Douglas County Court

Editor's note

Due to a change in online reporting, our regular court report is not available this week. We are working on a solution for next week.

Real Estate

First Mid Bank & Trust granted Debra L. and Phillip V. Anderson a release mortgage at 214 S. Elm St. Arcola. Parcel number: 01-08-34-100-006.

Elmer M., Loretta, and Loretta R. Miller granted Farm Credit Illinois a mortgage at parcel numbers: 02-13-11-100-043, 02-13-12-300-003 and 02-13-11-300-016.

Bennie Archey granted Illinois Healthcare and Family Services a state tax lien at parcel number: 04-03-11-204-026.

Irene Kuhns granted Irene Trustee and Irene Trust Kuhns a quitclaim deed trust at 510 Forrest Lane Arthur. Parcel number: 02-07-30-337-011.

First Mid Bank & Trust NA granted Forsythe Family Farms Inc. a partial release mortgage at parcel number 03-15-11-400-001.

Jill Houk Good, Jill Houk David Michael Good, Linda Roberson and Grace Thompason granted an affidavit at parcel numbers: 08-18-06-400-003 and 08-18-05-300-004.

City of Villa Grove granted Aaron and Jeffrey Hubbart a release at parcel number: 04-03-10-227-001.

Carrington Mortgage Services LLC, First Mid Bank & Trust NA, and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems granted Jason and Sherri Lynn Watson a release mortgage at 1454 Timber Lane Camargo.

Catherine Chaplin granted Nathan R. Chaplin and Cara A. McKinnie a transfer of death instrument at parcel numbers: 04-03-33-302-007 and 04-03-33-302-006.

Forsythe Family Farms Inc. granted Jennifer C. and John E. Neal a warranty deed at parcel number: 03-15-11-400-001.

Emma A. and Ross H. Rhoades granted First Mid Bank & Trust a mortgage at 47 Poplar Dr. Tuscola. Parcel number: 09-08-02-109-019.

Brian A. and Catherine M. Moody granted Brain A. Trustee, Brain and Catherine Trust, and Catherine M. Trustee Moody a warranty deed at 505 S. Niles St. Tuscola. Parcel Number: 09-02-34-421-003.

Mary Rita and Richard M. Willoughby granted Gage H. and Summer N. Russell a warranty deed at 605 N. Parke St. Tuscola. Parcel numbers : 09-02-34-112-004 and 09-02-34-112-014.

John Lee Peterson granted Opal Marie and Ralph Edward Peterson a quit claim deed at 209 N. 1st St. Atwood. Parcel number: 05-01-33-101-003.

Darlene and Kurtis W. Hall granted Town and Country Bank Mortgage Services, Inc. and Heartland Bank and Trust Company an assignment at 206 Chase Lane Arthur. Parcel number. 02-07-31-105-041.

Villa Grove State Bank granted Crystal D. Myers a satisfaction of mortgage at 312 E. Front St. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-02-319-012.

First Mid Bank & Trust NA and Soy Capital Bank & Trust Co. granted Todd Hahn a release mortgage at 412 S. Neal St. Camargo. Parcel number: 04-03-35-304-007.

Kathleen B. Melton, Kathleen B. Miller, and Kathleen B. Wilson granted Daniel and Laura Magee a warranty deed at 1004 Eastview Dr. Tuscola. Parcel number: 09-08-02-105-014.

Daniel and Laura Magee granted Arcola First Bank and Tuscola First Bank a mortgage at 1004 Eastview Dr. Tuscola. Parcel number: 09-08-02-105-014.

Elizabeth and Joseph E. Weaver granted Jeffery B. and Pamela L. Kneller a warranty deed at 6 S. Pine St. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-70-212-011.

Jeffery B. and Pamela L. Kneller granted Flat Branch Mortgage and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc. a mortgage at 6 S. Pine St. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-70-212-011.

543 Holdings LLC granted Ameren Illinois and Ameren Illinois Company an easement at parcel number: 02-07-32-100-010.

Carol A. and Jason J. Stutzman granted Ameren Illinois and Ameren Illinois Company an easement at parcel numbers: 02-07-32-100-007 and 02-07-32-100-006.

