City of Joplin
Phone Directory

Emergency – Police/Fire  911
Main Number  417-624-0820
Department Ext.
Animal Control  280
Building Codes/Inspections  521
City Clerk  220
City Manager  201
Community Development  542
Engineering  530
Finance  241
Human Resources (Personnel)  429
Jail  460
Mayor/City Council Information  221
Municipal Court (Traffic Tickets, Court Dates, Fines)  230
Neighborhood Improvement  518
Public Information Officer  204
Prosecutor’s Office  228
Recycling  501
Zoning & Planning  511

Airport  623-0262
Animal Control  623-6122
Athletic Complex  625-4750
Cemeteries  623-7990
Convention & Visitors Bureau  625-4789
Emergency Management  623-5858
Fire Dept. (non-emergency)  623-0403
Health Dept.  623-6122
Library  623-7953
MAPS (Metro Area Publictransit System)  626-8607
Memorial Hall  623-3254
Parks (Shelter reservations)  625-4750
Parks Office  624-6937
Police Dept. (non-emergency)  623-3131
Recreation Programs  624-4750
Schifferdecker Golf Course  624-3533
Sunshine Lamp Trolley  626-8609
Trash Service—Residential  1-800-431-1507
WIC (Women, Infant & Children Supplemental Food Program)  623-1928

The Joplin Citizen is a quarterly newsletter published by the City of Joplin for all city residents to receive by mail. Please send questions or comments to Lynn Iliff Onstot, Public Information Officer, City of Joplin, 602 South Main Street, Joplin, MO 64801, or you may send an email to lonstot@joplinmo.org.

City of Joplin

Halfway Home

To the Citizens of Joplin,

2011 was a year that will never be forgotten in Joplin. It was a year of extreme weather, the worst example of which was the devastating tornado of May 22nd that claimed the lives of 161 of our fellow citizens and rendered indescribable damage to one-third of our community.

As I have said before, 5:41 p.m. May 22nd, 2011 will be the defining moment of our lives. Despite the loss of life and property we have experienced, the citizens of Joplin had a choice to make in providing meaning to that moment and have elected to define ourselves not as victims, but as a tenacious, self-reliant and determined people, who have come together as a community to rebuild our future. In doing so, we have made our town’s name synonymous with success, functionality and toughness throughout the state, country and the world.

However, we are only halfway there. Recent numbers released by our Building Department have indicated that approximately 50% of the homes impacted by the tornado are already under permit for repair or reconstruction. In my mind, this is surprisingly positive and bodes well for Joplin’s future. But we have more work to do. Collectively, we need to continue to work together and focus on the remaining 50% of homes that we need to have repaired or rebuilt. Then truly Joplin will become the model for disaster recovery.

Thank you for what you have done so far and let’s stay united in order to arrive at the 100% mark.

Best to you and yours in 2012,

Mark Rohr
City Manager

City staff recognizes Citywide needs; seeking volunteers to help fellow citizens

The citizens of Joplin are resilient. This past summer has proven that fact. As work continues to rebuild the large area in the mid-southern part of Joplin affected by the tornado, City staff also recognizes other needs within the community.

Prior to May 22, the City had an active volunteer base to respond to voiced needs of our citizens. Community Development is still looking for energetic and committed people to join our team of volunteers out of the tornado area. Staff members encourage citizens to volunteer to help their fellow neighbors throughout the year by providing time and service. Volunteers can assist with yard work, minor household repairs and general maintenance issues.

All are welcome to volunteer including church groups, scouting organizations, businesses, civic clubs, and individuals. To volunteer in areas not located in the disaster area or for more information, call Connie Chrisman at 417-624-0820, ext. 570. To volunteer in the impacted area call 417-625-3543.
Following the May 22 tornado, community leaders recognized the urgent need to begin planning for Joplin’s recovery. With this in mind, the leaders knew the significance of developing a process that involved citizens throughout the progression, thus establishing the Citizens Advisory Recovery Team, or CART.

CART provided an organizational structure that hosted open forums for citizens to bring ideas, suggestions and requests. If unable to attend the meetings, CART invited input through their website. In the initial stages, CART members heard requests for green alternatives and healthy lifestyles that are affordable to the citizens. With these in mind as priorities, CART members will work with the community in the recovery process as citizens join together in setting the standard for Joplin’s future.

