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Just the Facts

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Cornjerker alum donates \$10 million to Texas A&M biz school

For the second time in five years, a Cornjerker is giving back to students in his hometown.

Adam Sinn, a 1996 Hoopeston Area graduate, has donated \$10 million - with a pledge for an additional \$10 million - to Texas A&M's Mays Business School.

Sinn's gift will be used to enhance the quality of education the business school offers and provide financial support to graduate and undergraduate students.

Financial support is aimed at Hoopeston students, as well as those in Cissna Park and Dorado, Puerto Rico, where Sinn currently lives.

In 2016, Sinn pledged \$1 million for scholarships to the business school, encouraging students from Hoopeston and Dorado to apply. That scholarship, named for Sinn, is endowed, with interest paying the scholarships for four students each year in perpetuity.

In recognition of his most recent gift through the Texas A&M Foundation, the department has been renamed the Adam C. Sinn '00 Department of Finance.

According to a press release issued by the business school, \$7.5 million of Sinn's gift will go for undergraduate and graduate scholarships to assist finance students whose financial challenges might prevent them from attending college.

If there are an insufficient number of eligible finance students from those regions, a portion of Sinn's gift will benefit Aggies enrolled in Mays' Trading, Risk and Investments Program (TRIP), which prepares participants in the fields of energy trading, investments and risk management by combining class instruction with hands-on, internship-based experience. Sinn's gift will cover part of participants' graduate fees as well as a portion of their undergraduate tuition.

Sinn knows something about energy trading, growing his wealth as a commodities trader and owner of Houston-



Photo: TAMU

ADAM SINN

based Aspire Commodities.

The remaining portion of Sinn's gift will support the department's efforts to recruit top faculty and create and expand these innovative programs, such as Aggies on Wall Street and the Reveille Fund, a student-run investment fund, require students to apply their learning.

Funds may also support the Master of Science in Finance, career development offerings, educational travel opportunities, etiquette dinners, and training in personal skills. These offerings are designed to create well-rounded graduates who can make an immediate impact when they start their careers.

In addition to the current gift, Sinn pledged an additional \$10 million gift to be funded over the next five years in support of student and faculty success initiatives in the department.

The department's undergraduate program ranked 34th nationally in 2021 by U.S. News and World Report. In 2021, Eduniversal Best Masters rated the department's Master's in Real Estate Management third globally and the graduate portion of TRIP 15th globally. Also in 2021, the department's Master of Science in Finance Program was ranked 10th among U.S. public programs by TFE Times.

Growing up in Hoopeston, Sinn learned the value of hard work, receiving minimum wage for work at a hog farm during high school. His strong work ethic was bolstered greatly by his parents and grandparents, who he described as being part of "hard-working Middle America," and his role models for hard work.

Sinn's father started a small business as an electrician and his mother performed office functions for the business. His parents saved ardently so they could provide some assistance to their sons if they chose to pursue college degrees.

See CORNJERKER on other side

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Next Class: Dec. 13 & 14 9 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (both days)
Hoopeston Higher Learning Center, 847 E. Orange

Cornjerker continued from other side

Sinn took advantage of Hoopeston Rotary Club’s youth exchange program, spending a year in Japan. That led him to attend Southern Methodist University, which offered degrees in international business and Japanese. However, he soon realized that he didn’t feel at home at SMU. A college friend enrolled in Texas A&M and Sinn quickly followed.

He discovered Texas A&M was harder academically, and found himself in the mid-tier of students scholastically. He decided if he couldn’t get the grades, he would beef up his resume by having three internships, involvement in several organizations and holding jobs while he was a student.

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in finance in 2001, he worked in accounting and finance jobs before he

From the Blotter

Kevin L. Robbins II, 27, of Hoopeston, was arrested after a traffic stop at 4:05 p.m. Tuesday at College Way and Penn. He was charged with driving while license suspended and driving an uninsured vehicle and was released on notices to appear in Vermilion County Court.

was in the right place at the right time - without a job when Lehman Brothers folded - to step into energy trading. “People sometimes end up in a spot due to sudden life circumstances,” said Sinn, who now operates one of the largest speculative trading firms in the commodity market. “It’s what you do with that situation that can determine the course of your future and whether you reach the next level.”

His selfless service through creating this endowment will help middle-tier students avoid taking on student loan debt. “I want others to not have a financial burden so they can attend the best university on the planet,” he said, adding that these scholarships will also help position finance students to be successful in their lives after college. “I hope to lay the foundation so that at some point in time, these students can bet on themselves like I was able to do when they need to. The person who is financially burdened by rising educational costs may be unable to take that shot.”

Briefly

Bulk garbage day

Bulk garbage day, for Hoopeston residents only, will be held from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday at Hoopeston City Hall parking lot. Residents are limited to one load per bulk day and must unload their own load or bring someone to help.

Dumping of electronics, appliances, paint, liquids, tires, batteries, yard waste, construction/demolition material or anything that fits in the provided blue totes is not allowed. Items from apartments with a dumpster will not be allowed and items from businesses and contractors will not be permitted.

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 60. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 36. Tomorrow, sunny. High 54, low 32.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 is accepting applications for a part time computer technician assistant. Duties include providing desktop support, assisting with infrastructure and A/V projects. <https://phl.applitrack.com/roe54/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=Technology>

NAPA Hoopeston is looking for a full time Counter/Delivery person. Successful candidate will be very knowledgeable about automotive/truck parts and computers, able to answer phones and wait on customers. Must do daily and monthly paperwork and be capable of doing all activities the store manager does in case of his absence. ASE certified counter person preferred but not required. If interested, pick up a application at NAPA 226 E Main St. Hoopeston.

Looking for a great job in the medical field? Interested in natural healthcare? Busy chiropractic office needs a team-oriented person with good customer service and phone skills. Candidate will be trained to assist with patient care. Robinson Chiropractic has 4 locations in Illinois: Danville, Hoopeston, Westville, and Watseka. Please send resume to trina.keller@robchiro.com.

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is hiring for 1st Shift Waste Handlers, \$18/hour. Apply at www.full-fill.com/em_ploymentopportunities Applications available onsite. EOE

Hub City Media is hiring! We’re looking for an entry level Technical Specialist and an experienced Lead Systems Engineer in our Rossville office. Learn more and submit your resume via www.hubcitymedia.com/careers.

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking a full time applicator. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

Silver Brothers is looking for part-time mixer drivers. Hours will vary. Must have Class B CDL, pass a drug test, be able to climb a ladder, and lift 75 lbs. Pay will be \$20/hour to an experienced driver. Perfect opportunity for a retired person wanting some extra money. Stop by 105 E. Washington, Hoopeston for application.

Dogtown Heating, Air, & Plumbing is in search of an experienced HVAC technician to help serve our customers in the area. Pay based on experience. Health insurance, Life insurance, and 2 weeks paid vacation. We have a family atmosphere that serves our customers with honesty and integrity. Email brad.dogtown@gmail.com

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bagged salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 102 N 1st St. in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

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