

The Business News

March 2007

A Monthly Publication of the Jersey County Business Association

Jerseyville, Illinois

2007

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209 North State Street
Jerseyville, Illinois 62052
618-639-JCBA (5222)

sue@jcba-il.us
brent@jcba-il.us
www.jcba-il.us

JULIE'S THOUGHTS

A Message from Julie Brangenberg, Chairperson



The Jersey County Leadership in Action Program is in full swing. There are 13 students in the program. At this point, the participants have attended two sessions, Orientation and Welcome and Emergency Services, with Healthcare being covered this month. I believe this program will be one of the most important we will offer. I have spoken with three participants, and would like to pass on their comments about the program thus far. All participants will remain anonymous. Participant 1 said, "I think it is a great opportunity for all of us involved to get a better understanding of Jersey County and its dynamic personality. There is so much that Jersey County offers, more than I was aware of and I have lived here most of my life. I seized the chance to be involved in this program so that one day I might be able to serve in a leadership position within the county and be more effective in that capacity because of the knowledge and insight I acquired as a student in the JCLIA program." Participant 2 said, "The JCLIA program is definitely worth my time. I have already used information learned during the program to assist me with understanding a customer need at work. I am hoping to take on a leadership role in Jersey County this year, and I will be able to use my education to help me be a better leader". Participant 3 said, "I have found the seminars to be highly informative on issues that I have always been curious about, but never took the time to ask. I am really looking forward to the upcoming sessions and learning the function of the sectors of our county". The participants also enjoyed getting to know their fellow classmates, and becoming re-acquainted with some old friends. Please seize the opportunity to participate in next year's program to give you the tools to become a leader in our community.

Julie

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JCBA Announces New Administrative Assistant



President Brent Thompson has announced that the search for an administrative assistant has ended. JCBA has hired Sue Anderson as the new Administrative Assistant. Sue started out on a part-time basis because of a medical procedure that she recently went through. She is now working full-time.

Sue has had previous chamber of commerce experience with the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce prior to moving to Jerseyville with her husband Larry. She has experience with managing several functions within a chamber of commerce such as a website, organizing several large events, coordinating committee meetings and membership communications.

Sue has had a varied work background having worked for a school district, the Illinois State Police and the Illinois Agriculture Association.

She has been married for 32 years to her spouse Larry and they have two children Jay, who is 29 and living in San Jose, California and Sarah, 26, who resides in Chicago.



ECONOMICALLY SPEAKING

by Brent Thompson

I read with huge interest an article in the special section of The Telegraph dated Friday, February 23rd, concerning Highway 67. The name of the article was, "Corridor 67 is a Growing Speck on Horizon". Contained in the article were comments by Corridor 67 Executive Director Don Miller and our own State Senator Deanna Demuzio.

Mr. Miller stated that without Senator Demuzio's commitment we would not have one dime for Corridor 67. Her efforts have continued to keep Highway 67 in the forefront of her fellow legislators and IDOT department heads in Springfield. I could not agree with him more.

Senator Demuzio is, as was her late husband Senator Vince Demuzio, a champion for this highway that led through a lot of their district. Also involved in the beginning was our then Representative Tom Ryder. They worked tirelessly to promote our transportation needs.

It is hard to believe that this has been

a continued effort over the past 30 years. Unfortunately, this is the usual scenario rather than the exception to the rule. Many highway projects in many states have taken more than 2 or 3 decades to complete. It is an effort that legislators and community leaders must be willing to undertake and tirelessly work on over the long haul (no pun intended).

I read with some excitement the statements made by Jeff Kern, Illinois Department of Transportation Engineer. When asked about where he thought the project might be in four years, Kern said he thought there would be considerable construction underway. Of course, the caveat that is always used is *dependent upon various funding mechanisms*.

Both the 12+ mile portion of Highway 67 between Godfrey and Jerseyville and the Jerseyville Bypass is only a small piece of the overall Highway 67 project but that piece is something that many of us have worked toward over the past 30 years as well.

Back in Governor Ryan's term, the 12+

mile stretch of Highway 67 between Godfrey and Jerseyville was completely funded. Those funds vanished under the first administration of Governor Blagojevich. Thanks to many of your efforts, the Corridor 67 group, JCBA and especially Senator Demuzio, that lost ground I believe has been reclaimed.

Senator Demuzio, in the February 23rd article, was very prophetic when she encouraged all of us to continue to lobby all legislators for not only our 12 mile piece of Highway 67 but all of Highway 67 from Godfrey to the Quad Cities.

Historically positive economic growth has always occurred around new highway improvements. For our economic sake and the economic sake of our children and future businesses, we must continue to make this development a top priority. And we must look to our current and future legislators to carry the ball for us just as Senator Vince Demuzio and Representative Ryder did and just as Senator Deanna Demuzio is doing now!

Music Festival Begins Planning for 2007

The State Street Music Festival Committee has begun their planning for the Music Festival scheduled this year on Saturday, June 9th. The committee met in January and February and will continue to meet on the 3rd Friday of each month at Noon in the JCBA Conference Room.

Many of the successful venues will be continued with some possible plans to add some new events. The committee is discussing adding some additional items for children. The hope is to bring RADIO Disney back again this year for the children.

Anyone wishing to join the committee can come to the committee meeting or contact Chairman Brad Stockstill at 498-2299 or the JCBA office at 639-5222.



