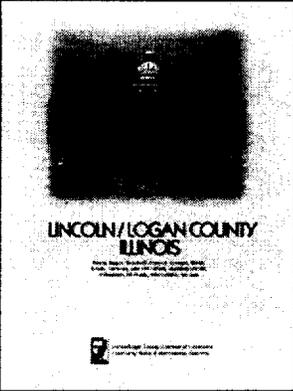


EXHIBIT 6

Village Profile™

LINCOLN/LOGAN COUNTY

ILLINOIS

CHAMBER MESSAGE		ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
OVERVIEW		EDUCATION
HISTORY		HIGHER EDUCATION
LOCATION		SHOPPING
TOURISM		BUSINESS & INDUSTRY
HOMES		HEALTH CARE
RECREATION		GOVERNMENT

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Village Profile™

LINCOLN/LOGAN COUNTY ILLINOIS

CHAMBER MESSAGE	OVERVIEW	HISTORY	LOCATION	TOURISM	HOMES	RECREATION
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT	EDUCATION	HIGHER EDUCATION	SHOPPING	BUSINESS & INDUSTRY	HEALTH CARE	GOVERNMENT

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAMBER



Welcome to Lincoln and Logan County, Illinois! We are a friendly community in the heart of Illinois with a rich history associated with Abraham Lincoln and Route 66. We have fertile farmland and a strong work ethic, progressive schools, active civic groups, and quality healthcare.

Come for a visit and enjoy our simple pleasures: apple and pumpkin farms, farmer's markets

and flea markets, antique and craft shops, fairs and festivals. Tour our courthouses, museums, and Abe Lincoln sites; take in a ballgame or a round of golf; get your kicks on old Route 66. Come for a lifetime and delight in the many benefits of life in a smaller community. Enjoy our four distinct seasons, our brick streets and historic homes, our city and state parks. Participate in an active civic life.

- We're a great place to work or live. Bring your skills to one of our existing businesses or industries. Start your own home-based business. Or, reside here and commute to a job in one of our nearby metropolitan communities.
- We're a great place to raise a family. We have strong community recreation programs, bicycle-friendly streets, and great schools with caring teachers. Our children enjoy a healthy sports competition with neighboring communities.
- We're a great place to retire. Many former residents return from larger cities to retire here. We have challenging golf courses, senior centers, retirement villages and apartments, quality local healthcare.
- We're a great place to locate a business. Our central location provides easy access to interstate highways and passenger and freight rail service. We have sites for industrial or commercial development and warehouse, retail, and office space for rent. Our Enterprise Zone and revolving loan programs offer incentives for business development.

Consider Lincoln and Logan County. We're sure you'll enjoy it as much as we do.

Sincerely,

Bobbi Abbott

*Executive Director
Lincoln/Logan County Chamber of Commerce*

YOUR LOGAN COUNTY INFORMATION SOURCE

Whether you're just visiting, moving here, or starting or expanding a business, there's a **center for business & visitor information** about Lincoln and Logan County, Illinois. All working together in one office, our organizations can answer your questions.

Lincoln / Logan County Chamber of Commerce - The voice of the business community. Pro-active committees. City maps & community fact books, phone & business directories, community information for newcomers, Art & Balloon Festival information & souvenirs. 217-735-2385, fax 217-735-9205, chamber@lincolnellinois.com

Logan County Economic Development Council - Community profiles, labor force, market & demographic statistics; available buildings & sites; assistance on business startup, financing, manufacturing technology and workforce training programs. 217-732-8739, fax 217-735-9205, loganedic@lincolnellinois.com

Abraham Lincoln Tourism Bureau of Logan County - Area & state calendars of events, sites & parks brochures, county motel directory, state highway maps, and county history. Call for group tours. 217-732-8687, fax 217-732-6293, tourism@abelink.com

Main Street Lincoln - Downtown Lincoln's historic preservation and retail development organization. 217-732-2929, mainstreet@abelink.com

Office hours

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Central time

Monday through Friday

Internet: www.lincolnellinois.com

Mail: 303 S. Kickapoo Street Lincoln, IL 62656





Lincoln and Logan County share two slices of Americana. Abraham Lincoln rode his court circuit through Logan County, owned property in the county, and formally christened the only town named for him before he was president, the City of Lincoln. The city and county also share what may be the longest remaining segment of historic Route 66, the nation's Main Street during the golden age of the automobile when Americans explored America in the family car.

Lincoln said at the christening of the town: Anything named Lincoln never amounted to much. Time has proven him wrong. Lincoln has amounted to a great deal. It has developed a solid base of business and industry, becoming the county's economic focal point.

The city is a delightful place to live. You'll find a wide range of affordable and comfortable homes including modern executive styles, well-kept turn-of-the-century and early 20th century homes, and the ranch models popular during the years following World War II. The small towns of Logan County share these same housing attributes.

The schools of Lincoln and Logan County challenge students to succeed, providing strong academic and career-oriented programs. Three colleges in Lincoln add measurably to the county's education opportunities and its cultural attainment.

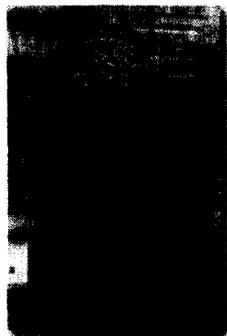
Residents of the county share a love of community and direct their efforts toward community betterment. Lincoln is Logan County's shopping center with a busy downtown and a commercial artery lined with shopping centers, restaurants, and motels. However, visitors still love to browse the small shops that line the main streets of the towns and villages of Logan County.

