



January 2022

CHANNAHON MINOOKA Chamber & GRUNDY COUNTY of COMMERCE

Courier

Celebrating Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following businesses celebrating a milestone:

85 Years

Robinson Engineering, Ltd.

75 Years

Collection Professionals, Inc.

65 Years

Reeves Funeral Home – Morris

60 Years

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet

40 Years

Morris Business & Technology Center

30 Years

**Lakewood Animal Hospital
Keepsafe Storage, LLC**

25 Years

**United States Cold Storage Inc.
Masterblend International, LLC
Channahon General Rental**

20 Years

Hudson Energy

15 Years

**Baker Plumbing
M/I Homes**

10 Years

Country Financial-Matt Seidel

5 Years

**Carson Tap House
Country Financial-John Mueller
Comfort First Heating and Cooling, Inc.
Goodwill Donation Center**

*Please remember, to keep your information up to date we need your help.
Contact the Chamber (admin@grundychamber.com) with the date you opened your business.*

**Happy New Year to all
of our members!**



Saturday, Feb. 19

Minooka

Community High
School

301 S. Wabena Ave.

FREE Family Fun!

Family Fest 2022 is on the way! This annual event from the Grundy County Chamber and Channahon Minooka Chamber is a great way to get your business involved and recognized. With more than 1,000 families coming through every year, this is a great event to showcase your business with a booth, sponsorship or giveaway.

As many of you recall, last year due to COVID we had to move this event to June. We are excited to announce we are returning it to its regularly scheduled month of February. This year it will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 19 at Minooka Community High School– Central Campus.

Plan to bring your family for this free event featuring exhibits from local vendors and entertainment including games, balloon animals, reptile show and mascots! You will find information on local organizations, services, businesses and products, all while having fun with the kids. This is the perfect way to get involved and support a local community event. Contact Events Director Amanda Hiller for participation opportunities at 815-942-0113 or events@grundychamber.com.



Presenting Sponsor:



Event Sponsors:



Exelon

**Megan Arseneau
State Farm**

Performance Sponsor:



Thank you to
these sponsors
who have al-
ready signed
on!

Kids Zone Sponsor:



Board of Directors and Staff

Board of Directors:

+John Adler, Secretary
Aflac

amanda@grundychamber.com

Kristal Nodland
Administrative Assistant
kristal@grundychamber.com

+Jaclyn Aldridge, Vice Chair
Grundy Bank

Christina Van Yperen
President & CEO
director@grundychamber.com

Angela Baumeister
WCSJ / WJDK Radio

Chamber Ambassadors:

Sarah Beach
Village of Coal City/Sunshine Garden Center

John Adler
AFLAC

+Megan Borchers, Chairwoman
LyondellBasell

Angela Baumeister
WCSJ / WJDK Radio

John Callahan
UC Davis-Callahan Funeral Home

Chris Boyk
Boyk Consulting

+ Matt Fritz
Village of Coal City

Angela Lilek
Morris National Bank & Trust

+ *John Harrington, Treasurer
Village of Minooka & CM Chamber Division Chair

Ashley Jurkas, Secretary
Heartland Bank

Chris Brown
City of Morris

Dayna Manegold
SOCU

Mike Petrick
Village of Channahon

Kaylea Mann
First Midwest Bank

Erin Murphy Frobish
Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers

Blaine Meadows
Hudson Energy

Nancy Norton
GEDC

Christine Mendez
Grundy Bank

Sara Peters
Exelon-Dresden Station

Dana Odegard
Fitness Premier—Minooka

Josh Schroeder
SPACECO, Inc.

Denise Pankey
Morris Downtown Development Partnership

Steve Vanisko
Shaw Media

Mary Rossio, Chairwoman
Lightways
Angels of Hope

***Mary Rossio, Ambassador Chair**
Lightways

+ Executive Committee
* Appointed Position

Judi Tapella
Mary Kay Cosmetics

Chamber Staff:

Amanda Hiller
Events Director

Julie Van Eck

From the President & CEO's Desk

Welcome 2022! The Grundy County Chamber team is eagerly planning so much already for this year. Family Fest work is well underway and plans for a 75th Anniversary Celebration have begun. We are also excited about some changes ahead.

Through the pandemic, many businesses and people have taken a hard look at how things are done. COVID has allowed us to evaluate programs, resources, and events. For the Chamber one of the events we've taken a serious look at is Business After Hours. In recent years the participation in these monthly events has become sporadic. Then due to COVID we went almost 2 years without one, relying instead on virtual and smaller in-person events to network. To move on this momentum, for 2022 we've decided to rebrand Business After Hours—including a new name, time change, and frequency change.

