

# The Business News

February 2006

A Monthly Publication of the Jersey County Business Association

Jerseyville, Illinois

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## Jersey County Business Association

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

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

## COLLINS' COLUMN



A Message from Chris Collins, Chairperson

The JCBA kicked off the first of many planning meetings for the Leadership Jersey County program. This program is based on similar programs held in communities throughout the country. Its objective is to identify and encourage prospective leaders in Jersey County to participate on the boards of organizations such as the Jersey County Business Association, Non-Profit Organizations, the Jersey County Board, Jerseyville City Council, and the Board of Education.

The task force charged with creating the blueprint for the program is as diverse as it is experienced. There are seasoned leaders with backgrounds in agriculture, business, education, and government. Together, we hope to create a program that will offer the participants an introduction to area leaders and the ability to communicate and learn from their experiences. Upon completion of the program, participants should possess an understanding of the complex issues and challenges confronting local leaders. They can then build on the knowledge and relationships to help bring these issues to a resolution.

As we all know, good leaders are hard to find. All too often we witness someone that campaigns for a local position simply because they have an axe to grind. This is not leadership. Leaders work to resolve issues under the premise of making improvements for the greater good of all. As Stephen Covey wrote, "The Basic task of Leadership is to increase the standard of living and quality of life for all stakeholders."

We are all stakeholders in Jersey County. We all have a vested interest in building competent, thoughtful leaders that will work for not only our best interests, but for the best interest of our community as a whole. Jersey County will continue to grow, and we will face many serious challenges that will need confident, level-headed individuals that can apply a common-sense, forward looking vision. This program will offer the community a valuable resource: local leaders capable of leading our community to achieve its potential.

*Chris Collins*



From February 7 - 12, the 42nd Annual St. Louis Boat & Sportshow was held at the Edward Jones Dome. Tourism events and activities in Jersey County as well as information on the new Grafton Harbor/Marina and the three new condominium developments in Grafton were presented.

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

**Cheri Plummer** with **Farmers State Bank** in Jerseyville was recently appointed as a loan officer. Cheri has been with FSB for over three years and has over 10 years of banking experience. She will specialize in consumer and residential loans and is a mortgage specialist for fixed rate home loans.

*Have you attended a conference, seminar, continuing education? Has your business had an anniversary? Has someone been promoted in your company or have you hired someone new? JCBA wants to know about it!*

*Send a short paragraph about the happening in your business, and a picture too if you have one, to JCBA, 209 N. State Street, Jerseyville, IL 62052 or e-mail to [brent@jcba-il.us](mailto:brent@jcba-il.us). We want to let others know in our community what's happening at your place of business!!*

## Around the County...

### Riverside Flea Market

Historic Boatworks Building  
400 Front Street - Grafton, IL  
Saturday & Sunday, April 22 & 23,  
9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Come out for one of the largest flea markets in the region. One-of-a-kind gifts and treasures are waiting for you with a wide assortment of furniture, glassware, pottery, antiques, collectibles and good old-fashioned junk! Join the fun the 4th weekend of every month from April through October in Grafton. For more information, call 618/786-8210 or 618/462-4991.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Dave's Yard Service and  
Power Wash** - David Bishop  
P. O Box 42, Greenfield, IL 62014  
217/368-2826  
[davidbishop2005@yahoo.net](mailto:davidbishop2005@yahoo.net)

**SLS Photo Designs**  
- Susan L. Sehr  
28561 Palomino Dr., Jerseyville, IL  
618/885-5842  
[susansehr@gtec.com](mailto:susansehr@gtec.com)

## Highway 67 Development Task Force Completes Work

The Highway 67 Development Task Force completed their recommendations for the development along Highway 67 from the southern end of Jersey County through to the northern boundary lines up to Greene County.

This information will be processed along with the recommendations of the Greene County Committee by Heneghan & Associates. They will take this information and process it. Then bring it back for another series of town hall meetings in Jersey and Greene Counties for further recommendations.

Once all the information is compiled, it will then be put into final form and given to the West Central Development Council in Carlinville who contracted Heneghan & Associates to do this development study.

JCBA wants to thank **Howard Landon, Tom Klasner, Mike Prough, Mayor Yvonne Hartmann, Andy Macias, Jerry McIntyre, Brad Jun and Brad Russell** for serving on this committee and providing valuable input.

The JCBA Transportation Committee met at the St. Louis Regional Airport in Bethalto for their regular meeting on Friday, February 3rd. Airport Manager David Miller gave a tour to the attendees of the airport grounds as well as a tour of the various businesses who are based at the airport. The program was led by Rick Harnish who is the executive director of Midwest High Speed Rails Association.



