

the
CHAMBER

360

Issue 1 • 2012

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Effingham County
Chamber of Commerce



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Dear Friends,

Welcome to The Chamber 360, the new business magazine of the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce.

In December, the Board of Directors voted to rename the Greater Effingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry the **Effingham County Chamber of Commerce** to align more closely with our organization's ever expanding commitment as a county-wide leader in business and community growth. We have increased our role as an advocate for area businesses, as a leader in growing small businesses and as a partner for progressive ideas and projects. The name change provides a more accurate reflection of who we are and those we serve.

As we begin our 95th year of serving the business community, we have great excitement and anticipation for what the future holds for Effingham County. There are many signs that 2012 will be full of progress as new businesses and buildings spring up, new employment opportunities develop for local residents and endless possibilities exist to make Effingham County an even greater place to live, work, grow, play, visit, prosper and raise a family.

The Chamber's circle begins and ends with our members – from the county's largest employer to the sole proprietor – Chamber members play an important role in the positive growth of Effingham County.

The Chamber 360 magazine presents a panoramic view of the Chamber and Effingham County with a special spotlight on Chamber members who have celebrated a special milestone in 2011 or will celebrate a special anniversary in 2012. We hope you enjoy their stories.

Best Wishes,

Norma Lansing

Norma Lansing
President
Illinois Accredited Chamber Executive



2011 Chamber Accomplishments:

- Membership Growth – 80 new Members
- \$10,000 Sustainability Fund Created for Future Chamber Needs
- \$4,000 Grant from Effingham County Community Foundation to Promote BEST Business Center Services
- \$10,000 in Scholarships Awarded to High School Seniors and Adults
- First Legislative Day in Springfield – met with Legislative Leaders Tom Cross and Christine Radogno
- New Programs Introduced: Lunch & Learn, Connecting Women in Business
- New City Map Produced
- Completed Building Improvements for Energy Efficiency and Reduced Maintenance



Teutopolis Baseball Team 2011
State Win, 2nd year in a row!



ADM makes multi-million
dollar investment in
Altamont facility



New Housing Development
spurs Dieterich growth



Tuscan Hills Winery



Patterson Technology Center
and Midland States Bank
Headquarters



Outer Belt West opening

The Chamber Provides Leadership, Resources & Services....
...that make Effingham County a great place to live, work, grow, play, visit, prosper and raise a family.

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the first edition of the new Chamber magazine. I think that you will enjoy this new communication vehicle that has been designed to promote business as well as the community of Effingham County. Whether it be in Altamont, Dieterich, Teutopolis, Effingham or another Effingham County community, the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce is here to promote your business and to promote our county-wide communities.

I can only describe my experience as Chair of the Chamber this past year as a whirlwind of activity. Many initiatives have been accomplished or set in place by the Board of Directors and the Chamber staff. Here are just a few of our accomplishments:

- Our goal to increase membership resulted in 80 new members, which brings our enrollment up to nearly 550. As a membership driven organization, we have focused on our members' needs, created opportunities for members to meet with their elected officials and worked to create an independent economic development group to seed business growth. Our legislative committee has been actively engaged in an effort to educate potential candidates seeking public office.
- For the last four years, the Chamber has both mentored and supported our YBNext organization. This year, a professional women's group has been created to mentor and support the women engaging in business in our community. In addition, the Chamber has focused on youth and education. Our annual career day gives area students a chance to explore local career options. Our scholarships provide deserving students and adults economic assistance with their tuition.
- A self-study of Chamber operations has led to creation of a sustainability fund of \$10,000 to help fortify the organization in tough economic times. We plan to grow this fund to provide a 3 month operational reserve should it be needed.

These are just a few of the things the Chamber accomplished in 2011. Many thanks to Norma, the Chamber staff and the Board for their efforts. Our greatest appreciation goes to the Chamber membership who support and grow our communities. Let's all continue to work together to make Effingham County a place to work, a place to raise a family, and a place to call home.

Dan Clasby

Dan Clasby, Ph.D.



Dear Chamber Members,

The beginning of a New Year always brings a certain amount of excitement as we anticipate the new experiences and opportunities that lie ahead. 2012 promises to be even more special because the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce will celebrate its 95th Anniversary.

