

# NETWORK

*Effingham County Chamber of Commerce*

JUNE 2020

COMMUNITY  
**STRONG**



**EFFINGHAM COUNTY**  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
*Engaging Business and Community*

Sponsor a new member.  
Grow **your** Chamber.  
Support the Community.

# Pay It FORWARD



EFFINGHAM COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
Local Businesses Supporting Local Business

Pay It Forward is an exciting opportunity for YOU to sponsor a Tier 1 membership. Do you work with a charitable non-profit organization? Know of a start-up entrepreneur? Work with a small business? What a great way to introduce them to all the valuable resources, programs & services offered by the Chamber just by sponsoring them as a new member of the Chamber family!

Our Capital Investors have the opportunity to be a Pay It Forward Partner, which is included in their investment. THANK YOU to Dieterich Bank for being a FIRST Pay It Forward Partner by sponsoring 100+ Women Who Care of Effingham.

Due to the Covid-19, we are all learning new ways to keep our businesses operating, help our employees, serve our customers and care about our community. I can't think of a better way to support an organization, entrepreneur or business – Be a Pay It Forward Sponsor!! It's easy to do – just contact Becky Brown, Membership Director at [bbrown@effingham county-chamber.com](mailto:bbrown@effinghamcounty-chamber.com) with the name of the organization, entrepreneur or business you would like to sponsor and she will do the rest.

"We are proud to be members of the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce! Thank you to Dieterich Bank for sponsoring our membership. We are so thankful for you!"

-100 Women Who Care

Effingham County Chamber of Commerce  
903 N. Keller Dr.  
Effingham, IL 62401  
[www.effinghamcounty-chamber.com](http://www.effinghamcounty-chamber.com)

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the beginning of 2020, I was asked to set a one word New Year's Resolution, and it was **Connecting**.

In mid-March our world was turned upside down when coronavirus was identified as a pandemic and we were pushed into a shelter-in-place situation that was uncomfortable and very much against the way we are used to living our lives. Each of us has coped with the situation in our own way and we have learned a lot about human nature.

How did the Chamber respond to this situation? We **connected**.

We **connected** with our members by making personal phone calls to see how they were doing and offering our assistance. We **connected** by providing new methods of communication, providing timely resources and links to information businesses needed to make good decisions. We **connected** with new programming, like our weekly webinar series, and with surveys learning how your business has been affected and what you need from us.



We will continue to **connect** you to the resources you need to survive and then thrive in this changed business environment.

In this issue of Network, we have devoted space to stories about a few local businesses that took the challenge and turned it into opportunity and good will. We

have added a coupon section in support of our small businesses that have suffered great hardship.

As we begin the process of re-opening and re-adjusting our businesses and our business model, the Chamber has been with you every step of the way - just as we have for over 100 years. We are more relevant than we've ever been as your partner for progressive ideas and projects, your voice to the community and your valued resource for growing and improving your business.

**Norma Lansing, President & CEO**  
nlansing@effinghamcountychamber.com  
217-342-4147

## ASK AN EXPERT

The August issue of Network will feature a new section called Ask An Expert. Chamber members are invited to submit a column on a subject of their choosing. A 200 word article can be submitted to Norma Lansing at [nlansing@effinghamcountychamber.com](mailto:nlansing@effinghamcountychamber.com) by July 20. The article can not be a solicitation for your business, but rather a sharing of topics, tips and trends relevant to current business needs. With the purchase of an Ask An Expert feature, your business will receive a ¼ page ad in the Network magazine and the Ask An Expert articles will be available on the Chamber website. Only two Ask An Expert columns will be featured in each issue of Network. If you have questions, please contact Norma at 217.342.4147.

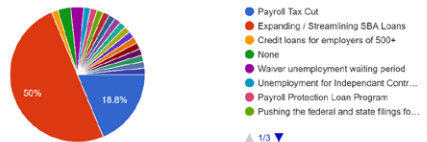
## THANK YOU TO OUR CAPITAL INVESTORS



# COVID-19 SURVEY RESULTS

A survey of Chamber members conducted in April gave the Chamber Board and Staff a good overview of what businesses are doing to mitigate the impact to their business, their employees and their customers. With a good cross section of the Effingham County business community responding, the Chamber has used the data to develop some immediate programming and work with our businesses to maintain future stability.

