY

COUNT CONTINUES FOR LADY RAIDERS

The Herald-Whig will publish its annual High School Basketball Preview issue on Tuesday. The 40-page supplement includes a look at the Quincy Notre Dame girls basketball team, which enters the season with a 55-game regular-season winning streak.

QUINCY HERALD-WHIG

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BRINGING MESSAGE TO QUINCY

Christian television personality, recording artist, author and inspirational speaker Sheila Walsh will perform and take part in question-and-answer sessions Feb. 27 at The Crossing.

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AT WHIG.COM

Herald-Whig Staff Writer Steve Eighinger found "Blue Collar Radio" on his satellite radio Sunday to keep him company on a 600-mile trip from Ohio. That's one of the daily "High 5" listings in his "I Have A Lot To Share" blog. Read more at www.whig.com/Blogs.



24-HOUR FORECAST

Tonight ... mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of rain, low in the mid-40s. Tuesday ... rain likely, high in the lower 50s, mostly cloudy in the evening with a 30 percent chance of rain, low in the upper 30s.

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COME BACK TOMORROW

Stepping up DUI enforcement

Late night visits to judges and search warrants could be the result if a suspected serial drunken driver refuses to give police officers breath or blood samples.

Contact information, lotteries, complete index — Page 2A



CITY OF QUINCY

Revenue woes likely to play role in union talks

Administrative services director believes city deficit of nearly \$1.8 million will likely impact contract offers to city employees

By EDWARD HUSAR
Herald-Whig Staff Writer

As the city of Quincy tightens its belt in the face of a revenue shortfall projected at nearly \$1.8 million this fiscal year, another big financial matter looms on the horizon: Contract negotiations with unions representing city employees.

Current contracts with the unions are slated to expire April 30, 2010. That means negotiations on new contracts will soon have to begin.

Director of Administrative Services Gary Sparks said he intends to make contact with local union representatives after the first of the year to find out when they want to start contract talks.

"The city will probably contact the various bargaining units to get a preliminary meeting together," he said. "Then we'll sit down with them and start discussing future

contract negotiations and how we plan on proceeding with those."

Five bargaining units representing city employees are covered by four-year contracts:

- Bus drivers with the Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 1108.
- Members of Firefighters Local 63.
- Patrol officers with the Policemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Local 12.
- Patrol supervisors with the PBPA.
- Machinists Local 822, which covers employees in Central Services, City Hall, the water and sewer departments, and



Sparks intends to make contact with union reps after first of year

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GIRL SCOUTS OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS

Meeting to center on sale of Wildwood

Lack of use by members played part in decision to sell; search for property for service center already under way

By DAVID ADAM
Herald-Whig Staff Writer

A plan to sell the Wildwood Girl Scout Center in Mount Sterling and the development of a service center in Quincy for the Girl Scouts of Central Illinois will be discussed during a meeting at 5:30 tonight at the Quincy Service Center, 3837 E. Lake Center Drive.

Pam Kovacevich, chief executive officer for the Girl Scouts of Central Illinois, will present a long-range property plan.

Wildwood and the Decatur Service Center will be sold by 2012, and the Soldwedel

Program Center in Pekin will be sold next year, according to a timeline recently adopted by the Girl Scouts of Central Illinois Board. An asking price for Wildwood has not been determined.

The property plan was determined after a market research firm did a study of all properties, and an 11-person Property Committee was established to evaluate the recommendations of the market research and also conduct a survey of participants and adult leaders.

Kovacevich said the Girl Scouts of Central Illinois has 22,000 members and only 4 percent of that number uses the Wildwood facility.

"When you look at the demographics, it's been difficult to draw the girls from the six to eight counties that surround Wildwood, let alone the 38 counties that we serve," Kovacevich said. "Wildwood is too far out for them to travel comfortably. That's part of the comments that have come from all over."