Residents of Lincoln and the county's smaller communities enjoy their well-equipped parks and other recreation facilities. Healthcare is readily available from local physicians and dentists, a hospital, county health department, and a 36 foot mobile health unit that travels throughout the county.

Abe Lincoln and vacationers on old Route 66 walked here. It's still a nice place for a walk.

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GLANCES AT YESTERYEAR
HISTORY



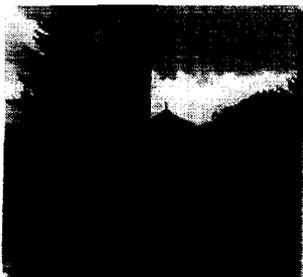
Civilization came to the area now called Logan County at a place called Elkhart Hill. Rising high above the generally flat prairie terrain, the glacial moraine had long been an Indian landmark that helped guide their journeys.

In 1819, James Latham, his son Richard, and Ebenezer Briggs, a friend, arrived in the area and built a cabin on the northwest slope of Elkhart Hill. Other settlers soon followed clearing forested land for farms. These pioneers from Kentucky and Tennessee avoided the prairie land, believing it was not fertile enough for farming. Besides, the plows of the day were unable to cut through the tough prairie sod.

By 1832, the area had sufficient settlers to establish a town and Middletown became the first organized community in Logan County. Later, in 1835, Russell Post came to the area determined to make his wealth by establishing a town. He laid out Postville, built a courthouse in the center of the town square, and built a hotel. Although the Postville Courthouse was on Abraham Lincoln's circuit and served as the site for religious revivals, the business Post hoped would make him rich never came.



Instead, Jabez Capps came to the area and created a town called Mount Pulaski which was named for General Casimir Pulaski, the Revolutionary War hero. By 1845, the population of Mount Pulaski had surpassed that of Postville. It had 300 residents and a flourishing business center. Although Postville was the county seat when Logan County was created in 1839, Mount Pulaski was awarded that honor in 1847. Eventually, Postville was absorbed by a growing neighbor, Lincoln.



Three developers - John Dean Gillett of Elkhart, Virgil Hickox of Springfield, and Robert Latham of Elkhart - hired Abraham Lincoln as their lawyer while they sought to establish a town halfway between Springfield and Bloomington, along the right of way for a new railroad. In 1853, the three named the town for their lawyer. He was also instrumental in having the county seat moved from Mount Pulaski to Lincoln, despite construction of a beautiful courthouse in the Mount Pulaski town square. Lincoln, himself, christened the town using the juice of a ripe watermelon. Atlanta, in the northeastern part of the county, was organized at the same time as Lincoln. The prairie was

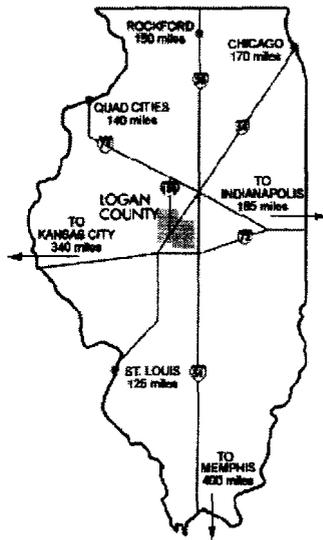
now prime farm land, thanks to improved plows and strong horses. The railroad added a dimension needed to bring agriculture into its own as an economic power. The railroad also brought more people to the area, particularly German and Irish immigrants. The Irish worked on building railroads and Germans worked the coal mines and the farms.

By the beginning of the 20th century, Lincoln had become the economic center of Logan County. Busy stores lined the town square. An impressive new Courthouse (built in 1905) commanded the square.

Today, the courthouse is still the dominant building on the square. Some of the shops on the square are now the offices of lawyers and other professions, but the downtown commercial area has reached beyond the square to encompass more than 100 stores. Additional commerce has positioned itself close to the interstate highway on Lincoln's west side, firmly establishing the community as the economic heart of Logan County and one of its chief tourist attractions.

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**AT THE HEART OF ILLINOIS
LOCATION**



Logan County stands at a special place in Illinois. Not only is it Illinois' geographic center, but it is also centered among five metropolitan areas. That fact, alone, makes our location special. Add local access to two interstate highways (I-55 and I-155) and three (I-72, I-74, and I-39) an easy distance away, and you have an ideal location for distribution throughout Illinois and the Midwest as well as a convenient place to live.

From Lincoln, the county seat and center of the county, Springfield is 30 miles southwest, Decatur 34 miles southeast, Bloomington/Normal 28 miles northeast, Peoria 40 miles northwest, and Champaign/Urbana 60

miles west While our communities offer a relaxed small-town lifestyle, over a million people live within 60 miles.

Saint Louis, MO. is 125 miles southwest, Chicago 170 miles northeast, and Indianapolis, In. 185 miles east. Kansas City, MO., Louisville, KY., and Memphis and Nashville, TN. are all within 400 miles. Besides the two interstate highways, three state highways (Routes 10, 54, and 121) and US Route 136 crisscross Logan

County. What is probably Illinois' longest remaining segment of historic US Route 66 also passes through Logan County and the communities of Atlanta, Lawndale, Lincoln, Broadwell, and Elkhart.

