

BRIEFS ►►

Chamber luncheon to focus on veterans

CHANNAHON —The Channahon-Minooka Chamber will hold its next chamber luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 7, 2012, at the Channahon Village Hall, 24555 S. Navajo Dr., Channahon.

The luncheon, entitled "Transitioning Home," will explain how people can help integrate returning veterans back into their community.

Following his own 26-year career in the military, Retired Lt. Col. Jack Amberg, has turned his focus to helping returning veterans transition home.

Cost is \$15 per member, and \$20 for non-members.

Reservations must be made by Nov. 2 and can be made by contacting the chamber at (815) 521-9999 or send an email to events@grundychamber.com.

MBL collecting items for troops

Morris Building & Loan will collect items to send to the nation's troops as they serve thousands of miles from home during the holidays.

Morris Building & Loan has partnered with other area businesses to help in the collection of these items.

Needed items will be accepted at Morris Building & Loan, Grundy County Chamber Offices in Morris, Channahon/Minooka and Coal City; Century 21 Coleman-Hornsby Office in Morris; Morris Daily Herald Office; and the Twin Oaks Savings Bank in Morris.

Items will be collected through the end of December.

For more information and a complete list of needed items for the collection, please contact the Morris Building & Loan Office at

JAY M. HEAP & ASSOCIATES, LTD.

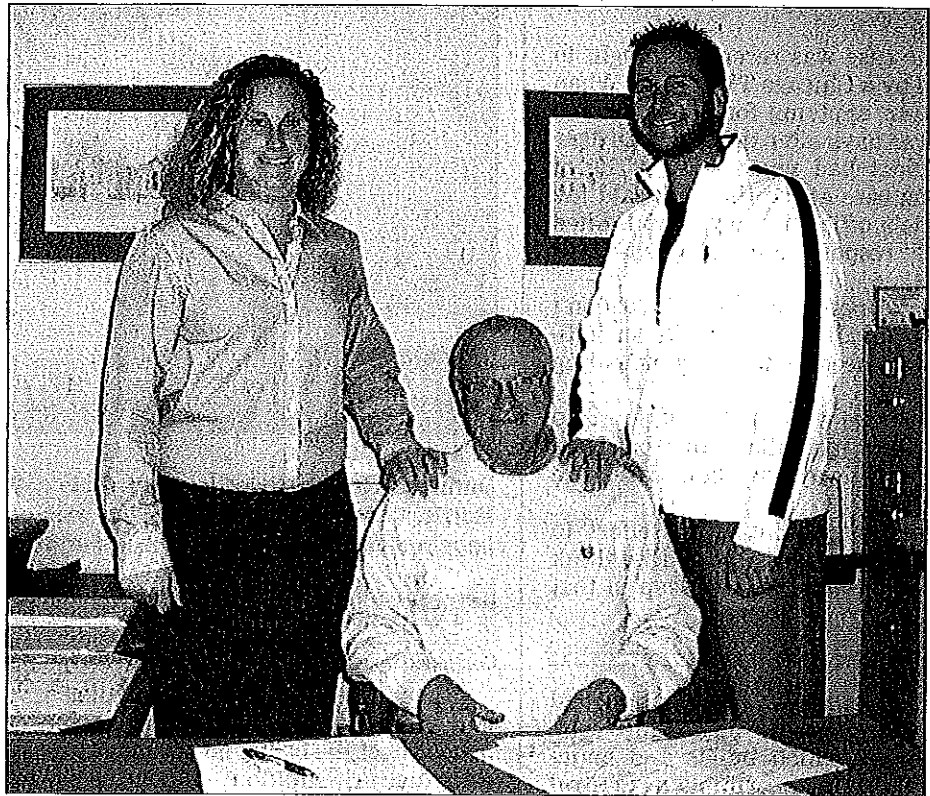


Photo submitted

Ryann Heap, at left, recently received her license as an Illinois Certified General Real Estate Appraiser and Aaron Heap, at right, received approval from IDOT as a Real Estate Acquisition Negotiator. They stand next to their father, Jay.

Heap of Talent

Ryann, Aaron boost firm's capabilities

Jay M. Heap & Associates, Ltd., of Morris, is expanding the Real Estate Appraisal and Consulting Business in the area.

Ryann Heap has recently completed the necessary training and has received her license as an Illinois Certified General Real Estate Appraiser from the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFRR).

Heap is a 1996 graduate of Morris Community High School, where she excelled in basketball. She received a full scholarship to Kankakee Community College, where she graduated in 1998. She then continued her education with another basketball scholarship to Lewis University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in 2001.

Ryan has been a licensed associate real estate appraiser since 2003, when she joined her father's business.

Aaron Heap recently received approval from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) as a Real Estate

of Approval, Aaron is able to negotiate real estate acquisition projects for federal, state, county and local agencies on projects here in Illinois. His primary service area consists of IDOT's District 3, which includes 11 counties in and around Grundy County.

Aaron is a 1997 graduate of Morris Community High School. He joined his father's business in January 2008 after working in the real estate lending industry since January 2004.

"With Ryann recently being awarded her Illinois Certified General Real Estate Appraiser's License and Aaron receiving his approval as an Illinois Real Estate Acquisition Negotiator, we have strengthened our firm to perform any and all types of appraisal services for our clients throughout Illinois," said Jay Heap, owner of Jay M. Heap & Associates, Ltd. "We are well positioned to grow our business here in Illinois, where we have not only professional expertise,

prevent this from occurring again. In Glasgow and myself are in support of legislation that would give the Secretary authority to suspend or revoke these licenses," he said.

