



# NETWORK

AUGUST 2021



EFFINGHAM COUNTY

# EC-JOBS

JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS

# SHOP LOCAL ALL YEAR LONG

The owners of local businesses are behind the counter.

Local businesses stock local products and buy local services.



\$\$\$\$

**BUYING LOCAL KEEPS  
4X**

the money in the economy compared to shopping at chains.

Local businesses support local events, sports teams & charities

**250%**

MORE THAN BIG CORPORATIONS.



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



This issue is jam packed with so much new information I want to point out a special item that I don't want you to miss.

This month the Chamber Foundation launched a new Workforce Development Initiative that has been in the works for months - EC-JOBS (Effingham County Job Opportunities for Business Success).

Please take time to read Workforce Development Director Jeff Fritchtnitch's article on pages 8 and 9 to learn more about this new resource for Effingham County Students, Residents, and Employers.

Help champion our cause and join the Chamber Foundation by becoming a Founding Donor of EC-JOBS. Donate \$1,000 or more by October 31, 2021 and you or your business will be recognized as a Founding Donor of EC-JOBS.

For more information about EC-JOBS, please contact me or Jeff Fritchtnitch at [jfritch@effinghamcountychamber.com](mailto:jfritch@effinghamcountychamber.com).

Lucinda Hart, CAE, MBA  
Incoming President & CEO  
[lhart@effinghamcountychamber.com](mailto:lhart@effinghamcountychamber.com)  
(217) 342-4147

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2021 CAPITAL INVESTORS



## AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS



The **Dieterich Business Association** (DBA) was organized in 2010 under the umbrella of the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce. Their mission is to work together to promote, enhance, educate and create opportunities to foster growth of local business. The association meets the first Wednesday of every month from 12 - 1 pm at Village Hall. Board members include: President Cory Niebrugge, Niebrugge Lumber Company; Secretary Tammy Wright, E J Water Cooperative; Treasurer Lee Buehnerkemper, Dieterich Bank; Tim Allred, E J Water Cooperative; Mellissa Ruholl, Dieterich Bank; Diane Aherin, Wohltman Aherin Insurance Agency; and Alex Wright, Wright's Furniture & Flooring.

Current community fundraisers include Movin' Moolah, a Shop Local gift card program which supports local Dieterich businesses. Gift certificates can be purchased in \$5, \$10 and \$20 denominations. The Pet Home Giveaway is another fundraiser with the proceeds going to the Dieterich Community Center. Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

Other exciting projects include:

*Looking south on Pine Street from W. Section Street. Part of our ITEP 2016 downtown beautification grant project (right.)*

*Looking northeast from Rt. 33 at our new Dieterich Industrial Park East project. Water and sewer mains are installed. Working to install storm sewers and then new concrete streets will follow (below.)*



*New tennis/pickleball courts recently installed at Liberty Park. Part of the OSLAD grant project to improve Liberty Park. Courts will be striped next week. There will be 2 tennis courts and 4 pickleball courts. All new asphalt, fencing and lighting.*



*Liberty Park pavilion that was just added onto for the OSLAD Liberty Park improvement project. Doubled the size of the pavilion and added additional restrooms on the north end.*



*New ADA fishing pier that was part of the OSLAD grant Liberty Park project. The pond was reshaped and dug out before the fishing pier was installed. The pond is very close to being filled up and will be restocked with baby fish in October by IDNR. There will be no fishing allowed for 3 years after the restocking.*



*The before and after pictures of what we are calling our new Pocket Park by our mural in Dieterich. We have future plans to add planter boxes and more permanent seating, but this is what has been accomplished so far this year. We are inviting food trucks to set up on the gravel on the west side.*



*Park Street looking south at our Veteran's Memorial. Park street was completely rebuilt with new curb, gutters, asphalt, sidewalks, and storm sewers as part of the ITEP 2016 downtown beautification project. The new lighting has not been installed yet. Cones are where the light poles will be.*



*Aerial that shows the entire layout of the new Dieterich Industrial Park East.*

For more information, contact the Village of Dieterich at (217) 925-5410, email [villagehall@dieterichillinois.com](mailto:villagehall@dieterichillinois.com), or visit them online at [www.dieterichillinois.com](http://www.dieterichillinois.com).



