

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Report  
page 2

Welcome our Newest Members  
page 4

Upcoming Event  
page 6-7

Mayor Report - Bethalto  
page 8

Ribbon Cuttings  
page 9

5800 Godfrey Road - Alden Hall  
Godfrey, Illinois 62035  
Phone: 618-467-2280  
Fax: 618-466-8289  
info@growthassociation.com  
www.growthassociation.com

**ConocoPhillips celebrates ribbon cutting**



*Pictured Julie McVey, Marty Reynolds, Monica Bristow, Glen Vinyard, Herman Seedorf, Dennis Carpenter, Mike Walters and Patrick McKeegan.*

The RiverBend Growth Association helped celebrate the Ribbon Cutting of Conoco Phillips' CORE Project Orientation Facility. CORE is the acronym for Coker and Refinery Expansion, part of a \$3.6 billion expansion project at ConocoPhillips; Roxana facility. The Orientation Facility will be used for the initial safety training and badge/security identification issuance for the 3,000 temporary construction workers who will be working on the project for the next few years. According to ConocoPhillips Manager of the Wood River Facility Herman Seedorf, "the years 2009 and 2010 are key years. We are in the front of a significant ramp-up. That is particularly good news in that it will help offset the current economic downturn."

**Quarterly Economic Update to be held March 3**

Join Mayors Steve Bryant of Bethalto, Fred Bright of East Alton, Mike Campion of Godfrey and Fred Ufert of Wood River for a quarterly economic update on Tuesday, March 3, at Alton Sports Tap at 8 a.m. The mayors will give an update on their communities and talk about upcoming projects and businesses. The cost to attend the update is \$10 and includes a buffet breakfast. Please call Jessica at 467-2280 or e-mail her at [receptionist@growthassociation.com](mailto:receptionist@growthassociation.com) to make your reservation.

**New Member/Recruiting Event is Thursday**

The RiverBend Growth Association is hosting a new member/recruiting event on Thursday evening February 26<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm at Spirits/Temple Banquet Center, located at 300 State Street in downtown Alton. This event is for any potential member of the Growth Association who is doing business in the River Bend. As a member of the business community, your support of the local businesses and networking is important. Join the RiverBend Growth Association in a complimentary evening of refreshments, business advice and networking with some of the region's most respected business leaders. There are many resources available to your business. Come see what our buzz is about in the Growth Association! To RSVP to this new member/recruiting event or for more information, please contact Joell Aguirre at 618-467-2280 or [jaguirre@growthassociation.com](mailto:jaguirre@growthassociation.com).

*A monthly publication of The River Bend Growth Association...  
Your Regional Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Agency*

**Board of Directors 2009**

David Miller, Chairman  
 Denise Wolff, Chair-Elect  
 Kent Scheffel, Past Chairman  
 Mike Fitzgerald, Treasurer  
 Dale Blachford  
 David Braasch  
 Karen Cooper  
 Jeff Davis  
 Melissa Erker  
 Larry Franklin  
 Tobie Grover  
 Cathy Hamilton  
 Pam Heepke  
 Jeannine Kelly  
 E.J. Kuiper  
 Rich Laudon  
 Jeff Lauritzen  
 Rich Mersinger  
 Don Reedy  
 Cindy Roth  
 Bill St. Peters  
 Rob Schwartz  
 Cas Sheppard  
 Jim Shrader  
 Cindy Smalley  
 Jack Tueth  
 Brenda Walker McCain  
 Martha Warford  
 Dwight Werts  
 Karen Wilson  
 Jess Woodman

**Ex-Officio Directors**

Mayor Kenny Beasley  
 Mayor Fred Bright  
 Mayor Steve Bryant  
 Mayor Michael Campion  
 Mayor Marjorie Doerr  
 Mayor Felix Floyd  
 Mayor William Moore, Jr.  
 Mayor Richard Mosby  
 Mayor Don Sandidge  
 Mayor Fred Ufert  
 Supervisor Don Huber  
 Supervisor Doug Mueller  
 Supervisor Dorothy Nagy  
 Dr. Dale Chapman  
 Brett Stawar  
 Deborah Kreutztrager  
 David Elson  
 John Pearson  
 Sandra Wilson  
 Jesse Hopkins  
 Jack Jacoby  
 William Kessler

**Ambassador of the Month****Janae Hausman of Olin Community Credit Union**

I am a new Ambassador to the Growth Association and currently serve on the Awards Committee and Promotions Committee. I feel it is extremely important to be involved with the community and I look forward to meeting and working with everyone in the Growth Association.

