November 2009

ed glen

Edwardsville I Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

It's everyone's business.

Common Ground















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Matt McSparin, First Vice President Individual Member

Jav Blanauart, Second Vice President Blanquart Jewelers & Corp. Gifts

Marc Voegele, Third Vice President **Express Employment Professionals**

Mike Marshall, Treasurer Anderson Hospital

Bruce Coury, Past President Individual Member

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Edwardsville School District #7

Erika Kennett

The Alliance of Edwardsville/Glen Carbon

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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

Lee Russo Designs

Lee Russo began her florist business, Lee Russo Designs, in November of 1979, in the lower level of her home where silk and dried wreaths and centerpieces were sold as well as fresh flowers for life's everyday occasions. Today, nearly 30 years later, she is in her third commercial location at 216 South Buchanan (Highway 159) across from Edwardsville City Library and next to the final developmental phase of Park Plaza.

Community involvement has always been a priority. As a member of Jr. Service early on, the Chamber since 1980, and Rotary and BNI for the past several years, Russo has enjoyed getting to know many fellow business people through a variety of community service activities. While raising six sons (Mark, Andy, Rick, Sean, Joe and Tim) in the community, comparable enjoyable times have been spent in school, sports, and scouting activities.

Flowers have always been a passion for Lee. Floral design styles and colors have changed yearly as well as the product mix of home furnishing accents and holiday enhancements. Cutting edge arrangements are a recognized trademark by many in the community. Russo is a longtime member of the American Institute of Floral Designers - a trendsetting international organization, the Society of American Florists, and the Illinois Florist Association. She has been the recipient of many awards including the Lincoln Cup, displayed works in several art museums and floral magazines, and is a guest speaker at conventions and community group gatherings.

"To create beauty in all that we are and all that we do" has been an ongoing mission statement for Lee Russo Designs. She and her staff believe this just about covers how they like to treat their customers as well as create floral designs.

This year's Holiday Open House will begin Saturday, November 14 and will extend through November 21 with a 20% discount on almost everything to show customer appreciation and in an attempt to accommodate busy schedules. And, yes, they will have the annual Robert Lange Charity Raffle to benefit the Glen-Ed Pantry!

To learn more about Lee Russo Designs, stop by the store or visit them online at www.leerussodesigns.com.

2009 Advertising Rates:

	Monthly	Color	
	Rate	Charge	
1/8 Page	\$32	\$7	
1/4 Page	\$65	\$10	
1/2 Page	\$110	\$15	
Full Page	\$210	\$20	
Back Page	\$310	Included	

Book One Year of Advertising in Common Ground and Receive a 15% Discount.

Call 618.656.7600 for details.

Common Ground

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www.edglenchamber.com

special investors

Gold Level

Anderson Hospital Wal-Mart

Silver Level

AmerenIF AT&T Gateway Regional Medical Center Hortica Royal Solutions, LLC Stone Carlie TheBANK of Edwardsville

Bronze Level

Ashley Furniture Home Store Associated Bank Best Buy Cassens & Sons Cassens Transport Charter Business City of Edwardsville Commerce Bank
Eden Village Retirement Community
Edwardsville School District #7
Edwardsville Publishing Company First Clover Leaf Bank Hurford Architects, Inc. Juneau Associates, Inc., PC Madison Mutual Insurance Co. MetLife Meridian Village Prestige Management Services, LLC Red Robin Gourmet Burgers Richards Brick Company Royal Office Products, Inc. ROYAL Office Products, file:
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Fountain View Manor Gateway Center Gateway Grizzlies Glik's Department Store Grace Manor Hampton Inn & Suites Hawkins Law Office

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Hurford Architects, Inc. Illinois Dept. of Employment Security Imaging Center of Southern Illinois IMO'S Pizza

Jan's Hallmark Shop J.F. Electric Inc. Kentucky Fried Chicken Kitchenland Kurt's Carstar Collision Center

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Littler Mendeson, P.C.
Louer Facility Planning
Magnuson Camelot Hotel
Market Basket
Maryville Pharmacy
Maryville Women's Center & Med Spa

Massage Envy Masterpiece Smiles – Dr. Noll Mastroianni Orthodontics Maurices Mayfield Medical Services

Metro Limousine Midwest Occupational Medicine Minuteman Press

Mt. Everest Air Neruda OCE Imagistics Office Depot

Office Max
One America Securities Open MRI of Southern IL, LLC Phelps Construction

Priedmont Development Corp.
ProSource Wholesale Floorcoverings
Prudential One Realty Centre Red Robin

Reed, Armstrong, Gorman, Mudge & Morrissey Regions Bank

Schnuck's Scott Credit Union Shell Community Federal Credit Union Sherrill Associates, Inc.

Shoe Carnival Sivia Business & Legal Services Southern Illinois Underwriters

Stonebridge Development

Stoneoriage Development Sprint SSM Home Care Stahly Cartage Co. Stonebridge Golf Club Sunset Hills Country Club Sunset Hills Family Dental Super 8 Pontoon Beach T-Mobile

The Gilliland Financial Group The Scheffel Companies The Telegraph Think Tank PR

Thouvenot, Wade & Moerchen Inc.