Apex Bank and Andrew Alan and Laura Lee Katterhenry granted a warranty deed at 106 Issacher St. Camargo. Parcel number: 04-03-34-406-004.

Andrew Alan and Laura Lee Katterhenry granted New American Funding LLC at 106 Issacher St. Camargo. Parcel number: 04-03-34-406-004.

Prairie State Bank and Trust granted Jerry Lee and Jessica Lynn Duzan a release mortgage at parcel number: 02-07-14-403-013.

Jerry L. and Jessica L. Duzan granted Jerry L. Duzan a quit claim deed at parcel number: 02-07-14-403-029.

Jerry Lee and Jessica Lynn Duzan granted Jerry L. Duzan a quit claim deed at parcel number: 02-07-14-403-013.

Jerry L. Duzan granted Prairie State Bank and Trust a mortgage at parcel number: 02-07-14-403-013.

Busy Bank granted CDM Real Estate LLC a release mortgage at 8 N. Sycamore St. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-10-215-011.

Kyle Dehart and Alan Darhyl Johnson granted Sara Conner and Dale Johnson an affidavit at 337 N. Iowa St. Atwood. Parcel number: 05-01-31-103-022.

Sara Conner, Alan Darhyl and Dale Johnson granted Kyle Dehart warranty deed at 337 N. Iowa St. Atwood. Parcel number: 05-01-31-103-022.

Kyle Dehart granted David and Lydia Spillman a warranty deed at 337 N. Iowa St. Atwood. Parcel number: 05-01-31-103-022.

David and Lydia Spillman granted First Mid Bank & Trust NA and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc. a mortgage at 337 N. Iowa St. Atwood. Parcel number: 05-01-31-103-022.

Leann and Roy J. Meyer granted Leann Trust, Leann Trustee, Roy Trust and Roy Trustee Meyer a quit claim deed at 703 Lakeshore Dr. Tuscola. Parcel number: 09-02-27-205-015.

JM II LLC granted Maria Ramirez a warranty deed at 227 S. Ash St. Arthur. Parcel number: 02-07-30-315-008.

Charles W. and Kathy L. Conn granted Town and Country Bank Mortgage Services, Inc. and Heartland Bank and Trust Company an assignment at 449 E. Washington St. Arcola. Parcel number: 01-14-03-306-009.

Debra Ismaijoski granted Cross River Bank a UCC original at parcel number: 04-03-11-306-006.

Bobbie Jo Hatfield granted First Mid Bank & Trust NA a mortgage at parcel number: 03-10-18-400-012.

David R. Kauffman granted Abigail and Brendon E. Bloemker a warranty deed at 330 N. Jacques St. Arcola. Parcel number: 01-14-03-312-002.

Abigail and Brendon E. Bloemker granted Morton Community Bank a mortgage at 330 N. Jacques St. Arcola. Parcel number: 01-14-03-312-002.

Lynn Rahn granted Jordon and Duncan Eastin power of attorney at 209 Wilson Ave. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-03-410-002.

David M. Rahn and Angela C. Vandeventer granted Jordon and Duncan Eastin power of attorney at 209 Wilson Ave. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-03-410-002.

David M. Rahn, Lynn Rahn and Angela C. Vandeventer granted Jordon and Duncan Bryant Eastin a warranty deed at 209 Wilson Ave. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-03-410-002.

Jordon and Duncan Bryant Eastin granted Flat Branch Mortgage and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc. a mortgage at 209 Wilson Ave. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-03-410-002.

Jordon and Duncan Bryant Eastin granted Illinois Housing Development Authority a mortgage at 209 Wilson Ave. Villa Grove. Parcel number: 04-03-03-410-002.

Amber and Jeff Mercer granted Town and Country Bank Mortgage Services, Inc. and Heartland Bank and Trust Company and assignment at 218 N. Vine St. Arthur. Parcel number: 02-07-30-107-001.