Connect@4 will now be from 4-6 p.m. quarterly with the first one for 2022 being Thursday, Feb. 3 at Sunshine Garden Center & The Flower Room in Diamond (see promo on back page of this newsletter). This new time from 4-6 p.m. will allow for those who are busy with family obligations after work to stop by at the end of their work day to meet some new customers. But still allows for others who have to close the office first to swing by after, and we all still make it home for dinner.

The evening Connect@4s will give us all something to look forward to and we still have monthly Chamber Coffee & Companies—the next being Jan. 12 in Minooka (see back promo again).

Change can be hard we know, but nothing is as hard as the last two years have been. We look forward to a new year and seeing all of our members in-person again!

Sincerely,



CONNECT@4

Save the date
Chamber & GEDC
Annual Dinner & Celebration
March 9, 2022
Morris Country Club

Help us celebrate the people and businesses that make this a great place to visit, live, work and do business!

Do you know a business, entrepreneur, and/or organization that had an amazing year in 2021? Nominate them for the Chamber's Business of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, and Organization of the Year! See inserted nomination form.

***Chamber Renewal invoices have been sent.
Don't let your benefits lapse, call 815-942-0113
to renew your membership today!**

Member News & Briefs

Save the Date for fForest Fest from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 4 at Goold Park in Morris. Live music, 200+ vendors, food trucks, adult beverages, crafts, activities and more. For more information contact **True North** at info@shoptruenorth.com.

Lightways Hospice and Serious Illness Care has been named a 2021 Top Workplace. The list is based solely on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey administered by Energage, LLC. Lightways employs about 200 people who live and work throughout northern Illinois. Congrats Lightways!

A Rhythm & BBQ Festival will be held in the **City of Morris** June 18 at Goold Park! There will be competitive barbeque from around the world, live music, food vendors and children's activities. Sponsorship opportunities available, for more info email morrisbbqassociation@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/morrisbbqassociation.

Grundy Bank recently donated land to the City of Morris. The land is located far west off Red Willow Road located in the Rockwell Estates subdivision off of Route 6. Besides the land, which consists of 4.4 acres, Grundy Bank is donating \$20,000 toward the development of this property to the City of Morris. Thank you Grundy Bank!

Got news to share? Let us know at info@grundychamber.com

Welcome new members!

Sam's Off The Top Barbershop (815) 560-7768
25028 S. Fryer Street
Channahon, IL 60410

Sam's Off the Top's main goal is to make every client feel comfortable in the barber chair. Feel great with an authentic barbershop experience using the original straight razor technique.

Pink Heals Joliet Area Chapter
P.O. Box 933
Channahon, IL 60410

100% volunteer organization that fundraises to help people who are battling illness and their families. We focus on people not causes.

Verbena (815) 710-5047
411 Liberty Street
Morris, IL 60450

Gourmet gift store offering extra virgin olive oil, balsamic, jams, dips, coffee & more!

IT Unified (312) 340-0686
Manhattan, IL

IT solutions provider of small and medium-sized businesses. We specialize in cybersecurity, IT managed services, IT project work, and more.

Don't forget new members, and all our members, can accept Grundy County Chamber gift certificates!



YOUR WALLET JUST GOT SMARTER

PURCHASING HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER.

Now you can use Apple Pay®, Google Pay™ or Samsung Pay® with your debit card to pay quickly and conveniently at checkout stores, online and for in-app purchases.



Fast.



Convenient.



Secure.





Coffee and Company



Hosted by Boyk Consulting



held at the
Village of Minooka
Community Room
121 East McEvilly Road, Minooka
Wednesday, January 12
8-9 a.m.

Bring your tech nerds along, and join us for coffee as we learn all that
Boyk Consulting has to offer you and your business.

Don't forget to bring your business cards!
Free to attend.

For more information or for any questions, call 815-942-0113 or email Amanda at
amanda@grundychamber.com.



CONNECT@4

(Formerly Business After Hours)

THURSDAY, FEB. 3
4-6 P.M.

SUNSHINE GARDEN CENTER/THE FLOWER ROOM
2850 E. DIVISION ST., DIAMOND
FREE TO ATTEND

Join us at the Grundy Chamber's first
Connect@4 of 2022! An end-of-day
networking event to meet new customers
and nurture relationships with existing
clients. Come meet new people, have some
snacks & drinks, and win a prize! Sunshine
Garden Center & The Flower Room will
have all you need for Valentine's Day!

*Note time change and don't forget your
business cards!

Grundy County Chamber of Commerce & Industry
909 Liberty Street
Morris, IL 60450

Or Current Resident

**Pre-Paid
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Morris, IL 60450
Permit # 148**