



February 2024

GRUNDY COUNTY Chamber of COMMERCE

CHANNAHON MINOOKA Chamber

A Division of Grundy County Chamber of Commerce

Courier



**FAMILY FEST
2024**

FREE FAMILY
ENTERTAINMENT
INCLUDING DAVE
DINASSO'S TRAVELING
WORLD OF REPTILES!

FAMILIES WILL ENJOY
ENTERTAINMENT SUCH AS
GIVEAWAYS, GAMES, VENDOR EXPO,
RAFFLES, BOUNCE HOUSES, FACE
PAINTING, BALLOON ART, & MORE!

SATURDAY, APRIL 13
9AM-1PM
Minooka Jr High School

Free to Attend!

See insert for booth & sponsor info!

CHAMBER & GEDC

Annual Dinner

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

5:00 p.m. - Social Hour

6:00 p.m. - Dinner

7:00 p.m. - Awards

2024
new location

Jennifer's Garden

555 Gore Road, Morris IL 60450

\$50 Per Person

\$700 Table Sponsorship for 10

RSVP by February 26

To register visit grundychamber.com, email
info@grundychamber.com or call 815-942-40113.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO Grundy County Chamber

Thank you to our sponsors:



Galentine's DAY

Feb 8th 2-8 P.M.



Celebrate with your girlfriends for Galentine's Day in Coal City, Diamond & Carbon Hill! Hosted by the Grundy Chamber & Coalers Business Alliance. Local shops will feature activities, treats, & more! Wear pink or red and get a raffle ticket for a chance to win prizes displayed at the library. Participate in the scavenger hunt to receive extra raffle tickets! Solve the clue, snap a pic and show it in store to receive your ticket. Raffle tickets should be taken to the Coal City Library by 4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 10. Search the Galentine's Day - Coal City & Diamond on Facebook for details.

PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS

Sunshine Garden Center (Diamond), Midland States Bank (Diamond), The QUEEN BEES (Coal City), Coal City Bank, Coal City Public Library District, Mustachio's (Carbon Hill), West Flooring (Diamond), Blue Oval Rentals (Diamond), Mending Hearts (Coal City), The Cove (Coal City), Yunkers MotorWerx (Diamond), Lori Bonarek Realty (Coal City), Rolando's Furniture & Appliances (Coal City) Mary Kay - Tiffany Wills (Coal City), Beans & Bites (Coal City), Naked Sun (Diamond)

SCAVENGER CLUES

- Come to Yunker MotorWerx and find the little guy who has a bed but never sleeps!
- Roses are Red, Violets are Blue, You'll have our hearts if you can find the cart - Sunshine Garden Center
- SEA the Turtles at The Cove (Locate a family of Sea Turtles)
- How are books and snow globes the same? They both hold a magical world within. Check out this magical place and shake it up with a photo. - Coal City Public Library District
- I ♥ Blue Oval Rentals (Find the blue heart)
- Find the Red Mustaches - Mustachio's
- At Mending Hearts we are like a GUEST HOUSE we welcome and entertain them all.
- Imagine what's possible - West Flooring Company
- At Bank of Pontiac we ♥ our local community - Coal City Bank
- A key will open this... - Lori Bonarek Realty
- You got mail... - Midland States Bank
- It's like being on the moon, where there's no gravity. Don't be afraid to go back! - Rolando's
- Old Rustic Hearts - Naked Sun
- One lump of sugar or two? - Beans & Bites at Sunshine Garden Center

Board of Directors and Staff

from the President & CEO's Desk

Board of Directors:

+John Adler, Vice Chair Aflac

+Sarah Beach

Secretary
Village of Coal City/Sunshine
Garden Center

+Megan Borchers,

Chairwoman
LyondellBasell

Karla Escalante-Ferreira

Sherwood Oaks Waffle Café & The
Country Farmhouse

+Matt Fritz

Village of Coal City

Carolyn Joseph

Constellation - Dresden Station

Jeff Lind

Village of Minooka

***Kaylea Mann, Ambassador Chair**

Old National Bank

Erin Murphy Frobish

Morris Hospital & Healthcare
Centers

Nancy Norton

GEDC

Mike Petrick

Village of Channahon

David Pietryla

Comcast

Ann Rzasa

Joliet Junior College

Mary Rossio

Angels of Hope

+Ashley Speed, Treasurer

Grundy Bank

+Julie Wilkinson

City of Morris

+Executive Committee

*Appointed Position

Chamber Staff:

Christy Kelly

Administrative Assistant
admin@grundychamber.com

Christina Van Yperen

President & CEO
christina@grundychamber.com

Pattye Webb

Membership Director
pattye@grundychamber.com

Lena Wickens

Events & Marketing Director
lena@grundychamber.com

Chamber Ambassadors:

Angela Baumeister, Vice Chair

WCSJ / WJDK Radio

Jack Fillenwarth

Morris Building & Loan

John Fonck

First Federal Savings Bank

Allison Jensen

Jennifer's Garden

Christy Kelly

Rodan and Fields

Dayna Manegold

SOCU

Kaylea Mann, Chairwoman

Old National Bank

Christine Mendez, Secretary

Grundy Bank

John Mendoza

Coal City Bank - Branch of Bank of
Pontiac

Dana Odegaard

Fitness Premier - Minooka

Mark Stelmack

Quality First Inspections

Judi Tapella

Mary Kay Cosmetics

Julie Van Eck

Mahoney, Silverman, & Cross

MORRIS – The Grundy Resiliency Project is taking proposals for the second part of the project – the Grundy County Economic Diversification and Resiliency Plan.