Today's Advantage Traveling Tails Inn University Nursing & Rehabilitation USO of Missouri

US Bank Vallev View Cemetery, Mausoleum & Funeral Home

Verizon Wireless WBGZ Radio Wenzel & Associates Wise Choice Coffees

events

11/4 Wednesday 5pm

Ribbon Cutting The Floor Store 1512 Trov Road Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

11/5 Thursday 5-7pm

Business After Hours Hudson Jewelers 6679 Edwardsville Crossing Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

11/10 Tuesday

Ribbon Cutting The Cupcakery 1057 Century Drive Edwardsville, Illinois 62025 11/13 Friday noon

networking@noon hosted by AVON on Main at Bella Milano South State Route 157 Edwardsville, IL 62025

11/18 Wednesday 4-5:30pm

Professional Education Marketing Yourself with Guest Speaker John Suarez at GC Cuisine 1230 University Drive Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

11/19 Thursday 5-7pm

Business After Hours TheBANK of Edwardsville 2143 Highway 157 Glen Carbon, IL 62034

save the date

12/1 Tuesday

5pm Ribbon Cutting McBride & Sons 6777 Oxford Lane Maryville, Illinois 62062

12/2 Wednesday 7:30-9am

Learn from a Leader Breakfast w/ Mayor Gary Niebur (YPG Only) **YMCA Meyer Center** 7348 Goshen Road Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

12/2 Wednesday 4pm

Ribbon Cutting Hospice of Southern Illinois 7331 Marine Road (Hwy. 143) Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

12/3 Thursday

Business After Hours Blanquart Jewelers 2322 Troy Road Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

12/11 Friday

10am-5:30pm

5-7pm

Grand Re-Openina Abbey Inc. Graphic Design 3312 Godfrey Road Godfrey, Illinois 62035

12/11 Friday noon

networking@noon hosted by Eigenbrodt Vision Center Location TBD

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 6:00 pm. Entry fee is \$5. This is an excellent networking opportunity!

11/5 Thursday 5-7 pm

Hudson Jewelers 6679 Edwardsville Crossing Drive Edwardsville, IL 62025

11/19 Thursday 5-7 pm

TheBANK of Edwardsville Glen Carbon Branch 2143 Highway 157 Glen Carbon, IL 62034

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.

11/13 **Friday** noon

hosted by AVON on Main at Bella Milano 1063 South State Route 157 Edwardsville, IL

12/11 Friday noon hosted by Eigenbrodt Vision Center Location TBD

CHAMBER MEMBERS

Discover our Meat Department & Boar's Head Deli

\$5 COUPON

with your \$20 Meat/Deli Purchase



Expires 11/30/09 Not valid with any other offer.



447 SOUTH BUCHANAN IN EDWARDSVILLE | 618.656.9055 | WWW.JOESMARKETBASKET.COM

The Newly Connected

Accelerate: Health & **Fitness Consulting**

Jared Woolever Health & Fitness Services 12 Pebble Court Edwardsville, IL 62025 618.203.1418 www.edwardsvillebootcamps.com

Bauer Hite Orthodontic Specialists

Elizabeth Hite Full Service Orthodontic Practice 23 Glen Ed Professional Park Glen Carbon, IL 62034 618.692.1044 www.bauerortho.com

Dana Klassen

Individual Membership 1703 Partridge Place Edwardsville, IL 62025 618.978.7682

Marketing Fusion Inc.

Adam Nicoloff Online Marketing Specialist 1019 Bermuda Drive Edwardsville, II 62025 618.407.8383 www.marketingfusioninc.com

McBride & Sons Homes

Lisa Medders New Home Construction Villages at Amberleigh 6777 Oxford Lane Marvville, IL 62062 618.288.0888 www.mcbridehomes.com

Ottwein Photography

Amber Ottwein **Photography** 201 McKinley Edwardsville, IL 62025 618.792.0172 www.ottweinphotography.com

John Ruder

Individual Membership 3733 Sand Road Edwardsville, IL 62025 618.692.8165

Sellstate Expert Realty

Shari Kindle Real Estate Agents/Brokers 123 Rottingham Court Edwardsville, IL 62025 618.307.9330 www.sellstate.com

Sianature Healthcare **Foundation**

Beth Schlueter Healthcare Leadership 18 Weybridge Court Edwardsville, IL 62025 314.440.8375 www.signaturefoundation.org

The Cupcakery

Jennifer Johnson Cupcakes, Cookies, Coffee & Espresso 1057 Century Drive Edwardsville, IL 62025 618.656.2287 www.cravethecup.com

The Floor Store, Inc.

Bob Fritts Floor Covering Sales & Service 1512 Troy Road Edwardsville, IL 62025 618.659.4807 www.edwardsvillefloorstore.com

From The Desk of Carol Foreman

October was a busy month for the Chamber, having successfully executed two large-scale community events - the inaugural community-wide Fallfest and the annual Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Halloween Parade.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my sincerest thanks to everyone who helped make these two events a success.



Businesses, non-profit organizations and volunteers, along with City, Village and SIUE staff pulled together to provide the Edwardsville and Glen Carbon communities with over 60 separate Fallfest events. See page 12 for a Fallfest recap full of feedback from participants.

The annual Halloween Parade is another example of teamwork between numerous volunteers, the City of Edwardsville, the Village of Glen Carbon and SIUE. We appreciate the support of local police departments and the continued enthusiasm of our communities for this highly anticipated tradition of over 90 years. Congratulations to TheBANK of Edwardsville for winning Grand Champion honors, as well all other float winners and parade participants. See Halloween Parade photos on pages 13 and 16.

While the Chamber staff dedicates many man hours to support these events, we couldn't do it without the continued assistance and dedication of our faithful volunteers and strong communities.

