

# the Business **EDGE**



*Serving Business, Encouraging Growth in Southwestern Illinois*

## • IN THIS ISSUE •

### Meet Your Ambassadors

page 2

- Debra Kannel
- Therese Kuddes
- Stacey Noble Loveland

### Welcome our Newest Members

pages 3,5

- Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership
- Airport Plaza Bowl
- American Diabetes Association
- Atlantis Pools
- Glazebrook, Norma
- Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
- Piasa Harbor
- Riverbend Ophthalmologists, Ltd.
- Southwestern IL Entrepreneurship Center at SIUE
- St. Louis Bread Co.

### Shop the River Bend

pages 6-7

### Mayor Report - Wood River

page 8

### Ribbon Cuttings

page 9

- Riverbend Ophthalmologists, Ltd
- Alton Pedestrian Bridge
- Jeni J's

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

## Shop the RiverBend

This edition of the Business Edge is dedicated to the RBGA's mission of promoting shopping in our community. Throughout this edition, you will see references to shopping local which include testimonials from RBGA members and information regarding the RBGA Shop the RiverBend program.

Shopping locally is important to the community and it is something every one of us should commit to doing. We have chosen to live, work and play here in the RiverBend; therefore, we should ensure the quality of life we deserve and desire is preserved and maintained by patronizing our local merchants.

RBGA members can start saving by shopping locally and utilizing their free benefit, the VIP Membership Card.

*When the community does business with PiasaNet it is doing business with other local businesses in the area. We always look to our customer base for any goods or services that we need; then, we look to local businesses for any goods or services we need. By doing this we keep our customer's revenue in the local community giving them and us greater value for our dollars. When you do business with a local company you are treated as a person and not just a number; we thoroughly enjoy getting to know our customers on a personal level. The Shop the RiverBend program has given us another avenue to showcase our company. We have received many referrals and benefits from this promotion enabling PiasaNet to continually invest in our local economy.*  
-PiasaNet Internet & Computer Services

There are more than 15,000 VIP Membership Cards circulating in the RiverBend. The VIP Membership Card entitles the cardholder to many discounts and value added services from participating RBGA members. Go to [www.growthassociation.com](http://www.growthassociation.com) to view all current offers.

The VIP Membership Card is part of the Shop the RiverBend program, and patronizing our local RBGA member merchants is the key to this program. Benefits include the direct savings that the cardholder receives when taking advantage of the offers, and local businesses appreciate the opportunity to provide the community with their products and services. When you spend your money in your community, those tax dollars stay in your community.

*Holiday Inn Alton's Franco's Restaurant has been a participant in the RBGA Shop the Riverbend program since the very beginning. What a great way to provide unlimited and ever changing discounts to the local community. With the web based format, we have the flexibility to change our offer which is extremely beneficial to businesses. In addition, as a consumer, there are new offers and discounts available whenever you go to the site. Congratulations to the Growth Association for coming up with a win win program for consumers and business owners. And best of all, it's free!*

-Holiday Inn Alton

Keep supporting your local businesses today and every day.

For more information regarding the RBGA's Shop the RiverBend program and to see all benefits of participating in the program, go to [www.growthassociation.com](http://www.growthassociation.com) and click on the VIP Membership card.

### VIP Membership Card



[www.growthassociation.com](http://www.growthassociation.com)

*Having community support of our business not only helps us in our success, but also gives us the opportunity to give back to the community by patronizing other businesses, and donating to local schools, churches and charities. Being able to support local fundraising to keep important programs growing is especially important. Community support is the backbone of this effort. I joined The Shop the RiverBend program to help keep business growing in this area. It was so easy to partner both of our locations for Imo's Pizza in Godfrey and Bethalto. This is a beneficial way to keep money flowing in the River Bend area, especially during these tough economic times.*

-Imo's Pizza

## Board of Directors 2010

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

Ex-Officio Directors

Supervisor William Ambrose  
 Mayor Kenny Beasley  
 Cindy Blasa  
 Mayor Fred Bright  
 Mayor Steve Bryant  
 Dr. Dale Chapman  
 David Elson  
 Mayor Felix Floyd  
 Mayor Tom Hoechst  
 Jesse Hopkins  
 Supervisor Don Huber  
 Jack Jacoby  
 William Kessler  
 Mayor Mike McCormick  
 Supervisor Doug Mueller  
 John Pearson  
 Mayor Lynn Schreiber  
 Mayor James Spann  
 Brett Stawar  
 Mayor Tom Thompson  
 Mayor Fred Ufert



## MEET YOUR AMBASSADORS



My name is **Debra Kannel** and I have been an employee of Cornerstone Bank & Trust for the past 10 years. I am currently a mortgage loan officer for a division of the bank known as South Central Illinois Mortgage or SCIL.

I've seen many changes in the Alton area throughout the years and have met some wonderful people along the way that I still have the pleasure of working with thru many organizations like the RiverBend Growth Association. I began my career in finance in 1982 with Associates Finance on Homer Adams Parkway now where the Carrollton Bank resides. In 1988 I went to work for AVCO Financial Services next to Crown Optical on Broadway. In 1998 I managed Citizens Mortgage Inc. in Alton. After the passing of my friend and owner of the company I came to work for Cornerstone Bank & Trust in 2001.

I am a proud Altonian and have lived and worked in the area most of my life. I attended Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, MO and currently live in Dorsey with my husband, Dr. Philip Kannel. I have one son, Nathan, four stepchildren and five grandchildren (2 local) that keep us quite busy and happily so. We are members of the First Baptist Church in Fosterburg and have a large extended "church family" as well. My favorite hobby is traveling. We have been blessed to travel extensively to Europe, Africa, China, Australia, and New Zealand and can hardly wait for the next adventure. I love to cook and entertain. I enjoy decorating, gardening, spending time with my family, friends, dogs and especially my granddaughters Mackenzie and Elliana.

Community service is also a passion of mine. I have been an Ambassador with the Growth Association for the past seven years. In addition, I have been with the board of directors for Pride, Inc. for the past four years and active with the Community Hope Center for the last three years. I enjoy giving back to my community and find volunteering my time very rewarding both personally and professionally. During this time I have had the opportunity to meet and work with many wonderful people that I am proud to call friends.

My name is **Therese Kuddes** and my husband, Kevin, and I own Kuddes Advertising Specialties. I have been selling advertising specialty items since 1983.