He said the case was recently brought to attention by a Chicago TV station. When the teen applying for a license and one three days after the crash, Druker's department had no record on file of an ongoing case at the time. He said the Department of State's office, by law, was limited in how they could respond after the license was

issued. "Record keepers," he said. "We don't have the authority to invalidate or revoke an individual's license — we need to have a court ruling

to aid the hope with the legislation is to bring drivers in similar situations from Illinois roadways as their cases are worked out.

Gov. White is making every effort to make roads as safe as possible and we think this legislation would be a positive step in that direction," he said.

vinial operator and location and port the Scientific Games, the company which builds and maintains the terminal's Central Communications System.

Perino also said not approving the measure could drive profits to surrounding communities that have approved video gambling.

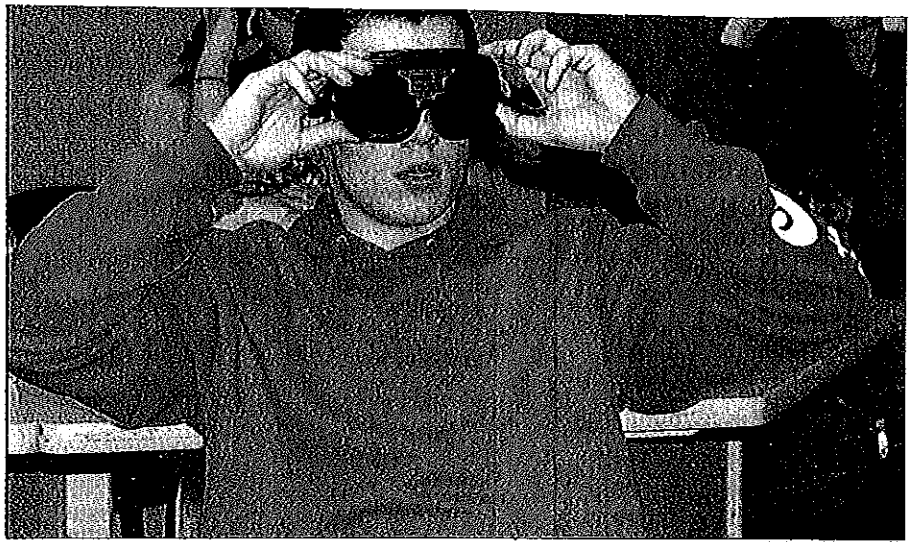
"If Coal City doesn't allow it, these people will play these machines anyway," he said, going to area cities that have approved it, like Morris or Diamond. "Coal City will lose that revenue, the gaming revenue and the revenue from them eating and drinking."

He's aware that there is moral opposition to the referendum, but said he doesn't feel morality should be governed by the village.

"I know our mayor in Coal City is against it, and I believe any moral issues should not be legislated," he said.

He pointed out that there are rules in place for establishments like his — the machines have to be within sight of an employee over 21 and the establishment is also responsible under the law to ensure intoxicated individuals are not playing them.

"I know there's addiction, but I know there is help out there for that," he said.



Herald Photo by Lisa Pesavento

During a class activity for Red Ribbon Week Friday at Premier Academy in Morris, Casey Stepp, of Coal City, tries on a pair of goggles that simulate the impaired vision of someone who is intoxicated.

Premier

Continued from Page 1A

Other activities included computer games quizzing the kids on how drugs affect the body and animated computer presentations on how drugs affect the brain.

Students also got to hear real-life stories of the realities of living a life full of drugs. Steve Catalano of Joliet and Marc Milburn, 2011 graduate of Premier, told the kids of their struggles and how they overcame them.

Catalano was a drug addict for decades and calls the people he's met on his journey to sobriety and through Narcotics Anonymous his

"new family."

"Those people out there aren't your friends, they wanted what I had, drugs or money," he said.

"The greatest time I've ever had in my life is since I got clean," said Catalano. "My worst day clean is better than my best day high."

As the men talked, the students listened intently. Tristan Durov, 16, of Shorewood, appreciated hearing a success story from a fellow Premier student. He called the speakers inspiring.

"It is something to gain from them. He also was a former student who just graduated from here. We can relate to him," Durov said.

Heap

Continued from Page 8A

but the experience to help lenders, attorneys, individuals and government agencies that need our specialized services."

Jay Heap started his real estate appraisal and consulting business on Jan. 1, 1979. From 1973 through 1978, Heap was employed by Morris Savings & Loan as a real estate mortgage underwriter and appraiser. During that time, he received extensive real estate appraisal training through the Society of Real Estate Appraisers, the Appraisal Institute, the University of Illinois, the University of Houston, Illinois Department of Revenue, Illinois Property Assessment Institute and the Illinois Coalition of Real Estate Appraisers.

Heap has been a licensed Illinois Certified General Real Estate Appraiser since the inception of the appraisal act in 1992. He holds memberships in the International Right-Of-Way Association, Illinois Coalition of Appraisal Professionals, Illinois Assessors Association and State Accredited Affiliate of the Appraisal Institute. Heap has been qualified and testified as an expert witness in the court systems of Grundy, La Salle, Kendall, Kankakee, Iroquois, Woodford, McLean, Livingston and Will counties. Heap served as a member of the Illinois Appraisal Board, Office of Banks and Real Estate in 2002.

Heap also holds a professional designation from the Illinois Property Assessment Institute, Certified Illinois Assessing Officer (CIAO) and from the Right-Of-Way Association (R/W-AC) Right of Way — Appraisal Certified,