The Effingham County Chamber of Commerce is a membership driven organization. Our membership grew in 2011 to nearly 550 members thanks to the leadership of Dan Clasby; our hard working Chamber staff of Norma Lansing, Becky Brown, and Katie Koester; an outstanding membership committee; and of course, our members sharing with local businesses the value of belonging to the local Chamber of Commerce. We want to take the growth momentum into 2012 and increase our membership to 600 by year end. Reaching this goal will require hard work from all of us, but as Chamber membership increases, so do opportunities for our businesses and community. A larger Chamber provides more opportunities to promote, introduce and connect people, resources, and ideas.

In 2012, the Chamber will continue to focus on growing our business relationships with the Altamont Chamber of Commerce, the Dieterich Business Association and the Teutopolis Community for Progress. To reflect our desire and commitment in developing a greater working relationship with the surrounding business communities, we are now The Effingham County Chamber of Commerce. This exciting change will not only make us a better Chamber of Commerce, but it will open doors to new opportunities for our businesses and our communities.

The Chamber will continue to seek and develop new ideas, programs and opportunities that bring value to our members, their businesses and our community. We will also analyze and improve our current programs, networking events and social gatherings to ensure we maximize the potential for our members to showcase their businesses and share ideas with other leaders and entrepreneurs. Our goal is to help Effingham County businesses grow. I hope you will join us. I look forward to serving as the 2012 Board Chair for The Effingham County Chamber of Commerce.



Sincerely,

Kevin Gouchenouer

Kevin Gouchenouer
2012 Board Chairman



2012-2014 Directors

L to R: Joe Forbes, Versatech LLC; Lisa Kingery, B B & K Development; Jeni Hagen, Ameren Illinois; Karen Kull, Lake Land College – Kluthe Center; Roger Bloemker, America's Select Homes Inc.



Board of Directors

Front row: Dr. Dan Clasby, Sacred Heart School; Cindy Jansen, Jansen's Heating & Air; Jayme Schultheis, Heartland Dental Care; Dan Woods, St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital; Kevin Gouchenouer, Century 21 Realty Concepts; Mike Schabbing, Global Technical Systems Inc.; Norma Lansing, Chamber President.
Back row: Carl Schwinke, Siemer Milling Company; Dean Kremer, First National Bank of Dieterich; Lee Beckman, Milano & Grunloh Engineers; Bill Teichmiller, EJ Water Corporation; Dan Stawarlt, Sherwin Williams; Bob Bray, Bray Title Services; Paul Koerner, Koerner Distributor, Inc., and Andy Grunloh, Crossroads Bank. Not pictured: Rob Bradshaw, Support Products; Paul Gutman, Legacy Harley-Davidson; Mark Probst, Probst Auto Body. Ex-Officio: Jim Arndt, City of Effingham; Carolyn Willenburg, Effingham County Board; Terri Beal, Altamont Chamber; and Deb Beasley, YBNext.

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BEST Business Center

at the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce

Entrepreneur and Expansion Resources

As a service to the Effingham area business community, the BEST Business Center is committed to providing professional, knowledgeable and experienced individuals and organizations as information resources. These resources can help new business entrepreneurs get started and existing businesses achieve next stage growth and prosperity. Areas of expertise include...

Manufacturing / Operations • Financial Planning / Budgeting
Sales / Marketing • Distribution / Logistics • Advertising / Promotion
Insurance / Legal • Internet / Social Media • Business Planning
...and much more!

Expert Business Counselors offer individual meetings on a weekly basis to provide business start-up, financial, operational and employee assistance. These free and confidential sessions can be arranged by contacting the Center to schedule an appointment. Workshops and Seminars are also held throughout the year on a variety of business topics for anyone interested in making smart business decisions.



The BEST Business Center is located on the second floor of the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce
903 N. Keller Drive in Effingham, IL.
www.effinghamchamber.org
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YBNext is a dynamic group of young professionals, age 21-45, that make up the next generation of the leadership of Effingham County and surrounding areas.