## LEADERSHIP JERSEY COUNTY BEGINS PREPARATIONS

The first meeting of the Leadership Jersey County Task Force has begun preparations for rolling out a new "leadership development" program in January, 2007.

The task force which currently consists of **Keith Norman, Mayor Yvonne Hartmann, Dave Lewis, Dr. Dean Bishop, Jill Boomer, Susan and Kevin Hamilton, Trudi Allen, Jan DeSherlia, Chris Collins, Julie Brangenberg, Cyndi Rice, Ann Bilbruck, Sharon Sanford and Task Force Chair Jennifer Russell** initially met on Thursday, January 26th to begin formatting the courses that will be offered to interested Jersey County citizens. The purpose of the program is to *identify, educate and encourage Jersey County citizens to become more involved in key leadership positions within the county.* The program is designed to assist each participant in acquiring a broad understanding of the issues facing Jersey County and in building relationships to facilitate collaborative efforts in resolving the challenges of today and tomorrow.

The task force will meet regularly each month during the course of 2006 to finalize the plans, curriculum and other details necessary to make this program a success.

Many chambers of commerce have added this type of program into their annual program of work to ensure quality leadership within all facets of their communities. It will be open to any individual wishing to learn more about the areas of *health care, education, agriculture, government, information services, business, economic development, tourism, non-profit organizations, and emergency services.*

More details will follow as the year progresses. Be sure to watch for further developments with this program in the JCBA Business News.

## MUSIC FESTIVAL COMMITTEE ORCHESTRATING THIRD ANNUAL EVENT

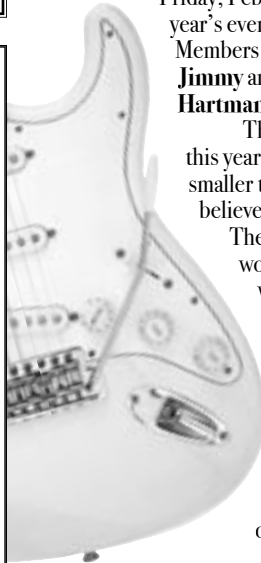
The first meeting of the State Street Music Festival Committee met again on Friday, February 10th to begin preparations for the third annual event. This year's event will be co-chaired by **Julie Brangenberg and Brad Stockstill.** Members of the committee are **Matt Capps, Joe DeSherlia, Keith Norman, Jimmy and Kim Davis, Chris Collins, Todd Parish, Gary Hayes, Yvonne Hartmann, Ryan Decker, Jim Vost, and Jill Boomer.**

The expectations for this third annual event by the committee are that this year it will be bigger and better and without rain! While our turnout was smaller this past year because of the threat of rain, it was still large enough to believe that it would have been a better event without the weather difficulty.

The committee is in the process of lining up the bands and has begun work on the sponsorships for the 2006 event. We will soon begin to work on the food vendors who will provide food and drink for the attendees.

This year's event is scheduled again for the 2nd Saturday in June which is the 10th. It will begin at 3:00 pm with vendors providing food. The bands will begin at 3:00 or 4:00 pm. This is an item still under discussion dependent upon the number of bands contracted.

If you would like to participate in this committee, please call the JCBA office at 639-5222. The committee will meet again on Friday, March 10th at Noon in the JCBA Conference Room.



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# ECONOMICALLY SPEAKING

by Brent Thompson

At this month's regular meeting of the Jersey County Board, I presented a report on the economic state of the county. The purpose was two-fold. One to give them an educated glimpse into our current economic viability and two, to relate to them our role in the continued drive toward sustained economic viability.

For the purpose of this column, I will provide you with the conclusions drawn from the full report.

*Jersey County is growing at a rapid pace of over 2% per year. Unlike most counties, 61% of the population in Jersey County resides outside the two main incorporated communities. Residential development is occurring all over the county. Of the identified planned 17 single-family residential development, five of them are outside the incorporated communities, two are in Grafton and 10 are within the city limits of Jerseyville. The areas that appear to be growing the fastest residentially in Jersey County is in the southeast and southwest quadrants.*

*While Jerseyville is leading the way in single-family developments, Grafton is moving toward multi-family dwellings with the establishment of three up-scale condominium developments. One condominium development is currently underway in Jerseyville. Brookshire Estates, a new apartment complex, has been completed in Jerseyville and possesses a 92% occupancy rate. A new independent living facility for seniors will be started in Jerseyville in the near future.*