As Business Development Representative at Olin Community Credit Union, I work with our select employee groups, lead our R'Olin Goldies seniors club and organize many of our community events. Through my role, I provide area businesses with information to improve their employees' financial knowledge. I have enjoyed working with the credit union's members to help them achieve a greater level of financial security. Traveling with our seniors club is always an adventure. Whether it's the lifestyle of the Amish or the operations of a bison ranch, our group is constantly learning about new topics. I have worked in financial services for five years.

As a local resident, I am originally from Wood River and I currently reside in Alton with my husband, Nathan, and our twin girls Morgan & Peyton. I graduated from LCCC in 2006 and am currently enrolled in Greenville College. My hobbies include singing, shopping, swimming and spending time with my family.

**Calendar of Meetings & Events**

- 3/3 **Quarterly Economic Update**, Alton Sports Tap, 8:00 a.m.  
 3/4 **New Member Orientation**, Growth Association, 12:00 p.m.  
 3/5 *Promotions Comm. Mtg.*, Coffee Cabana, 8:15 a.m.  
 3/6 *Golf Committee Mtg.*, Alfie's, 11:30 a.m.  
 3/10 *Ambassador Comm. Mtg.*, 11:30 a.m.  
 3/16 *Membership Comm. Mtg.*, Johnson's Corner, 11:00 a.m.  
 3/17 "Let's Talk" on WBGZ, 10:00 a.m.  
 3/18 **Total Networking Luncheon**, Castelli's Moonlight at 255, 11:30 a.m.

**President's Report**

-Monica Bristow

I recently completed a Sprint Triathlon at the urging of my son, nephew and his wife. Sprint is a shortened version of the race, but it is 400 yards in a pool (16 very long lengths), 8 miles on a spin bike and 2.5 miles on a treadmill. Since I took up running several years ago and have never forgotten how to ride a bike, I figured what the hell? Hell was the appropriate term. I am not a swimmer, have never been a swimmer, and don't think I'll probably get much better, but I did get through the 400 yards by doing a little freestyle, a little frog style, a little dogpaddling and for the last 4 lengths, a kickboard. My legs were like jelly when I pulled myself out of the pool and I had to get down a long hall to the bikes. I wasn't so far behind the kids that they were all still spinning and they were glad to see me and were quite encouraging. They all waited patiently and cheered me on through the treadmill too.

I wanted to quit so bad during that swim; however, in order to ensure that I finished, I had told everyone I knew that I was doing the Triathlon and in no way wanted to tell anyone that I couldn't do it or didn't finish. It worked! I finished 127<sup>th</sup> out of 133, but I finished! My picture will probably be used in next year's brochure with the caption, "Any One Can Do This!" My nephew Doug finished 5<sup>th</sup>, my son Nick finished 14<sup>th</sup> and my niece Chrissy finished 54<sup>th</sup>. All of us were within our goal times.

My broadcast of my participation was a lot like marketing. Businesses market to get noticed and to put themselves out there for the community to see. Marketing includes advertising, networking and word of mouth referrals among other methods. Even though most of us are tired of hearing it, the times are tough in this economy, but you have to keep going to get through it. Marketing and research dollars are some times the first to get cut from the budget, but they shouldn't be. You've got to get noticed and use all the tools at your disposal to get to the finish line. Rely on other community members to help you—use Riverbender.com, The Telegraph, The Illinois Business Journal, Today's Advantage, WBGZ, The Record and WSMI/WAOX Radio. Use the Growth Association to network and get the name of your business out there. Give us a call and we will personally give you ideas to help you grow your business.

**February 2009 Small Business of the Month Winner  
P.J.'s Professional Detailing and Auto Accessories**

Congratulations to P.J. and his staff at P.J.'s Professional Detailing and Auto Accessories. They are the RiverBend Growth Association's Small Business of the Month winner for February 2009!

Stop by P.J.'s Professional Detailing and Auto Accessories to have your vehicle detailed. They are located at 2102 State Street in Alton. They will wash and wax, vacuum and shampoo your upholstery, give special attention to windows, wheels and tires...and much more.

To congratulate P.J. on his award or for more information, please call 618-465-7408 or visit his website at [pjsdetailing.com](http://pjsdetailing.com).

If you would like to nominate a business for the River Bend Growth Association's Small Business of the Month, please fill out the form below and mail it to The River Bend Growth Association, 5800 Godfrey Road, Alden Hall, Godfrey, IL 62035 or contact Joell Aguirre at [jaguirre@growthassociation.com](mailto:jaguirre@growthassociation.com).