The organization focuses on four sectors of development: Economic Development; Schools and Community Facilities; Housing and Neighborhoods; and Infrastructure and Environment.

Economic Development’s sector focuses on recovery, resources, and sustainability. The goal for the economic development sector is to assure stability in the existing employment base and to expand it with new, quality job opportunities in Joplin. Key commercial corridors have been proposed to add businesses for consistent development in areas other than Rangeline Road and 32nd Street.

The Schools and Community Facilities sector cultivates ideas for the future of schools in Joplin. Other facilities considered for development in this sector include those which focus on various age groups and community needs for the City of Joplin and area citizens. A 21st century learning environment, as well as sharing schools and community facilities, is highly encouraged with the rebuilding process. Multiple venues for special events and gatherings have also been proposed to bring more business to Joplin.

According to the 2010 Census, the City of Joplin gained population this past decade. City and community leaders are working to keep that number steady, although a significant number of homes were affected by the disaster. Consequently, members of the Housing and Neighborhoods sector work on strategies to rebuild affordably and efficiently, as well as keeping neighborhoods beautiful and safe. Stable neighborhoods are vital to Joplin’s growth and rebuilding. Trails, sidewalks and parks are also included in this sector, and citizens have given a strong response in favor of increasing these amenities throughout the city.

The Infrastructure and Environment sector highlights aspects focusing on sustainability and connectivity, as well as ensuring that infrastructure supports future growth of the City. Flood plains, utilities, new development and street widening are just some examples in this diverse segment. A more effective transportation system that incorporates multi-modal forms, especially with emphasis upon bike and pedestrian use, is a key issue being focused on, as well
Citizens Advisory Recovery Team in motion for productive New Year (continued)

as expanding public transportation services. CART would also like to create a community mindset of values on environmental sustainability that will help beautify Joplin for years to come.

The Implementation Task Force of CART will host a Public Meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 19 to submit a Recovery Plan to the Joplin City Council, Joplin School Board, Duquesne Board of Aldermen, Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce and the CART Executive Committee for their approval. The meeting will be held at the Billingsly Student Center at Missouri Southern State University.

To learn more about the Joplin Area Citizen’s Advisory Recovery Team or to get involved, please go to joplinareacart.com, or contact Jane Cage, Chairman, at j cage@heartlandtechnologies.com.
AmeriCorps St. Louis provides leadership in volunteer efforts

May 22 changed everything. It also provided testimony to the goodness of humankind when others are facing a crisis. Literally minutes following the tornado, the City’s Dispatch Center received calls from citizens throughout the area wanting to help by volunteering their skills in the aftermath of the storm. It became increasingly clear that Joplin is in the heart of the Midwest, where neighbors look after each other, and take care of each other as needed.

The neighbor helping neighbor scenario has grown to an incredible level in which Joplin has benefitted from volunteers from literally every state and numerous countries around the world.

One of the first groups to volunteer was AmeriCorps St. Louis. This group is no stranger to Joplin. They provided volunteer organization and support in the debris clearing mission which followed the 2007 ice storm that blanketed this area with heavy precipitation, downing thousands of trees and power lines. Upon arrival in the early morning hours of May 23rd, as before, AmeriCorps St. Louis quietly began their work, providing support in areas of need.

Their work included managing the volunteer reception center, assisting the police department with missing person inquiries, managing and sorting a warehouse of donations and the ongoing task of removing debris from tornado devastated properties. Over 55 AmeriCorps St. Louis members has served uninterrupted, with the exception of major holidays, since the storm. Their capacity has been increased by other National Service Programs from across the country (including states: TX, WA, MN, IA, CO, CA, IL, AR) with some 295 members having contributed service to Joplin since May 22.

With AmeriCorps members providing leadership, the large-scale volunteer operations ran smoothly, as they ensured that the volunteers were registered, educated and trained on safety measures, and deployed to help residents in need. Teams of volunteers were assisted by AmeriCorps provided supervision and advice as many faced a landscape of blended belongings of 17,000 residents.