The Ed/Glen Chamber is the only organization with the ability to pull resources, volunteers, businesses and the community together to execute such events. The successes we saw in October further exemplifies the reciprocal relationship between a strong Chamber and strong community.

Sincerely,



Carol Foreman, Executive Director

Would you like to join the Annual Auction & Dinner Committee? If so, get involved by contacting Dave Toby (618.656.9090 or dtoby@fcbbanks.com) or Carol Foreman (618.656.7600 or cforeman@edglenchamber.com). The first meeting is set for noon Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at the Chamber office with lunch provided.

ambassadors

The Chamber is accepting Ambassador applications for 2010 - this is a great way to get involved!

Chamber By-laws

Become familiar with the Chamber's by-laws, policies & procedures.

Support the Chamber's fundraising events such as Annual Auction, Golf Challenge, etc. as a volunteer.

Ambassador Meetings

Attend monthly Ambassador meetings.

Chamber Promotion

Represent the Chamber in a professional manner at all times.

Recruitment & Retention

Help recruit new Chamber members. Mentor new Chamber members to help them become familiar with Chamber benefits. Contact non-active members to encourage participation as needed.

Chamber Board Meetings & Activities

Attend twelve Business After Hours events each year to assist with 50/50 ticket sales, registration. Greet and welcome new and prospective Chamber members at events. Participate in networking@noons, Ribbon Cutting ceremonies, open houses, ground breakings, and have the opportunity to provide promotional items for Ribbon Cutting welcome baskets. Assist with annual Halloween Parade by judging parade entries. You are welcomed and encouraged to attend monthly Board of Directors meetings.

O AMBASSADOR APPI

NAME:	You reviewed the Ambassador duties & responsibilities and are willing to fulfill obligations: YES NO
COMPANY:	How long have you been a Chamber member?
ADDRESS:	Why are you interested in becoming an Ambassador?
PHONE:	
E-MAIL:	
Please mail (200 University Park Drive, Suite 260; Edwardsville, IL 62	at 618.656.7600 or cforeman@edglenchamber.com 025) or fax (618.656.7611) your application to the Chamber office.
to help with day-to-day functions and to achieve the overall god honor your responsibilities or duties, please advise the Ambo	ities. These expectations need to be met by all Ambassadors als and missions of the organization. If for any reason you cannot assadors' Chairperson so alternate plans can be made. As an er by promoting membership and mentoring new members.
NAME:	DATE:
SIGNATURE:	





Fall Wine Tasting at Villa Marie Winery, October 17

upcoming YPG events

12/2 Wednesday 7:30-9am Learn from a Leader Breakfast w/ Mayor Gary Niebur (YPG Only) at the YMCA Meyer Center 7348 Goshen Road Edwardsville, Illinois 62025 RSVP to Mark Richardson at mrichardson@finsvcs.com



OPEN HOUSE

Dr. Melbourne & Cleora Grimm

INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Wednesday, November 18 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Preview the new unit! **Enjoy coffee & dessert! Everyone Welcome!**



connect

oard of Directors

Executive Committee

President Jay Blanquart

First Vice President Marc Voegele

Second Vice President Skip Sponeman

Third Vice President Paul Millard

> Past President Kelly Wagner

> > **Treasurer** Mike Marshall

Board of Directors

Bruce Courv (term 2008–2010)

Jim Carroll (term 2010–2012)

Michael Lengacher (term 2008–2010)

> Lelan Olsen (term 2010-2012)

Pat Slaughter (term 2008–2010)

Len Scaturro (term 2010-2012)

Kelly Cobb (term 2008–2010)

Emily Gates (term 2008–2010)

Todd Sivia (term 2008-2010)

Mark Richardson (term 2010–2012)

Joan Frey (term 2010–2012)

David Toby (term 2010-2012)

Gary Hoggatt (appointed 2010)

Danelle Brown (appointed 2010)



CONGRATULATIONS to the winner of our survey drawing - Derek **Richey of The Autography Guys** won a free 1/2 page ad in the **December edition** of Common Ground!

A special thanks to everyone who took the time to complete our survey. Your feedback will help us continue to improve the Golf Challenge.

Would you like to serve on the 2010 Golf Committee? If so, please contact the Chamber office.

2009 GOLF SURVEY RESULT

How did you about the to		How do you prefer to re		How of
Brochure	5	E-mail	14	other
Website	0	Fax	0	Less E
Newsletter	7	Online	4	About
E-mail	3	Mail	5	More
Other	11	Other	3	I Don'

did our registration ompare to tourneys? Expensive 0 t the Same 12 Expensive 10 't Know

How did the following factors affect your decision to participate?

	Extremely	Moderately	Moderately	Extremely
	Important	Important	Unimportant	Unimportant
Event Location	5	12	6	2
Chamber as Beneficiary	12	11	1	1
Recognition Opportunities	4	9	11	1
Networking Opportunities	8	9	7	1
Relationship w/ Chamber	7	13	4	1

Please rate the following:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
Staff & Volunteers	17	4	0	0
Beverage Cart Availability	6	16	0	0
Lunch/Snack	6	13	2	3
Dinner	10	8	3	2
Golf Course	14	6	2	1
Country Club Staff	11	8	3	0

Which aspec		Which aspect of you LEAST LIKE?	
Giveaways	5	Giveaways	2
Contests	1	Contests	3
Prizes	1	Prizes	5
Course	9	Course	2
Meal	6	Meal	3
Networking	8	Networking	2

Did you like the way your company name and/or logo was displayed?