On Thursday, February 8, the JCLIA class met for their second class in a series of 10 at Q.E.M. Training Center for the Emergency Services class. The next class, which is on **Healthcare** at Jersey Community Hospital, will be held on Thursday, March 8 beginning at 5:00 pm.

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JCBA Members in the News...

David Smith and Kelly Handlin of Wm. Nobbe North LLC in Jerseyville recently attended a John Deere Training Class for 7030 Series Large Frame Tractors in Davenport, Iowa.

David succeeded in getting his advanced technician degree and is working towards his master technician degree. Kelly is working towards his advanced degree and will achieve that after he attends his next class.

Congratulations to both David and Kelly on their successful advancement for Wm. Nobbe North LLC.

Jerseyville Carpet & Furniture Galleries is expanding their store and will be expanding its merchandise to give customers more to choose from. The new warehouse, which will be 12,000 square feet, will be located adjacent to the existing showroom.

Dan Capps started the business in 1972 from his house. In 1993, the business became a part of Jerseyville and was named the Jerseyville Discount Carpet and was located next door to the Knights of Columbus Hall on North State Street. The business expanded and moved to 402 W. Carpenter Street and then expanded again in 2004 and built a new building on South Highway 67 where it is currently located.

Jerseyville Carpet and Furniture Galleries has been honored by the Growth Association of Southwest Illinois as the October, 2006 Business of the Month as well as the Business of the Month for November, 2005 by JCBA.

Congratulations to the **Jerseyville Carpet & Furniture Galleries** for their success!

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



Droege & Associates is our March Business of the Month. It is located at 1207 Sinclair Drive in Jerseyville. They are a tax, payroll and accounting business who have eight employees. They can be reached at 618/498-2169 or by e-mail at droege@gtec.com.

They also have a website at www.droegeassociates.com.

Business Over Breakfast

The second Business Over Breakfast (BOB) was held on February 1st at Hickory Grove Restaurant. There was an attendance of 15 JCBA members. Each member gave a brief description of their business along with individual networking. The featured business at the networking breakfast was St. Louis Regional Airport.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 1st at Hickory Grove Restaurant beginning at 7:30 am. Each BOB will be held the 1st Thursday of each month beginning at 7:30 am and they will all be held at Hickory Grove Restaurant. There is no cost to attend. You may order your own breakfast if you choose.

Women in Business Committee Host Women's Program March 15th

As part of their regular monthly meeting, the Women In Business Committee will host on March 15th at Westlake Country Club a program for their committee members as well as other women who either own or are employed by Jersey County businesses and who are JCBA members.

The program will be on *Networking and Public Speaking*. The trainer is **Dawn MUSHILL** of **Customer Service.....and Beyond!** Dawn has 10 years of training experience and has done extensive training for many businesses in the Metro East business community including Jersey Community Hospital and TriCounty FS, Inc.

The cost of the program is \$10 per person (JCBA member). That cost is only for the program. The meal, which will be individually ordered from the menu will be an extra cost and is up to each individual attending. The meeting and program will begin at 11:30 am. It is open to non-JCBA members but the program registration is \$20.

The Women In Business Committee invites you to attend as well as consider being a part of the committee. It is only for women in the workplace. You must be a JCBA member business to become a committee member.

If you would like to attend, please call the JCBA office at 639-5222 with your reservation by Tuesday, March 13th.



A Grand Opening (Ribbon Cutting) was held at Victoria-Lin's Bridal, Formal Wear & Boutique on Friday, February 23rd at 11:00 am. The business is located in Itty Bitty City on West Highway 16.

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MARCH IN JERSEY COUNTY

March 1
Thur., Business Over Breakfast,
7:30 am, Hickory Grove
Restaurant

March 1-2
Thur. - Fri., Illinois
House & Senate in Session

March 6-8
Tues. - Thur., Illinois
House & Senate in Session

March 8
Thur., JCLIA
Healthcare Class, 5:00 pm,
JCH Classroom

March 13
Tues., Small Business/Ag.
Committee, Noon, JCBA
Conference Room

March 13
Tues., Jerseyville City Committee
Meeting, 6:00 pm, City Hall

March 13
Tues., Grafton City Council,
6:30 pm, Grafton City Hall

March 13
Tues., Jersey County Board
Meeting, 7:00 pm, County
Administrative Building

March 13-15
Tues. - Thur., Illinois
House & Senate in Session

March 15
Thur., Women in Business
Committee, 11:30 am,
Westlake Country Club

March 15
Thur., Business After Hours,
5:00 pm, Mulligan's West

March 16
Fri., State Street Music Festival
Committee Meeting, Noon, JCBA
Office

March 17
Sat., Mayor's Prayer Breakfast,
8:30 am, First United Methodist
Church

March 20
Tues., JCBA Board Meeting,
Noon, JCBA Office

March 20-23
Tues. - Fri., Illinois House and
Senate in Session

March 22
Thur., JCLIA Committee Meeting,
Noon, JCBA Conf. Room

March 27-29
Tues. - Thur., Illinois House in Session

March 27-30
Tues. - Fri., Illinois Senate in Session

March 27
Tues., J'ville City Council Meeting,
6:00 pm, City Hall

March 27
Tues., Grafton City Council Meeting,
6:30 pm, City Hall

March 28
Wed., IL State Chamber Business
(Lobby) Day, 10:00 am, Springfield

March 28
Wed., Economic Development
Committee Meeting, Noon, Westlake
Country Club

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