

RIBBON CUTTINGS

IN THIS ISSUE

Ambassador of the Month winner
page 2

Small Business of the Month
winner
page 3

Welcome our Newest Members
page 4

Upcoming Event
page 5

Mayor Report - Godfrey
page 7

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Godfrey, Illinois 62035
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www.growthassociation.com



Riverbend Family Ministries Celebrates Open House

On Thursday, March 20th, Tammy Iskarous, Founder and Executive Director for Riverbend Family Ministries, was ecstatic to showcase her dream! Located at 131 East Ferguson Avenue in Wood River, Riverbend Family Ministries is a "consortium of non-profit organizations and their collective goal is supporting individuals, bringing wholeness to the family and strength to the community." Although each of these is an independent entity, they all work in tandem to address various aspects of individual, family and community needs. Bringing these ministries under one roof will further enhance the cooperative nature of their support mechanisms to better provide their services in a collective manner. Some of the "arms" of Riverbend Family Ministries are Vision Plus, Riverbend Youth on Fire, Crown of Beauty, as well as, Riverbend Family Ministries. For more information on Riverbend Family Ministries, call 251-9790.



Divas and Dudes opens in Bethalto

On Thursday, April 10th, Elisha Naumann, owner of Divas and Dudes Children's Boutique, located at 401 West Bethalto Avenue in Bethalto, celebrated with a ribbon cutting to announce the opening of her children's store. The name, Divas and Dudes, came as inspiration from Elisha's daughter and son. Divas and Dudes concentrates on unique and custom items. A baby registry is available and they host "Little Diva Parties." Divas and Dudes carries Swarovski Bling Sneakers and other elegant and unique items. Custom-made jewelry and hair bows are also in the inventory. For more information on Divas and Dudes Children's Boutique, call 618-377-2229.



Glenhaven Gardens of Alton

Glenhaven Gardens of Alton, LLC, a privately owned and operated Supportive Living Facility, celebrated with an open house on Thursday, April 24th. They are located at 100 Glenhaven Drive in Alton, on the grounds of Alton Memorial Hospital. Glenhaven Gardens has 92 apartments for seniors age 65+. This is residential-style apartment living with community areas for social occasions. Meals and most utilities are included in the rent as well as household, personal, and medical services when needed. Glenhaven's goal is to help seniors remain as independent as possible for as long as possible. One of the things that makes Glenhaven Gardens different from other types of senior living facilities is their financial arrangements for rent. People can pay privately or there is a financial assistance program for those who qualify. To set up a tour of Glenhaven Gardens or to receive more information, call Lotie at 462-1500.

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

Ambassador Committee

- Bill Aery
- Joell Aguirre
- Nancy Baahlmann
- Dorrie Ball
- Jenni Beck
- Mary Boulds
- Sally Crook
- Loretta Dawdy
- Dorothy Droste, RN, BSN
- Debbie Frakes
- Linda Funk
- Jerry Gibson
- Jennifer Hasamear
- Janae Hausman
- Gary Hoggatt, Jr.
- Phil Kammann
- Debra Kannel
- Therese Kuddes
- Marlene Lewis
- Karen McAtee
- Brenda Moore
- Jackie Parks
- Dick Propes
- Otto Rice
- Jenny Robison
- Amy Schaake
- Christy Schaper
- Donna Thornton
- Pam Whisler
- Denise Wolff
- Tina Zumwalt

Thank You!
Gary Hoggatt Jr. of National Bank at Edwardsville

Ambassador of the Month for April 2008



Gary joined our Ambassador Committee in January 2007. He has been in the banking business since 1987 starting his carrier as a part-time teller. He has managed various branches for 13 of those years. He also spent 3 years as a small business lender and relationship manager. Currently he is the Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager for National Bank in Edwardsville where he focuses on residential mortgage lending and business development. In addition to his management duties, Gary is acting Security Officer for National Bank and keeps the National Bank website up-to-date. National Bank with headquarters in Hillsboro, IL has 9 locations serving south central Illinois. The Edwardsville branch, located at 1611 Troy Road, opened in May 1997.

