

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 25, 2007

Contact: Patricia Reis 312-565-9915 or
Maxine Calvert 618-455-3227

NEW FOUNDATION FOR STE. MARIE

The Sainte Marie Foundation is a new organization formed to support the village of Ste. Marie in its efforts to remain a viable and thriving rural community. Newly incorporated as an Illinois not-for-profit, the foundation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes and is dedicated to improving the quality of life in this small town.

“Many of us who grew up here and moved away to pursue our careers and life work still have a strong attachment to our hometown,” said Patricia Reis, Chicago resident and initiator of the new foundation. “We want to make sure it survives and thrives in this new century as a model for other small communities.” The Foundation plans to contact former residents to support projects such as preserving the history of Ste. Marie and restoring historic buildings and facilities.

At the initial meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors on Oct. 20, Reis was elected president; Maxine Calvert, vice president/treasurer and Gina Mullinax Fox, secretary. Both Calvert and Fox are Ste. Marie residents. Other community leaders have been lending assistance to this new organization.

The Foundation will hold an informational meeting at the Ste. Marie Town Hall on Main Street at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 8. The public is invited to attend.