*Owner of P.J.'s Professional Detailing and Auto Accessories, P.J. Ely and RiverBend Growth Association Awards Chairperson, Amy Schaake of Morse Home Improvement, showcase the February 2009 Small Business of the Month winner.*

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Owner or Manager \_\_\_\_\_

Business Website \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for nomination \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination submitted by (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**RBGA Members Laura Reed and Jan Carpenter Form Cork Tree Creative**

Marketing and public relations veterans Jan Carpenter and Laura Reed have teamed up to offer full-service marketing and public relations services. In their new venture as Cork Tree Creative, the pair will provide marketing, website development, public relations, graphic design, e-marketing, advertising, global branding, internal corporate communications and creative writing services.

Part of what makes the partnership unique stems from Carpenter's more than 20 years experience working in both the printing industry and as a graphic designer, coupled with the extensive writing experience and media relations skills of Reed.

Cork Tree Creative is located at 100 North Main Street, Suite 8, in downtown Edwardsville. For more information about Cork Tree Creative, please visit [www.corktreecreative.com](http://www.corktreecreative.com) or call (618) 656-7333.

## Welcome our newest members who joined during the month of January 2009

### Airport Restaurant

Jack Vicari  
#16 Terminal Drive  
East Alton IL 62024  
(618) 259-5256  
*Airport Restaurant opened for business in September 2008 after completely remodeling. The restaurant is open 7 days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. serving three affordable meals daily. Every seat offers a view of the airport runway. They offer reservations for large parties, business lunches and on-site catering.*

### Carver's BBQ, Inc.

Jeff and Angela Carver, Owners  
2716 Grovelin St.  
Godfrey IL 62035  
(618) 467-9999  
*Carver's BBQ offers dine-in, carry-out and catering. Hours are 11:00 to 7:30 Monday through Friday; 10:30 to 2:30 on Saturdays; closed Sundays. Carver's BBQ was voted "Best Ribs" and "Best BBQ" in Madison County in 2006 and 2007.*

### Grafton Winery & Brewhaus

Lori Nikonovich, Owner  
300 W. Main  
Grafton IL 62037  
(618) 786-3001  
[www.thegrafftonwinery.com](http://www.thegrafftonwinery.com)  
*The Grafton Winery and Brewhaus is five businesses in one. We are a working winery, microbrewery (to come), restaurant, gift shop and banquet facility. We are located in a brand new spacious facility at 300 West Main Street in Grafton in front of The Moorings at Grafton Harbor Condominiums. We are open 7 days per week year-round with live entertainment every Saturday and Sunday. Patrons can enjoy a great view of the river from our glass enclosed facility in all seasons. When the weather is nice you can't beat the scenic view from one of our two elevated spacious patios. Come join us for a nice relaxing meal, a glass of wine, or an ice cold brew. Keep up with all of our happenings on our web-site at [www.thegrafftonwinery.com](http://www.thegrafftonwinery.com) or call us at 618-786-3001.*

### Longaberger Home Consultant

Lisa Hemphill, Independent Home Consultant  
8225 Grande Terre Pl  
Alton IL 62002  
(618) 593-7066  
[2lkhemphill@gmail.com](mailto:2lkhemphill@gmail.com)  
[www.longaberger.com/lisahemphill](http://www.longaberger.com/lisahemphill)  
*The Longaberger Company is known for their quality, handcrafted baskets that are still made in America. They also produce pottery (dinnerware) that is also manufactured here in America. Longaberger is a family owned business started by Dave Longaberger. It is now ran by Tami Longaberger, President and CEO. Rachel Stuckey Longaberger is head of The Longaberger Foundation. As an Independent Home Consultant I know that I am selling quality, American made products. I also have the opportunity to provide Longaberger products for fund raising events of all kinds, holidays and special occasions and organizational needs.*

### Mom and Me Forever

Kim Unangst  
130 W. Central, Bethalto IL 62010  
(618) 717-0308  
*Mom and Me Forever is in loving memory of my mom, George Ann Bergschneider, who passed away in April 2008. She always wanted me to open my own cross-stitch shop ever since I worked for Mom & Me in Lebanon, Illinois. The shop owner, Karen Galer, retired after 14 years in the business. The shop is all about family and friends. Kind of like Cheers; "where everyone knows your name." Since the shop in Lebanon closed in 2007 I have kept in close contact with the more regular of Karen's customers. I organize a first Sunday of the month potluck, where everyone gathers at an area hall to stitch, share & eat. Then every spring and fall I organize a retreat in Carlyle, IL. I am open Friday, Saturday and Monday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. As the business picks up I will add additional hours. Hand-dyed fabrics and floss are some of the great supplies I will carry including wonderful patterns from all over the country that even includes local designers such as Val's Stuff, SamSarah, Just Another Button Company (located in Troy, IL) and Cross-Eyed Cricket.*