Although Gary joined the chamber several years ago, it was not until this past year that he decided to become more active. He started attending all of the Breakfast Connections, Total Networking lunches, Lunch and Learn Networking events, Business After Hours and Ribbon Cuttings. Between two chambers this can become a real challenge. Gary found that the ribbon cuttings are a great way to get connected. "I have found the ribbon cuttings to be an untapped resource for networking. You have the opportunity to meet business owners while they are showing off their business. You do not even need to be an Ambassador to attend and I would encourage others to attend when they can."

Another way Gary has connected with the Ed/Glen Chamber and the Growth Association is to accept the call as an Ambassador. "I look forward to representing the chamber in a positive and professional manner. I am excited about demonstrating to others in the business community how they can get the most out of their chamber membership"

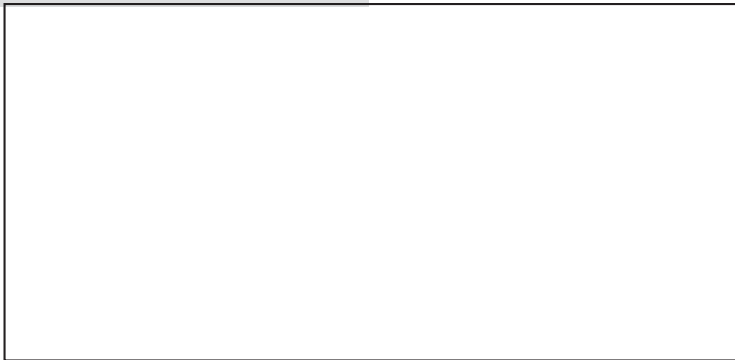
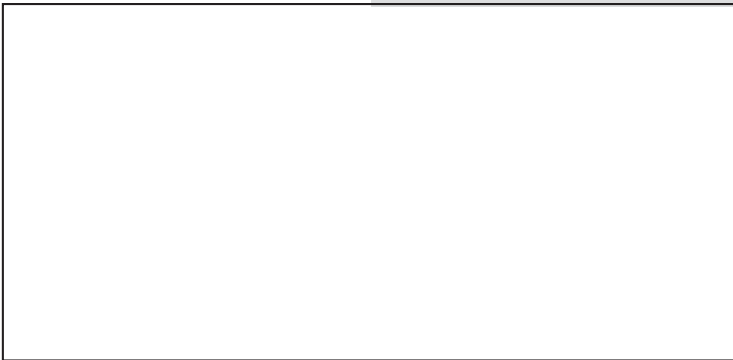
Gary's advice for members: "If you feel like you are not getting any value from your membership, I ask you to evaluate what you are putting into your membership. Are you attending all of the functions or as many as you can? Do you actively speak to people and network when you do attend? Have you ever gone to the chamber office and sat with the staff. They are a wealth of knowledge and can give you many ideas of how your chamber can partner with your business for the benefit of everyone in the community. My advice is to GET CONNECTED."

Calendar of Meetings and Events

- 6/4 New Member Orientation, River Bend Growth Association office, 12:00
- 6/5 Promotions Committee meeting, Sgt. Peppers Café, 8:30
- 6/6 Awards Committee meeting, Coffee Cabana, 8:30
- 6/10 Ambassador Committee meeting, Alton High School, 11:45
- 6/16 Membership Committee meeting, Sgt. Peppers Café, 11:00
- 6/17 "Let's Talk" on WBGZ, 10:00
- 6/18 Breakfast Connection, Sgt. Peppers Café, 8:00
- 6/20 Golf Tournament, 11:00 registration, Lockhaven Country Club

EMAIL CONVERSION

Members: Over the last month, our email service has been switched. If you have not been receiving our weekly emails, please call us at 467-2280 so we can investigate the problem.



