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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EASTERN CONTINUES FORUM SERIES

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University will continue with its college-community forum series on "The Bill of Rights and Our Community" next week, featuring several Coles County officials as panelists.

The public is invited to these free forums that are based on traditional town meetings where citizens voice their opinions on matters of local concern.

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Sponsored by the Charleston Kiwanis Club, the second in a series of seven forums will feature Charleston Mayor Wayne Lanman and Coles County Public Defender Lonnie Lutz, who will discuss "The Limits of Governmental Power: Due Process of Law," Monday, March 18, at 6:30 p.m. at What's Cookin' Restaurant, Charleston. Jim Kimball, Coles County sheriff, and John Haley, associate professor of history at Eastern, will comment on the discussion.

On Tuesday, March 19, at 7 p.m. in the DeMars Center Building, Mattoon, Charleston Circuit Court Judge Paul Komada will address "The Clash Between Individual Liberty and Public Order: The Case of Gun Control." This third forum is sponsored by the Mattoon Public Library. Scott Smith, professor of physics at Eastern, will follow with comments on the presentation.

The forums, funded by EIU, the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution and the Illinois Humanities Council, commemorate the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights and its amendments.

According to EIU program directors Christopher Waldrep, assistant professor of history, and Thomas Scism, associate professor of political science, the forums are designed to encourage active community participation in order to gain a better understanding of the history and principles of the U.S.