

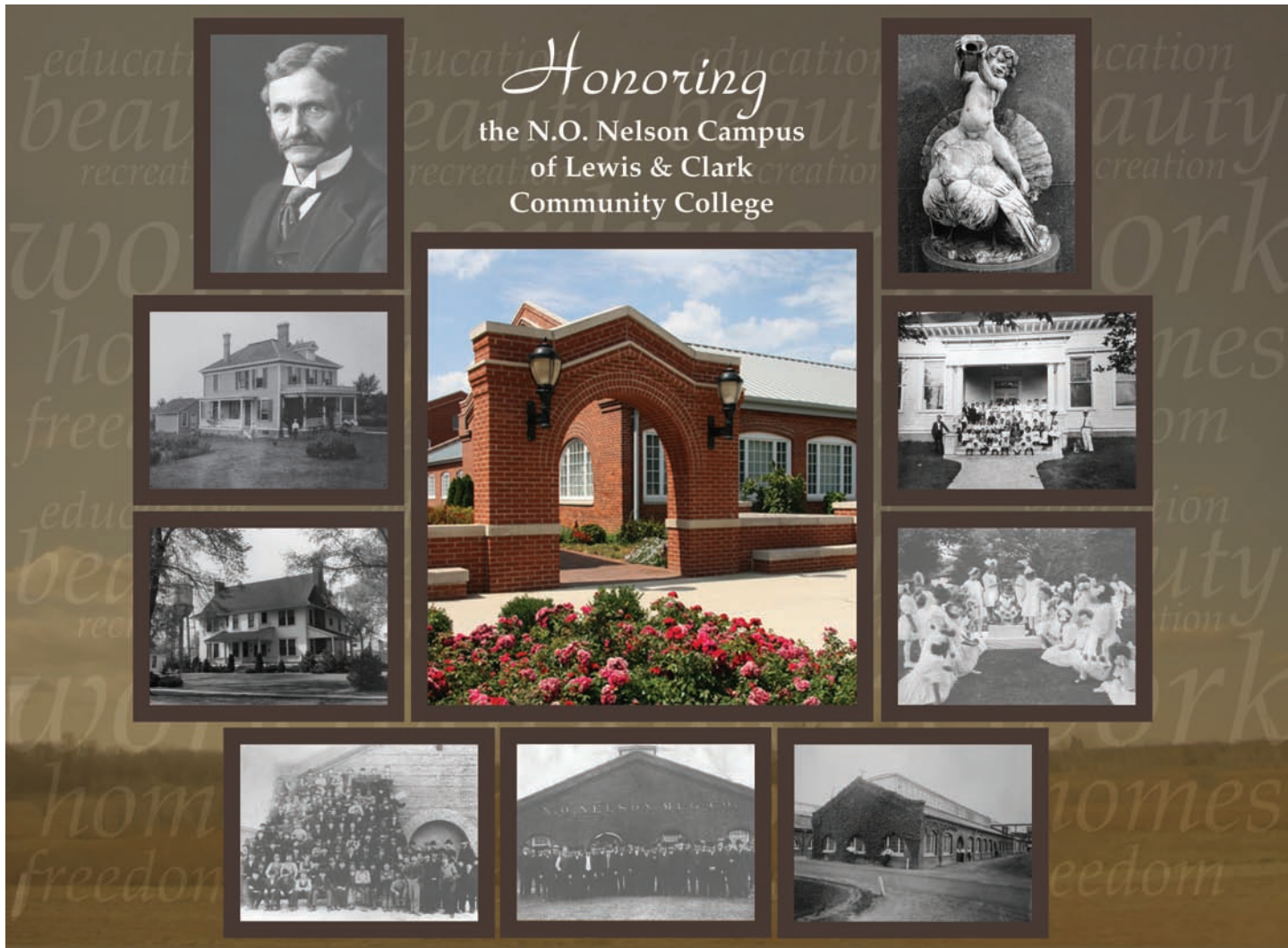
February 2009



Edwardsville | Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

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Common Ground



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Mission Statement

Through commitment and involvement of its Members, the Edwardsville | Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce provides leadership for the benefit of the business community by:

- Promoting economic opportunities
- Advocating the interests of business
- Providing members with education and resources
- Encouraging mutual support

On the cover

N.O. Nelson Campus of Lewis and Clark

With the opening of an additional classroom building this past fall, renovation work at Lewis and Clark Community College's N.O. Nelson Campus has been completed. The campus, which was once used to manufacture plumbing supplies, now houses classroom and lab space for students of Lewis and Clark Community College and District 7.

The Jay Hoffman Center dedicated in the fall of 2007 provides 35,500 square feet of renovated space for the Southwest Illinois Advanced Manufacturing (SIAM) Center. SIAM is a joint initiative between Lewis and Clark and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. The Hoffman Center includes computer and electronic laboratories, a 66-seat lecture hall, and is the third phase of the renovation of the former N.O. Nelson Company buildings, a series of historic factory structures that have been adapted for use by the college. Additional parking has been added and a new entrance to the campus from Troy Road was also constructed.

A public space within the Hoffman Center, which seats approximately 250 people for seminars, training and meetings, was named the Leclaire Room. N.O. Nelson founded the Village of Leclaire around his manufacturing complex and the current campus in 1890, naming it after Edme Jean Leclaire, who inaugurated profit sharing in France. Leclaire was a model cooperative village offering pleasant working conditions, affordable homes, a healthful environment, free education, and many opportunities for recreation, gardening and self-improvement.

Approximately 1,700 Lewis and Clark and Edwardsville High School students attend classes on the campus each semester. College and school officials expect that number to continue to grow as courses and programs are added. Enrollment has already exceeded expectations at the campus, which prompted the renovation of an additional classroom building for District 7 students this fall. The new annex building added 3,500 additional square feet of classroom space. The campus now boasts a total of 105,600 square feet, including 32 classrooms and labs.