Yes	14
No	0
N/A	8

Based on your experience, will you participate next year?

Yes 12 10 Maybe No 0

Do you like contest holes?

Yes 15 No 4



connect

Business of the Month:



Imaging Center of Southern Illinois, owned by Steve McRae and established in 1999, specializes in outpatient imaging. The Imaging Center is accredited with the American College of Radiology and all technologists are certified in their field, serving all individuals with imaging needs. At the Imaging Center, prompt and courteous service is their specialty.

As a free-standing facility, the Center offers patients three convenient locations in a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere. Their facility in Maryville offers MRI, CT, ultrasound, x-ray, bone density scans, and digital mammography - in fact, they were the first in the metro area to install state of the art digital mammography equipment, and the Center's Open MRI can accommodate claustrophobic and larger individuals.

The Imaging Center understands the importance of physicians obtaining answers promptly and guarantees a 24- to 48-hour turnaround time on reports. The Center is able to schedule exams in a timely manner, sometimes even the same day, and also offer extended hours for some services to accommodate those who may not be able to take off work or school to have an exam. They are also contracted with most insurance plans and offer payment plans to those with high deductibles or without health insurance.

Staff at the Imaging Center actively focus on giving back to the community through volunteerism and donations. Many staff members participated in the Making Strides walk and the Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society. The Center has given charitable contributions of both time and dollars to many local organizations including Easter Seals, Horizon of Hope, American Lung Association, United Way, and sponsoring athletic teams such as softball, baseball, and YMCA soccer. The Center also participates in community education through a variety of programs.

Having joined the Chamber in 1999 when the Imaging Center opened its doors, the Center has benefitted significantly through membership, finding the Chamber especially helpful in business promotion and helping the community recognize the Center as a premier provider of imaging services in the area. Owner Steve McRae has served on the Chamber's Board of Directors for over 6 years.

All of the Center's radiologists are certified by the American Board of Radiology, and recently Clinical Radiologists, S.C. began providing radiology services to the Imaging Center's patients at its Maryville location - this

brings experience and quality of on-site fellowship-trained radiologists to the Center. With more than 50 board certified physicians covering all radiology sub-specialties, Clinical Radiologists, S.C. is one of the largest and most progressive radiology groups in the Midwest. They provide radiology services to 20 hospitals as well as large multispecialty clinics and other facilities throughout Illinois, Missouri and Iowa.

The Imaging Center of Southern Illinois is located at 2016 Vadalabene Drive in Maryville. Reach them by phone at 618.288.4929 or visit them online at www.lmaging4Life.com. The Center has recently expanded services to the Swansea and Alton areas, with the Alton location currently conducting a holiday food drive for Crisis Foods.



ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: Carol Foreman, Executive Director of Ed/Glen Chamber; Susan Piazza, Imaging Center Marketing Representative; and Stephanie Dykstra, Imaging Center Operation Manager.



learn

Professional Education Presents Marketing Yourself: 10 Ways to Recession-Proof Your Career



Savvy employees know that in today's competitive professional environment, working hard and someone recognizes them for new opportunities and promotions just isn't enough.

Join the Professional Education Committee Wednesday, November 18, 2009 from 4-5:30pm at GC

Cuisine for Marketing Yourself: 10 Ways to Recession-Proof Your Career, as guest speaker John Suarez shares his expertise on crafting a professional image to get ahead of the competition and achieve professional success.

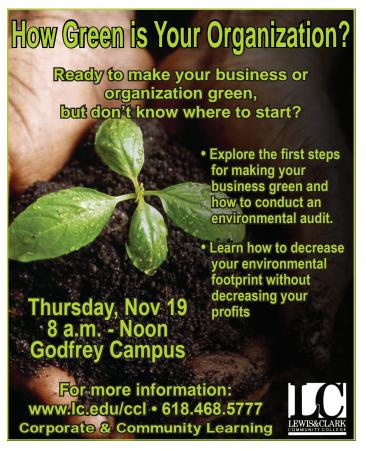
John Suarez, owner of Success Stories INK, a company dedicated to helping people achieve career success and improve their professional development skills. John has a 22-year record of success as a nationally published and award winning resume writer, conference speaker, executive career consultant, and trainer on job searches, business writing, networking, generating referrals, and word-of-mouth marketing skills.

The \$10 course fee includes refreshments. Seating is limited and preregistration is required. Call the Chamber office at 618.656.7600 or e-mail Linda at Idaniels@edglenchamber.com to reserve your seat today.





(Conveniently Located On Rt 159 Across From Ponderosa)



FALLFEST



"Our Apple Fest was great. We had the chance to reach out to the community in a really fun way and had a great turnout. The most exciting was our first ever Apple Pie Baking Contest - we were pleased to have 15 entries, and our winner came all the way from Belleville! I was very pleased with the number of people in attendance who learned about us and our Apple Fest through the Chamber's printed program. We can't wait for next year!"

Owner, The Tech Spot



event Saturday with over 750







"Families came into our store so eager to check out each and every of the Fallfest venues - they had Fallfest programs in hand. highlighted with their favorite activities. It was wonderful capturina so many Edwardsville families in our free family photos day! We look forward to supporting the spirit of Fallfest again next year."

Jane Hudson GM, Hudson Jewelers







The Glen Carbon Police Department is pleased to express our sincerest cold dimmed the lights on the trail, the weather did not dim the cyclists' and

"The 3rd Annual Route 66 10K was a great success this year. We had just under 300 participants from the St. Louis Metro area as well as 7 other states - 75% had never ran our event before! It was great to see the 10K attract individuals from other areas. Participants loved the course, cheering sections and performance race shirts. The race could not have been successful without the great volunteers who helped out.The Metro Milers plan to build on this success for next vear's event."