The Volunteer Reception Center continues to operate with AmeriCorps, who also track the number of volunteer hours for the City. These hours of service directly related to the disaster may be eligible to be used to help offset the City and State share (25%) of the overall cost of this disaster, making this vitally important to the financial recovery of Joplin.

Recent figures indicate 117,679 volunteers have contributed 716,682 hours of service in the cleanup and recovery efforts following the EF-5 tornado that hit Joplin and Duquesne on May 22, 2011. This includes those registered through AmeriCorps and from other organizations who have reported hours to them.

As individuals, groups, service agencies, and faith-based groups continue to contact us about helping with the rebuilding efforts; City staffers refer them to AmeriCorps. If you or your group want to volunteer, please contact AmeriCorps directly at 417-625-3543. If you have volunteered in the past but have not tracked your volunteer hours of service, please contact AmeriCorps at this same number.

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‘Joplin is an inspiration’

_I wanted to say Thank You to Joplin, for welcoming our AmeriCorps St. Louis team, and all other national service members into your community, families and hearts. Your resiliency, dedication and love for each other is an amazing reminder to us of why our program has committed 18 years to national service, meeting critical unmet needs, and helping to strengthen communities in times of need. Joplin is an inspiration to all that become a part of its recovery effort; you truly are “the Miracle of the Human Spirit”._

- Quinn Gardner
Field and Operations Coordinator
AmeriCorps St. Louis, Emergency Response Team

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Dispose old medicines at new permanent drug drop-off box location

All citizens—regardless of residency—now have the option to dispose of over-the-counter and prescription medicines by depositing them in the new **permanent drug drop-off box** at the Joplin Police Station, 303 East 3rd Street. Deposits can be made anonymously between 8 a.m. and midnight, Monday through Friday except on City designated holidays.

Police officers will take possession of the drugs placed in the drop-off box and then dispose of them through incineration. Citizens are encouraged to routinely clean out their medicine chests and be aware of drugs left behind in refrigerators, drawers, pantries, vehicles, and handbags—anyplace where children or others can gain access.

The program is designed to help prevent poisoning, diversion, theft, and accidents that could potentially harm citizens of all ages through the misuse of prescription medicine. It will also keep drugs out of area landfills, waste water treatment plants, and ultimately out of our drinking water.

The program does not accept syringes, lancets, needles (also known as sharps) or illicit controlled substances (such as marijuana or methamphetamine.) For **sharps disposal methods**, contact Joplin City Hall at 624-0820 Ext. 501. If individuals find or desire to surrender an **illicit controlled substance**, they should call Joplin Police at 623-3131 rather than risk handling or transporting the substance. Police will respond and handle such materials as abandoned property in accordance with their standard policy.

In late Spring 2012, a second box will be installed at the South Joplin Police Station, 115 East 34th Street. For additional information, contact Police Officer Aaron Gooch at 627-8880 or Mary Anne Phillips at 624-0820, ext. 501.

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**January 2012**
Five new polling places announced by Jasper County

With five of Jasper County’s polling locations being destroyed in the May 22 tornado, please note that new sites have been announced for these specific precincts. The new locations of these five precincts are:

Precinct 13 - Joplin Heights Baptist Church, 2107 S. Willard
Precinct 15 - Joplin Museum Complex, 7th & Schifferdecker
Precinct 22 - Byers Avenue Methodist Church, 1750 S. Byers
Precinct 24 - Bethany Presbyterian, 1930 S. Virginia
Precinct 25 - Fellowship Baptist Church, 2827 E. 32nd

For those citizens who have moved, please call the Jasper County Clerks office to find new polling locations at 417-625-4307.

The next scheduled City election is a General Municipal Election on Tuesday, April 3, 2012. Citizens will be voting for two General Council Members and one Council Member from Zone II, and one Council Member from Zone III. (Listings of candidates are not being included in this article because the deadline for filing was still open at press time.) The last day to register to vote in the April 3 election is March 7, 2012.

In addition to the damaged polling places, the tornado resulted in the destruction of several thousand residences and caused a redistribution of population throughout the City. Due to this change in the population and the fact that the City has annexed a number of properties into Joplin, the City is required to re-align the Council Zones of Joplin. Accordingly, City staff and County officials have agreed to amend certain precinct boundaries within the City to allow for a more equal distribution of voters. After this realignment, the number of electors in each zone will be approximately: Zone 1 - 7,660; Zone 2 - 7,745; Zone 3 - 7,934; and Zone 4 - 7,735.