The **Effingham Regional Growth Alliance** is being awarded a Community Navigator grant to oversee a regional collaboration in Southcentral and Southeastern Illinois. The Alliance is partnering with professionals in the Counties of Clark, Coles, Crawford, Edgar, and Moultrie to form the Business Navigator Alliance. This regional collaboration will provide professional outreach to businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19 and technical assistance in applying for state and federal economic relief programs.

The Alliance President Courtney Yockey stated "the Business Navigator Alliance's mission is to ensure local businesses are aware of upcoming



opportunities and to guide them through the process. We want our businesses to be competitive in applying for the necessary resources that can help them bounce back from the pandemic-induced recession and thrive during our economic recovery."

The Business Navigator Alliances' goal is to position our businesses for success by accelerating recovery and growth. They will host webinars, outreach events, virtual office hours, and offer 1-on-1 technical assistance. Visit [ILBusinessNavigators.com](http://ILBusinessNavigators.com) for additional information on the Navigator Program.

**Courtney Yockey, MBA, PCED**  
**President and CEO**

ph (217) 342-4214 | cell (618) 322-1631  
[cyoockey@GrowEffinghamCountyIL.com](mailto:cyoockey@GrowEffinghamCountyIL.com) | [GrowEffinghamCountyIL.com](http://GrowEffinghamCountyIL.com)

# NOMINATE

*your 2021*



**Top Under 40 and  
Up & Coming**



Top Community  
Leaders Under 40  
(Ages 21-40)



Up & Coming  
Leaders  
(Ages 14-18)

**Nominees should be leaders  
who are passionate about making  
this community an even better place  
to live, work, and play!**

Leaders will be honored at a dinner banquet on  
Thursday, September 30 at the Keller Convention Center.

To register or nominate, visit the Top Leaders event at  
[EffinghamCountyChamber.com](http://EffinghamCountyChamber.com).

**Deadline to nominate is Tuesday, August 24.**



[EffinghamCountyChamber.com](http://EffinghamCountyChamber.com) (217) 342-4147

EFFINGHAM

**DAILY  
NEWS**

[effinghamdailynews.com](http://effinghamdailynews.com)

FALL DRAW

VIRTUAL  
\$5,000 GRAND PRIZE



EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CHAMBER

# SAVE THE DATE

Friday, September 24, 2021

 LIVE @ 5:30pm

[www.facebook.com/EffCoChamber](http://www.facebook.com/EffCoChamber)



game sponsors:

Jansen's Heating & Air • Midland States Bank

\$50/  
ticket



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Downtown Effingham

## CRUISE NIGHT

*in cooperation with  
Thursday Thunder*



**We're Back!**

*If it's got wheels, cruise on into  
Effingham, Illinois on*

**September 11, 2021**

**4 p.m. to 11 p.m.**

Enjoy food vendors and other booths as you  
show off your ride in Downtown Effingham.



Scan for more info!



ALL VEHICLES WELCOME



## ASK AN EXPERT

**When it comes to discounts, we all want to know how we get the best deal.**

You can start by simply calling your local businesses and asking them directly. For example, here at AI's Electronics we offer discounts for qualifying seniors, first responders, business owners, and military. Who qualifies as a business owner with us? Anyone who files a schedule C, F, or has an LLC. When you have a business account analysis completed or for a consumer wireless account analysis, we check your account to see that you are on the best plan based on your wireless needs and secure any exclusive offers on your account. With our Hyla program, we give you the value of your old device (tablets included) when purchasing a new device. This can be used as a bill credit or used to purchase accessories in store. Speaking of accessories, we offer accessory bundle discounts. We have a loyalty program for our customers that will send you notifications when we have an in-house limited time offer and even send you a coupon on your birthday. We truly are your hometown Verizon experts, here to help you

generate the most savings while educating you with deals, offers and solutions based on all your wireless needs. Just remember, when it comes to discounts and savings, it never hurts to ask.