I am active in the RiverBend Growth Association (Ambassadors, Membership, Promotions and Education Committees); Your Referral Source, United Way 2009 Campaign.

I am a member of St. Ambrose Catholic Church where I am a Eucharistic Minister to Rosewood Care Center in Alton and a past member of the Parish Pastoral Council.

I was born in Louisville, KY where I graduated from Mercy Academy High School and attended Western KY University. My husband, two dogs and I live in Godfrey. We have 2 sons, Ben, a Civil Engineer in Little Rock, AR and Brian, an Assistant Golf Professional in Springfield, IL. I enjoy quilting and sewing.

My name is **Stacey Noble Loveland** and I am thrilled to be a new Ambassador with the RiverBend Growth Association. As an Ambassador I have been given many opportunities to be involved personally and professionally with the Riverbend area.

The Riverbend area is a wonderful place to work and live. I am an Alton native and am very active here in the community. Along with being an Ambassador for the RBGA, I am involved with my Church (Resurrection Lutheran), I am the current President of Alton Children's Theatre, an A-Team member with Alton Market Place, Fundraising Chairperson for the TCAY Tidalwaves Swim Team, a member of the Parent Advisory Board for the Riverbender.com Community Center, parent volunteer with the Summers-port Sharks, and most importantly, the proud Mother of my 12 year old son, Ty.

Professionally, I am the Marketing and Admissions Coordinator for Saint Clare's Villa.

We are a supportive living facility for Seniors 65 and older. As an Ambassador I have been able to use the resources of the Riverbend Growth Association to help promote Saint Clare's Villa and all of the wonderful services we offer for Seniors. I love working with Seniors and helping them make Saint Clare's Villa their home!

The Riverbend area is alive with growth and changes and it is my pleasure to be a part of it.

*Kudos to the River Bend Growth Association for putting together the "Shop the River Bend" program! It's a win on so many levels: allowing local businesses to reach out to their peers and their public and enabling so many to find out what's truly special about what's available in this area. Additionally, we're all helping each other. I'm proud that Mr. Handyman is a participant in this program!*



**DEBRA  
KANNEL**



**THERESE  
KUDDES**



**STACEY  
NOBLE  
LOVELAND**

*-Mr. Handyman*

# Welcome our newest members to the River Bend Growth Association

## Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership

Ed Wooten, General Manager  
614 W. St. Louis Ave  
East Alton IL 62024  
(618) 259-1428  
shopaarons.com

## Airport Plaza Bowl

Tom White, Manager  
4 Erwin Plegge Blvd.  
Bethalto IL 62010  
(618) 377-2131  
airportplazabowl.com  
*Airport Plaza Bowl is now a member of the family with Riverboat Lanes & Bowl Haven Lanes which are your family fun bowling centers that offer much more than just bowling. Each center has a full kitchen and menu, full service lounge with live music. We do birthday parties, company parties, we have space for your next meeting or get together we do fun raisers so for your outing. Whatever it may be we are here.*

## American Diabetes Association - Gateway Region

Matt Thompson, Associate Manager  
10820 Sunset Office Dr., Suite 220  
St. Louis MO 63127  
(314) 822-5490  
www.diabetes.org

*The American Diabetes Association is the nation's leading nonprofit health organization providing diabetes research, information and advocacy. Founded in 1940, the American Diabetes Association conducts programs in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, reaching hundreds of communities. The mission of the Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. To fulfill this mission, the American Diabetes Association funds research, publishes scientific findings, provides information and other services to people with diabetes, their families, health professionals and the public. Working through the*

*Gateway Region Office, the American Diabetes Association has a number of events in Madison County including our Madison County Diabetes Symposium, Madison County Golf Invitational, and Madison County Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes. To get involved with our Madison County Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes, visit our website at [www.diabetes.org/stepoutmadisoncounty](http://www.diabetes.org/stepoutmadisoncounty) or call 1-888-DIABETES, ext. 6827.*

## Atlantis Pools

Jon & Bethany Wooden  
3000 Homer Adams Parkway  
Alton IL 62002  
(618) 465-6490

## Glazebrook, Norma J.

Alton IL 62002

## Northwestern Mutual Financial Network

Brian Lewis, Financial Representative  
1524 W. Delmar Ave.  
Godfrey IL 62035  
(314) 452-2822  
www.northwesternmutual.com  
*Since 1857, Northwestern Mutual has helped its policy owners and clients achieve financial security. Through a needs-based process, Northwestern Mutual assists our clients in determining their financial security needs and addresses those needs using a wide range of products and services.*

## Piasa Harbor

Alley Ringhausen  
P.O. Box 821  
Alton IL 62002  
10815 Lockhaven Road  
Godfrey IL 62035  
(618) 467-2265  
www.greatriverslandtrust.com

cont. on page 5

# Getting Ready For School?

*We have an account that's great for students!*

- Learn to save and invest
- Learn how to manage money online
- Learn how to be responsible with a debit card
- And so much more...

**myiBANK**

*The Account For  
Teens & Young Adults*

[www.myibankaccount.com](http://www.myibankaccount.com)



Register To Win  
**FREE MUSIC**  
Visit Our Web-Site  
For More Details!

[www.myibankaccount.com](http://www.myibankaccount.com)

Find TheBANK  
On Facebook



[www.facebook.com/thebankofedwardsville](http://www.facebook.com/thebankofedwardsville)

**TheBANK**  
of Edwardsville  
*The People You Know & Trust*

MEMBER FDIC

## July Small Business of the Month Winner Helmkamp Auto Service Inc

Congratulations to Eugene and Janet Helmkamp and their staff at Helmkamp Auto Service, located at 405 West Bethalto Drive in Bethalto, for winning the July 2010 Small Business of the Month Award.

Helmkamp Auto Service is a full service, diagnostic and repair service facility with more than 175 years of knowledge and experience. Helmkamp Auto Service has been in business for more than 40 years. They offer preventative maintenance, multi-point inspection and safety inspections for your vehicle.

To congratulate Helmkamp Auto Service on their Small Business of the Month award for July or for more information, please call 618-377-6821 or visit their website at [www.helmkampauto.com](http://www.helmkampauto.com).