YBNext Membership
\$50 for Chamber Members
(\$75 non-Chamber member)

Visit www.ybnnext.com for more information or call 217.342.4147

YBNext Offers:

- Professional development workshops to help career advancement
- Networking opportunities in social and professional settings
- Access to YBNext and Effingham County Chamber e-news and other resources
- Volunteer opportunities to assist with community development in Effingham County
- A variety of cultural and community events to meet and learn from the area's top business leaders



2011 Top 20 Under 40 Recipients



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The Chamber Values Our Members...

Get involved.....Stay informed....Gain business insight.....Use the Chamber to grow your business and community.



Golf Outing



Candidate Academy



2011 Chamber Legislative Day with Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno

The Chamber is Growing!
Chamber Membership: 547 Members – net gain of 52 members in 2011



Ambassadors Provide Membership Outreach



Ambassadors
Front row: Greg Schumacher, Ameren Illinois; Steve Will, First National Bank of Dieterich; Jerry Jansen, Century 21 Realty Concepts; Dr. Carol Hourigan; Jeff Muhlbachler, Muhlbachler Insurance Agency, Inc. and Del Wortman, Wortman Printing Company
Back row: Randy Jones, Washington Savings Bank; Shelia Roberts, Midwest Office; Kathy Schroeder, Mary Kay Cosmetics; Jo Huskey, Enterprise Dynamics; Tonya Siner, Premier Broadcasting and Kal Keitel, St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital. Not pictured: Bob Shelton, Community Directories, Inc. and Jim Hecht, Dan Hecht Chevrolet-Toyota.



Chamber Banquet



Celebrating Member Business Growth



2011 Chamber Scholarship Recipients



Lunch & Learns offer business insights

Scan this code with your smartphone or go online at www.effinghamchamber.org/findmember.aspx for a complete listing of Chamber members.



Our Community Partners

Partnerships have been created to strengthen our voice and our reach throughout Effingham County.



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Member2Member Discount Program



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For more information, visit our website www.effinghamchamber.org/member-to-member-program.htm

Member Referral Program

Your Referrals = New Chamber Members
+ New Business Connections

Here's how it works:

- Identify business, vendor or acquaintance that you feel would benefit from a Chamber membership
- Submit the information by form to the Chamber
- Referral will be contacted by one of our SWAT Team Members (see below)
- Upon receipt of payment, you will receive a special incentive
- Each quarter, all new members and referring members are placed in a drawing for a special membership service

To learn more about this program, go to our website www.effinghamchamber.org/member-referral-program.htm

Member Referral SWAT Team



Chuck Deters



Eric Zeller



Jim Hecht



Jeff Speer



Patty Greene

If you would like information on how to become a Chamber member, contact our Membership Coordinator Becky Brown at bbrown@effinghamchamber.org.



2011 Member of the Month Recipients



JANUARY - St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital



FEBRUARY - Firefly Grill



MARCH - Patterson Companies



APRIL - Mary Kay Cosmetics, Kathy Schroeder



MAY - Siemer Milling Company



JUNE - Heartland Dental Care



JULY - Curves



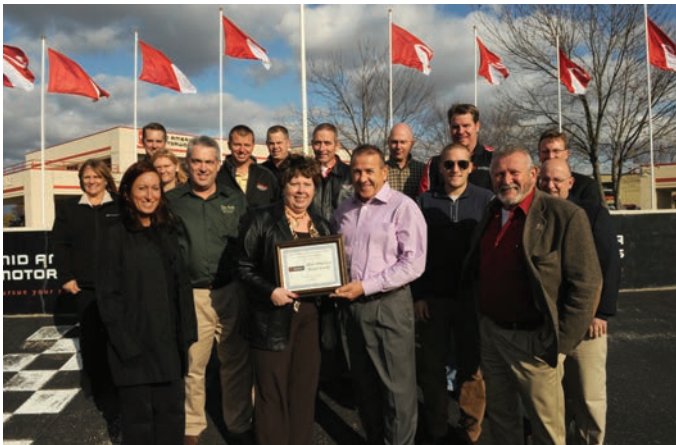
AUGUST - Martin's IGA



SEPTEMBER - Washington Savings Bank



OCTOBER - Heartland Human Services



NOVEMBER - Mid America Motorworks



DECEMBER - Probst Auto Body

2011 Excellence in Business Award

The Chamber's first Excellence in Business Awards were presented at the 2011 Annual Business Recognition Gala. The award was created to celebrate the outstanding contributions businesses make to our communities and the local economy through their continued growth, innovation and community support.

