



CHANNAHON
MINOOKA
Chamber
A Division of Grundy County Chamber of Commerce

GRUNDY COUNTY
Chamber
of COMMERCE

October 2022

Courier

Celebrating Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following businesses celebrating a milestone:

50 Years

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Will & Grundy Counties

40 Years

Cookies Restuarnt

20 Years

**Aldi Distribution Center
First America Metal Corp**

15 Years

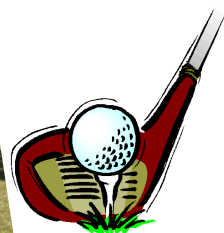
Shirkey Veterinary Clinic

BIRDIES, BOGEYS & BREWS 2022

This year's outing was our biggest yet at The Bluffs. Thank you to all of our sponsors, golfers, & volunteers for making this event such a success. A special thanks to Iron & Glass for hosting us as well. We can't wait until next year's event!



Constellation



Coffee & Company
hosted by
Lightways

Through darkness,
we bring light.

October 13

8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Morris Municipal Building
700 N. Division St.
Morris

Join us in learning all about Lightways Hospice and Serious Illness Care, and the wonderful work they do in our community. All while celebrating our Navy's Birthday!

*Free to Attend

*Don't forget your business cards

D'Arcy
CHEVROLET BUICK Cadillac
darcyautos.com



Board of Directors and Staff

Board of Directors:

+John Adler, Secretary
Aflac

+Jaclyn Aldridge, Vice Chair
Grundy Bank

Angela Baumeister
WCSJ / WJDK Radio

Sarah Beach
Village of Coal City/Sunshine Garden Center

+Megan Borchers, Chairwoman
LyondellBasell

Chris Brown
City of Morris

John Callahan
UC Davis-Callahan Funeral Home

+ Matt Fritz
Village of Coal City

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

Carolyn Joseph
Constellation—Dresden Station

Mike Petrick
Village of Channahon

***Kaylea Mann, Ambassador Chair**
Old National Bank

Erin Murphy Frobish
Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers

Nancy Norton
GEDC

Josh Schroeder
SPACECO, Inc.

Steve Vanisko
Shaw Media

Mary Rossio
Lightways

+Executive Committee
*Appointed Position

Chamber Staff:

Amanda Hiller
Events Director
amanda@grundychamber.com

Christina Van Yperen
President & CEO
director@grundychamber.com

Patty Webb
Administrative Assistant
admin@grundychamber.com

Chamber Ambassadors:

John Adler
AFLAC

Angela Baumeister, Vice Chair
WCSJ / WJDK Radio

Jack Fillenwarth
Morris Building & Loan

Angela Lilek
Midland States Bank

Ashley Jurkas
Heartland Bank

Dayna Manegold, Secretary
SOCU

Kaylea Mann, Chairwoman
Old National Bank

Christine Mendez
Grundy Bank

Greg Mialkowski
The Gardens at Park Pointe

Dana Odegaard
Fitness Premier—Minooka

Denise Pankey
Community Member

Mary Rossio
Lightways
Angels of Hope

Judi Tapella
Mary Kay Cosmetics

Julie Van Eck
Mahoney, Silverman, & Cross

From the President & CEO's Desk

The Chamber & GEDC have some great news to share! Our county has been chosen for a federal grant to help county leaders strategically plan for the future and build more diverse, resilient economies.

This grant was in response to the near closing of Dresden Station last year. The GEDC partnered with the Grundy Chamber and the North Central Illinois Council of Governments to apply for a nuclear communities grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce. We've been notified we were approved for the \$480,000 grant. The \$600,000 project is also being supported with a \$120,000 match by the Grundy County Board.

"Being reliant on one large industry or one big customer is just not good business," GEDC President & CEO Nancy Norton said. "Thanks to the support from the Grundy County Board, we were able to apply for this grant which will provide important analysis and tools about how Grundy County can diversify and build a more resilient economy."

State legislation in 2021 saved the nuclear plants, including Dresden Station, and offers financial security for five years. While it is hoped through the next few years the financial state of the nuclear plants will continue to rise extending the life of the local plants, this proved the urgency of preparing a plan for possible closures and decommissioning of the plants.