**QUICK LANE**  
TIRE & AUTO CENTER

**AUTO SERVICE  
WHILE YOU  
WAIT**

---

Located at  
**ROBERTS MOTORS, INC.**  
4350 Alby Street  
Alton, IL 62002  
**618-466-TIRE**  
(8473)

**TIRES**

Buy Four TIRES  
**Get \$100 CASH REBATE!**

Goodyear, Continental, Yokohama, Hankook, Pirelli



Quick Lane® retail tire purchases only, limit one redemption per customer. Purchase tires between 7/5/10 and 8/31/10. Rebate form must be postmarked by 9/30/10. See Quick Lane® for vehicle applications and details through 8/31/10.

**Make fast, convenient & safe business purchases with a FREE Business Debit Card!**



- NO MORE** check writing or waiting for check approval
- NO MORE** time spent reconciling the petty cash account
- Whenever you or an employee uses the Business Debit Card, the purchase amount is automatically deducted from your Business Checking Account
- Make purchases at millions of locations worldwide that accept MasterCard®
- Saves time & control expenses to better help you manage your business
- Makes it easier to monitor employee spending, identify potential tax deductions, & fill out expense reports

 **CORNERSTONE**  
BANK & TRUST, N.A.

200 E. Homer Adams Pkwy, Alton • (618) 465-5656  
533 S. State St, Jerseyville • (618) 498-5656  
600 N. Main St, Carrollton • (217) 942-5454

[www.cstonebank.com](http://www.cstonebank.com)

Member  
FDIC

LENDER



**Helmkamp Auto Service is proud to be selected the July 2010 Small Business of the Month.**

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).

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

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

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

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

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



## Learn QuickBooks. Quick!



New to QuickBooks? Learn what you need to better manage your business in a two-day QuickBooks financial software class at Lewis and Clark.

**October 19 & 26**

**Edwardsville**

Class size limited. Call now to enroll! 618.468.5750.

**It's what you know.**

# Welcome our newest members to the River Bend Growth Association (cont.)

**Riverbend Ophthalmologists, Ltd**  
 Dr. Hudson, Dr. Segrist and Dr. Tseng  
 Stephanie Gabriel, Office Manager  
 1310 D'Adrian Professional Park  
 Godfrey IL 62035  
 (618) 433-5005  
 www.riverbendophthalmologist.com  
 Riverbend Ophthalmologists, Ltd. is a comprehensive ophthalmologist's office that was founded in 1980. The goal of our practice is to provide the highest quality eye care to our patients. We provide full-service care including subspecialty areas of ophthalmology including the following: Cataract, Glaucoma, Cornea, External Diseases of the eye and a full Optical Shop. Our physicians - Dr.'s Hudson, Segrist and Tseng are all Board Certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology and have completed advanced training at highly respected medical schools such as Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, University of Missouri-Columbia and Tulane University. Every member of our staff is dedicated to provid-

ing you with excellent care. Our Contact Lenses and Optical Products- You can buy the same contact lenses and glasses anywhere, but what matters is the care you receive with them. Our contact lens specialists have a wide variety of lens styles, sizes, colors, and designs to give you the safest, most comfortable fit with the best vision possible. Eyeglasses, like contact lenses, come in a variety of styles and sizes. Having such a selection helps you find an attractive frame that fits comfortably and looks sharp. Medicare Assignment Accepted. New Patients Welcome.

### Southwestern IL Entrepreneurship Center at SIUE

Kristine Jarden, Director  
 2126 Alumni Hall, Campus Box 1108  
 Edwardsville IL 62026-1107  
 (618) 650-2166  
 www.siu.edu/business/ec  
 The Southwestern Illinois Entrepreneurship Center at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is part of a

statewide effort to build a more vibrant economy and create new job opportunities in Illinois. The Entrepreneurship Center serves as a regional hub for coordinating entrepreneurship development activity. It serves as an umbrella organization to facilitate the interaction between entrepreneurs and existing resources. The Center helps businesses connect with resources and funding, patents and products, money and markets. The center also provides customized marketing strategies that drive product growth. The Center works to promote an entrepreneurial culture throughout the Southwestern Illinois region. In addition, the Center utilizes students to assist entrepreneurs in developing their business. The Center also helps individual entrepreneurs and small businesses obtain professional services for comprehensive business planning assistance, the evaluation of a proposed start up or expansion, or other accelerated support purposes. The Center has funds available to businesses for these services. For information, please contact Kristine Jarden at 618-650-2166.

### St. Louis Bread Co.

Verna Gray, General Manager  
 1837 B Homer Adams Parkway  
 Alton IL 62002  
 (618) 474-0100  
 Panerabread.com

Our menu features signature sandwiches, soups, fresh salads, artisan breads and pastries baked fresh in our bakery-café every morning. Our catering menu has choices to suit anyone's appetite including hot breakfast sandwiches, bagels and pastries ideal for that morning meeting. For lunch we offer plenty of variety including BBQ Chopped Chicken Salad and favorites like our Bacon Turkey Bravo and Asiago Roast Beef sandwiches each served on artisan breads baked each morning in our bakery-café. Our catering coordinator is happy to assist you in customizing the perfect menu for your group. Contact us for more information at (618) 474-0100.

## RISTER'S automotive and transmissions

**465-5591**

Quality Service Guaranteed  
 1322 Milton Rd., Alton



Our Family Loving and  
 Caring for Your Family  
 "Since 1901"

## Marks Mortuary

254-5544 633 E. Lorena Ave, Wood River, IL

Visit us at [www.marksmortuary.com](http://www.marksmortuary.com)

## Triangle H Farm

"Where Horse Dreams Come True"

Contact us for birthday parties  
 and special events

- Riding Lessons • Boarding
- Horse Training



2082 S. Moreland Rd., Edwardsville  
 618-692-4823  
 www.trianglefarm.com

Looking for a great business location in a fast  
 growing industrial area? Build near the  
 ConocoPhillips CORE project at

## Raifort Commerce Park-Roxana, Illinois

- Prime Metro-East Illinois Locations
- Accessible & Affordable
- Large & Small Tracts Available
- Commercial & Industrial Zoning

[www.raifortproperties.com](http://www.raifortproperties.com) • (618) 656-0658





# SHOP THE

## ALARMS

George Alarm Company  
3 months free monitoring for all new systems. 3 month free monitoring when you transfer monitoring from someone else to George Alarm Company

## ATTORNEYS

John W. Hoefert Attorney  
Priority Service

Law Offices of Katherine M. Smith  
10% off Estate Planning Services including Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney, and Living Wills

## AUTOMOTIVE

Andy's Auto Body and Car Care  
Oil Change \$19.95/Front end alignment \$49.95

Bristow's Automotive  
10% off parts and 5% off labor!

