May 2010



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Common Ground



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Editor, Layout & Design, Contributing Writer

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 in the interests of business, providing members with education and resources, and encouraging mutual support.

on the cover

Bill's Montclaire Floral

Bill Braundmeier's interest in plants began in childhood, when he purchased a 9 x 12 foot greenhouse. Bill's first experience in floral design was at Michigan State University in 1963. After completing his program, he moved back to Edwardsville and worked for Home Nursery, then later Woodlawn Gardens.

In 1977, Braundmeier opened Bill's Montclaire Floral in a remodeled gas station (now Rapid Lube) at Montclaire Shopping Center, and a few years later moved to the Long John Silver's building next to McDonald's (now Taco Bell).

In 1987, Braundmeier purchased the building at 222 First Avenue in Edwardsville, previously a small animal hospital, where Bill's Montclaire Floral is currently located.

Bill's Montclaire Floral is a full service florist serving the needs of customers in Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, Maryville, Troy, Hamel and Alhambra. According to Bill, their quality, honesty and exceptional customer service has kept Bill's Montclaire Floral thriving for more than three decades in business.



2010 Advertising Rates:

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1/4 Page	\$65	\$10
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Back Page	\$310	Included

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Hawthorne Animal Hospital Henderson Associates Architects, Inc. Holiday Inn Express Hurford Architects, Inc.

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Jan's Hallmark Shop J.F. Electric Inc. Joe's Pizza & Pasta Kentucky Fried Chicken Kitchenland

Kurt's Carstar Collision Center LaPetite Academy Lee's Services

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Maryville Pharmacy Maryville Women's Center & Med Spa

Massage Envy Masterpiece Smiles – Dr. Noll Mastroianni Orthodontics Maurices

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University Nursing & Rehabilitation USO of Missouri US Bank

Valley View Cemetery, Mausoleum & Funeral Home

Verizon Wireless WBG7 Radio Wenzel & Associates

events

5/12 Wednesday 4:30pm

Ribbon Cutting **Edward Jones** #6 157 Centre Suite B Edwardsville, IL 62025

5/13 Thursday 5-7pm

Business After Hours Crushed Grapes, American Family Insurance & Catered AFFAIR 1500 Troy Road Edwardsville, IL 62025

5/17 Monday 4:30-6pm

Chamber Business Book Club (see page 11 for details) Glen Carbon Centennial Library Glen Carbon, IL 62034

5/19 Wednesday 4pm

Ribbon Cutting Absolute Pet Sitting Chamber Office Edwardsville, IL 62025

5/21 Friday 12-1pm

networking@noon hosted by Christian Hospital at North County Endocrinology #8 Sunset Hills Professional Ctr. Edwardsville, IL 62025

5/27 Thursday 5-7pm

Business After Hours FCB Edwardsville Bank 6659 Center Grove Road Edwardsville, IL 62025

save the date

7:30-9am

Tuesday

YPG Learn from a Leader Breakfast with Mayor Gary Niebur (YPG Only) City Council Chambers 118 Hillsboro Avenue Edwardsville, IL 62025

6/10 Thursday 5-7pm

Business After Hours Kurt's Carstar Collision Center 1 Mueller Drive Maryville, IL 62062

6/11 & 12 Fri/Sat

Route 66 Festival at Edwardsville City Park

6/18 & 19 Fri/Sat

Glen Carbon Homecoming

4:30-6pm 6/21 Monday

Chamber Business Book Club (see page 11 for details) Èdwardsville Public Library Edwardsville, IL 62025

6/24 Thursday 5-7pm

Business After Hours Patriot Sunrooms 3925 Blackburn Road Edwardsville, IL 62025



Lori James

Account Executive 618-622-2545 lori.james@chartercom.com

First Rank

connect

business after hours schedule

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

5/13 Thursday 5-7pm

Crushed Grapes, Catered AFFAIR & American Family Insurance 1500 Troy Road in Edwardsville

5/27 **Thursday** 5-7pm

FCB Edwardsville Bank 6659 Center Grove Road in Edwardsville

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.

5/21 **Friday** noon

hosted by Christian Hospital at North County Endocrinology #8 Sunset Hills Professional Center in Edwardsville

Would you like to schedule a networking@noon event in 2010? Contact Linda Daniels at Idaniels@edglenchamber.com or 618.656.7600 for details.



the newly connected

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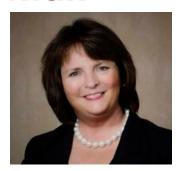
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From The Desk of Carol Foreman

Watch your mailbox and your Inbox – the Chamber has partnered with Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois to bring you an exciting summer series that will help you position your company in preparation for some upcoming opportunities.



A health care forum with Congressman John Shimkus, ranking member of the Subcommittee on Health; an IRS presentation on great tax incentives; workforce training opportunities through Madison County; and an informational session on new funding programs with the Small Business Administration, Madison County, and local banks – each of these programs will assist you in strategically planning and making smart decisions for your company's future.

