

The Business News

July 2006

A Monthly Publication of the Jersey County Business Association

Jerseyville, Illinois

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COLLINS' COLUMN

A Message from Chris Collins, Chairperson



Summer in Jersey County always brings many opportunities to become involved with the community. From the JCBA Music Festival to the Jersey County Fair, summer in Jersey County brings people and businesses together in the spirit of giving. It's a perfect time for our local businesses to celebrate the community that has brought so much success to their door. In addition, it's an ideal occasion for local businesses to set aside their competitive fervor, and work together to grow and strengthen the "small town" atmosphere all of us in Jersey County usually fail to appreciate.

The JCBA's annual Music Festival was once again the victim of rain and thunderstorms. However, even with the storms, the event still managed to bring a large crowd into downtown Jerseyville. This could not have been possible without the numerous sponsors that contributed time, money and materials needed for a successful event. The Radio Disney Program was an excellent addition to the event; the kids sang, danced and played games all afternoon with the Disney Staff. A special thank you goes out to Grafton Telephone Company for bringing this attraction to our event. This event is a great example of what we can do with the support of our business community. A free event of this size says a lot for the commitment made by our supporters.

The Jersey County Fair is right around the corner and provides the local business another prime opportunity to shine. The merchant's parade and the 4H Livestock Auction bring together many of our local businesses and really start off the fair with a "bang".

As summer gets into full swing, there are many community events that can provide an opportunity for our local businesses to get involved and create an enjoyable event for the whole family. Many of us can still recall memories of sidewalk sales, parades and community events that always marked the arrival of summer. Let's all work together to keep our "small town" atmosphere alive!

The four graduates of the **Webpage Design Workshop** and instructor **Keith Norman**. The workshop was held for two hours a month during the months of April, May and June. The workshop was held in the CUSD #100 Building in the Lewis & Clark Community Education Center Computer Lab. The next workshop which will be on **Networking and Public Relations** will be held on Thursday, August 17 from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm at the Westlake Country Club.



New JCBA City/County Maps Available

We have taken delivery of our new municipal(s)/county maps. They are available from the JCBA office. If you were a sponsor on the maps, please stop by as soon as possible and pick up your maps. If you were not a sponsor but want some of the maps, there are some available but on a more limited basis until we are sure that the sponsors receive theirs. These are intended only for JCBA members and map sponsors to give away.

The maps are very professionally done. They are in full-color. As of this printing, they contain all the new streets in each of the municipalities. These maps will be used to send in each packet that the JCBA office sends out as well as distributing to visitors who stop by the JCBA office. These hopefully will have a shelf-life of about two years.

In the next 30-days, this map should be included on the JCBA website, www.jcba-il.us. While the new printed maps will not be able to include any new streets for the next two years, the interactive map on the website will have the ability to update on-line immediately.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Hickory Grove Restaurant

- Jim Arifi
1668 South State Street
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ECONOMICALLY SPEAKING

by Brent Thompson

By the time that you have received this publication, you will have received your 2006 JCBA Program of Work survey. If for some reason, you have not please contact us at the office so we can get another copy to you.

This survey and your opinions are very important to the organization. It is your input into the external affairs of the JCBA. It is your opportunity to voice your feelings concerning our Program of Work and the methods we have used to complete it.

From last year's survey, we shaped this year's educational series called Talking Points. Last year's results helped us decide to continue to provide you on-going dialogue from the Illinois State Chamber, the St. Louis RCGA, State Treasurer's Office and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. It gave us your opinion of our newsletter and told us we were on the right track with the information that we provided in the newsletter. In short, it gave us information on how to continue to grow the organization from

your perspective.

This year's survey will hopefully provide us the same type of information and it will aid us in the formation of not only the rest of this fiscal year but in the formation of a new 2007 Program of Work.

We are providing you with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to return your survey. Please take the time to fill it out and return it as quickly as possible (if you have not already done so). The survey itself will not take long to complete.

I want to thank each of you who have provided time, leadership and input into JCBA. Since July, 2003, JCBA has come a long way as an organization. Your board and staff, however, are not resting upon our laurels. We still have a distance to travel and staff is already putting together ideas for 2007 that will be brought to the board later in the year. Planning is a constant. This chamber/economic development organization and its members deserve nothing less.

Any and all suggestions are needed

and welcome. The door to my office is always open. However, if you prefer, please feel free to visit with any of our board members.

Again, thank you for your belief in JCBA.

MID-YEAR REPORT LUNCHEON SET

The second Mid-Year Report Luncheon has been set for Thursday, July 13th at the Westlake Country Club from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. The cost of the luncheon is \$10 per person (member) and \$15 per person (non-member).

This is the second luncheon of its kind. The first was last year which was met with success. One of the items covered will be the findings of the Mid-Year Report. Also covered in the luncheon will be the final six-months of the current Program of Work and we will be asking the members present for any input you might have.

Please mark your calendars for the luncheon. To reserve a seat at the luncheon, please call the JCBA Office at 639-5222.

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



Hansen Packing

The July Business of the Month is **Hansen Packing** located at 807 E. State Highway 67 in Jerseyville. The owner, **Dave Hansen** is a second generation owner of the business. Hansen Packing began in 1952. The business processes beef, pork and poultry. Their phone number is 618/498-3714 and can also be reached by hansenpacking@gtec.com. The business employs 10 full-time people and is a member of the Illinois Meat Processors.