*Laken Herr, Business Director  
laken.herr@nextgenwireless.net*

*Office: (217) 690-5511  
900 E Fayette Ave • Effingham, IL 62401*

**Up to \$800 off with Trade for New ONLY (Damaged Condition)**

Get a FREE iPhone 12 Mini or Samsung Galaxy S21 with a new activation on Premium Unlimited and a qualifying trade-in.

**Up to \$440 off with Trade for Upgrades (Damaged Condition)**

Get an iPhone 12 Mini for under \$10/mo when trading in and upgrading on Premium Unlimited!



### EXCLUSIVE BUSINESS CUSTOMER DEALS

*Available for a limited time only!*

**\$300 OFF**

**Kyocera DuraForce  
Ultra 5G UW**  
(new line or upgrade)



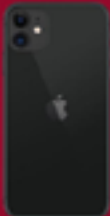
Porting in  
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another  
carrier?

**No problem!**

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account,  
get a  
**FREE**  
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and receive  
a \$300  
port-in  
credit OR  
\$100  
activation  
credit!

**\$479 OFF**

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on Business Premium  
Unlimited Plan)



**Like Ask-An-Expert?** Chamber members are invited to submit a column on a subject of their choosing. The article cannot be a solicitation for your business, but rather a sharing of topics, tips, and trends relevant to current business needs. If you have questions, contact Nicole Morrison at (217) 342-4147.



**NEW**  
Chamber website  
coming soon!

*All "Ask An Expert"  
columns will be archived  
and available for you to  
read at your leisure!*

# GET READY. GET SET. WIN!



**SWIPE YOUR  
DEBIT CARD FOR A  
CHANCE TO WIN!**

SEE WEBSITE FOR  
SWEEPSTAKES RULES.



**DIETERICH  
BANK** Live for Today.  
Bank for Tomorrow.

## 3D BOW SHOOT



September 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>  
Registration 8am-4pm  
Trail Closes at 5pm  
ONLY **\$20** per shooter

Over 30 3-D Targets to Shoot  
Meal Shoot each day  
Advanced registration not necessary



Sponsored by Rinehart Targets

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Fritchtnitch and Hart recently presented EC-JOBS to Effingham Noon Rotary Club

### EC-JOBS - Effingham County Job Opportunities for Business Success

In the fall of 2020, the partnership between the Effingham County Chamber and the Chamber Foundation of Effingham County discussed how to assist businesses within the county recruit and retain employees. After much discussion, the process began, and EC-JOBS was created.

Led by Effingham County Chamber Workforce Development Director, Jeff Fritchtnitch offers a wealth of knowledge after 30 plus years in the academia field as previous Superintendents of Mt. Vernon Township High School District and Altamont Community Unit School District.

EC-JOBS (ECJOBS.org) is a web-based program for businesses to share jobs within their business, the skills needed to be successful in those jobs, as well as an avenue to apply and interview for those jobs. It is specific to Effingham County and unlike other job search engines, EC-JOBS focuses on local employment opportunities.

"This initiative combines a wealth of information about employment opportunities that will make it easier for Effingham County residents to bridge that gap between employers and employees," President & CEO Lucinda Hart said. "EC-JOBS will also serve as an educational tool for our youth and adults as they learn more about employment opportunities and what skills, education, or certificates may be required for these jobs."

Priority for utilizing the site will be to Effingham County Chamber members, however, all businesses are



encouraged to participate. Once a business signs up to participate, a vetting process occurs that assures it is a viable business located within Effingham County.

