



December 2011

CHANNAHON
MINOOKA
Chamber & Chamber
A Division of Grundy County Chamber of Commerce

GRUNDY COUNTY
Chamber
of COMMERCE

Courier

Celebrating Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following business celebrating a milestone in December:

1 year

**Dutch Girl Photography
The Neighborhood Nerd**

50 years

Village of Channahon

105 years

Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers

Congratulations to the following business celebrating a milestone in 2011, not previously acknowledged:

1 year

**ATI Physical Therapy—Minooka
Shaklee—Liz Marchert
The Pub by Chapin's**

5 years

Harmonic Design

10 years

**Minor Chiropractic Health Center
Unit 1 Educational Foundation**

15 years

**Fox Foot & Ankle—Coal City
Minooka Family Chiropractic
Steve's Tire & Auto
West Flooring**

20 years

Ariel Supply

25 years

**Excel Machine & Tool
Tri-State Enterprises**

35 years

**Romar Cabinet & Top
Three Rivers Public Library**

40 years

**Merchants & Manufacturers Bank
Stepping Stones**

50 years

Northern Illinois Steel Supply

75 years

McGrath Office Equipment

We need your help in updating our information... please contact Peg at 815-942-0113 or pberta@grundychamber.com with the date you opened your business.

Helping Entrepreneurs

As *Counselors to America's Small Business*, SCORE is a resource partner with the SBA and dedicated to entrepreneur education and the formation, growth and success of small businesses nationwide.

Whether you are just starting a business or expanding an established business, counselors will review your business plan, discuss a new idea or tackle a business problem. There is no charge for business counseling.

SCORE has nearly 400 chapters and over 10,000 volunteers with many resources available to help you to be successful in your dream.

By the time this newsletter goes to print, SCORE will have met with their first local business—a member of the Chamber who wanted to talk through their plan with someone who has experience in building a business. Lots of information was discussed and some great thought-provoking questions were asked. Available resources were discussed and a list of follow-up items was made. For now, future conversations will be done via e-mail with this business and mentor.

We are thankful the counselors from Bloomington were willing to meet with this business—but we are sure there are plenty of folks in the area who would be willing to share their knowledge and remain active in the community by becoming a mentor.

The Chamber is working with local organizations and the Central Illinois SCORE Chapter to build a local Chapter.

SCORE mentors help entrepreneurs start small businesses and achieve new levels of success in their existing businesses. Becoming a mentor is a great way for you to give back to your community, stay connected, and pass on your knowledge and expertise to the next generation of entrepreneurs in your community.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a mentor or learning more about SCORE, please visit www.central.score.org or contact Caroline at the Chamber.



The Workforce Update

Livingston Kankakee Workforce Board
"g workforce quality to meet regional needs"

Are you having difficulty finding the right candidate for your business? Current employees need additional training? We can help with your hiring and training needs. Services at no cost to businesses include:

- Job postings
- Recruitment assistance and hiring events
- Skill and aptitude testing
- Labor market information
- Training services

To learn more about how these services or to receive the "Workforce Update" newsletter, contact Ann Rzasa, Business Services Coordinator at arzas@glkwb.com

Board of Directors and Staff

Board of Directors:

Karen Abraham
Riverside Medical Center

* **John Adler**
Aflac & Ambassador Chair

Jill Behning
Twin Oaks Savings Bank

+ **Dianne Breslar**
Chapin's Restaurant

+ **Chris Breyman, Treasurer**
Grundy Bank

* **Pete Brummel**
Grundy Bank & GEDC Chair

+ **Matt Fritz, Vice Chair**
Village of Coal City

* **John Harrington**
CM Chamber Division &
Village of Minooka

Virginia Heubach Kelly
Morris Hospital Foundation

Dick Kopczick
City of Morris

+ **Michael McMahon, Secretary**
Village of Channahon

Amy Murphy
Joliet Junior College

Brent Newman
Grundy County Housing Authority

Ted "Pidge" Smith
Advantage Realty

+ **Brian Walker**
Hogan Walker

* **David Welter**
Grundy County Board

Jason Wiesbrock
SPACECO, Inc.

