

January 2025

GRUNDY COUNTY CHAMBER CHANNAHON MINOOKA Chamber Chamber

A Division of Grundy County Chamber of Commerce



Courier



Your place for business services

Celebrating Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following businesses celebrating a milestones.

5 Years
Bell and King Dental Associates
Jonelle Marie Carter

15 Years
Silverthorne Homebuilders

20 Years
Bone-ified Care LLC
Simian Brothers Creative

25 Years
Jennifer's Garden Bouquets

30 Years
North Central Behavioral Health Systems

35 Years
Trotter & Associates Insurance

55 Years
ONEOK

65 Years
Constellation

150 Years
Village of Seneca

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

**Save the Date for the Chamber & GEDC
Annual Dinner March 5, 2025
See back page for details.**

Grundy County & Chamber
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT of COMMERCE

invite you to attend the

Advancing Grundy Luncheon

Join the GEDC, Chamber and their consultants TIP Strategies for the first look at Advancing Grundy: a plan to build a bright economic future! The Economic Diversification and Resiliency Plan is an action oriented roadmap for the community to create a vibrant and strong County for many years to come.

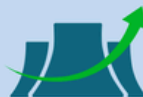
Wednesday, Jan 22
11:30 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Morris VFW Post 6049
309 McKinley St. Morris

\$20 Per
Person

RSVP by Jan 13.

[Register Here!](#)



**GRUNDY RESILIENCY
PROJECT**
#RESILIENTGRUNDY

The Chamber & GEDC are excited to roll out the Advancing Grundy plan. The Chamber and GEDC contracted with the economic strategy firm TIP Strategies, Inc. (TIP) to complete the plan as phase two - the economic development roadmap, of the Grundy Resiliency Project. The project was funded by grant dollars awarded to the organizations by the US Economic Development Administration, as well as a match from the County.

The project launched in Spring 2024, with the first phase focused on data review and industry analysis. The second phase of the project included individual and group conversations, business and resident surveys, and town halls to better understand the County's economic opportunities. Both quantitative data and qualitative insights, combined with TIP's extensive experience and understanding of best practices from other regions, have helped design the strategies. The resulting plan creates a roadmap for proactively shaping a prosperous future for the County.

Join us for our luncheon to hear the details of the plan, as well as what local leaders are most excited about. The plan can be found at resilientgrundy.com. Register for the luncheon by Jan. 13 at grundychamber.com or call 815-942-0113.

Board of Directors and Staff

From the President & CEO's Desk

Board of Directors:

Chamber Staff:

+John Adler, Secretary *Aflac*

Christy Kelly
Administrative Assistant
admin@grundychamber.com

+Sarah Beach
Chairwoman
Village of Coal City/Sunshine
Garden Center

Christina Van Yperen
President & CEO
christina@grundychamber.com

+Megan Borchers,
LyondellBasell

Lena Wickens
Events & Marketing Director
lena@grundychamber.com

Alec Ferrari
SPACECO, Inc.

Karla Escalante-Ferreyra
Sherwood Oaks Waffle Café & The
Country Farmhouse

Chamber Ambassadors:

+Matt Fritz
Village of Coal City

Angela Baumeister
WCSJ / WJDK Radio

Carolyn Joseph
Constellation - Dresden Station

Mary Collins
Grundy County Historical Society

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

Jessica Enervold
Grundy County Historical Society

Erin Murphy Frobish
Morris Hospital & Healthcare
Centers

Jack Fillenwarth
Morris Building & Loan
John Fonck
First Federal Savings Bank

Nancy Norton
GEDC

Allison Jensen
Jennifer's Garden

Mike Petrick
Village of Channahon

Dayna Manegold
SOCU

Ann Rzasa
Joliet Junior College

Kaylea Mann, *Chairwoman*
Old National Bank

Mary Rossio
Angels of Hope

Christine Mendez, *Vice Chair*
Grundy Bank

+Ashley Speed, *Treasurer*
Grundy Bank

John Mendoza
Coal City Bank - Branch of Bank of
Pontiac

+Julie Wilkinson, *Vice Chair*
City of Morris

Greg Mialkowski
Gardens at Park Pointe

+Executive Committee
*Appointed Position

Dana Odegaard
Fitness Premier - Minooka

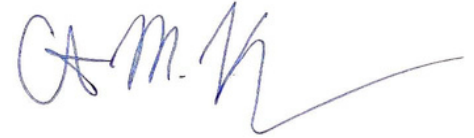
Judi Tapella
Mary Kay Cosmetics

Julie Van Eck
Mahoney, Silverman, & Cross

Happy New Year to all of our members! We have big plans for 2025 to help your business prosper. Helping to lead the way this year is our new Board Chair Sarah Beach, owner of Sunshine Garden Center in Diamond. Joining her as Vice Chair this year is Julie Wilkinson, Director of Business Development for the City of Morris.