Dresden Station provides more than 800 direct jobs, and double that with indirect and induced area jobs. The station provides about \$74 million in payroll annually, and another \$24.4 million in property taxes supporting local schools and public services. In addition, Dresden and its employees contribute hundreds of thousands in donations and volunteer time to local organizations.

The project - Grundy County Nuclear Host Community Economic Resiliency Strategy – will research the best development options to leverage our highly skilled workforce and strategic assets to attract new investment and create quality jobs. Grundy has always been a leader in energy and this grant will provide insights on how to continue its role with the advent of new energy technologies. The ultimate goal is for the project to provide employment opportunities, spur private investment and to serve as a catalyst for major growth.

"The grass roots effort that took place last year to help #savedresden was largely to the credit of Grundy County. While successful, it really put into perspective how close we came to losing Dresden Station and how it would've shuttered our community," Chamber President & CEO Christina Van Yperen said. "This grant and project will allow us to not only protect our future, but better it."

The GEDC, Chamber, and NCICG are entering the initial stages of the project now that funding has been secured for what is expected to be a multi-year project.

The Chamber's mission:

- Support its membership
- Promote economic development
- Preserve and enhance the quality of life of our community

Member News & Briefs

SOCU is hosting a FREE Community Shred Day at the Morris Area Public Library in the north parking lot on October 25 from 10 a.m. until noon. The community can bring up to 5 bags/boxes of confidential documents, files & other sensitive information to be shred securely on-site. Shred services provided by Confidential On-Site Paper Shredding, compliments of SOCU with branches in Morris, Dwight, Ottawa, Streator, Pontiac & online at socu.org.

Grundy Bank is hosting a Winter Coat Drive Oct. 17-Nov. 17 at its Main Morris Branch and the Wilmington Branch. Gently used or new coats for men, women and children are requested.

Argonne National Laboratory has launched a long-term agreement with **Constellation** to evaluate trends in the country's energy system and develop technologies for more efficient, carbon-free power generation. As the largest producer of carbon-free energy in the U.S., Constellation's generation fleet has the capacity to power about 20 million homes. Its retail business serves 2 million residential, public sector and business customers. The Cooperative Research and Development Agreement will support various projects through October 2028. One project will focus on the use of hydrogen from nuclear power to store and transmit energy in back-up power, transportation and a variety of other applications.

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

Welcome new members!

Aces Classic Cars 815-255-2930
502 Twin Rail Drive
Suite 1
Minooka, IL 60447

Classic car dealership specializing in American Muscle car sales and consignment.

Sherwood Oaks Waffle Café 815-941-0427
1571 N. Division Street
Morris, IL 60450
ordersherwoodoakspancakehouseandfamilyrestaurant.com

A family-owned and operated business since 1994, Sherwood Oaks provides a variety of your favorite breakfast, lunch and dinner items, as well as specialized coffee and a waffle bar.

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



*The Lender You Can See
&
The Lender Who Cares*

Your Home, Your Lender

Online Pre-Mortgage Loan Application at:
www.acbandt.com

Offer of credit is subject to credit approval



Linda Taglia
NMLS# 646212
Director of Mortgage Lending
FHA/VA, Equity Loan Specialist
815-326-0814
ltaglia@acbandt.com



American Commercial Bank & Trust
The Bank for Your Business



2023

COFFEE & COMPANY

Hosts Wanted!

We are looking for hosts for our Coffee & Company networking event for the 2023 year. This is a great way to show off your space and inform people what services you offer, all while meeting potential customers!

These spots fill up quickly!

For more information or to sign up to host,
email Amanda at
amanda@grundychamber.com or
call 815-942-0113.

CONNECT@4

Thursday, November 17
4 p.m.-6 p.m.



500 Bob Blair Road
Minooka, IL 60447

Come join us as we hear all about
what Heartland Bank has to offer, and
help us congratulate this year's Heart
of the Community Award recipient!

***Food *Drinks *Prizes**

*Free to Attend

*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**