### Morse Home Improvement

Amy Schaake, Sales Consultant  
2320 Morningstar Dr, Alton IL 62002  
(618) 465-0505  
[getyourhomedone.com](http://getyourhomedone.com)  
*Morse Home Improvement (MHI) is a second generation, family owned and operated company committed to putting customer service and quality first. MHI has been serving the River Bend and surrounding areas since 1962 and have been members of the Better Business Bureau with an outstanding record since 1994. MHI strives to make every customer a customer for life, by following the "MORSE CODE": Honesty, Integrity, Quality, Service and Value. MHI offers many home improvement services such as windows, siding, roofing, kitchen/bath remodeling, room additions and patio enclosures; and specializes in custom-made aluminum awnings and patio covers as well as canvas awnings. MHI takes pride in their reputation as the most experienced, oldest and respected home remodeling company in the area. The new website, [www.getyourhome.com](http://www.getyourhome.com) is their way of giving back to a community that has contributed to their success. Not only does this website provide detailed information about the products and services offered by Morse Home Improvement, but homeowners can register to win free prizes given away each month.*

### Plank, Jeremy

228 E. Lorena, Wood River IL 62095  
(618) 931-2377  
[plank4woodrivertownshipclerk.com](mailto:plank4woodrivertownshipclerk.com)  
[jplank@plank4woodrivertownshipclerk.com](mailto:jplank@plank4woodrivertownshipclerk.com)

### Redline Detailing LLC

Doug Wlodarek  
165 Maywood Drive  
East Alton IL 62024  
(618) 975-0526  
[www.redlinedetailingstl.com](http://www.redlinedetailingstl.com)  
*Redline Detailing is a family-owned mobile auto detailing business. "We come to you" to perform our services...to your home, your office, your little league games, even the golf course! We will travel anywhere throughout the St. Louis and Metro-East area. Redline's services range from simple washes and vacuums to full detailing packages with all the trimmings. Our fully equipped detailing van is stocked with top-of-the-line cleansers, chemicals and supplies—including our own water and electricity. We are rolling seven days a week, so give us a call!*

### Smith, Travis

(618) 920-6641

### Unlimited Imprints

Angie Kizer, Owner  
9018 N. Humbert Rd.  
Brighton IL 62012  
(618) 466-6600  
[unlimitedimprints.com](http://unlimitedimprints.com)  
*Unlimited Imprints is a promotion company that has been in business for 14 years in the Riverbend area. We can assist businesses, teams and organizations in their selection of promotional products, (pens, hats, keychains, bags, and golf merchandise) screenprinted or embroidered wearables. We can assist with graphics or logo work that the client may need. No matter what your budget is, we have a solution for you!*

## Are You Abusing Your Computer Privileges? 5 Ways Not to Use the Internet at Work

If you have access to a computer at work, it's easy to get sidetracked and waste time on the clock. In fact, most employees admit to [wasting part of their day](#) on non-work-related activities, with 48% of those employees wasting time by using the Internet, according to a study completed by Salary.com. Are you one of them? Whether you are, or have just thought about it, here are five things to avoid doing on the Internet at work. After all, it's the company's dime and the company's time, and it's doubtful you're getting paid to not work.

**Socializing** – If you have a MySpace or Facebook account, you might be tempted to spend some time updating yours, but don't do it. Using your personal account probably won't help you in your career unless you're in a very niche field, so stay away from your social network while you're on the job. Some companies even restrict access to social media sites like these specifically to keep employees from wasting time there.

**Personal Business** – You might use the Internet to pay your bills or make a doctor's appointment, but it's best to limit these activities to a non-work computer. Make sure you pay your bills from home, or use a public computer lab to take care of your personal business. This can also be a security issue. Some companies monitor keystrokes, so by typing in your password, you may accidentally give it away. Taking time on the clock to use the Internet at work for personal use shows your employer your lack of commitment to get the job done that you're paid to do.

**Job Hunting** – Looking for another job while you're still on the job is a big no-no. If you're looking for a new opportunity and

the Internet is at your fingertips, it might be tempting to search job postings online, but [don't do it](#). Respect your supervisor, co-worker, and company by completing a job search on your own time using your own resources.