Sarah and Julie live and breathe local business in their communities not only professionally, but in their daily lives. Their perspectives have been guiding the Chamber in their roles on the Executive Committee in recent years and we are excited to have them at the helm of the Chamber's Board of Directors. Please join our Chamber team in thanking them for their leadership. Cheers to 2025!

Sincerely,



GRUNDY COUNTY
Chamber
of COMMERCE

COFFEE & COMPANY

WITH
Grundy Area
GAVC
Vocational Center

COME ENJOY COFFEE,
TREATS AND NETWORKING
AT THE GRUNDY AREA
VOCATIONAL CENTER!



TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025
8-9 A.M. FREE TO ATTEND!
1002 UNION ST.
MORRIS

The Chamber's mission:

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

Member News Briefs

Heritage Corridor Destinations - would like to announce their move to 701 Essington Road, Suite 100, Joliet. Please update this location in your records, and for more information or questions about the move reach out to (815) 216-9960. Congratulations!

Morris Hospital YMCA - is now open! Located at 2200 W. Dupont Ave in Morris and is open from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday as well as 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Saturday to Sunday. From a state-of-the-art gymnasium and pool to a variety of exercise rooms and youth play spaces, and even a healthy eating kitchen, the Morris Hospital YMCA has it all! For more info visit jolietymca.org/locations/morris-hospital-ymca. Congratulations YMCA!

Morris Community High School District 101 is asking residents to consider a \$67 million referendum question on the ballot for the April 1 Consolidated Election. If approved, this project will include both new and renovated classrooms and labs, a new ground-level air-conditioned cafeteria, new and renovated restrooms, a new media center, and other features. Having everyone under one roof and modernizing the MCHS campus would address several items that the community has identified as priorities. To learn more

about this project, visit [the referendum link](#) on the MCHS website at morrishs.org. This page includes a detailed [FAQ](#), [architectural renderings and concepts plans](#), and a [taxpayer impact calculator](#).

Express Employment - has moved its Morris location to 1453 N. Division St. in Morris. Feel free to stop by the office for any help with employment needs within the office hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more info or inquiries contact (815) 306-0250. Congrats Express Employment!

Village of Minooka - welcomes new Economic Development Officer Jack Guldenbecker. Jack is a double major in Marketing and Entrepreneurship, and has a Masters Degree in Management from the University of St. Francis. As a born and raised Minooka native and a business owner, Jack is ready to make an impact. Welcome Jack!

American Commercial Bank & Trust welcomes new Partner Jeff Rzasa. Jeff brings 26 years of banking experience to American Commercial Bank & Trust. Congrats Jeff!

Welcome New Members!

Edward Jones - Gehrig Denoyer (815) 225-2395
25224 W. Eames

Channahon, IL

Investments, Wealth Management, Client-oriented
financial advising.

Hook's II (815) 513-5227
802 Liberty Street
Morris, IL

Event space rental, video slot machines, bar

Attention All Members:

Don't Forget!



Friendly reminder to all Chamber
Members to **renew your chamber
membership!!!**

Call: (815) 942-0113

MANAGE YOUR CARDS DIGITALLY.

Spending less time on financial management allows
you to enjoy more of life's enjoyable activities.



201 Liberty Street, Morris
120 S. Main Street, Wilmington
(815) 942-0130
grundy.bank



Chamber Award
Nominations due
Jan. 10.
GrundyChamber.
com.

CHAMBER/GEDC
Annual Dinner

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

5:00 p.m. - Social Hour

6:00 p.m. - Dinner

7:00 p.m. - Awards

Jennifer's Garden

555 Gore Road, Morris IL 60450

\$50 Per Person

\$700 Table Sponsorship for 10

RSVP by February 21

To register go to grundyChamber.com, email info@grundyChamber.com

Or call 815.942.0113

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO Grundy County Chamber

Thank you to our sponsors:



Sponsorships
available! Call
815-942-
0113.

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

Or Current Resident

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