Newsletter Notes

Articles for the Chamber of Commerce newsletter must be submitted by the second Monday of the preceding month for placement in the next month's issue.

Monthly distribution: 1,000 issues.

Send comments or questions about Common Ground to jwojcieszak@edglenchamber.com

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Verizon Wireless
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
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Wise Choice Coffees

events

2/11 Wednesday 4:30 pm

Ribbon Cutting
Glik's
124 S. Buchanan
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

2/13 Friday noon

networking@noon
Alternative Communications
Network
at Bella Milano
1063 South State Rt. 157
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

2/13 Friday 4 pm

Ribbon Cutting
Four Muddy Paws
2127 S. State Route 157
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

2/16 Monday Presidents' Day

Chamber Office Closed

2/18 Wednesday 4 pm

Ribbon Cutting
Fountain View Manor
3234 Village Lane
Granite City, Illinois 62040

2/19 Thursday 5 - 7 pm

Business After Hours
Glen Carbon Centennial
Library
198 S. Main St.
Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034

2/25 Wednesday 4 pm

Professional Education Series
Creative Financing Options
at Neruda
4 Club Center Ct., Ste. A
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

2/27 Friday 7:30 am

Breakfast with the Mayors
N.O. Nelson Campus of Lewis
and Clark Community College
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

2/27 Friday 5 - 7 pm

YPG - Final Friday Drop In
at Neruda
4 Club Center Ct., Ste. A
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

save the date

3/5 Thursday 5 - 7 pm

Business After Hours
First Clover Leaf Bank
6814 Goshen Road
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

3/12 Thursday 4 pm

Ribbon Cutting
Visons by Carol Photography
108 N Main
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

3/13 Friday noon

networking@noon
Faller Photography Group
at Bella Milano
1063 South State Rt. 157
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

3/19 Thursday 5 - 7 pm

Business After Hours
Edwardsville Intelligencer
117 North Second Street
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

3/21 Saturday

YPG Kickoff Event
Fox Creek Clubhouse
6555 Fox Creek Drive
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

3/27 Friday 8:30 am

New Member Orientation
Chamber Office
200 University Park Dr., Ste. 260
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

connect

business after hours schedule

The purpose of a networking mixer is to meet new people, make new contacts, promote your business, and to talk with other business people facing the same challenges you do. All are welcomed and invited to attend. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be provided. A business card raffle and 50/50 drawing will occur at approximately 6:00 pm. Entry fee is \$5. This is an excellent way to network outside of your normal

2/19 Thursday 5 - 7 pm

Glen Carbon Centennial Library
198 S. Main St.
Glen Carbon, Illinois 62025

Enjoy refreshments by Crushed Grapes and appetizers by the Friends of the Library and Café Aroma and see a demo of Wii Fit. If you're adventurous enough, try it out! Hear about the library's new Senior technologies and get a schedule of FREE PC classes being offered @ the Library through May.

3/5 Thursday 5 - 7 pm

First Clover Leaf Bank
6814 Goshen Road
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

See the new expansion and meet your next client as you network with other Chamber members and area professionals at First Clover Leaf Bank's Goshen Road location.

networking@noon schedule

Can't make a Business After Hours? Networking@noon is a great way to meet other business people in a smaller group setting without taking time away from your busy day. This fun, fast-paced, members-only "speed networking" event is designed to get you in, fed, connected, and on your way in 60 minutes or less.

2/13 Friday noon

by Alternative Communications Network
at Bella Milano
1063 South State Rt. 157
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

Take a lunch break, and come see the future of communications! The Iris 3000 Video Phone is changing the way we communicate. Get all the details on this exciting technology that will be featured on the Celebrity Apprentice in March.

3/13 Friday noon

hosted by Faller Photography Group
at location TBD.

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From The Desk of Carol Foreman

The 85th Annual Meeting and 22nd
Annual Auction, held on Saturday,
January 31st, was truly a success.

Thanks to a large group of dedicated
volunteers, we had beautiful
decorations, many unique auction
items, and a wonderful evening to
celebrate the accomplishments of
2008 and honor a few members
of our community with our Annual
Awards.



Please turn to page 8 and 9 to see a list of our sponsors and auction item
donors that contributed to the success of this event.

From one event to the next. Our Breakfast with the Mayors will be Friday,
February 27th at 7:30 am at the N.O. Nelson Campus of Lewis and Clark
Community College. Don't miss this opportunity to hear updates from the
City and Village as well as issues facing local businesses now and in the
future. Mayor Gary Niebur and Mayor Robert Jackstadt will be joining us for
breakfast. Won't you? Advanced registration is required.

We are also excited to announce the Disney Institute is coming to
Edwardsville. Hosted by the Chamber of Commerce, the Disney Keys to
Excellence program will be offered on Tuesday, May 19th from 8:00 am to
4:30 pm in the Meridian Ballroom at SIUE. Find out more about the Disney
Keys to Excellence program on page 13. Join us to learn the business
behind the magic!

Finally, thank you to Inlandesign's graphic design intern Kyle Steward for
creating this month's cover honoring Lewis and Clark Community College
for their sensitive restoration and renovation of the historic former N.O.
Nelson factory buildings. The photos were courtesy of Lewis & Clark
Community College, John Celuch and the Madison County Historical
Society.

Sincerely,

Carol Foreman

Carol Foreman, Executive Director



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Ambassadors

Meet Your Ambassadors: Melissa DeLassus

By Natalie Head, Anderson Hospital

"The key to success in the Chamber is persistence and getting involved," says Melissa DeLassus, Chamber Ambassador. "Business will not just come to you. Get involved, attend events and volunteer your time. It is those actions that will make your membership work for you and grow your business."



Melissa walks that talk everyday. When she's not busy as the Practice Representative for Southern Illinois Chiropractic Center in Maryville, she can probably be found meeting with a professional group. She is currently the President for Maryville Kiwanis, Vice-President for the Madison Central Chapter of Business Network International and the Chair for the Ed/Glen Chamber's Young Professionals Group.

