



## **MORE News**

From the desk of the  
Executive Director—Bob Botts

As the year is beginning, so is our new budget and it is much larger. We are planning for 2009 to be a strenuous time with jobs disappearing and the credit crunch growing. However, we are optimistic that we can meet this challenge, because history has taught us that our Marengo and Union citizenry are caring and empathetic to those truly in need of a helping hand. How can you help? You can help by donating food, clothing, small household items, cash, your cherished time or just kind words of support.

Jewel-Osco Food Stores has given MORE a grant of \$2500 to be used toward the purchase of a walk-in freezer. In addition to this, \$1000 from Walmart, \$2500 from a private foundation grant, and many individual donations are making our much needed walk-in freezer possible sometime in February.



MORE is always aware of the generosity of our community support. From time to time we like to feature some of our donors and say "thank you" with a small plaque. Levin's Shoes and Dry Goods stepped up and helped us with a back to school gym shoe and gym clothes program. Thanks Bob and Toby. We also have a more silent donor, expressing not to be publicly mentioned, that is taking care of our electric and gas bills. This has been a tremendous relief to us and allows us to focus more on our purpose. You are all appreciated.

[www.marengomorecenter.org](http://www.marengomorecenter.org)

## **BINGO**

Join in on the fun as you enjoy some socialization and light refreshments. Cards will be provided and there is no fee.

Prizes will be awarded.

Dates are Tuesdays February 3,  
March 3 and April 7.

Doors open at 9:00 am and  
games from 9:30 -11:00 am

Refreshments are sponsored by  
Eastgate Manor of Algonquin and  
Visiting Angels-South Elgin.

Games will be held in the cafeteria at  
the

REC Center.

12015 Mill St.

Huntley, IL 60142

847-669-3180



## **There's no such thing as "down time"**

If you've ever listened to Garrison Keillor's radio show, "A Prairie Home Companion," you know he always begins his weekly story with the same line: "It's been a quiet week in Lake Wobegon..."

Well, things are quiet in Marengo right now, but that's ok. It gives us time to fill out the paperwork that every American citizen, business or organization is all too familiar with (you know—the stuff that gets addressed, "IRS"). It also gives us time to decide what we want to do next for our little corner of the world.

In a way, that's the silver lining to this cloud hanging over our economic heads: the "quiet" gives everyone a chance to stop and actually plan for the day when things start looking better. That's something we'll be doing in the coming weeks. In fact, we're holding an open house on January 15 to do that very thing. If you have a request, question or concern about our downtown, come and tell us about it. We'll be at Flatlander Market, 125 S. State Street, starting at 6:00pm.

We'd love to see you there.

**Pam Gitta, Executive Director,  
Marengo Main Street 815-568-8440**