Helmkamp Automotive Service, Inc.  
\$25.00 Schnucks card with any \$1000 repair OR \$25.00 Schnucks card with the purchase of 4 tires

Quality Buick Pontiac GMC Cadillac  
Oil change for \$24.95. Tire rotation and general inspection are free!

Roberts Motors  
Full tank of fuel with any vehicle purchase.


## BANQUETS/WEDDINGS/MEETINGS

Lockhaven Country Club   
Book your Christmas Party before October 1 2010 and get a 10% discount. You do not need to be a member to hold a party.


*It is the people from the RiverBend communities who have helped me to grow Kuddes Advertising. My business success and strength comes from local customers who believe, as I do, in patronizing local businesses. The RBGA's "Shop the RiverBend" program gives me another way to say "thanks" to my customers and to add value to their purchase from me. Every RBGA members should take advantage of the opportunity and get involved - It's a win-win!*

*-Kuddes Advertising Specialties*

## BEAUTY PRODUCTS

Mary Kay Independent Consultant   
Free Facial and 15% off your first purchase of Mary Kay products

## COMPUTER SERVICES

PiasaNet Internet Service & Computer Repair   
Half Off DSL Installation -- A \$25 Savings!

## CONTRACTORS

Midwest Electric  
free estimates and a 10% discount on the final cost of labor

Mr. Electric, Alton  
10% off Any Electrical Service Free Estimate

## EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Extra Help, Inc.  
10% off normal rate for clerical employees

## ENTERTAINMENT

Alton Symphony Orchestra  
Buy one concert ticket at regular price and receive a second one for 1/2 price

## EVENT PLANNING

Incredible Events by 62 Sports Group  
20% off Inflatable Activities

## FINANCIAL

Alton Securities Group Inc.  
Free consultation and a \$25 gift certificate to your favorite local restaurant for opening an account with Kathy Weaver.

Edward Jones - James Claywell  
Free initial consultation & a \$50 credit towards investment fees /charges

First Clover Leaf Bank  
\$50 Visa Gift Card on new checking account

National Bank at Edwardsville  
\$200 off closing cost on your home loan with Gary. Free small Business Checking account - no min. balance, 350 items per month, free first order of business check.

Olin Community Credit Union  
\$1 discount on the service fee for our Visa Gift Cards

Regions Bank - Godfrey  
FREE financial review

Reliance Bank  
Free "Scan Fast" remote deposit service for 6 months

Shell Community Federal Credit Union  
No fee for American Express Gift Cards

TheBANK of Edwardsville  
\$5 discount for 1 year on any safe deposit box rental

Vantage Credit Union  
FREE membership\* when you join and receive a FREE COOKBOOK when you apply for a mortgage with Mortgage Solutions

## GLASS

Lyons Glass Company  
Free can of Sprayway, "The World's Best Glass Cleaner," with \$50 purchase

## HEALTH & FITNESS

Be Well Now - A Healthy Lifestyle Center  
\$45 one-hour massage with minimum purchase of three

Healing Touch Wellness Center  
\$5 off your first half hour massage or \$10 off an hour massage

Senior Services Plus Wellness Center  
\$10.00 off yearly membership


## HEALTH CARE

Crown Vision Center  
25% off eye glasses

Heitz Optical Company  
10% off complete glasses and 50% complete sunglasses

HomeHelpers  
2 free hours of caregiver services with the purchase of 6 hours

Lieber Vision Center, P.C.  
Comprehensive eye exam now only \$35 to new patients

Riverbend Ophthalmologists, Ltd.   
20% off complete pair of eyeglasses

Rose Optical  
15% off complete pair of glasses

## HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING


APS Heating & Cooling  
10% off order

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

Demand Remodeling  
25% Discounts

Eagle Home Improvement  
20% off on all remodeling projects

Mr. Handyman  
\$25 off a minimum 2 hours of service by Mr. Handyman

P & W Floor to Ceiling, Inc.   
10% discount for first time any wall cleaning or ceiling cleaning, or any slip proofing service which we perform in your home or facility

## INSURANCE

State Farm Insurance & Financial Services - Karen Wilson  
With a rate quote, get a free Rand McNally Road Atlas, Wedding Planner, or Guide to Pregnancy & Baby's First Year.

*\*\*Some restrictions apply on some offers. See www.growthassociation.com for details. Offers are valid as of 7/16/2010 and are subject to change.*

# RIVER BEND

VIP Membership Card



www.growthassociation.com

## LAWN GARDEN

GreensKeeper Lawn Service  
Receive 50% off your first application any other time of the year. New customers sign up for a GreensKeeper Basic Program between Oct 1st and Feb 1st of any given year and get one FREE application.

## MAIL SERVICE

The Mail Box Store  
25¢ Color Copies, 5¢ Black and White Copies or \$2 off any Shipping, 10% off any of our gift items

## MEDIA RELATIONS

Cork Tree Creative  
One Free Press Release for local distribution.


## NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Alton Area Animal Aid Association  
25% off any dog or cat looking for a good home

Alton Museum of History & Art Inc.  
One free admission with one paid admission

YWCA  
Come in for a tour and receive a pass for 3 days free

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Cotter Photography   
Senior Portrait Session--\$100 RBGA members save \$25 \$100 includes 1-11x14, 2-8x10s, 4-5x7s AND 40 wallets


## PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

Kuddes Advertising Specialties  
10% off any new order

## REAL ESTATE

Beck Group Realty Inc.  
\$100 commission rebate at closing

## RECREATION


Saint Anthony's Play Pals   
Receive \$5 off of a paid class registration for Play Pals Gym!