**May 2008 Small Business of the Month Winner
Dentistry With TLC**

Congratulations to Anna Smith, DMD, and her staff at Dentistry With TLC, located at 1317 D'Adrian Professional Park in Godfrey! They are The River Bend Growth Association's Small Business of the Month winner for May 2008!

Dentistry With TLC will receive a \$2400 promotional package for being selected Small Business of the Month: the opportunity to attend The River Bend Growth Association's monthly show on WBGZ talk radio, be our guest at The River Bend Growth Association's networking breakfast or luncheon where they will be recognized and awarded with a plaque, a 2-sided yard sign to display at their business, a featured story in The Telegraph newspaper, recognition in The River Bend Growth Association's Business Edge, displayed on The River Bend Growth Association's board that travels to Business After Hours and become eligible to win the annual Small

Business of the Year award.

Congratulations to Dentistry With TLC! For more information pertaining to Dentistry With TLC, please call 618-466-0733.

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.

For more information regarding Small Business of the Month, please contact Joell Aguirre at 618-467-2280 or jaguirre@growthassociation.com.

Business Name _____

Owner or Manager _____

Reason for nomination _____

Nomination submitted by (optional) _____



Anna and Travis Smith, of Dentistry With TLC, proudly accept the Small Business of the Month award for the month of May 2008 from Amy Schaake of The Telegraph, Chairman of the Awards committee. Employees surrounded Anna and Travis and shared in the celebration.

Young Adults Committee wraps up school year

The Young Adults Committee of the River Bend Growth Association wrapped up their 2007-2008 school year with a celebration of their achievements at TheBANK of Edwardsville on May 8th.

The Young Adults Committee is made up of two representatives from six local schools (Alton High School, Civic Memorial High School, East Alton-Wood River High School, Marquette Catholic High School, Roxana High School and Southwestern High School) and they organize a fundraiser in which they recruit local high school bands to compete against each other for a cash prize, sell tickets to the event, market the event through sponsorships and flyers throughout the River Bend community and work the night of the event. The money collected from this event through the donations, sponsorships

and ticket sales goes back into our community by providing scholarship(s) and providing a local charity a donation. This year's charity is United Way of Greater St. Louis.

The United Way of Greater St. Louis was awarded a check for \$1155 and 2 scholarships were awarded in the amount of \$577 to Jacob Sabolo of Roxana High School and Christen Ellege of Civic Memorial High School in Bethalto.

Thank-you to our committee members for their active participation and dedication to the Young Adults Committee: Karen McAtee of TheBANK of Edwardsville and Sue Mueller of Marquette Catholic High School.

Thank-you to our students who

participated and made the commitment to get involved in their community: Matt Beatty and Andrea McPike of Alton High School, Jake Bartels and Samantha Wattles of Civic Memorial High School, Matt Cook and Alyssa Rogers of East Alton/Wood River High School, Chris Kratschmer and Pat Fitzgerald of Marquette Catholic High School, Michael Rust and Taylor Slayden of Roxana High School and Alex Cope and Josh Erthal of Southwestern High School.



The 2008 Young Adults Committee members at their Battle of the Bands fundraiser on Saturday, March 29, 2008.



The Young Adults Committee chose the United Way as their charity of choice for their fundraiser. Committee members present Jeanene Harris of United Way with a check for \$1155.

Welcome our newest members who joined the Growth Association during the month of April

Bluff City Athletic Club, NFP

Greg Volner, President
P.O. Box 782
Alton IL 62002
(618) 917-5437
www.bluffcityathletics.com
Bluff City Athletic Club, NFP is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing youth in the local area with a fair opportunity to play competitive sports. We provide athletic programs that teach players the fundamentals of the sport and act as feeder systems for the local high schools. We also provide players and parents with opportunities to participate in community service projects. We have accumulated more than 290 hours of community service since our founding in late summer 2007. In 2008 we will field 3 baseball teams - two high school aged teams and one U8 team.