Melissa has taken advantage of all of these great networking opportunities... and it has made a positive impact on her business. "The Chamber is a great way to create a network of business professionals and meet people who will help grow your business," says Melissa. "My goal as an Ambassador is to educate members about the benefits of the Chamber and make their membership work for them!"

Melissa and her husband, Dr. Barry DeLassus, have lived in the area for over three years now. Melissa is from New Lenox, Illinois, and received her BA in Speech Communication from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. She recently received her MS in Mass Communications from SIUE in 2008.

When she's not busy running her husband's successful chiropractic practice or attending a young professional meeting - Melissa enjoys decorating cakes and reading. Melissa also has an adventuresome side - she has a new 4-wheeler and looks forward to driving when the weather is warmer!

Ambassadors

Sue Mancuso, Chair

Suburban Journals

Dana Klassen, Vice Chair

C.A.F.E. Community Association for Financial Education

Nancy Baahmann

Beverly Farm Foundation

Danelle Brown

The Tech Spot

Ashleigh Deatherage

Scott Credit Union

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Christopher W. Byron
Christopher J. Petri
Brian R. Kalb
Micah S. Summers
Meredith L. Head

Meet Your New Board President: Kelly Wagner

Our 2009 column begins with Kelly Wagner, President of our Board of Directors for 2009.

Kelly is currently an Assistant Vice President and Marketing Director at First Clover Leaf Bank in Edwardsville, and will be celebrating her 5th year with the bank this year. Kelly was drawn to FCLB by their community involvement and philosophy. "I wanted to work for a bank that was not only in the community but a big part of the community."



Kelly and her husband Brandon live in Staunton with their three children, Morgan (10), Aleece (8), and Carson (5) who all attend St. Michael's in Staunton. She is very active in the St. Michael's Parent Teach Club, serving as president in 2008, and is the co-chair of St. Michael's Oktoberfest. "I feel it is important to support the community that we live and work, being a part of the community and teaching our youth to get involved. It is so important to give back and help others that are in need."

In addition to her committee work, Kelly also is co-owner of Spa Rinnovi in Edwardsville and enjoys boating, reading and spending time with her family.

Kelly joined the Chamber in 2001 and has also served as an Ambassador. As President, Kelly would like to move the board of directors in a direction that supports our businesses in a time of economic concern. "This year we need to make the Chamber's mission about our members. We as board members are going to do what we can to make that mission a reality."

Kelly's advice to Chamber members: Get involved and give back. What you put in will come back to you ten-fold!

Chamber Announces New Business of the Month Award

The Chamber is excited to announce the new Business of the Month Award. The Business of the Month will be chosen monthly by the Executive Committee. Nominations received but not chosen may still be considered the following months. The winner will be announced at the Board of Directors meeting and the following networking@noon.



The winner will receive:

- Recognition on the front page of the Chamber's website (www.edglenchamber.com)
- Spotlight article and photo in chamber's newsletter, Common Ground
- Press Release with photo submitted to local media outlets
- Plaque presented at the networking@noon
- Eligible for the Business of the Year Award

The business must have been established and operated continuously for at least five (5) years in the Edwardsville or Glen Carbon communities and a current Chamber member for at least three (3) years. The business should have a solid track record of growth and demonstrated integrity and community involvement. Company must be active in both the Chamber and other community ventures. Factors of considerations would also include the business's reputation of honesty and integrity in their practices. Non-profit organizations will also be considered.

Nominations must be received by 5:00 pm the Friday before the Executive Committee meeting, generally the second Tuesday of the month. Nominations may be emailed, mailed, or faxed. Self nominations are welcome. Nomination forms are available on our website, www.edglenchamber.com.

Consider nominating your business or another business you feel is deserving of this new award!

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Art of the Matter	TheEDGEBANK	Dr. Kenneth & Dr. David Hyten	Congressman John Shimkus
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Associated Physicians Group	Edwardsville Children's Museum	Body Health	Southern Illinois Real Estate Center
Autotire Car Care	Edwardsville Intelligencer	Lee Russo Designs	Southern Illinois University
AVON on MAIN	Edwardsville Public Library	Lee's Services	Edwardsville
Aztec Tanning	Edwardsville School District #7	The Little Gym of Edwardsville	SIUE Athletics
B & R Cleaning	Eigenbrodt Vision Center PC	Los Tres Amigos	Stifel Nicolaus & Co., Inc.
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Special Thanks

to the SIUE Golf Teams, Two Men and a Truck, and all of our volunteers that made this event a success.

Chamber of Commerce Bestows Honors at Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 31st, the Chamber awarded the Albert Cassens Award for Outstanding Community Service, the Athena Award, and the new Lifetime Achievement Award in addition to the Ambassador of the Year and the new Volunteer of the Year.

The Ambassador of the Year award recognizes an individual who goes above and beyond what is expected of the group. Current Vice-Chair Dana Klassen was recognized for her commitment to the success of the Ambassadors and her encouragement of other Chamber members.

The new Volunteer of the Year award was established to recognize the outstanding contributions that volunteers make to enhance our community and benefit the Chamber and our programs. The recipients, Robbie and Dawn Prince of Royal Solutions, were acknowledged for their chairmanship of the Route 66 Festival and for the thousands of hours they spend creating a website for the festival.

Mr. John Motley, President of Richards Brick Co., received the Albert Cassens Award for Outstanding Community Service. The Albert Cassens Award was first presented by the Chamber in 1994 and is named for Albert Cassens, who was honored by the Chamber that same year for outstanding lifetime achievement in the community.

Mr. Motley was praised for his instrumental vision and initiating the first Habitat for Humanity home in Edwardsville. Also, as President of the Edwardsville Rotary Club, Mr. Motley oversaw the construction and dedication of a new handicap accessible ramp and dock at the Watershed Nature Center, donated by the Edwardsville Rotary Club.