Air travelers can find passenger service nearby at Springfield's Capitol Airport, Bloomington's Municipal Airport, and the Greater Peoria Airport. Logan County Airport, on the edge of Lincoln, is used as a base for private and small corporate aircraft. It has a 4,225-foot paved and lighted runway and a 3,000-foot grass runway. Logan County is served by two railroads, Union Pacific with one line and Illinois Central, with two intersecting lines. Illinois Central's merger with Canadian National will provide central Illinois a single continental system serving seaports on three coasts. Six Amtrak trains per day provide service from Lincoln to St. Louis and Chicago.

Three motor freight firms have terminals in Logan County and a number of other transportation companies also offer daily service.

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LINCOLN/LOGAN COUNTY ILLINOIS

CHAMBER MESSAGE	OVERVIEW	HISTORY	LOCATION	TOURISM	HOMES	RECREATION
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT	EDUCATION	HIGHER EDUCATION	SHOPPING	BUSINESS & INDUSTRY	HEALTH CARE	GOVERNMENT

GET YOUR KICKS ON ROUTE 66
TOURISM

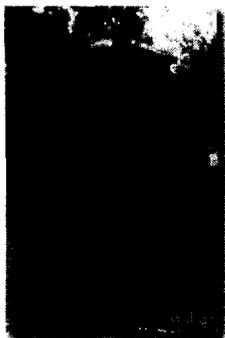


Lincoln and Logan County offer visitors a wide range of attractions from the memories of simpler times found along historic Route 66, to strolling where Abraham Lincoln once walked, to the pleasures of dining in restaurants dedicated to superb cuisine. Prominent signage makes it easy to find significant structures.

Logan County is steeped in history. The City of Lincoln and most of the county's small towns have their special historic places. Logan County's first courthouse, the Postville Courthouse, is duplicated in a park in Lincoln. The present courthouse built in 1905 stands on the square in downtown Lincoln, a historic district. The interior of the courthouse dome is lined with stained glass.

The Mount Pulaski Courthouse building still stands and is open to the public. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the courthouse is one of two remaining structures on Abraham Lincoln's Eighth District Circuit. Walk there and you walk in Lincoln's footsteps. Also listed in the National Register of Historic Places is Atlanta's octagonal library building, built in 1908. Still a working library, the building has a museum on its lower level.

Visitors flock to Lincoln and the Logan County Fairgrounds for the annual three-day Art Fair and Balloon Festival, an elaborate mix of fine art, carnival rides, live music, and hot air balloon launches. Lincoln's Abraham Lincoln National Railsplitting and Craft Festival is another event that draws visitors. The two-day celebration features railsplitting competitions and other old fashioned fun like a tomahawk throw contest, rail toss and log rolling competitions. Highlights of the event are a dramatization of the christening of Lincoln by Old Abe and the National Railsplitting Contest.



Other annual events that appeal to Logan County residents and visitors alike include the annual Route 66 Motor Tour, Atlanta's Fireman's Pancake and Sausage Supper; the Cedar Creek Shows at the Logan County Fairgrounds featuring 300 vendors of antiques, crafts, collectibles, and food; the annual Ice Cream Social in downtown Middletown, sponsored by the Knapp/Chestnut/ Becker Historical Society; the five-day Logan County Fair; the 1800's Craft Fair at the site of the historic Postville Courthouse; the Fall Festivals at Mount Pulaski and Atlanta; and the numerous Christmas festivals, special events and open houses.

There are plenty of comfortable places to stay. The county boasts eight motels with over 350 rooms. Several are relatively new and located close to the I-55 interchange. Visitors can enjoy great food in nearly 35 restaurants located in Lincoln and throughout Logan County. There are national fast food drive-ins, mom and pop operated family diners, steakhouses, and places that serve excellent ethnic cuisine.

The Abraham Lincoln Tourism Bureau of Logan County can provide more information on historic sites, motel accommodations and special events. Group tours can also be arranged through the tourism office.

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EASY COUNTRY LIVING HOMES

Throughout Logan County the living is easy. Cozy homes line quiet streets in the county's collection of small towns where neighborliness is part of daily life.



Long established neighborhoods reflect architectural styles that range from turn-of-the-century Victorian to contemporary ranch homes. In Lincoln, exceptionally fine older homes dating back to the early 1900's line the streets of Lincoln Avenue, Logan, Union, and Pekin Streets. There are handsome brick bungalows and Cape Cods, elegant American Foursquares, and an occasional Tudor style.

New development is found in the vicinity of Memorial Park and the Elk's Club. Established subdivisions, clusters of duplex homes, single apartment buildings, and apartment complexes offer residents many choices in lifestyle. Christian Village and Maple Ridge Care Centre offer townhomes and apartments for retired seniors.

Modern and historic homes dot the Logan County countryside, sometimes surrounded by outbuildings and horse corrals, sometimes the center of farm life, but often stand-alone dwellings for families who prefer the peace and seclusion of rural living. The small towns of Logan County offer the same quiet atmosphere. Amid the wooded splendor of Elkhart Hill, to the east of the hamlet of Elkhart, is a growing subdivision of large, executive-style homes. Homes are being built around North Greens Golf Course, a new 9-hole public course in Atlanta.



Whatever the budget, whatever the lifestyle, there's a home to match in Lincoln and Logan County, where the living is easy.

