

Letters to the Editor September 28, 2010

2010-09-27 21:09:47

I am writing in support of Madison County Sheriff Bob J. Hertz. As a Madison County Board member, I have had the pleasure of working with Bob on numerous projects benefiting Madison County.

He has always been accessible and truly committed to solving problems and improving our community. One excellent example is the Madison County Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP). Originating in 1992 under Sheriff Bob Churchich, the program was developed to help relieve jail overcrowding by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

The grant funding has since expired; however, Sheriff Hertz has continued the program with minimal expense to Madison County. This program provides an opportunity for offenders to work off short-term jail sentences and fines through manual labor, with court permission, and has saved the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.

I have always believed a little sweat and hard work goes a long way in improving a person's character. I know Sheriff Hertz to be a fine, hardworking and intelligent man who is a great asset to our county.

HELEN M. HAWKINS

County Board member,

District 16