Are you interested in sponsoring one of our summer series events? If so, contact Carol at 618.656.7600 or cforeman@edglenchamber.com

Sincerely,

Carol Foreman

Carol Foreman, Executive Director

We're here to serve you, and as we prepare to work on our new strategic plan, your feedback is valuable. Please check your Wednesday & Friday e-mails for a link to our online survey. If you don' receive our weekly e-mails, call the office and we'll send you a link. Everyone who completes the survey will receive a FREE pass to one 2010 Business After Hours event.



ambassadors

Ambassador Spotlight: Diana Voegele

Diana, originally from Austin, Texas, and her husband, Marc, are longtime Granite City residents. They have a 24-year-old daughter, Kristen, and a 20-year-old son, Mark.



Favorite hobbies include exercising, takina walks, and readina

motivational books. Diana's favorite sports team is Marc's soccer team.

For the past four years, Diana and Marc have co-owned Express Employment Professionals in Edwardsville. Express Employment is a faith based company that focuses on serving people – this was exactly what she and Marc were looking for in a business that best matched their priorities.

Diana has been active with the Ed/Glen Chamber since joining in 2006. She regarded it as an honor being asked to represent the Chamber and to contribute to the mission of the Chamber to build our business community. Diana's number one goal is to encourage businesses in the community to work together for the purpose of serving the people in the community.

In addition to serving as an Ambassador for the Ed/Glen Chamber, she is also an Ambassador for the Southwestern Madison County Chamber, is a member of Belleville BNI, serves on the Board for CHASI, and is a member of Metro Community Church.

Diana's formal education came from business classes at SWIC and Express Employment Professionals University, and her informal education is from the "school of life!" Business leaders Diana most admire include Bob Funk and Bill Stoller, founders of Express Employment Professionals.

Diana's advice for Chamber members: "Take advantage of the opportunity to get involved in Chamber networking events to build relationships that will benefit you both professionally and personally."

2010 Ambassadors

Dana Klassen, Chair

St. John's Home & Community Care

Sara Sanderson

Liberty Mutual

Ed Faller

Faller Photography Group

Natalie A. Head

Anderson Hospital

Justin Huneke

TheBANK of Edwardsville

Melissa DeLassus

Southern Illinois Chiropractic Cntr.

Bonnie Kotsybar

Chamber Staff

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The Insurance Partnership

Diana Voegele

Express Employment Professionals

Ryan High

RE/MAX Preferred Partners

Linda Kuhlmann

Kuhlmann Business Services

Zach Woods

Commerce Bank

Nicole Kline

Extra Help, Inc.

Susan Bailey

National Bank

Chelsea Hoelscher

West & Company, LLC

Rachel Case

First Clover Leaf Bank

Jenny Robison

Shell Community Credit Union

Mark Muckensturm

MRCT Benefits Plus

Candice Arana

Hospice of Southern Illinois

Dave Viox

AAdvantage Insurance Group



ed glen Young Professionals Group

upcoming YPG events

Tuesday 7:30-9am

YPG Leran from a Leader Breakfast with Mayor Gary Niebur (YPG Members Only)

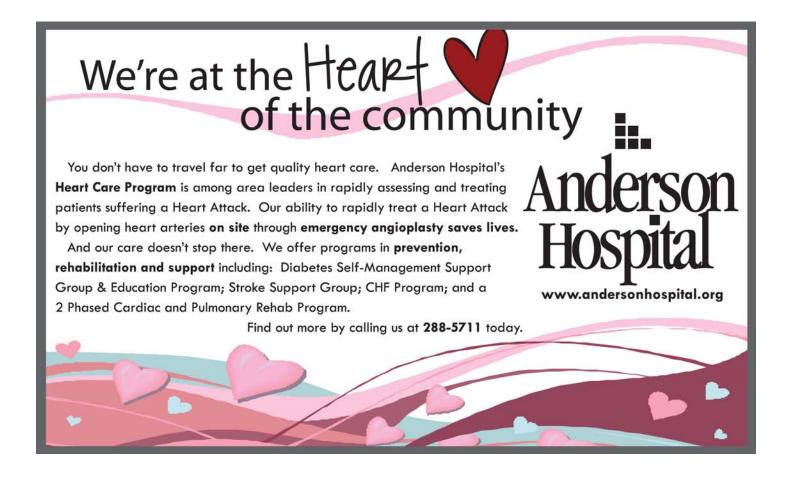
118 Hillsboro Avenue in Edwardsville Edwardsville City Hall

The Young Professionals Group is excited to announce their upcoming Learn from a Leader Breakfast featuring Mayor Gary Niebur, with breakfast provided by Len Scaturro, owner of Crushed Grapes. RSVP to Mark Richardson at: mrichardson@finsvcs.com

A lifelong resident of Edwardsville, Mayor Niebur was elected to his fifth term in April 2009. He has been the Executive Director of the Edwardsville YMCA since 1982. He serves on First Clover Leaf Bank's Board of Directors and is a member of Edwardsville Rotary Club. Mayor Niebur has received numerous community service awards including Rotary Club International Paul Harris Fellowship Award; the Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizen Award; and SIUE Religious Center Interfaith Award.