Midland States Bank



Literally and figuratively on the move, Midland States Bank has had a banner year. Receiving honors from Inc. Magazine and Bank Director Magazine for

growth and efficiency, Midland has recently launched both new brand colors and a brand new corporate headquarters in Effingham.

Inc. Magazine included Midland States Bank on its "Fastest Growing Private Companies in America" list. The 500/5000 list includes an elite group of 5,000 high performing companies. Midland's overall 2011 ranking is #935 and #44 in Financial Services was based on 328% growth from 2007 to 2010. Bank Director Magazine named Midland the 23rd Most Efficient Bank in the United States with an Efficiency Ratio of 44.11%, the only Illinois bank outside the Chicago market to be recognized.



In November, the bank moved its corporate offices into a new four story 65,000 square foot building located along Interstates 57/70 in the Network Centre Technology Park complex. The facility houses support services for Midland's banking centers including executive offices, human resources, marketing, IT, credit, loans and deposit operations as well as a corporate training center.

Celebrating 130 years in the banking business, Midland States Bank currently operates 28 offices throughout Illinois and Missouri. 2012 will feature the debut of a new look and location for a trusted, established and rapidly growing Effingham institution.

Midland States Bank has local branches at 133 W. Jefferson in downtown Effingham, 1302 Thelma Keller Avenue on the city's northside and at 101 S. Merchant, inside Martin's IGA. Visit their website at www.midlandstatesbank.com for more information.

Y-Yard Auto & Truck, Inc.

Celebrating 40 years in business in 2010, Mike Nolan purchased the business in 1970. This 45+ acre salvage yard houses more than 3,000 foreign and domestic vehicles and employs 18 people.

In August 2001 they began a dramatic remodeling project which consisted of three phases. Phase one saw the building of a 68'x120' unit to house the delivery trucks and to store sheet metal parts, such as truck beds and front ends. Phase two expanded the sales counter area by 2300 square feet. This phase allowed for more storage space, a larger customer waiting area, a designated shipping room and an improved sales counter. And finally, phase 3 added a concrete parking lot and a unique company sign housed atop a bright yellow Volkswagen Beetle.

Today, they are enhancing their digital footprint by upgrading the computer services. Customer communication is more readily available via e-mail, pictures posted to websites and a search engine that allows customers to find parts on the internet.

Awards & Recognition: Current president, Kelly Roepke was named Most Influential Woman in the Top 25 Most Influential Auto Recyclers in the US by Locator UpFront, named top in the Successor category in the automotive recycling industry.

Environmental stewardship award for highest level of environmental standards and better business practices by Automotive Recyclers Assn – given to a single ARA member and certified recycler that exhibits the highest level of certification standards and a leading industry example.



Community/Chamber involvement: Kelly is founding member of YBNext and served as Chairman in 2010.

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2012 Excellence in Business Award

Patterson Technology Center



One of Effingham's fastest growing businesses, the Patterson Technology Center, is also one of our most advanced. Established in 1993, the Patterson Technology Center (PTC) provides development, sales and customer support to literally thousands of dental, medical and veterinary clients in the United States and Canada.



Recently moving into a newly constructed state-of-the-art LEED energy certified facility on Althoff Drive, the PTC employs approximately 330 employees from the greater Effingham area. To celebrate the new facility, the PTC hosted both a community Grand Opening (attracting over 1500 people) and an industry Grand Opening (held privately for key opinion leaders in the dental, veterinary and physical therapy industry). Both celebrations were a roaring success.

PTC has been recognized by Lake Land College's Center for Business and Industry with a Workforce Development Excellence Award as the college's most successful accreditation partnership and several Patterson brands have received Townie Choice Awards, considered the "people's choice" of the products and services available in the dental industry.

During 2011, Patterson has hosted 200+ additional visitors to the Effingham facility and looks to expand that number exponentially in the coming years.

Deeply invested in their employees and their community, PTC supports many local charities through donation and volunteering.

Patterson Technology Center is located at 1201 Althoff Dr, Effingham IL 62401. To learn more visit www.eaglesoft.com.

