

Jennen Herbst, Deer Creek Crossing

Dierbergs' Clerk named 'Best Bagger in State'

It's never easy on the front lines, and those who work as customer courtesy clerks know the process is more than just paper or plastic.

In January, Dierbergs' courtesy clerk Jennen Herbst, of the Deer Creek Crossing store in O'Fallon, earned the title, "Best Bagger in the State" — a feat achieved through speed, precision and an ability to keep her cool.

Herbst, 17, a senior at Fort Zumwalt West High School in O'Fallon, works eight to 15 hours per week. In addition, she is a member of the Zumwalt West Student Council, the National Honor Society, the Pep Club, the Future Business Leaders of America and serves as statistician for the girls' basketball team.

"Everybody in the store just loves her," said Local 655 union representative Nick Trupiano. "Customers try to check out in her lane because of her courteous approach and the thorough job she does."

Her win at the state level netted her \$750 in prize money from the Missouri Grocer's Association and a stay at Tan-Tar-A Resort at Lake of the Ozarks. Dierbergs Markets also presented her with a prize and the next thing she knew she was off to the bright lights of Las Vegas, all expenses paid, competing for the USA Best Baggers contest at Caesar's Palace.

Although she didn't win the national compe-

tion, her store manager, Mike Hanny, says she brought home far more than prize money.

"I think Jennen is a very focused and determined young woman. I think the experience she had with this whole ordeal of the best bagger contest helped build her confidence — not that she needed confidence," Hanny said. "It's just that I think it was a really good learning experience for her, and opened her eyes to what she is capable of doing when she works at it."

This is the second consecutive year that a local Dierbergs' checker made it to the finals. Overall, six Dierbergs' customer courtesy clerks have been named top baggers in the state, and last year a local Dierbergs clerk won top honors in the country.

Winners were judged on speed, bag-building technique, number of bags used, weight distribution and personal appearance and attitude.

Bob Dierberg, owner of Dierbergs Markets, said he feels the bagger competition is important not only to the customer courtesy clerks, but the customers as well.

"The courtesy clerk is one of the most valuable customer service positions in our company," Dierberg explains. "We're proud of the first-rate job our courtesy clerks perform in our stores, and the best bagger contest is a great way of recognizing and proving their efforts."



Top bagger

Customer Courtesy Clerk Jennen Herbst of Dierbergs Deer Creek Crossing won top honors as Best Bagger in the State.

Wal-Mart what?

Manchester — Turning a deaf ear to hundreds who spoke out against a new Wal-Mart Supercenter that will be the largest of its kind in the nation, the Board of Aldermen voted 4-1 Monday night to approve a special use permit for Manchester Highlands shopping center, which will be anchored by the giant store.

The new shopping center will be built at Highway 141 and Manchester Road. It includes a 203,000-square-foot Wal-Mart Supercenter and a Costco wholesale warehouse store.

"Other than the handful of people whose homes were bought out at a premium price, everyone who filled the Parkway Southwest Middle School auditorium was opposed to the project," said UFCW Local 655 Secretary-Treasurer Dave Cook. "Nearly every aldermen who voted in favor of the project admitted they did not like Wal-Mart's ways and did not shop there."

The Board deliberated for more than three hours, eventually approving a special use permit with no regard for noise, lighting, traffic, safety and other issues pertaining to the construction of a Supercenter near a quiet residential community, Cook said.

"What you've got are constituents who are raising questions, and a board that, for the

most part, is failing to listen," Cook said.

Some residents have filed a lawsuit against the city to stop plans for the development.

Since plans began two years ago, the board approved an amended redevelopment plan and increased tax increment financing (TIF) to \$50.3 million from \$44.5 million for the Highlands project.

"What this TIF means is that the city is giving this development, and Wal-Mart — the wealthiest retail store in the nation — a free ride," Cook said. "Those homes that were bought out to make way for the project were paid at last three times their value — and they were paid with taxpayer's dollars."

Many residents complained about the city using Eminent Domain to acquire additional property should the development want to expand. Others complained of property devaluation, noise and disruption to their now quiet neighborhood.

"The Board virtually ignored their concerns," Cook observed.

Pace Properties of St. Louis, the developer of the project, and Wal-Mart, had an entourage of "spin doctors" on hand to divert complaints from residents. Those who asked for a yes or no answer got a long, drawn out "explanation" that made no sense, according to Cook.

An Exclusive Twice Monthly Report For UFCW Local 655 Members & Their Families

LOCAL 655 REPORT

Your Neighborhood Union www.ufcw655.com

Affiliated with United Food & Commercial Workers International Union

First Quarter 2007

First Quarter Retirees bank more than 2,000 years of combined membership. Best Wishes on your retirement.