*Commercially, both Jerseyville and Grafton are seeing remarkable growth. New retail is flourishing in both communities. The Olin Community Credit Union is building a beautiful new facility and Walgreens is moving swiftly toward completion. Both are scheduled to be completed sometime in the late spring or early summer. Both Grafton and Jerseyville will soon be home to new restaurants and Grafton will have a new and unique, small, up-scale hotel and day spa. Last, but certainly not least, the Grafton Harbor/Marina is on schedule to begin renting slips around March 1 and will be in complete operation by May 1. The new Marina will offer state-of-the-art services to each slip as well as offering fuel services, ships store and other amenities.*

*Income levels, while lagging a little behind the national average, are continuing to rise and are slowly catching up. Labor is also on the rise and between 1994 and 2003 has increased 22.5% from 6,826 in '94 to 8,364 in '03. While white-collar employment has slightly outgrown blue-collar unemployment but the differences in percentages are not significant and remain fairly close to 50-50.*

JCBA has played a significant role in this growth either directly or indirectly. As we assist in creating new job growth, it aids in the increase of spendable income. Those new jobs create new wealth and that new wealth plays a role in the expenditure of capital for items such as retail purchases, cars, boats and even homes. While our services to contractors are limited to information of a demographic nature, our role in creating new wealth through new jobs makes it possible for people to purchase the above items. What JCBA does makes a difference in all facets of the economy - even to the revenue of the public sector. Our efforts create additional revenue in the form of property, sales and payroll taxes to the public sector without having to increase taxes to the citizens.

What we do makes a difference and we are allowed to do this because you, our investors, make it possible.

# BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



## Jersey Community Hospital

The March Business of the Month is the Jersey Community Hospital located at 400 Maple Summit Road in Jerseyville. This regional hospital employs 375 people and was established in 1954. It provides an annual payroll of \$12 million. In addition to the newly opened Women's Center which is now a part of the main hospital, other valuable parts of the overall healthcare that JCH provides is a Wellness Center which is on the main hospital campus and a Dialysis Center located in the Jerseyville Mall. The main telephone number to the Jersey Community Hospital is 618/498-6402 or you can reach Larry Bear, the JCH Administrator by e-mail at lbear@jch.org. The website for JCH is www.jch.org. JCH is a member of the Illinois Hospital Association, American Hospital Association and is accredited through the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.



The JCBA Women in Business Committee met at Lauren Abagails Tea Room for their regular meeting on February 9th.

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# MARCH IN JERSEY COUNTY

**March 1-2**  
Wed-Thur, IL House and  
Senate in Session

**March 2**  
Thur, Membership (Amb.)  
Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
JCBA Conf. Room

**March 7**  
Tue, Illinois Business Summit,  
11:00 a.m., Springfield

**March 7-9**  
Tues-Thu, IL Senate in Session

**March 9**  
Thu, Women in Business  
Comm., Noon, Westlake  
Country Club

**March 10**  
Fri, Music Festival Committee  
Meeting, Noon, JCBA Conf.  
Room

**March 14-16**  
Tues-Thu, IL House and  
Senate in Session

**March 14**  
Tue, Small Biz/Ag. Comm. Mtg,  
Noon, JCBA Conf. Room

**March 14**  
Tue, J'ville City Council Mtg,  
6:00 p.m., City Hall

**March 14**  
Tue, Grafton City Council Mtg,  
6:30 p.m., Grafton City Hall

**March 14**  
Tue, Jersey Co. Board Mtg,  
7:00 p.m., Co. Admin. Bldg.

**March 16**  
Thu, Biz After Hours, 5:00 p.m., TBD

**March 20**  
Mon, Ambassadors Mtg, 9:30 a.m.,  
Jerseyville Super 8 Motel

**March 21**  
Tue, Primary Election

**March 21**  
Tue, JCBA Board Meeting, Noon,  
JCBA Conf. Room

**March 22-24**  
Wed-Fri, IL Senate in Session

**March 22**  
Wed, Economic Development  
Committee Meeting, 11:30 a.m.,  
Westlake Country Club

**March 23**  
Thu, Leadership Jersey County  
Task Force, Noon, JCBA Conf.  
Room

**March 27-31**  
Mon-Fri, Illinois House  
and Senate in Session

**March 28**  
Tue, J'ville City Council Meeting,  
6:00 p.m., Jerseyville City Hall

**March 28**  
Tue, Grafton City Council Mtg,  
6:30 p.m., Grafton City Hall

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