## THE MOST RELEVANT NATIONAL/STATE/LOCAL GOVERNMENT RELIEF EFFORT FOR MY BUSINESS IS:



## WHAT CAN THE PUBLIC DO TO HELP?



## WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS RIGHT NOW?



### *In response to requests for Chamber and community support, we have*

1. Launched Local Link, an email program targeted to area residents which features details on business openings, coupons and specials and community event updates.
2. Created a dedicated COVID-19 Resource Page on our website (EffinghamCountyChamber.com). We encourage everyone to provide a safe and healthy work environment for their employees and customers.
3. Host complimentary weekly webinars on topics related to employee relations and employee issues, government programs, reopening guidance, leadership awareness, HR issues. Webinars will continue through the summer and possibly beyond, based on member interest.
4. Created the Support for Small Business Grant program, offering grants to support local small businesses be able to sustain their business operations.



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Single Membership \$85/Month

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## DAY PASSES

Day Passes are available to the public at a rate of \$10 per 24 hour period.  
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The Downtown Effingham Business Group brings downtown business owners and managers together to develop and promote activities that attract customers and consumers to the downtown area and create opportunities for downtown Effingham to remain strong and growing.

Membership in DEBG is open to downtown business owners and managers and those who have an interest in the downtown area. Regular monthly meetings are held the second Monday of the month at various business locations.

For more information, contact the Chamber office at 217.342.4147. Membership information is available at [EffinghamCountyChamber.com/community-resources/downtown-effingham-business-group](http://EffinghamCountyChamber.com/community-resources/downtown-effingham-business-group).

## 2020 EVENTS

### *Chili Fest*

Saturday, October 3

### *Trick or Treat*

Saturday, October 24

### *Hometown Christmas*

Fri., Dec. 4, Sat., Dec. 5, Sun., Dec. 6

## better businesses deserve better websites.

The website is the central hub for your business.  
Is yours truly telling your story?  
Is it engaging your audience?

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are you ready for a better website?

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MARKETING GROUP

217.342.2661  
[thinkcreatedo.com](http://thinkcreatedo.com)

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



## FRIDAY, OCT. 2nd EFFINGHAM COUNTRY CLUB

Spend quality time with your best customer or prospective clients • Get your business in front of Effingham's top decision makers • Introduce new products or services • Gain new business and have a little fun in the process!

## CENTURY 21. Realty Concepts



### Professional Office Building

**2801 South Banker Street  
Effingham, IL 62401**

MLS #6198833 - \$350,000

**Contact:**

Jerry Jansen  
Century 21 Realty Concepts  
(217)343-3915 or (217)342-6080



# THE THOMAS SHOP

## 20% Off Summer

(some exclusions apply)

Offer good through August 31st!

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(217) 342-2733



## 50% off

First month of an individual membership!

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# Employee FIND YOUR NEXT GREAT Career

As a member of the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce, local businesses have access to post job openings on our website! This goal of this complimentary service is to help bring great employees and great employers together within the community!

Jobs are submitted daily so if you are looking for your next great hire, OR looking for a great new job, the Chamber can help! Email job listings to [jniemerg@effinghamcounty-chamber.com](mailto:jniemerg@effinghamcounty-chamber.com).



Effingham County Chamber of Commerce

# LOCAL LINK

**FREE MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS THROUGH JULY 31st!**

A collage of three overlapping documents. The top document is titled "Local Information and Resources" and contains "NEW COVID-19 Information Available on Chamber Website". The middle document is titled "Local Business Updates!". The bottom document is a "LOCAL LINK" newsletter from the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce, dated May 27, 2020, featuring a field of American flags.

- Delivered locally to individuals, members and non-members **FREE!**
- Marketing Opportunities
- Featured Job Postings
- Local Business Updates

Contact Kristin Probst for more information at [kprobst@effinghamcounty-chamber.com](mailto:kprobst@effinghamcounty-chamber.com).





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Treat yourself...or treat the rider in  
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**15% off**  
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Some exclusions apply. See store for details.



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Center



**25% OFF**  
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[www.barlow-security.com](http://www.barlow-security.com)

## EFFINGHAM COUNTY CHAMBER NAMED FINALIST FOR INDUSTRY AWARD



The Effingham County Chamber of Commerce has been named a finalist for the 2020 Chamber of the Year award, presented by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives. The award is the most prestigious and competitive recognition presented annually by ACCE, an association of more than 8,000 professionals from 1,300 chambers of commerce across the United States.

The Chamber of the Year award recognizes the leadership role chambers have in their communities. Those recognized demonstrate organizational strength and make an impact on key community priorities.

The Effingham County Chamber has qualified in Category 1 along with Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce in Wooster, Ohio and Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC, Bismarck, ND.