## RESTAURANTS

Alfies  
\$5 off a \$30 purchase

Cane Bottom/My Just Desserts  
Buy 2 whole pies at regular price, receive 3rd pie for \$5.00

Castelli's Moonlight at 255  
\$5.00 off voucher redeemable on your next visit with a purchase of \$35.00 or more


Coffee Cabana   
\$1.50 Off 1-lb. Bag of Coffee  
\$0.75 Off any 20 oz. Latte, Mocha or Cappuccino

Franco's at Holiday Inn  
Franco's Restaurant - \$6.99 Breakfast Buffet everyday

Gentelin's on Broadway  
\$5 off a \$50 purchase

Grafton Winery & Brewhaus  
10% off purchase

Imo's Pizza - Alton Pizza LLC  
10% off entire order

Quiznos   
10% of total order

Senior Services Plus School House Grill  
50 cents off any lunch order

Spirits Lounge and Restaurant  
10% discount off entire purchase

## RETAIL

Alton Memorial Hospital Gift Shop  
20% discount on purchases

Alton Square Mall  
\$5 off a birthday party at The Eagles Nest;  
No fee on the Alton Square Mall gift card

Beverly Farm Shopping Complex  
15% Off Everything in the Shopping Complex


Country Meadows  
10% off storewide

Direct Floors  
15% off entire store

Goulding's Jewelers  
Free cleaning and inspection of your ring.

Mississippi Mud Pottery Inc.  
\$5 off a purchase of \$25 or more

Party Magic  
10% off any cash-n-carry item

Patchwork Plus Quilt Shop   
Summer Special!!! You and a friend sign up for the same class for the price of one!

Picture This and More  
Buy one mat and get a second mat of equal or lesser value FREE!!


Saint Anthony's Hospital Gift Shop  
15% discount on purchases over \$10

St. Peters Hardware & Rental Inc.  
\$5 off a \$25 purchase

White Birch  
Free local delivery on gifts of \$50 or more


## RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

Fountains IV - Godfrey  
Receive a complimentary lunch during your scheduled tour

Saint Clare's Villa  
Call and schedule a tour and we will treat you to lunch! 

United Methodist Village - Godfrey  
Receive a complimentary gift and lunch during your tour

## SALON

Serenity Salon and Spa   
With updo (special occasion style) receive free nail polish.


## SIGNS

Arrow Signs & Outdoor Advertising  
10% off retail price of any product or service

## STORAGE

Hanover Associates  
15% discount on inside or outside RV, Auto, Boat storage in a fenced, lighted facility

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Cheetah Wireless   
Free activation (up to \$35) on any new line for Verizon or T-Mobile for wireless internet or phone. Plus free Bluetooth headset with any new smart phone activation.

US CellularR  
Waived activation fee (\$30 per line) -50% off of case or car charger at time of contract signature on new business accounts)

## TITLE INSURANCE

Southern Illinois Real Estate Title Center  
\$100 off closing

\*\*Some restrictions apply on some offers. See www.growthassociation.com for details. Offers are valid as of 7/16/2010 and are subject to change.

www.growthassociation.com

*Without the community, we wouldn't have a business. They help build our business by patronizing us, giving us feedback, and by recommending us to others. We joined the Shop the Riverbend program to get our name out into a larger community area and to give those who do not have insurance benefits the opportunity to get a necessary product at a discounted price.*

*-Kitty Edelen, Area Manager, Crown Vision Center*

# MAYOR'S REPORT - Fred Ufert, City of Wood River



FRED  
UFERT

2010 has been a year of progress for the City of Wood River. The City is currently working on four major developments that would revitalize and enhance areas of the City in addition to adding numerous jobs. We are very excited about these prospects and hope to announce good news in the near future.

The City welcomed Olin Community Credit Union with a ground breaking event in May. We have also welcomed Heritage Environmental, Pizza World, China King, Apex Physical Therapy, and Unsell and Shatnick Law Offices. We are working to finalize plans for an Aldi grocery store and

JD Byrider used-car dealership.

The current year is the sixth consecutive year of a property tax rate DECREASE for Wood River. The current tax rate is \$.25 LESS than the rate of six years ago. The City's assessed valuation increased by 1.4%. The City is fortunate to have a stable sales tax base, as well.

The first house sale occurred in the Rock Hill Trails subdivision, our newest "green" sustainable subdivision. To date, eight lots have been reserved and two display homes have been constructed and are open for viewing.

Approximately \$250,000 of stimulus funds were allocated for the 6th Street overlay project which has now been completed. The City has applied for approximately \$9 million in funding for stormwater

improvements which will aid in alleviating flooding issues in the area of 9th Street to 14th Street. The City completed the \$500,000 curb, guttering, and asphalt overlay projects for the west side of town in the Little Italy area and also the Berry Road area.

The City completed the \$2.6 million upgrade of the water system including new wells, water mains, high-service pumps,

touch read meters, and much more. We are also continuing our asphalt program of replacing the oil and chip surfaces with asphalt throughout our residential streets.

We are excited about the continued growth and revitalization of our community through annexations, development, renovation, and capital improvements. I am proud to reflect upon our accomplishments and look forward to many more!

*My involvement in the River Bend Growth Association including the Shop the River Bend Program has helped to flourish my business and provide a quality source of advertisement to residents and business owners in the Alton area. The customers I have gained by participating in the Shop the River Bend Program have become excellent customers. I value the Shop the River Bend Program because I believe we should keep our business local and help local residents and businesses succeed. Working with those we know or those we come to know has proven to be a guaranteed source of business for my firm. When I help local businesses and residents succeed, I see the results of my efforts immediately. I recommend participating in the River Bend Growth Association and the Shop the River Bend Program.*

-Kathy Smith, Law Offices of Katherine Smith

EXCELLENCE

## Andy's Auto Body

AND CAR CARE  
Of Alton and Maryville

GUARANTEED

ASE  
CERTIFIED

FSR I-CAR

**Certified Technicians**  
"Since 1974" That says it all!

**RiverBend**  
GROWTH ASSOCIATION  
Serving Business, Encouraging Growth in Southwestern Illinois

**SMALL BUSINESS  
OF THE MONTH  
WINNER**

Hours: M-F 7:30 - 5:30 • Sat. 8-12 noon  
3444 E. Broadway, Alton • 465-7006  
14 Schiber Court Maryville, IL • 288-7272  
AndysAutobody@pisanet.com

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL ANNUAL FLY-IN AND OPEN HOUSE

# FLY IN 2010



**"WINGS & WHEELS"**  
Bethalto, Illinois  
SEPT. 25, 2010

PRESENTED BY  
  
St. Louis Regional  
AIRPORT

## Riverbend Ophthalmologists Celebrates Their New Facility



Doctors at Riverbend Ophthalmologists, Dr. James M. Hudson, Dr. Lili A. Tseng and Dr. Karen L. Segrist, showcased their new facility at 1310 D'Adrian Professional Park in Godfrey on Wednesday, June 23rd to the community with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Riverbend Ophthalmologists is a comprehensive ophthalmologist office providing high quality eye care, including small-incision cataract surgery, glaucoma treatment, along with external diseases of the eye and pediatric eye care. The Boys and Girls Club of Bethalto was the recipient of Riverbend Ophthalmologists' old office furniture. For more information regarding Riverbend Ophthalmologists, visit [www.riverbendophthalmologist.com](http://www.riverbendophthalmologist.com) or call 618-433-5005.