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Charles A. Grunloh, P.E., P.L.S.
Lee R. Beckman, P.E., P.L.S.

Legacy Harley Davidson

For displaying excellence in business in 2011, The Chamber would like to recognize Legacy Harley Davidson in Effingham. A unique destination dealership, Legacy attracts business from seven surrounding states and across America. They have a sales, finance, service and general merchandise department to assist with customer needs.



Featuring the unique 'Harley Barn', the Legacy Harley Davidson building has received 2nd place in the National competition (AKRA) for Building of the Year for the neatness and diversity of the building components. Also, the building has won Harley Davidson Retail Environment Space of the Year. Organizations and photographers enjoy using this beautiful building and



backyard space to entertain their customers.

To give back to the community, Legacy sponsors several charities throughout the year such as Toys for Tots, The Department for Veterans Affairs and The American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Ride. Annually, they are heavily involved in the HOG Chapter and this year allocated money towards Veterans Home and the Sequoias Indians in South Dakota. Locally, they sponsor events such as Thunder Bike and Car Night at Buffalo Wild Wings as well as shows at the Effingham Performance Center.

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Chamber Business Spotlight

Agracel, Inc.



Literally building our community, Agracel, Inc is an industrial development and services company specializing in site selection, development solutions, construction management and consulting.

Established in 1986

as a farmland investment business, Agracel currently boasts over seven million square feet of industrial space in 16 states.

Moving from farmers to foremen, Agracel is currently celebrating 25 years in business. Still deeply attached to their agricultural heritage, Agracel's core principal of doing right by the land has allowed them to grow into the large and successful company they are today.

Twenty-seven employees strong, Agracel is building a better tomorrow for Effingham.

Agracel is located at 1200 Network Centre Dr. Suite 3, Effingham IL 62401. Visit their website at www.agracel.com.

ApexNetwork Physical Therapy



Working hard to keep our community working hard, ApexNetwork Physical Therapy is a locally owned outpatient physical therapy clinic specializing in orthopedic, sport and work-related rehabilitation services in 14 Illinois and 2 Missouri locations.

Their spacious state-of-the-art Effingham facility has a dedicated area for treating industrial rehabilitation. This, combined with special custom designed rehab programs, helps local employers and employees avoid and treat work-related injuries. These aggressive measures help keep Effingham well and working.

Ever expanding, ApexNetwork opened two new Illinois facilities in 2011.

ApexNetwork Physical Therapy is located at 2611 S. Banker St, Effingham IL 62401. To learn more about ApexNetwork locations and services, you can contact John Hettenhausen at 618-651-0444, extension 304 or you can visit www.apexnetworkpt.com.

Chamber Business Spotlight

ARC Community Support Systems



Providing support for those who need it most, ARC Community Support Systems is a non-profit human services agency that offers assistance to developmentally disabled individuals in ten local counties. Some of the services provided include advocacy, parental training, residential employment, family support and counseling.

To mark their 50th anniversary, ARC is planning to celebrate throughout 2012 with a series of special events, fund raisers and 'After Hours' parties.

ARC Community Support Systems is operated by a 10-member Board of Directors from participating local communities. They operate programs and services out of eight facilities in Effingham and Teutopolis and one facility in Richland County. ARC employs 120 staff and annually serves over 2,000 individuals with developmental disabilities.

ARC Community Support Systems is located at 618 West Main St, Teutopolis, IL 62467. Visit them online at www.arc-css.org.

Curves



Unlike most other businesses, Curves manages to grow while "shrinking" its customers. Curves weight management center is a full service gym, management and coaching facility.

Established in 1998, this recent addition to the chamber is located in the Evergreen Avenue Plaza...and all over the world. Being a global organization, Curve members can work out in any Curves facility in the US and abroad.

More than just a gym, Curves members receive support, motivation and coaching as well as weight management tips. Circuit coaches are available for each workout.

Curves relocated to a new location and larger facility in early 2011 at 1309 W. Evergreen Ave, Ste 3A, Effingham, IL 62401.