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**LOADS OF FAMILY FUN
RECREATION**

Lincoln and Logan County residents enjoy nature at their doorsteps. As a result, outdoor recreation is very much a part of the daily lives of residents of all ages. The park districts, the Lincoln Area YMCA, and the area schools help assure that activities abound.



A focal point of recreation in Lincoln is the Lincoln Recreation Center, on the city's southeast side. A large recreation building is the centerpiece of a 20-acre facility. The building has indoor tennis and racquetball courts, a walking/running track, a fitness center called "The Iron Factory," sauna, indoor driving net, meeting

rooms, and the Park District headquarters. Surrounding the building are an Olympic size outdoor swimming pool, lighted baseball and softball diamonds, volleyball courts, a driving range, and a practice green.

Across town, on Lincoln's west side is 42-acre Lincoln Memorial Park, a heavily wooded family recreation facility. It offers a baseball-softball diamond, three play areas for youngsters, a host of picnic sites, and four pavilions. Downtown Lincoln has two historic parks with playgrounds, picnic sites, a fountain for quiet meditations, and a bandshell for summer concerts. The Park District oversees seven other neighborhood parks that range in size from more than a half-acre to as much as three acres, each with play equipment and picnic sites.

The park districts, schools and Lincoln Area YMCA work together to offer a full range of sports, recreation, and activities for residents of all ages. Swim lessons, fitness classes, golf instruction, youth football, art courses, 3-on-3 basketball tournaments, volleyball

camp, and dance classes are a few of the selections.

The newest sports organization in Logan County is the Lincoln Heat, a three-tiered baseball program for 11 to 16-year-olds. Pony, Colt, and Bronco divisions have been established. Home games are played at the Lincoln Recreation Center. Both Lincoln Community High School and the American Legion Post No. 263 have baseball programs for older boys.

Bank fishing is the key feature of Allison Lake, a new recreation facility in the Lincoln area.

Residents around the county also have access to splendid park facilities. The Atlanta Park District, for example, maintains two well-equipped parks. Mount Pulaski Park District has four parks and a large outdoor swimming pool. The towns of Beason, Emden, Middletown, New Holland, Elkhart, and Latham all offer municipal parks for residents enjoyment.

The Lincoln Area YMCA offers an extensive summertime program for youngsters. Its summer day camps are held at nearby Kickapoo Creek Park. This 335-acre park is privately-owned and features trails and picnic areas. Another popular hiking park is 741-acre Edward R. Madigan State Park, a few minutes south of Lincoln. This park is a popular spot for bird watching, nature hikes, and cross country skiing.

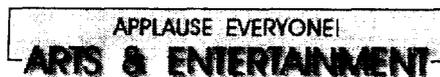
In addition to the pool at the Lincoln Recreation Center, residents have access to the Lincoln College natatorium, an NCAA-size pool with two Olympic diving boards. Members of the Elks Club use their facility's outdoor pool, tennis courts, and sand volleyball court.

The Elks Club's challenging 18-hole course is open to members. Local golfers also enjoy Atlanta's new 9-hole public course, North Greens Golf Course, and take advantage of the many courses throughout the area.



Logan County residents take an active role in their communities. The Lincoln/ Logan Chamber of Commerce maintains a community directory of more than 75 civic and social clubs and organizations.

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Annual festivals are key items on the calendar of events for Logan County. The Lincoln Art & Balloon festival, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, is held at the end of August. This annual three-day festival combines a fine arts fair

with hot air balloon launches.

Downtown Lincoln's shady Latham Park is the site for the art fair. Over 80 juried artists participate and local individual and business advance patron purchases contribute to its success. Logan County Fairgrounds is the site for the hot air balloon launches, a carnival, petting zoo, crafts, live musical entertainment, mini-tractor pull competitions, and more.

Other activities are scheduled with the Lincoln Art & Balloon Festival. The Park District sponsors a 5K run, Main Street Lincoln hosts children's activities featuring a cardboard castle maze, the Lincoln Public Library hosts a used book sale, and the historic Postville Courthouse has an 1800's craft fair and antique show.

In mid-September, Lincoln holds the Abraham Lincoln National Railsplitting Festival. The two-day event features a variety of woodsmen events like a log rolling contest, woman's firewood split contest, team railsplitting competition, a tree falling contest, tug o' war, rail toss contest, and a Fire Department water fight. Free live entertainment, craft demonstrations, flea market, food booths, an Indian village, and a petting zoo are all part of the show. The event concludes on Sunday afternoon with the National Championship Railsplitting Contest, attracting railsplitters from across Illinois and the nation.

The Logan County Fair, at the fairgrounds in Lincoln, is a 60-year tradition that draws thousands of area residents to see agricultural exhibits, enjoy grandstand shows, and enjoy the fun of a carnival. The county fair features horse shows and races, a queen pageant, tractor pull, talent contest, 4-H parade and scrambles, and a demolition derby. Children and adults enter contests for livestock, produce, pets, plants and flowers, 4-H projects, and arts and crafts.

Logan County Airport offers its annual Air Event, featuring historic aircraft and stunt flying shows. The audience also has an opportunity to visit the Heritage-In-Flight Museum, an interesting permanent aviation collection at the airport.