## Jeni J's Unique Gifts & Guest Houses Celebrates 5 Years In Business



present to celebrate with Jeni J's: Karen McAtee of TheBANK of Edwardsville, Karen Brncic of Alton Marina, Jim Shrader of The Telegraph, Lori Nikonovich of Grafton Winery & Brewery, Lexi Werner of Lockhaven Country Club, Sharon Johnson of Practical Rehab, Brett Stawar of the CVB, Grafton Mayor Thompson and Debra Kannel of Cornerstone Bank & Trust.

Jeni J's owner Nancy Wilson and her husband, Mike, celebrated a 5 year anniversary on July 8th with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Jeni J's Unique Gifts & Guest Houses, located at 210-214 Main Street in Grafton, is a group of bed and breakfast cottages nestled high on stone terraces overlooking the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. Along with their four cottages, their unique gift shop offers a variety of gifts, clothing, jewelry and fine wines from Illinois wineries.

Owners Nancy and Mike celebrate with family and friends in recognition of their 5 year anniversary. RBGA members

## Pedestrian Bridge Opens



Prior to the 4th of July celebration at the Alton Riverfront, Mayor Tom Hoechst, Congressman Jerry Costello, Illinois Senator Bill

Haine and Representative Dan Beiser spoke at the pedestrian bridge dedication and ribbon cutting. Current Alton Aldermen and women, former Mayor Don Sandidge, retired Alton Aldermen, Alton Lake Advisory Chairman Jack Jacoby, Treasurer Cindy Roth, and Clerk Mary Boulds were on hand to celebrate. Mayor Hoechst explained that this was the culmination of planning that took place many years ago with citizen input. The RiverBend Growth Association was happy to be a part of the ribbon cutting with Ambassadors Karen Brncic, Linda Funk, and Dorothy Droste in attendance. The celebration continued on the Riverfront with two bands -- Back in the Saddle before the fireworks and a Beatles revue band following the fireworks.

## Save with the RiverBend Growth Association

Visit [www.growthassociation.com](http://www.growthassociation.com) and click on the **VIP Membership Card** to see what your local chamber of commerce is doing to encourage shopping at home.

Members of the RBGA can enjoy discounts and services in the areas of entertainment, fitness, healthcare, home improvement, dining and much more.



Interested in growing your business and supporting your community, contact Joell at 467-2280.

## Rates are still low. Now is the time to buy.

### Home Loans for Every Need

Terms up to 40 years  
Variable and fixed options  
First time home buyer programs

Visit our  
**Online Mortgage Center**  
[www.olincreditunion.org](http://www.olincreditunion.org)



**Olin Community CREDIT UNION**

618-258-3168

Alton • Bethalto • East Alton • Godfrey • Jerseyville  
Wood River (Coming Soon)

NCUA



## MyiBANK Program helps teens and young adults learn fiscal responsibility

Many young adults take jobs during summer break, learning subtle lessons about how to manage their money. While life experiences are among the best ways to learn money management, there are many teens and young adults who would benefit from a little extra guidance along the way.

Programs like MyiBANK at TheBANK of Edwardsville were designed to do just that - help young adults learn early in life how to manage money and save for the future. According to Tom Holloway, president of TheBANK of Edwardsville, "We recognized that a segment of our customer base would benefit from a specialized product so we designed an overall program that would allow us to teach teens and young adults to take ownership of making sound financial decisions." Holloway adds that people 25 or younger make up the fastest growing group of bankruptcy filers according to the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

Holloway explains that MyiBANK

allows teens and young adults to take responsibility for the money they earn, learn to invest in the future, track and monitor their spending habits and build and establish strong credit history, just to name a few of the key benefits. It also allows teens and young adults to use an ATM card, access free online banking so they can watch their dollars and cents, and take advantage of online financial tools education and instructional seminars where account holders can learn how to make the most of their money.

Holloway adds "Retailers and credit card companies make it very tempting to open accounts and usually if a young adult is going to get into money problems it's because they have bitten off more than they can chew."

For more information about MyiBANK, call TheBANK of Edwardsville at (618) 656-0098 or visit [www.myibankaccount.com](http://www.myibankaccount.com).

*Article submitted as a benefit of sponsoring a past River Bend Growth Association event*

## Congratulations to River Bend Growth Association Members

Congratulations to Olin Community Credit Union's President and CEO, Don Reedy, who was inducted into the Credit Union Hall of Fame at this year's annual Illinois Credit Union League convention in Chicago, IL. Reedy has been a devoted credit union advocate for the past 31 years. His entire credit union career has been spent with OCCU. When Reedy started with the credit union, it had \$15 million in assets and since has grown to over \$430 million in assets. The membership has more than doubled from 17,039 to 40,000+ over the 19 years he has been president. Reedy has been instrumental in opening 7 branches, including entering new markets such as Missouri. When he took over as president, the credit union had 38 employees and now has more than 175 total employees.

Congratulations to Michael Gebben,

owner of Gebbs Total Video, who was chosen to be a featured presenter at the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Wedding & Event Video Expo. The expo is presented by WEVA, the Wedding & Event Videographers Association, and will be held in August in Orlando Florida. The expo has about 3,000-6,000 people from around the world attend. Michael will speak on Same Day Edits (shown the night of the reception from footage shot that day) which is his niche and he is one of only a few other videographers in this area that offer it. Michael has traveled to several states to shoot weddings. Through his wedding work, he has had some amazing opportunities come up such as Wish Upon a Wedding which he recently shot a video for the launch party in St. Louis. See streaming video samples at [www.gebbsweddingfilms.com](http://www.gebbsweddingfilms.com).

