

NEWSVIEWS

EXCHANGE CLUB of MATTOON

MATTOON YMCA



September 2026



AI Has been employed in developing some of this NEWSVIEW data



Covenant of Service

Accepting the divine privilege of single and collective responsibility as life's noblest gift, I covenant with my fellow Exchangites:

To consecrate my best energies to the uplifting of Social, Religious, Political, and Business ideals;

To discharge the debt I owe to those of high and low estate who have served and sacrificed that the heritage of American citizenship might be mine;

To honor and respect law, to serve my fellowmen and to uphold the ideals and institutions of my Country;

To implant the life-giving, society-building spirit of Service and Comradeship in my social and business relationships;

To serve in Unity with those seeking better conditions, better understandings, and greater opportunities for all.

RUN FOR St. JUDE

St. Jude sees more than 8,000 people a year for treatment and research of childhood cancer and other catastrophic diseases. St. Jude has helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate in the U.S. from 20% in 1962 to more than 80% today. They strive to continue the research until no child dies from cancer.

St. Jude has achieved a 94% survival rate for acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). The survival rate for ALL was only 4% when St. Jude opened in 1962. St. Jude has helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate in the U.S. from 20% in 1962 to more than 80% today.

Many families come to St. Jude thinking it is like any other hospital, but families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing, or food so they can focus on helping their child live.

Since 1982, starting with the [South-West Kiwanis Club of Peoria](#), the St. Jude Runs have been fortunate to have sponsors who understand and believe in the mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital – *Finding cures. Saving children.*

Mattoon has participated in this annual fund-raising event for 25 years. The Mattoon to Peoria run, of 149 miles, has been an experience that has included residences with shotguns and running all night with water and food breaks is an authentic experience. This year the more than twenty-five runners was successful in raising \$174,000 for St Jude. These sponsors play an important role in the overall success of the Runs. Sponsors contributions of dollars, services, and goods allow every dollar raised by a runner to go directly to the research and treatment of kids with life threatening diseases at [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#).

Exchange Club of Mattoon President Maxedon presented a check in support of St. Jude to Duane Deters and Rob Ratliff.



MATTOON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Mattoon Public Library's mission is to provide a welcoming destination that cultivates lifelong learning and serves as a leader in civic collaboration.

The Mattoon Public Library was established in 1893 by a group of resolute local citizens. The library was constructed with funds from Andrew Carnegie, making it one of the Carnegie libraries built across central Illinois. In 1995, an addition was built to expand the library. The building has had a building assessment of needs and maintenance. With the money that strict budgeting has saved and with the hope of grants that are available, plans are made to update the HVAC system, replace windows as well as update and make better use of the facilities.

In addition to providing books (most recent over 68,000) the library provides online services and audio-visual materials are available for check out. Over five hundred library cards have been issued and remember kids do not need to pay or be in the tax district.

There are educational programs designed to provide information, instruction, or skill-building opportunities for adults. The recent presentation on the History of the American Flag, supported by The Exchange Club of Mattoon, there are book programs on shared interests, educational programs designed to provide information, instruction, or skill-building. ([Mattoon Public Library - Mattoon, Illinois](#)) There are meeting rooms available. Currently Girl scouts, YMCA Day camp, and historical reading and discussions are scheduled.

EXCHANGE CLUB of MATTOON 2026-27



Board member Larry Gutzler, Secretary Dennis Booker, President-Elect Dave Coen, Treasurer Robert Riggert, Board member Lindsay Sewell, Board Member Brian Gillaspie, President Larry Maxedon, Past-President Lucy Perkins. {Division Director Max Jaeger shown in preparation}

BEN HARRINGTON YOUTH SPORTS FUND

The ***Ben Harrington Youth Sports Fund*** was established in memory of Benjamin “Ben” Cole Harrington of Mattoon and is a fund of the Southeastern Illinois Community Foundation.

The fund honors Ben’s legacy as both a standout athlete and an extraordinary person whose love of sports was matched by his kindness and devotion to others.

A 2011 graduate of Mattoon High School, Ben excelled in football and track. During his senior year, he earned All-Conference honors and Honorable Mention All-State recognition in football. In 2021, he was inducted into the Mattoon High School Hall of Fame.

Beyond athletics, Ben was known for his bright smile, generous spirit, and unwavering loyalty to his family and friends. His life reflected his belief in the importance of hard work, teamwork, and community until his passing in 2020.