**E-mailing** – You might be able to check your e-mail from anywhere you are as long as you have an Internet connection. But it's best not to check your personal e-mail at work using the company's Internet. You also need to be careful about using your work e-mail for personal use. All of your work e-mails are owned by your company, and even if you delete them, they can be re-accessed. Use your own time to catch up with long lost friends and forward chain e-mails to your family instead of wasting time at work. Instead, spend your time learning a new skill or helping out a co-worker.

**Shopping** – Online shopping is easy and convenient, but when it has no relation to your job, leave your shopping habits at home. Don't be tempted to use the company's Internet to buy the latest DVD or a new pair of jeans. Instead, run to the store on your lunch break, or shop on the weekends when you're not on company time. Also, your credit card could be vulnerable to hacking when you use it at work.

The Internet makes almost everything easier and more convenient these days. But, it can be a hindrance in your job, or even in your career, if you abuse the privileges you were given at work. So, avoid using the Internet inappropriately at work, and give your best to the job you have. Trying to fight the urge to surf the Internet? Check out these ways to [use your extra time wisely](#).

*Submitted by Marc Voegele of Express Employment Professionals*

### Advertising available on regional map

Advertising sales have started for the 2009-2010 map. Please call Paul with Village Profile at the Growth Association office, 618-467-2280, to reserve your space.

BUSINESS After Hours



RIVER BEND DUCK RACE May 28, 2009 Raging Rivers WaterPark

The Great River Bend Duck Race is an annual fundraiser that takes place during the Business After Hours at Raging Rivers WaterPark.

Ducks are adopted for \$5.00, placed in the Endless River attraction and float to the finish to win over 200 great prizes. Hundreds of people are in attendance!!!

Co-Host Sponsorship \$750 (limit 3)

- 32 complimentary ducks - Use your duck numbers as company giveaways or assign them to your employees in attendance that evening
• 12 entries into the Corporate area with a reserved table, located in the center of the Endless River attraction
• Complimentary beer and wine (in addition to BAH food and beverage) served exclusively in the Corporate area
• Display table at the event to promote your business
• Display advertisement in the Business Edge, valued at \$125
• Your business/organization listed on all promotional material: BAH postcard, Business Edge articles, flyers and in-park signs the evening of the event
• Air time on the Growth Association's radio talk show hour with WBGZ

Corporate Sponsorship \$300 (limit 41)

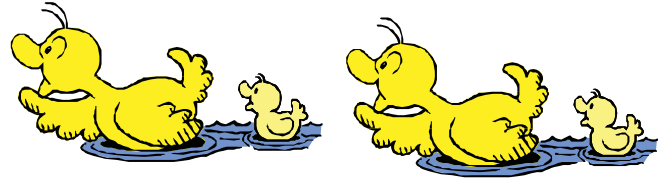
- 16 complimentary ducks - Use your duck numbers as company giveaways or assign them to your employees in attendance that evening
• 8 entries into the Corporate area with a reserved table, located in the center of the Endless River attraction
• Complimentary beer and wine (in addition to BAH food and beverage) served exclusively in the Corporate area
• Your business/organization advertised in our Business Edge articles and displayed on in-park signs the evening of the event

Display Table Sponsorship \$150 (limit 10)

- One 6-foot table to promote your business, products and services in the vendor area (located by Raging Rivers' Wave Pool)
• Includes 2 admissions into event

Prize Donor Sponsorship

- Your company name listed on the "Adopt-A-Duck" brochures (if received by April 17)
• Your business/organization advertised in our Business Edge articles and displayed on in-park signs the evening of the event



Yes, I'd love to donate a prize!

Company Name

Contact

Phone

Description of donation (minimum \$5 value)

Please pick up prize

I will deliver to the Growth Association office by May 22

Payment Form

Co-Host \$750

Corporate Sponsorship \$300

Display Table Sponsorship \$150

Due to the limited space in our corporate area, sponsorships are limited to the first 44 sponsors.

Company

Address

City, State, Zip

Contact

Phone

I am paying online at http://www.growthassociation.com and faxing this form to 618-466-8289

Bill me for the noted amount

Please charge my Visa/MasterCard

Cardholder

Account #

Exp. Date

Signature

Amount

For more information, call Joell at the River Bend Growth Association at 618-467-2280.