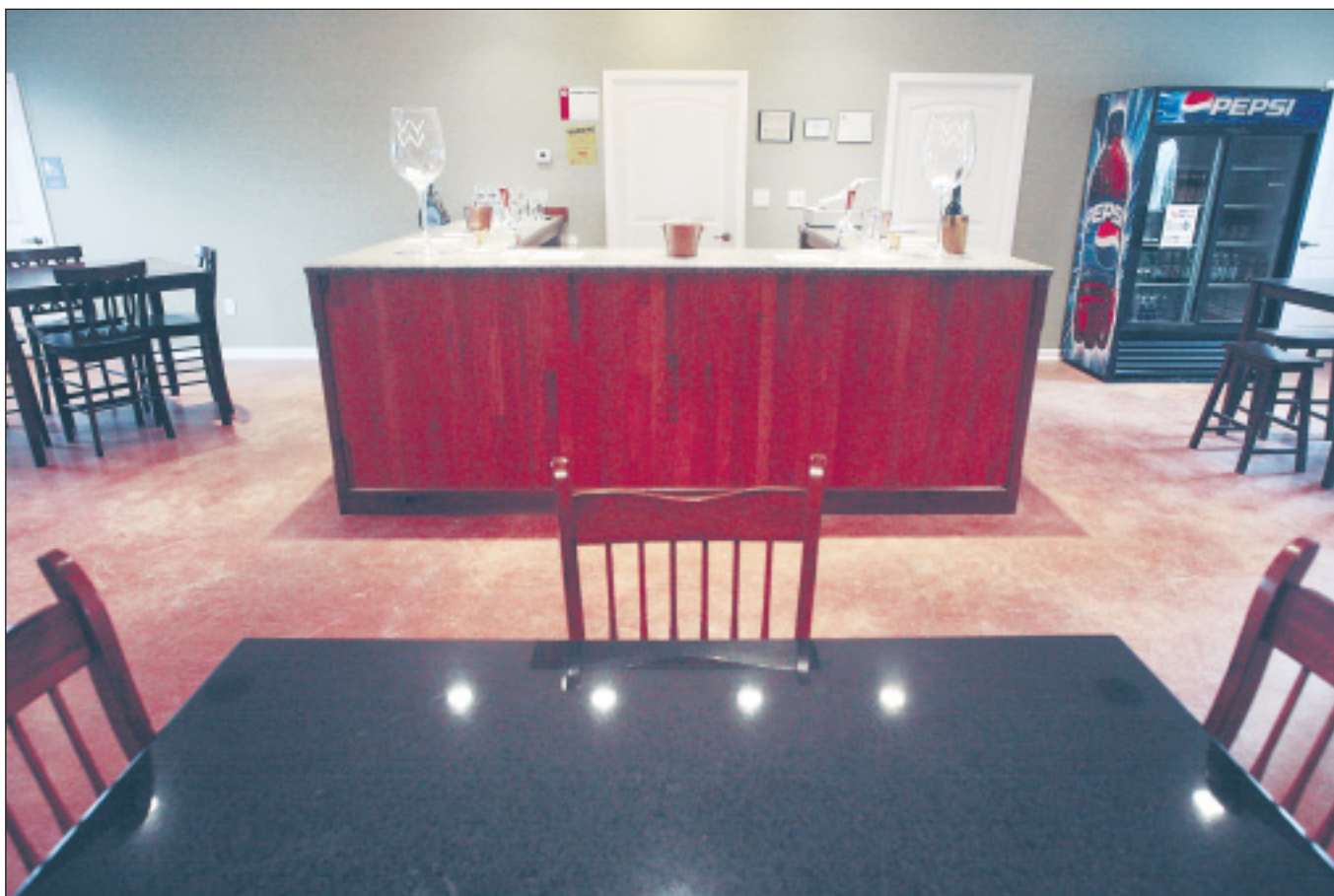
Nora Baldner of Quincy, chairman of the Property Committee, said the property plan is designed to serve Girl Scouts better.

"The numbers tell the story, and when only 4 percent of your clients go to camp and you're losing money every time you hold a camp ... you have to ask, 'Are we serving our clients?' And the answer is unequivocally no," said Nora Baldner of Quincy, chairman of the Property Committee.

"Appraisals of all the facilities were done, down to the last spoon in the cafeteria, and the girls are telling

See WILDWOOD, Page 5A

VILLAGE VINEYARD AND WINERY IN CAMP POINT



Construction on the Village Vineyard and Winery in Camp Point is nearly completed. Gordon Cantrell began making wine in his basement in 1987 and planted his own grapes in 2001. The winery offers a tasting room and a banquet facility capable of seating 150. Cantrell makes 16 kinds of wine, the most popular being his Opera House vintage. (H-W Photo/Steve Bohnstedt)

Winery pairs flavor, local history

Owner names wines after tourist attractions; one example is Opera House, a semi-sweet red named for village's Bailey Opera House

By DEBORAH GERTZ HUSAR
Herald-Whig Staff Writer

CAMP POINT, Ill. — Gordon Cantrell isn't interested in making wine to suit his own taste.

"I want to try to make a wine that will fit every person that comes into the door," Cantrell said.

With 16 varieties ranging from dry to dessert, Cantrell's new Village Vineyard and Winery in Camp Point offers something for everyone, served with a dash of history on the side.

His most popular vintage right now is the Opera House, a semi-sweet red named for the village's historic Bailey Opera House. He also offers Arrowhead White and Red, named in honor of both the golf course and the community's Indian heritage, and Windmill White and Red for the Prairie

Mills Windmill in nearby Golden. "I've tried to incorporate local tourist attractions in naming the wine," Cantrell said.

"This is something I've had in the back of my head since probably 2004 or 2005. I was interested in getting in the winery business from the time my grapes started to produce, wondering what I could do myself versus selling to somebody else," he said. "I always hoped to make my own grapes into wine."

Cantrell planted his first grapes in 2001. Now he has three acres of grapes — Edelweiss, his favorite Vignoles, Traminette, Norton, Frontenac and GR7.

But his first batch of wine came even earlier, back in 1987. "I went from just a couple gallon jugs to making 50-60 gallons in my basement in five-gallon jugs," Cantrell said.

From there, building a winery of his own was the next logical step.

"There's still a lot of interest in opening wineries," said Cantrell,

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INFORMATION

The Village Vineyard and Winery in Camp Point is open 5-8 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday and by appointment. More information is available by calling Gordon Cantrell at 617-1159 and online at villagevineyardandwinery.com.

ILLINOIS WINE FACTS

- Illinois had 12 wineries in 1997. The number has grown to more than 80 wineries today.
- The wine industry's direct economic impact is \$253 million annually.
- Illinois is among the top 12 wine-producing states in the nation.

Source: Illinois Grape Growers and Vintners Association.