A map of these Zones can be found on the City’s website at www.joplinmo.org. For more information, contact your County Clerk’s office. Jasper County Clerk number is 417-625-4307. Newton County Clerk number is 417-659-2910.

Precincts and polling locations for April 3, 2012 City Election.

Precinct No. 1………Dr. Donald E. Clark Public Safety & Justice Center, 303 E 3rd St., Lobby
Precinct No. 2………Royal Heights United Methodist Church, 1612 Euclid
Precinct No. 3………Royal Heights United Methodist Church, 1612 Euclid
Precinct No. 4………Missouri Southern State University, Justice Center
Precinct No. 5………Community Church, 15th & Murphy Blvd, East entrance
Precinct No. 7………Community Church, 15th & Murphy Blvd, East entrance
Precinct No. 8………Dr. Donald E. Clark Public Safety & Justice Center, 303 E 3rd St., Lobby
Precinct No. 10………Joplin Association for the Blind, 311 Schifferdecker, Joplin
Precinct No. 11………Joplin Association for the Blind, 311 Schifferdecker, Joplin
Precinct No. 12………First United Methodist Church, 501 W 4th, Byers Entrance
Precinct No. 13………Joplin Heights Baptist Church, 2107 S Willard
Precinct No. 14………First United Methodist Church, 501 W 4th, Byers Entrance
Precinct No. 15………Joplin Museum Complex, 7th & Schifferdecker
Precinct No. 16………Senior Center, 22nd & Jackson
Precinct No. 18………Senior Center, 22nd & Jackson
Precinct No. 21*……..Fairview Baptist Church, 4300 Joplin Street
Precinct No. 22………Byers Avenue Methodist Church, 1750 S. Byers
Precinct No. 23………Villa Heights Christian Church, 7th & Ozark, Joplin
Precinct No. 24………Bethany Presbyterian Church, 1930 S. Virginia
Precinct No. 25………Fellowship Baptist Church, 2827 E. 32nd Street
Precinct No. 26………Calvary Church of the Nazarene, 2802 Connecticut
Precinct No. 27*……..Calvary Baptist Church, 600 E. 50th Street
Staples East*….........Christian Park Plaza Church, 3220 Indiana
Diamond Pct.*..........Diamond Memorial Hall
Thurman Pct.*.........Saginaw Baptist Church.
Staples West*..........Missouri National Armory Guard, 2000 W. 32nd Street

*Newton County Precincts

For more information www.visitjoplinmo.com

EVENTS

03/08
Pro Musica presents:
Cavani String Quartet
First Community Church
Free admission; donations appreciated. Information: 417-625-1822 or www.promusica@joplin.org

03/10 -05/06
PhotoSpiva
Spiva Center for the Arts.
Acclaimed national photography competition.
Information please call 417-623-0183.

03/13
MSSU Presents an International Film Festival
Samson (Poland, 1961)
Cornell Auditorium in Plaster Hall, MSSU Campus
Free admission. Information: 417-673-1261 or www.mssu.edu/film/filmhome.htm

03/18
St. Patty’s Revenge Urban Adventure Race
Carthage Memorial Hall
2 p.m.
For more information call 417-850-9923 or visit www.rufusracing.com/

03/27
MSSU Presents an International Film Festival
Adelheid (Czechoslovakia, 1969)
Cornell Auditorium in Plaster Hall, MSSU Campus
7 p.m.
Free admission. Information: 417-673-1261 or www.mssu.edu/film/filmhome.htm

04/14
Fur Ball
Holiday Inn Convention Center, 6 pm to 11 pm; $50 members, $60 non-members. Information: 417.623.3642 or www.joplinhumane.org

For more information www.visitjoplinmo.com

January 2012
How to Get Rid of Residential Debris, Bulky Items, Tree Limbs, Recyclables

Still have a pile of debris or bulky items that you are not sure how to dispose of? Below are some helpful tips on removing residential trash and debris. If you have:

**TORNADO DEBRIS:**

Joplin residents affected by the May 22 storm and who are completing final cleanup of their property through demolition process may push their debris to the curbside and the City contractor will pick up the demolition debris. Residents should work to get this completed as soon as possible, because the City will soon be setting a deadline for the completion of this service.