“Qualifying for this award is due to the dedication and work of our Board of Directors, volunteer teams and Chamber professional staff to make sure the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce meets the needs of our membership as well as building and strengthening relationships that stimulate the regional economy. We are honored to be among this prestigious group of chambers and look forward to the next step in the selection process,” said Norma Lansing, Chamber President & CEO.

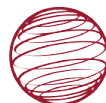
2020 Chamber Board Chairman Jeff Speer said, “Congratulations to the Chamber team for this nomination as one of the top chambers in the United States. Great leadership, great teamwork and a great community are a tough combination to beat. On behalf of the Chamber Board of Directors, I am honored to be part of the Chamber leadership team. During this extraordinary time, the Chamber has delivered on its mission to support local businesses and stimulate the regional economy.”

The Chamber of the Year qualifying process is rigorous. Chambers compete based on key performance criteria, including financial strength, membership recruitment and retention and innovative programming. Applications are scored by peer chamber executives addressing all aspects of Chamber operations and programming to determine the category finalists. Winners are selected based on an in-person interview before a panel of experienced chamber professionals.

Chamber of the Year winners will be announced in July.



**EFFINGHAM COUNTY**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
*Engaging Business and Community*



**CHAMBER OF THE YEAR**  
2020 Finalist

# COMMUNITY STRONG

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE COMMUNITY STRONG?

Community Strong is the theme of this issue of Network Magazine. And, nothing makes our community stronger than when we support each other. COVID-19 has brought us together in different ways and we have found ways to adjust what we do to help us get through the past few months.

The past few months have brought challenges we never thought we would face. We have learned a new vocabulary: social distancing, shelter-in-place, PPE.....We have learned new ways to keep our businesses operating, help our employees, serve our customers and care about our community.

Through it all, the Chamber has been researching the most current and accurate information as your trusted source of information. We have adjusted our programming to a virtual environment and are working to boost consumer confidence.

**COVID-19 Resource Page** on the Chamber website at [EffinghamCountyChamber.com](http://EffinghamCountyChamber.com) has kept businesses updated on the latest news and resources. It is the most visited page on our website right now.

**Local Link** is a new email program being delivered to homes throughout Effingham County.

**Weekly Webinars** bring topics of interest to businesses, from grant and loan programs to employer/employee issues and discussions on re-opening your business. We plan to continue the webinars through the summer months, for now.

**Support for Small Business Grant Program** was created by the Chamber Foundation of Effingham County to support small businesses, many of whom have had to close their doors during the shelter-in-

place order. Grants will be made as long as funds are available.

As our thoughts turn to reopening our businesses and rebuilding our economy, we want to share a few stories of how some of our local businesses have found new ways to be productive.



A Peoria hospital in search of PPE (masks, gloves, surgical gowns and ventilators) found their way to **Bierman Welding** in Effingham by way of a former Effingham resident. As a result, Bierman's was able to fill an order for 20,000 face shields.

Former Dieterich resident Tyler Budde is an engineer for Advanced Technology Services Inc. Budde took the call from the hospital, designed the face shield that could be used by doctors, nurses and anyone typically seeing a patient and then contacted Mark Bierman at Bierman Welding for assistance in cutting the plastic face shields.

This was a new venture for Bierman, but they took it on willingly and were able to produce the masks in two days using a water jet machine. Employees at Bierman Welding put in 32 hours on the project -- working long hours to get the job done. The shields went back to the ATS plant for finishing and delivery to the hospital.<sup>1</sup>

**Stevens Industries, Inc.**, the largest commercial cabinet company in North America, is used to serving hospitals and schools in 35 states. The company recently took time to manufacture and donate an important tool to help keep staff at HSHS St.



Anthony's Memorial Hospital safe – an intubation box.

Intubation – inserting a breathing tube into a patient's throat to ease breathing – is done when a patient needs assistance breathing. What is normally a routine procedure is now complicated by the fact that the clinician doesn't know if the patient they are helping is sick with the coronavirus. Intubation boxes – like the one created by Stevens Industries – add a level of protection for the provider as they are intubating the patient.

The three-sided, clear acrylic plastic intubation box covers a sedated patient's head and upper body. Two holes allow the clinician to put their hands in to intubate the patient while the top of the clear box helps providers avoid direct contact or proximity with the patient. The box can also be cleaned and disinfected.

Stevens Industries President Todd Wegman shared how the creation and donation of the intubation box came about. "I was approached by a hospital facilities director from Tampa, FL who had photos of these boxes and inquired whether we could possibly manufacture them," he said. "Seeing how local hospitals could benefit from them, I shared the idea with my team and they set out to create and produce some. We are happy to help our local hospital provide critical care safely."<sup>2</sup>



As a small business owner in downtown Effingham, Sara Ruholl was forced to shut down her business, ***The Beanstalk Boutique***, as it was deemed a non-essential business. So Sara began making face masks.