Lorenz Supply Company

LORENZ SUPPLY CO. You may not realize it but Est. 1946 Lorenz Supply Company is probaby part of your everyday life. Supplying paper and janitorial supplies to contractors, commercial and industrial customers, restaurants and household users, Lorenz Supply Co. strives to provide the products, service, and solutions that businesses need to do business.

Beginning in 1946 with Ernie Lorenz selling gloves from the former Effingham Glove factory out of the trunk of his car, Lorenz has grown into a 3800 item, 23 employee full-service, multi-business supplier in Mattoon, IL.

In 2011, Lorenz Supply Company celebrated 65 years in the industrial supply business.

Lorenz Supply Company is located at 113 S. 21st Mattoon, IL 61938.

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Chamber Business Spotlight

Weber's Clothing and Jewelry

In 1892, Henry J. Weber opened the H.J. Weber Company. He sold men's clothing, hats & shoes. Many times, when customers didn't have money, Henry traded for such things as hogs, beef, chickens and eggs, etc. Shortly after WWI, Henry's son Charles (4th of 8 children) joined his father. After studying watch repair, Charles added a small line of clocks, watches and very little jewelry.

In 1962 a 1,200 sq. ft. addition was built onto the original facility. This meant demolishing what was once home for the H.J. Weber family. Between 1965-1968 there was another 1,000 sq. ft. addition completed.

In 2012, Weber's Clothing and Jewelry will celebrate 120 years of serving Teutopolis and the greater Effingham area.

Weber's is located at 114 E. Main St, Teutopolis, IL 62467. Visit them online at www.webersclothinginc.com and www.webersjewelry.com.



Goeckner Brothers Inc

Founded in 1937 by Albert and Frank Goeckner, Goeckner Brothers offers a full line of Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram to the greater Effingham area and beyond. They are the exclusive dealer for heavy duty Ram trucks in downstate Illinois.



In 1976, a new generation of Goeckner brothers took over the business and in 2010, Mark Goeckner bought Paul Goeckner's shares and brought his children, Thorin, Neeley and Travis into the business.

In September of 2012, Goeckner Brothers will celebrate 75 years of helping Effingham move forward. Also, in September, they will host their annual Mopar Muscle night car show.

Goeckner Brothers is located at 600 E. Fayette Ave, Effingham, IL 62401. Visit them online at www.goecknerbros.net.

Chamber Business Spotlight

Walnut Street Weddings



Helping make your special occasions that much more special, Walnut Street Weddings offers products and services for events, weddings, receptions and more. Partnering with Brumleve Industries, Walnut Street Weddings can outfit your wedding with tents, tables, chairs, décor and more.

Not strictly decorations, Walnut Street Weddings also offers disc jockey, special lighting and photobooths to kick your party, gathering, reunion or gig up a notch.

Established in 2006, this local business is part of the new wave of growth and innovation in the Effingham County area.

Walnut Street Weddings is located at 203 W. Walnut Street, Teutopolis, IL 62467. Visit them online at www.walnutstreetweddings.com.

Olivier's

Stitching a community together sometimes involves real stitches. Such is the case for Strasburg's own Olivier's fabric shop. Olivier's offers fabric, quilting supplies, craft items, silk flowers, wooden cut-outs and scrapbooking notions for the casual crafter and the serious seamstress alike.



Olivier's keeps the greater Effingham area in stitches with weekend specials and keeps them inspired by participating in Project Linus, a program that provides home-made blankets to sick children, and St. John's Hospital's Pillows for kids programs.

In 2012, Olivier's is celebrating ten wonderful years beautifying Strasburg.

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St. Anthony Parish

A pillar of the Effingham community, St. Anthony Church and Schools provide guidance, education and spiritual support to the community and more into the next century.

St. Anthony's grade school curriculum is focused on reading, phonics, writing, math, science, art, humanities and physical education. St. Anthony high school offers a comprehensive, college-prep curriculum and Advanced Placement courses.



Starting in 1912 with a graduating class of nine students, this school is now 3500 alumni strong. Currently, this mission serves 529 students and 1,300 families from here and the surrounding communities.

2012 is an exciting year as it marks the High School's centennial – One hundred years – of Catholic high school education.

More than just a school, St. Anthony is building civic leaders of tomorrow. Each student serves independently by volunteering more than 60 hours each year, including food and clothing drives for Catholic Charities, blood drives and mission work camps in the summer.