Area celebrations include the Mount Pulaski fall festival, the town's widely praised Fourth of July Celebration, its Casimir Pulaski Day, and its annual Christmas on Vinegar Hill craft sale. Atlanta has its Memorial Day festivities, an annual fall festival, and "Atlanta Aglow" Christmas festivities.

Lovers of music and theatre have their desires fulfilled by several organizations. The Lincolnland Community Concert Association

brings five varied musical programs to the city each year. These professional performances are staged at the Earl C. Hargrove Chapel at Lincoln Christian College and Seminary.

The Lincoln Area Music Society, a group of amateur musicians and vocalists, presents two concerts annually, one featuring chamber strings, the other a chorale. The Lincoln Community Theatre presents a series of summertime productions at the Johnson Center for the Performing Arts on the Lincoln College campus.

To the south of Lincoln, on Route 121, is the Maple Club Dinner Theatre, a restored 1930's dance hall that offers a mix of fine dining and theatrical entertainment.

Students and faculty of Lincoln College's fine arts department perform concerts and plays in the College's performing arts center that are open to area residents. The College's Layman Gallery features works by top midwest artists as well as student exhibitions.



The public libraries in the communities of Logan County serve as cultural centers. The Lincoln Public Library is housed in two buildings - the original 9,000-square-foot Carnegie Building built in 1902 and the 1995 Annex, a 9,000-square-foot contemporary facility. The library has more than 44,900 volumes, 850 audio recordings, 1,100 videos, plus more than 150 CD-ROMS and 175 newspapers and periodicals. Patrons can use the library's computers to access the Internet. Annual circulation is

about 108,000.

The library offers a variety of programs for youngsters and adults. Youth services are contained in the Annex. The library's three meeting rooms can accommodate 110, 45, and 30 persons, respectively.

Mount Pulaski, Atlanta and Elkhart have public libraries. The Mount Pulaski Library has 25,000 volumes and 400 periodicals in its collection. Atlanta's distinctive octagonal shaped library has more than 13,400 volumes and a small historical museum.

For visitors who want the satisfaction of having been there, head for the tiny village of Chestnut, a few miles to the southeast of Lincoln. Chestnut stands on the exact geographic center of the State of Illinois. For history buffs, Logan County has several significant sites, among them the Postville Courthouse in Lincoln, Middletown's Stage Coach Inn, built more than 150 years ago, Mount Pulaski's 1847 red brick courthouse, Atlanta's J.H. Hawes restored wooden grain elevator and the Bethel Church, in Bethel, built in 1854.

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**IN SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC
GOVERNMENT**

Logan County residents enjoy speedy access to high quality professional medical care. Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital of Lincoln has 66 beds and serves 17 communities in Logan County and eastern Mason County. It is affiliated with Memorial Health System of Springfield.

ALMH operates 24 hour emergency service with physicians and nurses specially trained in emergency medicine and trauma. Emergency transportation is available through the hospital-based Advanced Life Support Paramedic Program, including air transport by helicopter.

The hospital recently completed a \$1,500,000 renovation of its emergency, radiology, laboratory, and central registration departments and began renovation of its surgical, rehabilitative services and obstetrics/gynecology departments. Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital's medical services include non-emergency walk-in care, orthopedics, general inpatient care, intensive and intermediate care, inpatient and outpatient surgery, CT scans, cardiac rehabilitation, EEG/EKG, mammography, sonography, pediatrics, oncology, hospice, and outpatient mental health services. In addition, it offers speech, physical, and respiratory therapy, sports medicine, and a pain management program. ALMH also has a number of classes and support groups.

Community outreach is very important to ALMH. The hospital has joined four other agencies in a unique healthcare program. The Logan County Health Department, Family Medical Center, Logan/Mason Mental Health and Lincoln-Logan County Chamber of Commerce sponsor the Rural Health Partnership. This special program brings primary and preventive healthcare to rural communities via a 36-foot long fully equipped mobile health unit, which makes regular visits throughout the county. The Partnership also provides youth education on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs as well as health education to the entire community.

Logan/Mason Mental Health and Family Counseling Service is a tax supported agency that provides individual and group therapy and counseling, marriage and family counseling, hot lines for suicide prevention and crisis intervention, and alcohol and drug abuse counseling and treatment.

Logan County boasts six quality skilled care nursing homes. Four are located in Lincoln and include retirement centers which offer independent and assisted living as well as nursing home care.

Religious faith has guided the people of Lincoln and Logan County since the early settlers gathered into a congregation of the faithful and built their first church. Today, that faith is demonstrated by the more than 60 churches that dot the county, representing all major

denominations. Congregations gather regularly for worship and fellowship and work together for community betterment.



Size is a guiding factor in the type of government the communities in Logan County have overseeing their affairs. The City of Lincoln has a mayor/council form of government, as does Mount Pulaski, and Atlanta. Other smaller communities operate under the village form of government. The Lincoln City Hall is a big, classic, two-story, red brick structure in the downtown area. Most of the city's services are headquartered in this building. Lincoln's Police Department has 30 sworn officers who are dispatched via a county-wide Enhanced 911 emergency system. In addition to squad car patrols, police ride a bicycle patrol in the business district and residential areas. Bike patrol, along with foot patrol, is also used during special events. The department has a canine division, a criminal investigations division, a drug task force, and a gang unit.

