

## Business Pulse

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Ray is hoping to get his company name out there so people know how to reach him when they're ready to relocate.

"I've worked as few as 2 hours a week and as many as 100 hours," said Ray, noting he has mini warehouse units to help generate regular income because the moving business fluctuates.

Academy Moving and Storage is located at 2447 Smithville Highway just past Gateway Tire. Ray says he probably won't do much business from his actual office as most meetings are conducted at the house you are moving from, or the house you're moving to.

Ray can be reached at (931) 212-5976.

### CELEBRATING BINO'S MARKET

It's hard to believe in 19 years of writing this business column, I've never made it out to Rock Island Market to feature legendary store owner Bino Bouldin, known for his quick wit and friendly smile. I would rank it as one of my greatest oversights.

But I have remedied that oversight today as I had the pleasure of stopping by and chatting with Bino on Friday morning. My first question

was fairly obvious.

"So why do they call you Bino?" I asked.

"I've had that name since birth," said Bino. "Because after I was born, my parents said there would be no more. So I've always been called Bino."

His store got its start 41 years ago when it opened near the railroad tracks at the spot where The Lazy Daisy is located today. Since business was pretty steady, Bino and his father, John Bouldin, built their current store and opened it in 1985. They were able to do the construction themselves after they worked in the building industry for local contractor J.D. Mullican.

Bino said he enjoyed life in construction, but said having to work out of town for long stretches and being out in the elements convinced him to try another trade.

"My dad worked with me until about a year ago when he turned 92," said Bino. "That's when he decided to retire. His mind is still sharp, but he's slowed down a little bit so he decided it was time. With him gone, I've discovered it's amazing the amount of work a 92-year-old was able to do."

Bino says the greatest thing about running the store is meeting people from



**Bino Bouldin has been operating the famous Rock Island Market for 41 years. Asked if he has any thoughts of selling, Bino said, "It all depends if the right guy comes by at the right time and I'm in the right mood."**

all corners of the personality spectrum.

"We were just talking this morning about the people who are going to walk in here this weekend," said Bino, who indicated Memorial Day weekend is one of his absolute busiest times of the year. "It's a holiday weekend everybody is involved in. By the time the Fourth of July gets here, it's

usually too hot and that prevents some of the older people from getting involved. But Memorial Day weekend is crazy. There's no telling the crazy people I'm going to see in here."

Bino says his restaurant is known for its catfish with diners traveling from far-away places to indulge. He says the great part of owning a country store is being a

part of all the action. He says a drawback is having to work during all the action as it's common for him to work 80-hour weeks.

"It's a lot of work, but it would probably scare me to death not to have a job to go to the next day," said Bino, 63. "Keeping this store stocked is tough. Anyone who runs a restaurant knows you earn your money in the

restaurant business. And one of the hardest things is you always gotta be nice."

Asked if he's given any thought to selling the market and embracing retirement himself, Bino said, "It all depends if the right guy comes by at the right time and I'm in the right mood."

Bino says his wife Sherry does a great job managing the restaurant while he can usually be found manning the front counter. His market has never sold beer, something he says is not by choice. Rock Island Market is located too close to a church to meet the requirements for a county beer license.

"I've made it fine without beer, but it would have certainly helped," said Bino.

Rock Island Market is located at 1231 Rock Island Road and can be reached at 686-2007.

### THAT'S ALL FOLKS

I hope you've enjoyed this special Memorial Day weekend installment of Business Pulse. I'm toying with the idea of following the school calendar and taking the summer off.

If the *Southern Standard* brass agree with this move, then I'll see you in August. If not, I'll return next Sunday, good Lord willing, with more exciting business news.

# HONORING WARREN COUNTY'S VETERANS

THE SOUTHERN STANDARD IS PROUD TO PUBLISH A COMMEMORATIVE EDITION FEATURING WARREN COUNTY'S VETERANS FROM ALL BRANCHES OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY WHOSE PHOTOS ARE DISPLAYED IN THE HALL OF HONOR AT THE WARREN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON LOCUST STREET.

IF YOU HAVE A MILITARY VETERAN FEATURED AMONG THE PORTRAITS, AND WISH TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR HIS OR HER SERVICE, PLEASE CONTACT AN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE AT THE SOUTHERN STANDARD TO PLACE A COMMEMORATIVE AD. THIS 60-PAGE GLOSSY PUBLICATION WILL BE INSERTED INTO THE JULY 4TH HOME DELIVERY EDITION, AND WILL NOT BE INSERTED INTO THE RACK AND DEALER COPIES. A LIMITED NUMBER OF COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

### THESE ARE THE VETERANS CURRENTLY FEATURED ON THE WALL:

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