St. Anthony is located at 101 E. Virginia Ave, Effingham IL 62401.

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The Kluthe Center for Higher Education and Technology offers students a unique opportunity to take career, general education and Community Learning courses close to home.

Full-time career programs available in the area include: CDL, Massage Therapy, Physical Therapist Assistant, Nursing and HVAC.

Both businesses and community organizations schedule training workshops and meetings on location.

The Center for Business and Industry and the Manufacturing Reliability Institute offer area businesses customized leadership and training services.

LLC student leaders from the Effingham area:

Michael Bilbrey	Taylor Kerner
Brent Bloemer	April McKillip
Bo Blievernicht	Nicole Ohnesorge
Jordan Boerngen	Amy Probst
Marc Brandenburg	Jenna Pryor
Dakota Czerwonka	Charlotte Pursian
Clifton Durbin	Caitlin Rochkes
Brigette Ealy	Jill Sandschafer
Dillian Falbe	Julie Schilling
Monica Gardner	Kel-C Sefton
Tiffany Goeckner	Joshua Seibert
Brooke Goldstein	Katie Silva
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Matthew Hecht	Elizabeth Taylor
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Chamber Business Spotlight

Firefly Grill

Innovative fine dining with a unique setting is how Effingham describes Firefly Grill. Named in honor of summers spent catching fireflies with grandparents, Lowell and Lucille Samuel, Firefly hosts events, weddings, business meetings and more in their three private rooms and dining area.



Throughout the coming year, Firefly will host numerous public events designed to delight and inspire such as January's Winter

Mushroom Dinner and February's Valentine's tasting.

Join Firefly in celebrating eight great years of serving locally grown and grown on-site delicacies that enhance and delight the greater Effingham Community.

Firefly Grill is located at 1810 Avenue of Mid America, Effingham IL 62401. Visit them online at www.ffgrill.com.

Siemer Milling Company



Not many companies can manage to stay put and move forward at the same time but Siemer Milling Company has done just that. Operating in the same location since its founding in 1882, Siemer is a mill producing wheat, bran, germ and other wheat based food ingredients for major and minor

food producers in the US.

Celebrating 130 years in the milling business in 2012, Siemer's in Teutopolis is the sole flour supplier for Duncan Hines cake mixes and a major supplier for the Girl Scouts of America's cookie operation.

Constantly improving and growing, Siemer's mills buy and process seven million bushels of locally-grown wheat annually. As of 1995, Siemer opened a second mill in Hopkinsville, KY that employs 39 additional people.

Siemer Milling Company is located 111 W. Main St, Teutopolis, IL 62467. Visit them online at www.siemermilling.com.

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Chamber Business Spotlight

John Boos & Co.

What started with a sycamore tree and a sawmill in 1887 has blossomed into the leading manufacturer of butcher block and stainless steel gourmet and foodservice products in the USA. John Boos & Co. is an American institution that is in the process of moving to a new facility but remaining in Effingham.

BOOS BLOCKS® brand is popular with professional chefs throughout the USA. BOOS BLOCKS® and maple cutting boards are used by celebrity chefs of Food Network, Martha Stewart, Oprah's chef Art Smith, and the White House even has BOOS BLOCKS®.



In 2012, John Boos will be celebrating 125 years of continuous business and will be celebrating their anniversary with their employees and the community.

John Boos & Co is located at 3601 S. Banker St, Effingham IL 62401. Visit them online at www.johnboos.com.



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Probst Auto Body

Starting as a one-man operation in 2003, Probst Auto Body has shifted into high gear. Probst offers auto body repair work, on-site estimating, tire sales, service and local towing for Effingham and Jasper Counties. Growing from one employee to eight, Probst has seen a 45% increase in business in the last year alone.



Early in 2011, Probst Auto Body was awarded the "Master of Shop Management Award" from Management Success of Glendale, California. Additionally, they have received the "People's Choice Award" and the Chamber of Commerce's Member of the Month Award. Mark was also a recipient of the 2011

Effingham County 20 Under 40 Young Leaders Award.

Not one to rest on their laurels, Probst is participating in the summer Wheels to Prosper – Car Giveaway. This program rewards a deserving recipient with a free automobile to help put them back on the path to prosperity.