She set up an assembly line with family and friends helping, even her 7-year old daughter and worked many long hours to produce hundreds of masks daily. She's already made thousands of masks, donating several hundred to health care workers and the crisis nursery. Masks are also available for sale.

A 28-year-old wife and mother of two, Sara purchased an existing business and relocated to downtown Effingham, and rebranded it as The Beanstalk Boutique in 2019. Beanstalk Boutique is located at 314 W. Jefferson.

"When life gives you lemons, you make lemonade. When life gives you a pandemic, you learn to make

face masks to help your small business to survive and to give back to the community," says Sara.



***Twilight Distillery***, located on the same property as Vahling Vineyards near Stewardson, started making brandy last year. When the need for hand sanitizer was in short supply, the distillery was contacted by Crossroads Cancer Center and Lightning Strike hand sanitizer was created.

The distillery was able to make the switch thanks to a recent ruling by the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR), which allows them permission to use their distillery in this way and to claim a tax deduction on their alcohol purchases to remove any tax liability. Their waiver is available until June 30. They anticipate making 8,000 bottles of hand sanitizer

During the crisis, pick-up is available by phone at (217) 682-5409 or visit their website <https://vahlingvineyards.com>.<sup>3</sup>



***D-LICIOUS*** - Like most entrepreneurs, 13-year old Dakota Flaig had a need to make money and found a way to fulfill it, and started a business in the process.

When the Pandemic hit and schools were closed, Dakota, the 13-year-old son of Tara Higgs and

James Flaig, wanted to purchase a gaming system for entertainment and was told he needed to earn the money to purchase it. And, as with most start-up businesses, the first attempt wasn't successful.

Working with his mother, the decision was made to find a product that was not readily available in the local market. Then, relying on his family's experiences, he obtained a recipe for Whoopie Pies from his grandmother. The original recipe contains chocolate cake-like cookies with a marshmallow filling, which are known as Effing Original. Dakota has branched out into flavors like Key Lime Heaven,



Choco Nut and Red Moon. A special Brave Heart flavor was introduced for Memorial Day.

Dakota is helped by his mother and twin brother, Noah, but does 90% of the work himself. A Facebook page accepts orders and then lets customers know when orders are ready. In the first 48 hours, 36 dozen were ordered.



The future of the business is uncertain at this time, but you can check out Dakota's Facebook page, D-licious, to learn more.<sup>1</sup>

The pandemic has shown us that support for local businesses is more important than ever. Not only does it strengthen the economic base of our community, it supports our families, our charitable organizations and creates jobs in the community.

It has shown us that we can adapt and change to meet the needs of our business, employees and customers. It has also given us an opportunity to look at what our businesses will need in the future to be successful. It has shown us that as a community we all have a part to play to support each other and keep Effingham strong and growing.

## We are #CommunityStrong.

<sup>1</sup> Effingham Teutopolis News Report

<sup>2</sup> Cromwell Group

<sup>3</sup> Shelbyville Union



### NEW IL Mandatory Anti-Sexual Harassment Training: Train the Trainer

**July 8th, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**  
Fairfield Inn & Suites  
1111 North Henrietta  
Effingham, IL 62401

**Members \$209**  
**Non-Members \$259**  
**Register by 4/18 save \$50**



Register at [www.ilchamber.org](http://www.ilchamber.org)



*Dry Needling can help reduce inflammation, decrease muscle tension, and ultimately relieve pain. A fine needle is placed into a muscular trigger point. Trigger points can make it painful to perform everyday activities and often radiate pain to other areas of the body. Once the needle is positioned, the muscle is able to contract and release.*

#### THIS PRACTICE CAN HELP TREAT A NUMBER OF AILMENTS INCLUDING:

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- Sciatica
- Tendonitis
- Sports-related injuries
- Headaches and whiplash
- TMJ or facial pain

Click Now or Call/Text 217-280-4550 to schedule an appointment with Ashley Meseke, DPT, Certified Dry Needling Provider.



## Welcome

Reed Willenborg is the Assistant Manager for **Russ Braunecker Cadillac Buick GMC**.

Ashley Meseke is the new PT & Clinic Manager for **ApexNetwork Physical Therapy**.

Tara Cox is the new HR Manager for **Pepsi Mid America**.

Jamie Corda-Hadjaoui has been named Director for **Local Workforce Innovation Act (LWIA) 23**, replacing Gerry Schlechte, who has retired. She can be reached at 217.238.8286 or by email at [jcorda12886@lakelandcollege.edu](mailto:jcorda12886@lakelandcollege.edu).