Abigail and Brendon E. Bloemaker granted Jade and Jared Strong a warranty deed at 127 W. Kemp St. Arcola. Parcel numbers: 03-09-34-302-005 and 03-09-34-302-004.

Jade and Jared Strong granted Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., Mortgage Research Center LL, and Veterans United Home Loans a mortgage at 127 W. Kemp St. Arcola. Parcel numbers: 03-09-34-302-005 and 03-09-34-302-004.

Priscilla Elaine and Richard Allen Wall granted Andrew L. Petty power of attorney at 514 S. Union St. Arthur. Parcel number: 02-07-30-336-034.

Priscilla Elaine and Richard Allen Wall granted Andrew and Courtney Gingerich a warranty deed at 514 S. Union St. Arthur. Parcel number: 02-07-30-336-034.

Peggy L. Estate Fox, Jaquline L. Goer, Tamara L. Page and Sylvia E. Peach granted Sharilyn Kibler Russel a warranty deed at 904 Fairview Dr. Tuscola. Parcel number: 09-08-02-102-017.

Jane, Jane R., and Richard A. Jr. Searls granted Forestview Illinois LLC a quit claim deed at parcel numbers: 05-01-18-100-001 and 05-01-18-100-003.

Sally Marie and Wayne E. Otto granted Glendon H. and Susan Plank a warranty deed at 379 N CR 000 E Arthur. Parcel numbers: 02-07-31-100-101 and 02-07-31-100-001.

Springcastle Credit Funding Trust and Wilmington Trust National Association granted Michelle Ferrell, Steele Michelle, and James R. Steele a release mortgage at parcel number: 05-01-33-102-002.

Illinois Pipeline Fabrications LLC granted West Prairie Water Company an easement at parcel numbers: 05-01-36-401-010 and 05-01-36-401-009.

Dionne and Richard Levine granted Longview Bank a mortgage at 31 E. George St. Camargo. Parcel number: 04-03-35-301-008.

SIU's archaeology summer field school continues to unearth Fort Kaskaskia's past

You can read about how to use a trowel and how to measure and document a site. But until you are in the dirt, with stiff muscles and the sweat running down your back, until you have the excitement of uncovering some real history, you don't really know archaeology. That's what students in Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Archaeology Field School say about their experience this summer at Fort Kaskaskia.

"I really wanted the archaeology field experience," said Jessica Rice, a senior in anthropology at SIU. "This is where you really get to learn the different techniques. You can read about it, but it makes sense when you are actually doing it."

Archaeology students from five universities, including SIU Carbondale, and six high school students have spent the past several weeks at the Fort Kaskaskia State Historic Site in Randolph County excavating French and American forts once visited by the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Research work has been underway since May 22 and will continue through June 30. This year's goal is to find the fourth wall of the American fort, which is separate from the French structure. Digging began June 16, with the team looking for a trench used to support a stockade for the fourth wall.

Historians long believed that Fort Kaskaskia served as a fort for both 1750s French and early 1800s American troops. The most prominent event in the fort's history was a visit by the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1803 to recruit 12 soldiers for the group to explore the American West.

But in 2017, after two seasons of work, the team of SIU archaeologists and students concluded that, in fact, two separate forts — one French and one American — were constructed near each other — and separated in time by 45 years.

Mark Wagner, Center for Archaeological Investigations director and professor in anthropology, said the American fort was active 1803-1806 and passed almost immediately from memory when it was no longer needed. One reason is that Gen. John Edgar owned the land and leased it for a small, 120-by-120-foot fort, so he owned the fort once it was no longer in military use. Wagner said archaeological evidence shows that the stockade was pulled from the ground. What appears to have happened is that Edgar sold the lumber from the fort – because it literally disappears in 1806.

Artifacts found

"There are a lot of artifacts here. We've found plenty of uniform buttons in the past and bullets. This year, we found the first spent, or fired, bullet," said Wagner, who guessed the bullet was inside an animal killed for food. Researchers have found an area with a lot of animal bones, indicating human consumption.