Mrs. Patricia Peverly was presented the 2009 Athena Award, which recognizes outstanding businesses and professionals in the community that create an environment where proving assistance, encouragement and mentoring to women are uniquely valued.

Mrs. Peverly has recently retired from Anderson Hospital after 30 years, serving the last 26 as the Chief Nursing Officer. Her successor, Lisa Klaustermeir was named a year ago and has worked closely with Mrs. Peverly this past year to assure a smooth, seamless transition into the position. Mrs. Peverly has encouraged leadership from other members of her staff, having them chair committees, lead meetings, and interact with the Board of Trustees. Her leadership at the hospital throughout the years has led to the growth and development of the nursing staff.



2009 Chamber President Kelly Wagner with Patricia Peverly, the 2009 Athena Award recipient, John Motley, the 2009 Cassens Award recipient, and Gary Coffey, the 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient

The new Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to an exceptional individual who has made a significant impact on the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon community through his or her past achievements during a long period of time and has enhanced the quality of life for Edwardsville/Glen Carbon residents.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Mr. Gary Coffey. Mr. Coffey was selected for his 50 plus continuous, active support and involvement in the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon community while practicing law and eventually establishing his own firm, Coffey Law Firm, in 1999.

Mr. Coffey was instrumental in establishing the physical campus and legal framework of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and served as the University's legal counsel from 1966 through the mid 1980's.

Mr. Coffey was also one of the visionary founding directors of the Greater Edwardsville Area Community Foundation and served as President of the Edwardsville Rotary in 1987 where he chartered the Rotary Citrus Sales and modernize the club with the induction of its first female members.

As his nominators wrote, "most importantly, over the past 50 years, in order to enhance the lives of others, his spirit of selfless giving and dedication to his community has inspired and led other local individuals and groups to do the same. His achievements and contributions in this community are constant, ongoing, multi-generational, quiet and immeasurable."

spotlight

Glen Carbon Centennial Library Awarded Prestigious \$50,000 "Technology for All Ages" Grant

Thanks to a competitive Library Services and Technology (LSTA) grant award from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Glen Carbon Centennial Library will be purchasing ten new computers; eight laptops; Gaming Systems; four TV's to network



gaming participants; Assistive Technology for Seniors, including "biggy cursors," trackballs, large keyboards, and Voice Recognition programs; one Camcorder for Storytime Broadcasting and Senior Memoirs; and funding for instructors' to teach computer classes at the Library.

Glen Carbon Library is one of 54 libraries to receive this highly competitive grant funding, over 200 libraries applied statewide. Library Director, Anne Hughes, stated that "this grant funding develops cooperative partnerships in the community, which is part of the library's Mission Statement. The grant partners the library with the Glen Carbon Senior Center, local Retirement and Assisted Living Centers and the Madison County Juvenile Detention Center."

According to Ms. Hughes the grant funds "much needed computers and laptops and a PC Reservation program that will streamline patron access to the Library's computers, allowing patrons to walk right up to the computers and sign on." Ms. Hughes is especially pleased that the grant funds PC classes, as there "has been a high demand for everything from basic PC Skills to using Microsoft 2007 programs." The assistive technology, including large keyboards and monitors, will also make it much easier for seniors to learn to use the computers and find out how much information the Web has to offer, including information on lower-priced goods, such as prescription drugs.

In the past nine years, the Glen Carbon library has been awarded thirteen LSTA grants ranging from \$1600 to \$100,000. The library was also recognized in 2008 as a Best Small Library in America – Special Mention by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Library Journal. Visit the library at 198 S Main Street, Glen Carbon or on the web at glencarbonlibrary.org.

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Business Survival Strategies to be Revealed in New Professional Education Series

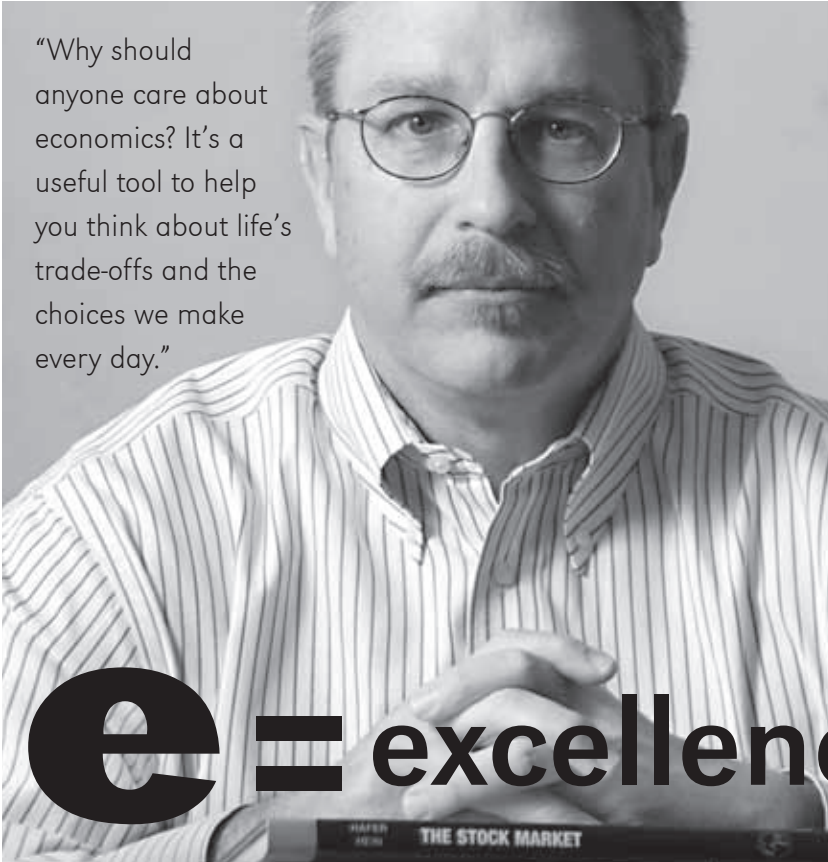
Keeping your business afloat in uncertain economic times won't be easy, but it can be done with help from business experts. Beginning in February, the Chamber will launch a new professional education series called "Recession Survival Strategies: Best Practices for Running a Business in Good Times and Bad." Regional experts and business leaders in finance, marketing and human resources will discuss strategies and offer advice to help business professionals stay focused on a healthy bottom line.