ABOVE: April 6 Learn from a Leader Breakfast with Congressman John Shimkus, hosted by TheBANK of Edwardsville.



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OLD CERTIFIED Partner

Are you making the most of your Chamber membership?

Don't forget to utilize the unique benefits and opportunities we offer to all members:

Learn New Skills For Small Business Success The Chamber provides services to small business owners. The Professional Education Series is designed to help you start your business or help your business grow. At the Chamber, you'll get the tools you need to help your business prosper.

Heighten Your Company's Visibility Chamber members are offered opportunities such as: free directory and Web site listings and links; low-cost advertising; free ribbon cuttings/ground breaking ceremonies; event sponsorships; networking opportunities with other Chamber members; and customer referrals. In addition, your investment in the Chamber gives your business credibility and thus marketability.

Make New Business Contacts Networking at Chamber events helps you meet potential customers, clients and vendors. The "Business After Hours" and "Professional Education Series" programs provide great opportunities to get to know new people — and expand your prospect base.

Market Your Products And Services Plenty of advertising and sponsorship opportunities exist through the Chamber's events, programs, Web site, and publications.

> **Business Referral Services** The Chamber receives a large volume of calls each day from individuals and companies requesting goods and services. We respond by referring only Chamber members.

Ground Breaking/Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies Let the Chamber help you celebrate your new office, product, or renovation! We will help you promote the opening by providing you with mailing labels of our membership and running the press announcements.

Mailing List and Labels Let the Chamber help you market to over 900 local businesses. The office provides free mailing lists and labels of Chamber members. For further savings, you can use the Chamber's bulk mail permit on mass mailings.

Residential Greeter Program Our Residential Greeter Program is offered to members only. This is an excellent program for businesses that would benefit from contact with new residents. Over 750 new residents are greeted annually in Edwardsville/ Glen Carbon. These residents may be your next customers! Each subscriber will receive a monthly report containing detailed information on each new resident greeted for your follow-up or to create a valuable mailing list for future use.



www.edglenchamber.c

connect

Business of the Month:



Ken and Michelle Noll, began landscaping in October 1995, and The Garden Kingdom store opened in May 1998. They joined the Chamber immediately for networking opportunities.

Ken has always found inspiration in the great outdoors, but found his calling when he worked a few summers on a golf course. He went on to study Landscape Architecture at University of Illinois.

The Garden Kingdom offers a full range of outdoor services including landscaping, maintenance (grass cutting, show plowing, full outdoor maintenance), water features, patios, walks, walls, irrigation, lighting and Christmas décor (The Garden Kingdom's holiday décor was displayed on the Madison Mutual building in December's edition of Common Ground).

The store sells landscape materials, trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs, houseplants, and tropicals. The Garden Kingdom has lately focused on the "green" movement, with a variety of plants to improve indoor health and rainwater harvest systems.

"Because The Garden Kingdom is located in an area that has been slow to develop, we have had to reach out to customers rather than rely on drive by traffic," Ken said.

The Garden Kingdom serves anyone who loves and appreciates nice things for their home – they see customers as invited guests to a party, with The Garden Kingdom owners and employees as the hosts. Ken feels it is their job each day to make every important aspect of the customer's experience a little better.

The Garden Kingdom actively supports the deaf community and soccer.



To learn more about The Garden Kingdom, stop by the store located at 3711 South State Route 157 in Glen Carbon, give them a call at 618.288.0101, or visit them online at www.thegardenkingdom.com.





Commercial Lenders seated are Brett Bruhn and John Dorsey Standing are Brian Ury, Shannon Scheffel, Tim Whitten and Dave Gansner

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NEW: Chamber Business Book Club

Discuss relevant management topics with others in the business community. with the Chamber's new Business Book Club. The Business Book Club (CBBC) is a unique opportunity to engage in meaningful conversation with other professionals. These structured yet relaxed group sessions will be facilitated by Rebecca Clark, principal of Excelegy Consulting Group, and held on the third Monday of each month.

Clark received a Master of Education degree in Adult and Organizational Development from Temple University. In addition to her human resources education, she brings "walk the talk" experience and focus through her years of experience in leadership and human resources roles across sectors and sizes of organizations and companies.

Limited quantities of CBBC books will be available through Edwardsville Public Library and Glen Carbon Centennial Library.

E-mail Linda at Idaniels@edglenchamber.com to reserve your seat in the Business Book Club - seating is limited.

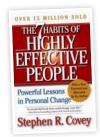
WHEN: Monday, May 17 from 4:30-6pm WHERE: Glen Carbon Centennial Library BOOK: Why Employees Don't Do What They're Supposed To Do and What You Can Do About It by Ferdinand F. Fournies





WHEN: Monday, June 21 from 4:30-6pm WHERE: Edwardsville Public Library BOOK: How to Win Customers and Keep Them For Life by Michael LeBoeuf

WHEN: Monday, July 19 from 4:30-6pm WHERE: Edwardsville Public Library BOOK: The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen R. Covey



More going on here than you think.