Officers promote the D.A.R.E. program in Lincoln schools, sponsor Neighborhood Watch, and instruct youngsters about strangers, drugs, bicycle safety, and general safety using a costumed character named "Troubles the Clown." The department's newest program is the Citizens Police Academy, a pro-active program designed to stop crime before it happens. One officer is assigned as a full-time Community Policing Officer who meets with local groups and organizations, and school children, to discuss crime prevention. The Logan County Sheriff's Department provides police protection for many of the smaller communities.



The Lincoln Fire Department has 22 full-time firefighters and provides fire protection for the city, two state correctional facilities in the area, and the Eaton Cutler-Hammer plant. Operating out of a single fire station, the department has three engines, a 100-foot aerial ladder, and a squad vehicle. It utilizes a Safety House to train youngsters in ways to escape a burning, smoke-filled building. The Safety House is loaned to other towns in Logan County for similar training.

The Lincoln Rural Fire Protection District is a separate body with six full-time firefighters, about eight part-time, and 45 volunteers. They serve an area of 140 square miles with a fire insurance rating of six. It operates out of two stations. The one in Broadwell depends upon volunteers. The District has three pumpers (capacities: 1,000, 750, and 500 gallons), a 3,000-gallon tanker, a 750-gallon pumper at Broadwell, a 2,000-gallon tanker and a rescue vehicle.

Other communities in Logan County with their own fire department are Middletown, Mount Pulaski, and New Holland.

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LINCOLN/LOGAN COUNTY ILLINOIS

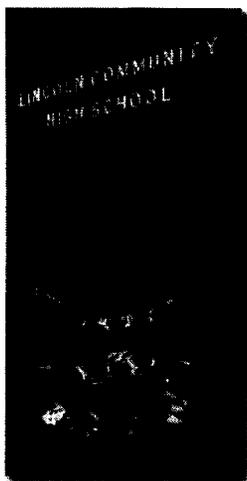
CHAMBER MESSAGE	OVERVIEW	HISTORY	LOCATION	TOURISM	HOMES	RECREATION
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EXCELLENCE IS THE GOAL **EDUCATION**

A strong awareness of the value of education has existed in Logan County communities since the first settlements came into being early in the 19th century. It remains today. Residents demand quality in education programs, school facilities and equipment, extra-curricular activities, and in instructors and staff.

Six public school systems serve Logan County communities. They are: Lincoln Elementary School District 27, Chester-East Lincoln Community Consolidated School District 61, New Holland-Middletown School District 88, West Lincoln-Broadwell Elementary School District 92, Mount Pulaski Community Unit School District 23, and the Atlanta Schools. In addition, the county has three high schools: Lincoln Community High School, Mount Pulaski High School, and Hartsburg-Emden High School.

Lincoln Elementary School District 27 operates five K-6 elementary schools and one junior high school in Lincoln. The curriculum focuses on the basics of language arts, mathematics, and science, augmented by music, art, and physical education. There are special programs for gifted students, as well as special education programs for the developmentally disabled. Lincoln Junior High School houses the 7th and 8th grades and provides a curriculum that helps students through the transition to high school. The district has a total enrollment of nearly 1,300 students. Combined enrollments in the rest of the elementary school districts in the county about matches that figure.



The campus of Lincoln Community High School is located on the city's southeast side, adjacent to the Lincoln Park District's headquarters and recreation facilities. The school has an enrollment of about 1,060 students. They choose from more than 180 different academic and career oriented courses. There are advanced placement courses in English literature and composition and calculus that provide opportunities to earn college credit while still in high school. In addition, there are several advanced courses. Four years of French and Spanish are offered.

Lincoln Community High School offers an extensive program of career education, ranging from Business and Industrial Technology to Health Occupations. In all, there are more than 85 career oriented courses. The school fields a full roster of competitive sports teams for boys and girls. And, it encourages student participation in a wide ranging list of extracurricular clubs and special interest organizations.

For qualified students desiring a higher level of technical skill when entering the job market, there is the school's Tech Prep program. Tech Prep combines college preparatory courses with technology training. It begins in the ninth grade and continues through a student's senior year and provides opportunities to apply what is learned in the classroom to the real world beyond the classroom. It leads to a certificate or an associate degree in applied science from a community college or technical institute.

The Lincolnland Technical Education Center (LTEC) is located on the campus of Lincoln Community High School and extends the school's vocational education programs with eight career programs that develop high technical skills. The Center serves not only Lincoln Community High School but high schools in other Logan County communities and in neighboring counties. Graduates with LTEC training are placed in advance level courses as they enter the local branch of Heartland Community College. LTEC offers courses in auto mechanics, building trades, cooperative education, electronics, culinary arts, health occupations, advanced computer technology, and metal trades. Many of these courses are taught in cooperation with area organizations and businesses. For example, health occupations classes are held at Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital.

Logan County parents have access to alternatives to public education in several parochial elementary schools, among them Lincoln's Zion Lutheran, Carroll Catholic, a Baptist academy, Mount Pulaski Zion Lutheran, and a non-denominational Christian school. In addition, the Lincoln area has several day care centers, before and after school programs and preschools that offer educational activities for youngsters of working parents.

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IN-TOWN COLLEGES
HIGHER EDUCATION



Logan County shares two of its colleges with surrounding counties. A third it shares with the nation. The 38-acre campus of Lincoln College fits comfortably into its residential setting just to the north of downtown Lincoln. The quiet, often tranquil campus has some 650 students enrolled each fall. Seventy percent reside in five residential halls on the campus.