Community Hope Center / House of Hope

Angela Valdes, Development Director
P.O. Box 124
1201 Hope Center Ln.
Cottage Hills IL 62018
(618) 259-0959
hopecenters.com
Community Hope Center is celebrating 20 years of faithful serving in the River Bend Community. They are a full service crisis emergency center that meets the needs of many through their diverse programs. Although their main mission has been to provide food assistance to those in need as well as prayer and ministry they also offer clothing, furniture, household items, cleaning supplies and toiletries. Their wide range of services is designed to not only give them hope but tools to further their education and abilities in the work force. Their newest resources that are being implemented are interview/resume skills, budget counseling, health classes, cooking classes, a Career closet, and Bible studies. These will complement their already existing computer classes. All services are free. On scheduled Thursdays, they offer a medical clinic which is voluntarily offered by Dr. Ron Schroeder and begins at 10:00 am. If interested in volunteering or for a tour of the organization please contact Angela Valdes, Development Director at 259.0959 or 558.6433.

Global Brass and Copper, Inc.

Terry Sitze, Dir, Human Resources
427 N. Shamrock Street
East Alton IL 62024
(618) 258-2000
www.olinbrass.com
Olin Brass is a leading manufacturer and distributor of copper and copper-alloy sheet, strip, plate, foil, and fabricated components in North America. It has established this position through the utilization of world-class production and quality capabilities, introduction of new products, strategic acquisitions, and international expansion. Its broad range of product offerings, which also includes pre-processed aluminum and stainless steel strip, are designed to meet exacting customer specifications across the full range of end-use segments. As a division of Global Brass and Copper, Olin Brass is the world's leading developer of high performance copper alloys. Built on solid metallurgical expertise and manufacturing excellence, the company has produced copper alloys commercially for over 90 years. Today, Olin Brass leads the industry in a wide variety of end-use markets including automotive, housing, electronics, coinage and ammunition. Applications range from electronic devices and automotive wiring harnesses, to decorative hardware, and coinage.

Illinois Small Business Development Center

Kwa Mister, Director
601 James R. Thompson Blvd
East St. Louis IL 62201
(618) 482-8329
www.siue.edu/BUSINESS/sbdc

Kristen's Hair Studio 17

Kristen Meyer, Owner
17 E. Ferguson
Wood River IL 62095
(618) 254-1717
Kristen's Hair Studio 17 with Kristen Meyer owner & licensed cosmetologist, Sarah Fowler licensed cosmetologist, and Keeley Kesterson professional make-up artist make the newest addition to downtown Wood River. What once was the home of Hartman's Jewelry Store, a landmark in downtown Wood River, has been completely remodeled and transformed into a 3500 sq.ft. salon.

Kristen's is a full service salon for men & women. Services vary to satisfy the whole family from haircuts, color, perms, updo's, wax's, to manicures & pedicures & make-up. Kristen's Hair Studio 17 also offers an assortment of professional hair care products. Kristen's is open Tue-Fri 10-5 & Sat 9-4 earlier or later hours by appointment. Come in and experience luxury at an affordable price.

Maxine's Day Care & Learning Center

Maxine Jackson, Owner
739 Silver Street
Alton IL 62002
(618) 463-0078

MDC Group - St. Louis Office

Amy Ackerman, Account Manager
31812 Red Oak Drive
Brighton IL 62012
(618) 372-3810
www.GetawayIncentivesStLouis.com
Amy Ackerman helps businesses create successful customer promotions and employee incentive programs designed to increase sales and bottom line profits as well as a competitive advantage. The customer promotions are intended to increase traffic and sales, to set more appointments, and to publicize major events such as a grand opening or fundraising event. In addition, the employee incentives programs reward and motivate employee performance, promote a perfect safety record, and offer a travel bonus for a job well done. The primary motivator is family vacations worth \$500 - \$1000 each. These awards feature well known resorts such as Wyndham, Hyatt, Hilton, Marriott, and Doubletree. MDC can bring them to business customers for as little as what it costs to take two people to dinner! For more information visit www.GetawayIncentivesStLouis.com or contact Amy at 618-372-3810 or toll-free at 1-888-851-0466 x715.