RIVER BEND GOLF CLASSIC

June 19, 2009

Belk Park Golf Course

4-Person Scramble



11:00 a.m. •Registration, Lunch

12:00 Noon •Shotgun Start with 2-putt rule

5:00 p.m. •Dinner & Awards (or following golf)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PRIZE SPONSOR \$2,000 for Exclusive Prize Sponsor

Includes entry of two foursomes; company name on banner; company name printed on 144 prizes; advertising at all Growth Association events, in the program and our Business Edge newsletter

\$1,000 (limited to 2 sponsors)

Includes entry of one foursome; company name on banner; company name printed on 144 prizes; advertising at all Growth Association events, in the program and our Business Edge newsletter

MEAL SPONSOR \$750 (limited to 2 sponsors)

Includes company name listing on banner, advertising in the program and our Business Edge newsletter

REFRESHMENT SPONSOR \$250 (limited to 2 sponsors)

Includes company name listing on beverage cart sign, advertising in the program and our Business Edge newsletter

HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSOR \$200 (limited to 4 sponsors)

Includes a place to display your table or booth\* to distribute your promotional give-aways at one of the four hole-in-one holes, company sign at that hole-in-one hole, advertising in the program and in our Business Edge newsletter

\*Subject to Golf Committee approval

HOLE SPONSOR \$125 (unlimited)

Includes company sign at designated hole, advertising in the program and our Business Edge newsletter

PUTTING CONTEST SPONSOR \$75 (limited to 2 sponsors)

Includes company sign in front of "The Putting Challenge" green listing you as an official sponsor of this fun event, advertising in the program and our Business Edge newsletter

TEE GIFT DONOR

Includes: advertising in the program and our Business Edge newsletter. (144 gifts needed)

- Bag tags
Tees
Divot repair kit
Other

DOOR PRIZE DONOR

Includes advertising in the program and our Business Edge newsletter

\$500.00 team entry fee

includes

- Greens fee for four
Carts
Driving Range
Putting contest
Longest drive contest
Closest to the pin contest
Attendance prizes
Lunch
Dinner
Refreshments all day
Opportunity to network with other River Bend business leaders

\_\_Prize Sponsor \$2,000

\_\_Prize Sponsor \$1,000

\_\_Meal Sponsor \$750

\_\_Refreshment Sponsor \$250

\_\_Hole-in-one Sponsor \$200

\_\_Hole Sponsor \$125

\_\_Putting Contest Sponsor \$75

\_\_Foursome \$500

\_\_Skins \$20/team

\_\_Pro Drive \$20/team

\_\_Individual player \$125

\_\_Non-registrant dinner \$25

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_Please charge my Visa/MasterCard

\_\_I am paying online at growthassociation.com and faxing this form to 618-466-8289.

\_\_Please bill me for the noted amount.

Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

\$1800 in Cash Pay Outs to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each of our 3 flights

GOLF PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Player 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Co. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Co. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Player 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Co. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Player 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Co. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Thank you to our members who have renewed their membership investment for 2009

Members paid January 21, 2009 through February 17, 2009

Airport Bowl  
 Airport Restaurant  
 Alton Day Care and Learning Center  
 Alton Fence & Door  
 Alton Refrigeration Co.  
 Alton Winnelson Co.  
 Ameren Economic Development Dept.  
 American Water  
 Andy's Auto Body and Car Care  
 Apartments For You  
 Appraisal Exchange - Bob Lowrance  
 Arrow Signs & Outdoor Advertising  
 Be Well Now, A Healthy Lifestyle Center  
 Beall Manufacturing Inc.  
 Beck Group Realty Inc.  
 Bemis, Dr. Frank C., & Associates, Chiropractor  
 Bethalto Community Unit School District #8  
 Bossanova Restaurant & Lounge  
 Bristow's Automotive  
 Bubby & Sissy's, Inc.  
 Bucher Glass Company, Inc.  
 Budget Signs, Trophies & Plaques  
 Caring Workplace, c/o St. Andrew's  
 Carrollton Bank  
 Carrow & Chapel Dentistry Partnership  
 Carver's BBQ, Inc.  
 Central Illinois Community Blood Center  
 -Southern Region  
 Cherry Hills Properties, Inc.  
 Clark Properties  
 Cogan, Martha  
 Community Hope Center / House of Hope  
 ConocoPhillips Lubricants  
 ConocoPhillips Wood River Refinery  
 Congra Construction Company  
 Cork Tree Creative  
 CR Systems  
 Crown Vision Center  
 Datamax Office Systems  
 Direct Floors  
 Donnewald Distributing  
 Dugger Swimming Pools & Spas, Inc.  
 Edward Jones - James Claywell  
 Elias, Kallal and Schaaf Funeral Homes & Crematory  
 Faccin Chiropractic  
 Fingerhut, David J.  
 George Alarm Company  
 Grafton Winery & Brewhaus  
 GreensKeeper Lawn Service  
 H & H Construction Services, Inc.  
 H2K Construction LLC  
 Hale, Walter Ltd. Realty  
 Hanover Associates  
 Hanson Professional Services, Inc.  
 Healing Touch Wellness Center  
 Heitz Optical Company  
 Hendrickson Collision Repair, Inc.  
 Hit-N-Run  
 Holiday Inn Alton  
 HomeHelpers