On June 20th, Plaza Cleaners and owner Diane Flynn celebrated the businesses 20th Anniversary in Jerseyville. The laundromat has gone through extensive changes with new equipment and a complete redecoration of the facility.



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Third Talking Points Workshop Scheduled

The third training workshop program planned in the Talking Points series is scheduled for Thursday, August 17th from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm at the Westlake Country Club. It is being held directly in front of the August Business After Hours that will be sponsored by **Frontier Communications** in the same location starting at 5:00 pm.

The presenter of the workshop, entitled "Business Networking & Public Relations" will be Melissa Mustain. *Business networking is vital to growth and success - learn tips for networking to gain new contacts and regain former contacts. Techniques for positioning your organization positively through effective public relations strategies along with tips for keeping your company on top of your customers' minds will also be shared.*

The cost of the workshop is \$25 (JCBA members) or \$35 (non-JCBA members). To register, please make out your checks to Lewis & Clark Community College and mail to them Lewis & Clark Community College, 100 N. Lincoln, Jerseyville, IL 62052. If you would prefer to pay using your credit card, call the LCCC at 618/498-2083.

If you are a sponsor of the Talking Points Education Series, you may register by calling LCCC at 498-2083 and giving them your name and reminding them that you are a sponsor of the education series. Those sponsors are **The Job Center, AgriSolutions, Frontier Communications, Outlines & Designs, Jersey Community Hospital, Jersey State Bank, Tri-County FS, Inc., Jerseyville Wal-Mart Supercenter and Jersey Community Unit School District #100.**

State Street Music Festival shortened by weather, but still successful

Once again, Mother Nature had a huge hand in determining the length of the 3rd Annual State Street Music Festival. However, even though the length was shortened she could not deter the success of the evening's musical event.

With a record crowd early in the evening, the event promised to be the largest crowd ever. Well over 500 participants showed up early in the evening to either enjoy the evening's musical entertainment or with their children to enjoy and participate in the RADIO Disney extravaganza.

The Music Festival committee wants to thank everyone for their support and for attending the 2006 State Street Music Festival. There are some special thanks that need to be given. A big thank-you goes to the Kelly Kennedy and the City Recreation Department and Jeff Kadell of the City's Street Department. They provide us with picnic tables, trash cans and fencing.

The committee also wants to thank the JCBA members who assisted us with financial support for this event or in-kind services. They are City of Jerseyville, Jersey County, Fritz Distributing, Grafton Technologies, Inc.,

Jerseyville Wal-Mart Supercenter, Hansen Trucking, Jersey County Star, Frontier Communications, Pointer Electric, Farmers State Bank, Cornerstone Bank, Jerseyville Banking Center, First Bank, Olin Community Credit Union, Jersey Community Hospital, Country Insurance & Financial Services - Jimmy Davis, Edward Jones - Paul Hardin & Steve Medford, Paragon Pipecovers, Inc., AmerenCIPS, State Farm Insurance - Denny Medford, McIntyre Contracting, Inc., AgriSolutions, Landreth Lumber, Inc., Russell Engineering & Construction Services, LTD, The Medicine Shoppe, and Steven K. Dawson, D.M.D.

The JCBA State Street Music Festival Committee Members are Julie Brangenberg, Co-chair; Brad Stockstill, Co-chair; Alan Karcher, Matt Capps, Joe DeSherlia, Keith Norman, Jim Davis, Kim Davis, Chris Collins, Yvonne Hartmann, Ryan Decker, Jill Boomer and Susan Hamilton.

Planning for the 2007 State Street Music Festival will begin in January, 2007. It is always held on the 2nd Saturday of June. Any JCBA member who is interested in serving on this committee and is not listed may contact the JCBA Office at 639-5222 and volunteer.

The 2006 State Street Music Festival went extremely well until the rains halted the evening celebration around 7:30 pm on Saturday, June 10. The estimated crowd up to that time exceeded 500 people and appeared to be on its way to the largest crowd ever at this annual musical event.



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JULY IN JERSEY COUNTY

July 3
Mon, Jerseyville City Council, 6:00 p.m., Jerseyville City Hall

July 4
Tues, JCBA Office Closed, Independence Day

July 11
Tues, Small Business/Committee, Noon, JCBA Conference Room

July 11
Tues, Grafton City Council, 6:30 p.m., Grafton City Hall

July 11
Tues, Jersey County Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Jersey County Administration Building

July 13
Thur, JCBA Mid-Year Report Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Westlake Country Club

July 17
Mon, Ambassadors Coffee, 9:30 a.m., Super 8 Motel

July 18
Tues, Jersey County Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Jersey County Administration Building

July 18
Tues, Jerseyville City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Jerseyville City Hall

July 20
Thur, Business After Hours, 5:00 p.m., Location TBD

July 25
Tues, Grafton City Council, 6:30 p.m., Grafton City Hall

July 26
Wed, Economic Development Committee Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Westlake Country Club

July 27
Thur, Leadership Jersey County Meeting, Noon, JCBA Conference Room

Have a Safe and Happy Fourth of July!

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