"We were grateful and proud to participate in this community event, and the response was overwhelmingly positive. This being our first year participating in such events, we had no idea what to expect, but despite the chilly temperatures and rainy weather, people were very receptive to our new venture and the lines were long throughout the event – we even sold out of ribs on Saturday! Being part of Fallfest brought smiles to our faces."

- Annette Patterson Owner, Captain Hog's BBQ & Catering





Pastor Jackie



Grand Champion: The BANK of Edwards ville



2nd Place Large Commercial: The Goddard School



1st Place Small Commercial: Auto Body Shop



3rd Place Small Commercial: GC Cuisine and Crystal Garden



1st Place Large Commercial: Hortica Insurance & Employee Benefits



3rd Place Large Commercial: First Clover Leaf Bank



2nd Place Small Commercial: Al's Transmission



1st Place Large Non-Profit: Meridian Village

schmooze

business after hours



Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois, October 15



Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois, October 15



Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois, October 15



Coldwell Banker Brown, October 29



Coldwell Banker Brown, October 29



Coldwell Banker Brown, October 29

SIUe Day



SIUe Day Breakfast, October 16



SIUe Day Breakfast, October 16



SIUe Day Breakfast, October 16



SIUe Day Breakfast, October 16

networking@noon



Hospice of Southern Illinois, October 23

ribbon cutting



Think Tank Public Relations & Marketing, October 21



2nd Place Large Non-Profit: Edwardsville YMCA



3rd Place Large Non-Profit: Academy of Student Pharmacists (SIUE Chapter)



1st Place Small Non-Profit: Faith Free Methodist Church



2nd Place Small Non-Profit: The Bridge Church



3rd Place Small Non-Profit: Glen Carbon Police/Special Olympics



1st Place Neighborhood/Youth Groups: Edwardsville Middle Schools F.I.T.



2nd Place Neighborhood/Youth Groups: Hentz Hartman & Friends



3rd Place Neighborhood/Youth Groups: EHS Tiger Ice Hockey Team

Support the Edwardsville Rotary



Citrus Sales



Edwardsville Rotary Club contributions since 1988 over \$800,000

Grapefruit **Navel Oranges**

\$28.00 Case \$30.00 Case

October 22 - November 19

Tickets are available from Ed Rodney 656-4655 or Brian Mulhall 692-9383 or from any other Edwardsville Rotarian

your business

Wang Gang Announces Expansion, **Second Location & New Menu Items**



Wang Gang Asian Eats N' Beats has some big news. The restaurant, which was recently voted the #1 Asian Restaurant in Madison County, is now expanding.

The expansion, set to be complete by late October, will include the addition of over 60 seats. "When we first opened the restaurant, we thought most of our customers would be carry-out and delivery," said restaurant co-owner Ryan O'Day. "However, people enjoy the vibe of the restaurant, the openview kitchen, and hybrid service ... we found they were dining in more. We wanted to accommodate those customers."

Wang Gang is also unveiling new menu items in conjunction with the expansion. New items include a honey orange chicken dish, two flavors of chicken wings, a new soup, salad, and iced tea flavor.

But that's not the only exciting change to the menu. O'Day is especially excited about offering a lunch combo menu which will include a choice of fried rice, partial appetizer, and drink for the low price of \$6. "We listen to our customers," said O'Day. "They were saying they wanted a smaller lunch with more diversity for a lower cost. We are pleased to do that for them."

Wang Gang's service doesn't stop there. They are offering catering services and are proud to be able to cater at nearly any budget and size of party. "We offer a high value at a low cost," said O'Day.

Wang Gang is an Asian cuisine restaurant that focuses on a diverse, highquality, Asian fare menu. This high energy, chic restaurant provides hand rolled crab Rangoon, Vietnamese and fresh spring rolls, and fresh vegetables in all their dishes -which is prepared in their clean exhibition kitchen.

Wang Gang owners, Ryan and Jamie O'Day, are committed to giving back to the community as well and host PTO fundraisers for the local school district. "Look for the PTO fundraising flyers in your kids' backpacks, " said Jamie O'Day. "We believe giving back to a community is important and want to offer our services for any organization's fundraiser. Earning money means nothing if you don't give back to your community!"

The O'Days have big plans for their popular restaurant, including a ribbon cutting and after-hours party that will include free food to thank their loyal customers. "Be on the lookout for our big announcement of our ribbon cutting date," said Ryan O'Day. "We will be announcing it via the media and Facebook very soon."

Finally, Wang Gang will also be opening a second location soon at Dorsett and McKelvey in Maryland Heights, MO. "We are excited about the new location," said O'Day. "We know we wouldn't be able to do any of this without our customers – we appreciate them voting for us as the #1 Asian Restaurant in Madison County, and we appreciate their continued patronage. It means a lot to us."

Wang Gang is located at 4 Club Centre Drive on Highway 157, just behind MotoMart and is available for dine in, carry out, and delivery. For more informationon Wang Gang Asian Eats N' Beats, or to schedule a fundraiser, please call 655-0888 or visit www.wanggangasian.com.

Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Mini-Storage



MCT Begins Work on Multi-Modal Facility

Madison County Transit (MCT) has begun work on a \$4 million multi-modal Trail & Transit facility in Edwardsville that will improve access to the MCT bus system and provide greater connectivity for the 100 miles of scenic MCT Trails. The new facility, located on Buchanan/Troy Road in the historic Leclaire neighborhood of Edwardsville, will not only be a park and ride location for the MCT bus system; it will also serve as a trailhead on the 13-mile MCT Nickel Plate Trail. The new facility is expected to open in late 2010 or early 2011, and two-way traffic will be maintained on Buchanan during construction. The MCT Nickel Plate Trail and the parking lot for the trail are closed in this area until the project is complete. Keller Construction of Glen Carbon is the contractor. The project has a number of components:

Park and ride lots will be constructed on the east and west side of Buchanan/Troy Road and will accommodate as many as 118 vehicles. When not encumbered by MCT passengers or trailgoers, the lots will be available for use by visitors to the Leclaire Ballfield and the Nelson Campus of Lewis and Clark Community College.

- A lighted bike/pedestrian tunnel under Buchanan will provide a safe and seamless link for MCT Trail users of all ages and a secure way to access the north and southbound buses without crossing traffic.
- Bus pull-off areas will be constructed on both sides of Buchanan preventing buses from blocking traffic on this busy corridor when passengers are boarding and alighting.
- · Permanent bus shelters that complement the neighborhood will be constructed on both sides of the road.

The new MCT Trail and Transit facility promotes sustainable living by creating effortless access to both the MCT Bus and Bikeway system. The facility is located immediately adjacent to destinations such as the N.O. Nelson Campus of Lewis and Clark Community College, the Historic Leclaire Ballfield, the Edwardsville Children's Museum and the Benjamin Stephenson House. MCT is one of the only transit systems in the country that has a fully integrated bus and bikeway system, in which bus stops are located at trailheads and buses are equipped with bike racks for seamless multi-modal travel. For details, visit www.mct.org or call 618-931-7433, Option #3.

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TheBANK of Edwardsville's Rob Schwartz **Completes Graduate School of Banking**



TheBANK of Edwardsville recently announced that Rob Schwartz, Senior Vice President of Retail Banking, received his diploma for completion of the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The School, sponsored by the 18 state bankers associations comprising the Central States

Conference of Bankers Associations, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, was established in 1945 to provide bankers with an opportunity for advanced study and research in banking, economics and leadership. Instruction at the Graduate School of Banking takes place during two-week resident sessions for three consecutive summers, along with comprehensive study between summer resident sessions. The curriculum focuses on the management of strategic issues faced by banking executives and financial services industry professionals.

The Graduate School of Banking enrolls approximately 550 U.S. and international professionals each year. Over 75 esteemed academics, economists, government officials, and industry professionals comprise the School's faculty.

"We are so proud of Rob for his dedication to continuing his professional education. TheBANK of Edwardsville continually encourages its staff to enhance their professional careers so we all may do the best job possible in serving our customers with their everyday banking needs," said Tom Holloway, president of TheBANK of Edwardsville. "Congratulations, Rob, and thanks for being an outstanding professional in our industry."

Schwartz resides in Godfrey, Illinois with his wife Suzanne and his 2 children, Liz and Joe.



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Image Excellence Announces New Location



Image Excellence recently opened their new store in Fairview Heights. They offer same-day printing on most jobs, great quality at a low

price, and excellent customer service. Their staff of two graphic designers, two Web designers, three consultants and a commercial printer are ready and able to serve all of your marketing needs.

Image Excellence also offers free graphic design software at the store – you can create your own business cards and postcards! Black and white, color and full bleed copies are available in the store, printed on 24 pound bright white paper. They offer next day, 4 day and 7 day pricing on most printed items, as well as delivery of most products for only \$5, with a minimum order of just one item!

To learn more, visit www.image-excellence.com or call 618.622.9566, or drop by their new location at 314 Fountains Parkway, Suite E in Fairview Heights.

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Cork Tree Creative Adds Two New Clients

The Edwardsville-based Cork Tree Creative recently added two new clients – The Goddard School in Edwardsville and Team Med Global.

The Goddard School selected the firm to provide media relations, event planning, recruitment strategies and internal and external communications programs. The Goddard School in Edwardsville opened in February 2009 at The Park at Plum Creek and now serves more than 120 area families with children gaes 6 months to 6 years.

Team Med Global, a provider of consulting services, selected Cork Tree Creative for the design and development of its new Web site, as well as marketing assistance throughout the country.

Cork Tree Creative, provides public relations, marketing, graphic design, website development and optimization, branding and advertising services to companies throughout the United States and Canada. For more information about Cork Tree Creative, please call 618.656.7333 or visit www.corktreecreative.com





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RCGA Announces Meeting of Energy & Environment Council November 19 at Bella Milano

Please join us the St. Louis Regional Chamber & Growth Association (RCGA) for the upcoming meeting of the RCGA Energy and Environment Council on Thursday, November 19th from 7:30-9:30am with guest speaker Doug Scott, Director of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

The meeting will occur at Bella Milano in Edwardsville. Networking and a continental breakfast will start at 7:30 a.m. with the program beginning at 8:00 a.m. Special thanks to Lewis and Clark Community College and Madison County for hosting this meeting and providing the continental breakfast.