Honke Real Estate  
 Hospice of Southern Illinois  
 Hutson & Associates, Inc.  
 Illinois Dept. of Employment Security  
 Illinois Small Business Development Ctr.  
 Imaging Center of Southern Illinois  
 Jack Schmitt Chevrolet of Wood River  
 Lefferson & Associates  
 Loading Dock, Inc.  
 Logolt @ Langa  
 Longaberger Home Consultant  
 Lynn Tractor & Equip. Co., Inc.  
 Lynn's Printing  
 Madison County Arts Council  
 Madison County Historical Society  
 Maher's Auto & Truck Service, Inc.  
 McAtee, Frank L. & Associates  
 McConahey's Flowers, Inc.  
 Millers First Insurance Companies  
 Money Mailer of the Metro East  
 Morrissey Construction Company  
 National Bank at Edwardsville  
 New Testament Fellowship Church  
 OfficeMax Store #1452  
 Olin Corporation  
 Pearle Vision Center  
 Piasa Habitat for Humanity  
 Pre Paid Legal Services Inc. - Spectrum Planning  
 Premier Title & Escrow Company  
 Raging Rivers Water Park, Inc.  
 RE/MAX River Bend  
 Reliance Bank  
 Richardson, Derrick  
 Rolling Hills Golf Course  
 Rose Optical  
 Rosewood Chiropractic Clinic  
 Roxana Community Park District  
 Royal Office Products  
 S & S Database Consultants  
 Sandberg, Phoenix & von Gontard, P.C.  
 Schiber Truck Company, Inc.  
 Southern Illinois Construction Advancement Program  
 St. Peters Hardware & Rental, Inc.  
 State Farm - Tom Lane  
 Stock Auto Body, Inc.  
 Third Street Hair Company  
 Triangle H Farm  
 U.S. Army Recruiting Station  
 US Cellular  
 Vandalia Bus Lines, Inc.  
 Verify  
 VNA TIP Healthcare  
 Weinrich, N. Gail  
 Williams Office Products  
 Windoor Company, Inc.  
 Wm M. BeDell Achievement & Resource Ctr.  
 Wood River Ace Hardware  
 WSMI/WAOX Radio (Talley Broadcasting Corp.)  
 Young, Esther  
 Zonta Club Of Alton - Wood River

## MAYOR REPORT – Steve Bryant, Village of Bethalto



In spite of the economic downturn in 2008, the Village of Bethalto continued to grow residentially.

That continued growth demonstrates that Bethalto is a community where people desire to move and reside. As we prepare for 2009, we are looking forward to several projects getting underway, including Phase II of the West Corbin Extension from Stadium Drive to just over the new Illinois 255. Along with that, we have applied for funding for Phase III of that project, which will continue to connect West Corbin to Route 140 in Cottage Hills at Thelma Ave. We are also finalizing engineering on the Central Street project which will improve Central Street from the intersection at Prairie, heading east to Moreland Road. That project will include new concrete street, curb and gutter, and sidewalks. This is a great project for our community and will enhance the safety of our children who attend Parkside Elementary, the Boys and Girls Club, and our Central Park area. Jinkinson Bridge is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion sometime in August 2009 prior to the start of the new school year.

Along with these infrastructure improvements, we also have park projects that are being funded through several grants, enabling us to provide new playground equipment at Southside Park, and additional playground equipment around the swimming pool area at Central Park, where the basketball court will also be rebuilt and resurfaced. The Village has also submitted proposals under the Stimulus Package requesting additional funding for road projects, sanitary sewer projects, and storm water projects. We are also continuing our efforts to work with local agencies like the Boy's and Girl's Club to bring much-needed services to our area for residents with special needs. Our fundraising efforts in 2008 met and exceeded our goals. The Bethalto Charity Events Committee gave checks to Autism Speaks and Special Olympics in the amounts of nearly \$52,000 and \$59,000 respectfully. The hard work from the committee demonstrates the dedication and commitment of the Bethalto community and the outcomes reflect its generosity. We are looking for an exciting 2009.