The objective of this strategic Economic Diversification and Resiliency plan is to identify, recommend, and justify key initiatives, action items, and market-driven opportunities for economic diversification in Grundy County to enhance the county's economic prosperity and resilience. Upon completion, this diversification and resiliency plan will be used as a tool to inform and guide comprehensive planning, business attraction, infrastructure investments, and marketing.

The plan is part of the resiliency project by the Grundy Economic Development Council and the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce & Industry. The organizations were given a \$600,000 grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration at the end of 2022. These grants help nuclear host communities plan for and build more diverse, resilient economies. Grundy's grant is being matched 20% by Grundy County, and North Central Illinois Council of Governments is assisting as the grant administrator.

The grant focuses on regions with nuclear plants and provides funding to local entities to evaluate economic impacts, competitive diversification, decommissioning issues and building community capacity.

In September, the first part of the project, the economic overview, was completed by the University of Michigan Economic Growth Institute. The data from economic study will serve as the foundation for the strategic plan for which the organizations are currently seeking proposals.

The full RFP is available on resilientgrundy.com and includes the detailed scope of work, expected deliverables, timeline and other specifications. Proposals are due Feb. 9 by 4 p.m. to Nancy Norton, GEDC President & CEO and to Christina Van Yperen, Chamber President & CEO at nnorton@gedc.com and christina@grundychamber.com.

The completed Comprehensive Economic Overview is also available on the Grundy Resiliency Project website.

The scope of the project is over 24 months and includes future steps of doing a broadband analysis and researching the decommissioning process of nuclear plants.

Don't let this be your last newsletter . . .

Reinvestments were due Jan. 1.

**Renew your Chamber membership today to
avoid disruption of your benefits.**

**Contact Christy Kelly if you have questions
at 815-942-0113.**

The Chamber's mission:

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

Member Welcome & News

Welcome new members!

Bellacino's Pizza & Grinders

100 W. Gore Road
Morris, IL
bellacinos.com

At Bellacino's, "Fresh" is no gimmick. We bake our bread from scratch every day in each of our over 50 locations nationwide! All of our grinders, pizzas, salads, and appetizers are made to order.

Brandt's Tavern

1607 N. Division St.
Morris, IL

Coldest beer & hottest gaming in Grundy County! Daily lunches from 11 a.m. -2 p.m. Dine in or Carry Out!

(815) 941-1110

(815) 942-8140

KJ McKeons

115 Wauponsee St.
Morris, IL

KJ's is the oldest bar in Grundy County featuring a 30-seat horseshoe bar, gaming, food & live music nights. Come out and be part of KJ's history.

Heartlife/HLM Recovery 180

8012 West Lincoln Highway
Frankfort, IL
hlmrecovery.com

We are an Illinois State R.O.S.C. (Recovery oriented System of Care) Will/Grundy County - a network of resources to lead people to areas of Recovery through Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health.

(815) 585-7923

(312) 982-1231

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

Heartland Bank of Minooka proudly announces Jessica Enervold has been promoted to retail manager. Jessica has 10 years of experience in the banking industry, has worked as a retail banker, lead, supervisor and assistant manager. Congrats Jessica!

The **Joliet Slammers** are excited to announce a sale of a majority stake in the team to a group led by Mike Veeck, Night Train Veeck, and Bill Murray. Former majority owner Nick Semaca, will stay on as a shareholder. Mike Veeck is a renowned speaker, entrepreneur, college professor, philanthropist, marketing, promotions and customer care expert. Night Train Veeck is the fourth generation of Veecks to work in baseball and is a seasoned sports marketing executive. Famous Actor Bill Murray has been involved in minority ownership of the Minor League Baseball Charleston RiverDogs and St. Paul Saints with Mike Veeck.

The **Morris Hospital** Auxiliary will hold its 54th Annual Charity Gala on Saturday, Feb. 10 at **Jennifer's Garden** with proceeds supporting Morris Hospital's lifesaving interventional cardiovascular services. Reservations can be made by going to morrishospital.org/gala or contacting the Morris Hospital Auxiliary at 815-705-7024.

The **Morris YMCA** Gala is Saturday, Feb. 24 at the Bolingbrook Golf Club. Funds raised will benefit the Y's scholarship assistance program, which helps to ensure that no one is turned away from the YMCA due to the inability to pay. For tickets visit www.jolietymca.org/giving/ymca-gala/.

Sunshine Garden Center is hosting a Local Wedding Expo Feb. 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Presale tickets are \$15, \$20 at the door. Come join your favorite local wedding vendors for a day of music, food, drinks & wedding planning!

Fall in love with your *community* bank.

Grundy Bank's Hometown Advantage offers a one-stop-shop for all your banking needs, including personal and business banking as well as commercial and consumer loans, for optimal convenience.



grundy.bank



815 942-0130



Coffee & Company

with



Free to Attend!

Join us for Coffee & Networking

Friday, Feb. 16

8-9 a.m.

Village of Channahon

Village of Channahon
24555 S. Navajo Drive
Channahon, IL 60410



MINOOKA STATE OF THE VILLAGE ADDRESS



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

THURSDAY, APRIL 18



CHANNAHON MINOOKA
Chamber
of COMMERCE

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**