*Here at Healing Touch Wellness Center, we are big supporters of Shop the Riverbend. Small business is the heart of this country. We cannot thrive without each other. It is very important that the money stays in the community.*

*-Winona, Healing Touch Wellness Center*



### Make conservation a part of your lifestyle.

Using water wisely and saving money are always in season. To learn more about wise water use and how to protect our valuable water resources visit [www.illinoisamwater.com](http://www.illinoisamwater.com) or call 1-800-422-2782.



**Want to reach the RIGHT audience . . .  
at the RIGHT time . . .** **YAHOO!**  
**with the RIGHT message?**

**Call Amy@ 463•2534**

*Family Owned & Operated*

**BRISTOW'S AUTOMOTIVE**

*Complete Auto Repair & Emissions*

**ACDelco**



**618-465-8957**

**3416 College Avenue • Alton**



# Annual Women's Seminar, Survivor Island, is September 15

Don't get voted off your island. Don't let the jury "torch" your personal and professional goals. Participate in "Survivor Island" and enjoy a seminar with 200 women, training opportunities, attendance gifts, and networking partnerships by purchasing a sponsorship and/or attending the event.

Our featured speaker, Donna Eye, Sales Development Advertising Manager for the Suburban Journals of

Greater St. Louis, a member of the National Association of Professional Women and President of Eye Immaculate Janitorial Cleaning Excellence, Inc & DREAM Consulting, will enhance your internal instincts through a series of challenges we all face as business owners and employees. Donna will identify those challenges which include: Excelling through educational opportunities for yourself & your staff, Employee motivation and

morale, Intensifying your customer service standards and expectations and Ways to strengthen your marketing strategies to thrive; challenging you all to the next level of survival.

Get into survival mode when Riverbend native, Ginger Woodman, of Woodman Collision Center, challenges you to survive whatever life throws your way. Ms. Woodman, cancer survivor, will motivate you to be the "sole survivor" in each of

your life endeavors.

Prepare to survive stress with helpful tips regarding stress management from Lewis & Clark Community College's very own, Shane Callahan, Exercise Science Instructor/Coordinator.

More information can be found on our website at [www.growthassociation.com](http://www.growthassociation.com).

**\*\* Marketing Deadline: Aug. 13, 2010\*\***

## SOLE SURVIVOR

### **Exclusive Sponsor Cost \$1,250 (limit 1)**

- Exclusive opportunity to provide attendance gift to attendees (max. 200)
- Your business worked into the speaker's presentation
- Logo on all RBGA Monday announcements & member-to-member newsletters prior to event
- Name & logo listed on front of marketing piece
- Name listed in partner's event
- Name listed in all advertising: Business Edge articles, flyers, RBGA events, multi-media presentation, and RBGA website
- Airtime on WBGZ as part of RBGA "Let's Talk" show
- Display table to promote your business
- Opportunity to submit article and photo for -Business Edge newsletter
- 6 admissions into event
- List of attendees
- Free admission to upcoming networking event

## FIRE OF LIFE

### **Folder Sponsor Cost \$1,000 (limit 1)**

- Exclusive opportunity to provide your folders to attendees (max. 200)
- Your promotional material inside of folder
- Your business worked into the speaker's presentation
- Name listed inside marketing piece
- Name listed in all advertising: Business Edge articles, flyers, RBGA events, multi-media presentation, and RBGA website
- Opportunity to submit article and photo for Business Edge
- 6 admissions into event
- List of attendees
- Free admission to upcoming networking event

## THE AMAZON

### **Lanyard Sponsor Cost \$500 (limit 1)**

- Exclusive opportunity for your name on lanyards
- You keep the lanyards

—Name listed inside marketing piece

—Name listed in all advertising: Business Edge articles, flyers, RBGA events, multi-media presentation, and RBGA website

—Opportunity to submit article and photo for Business Edge

—Shared table to display one piece of your marketing material

—3 admissions into event

—List of attendees

—Free admission to upcoming networking event

## ISLANDS OF FIRE

### **Speaker Sponsor Cost \$400 (limit 2)**

—Your name and logo on speaker's hand-outs

—Opportunity to introduce one of the two speakers

—Name listed inside marketing piece

—Name listed in all advertising: Business Edge articles, flyers, RBGA events, multi-media presentation, and RBGA website

—Opportunity to submit article and photo for Business Edge

—Shared table to display one piece of your marketing material

—3 admissions into event

—List of attendees

—Free admission to upcoming networking event

## TRIBAL COUNCIL

### **Bag Sponsor Cost \$400 (limit 2)**

—Opportunity to provide bags with your name to attendees (max. 200)

—Name listed inside marketing piece

—Name listed in all advertising: Business Edge articles, flyers, RBGA events, multi-media presentation, and RBGA website

—Opportunity to submit article and photo for Business Edge

—Shared table to display one piece of your marketing material

—3 admissions into event

—List of attendees

—Free admission to upcoming networking event

## PEARL ISLANDS

### **Booth Sponsor Cost \$300 (limit 10)**

—Display table to promote your business and/or sell merchandise

—Name listed inside marketing piece

—Name listed in all advertising: Business Edge articles, flyers, RBGA events, multi-media presentation, and RBGA website

—Opportunity to submit article and photo for Business Edge

—2 admissions into event

—List of attendees

Free admission to upcoming networking event

## RITES OF PASSAGE

### **Meal Sponsor Cost \$250 (limit 3)**

—Name & logo listed on menu

—Opportunity to build the menu

—Name & logo on all table signs throughout seminar

—Name listed inside marketing piece

—Name listed in all advertising: Business Edge articles, flyers, RBGA events, multi-media presentation, and RBGA website

—Shared table to display one piece of your marketing material

—2 admissions into event

—List of attendees

—Free admission to upcoming networking event

## CHALLENGE REWARD

### **Centerpiece Sponsor Cost \$250 (limit 3)**

—Opportunity to provide the centerpieces on seminar tables (max. 40) (include your business card in the piece which can be given away as door prize or returned to you)