What began as a fundraiser at Rookies for Mattoon’s junior football league has grown into the *Ben Harrington Youth Sports Fund*. The fund continues Ben’s legacy by supporting youth sports programs and helping future generations of athletes experience the same lessons in character, camaraderie, and perseverance that he valued so deeply.



President Max-
edon is pre-
senting Rocky
Reynolds with
an Exchange
Club check
supporting the
Harrington
Sports Fund.

2ND ANNUAL
HARRINGTON
Huddle
Golf Benefit
Honoring the Legacy of
Ben Harrington #55

EVENT DETAILS

Man Scramble | \$500 Per Team
Lunch Included | 4 Drink Tickets

Guests receive FREE entry to live music
The Jake Maurer Band at Rookies

PRIZES

Cash Prizes for Each Flight
Longest Drive | Closest to the Pin
Putting Contest
\$500 OR \$1000 SKINS
(Based on Entries)
Bulldozers Available for Purchase

HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZE
SPONSORED BY K.C. SUMMERS

AGENDA

Registration Deadline
SEPT. 20TH, 2026

Benefit Day
SATURDAY, SEPT. 26TH, 2026
10:30 AM
Shotgun Start for Golfers

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM
Post-Benefit Gathering at
ROOKIES SPORTS BAR
Show starts at 8:00 PM
Live music by The Jake Maurer Band

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

All Proceeds Benefit
THE BEN HARRINGTON YOUTH SPORTS FUND
A Southeastern Illinois Community Foundation Fund

MEADOWVIEW
GOLF COURSE
(217) 258-7888
info@meadowviewgolf.com

Alex Creech
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EXCHANGE CLUB SUPPORTS CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Children is a network of 951 community-based programs that recruit, train, and support citizen volunteers who advocate in courts and communities for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect. CASA of East Central Illinois is a nonprofit organization serving children involved in the Coles and Cumberland County juvenile court system. It currently has 92 cases representing 182 children who may have experienced abuse or neglect by their parents.

CASA's work continues every week as it serves more children and takes on more cases, but it cannot do so alone. Volunteers and donations are needed. This year, more than 16,000 children in Illinois will be involved in an open child abuse or neglect case. Court Appointed Special Advocates® are trained community volunteers appointed by judges and supported by local CASA staff. They speak up for children who have experienced abuse or neglect and advocate for them in the courtroom and beyond.

President Maxedon presents a Exchange Club check supporting CASA to Kim Carmean Executive Director of East Central of Illinois CASA.