Personal Finance Company

Sherene Yaghoutfam
2516 State Street
Alton IL 62002
(618) 466-2728
Personal Finance Company (PFC) is a member of the local community, specializing in a variety of financial services since 1939. With 106 branches

throughout Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Missouri, our specialty is looking at a customer's credit needs. Plus, we do not use a credit scoring or automated approval system. At PFC, our managers and staff are equipped to make sound business decisions that benefit all. Personal Finance Company can generally be classified as a consumer finance company. We have over the last several years, however, been involved in the sales finance business through the purchase of retail installment contracts initiated through dealers. Our "Smile Package" began as a dental plan, but has evolved into health professional plan-- "ProCare". Currently, the plan provides patient financial services for hospitals, Lasik eye surgeons, and dentists.

Premier Vending

Dennis Kessler
105 Kirby Street
Jerseyville IL 62052
(618) 465-8363
Dennis Kessler, owner of Premier Vending, has been in business more than 15 years. Premier Vending serves the entire River Bend plus the immediate outlying areas. Vending services include soda machines and snack vending machines. Current customers include schools, hotels, and companies with employee lounges and/or waiting areas. Call Dennis today at 465-8363 for your vending needs.

The Store

Chad and Bethany Attebery
220 N. Shamrock
East Alton IL 62024
(618) 259-8685
The Store is family owned and operated business for the last 50 years! We are a convenience store and much more... we offer an impressive menu of hot food, ice cold beer, cigarettes and you can pay all your bills here and cash your checks! We just started food delivery service 7 days a week from 11am-9pm. Our store hours are M-F 6am-10pm, Sat 7am-10pm and Sunday 8am-8pm. Our check cashing and bill payment hours are M-F 8am-5:30pm and Saturday 8am-2pm. We have the nicest staff in town, so come check us out!

Annual River Bend Duck Race is May 29

Thursday, May 29th from 5-7 p.m., marks the River Bend Growth Association's annual River Bend Duck Race at Raging Rivers WaterPark in Grafton.

The annual River Bend Duck Race is a Business After Hours networking event held at Raging Rivers WaterPark in Grafton. It is one of our most popular Business After Hours, drawing more than 2000 members and guests. Ducks are adopted for \$5.00, placed in the Endless River attraction at Raging Rivers WaterPark and float to the finish for a chance to win one of 200 great prizes.

The Annual River Bend Duck Race is a great time to promote your business. And it's a great way to see the many businesses that make up the River Bend community! So, join us for a night of networking, duck racing, food and fun!

Thank-you to your generous sponsors who donate to this event! We appreciate your support.



2007 Annual Duck Race: Members and guests of the Annual Duck Race watch in anticipation for their winning duck to come in.

Co-Host Sponsors

AFLAC
St. Peters Hardware & Rental, Inc.
Raging Rivers WaterPark
The Telegraph

Corporate Sponsors

All/Pro Office Technologies
Alton Bell Community Credit Union
Alton Memorial Hospital
Alton Securities Group
Alton VFW Post 1308
American Water
Argosy Casino
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Chicago Title Insurance Co.
Community Title & Escrow, Ltd.
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Cornerstone Bank & Trust, N.A.
Edward Jones - Jim Claywell
Equity One Mortgage
First Clover Leaf Bank
Freer Auto Body
Illinois American Water Company
Liberty Bank
Logo It @ Langa Resource Group
MAC'S Sealing & Striping
Meridian Bank
Olin Community Credit Union
Partners Bank
Phone Masters LTD
Raifort Properties
Regions Bank
Regions Bank
Reliance Bank
Roberts Ford Chrysler Jeep
Roth, Evans & Lading, P.C.