Lions. Tigers. And kids. Oh my!



Keep your wild ones in check this summer in a College for Kids summer camp. Kids will have a roaring good time while enriching their minds in 112 unique classes offered in eight

Engineering. Theatre. Cooking. Horses. German. Archery. Computers. Photography. Eco-Science. Basketball. And more.

Enroll now! Classes begin June 7, www.lc.edu/c4k.

It's what you know.





connect

Board Spotlight: Danelle Brown

A true native, Danelle was born and raised in Edwardsville until moving to Glen Carbon 10 years ago. She and husband Marcel have two beautiful daughters, Isabella and Elena.

Originally Danelle earned her degree in Interior Design, but over the years has cultivated her marketing expertise through business ownership. She became a Certified Book Yourself Solid Business Coach in October 2008 and is currently working on her Social Media Certification, always excited to learn anything new about marketing.

Danelle and Marcel have owned MB Tech, Inc. since 2002. Additionally, she has owned and operated Queen Bee Consulting since 2008 and is a partner of Sweet Pea Farms, which launches off this year. Danelle is a member of eWomenNetwork and serves as the eWomenNetwork Foundation Chair.

Danelle has been involved with the Ed/Glen Chamber for nearly nine years. She joined to keep current with the community and to connect with other business owners, and emphasizes the importance of sharing knowledge and helping one another succeed.

Her goal as a Board of Directors member is to help run an effective Board that looks out for it members and continues a forward thinking process that helps all business owners grow and flourish.

Danelle's advice for fellow Chamber members: "Network, network,

network! Get out there and meet people. Get involved, join committees, volunteer. It is the best way to get to know people and also give back."

In Danelle's rare but cherished spare time, she is a total foodie – she loves trying new restaurants, cooking and baking, wine tasting.

Danelle most admires her coach and mentor, Michael Port, for thinking outside the box and pushing others to be more than they thought they could be; and Lethia Owens for her passion, creativity and drive to help everyone excel at everything they do.



NEW E-mail Marketing Opportunity

Reach over 750 Chamber members each week through this exclusive members-only benefit. Your logo will be added to the Chamber's weekly Wednesday e-mail, with a clickthrough to your business Web site.

- \$25 per week
- Logos only (no text)
- Minimum 4-week cycle
- Limited space available

Have questions or would like to sign up? E-mail Des at dbennyhoff@edglenchamber.com

Significant savings on 6-month and 12-month **Constant Contact** accounts also available.





Christian Hospital welcomes Neurosurgeon Christian Sikorski, MD

Christian Sikorski, MD, has joined the BJC Medical Group and Christian Hospital as a neurosurgeon. Dr. Sikorski, 37, is board certified and comes to this region from Saint Joseph, Michigan, where he has been performing intricate neurological surgery services since 2006 as president of Lake Michigan Neurological Surgery.

A Chicago native, Dr. Sikorski earned his medical degree from the prestigious University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and was chief resident in neurological surgery at the University of Chicago Hospitals. He earned his bachelor's degree in biological sciences from the University of Chicago.

"I am very excited to be joining the Christian Hospital health care team and to provide my expertise in neurological surgery to this wonderful community."

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

Christian Sikorski, MD **Gateway Neurosurgery** 11155 Dunn Road, Suite 211N St. Louis, MO 63136 314-653-5801 314- 653-5813 Fax Illinois residents can call 618-433-6300



schmooze

business after hours



Rock Hill Trails, April 15



Rock Hill Trails, April 15



Extra Help, Inc. & Silkworm, Inc., April 29



Rock Hill Trails, April 15



Extra Help, Inc. & Silkworm, Inc., April 29



Extra Help, Inc. & Silkworm, Inc., April 29

ribbon cuttings



Bella Ragazza un Boutique, April 8



Syd's Shoes, April 14



Silkworm, Inc., April 29

networking@noon



Think Tank PR & Marketing, April 9



Think Tank PR & Marketing, April 9

taste of edwardsville



New Vehicle Brings Reliability to Mobile Blood Drives

A new 40-foot vehicle will soon bring life-saving blood to hundreds of patients in area hospitals. The Central Illinois Community Blood Center (CICBC) has acquired a new bloodmobile through funding from The Memorial Medical Center Foundation and St. John's Hospital. The bloodmobile was inaugurated Monday, April 5.

"Our present mobile units have been on the road quite some time, and for the past several months have been plagued with reliability issues," said David Parsons, CEO of CICBC. "Patients and their doctors must be confident that blood will be available when needed, and mechanical failures have at times put that in doubt.

"Volunteer blood donors make up a vital component of the excellent medical care we have in this area, and we are very grateful to St. John's and Memorial for giving us this capability to better reach our volunteer donors in order to maintain an adequate blood supply for area patients."