+ **Jim Zackavec, Chair**
First Midwest Bank

+ Executive Committee
* Appointed Position

Channahon Minooka Chamber Division Committee:

Jim Cappel,
Illinois Benefits

Deanne Conterio,
Citizen's First National Bank

John Harrington, Chair
Village of Minooka

Robyn Kahn,
Investment Solution Services

Chamber Staff:

Caroline Portlock,
Executive Director
cportlock@grundychamber.com

Sarah Peterson,
Events Director
sarah@grundychamber.com

Peg Berta,
Administrative Assistant
pberta@grundychamber.com

Mary Ann Kilbride,
Coal City Office
maryann@grundychamber.com

Corrine Weinke,
Minooka Office
corrine@cmchamber.org

Chamber Ambassadors:

John Adler, Co-Chair
AFLAC

Angela Baumeister, Secretary
WCSJ / WJDK Radio

Mindy Chesharek
Banker's Advertising

Candyce Connor
Twin Oaks Savings Bank

Deanne Conterio, Co-Chair
Citizen's First National Bank

Coleen Davis
Big Brothers Big Sisters

Terri Gilmoure, Vice Chair
Country Financial

Kelly Hitt
Grundy County Health Department

Stephanie Kinzler
Standard Bank

Jackie Martin, Immediate Past Chair
Proforma ProMediAspire

Tammy Partridge
Crossroads Counseling Services

Mary Rossio
Walnut Grove Retirement Village

Ben Sisk
Edward Jones

Judi Tapella
Mary Kay Cosmetics

Terri Tatroe
All American Storage

Cheryl Tesdal
First Midwest Bank

Chamber Meetings:

Business Expansion Network
2nd & 4th Thursdays at 7:30 am
at R-Place Restaurant

Executive Committee
3rd Friday of each month at 8 am

Board of Directors Meeting
4th Tuesday of each month at 7:45 am

The Chamber's mission:

- support its membership
- promote economic development,
- preserve and enhance the quality of life

The *Courier* is a monthly newsletter produced by the Chamber for its members. To submit information, please contact the Chamber office.

From the Director's desk...

New Members of the Board of Directors

Through the years we've been fortunate to have active and engaged leaders step up to serve on the Chamber Board. When it's time for them to move on, it's difficult to adequately thank them for their time and service. At the end of this year, a few of our Directors will move on as we welcome new faces.

An opportunity to retire and spend more time in the sun made it necessary for Karen Abraham of Riverside Medical Center to resign from the Chamber Board. In addition, after several years of serving on the Board, Pidge Smith's term ends this month. Both Karen and Pidge provided a lot of support and insights through the years and their service is much appreciated!

Erin Murphy Frobish will replace Ginny Kelly in January for the Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers. Ginny was helpful with the Chamber Foundation and we thank her for her efforts! Erin is the HR Manager at the hospital and has been a member of the Grundy Will HR Association and Business Education Council.

New to the Board is Bob Osgood, Communications Director for Dresden Generating Plant. Bob served on the Channahon Minooka Chamber's Board—this experience along with his expertise in communications will serve the Chamber well.

John Adler of Aflac served on the Board as the Chair of the Ambassador's Club. Terri Gilmoure of Country Financial takes over as the Chair and will become the liaison between the Ambassador's and Chamber Board. John however, expressed interest in remaining on the Board and will therefore become a Director representing the independent sales consultants sector.

Please join me in thanking those members who have served in a Director capacity and welcome to those starting their new terms.

Caroline

Ambassador Spotlight

Meet our newest Ambassador, Mary Rossio. She is the Director of Marketing and Admissions at Walnut Grove Village.

Mary became an Ambassador because she has just moved back to the area and is eager to meet new people and get involved in the community.

