



# 2015

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**Mary Heitzig**

CEO

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## ROBERTS' MONTHLY MESSAGE

Last month I was in Sunny FL when I wrote to you. This month I am writing from humid IL! Never fear, our beautiful fall colors will soon be here for our viewing pleasure and we will once again be reminded of the beautiful landscape that Jersey County has to offer!

As I reflect on this past month and look forward to the future, I am encouraged by all the new business activity and by the recent talk of an Enterprise Zone. Last week, I had the opportunity to learn more about this wonderful Economic Development tool.

Jerseyville Mayor, Billy Russell and many others including Mary are working to seek approval of an Enterprise Zone for our local communities. This project will provides an excellent example of how local communities can work together effectively for the good of all. I am asking our members as a Business Community, to support this effort. As this project advances, our local businesses may be asked for letters of support. In addition, be sure you understand how an Enterprise Zone works so that you can speak in support of this important tool to others who may ask for your input. If you have questions, ask Mary or those directly involved. They want us to understand so that we can support their efforts. We must work together for the future!

In addition to attending a meeting about the Enterprise Zone, I also had the opportunity to attend the Corridor 67 annual meeting. Several from Jersey County traveled to Jacksonville to show support of the Jersey extension of corridor 67. We were fortunate to have several of those who represent us in government

- *Networking Opportunities*
- *Business After Hours*
- *Annual Meeting*
- *Chamber Committees*
- *Chamber Golf Tournament*
- *Committee Involvement*
- *Dinner Auction*
- *Publicity and Exposure*
- *Referrals - website, phone and walk-in*
- *Business Directory*
- *Monthly Newsletter*
- *Member to Member cards*
- *JCBA Gift Cards*
- *Ribbon Cutting Events*
- *Membership Identification*
- *Legislative Advocacy*
- *Communication on Legislative Issues*
- *A vehicle for reviewing important information*
- *Business Resources & Information*
- *Third-Class Postage Privilege (Bulk Mailing Discount)*
- *City Maps, Phone Books, Agency Directories*
- *Wide Range of Data and Demographic*

there as well as Christine Reid, Deputy Director of IDOT and Dan Beiser, Chairman of the IL House of Transportation Committee. Call me an optimist but I think we may see this very important project back on track in the not so distant future. If not, it isn't because we are not showing those who can impact decisions how important this extension is to Jersey County. If you have the opportunity, please show your support!

Our kids are back to school and if you aren't sure what our school color is, drive downtown to see the local businesses bleeding blue! I have read several "Just Be Jersey" stories over the last few weeks. Many of which were posted on Social Media. Recall in last month's article, I mentioned how I like to focus on the positive. So many good news messages are being shared about our kids. Keep them coming, the community loves it!

As we look forward to the fall harvest, please pray for the safety of our local producers and their employees. Please allow extra time on the roadways knowing the equipment will be moving between fields.

Harvest Blessings!

Carolyn Roberts

## THANK YOU

PLATINUM MEMBERS

FOR THEIR GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE JCBA:  
JERSEY COUNTY, CITY OF JERSEYVILLE,  
MJM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.  
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**MISSION STATEMENT:** Jersey County Business Association shall develop, encourage, promote and protect the civic, industrial, commercial, tourism and agricultural interest of Jersey County and its trade area.

**Jersey County Business Association**

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

maryhh@jcba-il.us  
www.jcba.us

# JCBA Director's Report

by Mary Heitzig, CEO

As most of you are now aware, the City of Jerseyville is preparing an application for what we hope is a regional Enterprise Zone.

At the request of Mayor Russell, the JCBA office hosted a joint INFORMATIONAL MEETING for all of the City Council and County Board Members on August 27th. During the meeting, the Mayor discussed all of the benefits of a regional EZ and the economic benefits it can bring to not only Jerseyville but to the region. To my knowledge, this is the first time these two governmental groups have met in the same room for the purposes of learning the benefits of any program. To say the least, I feel this is a major accomplishment and step forward for more interaction between our two local governmental bodies. After all, we are one county and community.

It was during this meeting that the Mayor discussed a large scale project he has been working on and will require EZ benefits. Without providing names, a national company is looking at the area and has already been in discussion with property owners in order to assemble a site on which to develop their project. Russell has hosted meetings with representatives of the Governor's office, IDOT, Rail officials, State and Federal representatives. The Mayor has requested a committee of Bill Strang, City Attorney, Jeff Soer, Special Projects Director/Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer, Bob Manns, Heneghan & Associates, and myself representing JCBA, to serve as a liaison for the various facets of the Enterprise Zone and other activities.

Another meeting was held on August 27 to discuss the EZ with representatives of neighboring counties and villages/municipalities including Grafton, Brighton, Carrollton, etc. Keith Moran, Enterprise Zone Consultant and Mayor Russell conducted this

informational meeting and spoke of the importance of establishing a regional application as the best way to have it approved by the State. It will also provide our communities and counties a badly needed tool to address the needs for private investment and job creation.

Mayor Russell is to be commended on his work and efforts to be as transparent as possible on all facets of why the EZ is needed, and the very complex details of being successful in securing this very large project to the area.

In the meantime, many other activities are taking place. The ribbon cutting and BAH for the new Paragon Pipecoverers was a "smashing success"! This TIF project has resulted in an old vacant building being brought back to life. It is not only beautiful, but totally representative of what can and will be happening to several other older buildings in the downtown area. If you have not seen this transformation, Angie and Jeff Nason have an open door and invite you to stop by for a quick visit/tour. You won't be disappointed.