The new Bloodmobile has a great deal of flexibility and is equipped to efficiently hold an entire blood drive within the vehicle. It has five beds, two

registration areas, two screening rooms, and two power generators. Staff of the CICBC is completing the final steps of the inspection and calibration process. The Bloodmobile is expected to be put into service for mobile blood drives in early May.

Ordered in September, the vehicle was built by MBF Industries, Inc. of Sanford, Florida on a Freightliner chassis. Fully equipped, the vehicle cost nearly \$250,000. Each of the two hospitals contributed \$100,000 to enable the purchase of the Bloodmobile.



GLEN CARBON HOMECOMING JUNE 18 &19 2010

Every year awesome companies in Glen Carbon support the Annual homecoming with nominal donations or donations in kind. The Bank of Edwardsville supports the fireworks. Last year MinuteMan Press donated cups for the Margarita Bar. If you would like participate contact us at GCHomecoming@glen-carbon.il.us



Local Marketing & Design Duo Launch BRIDGET™

Chamber members and a local graphic design and marketing duo, Jan Carpenter and Laura Reed of Cork Tree Creative, have taken their creative talents to a whole new level and produced a one-of-a-kind gift set for bridge players. Inspired by Jan's mother and her friends in Palm Springs, California, BRIDGETTM supplies and gifts are boutiquedesigned and packaged for gift giving. All Made in the U.S.A., Jan and Laura were also



able to make most of the bridge supplies in the St. Louis region, including their reusable tallies, invitations, score pads and packaging.

With more than 25 million bridge players in the U.S. and a resurgence of the game in younger players thanks to a \$1 million funded campaign led by Bill Gates and Warren Buffet, BRIDGET™ is hitting the market just in time to meet the needs of cross generations of bridge fans.

According to Laura Reed of Cork Tree Creative, "We designed this gift with careful consideration of quality and our abilities to keep production of the product local. We have carefully selected 100% plastic playing cards with just the right amount of texture, created hard laminate tallies that are reusable and easy to read and packaged it all up in a durable, attractive box that makes gift giving so easy. We're really proud of our abilities to keep the production of our supplies local and will continue to find ways to support the local economy in any way we can."

Launched in March 2010, BRIDGET™ items are available online at www.bridgetlovesbridge.com or by calling 877.497.3298. The BRIDGET™ team hopes to soon approach retail outlets and sell their products in boutiques and specialty game stores.





CRUSHED GRAPES 1td.

wines - spirits - beers - gourmet foods - gifts



Help Support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund through Friday Night Wine Tastings at Crushed Grapes.

Len's Summer Favorites

WHITE Erath Oregon Pino Gris \$14.99 RED Martin Ray Santa Barbara Pinot Noir \$19.99

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Crushed Grapes, Catered AFFAIR & American Family Insurance

Thursday, May 13 5-7pm

Happy Mother's Day (May 9) & Father's Day (June 20)

Treat Mom & Dad to a Custom Gift Basket!

1500 Troy Road | Edwardsville, IL 62025 | 618.659.3530

Extra Help, Inc. Earns WBE Certification

In 1994, Extra Help Inc. began as a full service staffing agency specializing in temporary and temp-to-hire positions.

Over the years, Extra Help envisioned being a company that could not only help businesses with their employment needs, but offer a complete HR Solution.



In 2001, Teresa Katubia, President/Owner expanded Extra Help, Inc. to include Extra Help Payroll Services, Inc. and has grown to three offices operating in the Southern Illinois, St. Louis and the Metro East region, but is providing clients with services nationwide.

Extra Help, Inc. recently received national certification as a Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) by the Women's Business Development Center, a regional certifying partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC).

WBENC's national standard of certification implemented by the Women's Business Development Center is a meticulous process including an indepth review of the business and site inspection. The certification process is designed to confirm the business is at least 51% owned, operated and controlled by a woman or women.

By including women-owned businesses among their vendors, corporations, and government agencies demonstrate their commitment to fostering diversity and the continued development of their supplier/vendor diversity programs.

The Women's Business Enterprise National Council is the nation's largest third party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women in the United States. WBENC is a resource for the more than 700 US companies and government agencies that rely on WBENC's certification as an integral part of their supplier diversity programs.

To learn more about Extra Help, Inc., please visit www.extrahelpinc.com

Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Mini-Storage







Gateway Regional Announces New COO

Gateway Regional Medical Center recently appointed a new chief operating officer, Chris Jones. Jones came from Moberly Regional Medical Center where he served most recently as Assistant CEO since March of 2007.



"I am excited to be joining such

a dedicated group of employees and medical staff at Gateway Regional Medical Center," said Jones. "I look forward to building on their prior accomplishments and being a part of many future successes, as well as being an integral part of the Granite City community."

Jones began his tenure at Moberly Regional as a radiology technician and he quickly worked his way up the ranks. He was promoted to Director of Radiology Services within 4 years. In 2006 was further promoted to administrative specialist and finally to ACEO in 2007.