She sees the role of a Chamber Ambassador as someone who is willing to get involved and is looking forward to meeting people and getting involved with their business visions. She certainly understands the challenges of owning a business since she was very active in her Mom's flower shop that was located in the area.



**Mary
Rossio**

Mary enjoys staying busy and enjoys spending time with friends, cooking, shopping, texting, reading, watching sports, spoiling her friend's children, and vacationing.

Member News & Briefs

Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers was recently awarded an “*Excellence in Patient Care*” by the Studer Group based on achievement, improvement and overall outstanding performance in patient care. Congratulations!

Ines Kutlesa, COO of **Guardian Angel Community Services** has been named CEO replacing *Sheila Schmitz* who retires at the end of the year. Ines started her career at Guardian Angel in 1999 as Groundwork’s Program Supervisor. Congratulations Ines and best wishes to Sheila!



Meet **Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers’** newest volunteer, *Farley*! Farley will be visiting patients through their pet therapy program.

Please note—Harris Bank is now known as **BMO Harris**. Be sure to stop by one of their branches soon.

Hynds, Rooks, Yohnka & Bzdill welcomes *Christopher M. Dearth* as their new associate specializing in transactional, real estate and corporate law. Chris grew up in Coal City attended Eastern Illinois University and Thomas M Cooley Law School. He is son of *Mike Dearth*, owner of **Grundy County Redi-Mix**. He Welcome Chris!

First Midwest Bank welcomes *Penny Wolf*, residential lender to their Morris office. Welcome Penny!

Congratulations to **Nettle Creek School** on having 99% in math and reading—as a result, **State Representative Pam Roth** declared 11/15 as *Nettle Creek Day* in Illinois!

Got news? Share it with others by e-mailing us at info@grundychamber.com

Welcome To Our Newest Members:

The Reserves Network

Nancy Felbab, Branch Manager 815-556-8275
LaTasha Binder, Account Executive
2724 Caton Farm Road
Joliet, IL 60435 www.trnstaffing.com

- *We provide total staffing solutions, bringing companies and employees together. In business since 1984, The Reserves Network, a regional staffing service for the office, industrial, professional and technical markets.*

Members on the move...

Dutch Girl Photography

1802 N. Division Street—Suite 208
Morris, IL 60450 www.dutchgirlphoto.com

Peterson Computer Consulting

1802 N. Division Street—Suite 207
Morris, IL 60450 www.getpcc.com

Join us for:



Business After Hours

Thursday, December 8

5 - 7 pm

Sponsored by:

First Midwest Bank

220 West Main Street, Morris

Mark on your calendar...

Business After Hours

Thursday, January 19

5 - 7 pm

Sponsored by:

Chapin's East Banquets & Catering

502 Twin Rail Drive, Minooka

Great Food, Networking & Drawings! Bring lots of business cards!

Business After 5 & Business After Hours are networking events

where you could meet your next customer!

Planning for 2012



Watch for details on the Chamber's 2012 Calendar of Events! In the meantime, the Chamber is looking for volunteers to start planning some of our events. If you or anyone in your company is interested in becoming more involved, we need assistance on the following committees:

- CM Chamber Golf Outing Committee
- Community Showcase Committee
- Home & Health Expo Committee
- Not-so-Classic Golf Classic Committee
- Wine & Beer Tasting Committee
- Young Professionals Network

If you are interested in learning more or to volunteer for a committee, please contact Sarah Peterson at the Chamber at sarah@grundychamber.com.

Do you have your login information for ChamberMaster?

Just a reminder that ChamberMaster is the backend of the Chamber's websites (www.grundychamber.com and www.cmchamber.org). By logging into www.chamberlogin.com, you are able to offer 'hot deals', add events and specials, add company reps, change your business description, add a job posting, **and much, much more!**

If you need your login information, please contact us at any of the Chamber offices be sure you are taking advantage of all of the Chamber benefits offered!

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

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