Former WKRO Radio announcer voted "Best TV Personality" in Springfield

Joe Crain of Springfield, Illinois was voted "Best TV Personality" in the 2017 Reader's Choice Awards by the readers of the Springfield Journal-Register newspaper. Crain, a 1984 graduate of Cairo High School, is the son of Bill and Sharon Crain of Murphysboro, formerly of Cairo. This is the fifth consecutive year Crain has been recognized by the readers of the Journal-Register.

Bill Crain owned WKRO Radio in Cairo for many years; Joe Crain began his professional broadcasting career at WKRO.

Joe Crain has been on the air in Springfield for more than 20 years, first on the radio. He has been a Meteorologist at WICS Television, the ABC affiliate in Springfield, since 2004.

"My daily platform in the Capital City also gives me an opportunity to say something positive about my hometown," Crain said. "By now, most of Springfield and central Illinois should be able to correctly pronounce "Cairo" and know the best barbecue in the world is found at the southern tip of Illinois!"

Crain's wife, Ann, is a Physical Therapist and they have two children. Megan, 19, attends the University of Nebraska majoring in journalism; Thomas, 16, is a sophomore at Springfield Southeast High School.

"Considering all the media choices out these days, it's humbling to be recognized by a majority of viewers as their favorite. It's a privilege and honor to be invited into viewers homes each and every morning and I don't take that trust they have in me for granted."

From WICS television website, newschannel20.com:



Joe Crain holds the results section of the Reader's Choice poll on Tuesday morning.

After starting out on his hometown radio station in Cairo, Joe has held a variety of jobs with radio stations all around the Midwest before making the switch to TV and NewsChannel 20 in 2004.

Joe is a graduate of Mississippi State University's Broadcast Meteorology Certification program and holds a B.A. in Radio-Television Sales and Management with a minor in Journalism from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Joe has been honored by his peers with several broadcasting awards through the years and his community involvement is well noted with a number of organizations such as the American Diabetes Association, Camp CoCo, Central Illinois Down Syndrome Society and Salvation Army. Joe also enjoys speaking each year to dozens of school and civic groups about weather and severe weather safety.

He's always happy to hear from you. You can email him at jcrain@sbgtv.com.

Crain posted on his facebook page: "THANK YOU! to the readers of The State Journal-Register for selecting me "Best TV Personality" in the "2017 Readers' Choice Awards," published in this morning's paper. It's an honor and privilege to be invited into your homes every morning!"