Probst Auto Body is located at 101 Norb Ave, Dieterich, IL 62424. Scan this code with your smartphone or visit them online at www.probstautobody.com.



Tuscan Hills Winery



Uniquely providing sophisticated beverage and entertainment options for Effingham is the newly established Tuscan Hills Winery. Family owned and operated, award winning winemaker and American Wine Society judge, Dr. Larry

Jackson, brings over 30 years of winemaking experience to enhance your weekend, event or special occasion.

This award winning location focuses on creating an 'old world' Tuscan feeling on the outskirts of Effingham. More than just high-quality wines, Tuscan Hills offers a multitude of beverages, beers and punches. Rental space and service is also available for private gatherings.

In 2012, Tuscan Hills continues its commitment to providing entertainment events each month including live music during the Summer and Fall seasons.

Tuscan Hills Winery is located at 2200 Historic Hills Dr, Effingham IL 62401. Visit them online at www.effinghamwinery.com.

Chamber Business Spotlight

Sherwin-Williams Distribution Service Center

Founded by Henry Sherwin and Edward Williams in 1866, the Sherwin-Williams Company has become the largest producer of paints and coatings in the world. The 1.2 million square foot Effingham facility provides top-quality service to over 800 Midwest stores as well as being a nation/global presence in the industry.

Opening in 1986, the Effingham facility shipped and received over 1.5 billion pounds of product last year. The Sherwin-Williams Trucking fleet of over 140 drivers ran over 12,000,000 miles in the past year.



Sherwin-Williams Effingham, IL

In 2011, the Effingham facility was awarded the State of Illinois Governor's Sustainability award.

Sherwin-Williams is located at 711 W. Wabash Ave, Effingham, IL 62401. Visit them online at www.sherwin-williams.com.

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Catholic Charities

Providing much needed assistance to those in need, Catholic Charities of Effingham provides a multitude of services for the seven county area. These services range from a food pantry, clothing vouchers, financial assistance and emergency lodging to counselling and school supplies.



Catholic Charities

Beginning with 125 clients, Catholic Charities now services over 75,000 clients in ways both major and minor. Just last year, the medical assistance division provided clients with \$2,167,015 in aid to purchase medications. The food pantry division served 23,519 people alone in 2011.

In 2012, Catholic Charities celebrates 30 years in the business of giving, caring and nurturing Effingham, the surrounding community and world at large.

Catholic Charities is located at 1502 East Fayette Ave, Effingham, IL 62401.



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16 W2W Networking Event – Fairfield Inn
21 Business after Hours – Foxx's Den
28-29 Investment in Excellence, Session One
TBA Microsoft Office Training Workshop
- MARCH** 1 Business after Hours – Lake Sara Marina
2 First Friday Luncheon
14-15 Investment in Excellence, Session Two
15 Lunch & Learn – Elks Lodge
15 Business after Hours – Legacy Harley Davidson
21 Starting A Business Class
28 Community Celebration of Excellence Breakfast
- APRIL** 10 W2W Business Luncheon – Firefly Grill
13 First Friday Luncheon
19 Lunch & Learn – Elks Lodge
20 Chamber Radio Day – WCRC 95.7 FM
26 Business after Hours – Probst Auto Body
- MAY** 4 Employee Appreciation Luncheon
10 Business after Hours – Central Illinois Oral Surgery
17 Lunch & Learn - Elks Lodge
24 Business after Hours – First National Bank of Dieterich & Tuscan Hills Winery
- JUNE** 4 Chamber Golf Outing
12 W2W Networking Event – Tuscan Hills Winery
21 Business after Hours – Drs. Sehy & Jones
- AUGUST** 14 W2W Business Luncheon
- SEPTEMBER** 7 Fall Social
- OCTOBER** 4 Business after Hours – Patton Printing
9 W2W Networking Event
11 Chamber Radio Day – 97.9 XFM
18 Business after Hours – ARC Community Support Systems
- NOVEMBER** 1 Future Fair 2012
- DECEMBER** 4 W2W Business Luncheon



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www.effinghamchamber.org for up-
to-date calendar information.

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Effingham County Chamber of Commerce

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