Royal Office Products, Inc.
Saint Anthony's Health Center
Schwartzkopf Printing, Inc.
Serenity Title & Escrow
Shell Community Federal CU
St. Louis Regional Airport
TheBANK of Edwardsville
WBGZ Radio
Wooff Realtors

Prize Donors

(as of May 19, 2008)
A&A's Beads-N-Things
Ackermantravelbiz.com
Airliner Bar and Grill
Airport Bowl
Alfie's
Alton Little Theater
Alton Marina (Parrot Pointe Marine, Inc.)
Alton Memorial Hospital
Alton Museum of History and Art
Alton Square Mall
Alton VFW
Amarillo's
Ameren
American Water
Amoco
Andy's Auto Body
Antoinettes Haunted History Tour
Applebees of Wood River
Aquatic Center, Wood River
Argosy Alton
Backyard Dreams
Barleff's Clothing Store
Baxters
Be Well Now
Beauty Control, Amy Schaake
Bechtold, Phyllis
Belk Park Golf Course
Beverly Farm Foundation
Bossanova Martini Lounge
Bubby & Sissy's
Candy Basket

Carrollton Bank
Carrow Chapel Dentistry
Cassens Bait Shop
Cedar Box
Cheetah Wireless
Chicago Title Insurance Co.
Citizen's State Bank of Shipman
City of Grafton
Comfort Inn
Community Hope Center
ComPAS
ConocoPhillips
COPE Plastics
Country Corner
County Appliance
Creative Flooring by Design
Derrick Richardson/
ddrichardson.com
Dick's Flowers
Dixon Distributing
Dora's Spinning Wheel
Dos Rios
Duke Bakery
El Mezcal, Bethalto Location
Everett Loy
Finn Inn
First Clover Leaf Bank
Food-n-Fermentation Wine & Beer Shop
Freer Auto Body
Gateway Grizzlies
Gebbs Total Video
Geno's 140 Club
Gentelin's on Broadway
Girl Scouts of River Bluffs
Godfrey K C
Gouldings Jewelry
Grafton Canoe & Kayak
Grafton Harbor
Grafton Ice Cream Co.
Grafton Landing
Hair Force 1
Harrison's
Hartford Ribs
Healing Touch Wellness Center

Heitz Optical
Helmkamp Construction
Holiday Inn-Alton
Humbert Road Dentistry
Imaging Center
Imo's Pizza
Iron Décor and More
Islands Tanning and Hair Salon
Jacoby Arts Center
Jeffrey's Flowers by Design
Jenny J's
Jersey State Bank
Jerseyville Carpet & Furniture Galleries
Jimbo's
Johnson's Corner
Kellers
Kristen's Hair Studio 17
Langa Resource Group
Lewis and Clark Community College
Liberty Bank
Lilly's
Lilly's Family Restaurant
Loading Dock
Lockhaven Country Club
Mac's Sealing & Striping
Maneke Jewelers
Marquette High School
Mattress Giant
Meridian Bank
Mineral Springs Haunted Tours
Mississippi Half Step
Mississippi Mud Pottery
Moonlight Restaurant
Mosaics Fine Home Furnishings
Mustain Consulting
My Just Desserts
National Bank at Edwardsville
Nautilus Fitness Center
O'Hair's Salon & Spa
O'Jan's Fish Stand
Olin Community Credit Union
Our Dinner Bell
Pajarito

Pere Marquette Stables
Piasa Pub
Piasa Winery
Picture This and More
Pietown Stompin Grounds
Premier Title & Escrow
Quality Pontiac-GMC-Cadillac-Buick
Raging Rivers WaterPark
Regions Bank
River Bend Growth Association
Rolling Hills Golf Course
Royal Office Products
Rull Brothers Propane
Saint Anthony's Health Center
Scheffel & Company, P.C.
Senger's Gas Company
Serenity Title & Escrow, Ltd.
Sheppard, Morgan & Schwaab
Silpada Designs, Kathy Wehling
Southern Illinois Real Estate Title Center
Spirits Lounge
St. Louis Regional Airport
St. Peters Hardware
Suncon Inc. Designers & Builders
Sylvan Learning Center
Tara Point
Tastefully Simple, Nancy Baahlmann
The Telegraph
TheBANK of Edwardsville
Tony's Restaurant
Unique Boutique
United Community Bank
Village of Bethalto, Mayor Bryant
Vintners Cellar Winery
White Pelican
White's Greenhouses
Wildgoose Saloon
Williams Office Products
Wood Workers Wife
Woodlands Golf Course
YWCA of Alton