Cody Rincker has been named the new Principal at **St. Anthony Grade School**

Charlie Schwerman has been named the new Principal at **Effingham Junior High School**.

## Changes & Notes

**Central Illinois Care Services** has a new website: <http://www.centralillinoishomecare.com>.

**CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation's** Effingham County Outreach and Adult Literacy Program is relocating to 1010 W. Jefferson Avenue as of mid-June. The Outreach office provides housing, LIHEAP, tax prep and homeless assistance.

**Advanced Digital Solutions** has relocated to 5955 Park Drive, Charleston, IL.

**TEAM ITS** has relocated their Effingham office to 305 Professional Park Avenue.

**Washington Savings Bank** has announced the following personnel changes: Paul Koerner, President of Koerner Distributor, was named Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors. Rocky Weber will continue to serve as Chairman of the Board. Gary Otto was promoted to Vice President, Theresa Morrow to Operations Officer and Trina Niemerg to Compliance Officer.

### ACHS INDUSTRIES

Altamont High School has created a new industrial arts curriculum, set to be in place for the 2021-22 school year. The program will mix business, physics, industrial arts, art and community and is unique from manufacturing curriculums at other area high schools. Students will be involved in every stage of production, from design to sales and will be working closely with area businesses. ACHS Industries will be taught by Logan Hill and is being funded by area businesses.

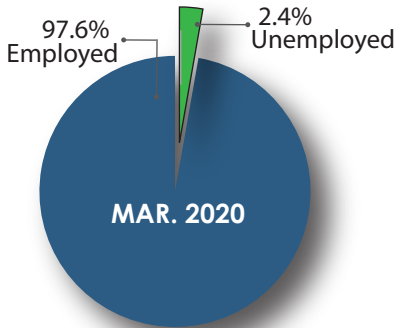


### EIU Innovation Network

Eastern Illinois University will serve as a hub to train the state's workforce for in-demand technology jobs thanks to a state grant. EIU is one of 15 hubs in a University of Illinois-led Illinois Innovation Network. EIU will create the East-Central Illinois Hub in partnership with Lake Land College and industry and business partners. The EIU hub is expected to promote a cleaner environment, healthy living and aging in place as well as sustainable economic business practices. The EIU project is expected to cost \$1 million.

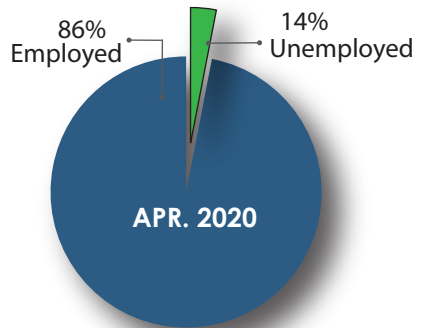
## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

### EFFINGHAM COUNTY LABOR MARKET



**Total Labor Force: 18,548**

Effingham County Unemployment: 2.4%  
Illinois: 4.2%      United States: 4.4%



**Total Labor Force: 17,779**

Effingham County Unemployment : 14%  
Illinois: 16.9%      United States: 14.7%



**Residential Permits: 3**

**Est. Cost of Construction: \$2.2k**

Jan. 2019 RESIDENTIAL Construction  
Permits: 2 at \$45k

**Commercial Permits: 15**

**Est. Cost of Construction: \$2.7MM**

Jan. 2019 COMMERCIAL Construction  
Permits: 1 at \$1.1MM

**RETAIL SALES**  
**Q4 2018**

**City: \$186MM**  
**County: \$212MM**

**RETAIL SALES**  
**Q4 2019**

**City: \$198MM**  
**County: \$218MM**

#### Sources:

Illinois Department of Revenue, [www.revenue.state.il.us](http://www.revenue.state.il.us); Illinois Department of Employment Security, [www.lmi.ides.state.il.us](http://www.lmi.ides.state.il.us); Effingham City Building Official, [www.effinghamil.com](http://www.effinghamil.com); Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, [www.fdic.gov](http://www.fdic.gov); U.S. Census Bureau, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov); and, Effingham County Treasurer, [www.co.effingham.il.us/treasurer](http://www.co.effingham.il.us/treasurer)

# NEW MEMBERS

The Chamber encourages all members to do business with each other. The following companies and organizations have made an important investment in their business by joining the chamber. Please consider them for your personal and professional needs. To find a complete list of Chamber members, visit the Business Directory online at [EffinghamCountyChamber.com](http://EffinghamCountyChamber.com).