During his time as ACEO, Jones facilitated a \$3 mil MRI addition, which was completed in the summer of 2009. He was also involved in the planning of a \$2 mil Cardiac Catheterization Lab renovation, which is currently underway at Moberly Regional. He supported all ancillary departments, assisted with new service line development and was instrumental in the organization's culture change, specifically focused on improving employee, physician and patient satisfaction.

Jones earned his Bachelors degree of Health Sciences in Radiology from the University of Missouri in 1994. He earned a Masters in Business Administration and a Masters in Healthcare Administration from William Woods University, Fulton, MO in 2003 and 2005 respectively. He is married and has three children.









SIUE Alum to Display Artwork in MUC Gallery

Gib Singleton, a 1967 SIUE graduate, has produced some of the most inspiring works of art seen anywhere in the world. Millions of people have seen Gib's talent displayed in the hands of Pope John Paul II. The crucifix which sat atop the crosier, carried by the Pope during his 26 year reign, was created by Gib. Pope Benedict XVI now carries the same piece. Gib left SIUE to study at the Art Institute of Chicago where he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in Italy. While in Italy he was commissioned to repair Michelangelo's Pieta after it was damaged by a vandal. His work is on display at the Vatican Museum, The Cowboy Hall of Fame, the Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Authority, and private collections around the world.

28 pieces representing Gib's work in contemporary, religious, and western themes, will be on display at the Morris University Center Gallery May 13-June 27. The exhibit is presented through a partnership with the SIUE Alumni Association, Meridian Society, SIUE Museum, Morris University Center, SIUE Friends of Art, Edwardsville Arts Council, and Jacoby Arts Center.

For more information please visit www.siue.edu/alumni.

Keeping the Community in Focus

She's one of the most familiar faces in Edwardsville, even though her picture has never appeared in the newspaper.

Photographer Marci Winters-McLaughlin returned the Intelligencer after the February birth of her daughter, Carmen.



The winner of the Hearst Corporation's prestigious Eagle Award and a number of regional photography competitions, Marci will be splitting her time between motherhood and photography. She'll continue to capture the newsmaking moments in the area as well as chronicling the day-to-day events of our community.

Marci will begin her seventh year with the "I" in August. Rachael Wilbur, an SIUE graduate, will join the Intelligencer and serve as a part-time photographer.





GCS to Sponsor Route 66 Talent Show

GCS Federal Credit Union will again join the celebration at the 13th Annual Route 66 Festival.

As part of the hometown event, a talent show will be held Saturday, June 12th, from 12:30-2 p.m. at the Edwardsville City Park. This non-competitive show welcomes group and individual acts of all ages. If you have a special talent in music, dance, or even comedy, this is the perfect event for you. Auditions for the show will be held at the Main Street Community Center in Edwardsville on May 21st from 6-9 p.m.

If interested in participating, please visit cityofedwardsville.com to download an audition application. For further questions, please contact Katie Grable at kgrable@cityofedwardsville.com.





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Bully's Nominated for Best BBQ in RFT

Bully's Smokehouse, family owned and operated since 2006, has been picked as one of the Best BBQ Restaurants in the entire St. Louis area by voters in the 2010 Riverfront Times Restaurant Guide readers' poll (RFT Issue April 22-28, 2010). Bully's Smokehouse was in great company with two other family owned and operated restaurants in the area.

The Bully's family is honored by this designation and wishes to thank all of Bully's loyal fans for their patronage, support and for taking the time to vote.

Bully's offers a full menu of "Award Winning" Southern Style BBQ entrees, sandwiches and appetizers with new organic menu items coming soon! They always take reservations and are currently accepting reservations for Mother's Day and Father's Day celebrations, graduations, bridal or baby showers and birthday parties. Bully's Full Service Catering is also available.

Bully's Smokehouse has two metro-east locations, both with banquet rooms to serve you: 1035 Century Drive in Edwardsville and 1280 Columbia Center in Columbia. TEXT "Smokehouse" to 66937 for Special Deals. Visit Bully's online at www.bullyssmokhouse.com.

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Governor Quinn Signs Legislation to Boost Number of Illinois Small Business Jobs

Governor Pat Quinn recently signed a bill into law that will help boost Illinois' economy by creating up to 20,000 jobs over the next year at small businesses across the state. The new law is part of Governor Quinn's continuing mission to help employers retain and generate jobs in Illinois during this difficult economic time.

"Small businesses are essential to the Illinois economy and it's crucial that state government find fresh and creative ways of working with entrepreneurs, who will lead the charge toward economic recovery," said Governor Quinn. "This tax credit will help our small business owners and operators to grow by creating 20,000 jobs over the next year."

Senate Bill 1578 creates the Illinois Small Business Job Creation Tax Credit. The \$2,500 credit will be available to businesses with 50 or fewer employees that hire new, full-time Illinois employees during a 12-month period beginning July 1. Ninety-five percent of Illinois businesses have fewer than 50 employees.