"This new education series will offer small businesses access to some of the most knowledgeable resources our area has to offer," says Carla Coury, chair of the Professional Education Committee.

The educational events will be organized as panel presentations where at least three experts will present observations on a particular topic and offer critical strategies that will help small businesses endure and even thrive in the upcoming year. The format will encourage discussion and invite questions from attendees.

On February 25th, a panel of specialists from banking and finance will present a session on Creative Financing Options with strategies for how small businesses can survive in a tight credit market. On March 11th, three seasoned experts in marketing and public relations will offer tactics for marketing on a shoestring and tips for stretching your marketing budget. On April 8th, a panel of human resources specialists representing legal, government and management will discuss strategies for managing a balanced workforce in economic uncertainty.

The program will be from 4 to 6 p.m. The program fee is \$10 and includes refreshments, cash bar and networking opportunities. Advance registration is required and seating will be strictly limited. To reserve your seat in one or all three sessions, call the Chamber office at 656-7600.



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10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.Management, Disney Style
11:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.Service, Disney Style
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Annual Meeting and Auction



Your Business

Sandberg Phoenix & von Gontard Attorneys Appointed to the Illinois Chamber of Commerce Employment Law Council

Sandberg Phoenix & von Gontard, P.C. shareholders Thomas E. Berry, Jr., and Philip J. Lading are honored to have been recently appointed to the Illinois Chamber of Commerce's Employment Law Council.

In connection with their position as Employment Law Council Members, Mr. Berry and Mr. Lading will work with employers throughout Illinois to provide advice and direction to the Illinois Chamber regarding effective representation of Illinois employers on all aspects of the employer/employee relationship, towards the goal of creating a political climate conducive to improving Illinois' ability to create and retain jobs. Employment Council Members work collectively to address workers compensation, unemployment insurance, and other management/personnel related issues and achieve a consensus on what public policy issues the Illinois Chamber of Commerce should pursue in order to best advance the interests and viewpoints of Illinois employers.

For additional information on the Illinois Chamber's Employment Law Council, or to contact Tom Berry or Phil Lading regarding policy issues impacting Illinois Employers, please call them at (618) 659-9862, or via email to tberry@spvg.com or plading@spvg.com.



Thomas E. Berry



Philip J. Lading

Marcel Brown Receives MacXprts Network Award

On January 9th, 2009, at the annual meeting of The MacXprts Network in San Francisco, Marcel Brown (owner of The Tech Spot and manager of The MacXprts Network's retail store in Glen Carbon, IL) received an award commemorating his ten years of membership in the organization.

"As you might imagine, this award is a fairly rare occurrence, and indicates a long term commitment to both our organization and the Mac platform as a whole," said Duane Burghard, Chairman of the Board of Directors, who presented Mr. Brown with the award at the meeting.

"Mr. Brown's superior technical skill, combined with his dedication to providing a superior customer experience is indicative of exactly the kind of people we constantly seek in The MacXprts Network. His success is directly related to why we chose he and Danelle to lead our operations in Illinois and their skill is directly related to why it is one of our fastest growing retail sales operations in the country," Burghard said. Burghard also noted that the annual meeting and award ceremony coincided with the 15th birthday of the organization.

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Collision Plus of Glen Carbon to Offer Continuing Education Course

Collision Plus of Glen Carbon is offering a continuing education course to insurance agents and licensed staff.

The class titled "Understanding Collision Refinish" will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Collision Plus of Glen Carbon (behind Four Flags Motors).

The class is three credit hours and is free of charge. All Collision Plus' continuing education courses are approved by the Illinois Department of Insurance.

If interested, please contact Debbie Brauer at (618) 623-9120.

SIUE Alumni Career Workshop – Starting Your Own Business

Join the SIUE Alumni Association for the second topic of the Alumni Career Workshops, "Starting Your Own Business," on Tuesday, February 17th from 6 to 9pm at Birger Hall. The Alumni Association, in conjunction with the Office of Educational Outreach, the Entrepreneurship Center and the Small Business Development Center, has assembled a panel of speakers to discuss what it means to start your own business.

The panel will share their stories of how they went about starting their own business and offer advice on researching new business options, current business trends and more. The cost of the event is \$15 for Alumni Association members, \$20 for non-members and free for current students. The registration price includes an invitation to the social/networking reception following the workshop and free parking in the Birger Hall parking lot.

Advanced registration is required to attend. For more information and to register to attend, visit <http://www.siue.edu/alumni/careerworkshops.shtml>.



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Your Business

Two Men and a Truck Awarded J.D. Power and Associates Award for Customer Satisfaction

Two Men and a Truck has earned top honors in a recent J.D. Power and Associates study measuring customer satisfaction among full-service moving companies. The Company's office, located at 116 A. North Bluff Road in Collinsville is one of more than 200 independent franchises operating across the United States.

Ken Wienhoff is in his 4th year as general manager of the Collinsville location. He believes his team's execution of The Golden Rule - a proprietary approach to moving that is the foundation for the Company's training program - has played a key role in gaining the top ranking.

"It's exactly as it sounds," said Wienhoff. "We train our staff to treat customers the way you would want their own grandmother treated, and the result is an incredibly caring environment that exceeds the expectations our customers have."