## HOMewood GRILL

Beth Studon, Owner  
608 S Willow Street, Effingham  
(217) 342-4677  
[www.homewoodgrill.com](http://www.homewoodgrill.com)  
(Restaurants)

## PINKY'S

Kevin & Carrie Schultz, Owners  
8726 E Marine Rd, Effingham  
(217) 868-2628  
[www.pinkysatlakesara.com](http://www.pinkysatlakesara.com)  
(Restaurants)

## FIRST FINANCIAL BANK, NA

Kris Newton, Banking Center Manager  
601 W Jourdan Street, Newton  
(618) 783-2022  
[www.first-online.com](http://www.first-online.com)  
(Banks)

## KINKS TENTS & EVENT RENTALS

Scott Kinkelaar, Owner  
P O Box 1701, Effingham  
(217) 342-2567  
[www.kinksevents.com](http://www.kinksevents.com)  
(Event Rentals)

## HIGGS WELDING LLC

Heather Bierman, Accounts Payable  
101 Zumbahlen Drive, Dieterich  
(217) 925-5999  
[www.higgswelding.com](http://www.higgswelding.com)  
(Welding)

## SIHF HEALTHCARE

Jamie Miller, Health Center Manager, RN  
900 W Temple, Building A, Suite 208, Effingham  
(217) 342-0211  
[www.sihf.org](http://www.sihf.org)  
(Medical Services)

## THE CHAMBER NEEDS YOU!

Membership Development	Business Recognition Gala
Community Development	Business Development
Community Celebration	Under 40 Awards Dinner
of Excellence Breakfast	Kick-Off to Education
Chamber Foundation	Effingham Co. Job Fair
Community Scholarship	Manufacturing Day

**SIGN UP FOR A COMMITTEE TODAY • 217.342.4147**

## WHISTLING KETTLE TEA SHOPPE

Rachael Tieffel, Owner  
711 W Jefferson, Effingham  
(217) 254-1307  
<http://www.wkteashoppe.com>  
(Tea Shoppe)  
Referred by: Kathy Schroder

## THE BLEND

Becky Robertson, Owner  
109 E Jefferson, Effingham  
(217) 994-9273  
[www.theblendhairgallery.com](http://www.theblendhairgallery.com)  
(Hair Salon)

## JILL WENDLING - RE/MAX KEY ADVANTAGE

Jill Wendling, Broker Associate  
601 W Fayette Avenue, Effingham  
(217) 821-5988  
<http://Jillwendling.remax.com>  
(Real Estate)  
Referred by: Jeff Speer

## REHABILITATION & PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE, PSC

Jordan Kocher, Clinic Director  
1301 W Evergreen, Ste. 1A, Effingham  
(217) 690-4882  
<https://rehabilitationperformance.com>  
(Performance Training)

## Member Milestones

### Noah's Ark Pet Shop

10 years in business

### Wortman Printing

30 years in business

### WS Broom

135 years in business

### Johnson Funeral Home

150 years in business

### Barb Butterson

25 years at Patton Printing & Graphics

### Robert "Doc" Kralman

50 years in radio broadcasting

# CONGRATULATIONS



**Continental Mills, Inc.** has purchased the former Hodgson Mill facility located adjacent to its existing manufacturing facility at 1200 Stevens Avenue in the Effingham Business Park to support continued community growth. Acquired from Hodgson Mill, the facility will provide Continental Mills the capacity it needs to support continued growth. The renovated 175,000 sf is expected to be up and running sometime in 2021.



**Wortman Printing** received the Superior Performance in Print Shop Management award for 2020 from CPrint®, Certified Printers International, for the 2nd year in a row. The award symbolizes their performance among the top five percent of all printing companies in North America. Wortman Printing is celebrating 30 years in business.

**Family Care Associates** is now a Reach Out and Read site. Reach Out and Read is a national program that incorporates children's books into medical offices. The practice will be distributing a new age-appropriate book during well child visits from age 6 months to kindergarten.

**Lake Land College's** newspaper, The Navigator News, has been recognized by the Illinois Community College Journalism Association. Individual student awards were given in news, sports, arts review, photography and the publication received an Honorable Mention for General Excellence. The

newspaper is produced by students for students monthly during the spring and fall semesters.

**Hampton Inn and Suites** and the **Holiday Inn of Effingham** were recipients of Illinois Hospitality Emergency Grant program funds. 699 grants were awarded from over 12,000 applicants.

**The Effingham Daily News** has won several awards from the Illinois Associated Press Media Editors. The newspaper received eight first place awards, one second place and one third place award.