Please note that debris from new construction is NOT eligible for curbside pickup and will need to be treated as “non-tornado debris” as listed below.

**NON-TORNADO DEBRIS:**

Joplin residents and Joplin residential landlords outside of the disaster area, but still having debris that needs removal may utilize the drop-off option at the Allied Waste Transfer Station, 1715 East Front Street (Old Route 66) Galena, Kansas for a City-subsidized fee.

Residents will need to take a copy of a current Missouri-American water bill or landlord dumpster rental bill and matching identification to use this option. Please call Allied Waste at 620-783-5841 or the City of Joplin at 624-0820, ext. 501 for details.

If a current water bill is not available, residents may utilize Allied Waste or Waste Corporation, 3700 West 7th Street, 623-6620 and pay the “gate rate.” Call ahead for pricing and hours of operation.

Joplin residents may also use the curbside bulky item pick up for items such as televisions, mattresses, or furniture. Tree limbs and brush should be bundled and cut to four-foot maximum lengths and weigh no more than 50 pounds. Offered through the residential trash contractor, Allied Waste, residents need to call 800-431-1507 for specific guidelines.

For leaves and grass disposal, please see related article on page 7.

**RECONSTRUCTION DEBRIS:**

If a water bill is not available and you have only reconstruction debris to dispose of, the City of Galena Landfill would be an option for you. It is located at 1 101 East Front Street (Old Route 66) in Galena, Kansas. Call 417-624-4444 for pricing and hours of operation.

**RECYCLABLE ITEMS:**

The Recycling Center is located at 1310 West “A” Street. The winter hours run from November through March, and include: Tuesday and Thursday 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Starting April 1, hours change to 3 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday; and other hours remain the same.

The Recycling Center is open to all regardless of residency. There is no charge to drop off the following:

Cardboard and paperboard; newspaper, magazines, telephone directories, books, office paper; Plastic #1 and #2 Bottles with necks, glass bottles, jugs, and jars (remove lids); Aluminum cans and tin/steel cans, all metal scrap; #2 plastic shopping bags, clean packing peanuts, bubble wrap; Ink jet and toner cartridges, electronic waste (computers, televisions, etc.), all batteries; Limited household hazardous waste including: insecticides, herbicides, acids, lubricants, pool/spa chemicals, cleaning products, and more.

Motor oil, paint, and commercial waste are NOT accepted. Please seek other means for disposal.

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Ozark Public Television Artists Appreciation Show
Will be held at the Joplin Museum Complex
February 24 – March 9
(Open during Museum hours)
DISPOSAL OF LEAVES AND GRASS CLIPPINGS

Some City services have been adjusted following the Joplin tornado, including the availability of the leaves and grass collection bins at the Public Works Center. These bins have been temporarily removed until further notice. In the meantime, residents may bring their leaves and grass clippings directly to the Joplin Compost Facility next to the Turkey Creek Waste Water Treatment Plant at 6937 Eddy Lane. The facility is open all day, every day.

Directions from Joplin: Go north on Schifferdecker Avenue, until you reach a “T” at North Peace Church Avenue and Zora, just north of Turkey Creek; turn left on Peace Church; then take the first left, which is Eddy Lane. The compost facility is located on the left side of the road before the treatment plant.

An alternative to leaf/grass disposal is home composting. To create compost simply put leaves, grass, and meat-free kitchen scraps in your compost bin, and keep it moist. Stirring the mixture will speed up the decomposition process, and then harvest the finished compost from the bottom of the bin. Finished compost should be available in approximately two seasons and produces a free organic fertilizer.

Mary Anne Phillips, the City’s Recycling Coordinator, encourages the use of compost instead of non-organic fertilizers and chemicals on lawns and gardens. Compost can be tilled into the soil, thus making the plants healthy and less susceptible to diseases and insects, which will reduce the need for chemicals. Run off of chemical based fertilizers and pesticides can harm bodies of water.

The easiest alternative to leaf disposal is to rake the leaves onto the lawn and run over them with a mulching lawnmower. Less eco-friendly alternatives include setting out bagged leaves/grass for the regular weekly trash service or burning the leaves.