According to J.D. Power and Associates' 2008 Full-Service Moving Company Satisfaction Study, Two Men and a Truck ranked highest in overall satisfaction. The study ranked customer satisfaction levels among national moving companies based on responses from nearly 3,000 consumers who have used a full service moving company during the past 12 months.

2008 marks the second consecutive year Two Men and a Truck has received a customer satisfaction award from J.D. Power and Associates.

In addition to receiving J.D. Power and Associates' top overall ranking, Two Men and a Truck was ranked highest in the Study's packing services, on-time delivery and number of lost belonging categories.

Two Men and a Truck frequently donates their services to local community organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, where the recently helped move auction items for the Annual Dinner and Auction.

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CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL ONLY AREA HOSPITAL RANKED IN MISSOURI'S TOP 10 FOR ALL THREE CLINICAL PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

Recently released data compiled by the federal government's Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) ranks Christian Hospital as the only St. Louis area hospital in Missouri's Top 10 for all three measurements of clinical performance!

- No. 1 in the St. Louis metro area and No. 2 in Missouri for having the best survival rate for heart attack patients
- No. 4 among all hospitals in Missouri for having the best survival rate for pneumonia patients
- No. 10 in the state for having the best survival rate for heart failure patients

This data speaks to the great clinical advancements that are taking place at Christian Hospital. In addition to the CMS findings, Christian Hospital over the past 18 months has scored in the top 25 percent of all hospitals nationally on the publicly reported 'Core Measures' of clinical quality. And our year-to-date performance continues to be better than the top 25 percent of all the hospitals in the country.



Christian Hospital, a founding member of BJC HealthCare, is a 497-bed acute-care medical center located on 28 acres in unincorporated north St. Louis County. Located 6 miles west of Christian Hospital is Northwest HealthCare, which offers the community 24-hour emergency care and a variety of outpatient services in a convenient setting to complement hospital services.

Christian Hospital is noted as a leader among hospitals in the St. Louis region and has experienced a dramatic turnaround during the past few years. In particular, Christian Hospital is highly regarded for its excellence in heart services and lifesaving cardiothoracic surgery, emergency medicine, cancer treatment, psychiatric services and substance abuse programs, neurology, spine surgery, radiology, urology, pulmonary care and radiation oncology.

Your Business

Sivia Business & Legal Services Hires New Associate

Attorney Brian J. Lambert joined the law firm of Sivia Business & Legal Service, P.C. as an associate. Mr. Lambert graduated Cum Laude from Southern Illinois University School of Law. There, he was Vice-President of Phi Delta Phi (Lesar Inn) and a member of the Environmental Law Society.

Mr. Lambert has experience in the areas of business law, family law, criminal law and general civil litigation.

While in school, Mr. Lambert interned at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General and primarily worked on consumer protection issues. He also interned at the Office of the Jackson County Public Defender where he assisted clients on misdemeanor and traffic cases. Additionally, Mr. Lambert was involved in the SIU School of Law Domestic Violence Clinic where he assisted clients in obtaining orders of protection, while aiding them in filing for divorce through Land of Lincoln Legal Services.

Hudson Jewelers Presents Gift to Allison's Friends Of Hope

Hudson Jewelers presented Mr. & Mrs. Allen Cassens with a check for the charity they founded in memory of their daughter Allison, Allison's Friends of Hope.



Hudson's has been supporting the charity, with proceeds from special trunk shows throughout the year going to benefit the local group. "We open our store to the charity and anyone in the area who wishes to support local cancer care and research and call it 'Carats For The Cure'", says John Hudson. "It's just one way we like give back to the communities we serve." Allison's Friends of Hope, in turn, supports Anderson Hospital's Cancer Center, and local cancer patient.



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Getting Organized in 2009

By Linda Kuhlmann, Kuhlmann Business Services, www.kuhlmanservices.com

Most of us know the old cliché; if you fail to plan, you plan to fail. As much as we hate to admit it, our businesses require time necessary for planning. With proper planning and good business decisions, growth is inevitable; and it's never too late to get started.

Financial statements are a vital part in making good business decisions. Without the proper cash flow, even a thriving business can fail. Do you know how much money is owed to you? Do you know how much money you owe? How did you do for the month? Your financial statements can tell you this and a whole lot more. You don't have to wait till the end of the year to see how your business is doing.

Computerized accounting software is an efficient way to produce these financial statements and organize your business activities. QuickBooks can be a great tool in optimizing your business for 2009. The program allows you to create budgets and forecasts, accept and record credit card payments in one easy step, customize your estimates and invoices, turn an estimate into an invoice- saving you additional time, create your financial reports within minutes, and much more!

Metro Eye Care Adds New Doctor



Pictured: back row: L to R: Kathy Foiles, Lesley Kolesa, Dr. Lewis Jones; front row: L to R: Dr. Stephanie Goggin, Brandy Fassold, Becky Ray

Metro Eye Care is excited to announce its recent move to a larger state-of-the-art office space, as well as the addition of a new doctor to its staff. This new office, next door to the previous location, will allow more space to provide the outstanding care patients have come to expect of Metro Eye Care.

Now with two optometrists, Dr. Lewis Jones and Dr. Stephanie Goggin, and appointment availability six days a week, Metro is ready to conveniently serve all your eye care needs. Metro Eye Care is now open at 6620 Center Grove Rd, Suite 3, in Edwardsville.

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Your Business

TheBANK of Edwardsville Reflects on Holiday Giving:

Employees from Nearly Every Community Chipped in to Brighten the Season for Area Families in Need

Once again this holiday season many of TheBANK of Edwardsville's employees participated in adopting less fortunate families throughout the community. With much generosity, 35 families were supported through partnerships with Riverbend Head Start & Family Services - Edwardsville Center, H.I.S. Kids, Shiloh School District, SS Peter & Paul Church in Collinsville, Calvin Johnson Nursing Home, Wood River-Hartford School District, Granite City Early Childhood Center, and Harmone-Emge School District 175.