A two-year college established in 1865, Lincoln awards associate in arts degrees in more than 20 majors. More than two-thirds of its graduates continue their work on a bachelors degree at a four-year college or university. While at Lincoln College, students participate in a host of competitive sports, a variety of musical ensembles, art shows, radio productions, and several student organizations.

Heartland Community College is also a two-year institution. Its main campus is in nearby Bloomington, but it provides local classes in its facility in downtown Lincoln. Some 3,000 students are enrolled at the main campus and two branch campuses.

At the Lincoln campus, Heartland students can attend courses in 16 different majors. Through cooperative agreements with seven other community colleges, students can attend classes at these colleges at the same rates charged at Heartland.

Lincoln Christian College and Lincoln Christian Seminary enroll students from throughout the United States. The college is a four-year Bible college affiliated with the Christian Church. Its campus is located on the eastern edge of Lincoln. Some 560 students attend classes at the college, focusing on 18 majors. It awards associate of arts, bachelor of arts, and bachelor of science degrees in several religious fields. The Seminary is a graduate school of theology and religious studies. More than 240 students are enrolled, seeking master of arts and master of divinity degrees. Fourteen additional colleges and universities, including the world-renowned University of Illinois, are within sixty miles of Lincoln and Logan County.

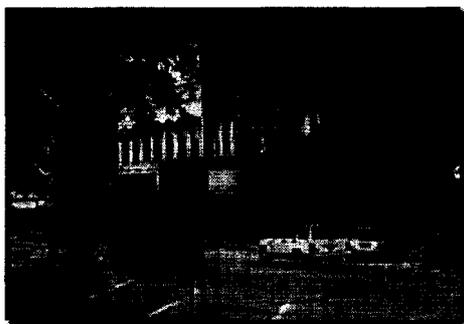
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BROWSER'S PARADISE
SHOPPING



Lincoln's retail businesses are concentrated in its historic downtown and on four-lane Woodlawn Road. The two areas complement each other - Woodlawn has busy shopping centers and national chains, the downtown is perfect for relaxed browsing.

Main Street Lincoln is an organization which works to strengthen and preserve the historic downtown area. Among its efforts are the Taste of Lincoln, Fantastic Fridays, Prom Grand March, and Holiday Car Giveaway. Main Street Lincoln committees work, in conjunction with the Lincoln/Logan County Chamber of Commerce, to retain existing businesses and attract new ones.



Over 100 shops in the downtown provide a variety of products and services, including jewelry, clothing, hair products, gifts, antiques and crafts, office supplies, furniture, and florals. Gourmet coffee, candy, and other food items are found in cozy shops as well as several restaurants and taverns. Many professional offices locate in

the downtown area, which is anchored by the county courthouse. Lincoln's old railroad depot has gained new life as a restaurant and banquet facility. It has been restored to its former elegance. A fine example of a classic railroad dining car is attached to the structure for use as a meeting or party place. Several shopping centers and stores line Woodlawn Road on the city's west side. Commercial development has provided space for three major-name motels, several national restaurant chains, and a number of other local, state, and national retail businesses.



Visitors to the smaller communities within Logan County will find delightful shops, antiques, service businesses, and appealing restaurants that serve tasty home cooking. Five banks and a credit union have facilities in Lincoln; 13 others operate

in the smaller towns of Logan County. These institutions encourage economic growth and development and provide valuable consumer and business services.

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**A ZONE FOR ENTERPRISE
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY**

Logan County communities support business and industrial development. Eleven years ago, the Lincoln/Logan County Enterprise Zone was created to provide capital investment and job creation incentives. Since then, 245 projects have invested over \$45 million in construction and improvements, created 1203 new jobs and helped retain 1271 jobs. The Enterprise Zone covers four square miles and has room to expand up to ten miles.

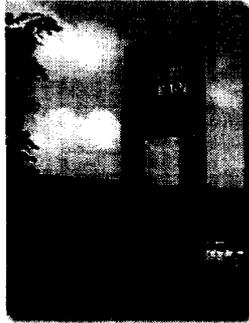
Two Revolving Loan Funds also provide an incentive for businesses to expand and generate more jobs. Business start-up workshops and other business planning and technical assistance are available for growing businesses.



There's room to grow in Logan County with sites for industrial or commercial development and with warehouse, retail and office space for rent. The Logan County Economic Development Council, a division of the Chamber of Commerce, provides information on available buildings and sites as well as on the available labor force, retail trade

analysis and demographics.

Employers will find a well-trained workforce in Logan County. Lincoln and several other community high schools provide career-oriented training through Lincolnland Technical Education Center. Both the private Lincoln College and public Heartland Community College offer associate degree and certificate programs in business and technical careers. Lincoln is also home to Midwest School of Welding and Fabricating which offers several levels of industrial training. Fourteen other colleges and universities are within 60 miles of Logan County.



The Cutler-Hammer Division of Eaton Corporation is the largest industrial employer in Logan County. The 350,000 square-foot plant on the north edge of Lincoln produces more than 20,000 circuit breaker panels and meter devices every work day. It employs more than 750 workers.

MII, Inc. produces store fixtures and movable storage units while Precision Products Co. makes lawn and garden equipment. Each employ about 200 at their Lincoln plants.

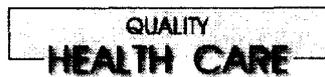
Some 190 people are employed at Ball-Foster Glass Container Co. Three firms in Lincoln produce cardboard packaging: Willamette Industries, Heritage Packaging, and Sieb Die Cut Specialties.