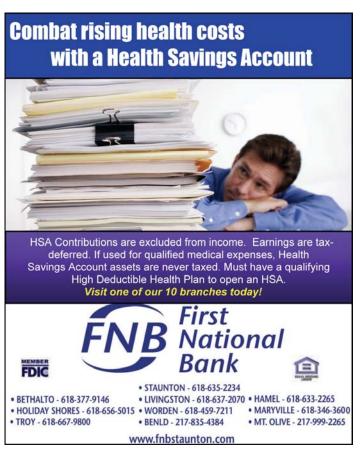
Director Scott will talk about his agency's priorities and their initiatives to promote energy efficiency, clean coal technology, wind power and other alternative energy and fuel sources in Illinois.

Director Scott took over leadership of IEPA in 2005 and his agency's accomplishments include one of the nation's most successful brownfield remediation programs, improved air quality through emission reductions and aggressive clean-up of orphaned dump sites. Director Scott is Chair of The Climate Registry Board of Directors and serves on the Midwestern Governors' Association panel developing a regional cap-and-trade system. He also served two years as Chair of the Air Committee for Environmental Council of the States (ECOS).

In addition, the Council will learn about one of the nation's largest coal plants under construction, the Prairie State Energy Campus outside of Marissa, IL. Sheri Bilderback, Manager of Public Relations for Prairie State Generating Company will describe the project and their use of state of the art technology to reduce emissions. Along with updates and announcements from Council members on regional environmental projects, the Council will also receive a status report on the RCGA's St. Louis Climate Prosperity Project.

Please RSVP to Sherri Bailey at sbailey@stlrcga.org or 314.444.1134 to reserve your seat for this interesting meeting.





Girl Scout Councils Merge to Become GSSI

The Girl Scouts of River Bluffs Council and the Girl Scouts of Shagbark Council recently merged to become the Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois (GSSI). The first official day for GSSI began at October 1 at 6:56am during a Sunrise Flag and Candle Ceremony in Glen Carbon and ended with a Sunset Flag and Candle Ceremony in Mt. Vernon at 6:38pm. These two ceremonies, conducted by volunteers and girls from both councils, symbolized the start and end of GSSI's first operational day.

The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois is a high-capacity Girl Scout council serving approximately 16,000 girls and 4,800 adult volunteers in 40½ counties in southern Illinois. This restructuring is part of a national Girl Scouts of the USA initiative to create councils that are well equipped to provide compelling, contemporary and relevant experiences that meet the needs of girls in today's fast-changing world.

The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois is a not-for-profit organization and a Proud Partner of United Way. For more information, please call Jay Strobel at 618.692.0692 or visit GSSI online at www.gsofsi.org





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Smile Center Lucky Winner of Laptop Raffle

Smile Center Orthodontics participated in Edwardsville school district's 2009 student registration process as a way to give back to the community. Each student received a Back-to-School raffle ticket in their registration packet for the chance to win a Dell laptop computer.

Along with Smile Center's own patients, Edwardsville students were invited to drop their ticket in the entry box at the orthodontic office. After several weeks of collecting entries. Smile Center Orthodontics drew a winner on September 26, 2009. The winner of the laptop was Nikki Sund. She was all smiles when she came to claim her prize. Congratulations, Nikki!



IDES Announces Veterans Job Fair November 10

You are cordially invited to participate in the Illinois Department of Employment Security's 2009 Statewide Veterans Job Fair to be held at the Southwestern Illinois College located at 2500 Carlyle Ave in Belleville, Illinois Tuesday November 10, 2009.

Military veterans have unique experiences and skills that enhance their qualifications making their skills easily transferable to your workplace needs. Their ability to act on orders, higher-than-average work ethic, dependability and adaptability make them excellent employees. In essence, the military veteran is a high quality job candidate worthy of special consideration.

Your participation in this event is greatly appreciated. There is no cost to participate and this is your opportunity as an employer to meet and speak with highly qualified job-ready applicants.

If you are interested, please contact Al Buckner at 618.656.6100 x387 no later than November 6, 2009.



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Ask the Expert

by Jim Broyles, Premier Digital Printing

Confused about graphics for your printing project? Here's some clarification!

It's very hard to discuss graphic files without establishing an understanding of the difference between the two major file types:

- VECTORS (scalable without losing resolution or resolution independent)
- BITMAPS (raster images; resolution dependent, lose quality when scaled)

Resolution is the number of pixels (dots) in an image-usually stated as dots per inch (DPI or PPI) and displayed on your computer screen at between 72 -100 ppi. Printers need at least 150-300 ppi to render bitmap images accurately.

Because they are scalable, vector images can be enlarged or reduced to any degree, and their lines and edges will remain crisp and sharp, both on the screen and in print. Fonts are a type of vector image.

Popular Vector formats originate from such drawing software as Adobe Illustrator (AI), Corel Draw (CDR), AutoCAD (DXF), and from Microsoft Office

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- Windows Metafile (WMF). Note that WMFs are a hybrid of both vectors & raster data (bitmaps) and thus are only partially vector.

Other Vector formats include EPS (Encapsulated PostScript) and PDFs (Portable Document File) that were originally created in a drawing program (e.g., AI, CDR, DXF) and saved as EPS, PDF, etc.

Key Points: Vector format is preferred for logos since they are scalable, resolution independent, and usually have no background - allowing the view of other objects below them. However, vector images are not realistic for photographic quality images

Bitmaps consist of pixels in a grid of tiny square dots that come together to form the image you see on the screen. The edges and lines of these images lose quality and become very grainy when scaled up (enlarged).

Popular Bitmap images include JPEG/JPG (both are mostly photos from digital cameras), BMP, GIF (low resolution graphics - mostly used on Web sites), TIF, PNG, and PSD (layered Photoshop file). Other Bitmap images include EPS or PDFs created from scanned images and which may not be from drawing programs.