In order to burn, citizens need to obtain a Burn Permit from any of the Fire Stations in the City or at the City’s Finance Department at City Hall. The permit costs $5 and is good for three consecutive days, starting on the day of purchase. Permits are available at the Fire Stations from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven day per week. Please note there may be times when firefighters are not at the station to issue permits, due to the nature of their job. They will only be able to accept payment by check or money order. The Finance Department, located on the third floor of City Hall, 602 South Main, is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The City Hall location will accept cash, check, debit, money order, or credit card payments.

No matter where the Permit is obtained, residents must still inquire with the Joplin Fire Department about weather conditions and if burning is allowed on each day. Residents can obtain this information by calling 623-0403.

For information on Joplin residential trash service, call 624-0820, ex. 501. For more information about burn permits and rules, contact the Joplin Fire Department at 623-0405 or go to www.joplinmofi re.org.

Two Fire-stations affected by tornado; Fire Station 6 construction continues

When Fire Chief Mitch Randles and his staff worked with architects last year in planning the new fire station in the southwest part of Joplin, they did not realize how beneficial this information would be to the department in following months. With the loss of Fire Station #2, 2216 Maiden Lane, and Fire Station #4, 2010 East 15th Street, this research will be utilized in the design of their replacements.

In addition to the two fire stations destroyed in the May 22 tornado, the Fire Department lost two fire engines, two brush trucks, and extensive damage to equipment and a third engine.

In working with the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA), the destroyed buildings were cleared and quickly replaced with temporary structures in order to maintain the City’s level of service to our citizens.

The Fire Department is currently working with the City’s insurance company and FEMA to facilitate rebuilding these two stations, as well as replacing and repairing the damaged vehicles and equipment. As always, station specifications and locations, building plans, and regulatory considerations are important factors of projects of this size. All current and future requirements and citizen needs are reviewed in the rebuilding process to ensure the new stations and apparatus address the long term goals for the City.

Construction of the new fire station at 5302 West 32nd Street will bring the total number of stations within the City to six. The southwest station is designed as a state of the art facility and will include: a FEMA-rated safe room for storm protection; construction consistent with LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver designation for building design, construction, operations and maintenance; and separate decontamination and laundry areas. The Fire Department is currently hiring and training up to 15 new firefighters to staff the new station, bringing the total Fire personnel up to 92. Funding for the station, equipment and personnel is provided through the Public Safety Sales Tax passed by Joplin citizens in 2006.

Completion of all projects surrounding the Station #6 project is scheduled for early 2012. Please watch local news media for further announcements about the opening of Station #6.
Schifferdecker Golf Course fees remain the same

With the New Year, golfers will be happy to know that they can go out and work on their swing without worrying about denting their wallets. The Schifferdecker Golf Course rates remain as follows:

- Green Fee: $11.50 (Sr. $7.75)
- Weekend/Holiday: $14.40 (Sr. $10.00)
- Carts: 18 Holes: $10.50 per seat (Sr. $5.25 per seat)
  - 9 Holes: $5.25 per seat (Sr. $2.625 per seat)

Senior rates are for players 60 years and older. Green fee passes are popular as well, either for you or as gift for a fellow golfer. Prices for the passes are:

- Unlimited Green Fee with cart: $1,050.00
- Sr. Unlimited Green Fee with cart (M-F): $850.00
- Unlimited Green Fee: $525.00
- Sr. Unlimited Green Fee: $425.00
- 25 Play Pass with Cart: $475.00
- Sr. 25 Play Pass with Cart: $385.00
- 25 Play Pass (No Cart): $235.00
- 10 Play Pass (No Cart): $105.00

For more information or questions, call the Schifferdecker Golf Course Clubhouse at (417) 624-3533.

WIC of Joplin continues to serve the community in the new year

WIC (Women, Infant & Children Supplemental Food Program) is excited to announce that the public breastfeeding support group, prenatal through breastfeeding, will be offered the first Thursday of every month this year.

There are also three new International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLCs) in the Joplin office. With a total of four IBCLC’s in the office, there will be more help with breastfeeding mom’s support or questions regarding breastfeeding. For more information, please contact Joyce Doty, WIC Coordinator at (417) 623-1928.