**Sarah Bush Lincoln** has been awarded an A rating in the Spring 2020 Leapfrog hospital safety grade, a national distinction recognizing the hospital's achievements providing safer health care. This is Sarah Bush's third year in achieving the ranking. Leapfrog Group is an independent national watchdog organization.

Congratulations to Philip Leonard, who retired as a full-time partner with **Kemper CPA Group LLC** on April 30. Leonard will remain available to the firm on a part-time basis. The firm's partners: Stacey Mette, CPA; Andy Vogt, CPA; Hanna Will, CPA and Managers Marsha Pederson, CPA and Greg Nuxoll, CPA, and Abigail Orel, CPA, Senior Accountant.



Anna Jones, Chamber summer intern



## CROATIA & ITS ISLANDS!

Small Ship Cruising on  
the Adriatic Coast  
with Optional 2-night  
Dubrovnik Pre Tour Extension

Aug. 13-24, 2021

Contact:

Donna Cravens  
Effingham Travel Agency  
(217) 342-3965  
[donna@effinghamtravel.com](mailto:donna@effinghamtravel.com)

Book Now  
& Save  
**\$550**  
Per Person



**EFFINGHAM COUNTY**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
*Engaging Business and Community*



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
*Engaging Business and Community*

**PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS AND  
SHARE THE MICROPHONE WITH  
OUR AREA'S TOP ON-AIR TALENT!**



**Call today to book your slot!  
Space is limited.**

**(217) 342-4147**

**Fall | WXEF | October 15th**



# the SHARE LOVE

## Member Referral Program



Get Recognized! Each time a referred business becomes a Chamber member, the referring individual will be recognized with the announcement of the new member in the next issue of the Network Magazine.

The Member Referral Program is member driven effort to increase Chamber membership to reach our collective goals. A growing membership strengthens the Chamber's ability to impact community and business issues that are important to our members. By actively participating in the program, you will help with the continued growth of the Chamber while creating new connections. With your involvement you are showing support for the Chamber and the belief in our continued efforts to meet the needs of our members and provide even MORE valuable benefits.

How does it work? Easy! Identify a business that you feel would benefit from a Chamber membership and email your information to Becky Brown, Membership Director at (217) 342-4147 or [bbrown@effinghamcountychamber.com](mailto:bbrown@effinghamcountychamber.com). All referred businesses will be contacted for recruitment.

CREATE NEW CONNECTIONS • STRENGTHEN THE CHAMBER • IMPACT THE COMMUNITY

### EFFINGHAM COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

903 N. Keller Dr., Effingham, IL 62401  
[www.effinghamcountychamber.com](http://www.effinghamcountychamber.com)

DISCOVER & EXPLORE

## POMPEII & AMALFI

WITH THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DEPARTING

**October 19, 2021**

For more information, please contact  
 Norma Lansing at (217) 342-4147



**Cancel For Any Reason Plan Now Available! (see Res Form)**

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Round trip scheduled airfare into Italy
- 6 Nights accommodation at first class hotel in Sorrento
- Breakfast daily at the hotel & 4 dinners
- Transfers and sightseeing as indicated in the itinerary, with assistance, by deluxe motorcoach
- Welcome cocktail
- Full day guided excursion to Positano and Ravello/Amalfi/Pompeii
- Tours of Capri & Naples
- 24-hour Hospitality Desk daily at the hotel
- Enjoy a "Limoncello" with sampling of the products
- Pizza demonstration and tasting
- Pasta demonstration and tasting

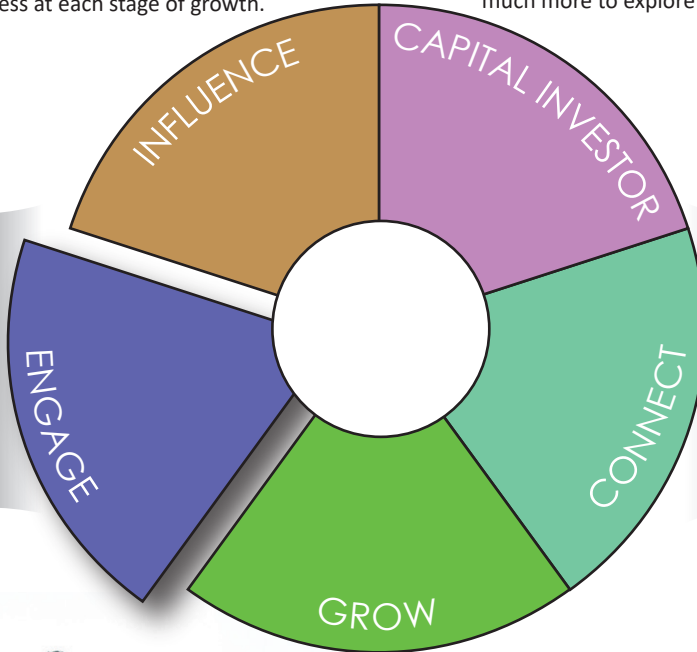
Click here to  
**BOOK NOW**

**BOOK & SAVE**

~~\$3,945 PER PERSON~~  
**\$3,745 PER PERSON**  
 if deposited by April 19<sup>th</sup>!

