**Urbana in Focus Photo Contest: Share Your Treasured Moments!**

Dear Residents,

We are excited to announce the launch of the Urbana in Focus Photo Contest, an opportunity for you to showcase your creativity and capture the beauty and essence of our wonderful community. We believe that every resident has a unique perspective that deserves to be shared, and we invite you to submit your favorite photos that highlight the charm, diversity, and spirit of Urbana.

Whether you're a seasoned photographer or just someone with a smartphone and a keen eye for beauty, this contest is open to everyone in the area. It's a chance to capture the special moments, breathtaking landscapes, memorable events, and everyday scenes that make our community truly exceptional.

To participate, simply follow these easy steps:

1. Capture your best shots: Take out your camera or smartphone and explore Urbana. Find scenes, landmarks, people, or events that reflect the vibrant essence of our community. Whether it's a colorful sunset over a park, our bustling Market at the Square, a community gathering, or a hidden gem in Urbana, we want to see it all!

2. Select your favorite photo: Choose the image that you believe best represents Urbana. It can be a single photo or a collage showcasing various aspects of our community. Make sure your photo(s) are high resolution and in landscape or portrait format.

3. Share your entry: Submit your entry via email to photos@urbanaillinois.us with the subject line "Urbana in Focus." Please include your name, contact information, a brief description of your photo(s), and the location where the photo(s) was taken.

4. Spread the word: Feel free to share your entry on social media using the hashtag #UrbanaInFocus. Encourage your friends, family, and neighbors to participate too!

Important Dates:

• Contest Start Date: May 24, 2023

• Submission will be monthly, with decisions made on the last Wednesday of each month

• Winner Announcement: The beginning of each month

Selected photos: The photos selected will receive recognition in our community newsletter and social media platforms, and have their photos showcased on our City of Urbana website. Additionally, selected photos may be featured in local publications or used for community promotional purposes, with proper credits given to the photographers.

We are thrilled to see the unique perspectives and the beauty of Urbana captured through your lenses. Together, let's celebrate the remarkable moments that shape our community, and inspire others to appreciate the beauty that surrounds us.

If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact us at photos@urbanaillinois.us.

Thank you for your participation, and we look forward to receiving your captivating entries!