FREEDOM SHRINE

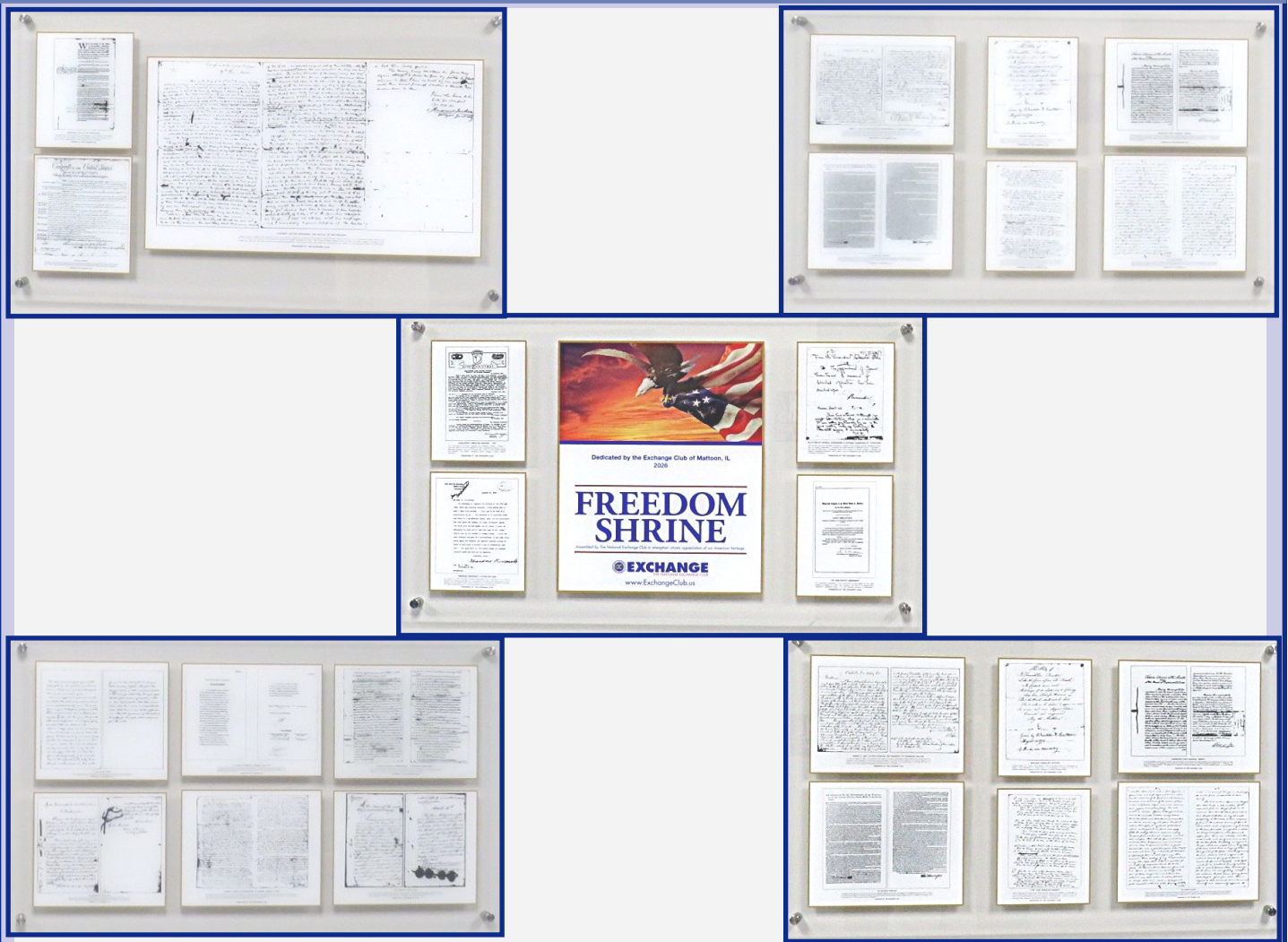
The Freedom Shrine grew out of the Freedom Train, a 1947 traveling exhibit of historic documents.

Today, the Freedom Shrine® features photographic reproductions of twenty-nine original American documents displayed in thousands of locations nationwide.

Its purpose is to remind Americans that the freedoms they enjoy were passed down through the idealism, determination, and sacrifice of courageous men and women before them—and that freedom, as a precious gift, must be continually guarded and protected.



St. JOHNS LUTHERN SCHOOL — 2026



CELL PHONES
OFF OR SET
TO VIBRATE
@ MEETINGS

Thanks!



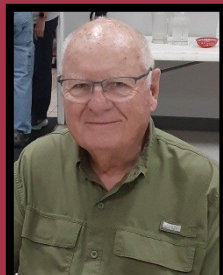
EXCHANGE
www.mattoonexchange.org

Wednesday Mornings
7:00 am American Legion

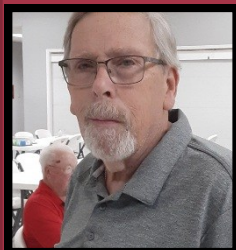


Exchange Club of Mattoon
P O Box 1452
Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Larry Maxedon



Robert Riggert



Dennis Booker



Dave Coen



Lucy Perkins



2026-2027
OFFICERS
EXCHANGE CLUB
of MATTOON

President

Larry Maxedon

President Elect

Dave Coen

Secretary

Dennis Booker

Co-Treasurers'

Robert Riggert & Dave Coen

Past-President

Lucy Perkins

March 27, 1976

50 YEARS OF SERVICE

CLUB ACCOUNTS

August, 2026

Operations Account:

\$2037.46

Project Account:

\$1846.37

Scholarship Account:

\$103.82

Scholarship CD

\$8628.28

Cash Account:

\$196.70



EXCHANGE

www.mattoonexchange.org



THINKING

- “I think that everybody needs four things in life.
- Everybody needs something to do regardless of age.
- Everybody needs someone to love.
- Everybody needs something to hope for, and, of course, everybody needs someone to believe in.”

Lou Holtz

MEETING PROGRAMS

OCT 7

COLES COUNTY
SHERIFF

KENT MARTIN

OCT 14

JOSH BULLOCK

LAKELAND

PRESIDENT

OCT 21

MYSTERY GUEST

OCT 28

CLUB MEETING

RAMBLINGS

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

– Gandhi