

# Proclamation

*City of St. Joseph, Missouri*

## Breastfeeding Week

**WHEREAS**, breastfeeding has many benefits for babies such as fostering optimal growth, promoting development of a baby's brain and immune system, as well as many benefits for improving maternal health long after the postpartum period, including reduction in postpartum bleeding, earlier return to pre-pregnancy weight, reduced risk of premenopausal breast cancer, and reduced risk of osteoporosis; and

**WHEREAS**, World Breastfeeding Week, August 1-7, 2009, generates public awareness and support for breastfeeding mothers. This year's theme, "Breastfeeding, A Vital Emergency Response", is vital to our community. It is believed that supporting breastfeeding in non-emergency settings will strengthen mothers' capacity to cope in an emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 1,250 births take place in our community annually, St. Joseph is proud to be part of a global movement to protect, promote and support breastfeeding which fosters the well being of individuals, families and our community.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Ken Shearin, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of St. Joseph, do hereby proclaim the week of August 1-7, 2009 as **Breastfeeding Week** in St. Joseph, Missouri.

**ISSUED:** This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2009

**Ken Shearin**  
*Mayor*

