

John C. Ackerman

Tazewell County Board

Continuing a Family Tradition of Community Service

May 18th, 2009

***** Press Release *****

Mackinaw Tree Plantings

On Wednesday, May 27th at 10:00AM at Dee-Mack Primary School in Mackinaw the 3rd Graders will be taught how to plant and care for trees that they have been rooting for the past several weeks in their classrooms. The trees they plant will be sold to the public with the proceeds being donated to the Village of Mackinaw for the villages Tree City USA effort.

For eight years running, the Village of Mackinaw and Mackinaw Township has worked hard to qualify for the status of Tree City USA. This year their efforts are focused on the addition and maintenance of trees located at Brock Lake, which will take place later this fall. Trustee Lynn Rudin of the Village of Mackinaw along with Dave Haensel and Marsha Mountjoy of the Township Recreation Board have been working for months on this effort.

Tazewell County Board Member John C. Ackerman volunteered to root Corkscrew Willow trees to donate to Mackinaw's efforts. As the months went by after his contribution, the idea of having the students of Dee-Mack Schools root and plant the trees emerged. With direction of the Staff at Dee-Mack Primary School, the 3rd Grade Classes volunteered for the assignment. For the past several weeks, they have been watching as the bareroot Corkscrew Willow trees John C. Ackerman donated.

On the 27th of May at 10:00AM, John C. Ackerman, Miss Beth Wiegand, the owner of Garden Gate Floral in Mackinaw, and Tazewell County Board Member and owner of Mackinaw Valley Vineyard Paul Hahn will be teaching the students how to plant these trees. From there, Miss Wiegand will care for the trees and sell them to the public at her shop with the proceeds being donated to the Village of Mackinaw's Tree City USA effort.

This project is being sponsored by Tazewell County Board Member John C. Ackerman, Garden Gate Floral of Mackinaw, Mackinaw Valley Vineyard and Dee-Mack School District.

Press Coverage of this event is encouraged. For further information, please feel free to contact the following people:

John C. Ackerman, Event Coordinator, 309-635-7624
Lynn Rudin, Village of Mackinaw, 309-256-1916
Michele Jacobs, Dee-Mack School District, 309-359-8320

John C. Ackerman
(309) 635-7624
www.JohnCAckerman.com