**Dodge Ball Tournament...Get Your Game On!!!!**

The Young Adults committee of the River Bend Growth Association is hosting a Dodge Ball tournament on Saturday, March 7th from 12 p.m.-7 p.m. in the Riverbend Arena on the campus of Lewis & Clark Community College.

The Young Adults committee is made up of two representatives from the following schools: Andrea McPike and Steve Schmidt of Alton High School, Samantha Wattles and Thomas Woelfel of Civic Memorial High, Alyssa Rogers and Brendan Carlisle of East Alton/Wood River High School, Pat Fitzgerald and Ed Barrett of Marquette Catholic High School, Taylor Slayden and Tyler Austin of Roxana High School, and Josh Erthal and Daniel White of Southwestern High School. These 12 students have come together to learn about the importance of giving back to their communities.



These students are hosting this dodge ball tournament with all proceeds going towards a local high school scholarship and to a charity of their choice, which is the 5A's.

Any support for this tournament is appreciated. Anyone interested in making a financial contribution or a prize contribution, please contact Joell Aguirre at 618-467-2280 or jaguirre@growthassociation.com.

We are still seeking teams for this tournament. This tournament is open to any high school student and the cost per team is \$60. All inquiries should be directed to Joell Aguirre at 618-467-2280 or [jaguirre@growthassociation.com](mailto:jaguirre@growthassociation.com). Visit [growthassociation.com](http://growthassociation.com) for downloadable forms.

**The Grafton Winery & Brewhaus Welcomes You to Grafton**



*Grafton Winery & Brewhaus owners Mike and Lori Nikonovich share their excitement with a large crowd of family, friends, business partners and community leaders.*

On Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, Grafton Winery & Brewhaus owners Mike and Lori Nikonovich celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony to showcase their new winery, located at 300 West Main Street in Grafton, IL.

The Grafton Winery & Brewhaus overlooks the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. Nestled between the river bluffs, the Grafton Winery & Brewhaus offers great views of the river for every season.

Visit the Grafton Winery & Brewhaus for dinner, private parties and/or banquets. The gift shop offers unique gifts for any shopper and their custom labels on their wine bottles make any gift special. For more information on the Grafton Winery & Brewhaus, please visit their website at [www.thegraffonwinery.com](http://www.thegraffonwinery.com).

**Arms of Love Ministries Celebrates with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**



*RiverBend Growth Association Ambassadors Theresa Kuddes of Kuddes Advertising and Karen McAtee of TheBANK of Edwardsville hold the ribbon while Ron Wenzel and Sheila Goins of Arms of Love Ministries proudly show their enthusiasm for this ministry.*

Despite the wintry weather, the Arms of Love Ministries drew a crowd on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> to showcase their new facility, Options Now Women's Resource Center, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Family, friends, neighbors and supporters of the Riverbend community came together to share in the excitement of the newly renovated facility, Options Now Women's Resource Center.

The Arms of Love Ministries, a non-profit organization, located at 4854 North Alby in Godfrey, hosts a variety of services to our Riverbend community in the directions of pregnancy resource information. Their new facility, Options Now Women's Resource Center, is a beautiful place for any women to turn for direction.

For more information regarding the Arms of Love Ministries, please visit their website at [www.armsofloveprc.org](http://www.armsofloveprc.org) or call 618-466-1690.

**Mom and Me Forever Joins Downtown Bethalto**



*Mom and Me Forever owner Kim Unangst, along with several other family and friends, celebrates with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.*

Mom and Me Forever Retail Shop owner Kim Unangst celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> to showcase her new store to the Riverbend community.

Mom and Me Forever, located at 130 West Central Street in downtown Bethalto, is a retail shop that offers cross stitch supplies, hand dyed fabrics and floss, patterns, notions and gadgets. Owner Kim Unangst is proud to offer this specialty shop to the Riverbend community.

For more information regarding Mom and Me Forever, please call her at 618-717-0308.

**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS** - February 19, 2009 hosted by Castelli's Moonlight at 255



Owners Matt, Tracy and Phil Castelli of Castelli's Moonlight at 255



Janet and Roland Hansen of Baxter Distributing Co.



Patty Rotermund of Holiday Inn Alton, Jenni Sands of Backyard Dreams, and Sara Neely of Direct Floors



Tina Zumwalt of Saint Anthony's Health Center and David Craig of SCORE