In addition, many more families benefitted from donations or donation drives organized during the holiday season by TheBANK of Edwardsville employees to benefit Toys for Tots, Glen-Ed Food Pantry, Phoenix Crisis Center, Community Hope Center, and other local charities.

"We at TheBANK have taken our commitment to helping less fortunate families in the area by encouraging employees in our different departments to sponsor a family during the holidays and to get involved in charitable activities that work to make the holidays brighter for those less fortunate. We have sponsored individual families for several years now and believe that our employees' efforts not only benefit the recipients but also help them by providing an outlet in which they can show their generous and caring spirits during the holidays," added Nikki Turner, Community Relations Coordinator for TheBANK of Edwardsville.

Over its 140 year history, TheBANK of Edwardsville, with the help of its employees, has built a tradition of community service that includes everything from having floats in parades to sponsorships of fund-raisers benefiting non-profit organizations. TheBANK's Board of Directors as well as its more than 400 employees lends their time to a variety of civic organizations and clubs. Throughout the years, its leadership and staff have donated countless hours of volunteer time and a generous amount of bank and personal resources to organizations too many to list.

Avon On Main Selling Llama Plush Stuffed Animals to Support NAMI Madison County

Avon on Main here is selling plush stuffed "NAMI Llamas" in support of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Madison County. These soft, plush stuffed animals are the perfect gift or present for a child, and are available for \$5 and \$10. All proceeds directly benefit NAMI Madison County.

The llama, an animal known for its uncompromising compassion, became the mascot of NAMI Madison County several years ago. The mascot was chosen because NAMI members, like llamas, are compassionate people who carry burdens – only NAMI members carry burdens for their loved ones with brain disorders. Llamas are emotional beings that try to comfort those who are sad. This notion fits right in with NAMI members who seek to understand and comfort those who suffer with brain disorders.

Avon on Main owner, Donna Marie Sheard, is encouraging the public to come in and purchase a llama. "You can either buy a llama to give to your loved ones, or you can buy one to donate back to NAMI Madison County" said Sheard. "If you donate your llama back, it is then given to the children who graduate from the NAMI program at the Kettler Center in Granite City. Those children, some as young as 7 years old, are told the story of how llamas carry burdens when they are given one of these plush stuffed animals. It means the world to them."

Sheard, an active part of the Edwardsville community is the owner of Avon on Main, and an Ambassador to the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce, is also a board member for NAMI Madison County. "This is one organization that I hold very close to my heart," said Sheard.

NAMI is an organization devoted to promoting the understanding of mental illness by sharing experiences and knowledge with others. NAMI also promotes community awareness and the removal of stigma that is attached to mental illness.

Llamas are available for purchase at Avon on Main, located at 235 N. Main Street in Edwardsville. For more information on the NAMI Llamas you can contact Avon on Main at (618) 656-1616. To find out more about NAMI Madison County visit www.madisoncty.nami.org

Speaking for a Lasting Impression

By Lynden Schuyler, President, Performance Strategies that Work, www.psw-training.com.

Ever need to make a presentation and just freeze up? If so, you are like most people. No matter how well you prepare, the thought of speaking before a group is terrifying. We have all heard that public speaking is the number one fear that most people suffer. Add charts, graphs, slides and other visual aids and most people would prefer to be in front of a firing squad. Are you one of them?

If so, here a few ideas to help you next time you have to make a presentation:

1. Feeling a certain level of nervousness and anxiety are normal. Learning to channel this energy into your delivery is your first, best step.
2. Identify the purpose of your presentation. Are you teaching a new skill, attempting to change a behavior, or transferring knowledge?
3. Dress comfortably and wear things you know you look good in. This sounds simple, but part of the anxiety people feel about speaking in front of others is concern about their appearance. If you know you look good in that suit, you will at least be at ease about that part of it.
4. Check out the space and equipment you will be using before anyone else arrives. Do this a day or so ahead of time if possible. Get comfortable with the surroundings. Make certain you have chalk or markers if you are using blackboards or easels and dry erase boards as part of your presentation. Know how to operate any necessary equipment and make sure your markers actually write. .

5. Be completely familiar with any charts, graphs and handouts you may be using. You are likely to have questions about them and need to be able to speak about them intelligently.

6. Before your audience arrives, breathe deeply and make sounds. Get comfortable with the sound of your own voice and speak out loud to make certain that what you are hearing is your own voice not some squeaky approximation.

7. As a presenter you have 30 seconds to connect with your audience. Ask a question, tell a quick story, display a cartoon, recite or read a quote, guide your audience into a mental image. Even if you think you know them, you need to have a powerful opening.

8. Keep your audience engaged with questions, good vocal variety and body language (which includes facial expressions). Research has shown that 7% of a subject's emotional understanding of another person stemmed from the words spoken, 38% was attributed to verbal tone and 55% to facial expression and body language.

By the way, I will be teaching a workshop on Speaking for a Lasting Impression at Lewis & Clark College, N.O. Nelson Campus in Edwardsville. This is a non-credit, ½ day workshop presently scheduled for Monday, March 9 at 8:30AM – Noon. Please contact at 618-468-2222 to register.



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Solar Energy Rebate Program

Every spring, the State accepts applications for the Solar Energy Rebate Program from homes and businesses. This DCEO program provides 30 percent of eligible costs up to \$10,000 for the installation of solar thermal or solar photovoltaic (electric) equipment. Federal tax credits for up to 30% of the cost of solar energy systems are also available!