Mount Pulaski Products makes grit and absorbent products for the world market with nearly 50 employees. Mount Pulaski is also home to Inland Tool Corporation, producer of dies and metal auto stampings with about 40 employees. In Atlanta, Universal Sports Lighting produces lighting equipment for athletic fields. Some 220 workers are employed by Turriss Coal Co., which operates a mine southeast of Elkhart. Limestone, sand and gravel are also extracted in Logan County.

Agriculture and agri-businesses are major contributors to the economy of Logan County. Stine Seeds and Remington Seeds produce seed corn while other agribusiness firms in the County produce animal feeds or process fertilizers.

Some 369,000 acres of Logan County land are devoted to farming. Of this, 353,000 acres are used as cropland. There are more than 800 farms in Logan County, with an average size of 444 acres. About 29,000,000 bushels of corn and 7,200,000 bushels of soybeans are produced each year. About 140,000 hogs and pigs are sold annually. In addition, the county's farmers sell about 6,100 cattle.

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Logan County residents enjoy speedy access to high quality professional medical care. Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital of Lincoln has 66 beds and serves 17 communities in Logan County and eastern Mason County. It is affiliated with Memorial Health System of Springfield.

ALMH operates 24 hour emergency service with physicians and nurses specially trained in emergency medicine and trauma. Emergency transportation is available through the hospital-based Advanced Life Support Paramedic Program, including air transport by helicopter.



The hospital recently completed a \$1,500,000 renovation of its emergency, radiology, laboratory, and central registration departments and began renovation of its surgical, rehabilitative services and obstetrics/gynecology departments.

Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital's medical services include non-emergency walk-in care, orthopedics, general inpatient care, intensive and intermediate care, inpatient and outpatient surgery, CT scans, cardiac rehabilitation, EEG/EKG, mammography, sonography, pediatrics, oncology, hospice, and outpatient mental health services. In addition, it offers speech, physical, and respiratory therapy, sports medicine, and a pain management program. ALMH also has a number of classes and support groups.

Community outreach is very important to ALMH. The hospital has joined four other agencies in a unique healthcare program. The Logan County Health Department, Family Medical Center, Logan/Mason Mental Health and Lincoln-Logan County Chamber of Commerce sponsor the Rural Health Partnership. This special program brings primary and preventive healthcare to rural communities via a 36-foot long fully equipped mobile health unit, which makes regular visits throughout the county. The Partnership also provides youth education on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs as well as health education to the entire community.



Logan/Mason Mental Health and Family Counseling Service is a tax supported agency that provides individual and group therapy and counseling, marriage and family counseling, hot lines for suicide prevention and crisis intervention, and alcohol and drug abuse counseling and treatment.

Logan County boasts six quality skilled care nursing homes. Four are located in Lincoln and include retirement centers which offer independent and assisted living as well as nursing home care.

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[Lincoln's Home Page](#)

[Village Profile's Home Page](#)

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Lincoln Railsplitting Festival

I-55 Exit 126
Logan County Fairgrounds
Lincoln, Illinois



Saturday, September 16

9:00 AM Opening Ceremony
10:00 AM Watermelon Contests
 Woman's Firewood Split Contest
10:30 AM Log Rolling Contest
 Tug O' War
11:00 AM Cross Cut Saw Contest
1:30 PM Water Boil Contest
2:00 PM Team Splitting Contest
2:45 PM Jr. Railsplitting Contest
3:30 PM Amateur Railsplitting Contest
4:00 PM \$50 Attendance Prize Drawing
4:15 PM Parade

Happening Daily

Early American Crafts
Free Entertainment
Food Concessions
Historical Displays
Antique Tractors
Flea Market
 Crafts
 Quilt Show
Indian Village
Antique Cars

Sunday, September 17

10:00 AM Non-denominational Worship Service
11:00 AM Tomahawk Throw Contests
11:30 AM Cow Chip Throws
 Corn Shelling Contest
3:00 PM Re-Christening of City of Lincoln
3:15 PM Abraham Lincoln National Championship
4:00 PM \$100 Attendance Prize Drawing
4:15 PM Parade

For more information:

Crafts: Sandy Johnson 217.732.6528

Food: Helen Kelly 217.732.2791

Flea Market: Sonny Sullivan 217.732.2539

Craft Demonstrations: Nancy Vannoy 217.648.2905



Mark this weekend on your
calendar NOW!
August 24, 25, 26 -2001
in Lincoln, Illinois

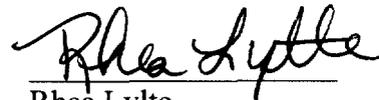
- Hot air balloon launches & evening glows
 - Juried Art Fair
 - Carnival
 - Concessions
 - Crafts
- Grandstand Entertainment
 - Flea Market
 - Antique Car Show
 - 1800's Craft Demos
 - AND MUCH MORE!

Watch this website
for more details or email us
for a
festival brochure!

Certificate of Service

I Rhea Lytle, a secretary in the law firm of Shaw Pittman, hereby state that the foregoing Comments were sent by first class mail to the party listed below, on July 30, 2001:

Gary S. Smithwick
5028 Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 301
Washington, DC 20016
Counsel for Saga Communications of Illinois, Inc.


Rhea Lytle