Support The River Bend...Buy Locally

Federico Chrysler Dodge opens new showroom



On Thursday, May 8th, Federico Chrysler Dodge, located at 1875 East Edwardsville Road in Wood River, showcased the new facility to the public by hosting an Open House.

President Bob Federico and his

staff were excited to display their showroom, car lot and service area. It is a state of the art facility and it is a great addition to the Wood River community. Several community leaders, family, friends and staff joined in the ribbon cutting celebration with the Federico family.

For more information on Federico Chrysler Dodge, call 254-1000.

Stock Auto Body expands with additional building



Kent and Suzanne Eberhart, owners of Stock Auto Body, expanded their operations to 263 South Sixth Street in Wood River. The Eberhart's celebrated their new facility with an open house for everyone to see on Monday, May 12th.

This new building gives Stock Auto Body the ability to service more customers. Their original facility at 505 South Sixth Street in Wood River is their main office, where pick up and delivery still occurs. Their new location and building provides Stock Auto Body the room to increase their customer base and their auto body work.

For more information regarding Stock Auto Body and their services, call 618-254-9163.

Kristen's Hair Studio 17 opens in downtown Wood River



Kristen Meyer, owner of Kristen's Hair Studio 17, located at 17 East Ferguson in Wood River, celebrated her River Bend Growth Association membership with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Kristen works with Sarah

Fowler and Keeley Kesterson. Together, the three ladies are licensed cosmetologists and professional make-up artists. Kristen's Hair Studio 17 is a full service salon for men and women. Services vary from haircuts, color, perms, updo's, and waxes to manicures & pedicures and make-up.

Kristen's Hair Studio 17 is open Tuesday-Friday from 10-5 and Saturdays from 9-4. Earlier or later hours are by appointment only. For more information on Kristen's Hair Studio 17, call 254-1717.

OfficeMax opens its first location in River Bend



OfficeMax, located at 520 Wesley Drive in Wood River, opened their doors for business on Thursday, May 1st and celebrated with a grand opening ceremony on Monday, May 19th. Several community leaders as well as neighbors, family,

friends and Growth Association members were on hand to share in the celebration.

OfficeMax is a leader in both business-to-business office product solutions and retail office products. OfficeMax provides office supplies and paper, in-store print and document services through OfficeMax ImPress, technology products and solutions, and furniture to consumers and to large, medium and small businesses.

For more information regarding OfficeMax, call 258-0455.

MAYOR REPORT – Mike Campion, Village of Godfrey

In the past year, Godfrey has continued to grow in spite of the poor overall national economic conditions in other parts of the country. I believe we are continuing to grow at a fast pace. Our challenge remains to manage that growth in a manner that will maintain the clean, small town feel that makes Godfrey a good place to live.

In the past year, the developers of the new Wal-Mart Supercenter in Godfrey obtained all of the approvals they were required to obtain from the Village of Godfrey. They are in the process of obtaining their final permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois Department of Transportation, and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. I remain proud of the fact that Wal-Mart chose Godfrey to build a new Supercenter with absolutely no tax incentives.

We have recently been advised that another corporation has selected Godfrey as the community in which they wish to expand. International Mulch Company has announced

the purchase of the former Owens Illinois Machine Plant on Tolle Lane. International Mulch Company intends to relocate a manufacturing facility to the former Owens Illinois Plant where they will employ approximately 40-45 people in their manufacturing process. International Mulch Company is a family-owned business with excellent potential for future growth. I am happy to see that this property did not remain vacant for too long and that it will be put back into productive use. We certainly want to welcome the owners of International Mulch Company to the Village of Godfrey.