The Effingham County Chamber of Commerce is changing the way members invest in the Chamber. Businesses no longer pay based on the size of their business or other statistic. Members now have a choice of benefit packages designed to fit their specific needs. The goal is to provide a scalable membership system that is tailored to your business at each stage of growth.

Each level of membership provides immediate benefits as well as credits which can be used for purchasing advertising and marketing opportunities in a variety of formats; even tickets and hosting opportunities as well as memberships in the Chamber affiliate organizations. There are also customized packages available at each level and so much more to explore!



# YOUR CHAMBER. YOUR CHOICE.



**EFFINGHAM COUNTY**  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
*Engaging Business and Community*

For more information, please reach out to Becky Brown, Membership Director at [bbrown@effinghamcounty-chamber.com](mailto:bbrown@effinghamcounty-chamber.com), or (217) 342-4147.



**EFFINGHAM COUNTY**  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
*Engaging Business and Community*



**CHAMBER OF THE YEAR**  
2020 Finalist

# Calendar of Events

July

- **8th - 9:00 AM: ANTI-SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRAINING**  
Fairfield Inn & Suites
- **10th - 12:00 PM: SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT RECOGNITION**  
Thelma Keller Convention Center
- **30th - 5-7:00 PM: BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
Apex Network Physical Therapy

Aug

- **7th - 12:00 PM: EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION LUNCHEON**  
Thelma Keller Convention Center
- **13th - 5-7:00 PM: BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
Holiday Inn Express
- **27th - 5-7:00 PM: BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
Crossroads Bank

Sept

- **3rd - BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
Ramada By Windham
- **4th - 12:00 PM: FIRST FRIDAY**  
Thelma Keller Convention Center
- **10th - 5-7:00 PM: BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
Pyramid Marble & Granite
- **24th - 5-7:00 PM: BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
McDevitt, Osteen, Chojnicki & Deters, LLC
- **25th - 5:30PM- FALL DRAW**  
Virtual

Oct

- **1st - TBA: MANUFACTURING DAY**  
Effingham Event Center
- **2nd - 12:00 PM: 50th ANNUAL CHAMBER GOLF OUTING**

# CREATE. CONNECT. COLLABORATE.

We are Focused on Business Growth & Development through Collaborative Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives.

## CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP CORE BENEFITS

- Referrals to Chamber members only through the Chamber website, phone calls & walk-ins
- All your employees are members too and can access Chamber benefits
- Cost-effective advertising and sponsorship opportunities offers exposure that are only available to Chamber members
- “Proud Member” decal, virtual badge and plaque
- Announcement of your membership and business milestones in Chamber Communications Center (print and online)
- Complimentary Notary Public services
- Display business cards & brochures in Chamber lobby
- Use of Chamber bulk mailing permit (restrictions apply, - postage not included)
- Access to Chamber events, programs & services at member pricing, including the Business Outreach Program, Incubator Network
- Annual subscription to Chamber print, online and digital publications
- Guide the direction of the Chamber by participating in surveys and polls
- Opportunity to build connections through committee & taskforce participation
- Access to Full-time Professional Chamber Staff located at Chamber office, 903 N Keller Drive, Effingham, IL.
- Complimentary use of Chamber Conference Room during business hours (per availability)
- Printed Membership Directory



Get the most out of your membership! Contact us today for information on how to take advantage of your membership benefits!

Effingham County Chamber of Commerce • 903 N. Keller Drive, Effingham, IL 62401 •  
(217) 342-4147 • [effinghamcountychamber.com](http://effinghamcountychamber.com)

VIRTUAL

FALL DRAW



EFFINGHAM COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
*Engaging Business and Community*

## EFFINGHAM COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FALL DRAW

REVERSE RAFFLE

September 25th

\$5000 GRAND PRIZE

More details to come...



EFFINGHAM COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
*Engaging Business and Community*

*Illinois Chamber Anti-Sexual  
Harassment Training*  
July 8, 2020 • 9:00 A.M.  
Fairfield Inn & Suites  
See page 12 for details

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