	Yrs. of membership		Yrs. of membership
Becker, Kathy	1.0	Vitale, Vincent	23.50
Hesterberg, Earl	2.75	Summers, Judith A	24
Patterson, Kenneth	3 + bd	Kelly, Geri	24.50
Blake, Phillip J.	3.25	Boloney, Jeffrey L.	25.0
Schnarr, Harold	3.25	Manker, Nancy R.	25.25
Tivoli, Mary M	3.5	Jones, Jeffres	25.5
Diliberto, Vincent P.	4.00	Meyer, Barbara J.	25.50
Jackson, Anna M.	4.25	Guth, Retta	25.75
Brown, Robert D.	4.75	Rupp, Dennis James	25.75
Schaab, Bernard Francis	5	Devous, Jr. James R.	26.25
Grundig, Shirley	5.25	Venneman, Patricia K	26.50
Smith, Brenda J.	5.25	Peterson, Delores	27.25
Geiger, Ronald W.	5.5	Hussey, Thomas J.	28.0
Burgdorf, Lee	5.75 + bd	Fahle, Alexis M.	28.25
Campbell, Janet L.	5.75	Pinson, Suzanne Virginia	28.50
Thomson, Raymond Joseph	5.75 + BD	Nischbach, Carol Ann	28.75
Lauterwasser, William J.	6.25	Parnas, JoAnn Mary	29
Sanders, K. C.	6.75 + BD	Christopher, Patricia	29.50
Mason, Melvin	7 + bd	Miles, Patricia L.	30.25
Miller, Erma R.	7.75	Oney, Glenn R.	30.25
Sears, Karen Sue	7.75	Wittmann, Conna Marie	30.25
Martin, Lee J.	8.24	Martin, Charlene J.	30.50
Pratt, Dennis Loyd	8.75	Menke, Barbara	31.25
Gray, Judith	9.0	Petty, Patricia Edna	31.75
Grasso, Marie V.	9.5	Schmidt Jr., Edward	31.75
Fletcher, Melvin L.	9.75	Bane, Donna M.	32.25
Burg, David	10.50	Cusick, Frances	32.25
Hinchcliffe, Jeanette E.	10.50	Benn, Sandra C.	32.50
Wellman, Marilyn	10.5	Hogan, Shelby Jean	32.50
Rozanek, Kathleen	10.75	Johnson, Betty M.	32.50
Schnurbusch, Georgia R	11	Lambert, Minerva D.	32.50
Garthoeffner, George E.	11.16	Straubinger, Judith A	32.50
Parks, Norma Lee	12 + BD	Shaw, Shirley Jean	33.25
Trower, Patricia Mary	12	Deak, David	33.50
Wies, June Lois	12 + BD	Eaves, Nancy	33.50
Caffery, Carol Lynn	12.25	Mercurio, Jerry J.	34.25
Callahan, Mary H.	12.25	Barton, Sandra J.	35.25
Gray, Alvin J.	12.25	Payne, Arlene Sue	35.50 + BD
Franks, Margaret A.	13.0	Mueller, Vincent W.	36.25
Jensen, Cathy	13.00	McCaffrey, Timothy T.	36.50
Johnston, Michael D.	14.75	Coleman, Larry D.	36.75
Brown, Joan R.	15.50	Meeker, Frances M.	37.0
Jester, Harold	15.50	Rodgers, Pamela Jean	38
Lenceski, Elizabeth	17.50	Stork Jr., John Henry	38
Patterson, Wanda F	18.25	Zahn, Robert C	38
Elbert, Rose Mary	18.75	Apenbrinck, Robert K.	38.50
Archambo, Barry G.	19	Booker, Robert A.	39
Windsor, Ronald E.	19.0	Cannon, Zack	39.25
Herberger, Melanie S.	19.50	Schulte, Dixie Lee	40
Wendling Jr., Frank	19.75	Weilbrecht, Kenneth Paul	40
Schafer, Judith Anne	20	Green, Dennis R.	40.25
Roy, Mary E.	20.50	Roth, Ralph Lawrence	40.25
Riester, George Edward	20.75	Hall, Billy J.	40.50
Wolf, Randall Alan	21.25	LeBold, James	40.50
Vithoukos, Phyllis	22.75	Tucker, Alfred G	40.50



Hundreds say 'No' to Manchester Wal-Mart as aldermen listen with deaf ears.

After reading this page take it to your break room.