The ribbon-cutting for the new CVS is scheduled for some time this month. Additionally, work will begin soon on the exterior of another downtown building.

Our work continues in seeking out additional retail opportunities to address the large retail leakage our community suffers. These statistics will be included in our next newsletter. In the meantime, we continue our other regular activities as we prepare for the Holidays of 2015 and preparations for a change in leadership of the JCBA as of January, 2016. Please see the article included in this newsletter regarding the Small Business Committee's Christmas promotion as well as the information on the JCBA Gift Certificates.



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# Paragon Pipecoverers



Photo by  
Mark Pace/  
Jersey County  
Journal

In honor of the relocation of their business to Downtown Jerseyville and extensive renovations made to what was previously the Bray Drug Store building, a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Business After Hours was recently held at Paragon Pipecoverers. We would like to congratulate Jeff and Angie Nason on this beautiful restoration.

## JCBA Small Business Committee

The JCBA Small Business Committee is a group that is working on ideas to grow your business. Our primary focus is on how can we help you, do your daily operations, and get more people to pass through your door. Our lunch and learn is a quick networking lunch providing a speaker to give you valuable information to take back to your business. This Lunch and Learn program is designed not only for managers but for employees as well.

We are gearing up to work on the Holiday Season. Last year's 12 Shopping Days of Christmas was not only beneficial to all the participating businesses but the community had a great time trying to win the cash prize. The idea is for the consumer to visit different businesses over the 12 days. At each business they will have a card stamped. They are then entered into a drawing for a cash prize. There is a small fee charged to the business to participate, which covers advertisement and the grand prize. You will be assigned a day you can have your Holiday Celebration. Some business used this time to have a sale or maybe just offer cookies to the visitors. For many consumers this might be the first time they have walked through your doors. If you are interested in participating in this program, contact the JCBA office. We will be making plans soon.

We are also very excited to be working on the new and improved Member to Member Card Program. We are hoping to bring new life to this card and get it into the hands of all consumers so they will want to enjoy the benefits of shopping in your establishment. When you see an email come out from the JCBA regarding Small Business Committee info, take time to read and participate, we are WORKING for YOU!



Government  
Affairs  
Report

Illinois Chamber  
Government Affairs Division

ILLINOIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

www.ichamber.org

## PSD Signed into Law, Other Updates

Only the House was in session this week, meeting on Tuesday. The Illinois Chamber was on hand Tuesday as Gov. Bruce Rauner signed SB 1672, marking a major victory for the business community.

## Prevention of Significant Deterioration Law

Gov. Rauner signed the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) bill, SB 1672, into law this week. It requires the state to enact a PSD permitting program, which will assist new and expanding companies that currently must apply for federal permits and have experienced long delays.

Chamber President and CEO Todd Maisch, Energy Council Executive Director Randy Nehrt, Illinois Environmental Regulator Group (IERG) Executive Director Alec Davis, and IERG Deputy Executive Director Brenda Carter attended the bill signing ceremony. A link to the Chamber's news release about the bill signing is here.

## Minor Movements

The House held a committee of the whole on the FY16 budget. No votes were taken.

The House Personnel and Pensions Committee held a subject matter hearing on the governor's pension proposal.

The full House approved two amendments to HB 684, which is a property tax freeze, and moved the underlying measure to third reading. HA 1 was the freeze, and HA 2 was the collective bargaining limitations and prevailing wage language. Identical legislation has been considered an handful of times already.

The House passed two amendments to HB 4149, but did not take a vote on the underlying bill. HA1 would push nearly \$146 million from the Road Fund to municipalities to purchase salt and other items, and HA2 moves \$120 million from GRF to child care services.

The House returned Wed., Sept. 2 and the Senate returned Wed., Sept. 9.

## JCBA Gift Certificates

Reminder, if you would like to be added to the list of businesses that accept the gift certificates, please contact our office at (618) 639-5222. We will be ordering the gift certificates very soon and we don't want anyone to be left out!



## Save the Date

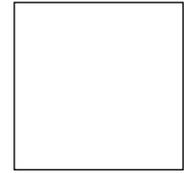
The JCBA Golf Tournament will be held at  
Wolves Crossing Golf Course  
on October 16, 2015.

## Southern Illinois Women's Economic Summit

Join the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce and the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, September 30 in Effingham, Illinois at the Southern Illinois Women's Economic Summit. A full day of speakers, discussion and interaction for women in business. For more information please visit <https://uswcc.org/events/southern-illinois-womens-economic-summit-2015/>

# Jersey County Business Association

209 North State Street  
Jerseyville, Illinois 62052




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## SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- TUES., SEP 15** JCBA BOARD MEETING, NOON, JCBA OFFICE
- TUES., SEP 15** JERSEYVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, 6:00PM, JERSEYVILLE CITY HALL
- THURS., SEP 17** BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, 7:00PM, UNIT OFFICE
- TUES., SEP 22** GRAFTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING, 7:00PM, GRAFTON CITY HALL
- TUES., SEP 29** JERSEYVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, 6:00PM, JERSEYVILLE CITY HALL

**If anyone else in your organization would like to receive a copy of our newsletter, please let us know.**

**WILLIAM RUSSELL**  
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