

Carroll County

SAVANNA TOWN MEETING



NOVEMBER 12, 1971

SAVANNA : PLAYGROUND
OF THE MIDDLEWEST

NEW SONG

November 12, 1977

Savanna Town Meeting

"On the Banks of the Mighty Mississippi"
Tune - "Dixie"

Verse 1 -

I wished I'd lived in times of Upton,
Blackhawk wars were erupting
Paddle boats, Railroad tracks and Peace Parades
The town was born in 28, so long ago,
The Railroad came in 62. The Proving Grounds came later
The North, the South Savanna links the Nation.

Verse 2 -

I'm glad I live in West Carroll County,
Bluffs and trees and rivers are our Bounty,
Boating ramps, fishing hole, hunting grounds, Palisades
Playground of the middle West,
We live, we grow, in times to come we welcome you,
to live and build among us,
with hope and heart we'll build a
GREAT SAVANNA

Continued:

We hope more citizens will actively work with our present and future leaders. We envision an improved Marquette Park and a community building in which cultural and recreational activities may be enjoyed. We believe a United Fund approach would be a more efficient method of collecting for worthy causes than the present individual drives. We are convinced that a second access road to the city is of utmost importance. Our dream for Savanna is that we can create not only a "Playground of the Middle West", but a vital American community.

ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

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COMMON RESOURCES

In the arena of technological resources the following blocks: the need for collecting more taxes and the need for a larger tax base, indicate the underlying contradiction of a lack of industry with which to raise the tax base. This is illustrated by industry having not expanded here in the past, businesses being hit hard by the Army Depot being in a state of regression as well as adverse railroad activity, and trying to find a place for industrial sites.

UNIFICATION OF OBJECTIVES AND COMMUNICATION

In the arena of the economic the following blocks: a lack of communication, a lack of organization of the United Fund, funds are needed to build a bypass road and annexation of land, indicate the underlying contradiction of organizing community groups to back the annexation of land, the United Fund, and other challenges. This is illustrated by people working here, but having to live elsewhere because they can't find homes here. Industries have to give donations often, rather than give a United Fund at one time, with duplication of services. Traffic is congested because there is only one through road.

ECONOMIC INFORMATION

In the arena of economics the following blocks: the attitudes of the people are negative and poor, and education is needed; indicate the underlying contradiction of a various circle of apathy and lack of information. This is illustrated by the lack of information. This is illustrated by the fact that the United Fund never got off the ground.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

In the arena of economic commonality, the following blocks: lack of public and private funds, leaders' attitudes affected by community apathy; indicate the underlying contradiction of people not willing to invest in the downtown and in the entire community, and a lack of communication among various groups. This is illustrated by the lack of rental housing, poor attendance at significant functions, and shopping outside Savanna.

POLITICAL CHALLENGES

November 12, 1977

Savanna Town Meeting

COMMON CAUSE

In the arena of politics the following blocks: insensitive leadership, uneducated voters, self-centered individuals and groups, low-esteem of political office; indicate the underlying contradiction of a lack of awareness of a common cause. This is illustrated by no individuals or groups applying pressure on behalf of the youth, the library, sidewalks, or housing. The citizens of Savanna can't even name the leaders.

CULTURAL CHALLENGES

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SavannaTown Meeting

CULTURAL ATTITUDE

In the arena of the cultural the following blocks: a negative attitude, a lack of communication, the lack of communication in city affairs, a lack of leadership, and families changing; indicate the underlying contradiction of people not assuming their responsibility as parents and citizens in the community. Their image has changed. They no longer volunteer to do things when pay is not involved. This is illustrated by actions needed to change the community's image.

CULTURAL RESPONSIBILITY

In the arena of cultural relationships the following blocks: the lack of involvement, indicates the underlying contradiction of being fearful of taking on any responsibility. This is illustrated by the lack of attendance at any social event.

COMMUNITY VALUES

In the arena of cultural Affairs the following blocks: fear of involvement, self-satisfaction, and a lack of exchange among some groups; indicate the underlying contradiction of personal values that supercede community values. This is illustrated by not all churches belong to Inter-Church Council, and some Service Clubs are socially oriented rather than actively oriented.

CULTURAL COMMONALITY

In the arena of cultural commonality the following blocks: apathy, selfishness, laziness, individual initiative; indicate the underlying contradiction of fear of involvement. This is illustrated by a lack of women in leadership roles, on community level and in politics, no Community Center, no centralized organization.

ECONOMIC PROPOSALS

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CONTINUED INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

We the citizens of Savanna in order to recruit industry and expand the job market; propose to include City Council member(s) in the Chamber's Industrial Development Committee through recruiting people to do surveys, assemble information to present to industries and find more ways to "Speak for Savanna".

HOUSING INVESTMENT

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to create better housing propose a "Keep Your Money in Savanna" campaign through advertising, The Chamber of Commerce, agreements with local Building and Loan Institution, and return of money invested elsewhere.

SAVANNA COMMUNITY CLUB

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to overcome apathy and promote citizen involvement propose the formation of a Savanna Community Club through formation of an organizational steering committee from existing Civic groups.