The Village of Godfrey is finally ready to go out for bids for the expansion of our sanitary sewer system to serve the hundreds of homes near the western border of Godfrey along Route 3. This includes the residents of Piasa Hills Subdivision. For many years, those residents have had to put up with failing private septic systems. There has been no public sanitary sewer system in that area. We are about to construct a multi-million

dollar expansion that will solve those problems, and for the first time provide sanitary sewers to the residents of Piasa Hills. As our main sanitary sewer lines are extended to serve Piasa Hills, thousands of additional homes, many of which are not yet planned, will have sanitary sewer access available.

The Village of Godfrey has been planning a Crosstown Road for many years, beginning with the early days of the administration of Mayor Lars Hoffman. Countless public meetings have been held to discuss the design and location of the Crosstown Road and after years of study and input from the community, the Village of Godfrey has been successful in obtaining commitments for funding to construct the new Crosstown Road. The Crosstown Road is designed to be a new road running from East to West from Godfrey Road to Illinois Route 3. The first phase of the Crosstown Road will begin at a point between the Benjamin Godfrey Mansion and the Godfrey Village Hall and will terminate

near the intersection of Pierce Lane and Airport Road. We hope to be out for bid for this portion of the construction later this year.

I continue to work for the improvement and expansion of our Godfrey park system. The beautiful Glazebrook Community Park on Stamper Lane has recently received notice that it will be granted \$400,000 of funding from grants for improvements to Glazebrook Park. These dollars will be used to construct new ball fields to replace the ball fields we currently lease from Lewis and Clark Community College. Our Park and Recreation Department continues to improve and must do so to continue to meet the growing demands of our Godfrey residents.

New opportunities seem to present themselves every day in the Village of Godfrey. If you haven't seen Godfrey lately, or if you would like to learn more about Godfrey, please come on out and talk to us. We welcome new business and residents.

River Bend Golf Classic is June 20

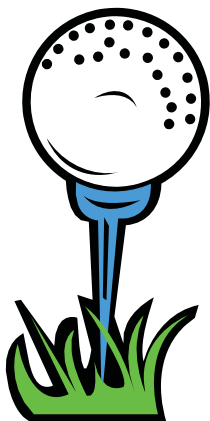
When: Friday June 20, 2008
11:00 a.m. registration
12:00 p.m. shotgun start

Where: Lockhaven Country Club

Cost: \$500 foursome

It's not too late to register a foursome for the River Bend Golf Classic.

Call Joell at 467-2280.

**Quarterly Economic Update meeting will be July 16**

Please join us for an update from Mary Lamie, Illinois Department of Transportation Deputy Director, Region 5 Engineer, on Wednesday, July 16, 11:30 a.m. at the Godfrey Knights of Columbus Hall, 1713 Stamper Lane, Godfrey. Ms. Lamie will give us an update on IDOT projects in our area, including IL255, US67, and the Mississippi River Bridge projects. Reservations are required and can be made by calling our reservation line at 467-2290 or e-mailing us at receptionist@growthassociation.com. Cost is \$10 at the door and includes a buffet lunch.

Member Gets National Recognition

Dwight Werts and Werts Welding & Tank Service were featured in a recent issue of *Bulk Transporter*, a media publication for the bulk transportation and logistics industry. The article featured pictures of Dwight and his family, the inside and outside of his business, and a photo of the Werts' receiving an award from George Horst of JIKOH Manufacturing, Inc. as JIKOH's National Dealer of the Year for both 2006 and 2007. Werts Welding is celebrating their 50th year in business, a business that was started by Dwight's parents, Bob and Verna. Congratulations to Werts Welding & Tank Service for the national recognition and for 50 years in business.