The legislation passed the General Assembly unanimously and was sponsored by Sen. Michael Noland (D-Elgin) and House Speaker Michael Madigan (D-Chicago).

To qualify for the credit, a new job must be sustained for at least one year and pay at least \$25,000 annually. Eligible companies can apply for the credit online and will be issued a tax credit certificate beginning

July 1, 2011. Applications for the credit may be submitted as soon as a new, full-time Illinois employee is hired and begins providing services. The total amount of credits issued is capped at \$50 million.

Calculation of the net increase in the number of Illinois employees is based on the employer's number of Illinois employees as of June 30, 2010. The determination of whether an employer has 50 or fewer employees will include all employees in every location, which includes both in Illinois and out-of-state employment totals. Related businesses will be treated as one business for the determination.



Two Men And A Truck Win SIUE Alumni Association **National Safety Award**

Three drivers at the Collinsville Two Men And A Truck franchise won top honors for being the safest drivers out of more than 190 offices in North America. Josh Lewis, Darnell Harris and Kendrick Lewis ranked No. 1 out of more than 3.000 drivers nationwide.

Lewis, Harris and Lewis have worked for Two Men And A Truck for a combined 18 years. The company's international headquarters awarded them with top honors for their excellent safety record, part of the company's Safe Driver Program, which recognizes drivers who consistently demonstrate a top-ofthe-mind awareness for the safety of the public, themselves, and their truck.

"Our drivers have an awesome responsibility not only to our customers, but everyone else on the road," said Mary Ellen Sheets, founder and chairwoman of Two Men And A Truck. "We are proud to honor our drivers who excel in their work and live by our company's core values."

For more information, contact the Collinsville Two Men And A Truck at 618.301.4100 or go to www.twomen.com.

Wine Tasting

Join the SIUE Alumni Association for an afternoon wine tasting event on Saturday, May 15 at Crushed Grapes from 3-5pm. Mix and mingle with area alumni, faculty, staff and friends. Enjoy indoor seating or grab a table outside under the tents.

Tickets are \$10 for unlimited wine and beer tastings. To compliment the wine and beer, cheese and meat trays, crackers and fruit will also be provided. If you would like to attend, please register online at siue.edu/alumni/crushedgrapes.shtml. You can also register over the phone by calling 618.650.2760. The \$10 ticket fee will be paid at the door.





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FOR EDWARDSVILLE/GLEN CARBON CHAMBER MEMBERS

Lilley and Associates, Inc. is introducing a Limited Medical Insurance Plan for Chamber members. This plan includes hospital and office visits, prescription drug coverage, maternity coverage, and a vision discount program. There are no minimum requirements for number of hours your employee must work, nor is there a requirement for minimum number of participating employees. Please call or email us today for more details on the plan, which features:

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Grace Manor Restaurant Collaborates with Local Artists

Grace Manor Restaurant, formerly the Klingel House Tearoom, is a pre-civil war building built in 1859 by the Klingel family. There was a 3-story Brewery that sat next to the house as well as tunnels under the property which were part of the underground railroad.

Grace Manor celebrates the flavors of the season with locally grown produce, meats, and dairy from Goshen Farmer's Market, and local vendors. They change their menu with every season, along with the interior colors of the restaurant. Grace Manor puts a creative spin on traditional sandwiches and salads and make their own soups.

Complimenting that creativity, Grace Manor has opened its doors and offered its walls to artist and curator, Jennifer Flores, to display the work of local artists. Beginning in April, Grace Manor features the work of Jennifer Flores, Tricia Rehkemper, Michael Wartgow, Nick Martin and Ashlea Gernand. These artists will continue showing work for the feature show *Untitled*, and will be joined by St. Louis artist Amanda Dickson, Chicago artist Jennifer Szymczak, painter Alicia Obermeyer, and graphic designer Adam Sanchez in the month of Mav.

Grace Manor will cater the opening event Saturday, May 15 from 7-9pm, providing local flavor through food and drink. All work on display is available for purchase as Grace Manor participates as a satellite gallery space for Art Park Ost, APO, soon-to-be located in Granite City, IL.

Grace Manor Seasonal Restaurant, located at 1801 North Main Street in Edwardsville, is open Tuesday through Friday from 11am-7pm and Saturday from 10am-3pm. Reach Grace Manor by phone at 618.655.0650 or online at gracemanorrestaurant.com.





Get Your Kicks at the Route 66 Festival

Friday & Saturday Tune 11th & 12th Edwardsville City Park

The popular festival celebrating Edwardsville's place on the historic Mother Road is back in 2010! Good times at the park!

Showcase your business or non-profit organization by getting involved with the festival as a sponsor or volunteer. This two-day event draws thousands to the park for food, drink, live entertainment and classic cars. For more information call the City of Edwardsville Parks & Recreation Department at 692-7538.