POLITICAL PROPOSALS

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PUBLIC INTEREST

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to involve the community in a common purpose, propose to collect ideas and suggestions from our community through the use of media, community suggestion box, and community agenda time in all clubs and organizations for the ideas.

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

We the citizens of Savanna in order to promote better communication, propose awareness of group and community activities through complete calendar of events, newsletters, and a Community Bulletin Board.

CITIZEN INPUT

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to share a common goal, propose regular public meetings to become better informed, through contacting each Organization to determine objectives, have combined meeting of groups to establish common objectives, list the common objectives so that they may be presented to the City Council for consideration and necessary action.

CIVIC PRIDE

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to make people proud of their town propose to create one single organization made up of all citizens to promote our town through publishing regular positive reports, acknowledge personal achievements and report community goals.

CULTURAL PROPOSALS

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CHANNELLING COMMUNITY RESOURCES

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to communicate needs and interests, and to utilize wasted human resources, propose improved communications preservation of our heritage, establishing a volunteer service organization through newspaper and radio polls, identification of a leader to lead a resource and public interest survey, proposal to Carroll County Historical Society for "living library" on tape, establish a community consensus on priorities.

INTEREST SURVEY

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to improve interest, organization, and communication, propose to conduct an interest survey, open volunteer office, publish School Board and Council meeting minutes, through distributions in public places, establish office in neutral place with phone and list of information for volunteerism.

COMMUNITY CENTER

We the citizens of Savanna in order to obtain a Community Center, propose that a Community Center Committee be formed through interested citizens.

INVOLVEMENT

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to communicate to the public at large events, problems and interests, propose to form a committee to take responsibility to see that publicity is gotten to the public through a unified Community Calendar.

CULTURAL AFFAIR

We the citizens of Savanna, Illinois in order to generate personal involvement and inculturation propose a fall or winter carnival celebrating our 150th Anniversary as a town, through a general meeting concerning the 150th Anniversary and promote this through radio, social affairs and personal contact.

PARTICIPANTS

NOVEMBER 12, 1977

SAVANNA TOWN MEETING

Leta McClennan
Joliet, Ill.

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Savanna, Ill.

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

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NOVEMBER 12, 1977

SAVANNA TOWN MEETING

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

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Savanna, Ill. 61074

Howard Nichols
325 Nevada St.
Savanna, Ill. 61074

Norma Jean Tyler
618 Eaton St.
Savanna, Ill. 61074

Maeline Ernst
114 Dewhurst
Savanna, Ill. 61074

Dorothy Johnson
108 Hill St.
Savanna, Ill. 61074

Vernetta Davidson
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Savanna, Ill. 61074

Kim Hogan
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Savanna, Ill. 61074
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Savanna, Ill. 61074

Steve Shore
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Savanna, Ill. 61074

Robert H. Bimm
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R. C. Bush
Thomson, Ill.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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INITIATING STEERING COMMITTEE

Jim Allen
Lila Atherton
Dennis Bowman
R. C. Bush
Ethel Frederick
Esther Reagan
Cindy Scott
Gary Shaw
Pater Surrey
David Williams

DIGNITARIES

N. W. Illinois Council of Public Councils

Don Nehrkorn - Mayor of Savanna
Stu Richter
Norman Sandell

CITY CLUNCIL

Barbara Cottrel
Eugene McAdams
Albert Nalley
Cornelius O'Heron
Max Oswald
Carl Schellinger

WORKSHOP LEADERS

Jim Allen
Joan Arb
Dennis Bowman
Joe McClennan
Leda McClennan

EMCEES

Don Nehrkorn
David Williams

LUNCHEON HOSTESSES

Savanna Cinder-ettes

Penny Brown
Melody Charneski
Pat Hurt
Mary Irons
Joann Lindeman
Rose Reed
Alice Riffe

TYPISTS

Nancy Allen
Betty Speck

ENTERTAINMENT

Savanna Rotary Club

FINANCIAL SPONSORS

Eaton Corporation Controls Divisio.
Eaton Corporation Dispenser Divisi.
Interstate Power Company
Ministerial Association
National Bank of Savanna
National Lock Company
Rotary Club
Savanna Chamber of Commerce
Savanna Savings Building and Loan
Savanna State Bank
WCCI Radio

ICA STAFF

Bud Ames
Catherine Bundy
Margaret Griffin
Joe McClennan
Leda McClennan

Special thanks go to the following
for the help and/or endorsement in
preparing for and putting on the
Town Meeting:

Boy Scouts - Troop 44
Troop 45
Troop 46

Carroll County Development Corporation
Carroll County Sheriffs Department
City of Savanna
Palisades Art League
Savanna Chamber of Commerce
Savanna Fire Department
Savanna Jaycees
Savanna School Board
Savanna Wa-Tan-Ye Club
United Methodist Church
University of Illinois Cooperative
Extension Service (Byron Hutvhins)
WCCI Radio
Rent-A-Sign - P. J. Broderick

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