They have also found ceramics, including decorated pieces. At that time, only officers used ceramics and porcelain; enlisted men used wooden bowls and tin cups. In the military, officers maintained their class distinction from the enlisted men and needed nice dishes they invited each over for tea or dinner.

Paolo Vitor Mendes Da Cunha, a master's student, came to SIU from Rio de Janeiro to study forensic anthropology.

"SIU has a good program, better than what I could get in Brazil – so I wanted to come here," he said. "I'm in the field school because I want the practical experience. This is a really cool site, and I'm learning a lot of history while working on it."

Far-reaching interest

Nine SIU Carbondale students are participating this year in the field school, which draws students from throughout the United States. Five students from four other universities are attending this year, along with six students from local high schools.

Delia Wagner, of Carbondale, a student at Carbondale Community High School, wants to be a paleontologist, so when she did an online search for summer camps and found this one, she knew it was for her. She's loving finding the animal bones.

Molly Cornett, who attends Western Kentucky University, is attending because she needs a field school or field experience to graduate. She and Rice, from SIU, talked about finding glass at another site and hearing what it might be. It didn't make sense to them until they saw an example at Fort de Chartres, another French fort near Prairie du Rocher. The practical experience they are gaining is just not the same as in the classroom.

"Finding artifacts – that's been so exciting," Rice said. "And it's been great to hear Dr. Wagner talk about what we are finding, and to give us some perspective about the people and the time. It's made it more real."

Cornett noted the work has other benefits.

"I thought dirt was always just dirt, pretty much all the same," she said. "Now that I've pushed dirt through the screen so many times, I have strong opinions on what is good dirt."

Johnson Flight Academy soars over Mattoon

For the 57th year, Civil Air Patrol cadets have returned to Coles County Memorial Airport to take part in the Johnson Flight Academy (JFA).

Civil Air Patrol is the auxiliary of the United States Air Force and a proud member of the Total Force.

Within the past 10 years, aviation has seen a major shortage in pilots, and we are not only trying to raise awareness for the community but to recruit for the future.

Cadets have the opportunity to apply for CAP flight academies for instruction in powered aircraft, gliders, and hot air balloons. Cadets receive approximately 10 hours of flight instruction, ground school, and some even complete a solo flight. CAP cadets spend on average three years in the program before they are eligible to attend a national flight academy.

"We provide our cadets with the foundational skills to become safe and proficient pilots and spark that lifelong passion for aviation," explains Lt Col. Robert Bowden, Activity Director of CAP's Johnson Flight Academy. "It's incredible to see the transformation of a cadet who may have never flown in a small airplane to having the tools and knowledge to safely operate that aircraft and hopefully go on to earn a private pilot certificate."

Nurturing that love for aviation is really what the flight academies are all about. Not every cadet solos or goes on to earn a pilot certificate, but they do gain a sense of accomplishment.

The two weeklong academy started on June 9 and will end with the graduation on Saturday the 24.

Forty-eight cadets from across the country attended JFA this year.

Rose legislation supporting EIU and Lake Land College officers signed into law

Even though Eastern Illinois University and Lake Land College sworn police officers are increasingly being called upon to the same types of dangerous situations as the Champaign and Urbana police, they won't be treated the same if they are seriously injured protecting our communities. Legislation filed by State Senator Chapin Rose (R-Mahomet), and recently signed into law by the Governor, fixes the discrepancy.

"The bad guys don't care what department an officer works for," said Rose. "Public university and community college sworn officers face the same life or death situations as municipal police, and they should be treated the same if they get hurt protecting our communities."

Under previous law, municipal police who are disabled in the line of duty receive 15% more line-of-duty disability pay than those who do the same job but work for public university or community college. Rose's legislation, Senate Bill 1115, equalizes the disability benefit for sworn all public university and community college police department sworn officers to the same level as municipal officers.

"As a former prosecutor, I stand with all of our brave men and women in BLUE. Moving this bill forward is one small step I could take as the Senator for the 51st District to let them know that I appreciate their sacrifice and service helping to make our communities a safer place to live," Rose concluded.