Key Points: Bitmaps have pixels in a grid; are scalable, but resolution dependent and thus lose quality when resized; most have rectangular opaque backgrounds that can block out images below them, except PNG files that have transparent backgrounds.

In summary, vector images are best for graphics that need...

- To be scaled up, e.g., postage stamp-size logos scaled up to poster size will remain clean and crisp
- A transparent background to allow the background image to show through
- Color separations for spot color printing, e.g., 2- or 3-color stationery

Bitmap Images are best for graphics...

- That need no scaling to a larger size
- Used in Web sites
- When photographic quality is needed

Ads and logos designed in MS Office are often not suitable for printing because they contain bitmap images that suffer in quality. Have your ads/ logos designed in a drawing program for the best results.

For more information, contact Jim Broyles of Premier Digital Printing at 618.345.2055 or jbroyles@premierdigiprint.com

your community

Metro East Lutheran High School Welcomes European Exchange Students

Metro-East Lutheran High School (MELHS) is pleased to welcome three European Exchange Students for the 2009-2010 school year. For many years, MELHS has welcomed exchanged students, however this is the first time the high school has hosted three students at the same time from European Countries. All three students live with local host families and participate in a variety of activities both at school and with their host families. Fabian Janda, Aino Pekkarinan, and Barbara Walther are from Germany, Finland and Switzerland respectfully.

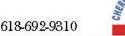
The United States has always been a hub for immigration. People come from around the world to experience the unique blend of culture that this country prides itself on and in addition leave their own impact on our culture. The three foreign exchange students attending Metro-East Lutheran High School this year are no exception. Each of the students is unique in their reasons for choosing to attend high school in the United States for a year.

Despite their cultural differences, Fabian, Aino, and Barbara have come to the United States with one united goal. They have come to learn and expand their horizons by immersing themselves in a new culture and environment. Their decision should be applauded, and America should welcome these new arrivals with open arms, no matter how brief their stay, as they provide a shining example of the traditional values honored and respected by this humble country.

Metro-East Lutheran High School is a high school located in Edwardsville, IL, and is owned and operated by twelve congregations of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. MELHS is located at 6305 Center Grove Road. For more information, call 618.656.0043 or visit MELHS online at www.melhs.org

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Beverly Farm Offers Gift Wrapping, Plans Events

Could you use an extra hand with holiday and auction gift baskets? Take your gift basket items to the Beverly Farm Shopping Complex and they'll assemble it for you!

Saturday, November 7, 2009 is the Ben's Hope 5k Run/Walk. The Run/Walk begins at 9am at St. Boniface Parish and loops through scenic Edwardsville, including Historic Leclaire, with one water stop. All proceeds to benefit Beverly Farm. Go to www.beverlyfarm.org for more information and to download a registration form. Race day registration is available from 7:30-8:45am.

Save the date for Beverly Farm's 3rd Annual Chicken & Beer Dinner Dance Saturday, February 6, 2010 at the Alton Holiday Inn. The theme is country/ western, and live music will be performed by Glendale Riders. Contact Nancy Baahlmann at 618.466.0367 or by e-mail at nbaahlmann@beverlyfarm.org

Beverly Farm, located at 6301 Humbert Road in Godfrey, is a planned community designed to enhance the lives of their residents, develop their life skills, and provide the required medical care and a variety of therapies.



10th Anniversary Celebration Wine & Beer Tasting Saturday, Nov. 21st Enjoy Fun, Food & Drink from 11am to ??

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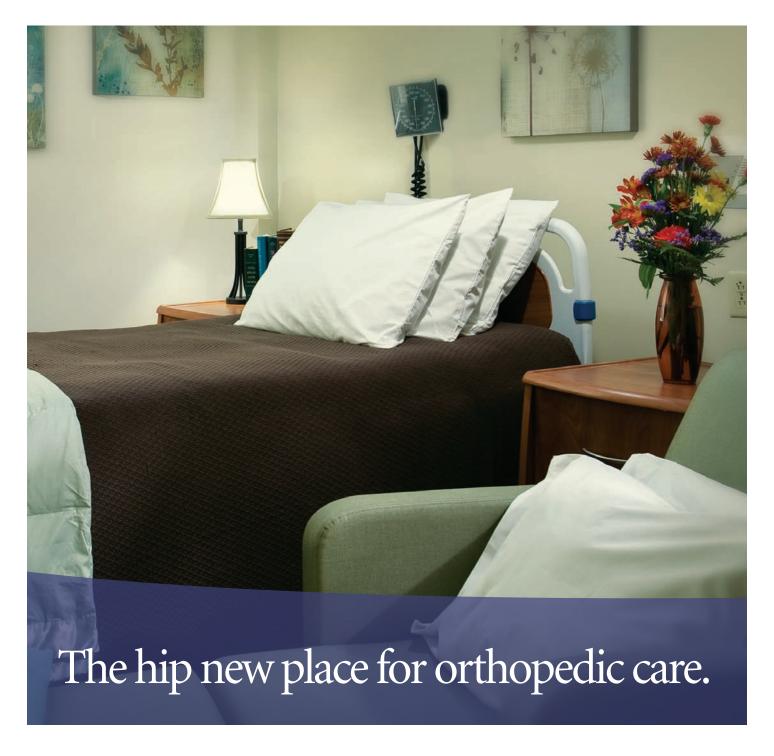
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