—Name listed inside marketing piece

—Shared table to display one piece of your marketing material

—2 admissions into event

—List of attendees

—Free admission to upcoming networking event

## IMMUNITY IDOL

### **Decorations Sponsor Cost \$150 (limit 4)**

—Name listed inside marketing piece

—Shared table to display one piece of your marketing material

—2 admissions into the event

—List of attendees

—Free admission to upcoming networking event

## SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION

THE AMAZON Lanyard	\$500
ISLANDS OF FIRE Speaker	\$400
TRIBAL COUNCIL Bag	\$400
PEARL ISLANDS Booth	\$300
RITES OF PASSAGE Meal	\$250
CHALLENGE REWARD Centerpiece	\$250
IMMUNITY IDOL Decorations	\$150

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact \_\_\_\_\_

- Table of six at \$275
- Individual tickets at \$50
- Check enclosed, payable to RiverBend Growth Association
- Please charge my MasterCard or Visa

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Fax back to 618-466-8289 or mail with payment to address below. Payments may also be made online at [www.growthassociation.com](http://www.growthassociation.com).*

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT - *Monica Bristow*



MONICA  
BRISTOW

My husband told me that I need to quit saying, "Shop Local," that it was "getting old." I told him to . . . never mind. I told him that's one of my major roles at the RiverBend Growth Association.

The Growth

Association's mission is to provide leadership required to attract, promote and support new and existing enterprise growth throughout the River Bend community.

The Growth Association has been promoting our Shop the RiverBend program since last October. That program is very important to us, but like most things we do at the Growth Association; we need our members' help and support to make them successful. How can our members help with this program? Include an offer in the program, change the offer they currently have

to keep it fresh, make the offer worthwhile, and promote the program at their place of business. Members should also have distributed the "Shop the RiverBend" cards to all their employees. We have distributed 15,000 cards to our member businesses. Businesses with offers out there should see use of at least 2-3 cards per month. If they're not seeing them, maybe the offer needs to be improved.

I think about the downward spiral of the State's financial situation and the more cut-backs in programs, the more people are unemployed and the less revenue is coming in. To keep that from happening in our communities, I truly believe that by supporting our local merchants, restaurants and service providers, we're keeping people in our area employed, keeping tax dollars going to our libraries, school districts and communities so that services can continue.

If you're an employee of a member business and would like to be included on an

email distribution list of special offers of participating members, email us at [info@growthassociation.com](mailto:info@growthassociation.com). We have developed a special newsletter of offers and you can be the first to find out about the specials. If you're not sure your

employer is a member, just ask us!

We have wonderful businesses in the area and you can find almost anything you need right here in the RiverBend! Keep shopping local!

## Donnewald Distributing and Grafton Winery & Brewhaus host June 2010 BAH

The June 2010 Business After Hours hosts, Donnewald Distributing and Grafton Winery & Brewhaus, provided a fantastic networking event on Thursday, June 24th at the winery, located at 300 West Main in Grafton. Members and guests were treated to cool beverages and delicious appetizers, as well as tours through the winery and brewhaus. Thank-you to the two hosts for a wonderful evening.



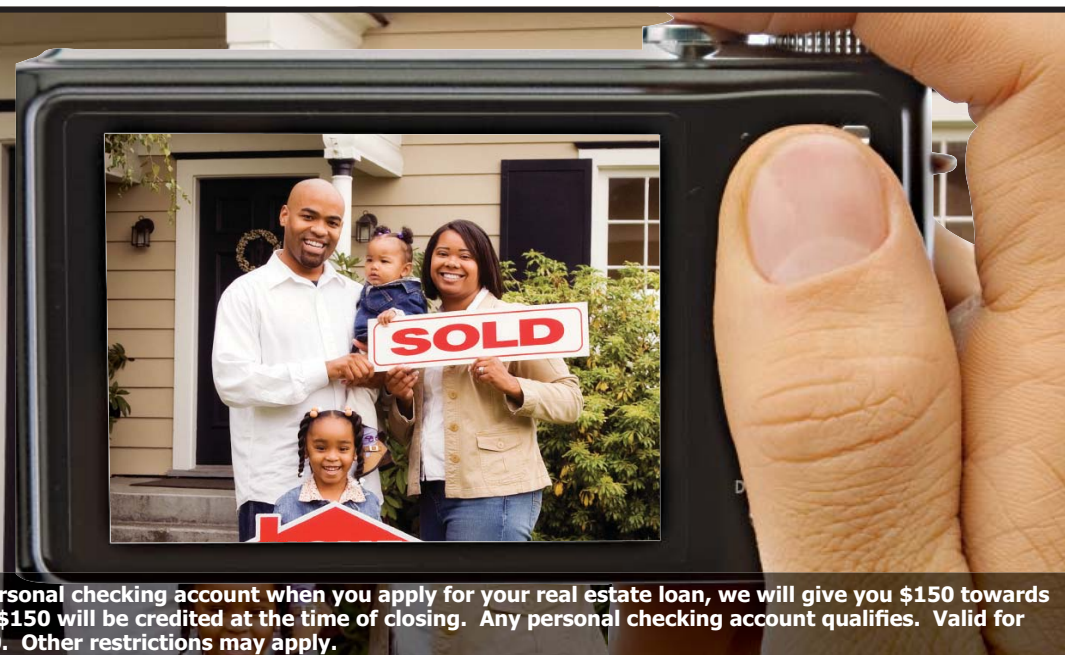
June 2010 BAH host  
Donnewald Distributing



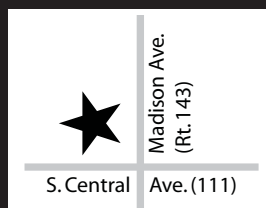
June 2010 BAH host  
Grafton Winery & Brewhaus

# Picture Your Dream.

with a home mortgage from  
**First Clover Leaf Bank.**  
Receive \$150 towards  
your closing costs.



If you have an existing personal checking account, or if you open a new personal checking account when you apply for your real estate loan, we will give you \$150 towards your closing costs. Simply mention this ad at the time of application. The \$150 will be credited at the time of closing. Any personal checking account qualifies. Valid for mortgage loan applications made between May 20, 2010 and July 31, 2010. Other restrictions may apply.



**Wood River Location**  
1046 Madison Ave.  
Wood River, IL  
**(618) 254-8445**



**First Clover Leaf Bank**™  
We're Better Together.  
[www.firstcloverleafbank.com](http://www.firstcloverleafbank.com)