Scaturro Announces Upcoming Crushed Grapes Events, Encourages Local Shopping

Len Scaturro of Crushed Grapes, Kathy Goclan of American Family Insurance and Kelly Cobb of Catered AFFAIR, will host Business After Hours Thursday, May 13 at Crushed Grapes. They invite Chamber members to come out for a fun, relaxing evening of fantastic food, delicious drinks, and plenty of networking opportunities!

Scaturro also encourages everyone to shop locally as much as possible. "By shopping locally owned businesses, you help create a stronger economy, promote neighborhood improvement, support city services, build a better community and establish a personal relationship with business owners. We all have a vested interest in the success of our local economy"

Len is passionate about supporting your guy or gal next door. As a small business owner himself, Scaturro understands the importance of establishing meaningful relationships with customers. "When a customer steps through your door and you greet them by name, that means something - especially when they don't come in on a regular basis. As those relationships develop, you learn more and more about a customer's preferences, budget, and so

on...you're really able to connect with them on a new level and provide them with even greater customer service. That's what we're all about at Crushed Grapes – knowing our products and serving our customers."

Crushed Grapes has many exciting events planned for summer: a Father's Day weekend celebration; wine appreciation and pairing courses taught through Lewis and Clark Community College; and an Australian wine tasting in August.

Plus, this is a great time of your for summer wines and beers – enjoy the beautiful weather with a rosé, white, or soft red wine.

Did you know that Crushed Grapes raised over \$10,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) in 2009? Visit Crushed Grapes every Friday for wine tasting events – all proceeds support JDRF.

Look for specials and keep up with Crushed Grapes on Facebook, and to learn more, visit Crushed Grapes online at www.crushedgrapesltd.com.



TheBANK Supports Fireworks at Glen Carbon Homecoming and the 2010 Route 66 Festival

TheBANK of Edwardsville has stepped up to the plate in support of two of the community's summer festivals – Glen Carbon Homecoming and Route 66 Festival. TheBANK donated \$2,500 in support of the fireworks at Glen Carbon Homecoming and \$2,500 to help support the return of the popular Route 66 Festival to Edwardsville City Park.

The 2010 Glen Carbon Homecoming celebration will be held on Main Street in Glen Carbon on Friday, June 18 from 5pm—midnight and Saturday, June 19 from 4—midnight. The fireworks display will be held on Saturday night at dusk.

The Route 66 Festival will return this year with live music and activities for all ages on Friday, June 11, 2010 from 5pm–11:30pm, and Saturday, June 12, 2010 from 10am–11:30pm.

"TheBANK prides itself on being a locally owned community bank and we understand that by supporting events and organizations throughout our service area that we are contributing to the outstanding quality of life we all share," added Tom Holloway, president of TheBANK of Edwardsville. "TheBANK continually looks for opportunities to give back to the community. It's our way of saying thank you to the people who have helped make our bank what it is today."

TheBANK of Edwardsville, with its 2010 theme: "Because We Care," has assets exceeding \$1.35 billion and a long tradition of providing personal service, offering innovative products and giving back to the communities in which it serves. For more information, please visit www.4thebank.com

10th Anniversary for Smart Women Smart Money!

Illinois State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias' Office will host a free financial literacy conference for women in the Metro East area on

Chamber of Commerce



Thursday, May 13, 2010 from 8:45am—1:30pm at Four Points by Sheraton, 319 Fountains Parkway, Fairview Heights. The theme for the 2010 Smart Women Smart Money conference is "A Perfect 10" in celebration of our tenth anniversary of educating and empowering women.

State Treasurer's Chief of Staff Robin Kelly will give the keynote address. Gail Perry-Mason, author of Oprah Book Club selection "Girl: Make Your Money Grow!" will give plenary remarks. Breakout sessions will focus on the new rules of credit cards, entering and re-entering the workforce, basic money management during these economic times, and planning for retirement.

Check-in for the free event will begin at 8am. A light lunch will be provided. The SWSM conference is presented by Dollars and Sense Inc., a nonprofit organization. Major sponsors for 2010 include Country Financial, Visa, and State Farm; Lewis and Clark Library System is a regional sponsor.

Registration forms can be found at www.treasurer.il.gov under the Smart Women Smart Money link. Pre-registration is required; group registrations are encouraged (10 guests/table). For more information, contact Martha Rohlfing at 312.814.1288.

Committee Volunteers Needed for SIUe Day

Are you looking for a way to connect with SIUE? The SIUE Day planning committee is forming and looking to expand their committee.

SIUE Day is scheduled for Friday, October 15, 2010 at the Morris University Center Meridian Ballroom. The event is a celebration of SIUE and effort to strengthen our community partnerships. We are pleased to announce that Marc Voegele, Owner, Express Employment Professionals has graciously agreed to lead the 2010 SIUE Day team and serve as the SIUE Day Breakfast sponsor and Chair.

Come and share your ideas and help us grow this successful annual event!

Join today – contact Julie Babington, SIUE, Director of Annual Giving at 618.650.2378 or via e-mail at jbabing@siue.edu.





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