To apply, visit www.illinoisenergy.org

Small Business Smart Energy Program (SBSE)

The Small Business Smart Energy (SBSE) program provides energy efficiency technical services for small to medium-sized for-profit businesses. The technical services identify opportunities for energy savings through intelligent building design and efficient building components and systems. For details, visit www.illinoisenergy.org

Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC)

The Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) provides advice and analyses enabling facilities in the State of Illinois to increase their profitability through the efficient use of energy resources. The free technical services can identify opportunities for energy savings through intelligent building design and efficient building components and systems. For more details, visit <http://smartenergy.arch.uiuc.edu> or www.sedac.org

Green Supplies

Illinois government has built "green" requirements into contracts for office furniture, copiers and cleaning supplies, via the Department of Central Management Services: fully half of our cleaning vendors now use Green Seal-approved products in State buildings, and the other half will start doing so this year. You can buy green, too: view our contracts at www.cms.il.gov/green

Anderson Hospital Receives Major Gift for the 2009 ICU Expansion Project

Anderson Hospital is proud to announce receipt of a major gift donation from Collinsville native, Cleora Grimm, in honor of her late husband, Dr. Melbourne Grimm. In recognition of Mrs. Grimm's generous gift, Anderson Hospital's future Intensive Care Unit will be named the Dr. Melbourne and Cleora Grimm Intensive Care Unit.



The Grimm's support of Anderson Hospital dates back to before the hospital opened. "We supported the hospital before it ever broke ground," said Mrs. Grimm. "My husband and I were close friends with Vivian and Dr. Robert Kraft." The Krafts were instrumental in the planning and development of Anderson Hospital. "I was one of the Charter members of the Auxiliary and served on the Auxiliary Board in 1969," said Cleora. "We were an Auxiliary without a hospital for nearly 10 years."

The Grimm's made a donation during the original capital campaign and return again with generous support. What started out as a local stock investment back in the 1950's has become the cornerstone of Anderson Hospital's "Growing for the Future Campaign." "Mel would approve of this donation," said Mrs. Grimm. "He was committed to supporting area residents' access to quality medical services." The reinvestment Mrs. Grimm has made benefits the community's future by helping Anderson Hospital grow and expand.

For over 40 years Dr. Grimm worked as an optometrist in Collinsville. "One of his patients told me a story at his funeral that I'll never forget," said Mrs. Grimm. "He went to her house on Christmas eve to help her daughter with her contacts. That's the kind of person he was."

"The hospital was something we wanted to see happen," said Cleora. "I'm glad I can continue to support its growth."

For more information regarding the "Growing for the Future Campaign," call Alice Drobisch, Chief Development Officer with Anderson Hospital at (618) 391-5117.

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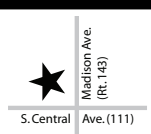
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Your Community

Spring 2009 Open House Programs at SIUE

Spring 2009 Open House Programs at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville are a great way to learn about exciting, rewarding degree programs.

The Schools of Nursing, Business, Education and Engineering will host open houses for students interested in undergraduate and graduate programs. The School of Pharmacy will host an open house for students interested in a Pharm.D. degree.

Open houses are taking place the following days, times and locations:

- School of Nursing, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Feb. 14, Alumni Hall;
- School of Business, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Feb. 21, Founders Hall;
- School of Education, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, March 21, Founders Hall;
- School of Engineering, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, March 21, Engineering Building;
- School of Pharmacy, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, April 18, University Park.

For more information, call (618) 650-3705, or visit www.siu.edu/prospectivestudents/ or register on the Web site.

How Sweet It Is at the Children's Museum

Sweet treats and free play await visitors to the Children's Museum in February. Saturday Explorers adventures continue in February as well, beginning with, "A Mouthful of Teeth," on Saturday, February 21, from 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Children ages 3-5 can come observe their teeth, feel the shapes and learn how the shapes relate to the jobs the teeth do. Participants can also learn how to care for teeth and gums with hands-on activities as part of Dental Health Month. The cost is \$10.00 per person and registration is required.

"Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt" will be presented Saturday, February 28, from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Participants will celebrate Black History Month with a look at real quilts with expert, Judy Brown, and learn how quilts led slaves to freedom. Children ages 6 and up will read Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt and explore the concepts of slavery, respect and giving time or talent to improve the lives of others. Cost is \$10.00 per person and registration is required.

For registration and admission details, call 618-692-2094, or visit www.childrens-museum.net.

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GEACF Awards Grant to Senior Services Plus Meals On Wheels Program



Jonathan Becker, Executive Director Senior Services Plus; Patty Thiede, Grant Committee Chairperson of GEACF; Will Shashack, Board Member of GEACF; Joe Gugger, Chairman of GEACF.

The Greater Edwardsville Area Community Foundation recently presented a check to the Senior Services Plus Meals on Wheels Program for a grant awarded to them to help support homebound seniors in the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon area.

The Greater Edwardsville Area Community Foundation (GEACF) awarded a \$1,890.00 grant to Senior Services Plus. "We are incredibly grateful to the Foundation for their support," said Jonathan Becker, Executive Director of Senior Services Plus, "Because of the generosity of organizations like the Greater Edwardsville Area Community Foundation we were able to serve over 154,000 meals through our Meals on Wheels Program in 2008 alone."

A charitable trust that receives, manages, and distributes tax-deductible charitable contributions; the GEACF is committed to providing the community with options for donating their money locally. The Foundation receives contributions from private citizens, local businesses and other organizations interested in funding the charitable needs of the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon area.

The recent grant awarded to the Senior Services Plus program will go directly to supplying seniors in the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon area with meals. Nearly 30 seniors will benefit from this grant.

Senior Services Plus has been delivering meals to the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon area for 15 years, and delivers 600 meals a day throughout Madison and St. Clair Counties. "It astounded me to learn that 41% of those who receive our meals eat two meals or less a day, while a shocking 35% of people only eat one meal a day – the meal we provide," said Jonathan Becker, Executive Director of Senior Services Plus. "These meals go to seniors who have worked their whole lives, done the right thing, paid into social security. Now, in their twilight years, social security and their pensions aren't enough. Our mission at Senior Services Plus is to end senior hunger. We are passionately committed to this effort, and are very grateful to organizations like the Greater Edwardsville Area Community Foundation for their support."



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