Any business can create an account, submit job postings, but more importantly, jobs within a particular business can be created, with specific required skills. This allows students, displaced workers, and incumbent workers to review potential employment opportunities within a particular business and then work towards attaining those skills, either by an educational pathway or utilizing the EC-JOBS website training modules. There are thousands of training modules available through the site, but EC-JOBS gives businesses the option of loading their own videos.

The site has an educational component too. The six school districts in the county have agreed to utilize the EC-JOBS site as a teaching and learning tool beginning in fifth grade. It will be used for career exploration, soft-skills development, and employment opportunities for students who choose to go directly to the workforce after high school. The sign-up process is very much like the business sign-up; however, no specific personal data is requested for students for safety purposes.

Regarding the community user for education; anyone, anywhere can create an account, utilize the site as a search engine, participate in the training modules, build a resume, and apply for jobs.



Students at the county schools will utilize the site to earn career cards (over 1,000) related to a specific business or job within a business. EC-JOBS is an excellent platform for students to learn about the places their parents, grandparents, and other family members work, while also exploring possible careers for them personally.

Students in grades 9-12 will be encouraged to use the EC-JOBS platform to learn various skills related to specific jobs and earn badges (150 online currently). This will offer greater opportunities for students when creating their online resume and the ability to submit their resume directly to local businesses.

We are excited to have Lake Land College as a partner who will be utilizing the EC-JOBS site for their students to investigate and apply for Effingham County jobs as well.

EC-JOBS is also working with local state legislators to address the issues and hurdles for high school students serving as interns and acceptance in apprenticeship training. There are various restrictions placed on businesses that impede young men and women from working in certain environments. We hope our continued efforts will allow the business community, especially manufacturing, more access to these students who have entry level training from their high school and only need opportunities with guidance to begin pursuing a career at a younger age.

### **EC-JOBS, there are a few steps you can take:**

- Become a Founding Donor to support this Chamber Foundation initiative
- Schedule a training meeting with Jeff to get your business portal up and running
- Register your business account to share job openings
- Arrange a time for Jeff to present to your service club or organization
- Sign-up as a student for educational tools to help secure your future
- Log on to find your next career in Effingham County
- Share with friends and family

To learn more about EC-JOBS visit [ECJOBS.org](http://ECJOBS.org), call the Chamber office at (217) 342-4147, or email Jeff Fritchtnitch at [jfritch@effinghamcountychamber.com](mailto:jfritch@effinghamcountychamber.com).

## MEMBER BENEFITS



Your Chamber investment provides value to you and your business every day. In my membership discussions, I always point out one extremely valuable resource that many of you may not be aware of - the visibility and exposure you receive through your online business directory

listing. Our website tracks the views and is not only viewed by other members but also residents and visitors.

I wanted to point out these great statistics from the online business directory through our website. These numbers are from January 2021 to present day.

Directory Searches – 27,393  
Category Searches – 21,664  
Alphabetical Search – 5,791  
Keywords – 482

The following are numbers from member page hits that show your personalized information about your company such as address, phone, business description,

driving directions, hours of operations, etc.

Member Page Views – 40,408  
Page Hits – 39,642  
Search Hits – 178,557  
Link Outs (direct to businesses website) – 2,306

Those are outstanding numbers for the first half of the year. Think of what those numbers will be by the end of the year! What excellent exposure and it's part of your Chamber investment. You don't have to pay extra to receive this valuable benefit, nor do you have to leave your office, or attend a single event.

If you would like to know what your individual stats are, get in touch! I would be happy to share them with you. I encourage you to keep your information updated in the online directory, too. Be sure to include all the detailed information about your business you want the community to see.

I look forward to hearing from you and assisting in the growth of your business.

**Becky Brown, Membership Director**  
(217) 342-4147

[bbrown@effinghamcountychamber.com](mailto:bbrown@effinghamcountychamber.com)



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Join Us For  
**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

October 14th 2021  
5:00 - 7:00

Celebrating 31 Years of Business

# 2021-2022 Destinations with the Chamber —

# *travel with us!*



## NEW YORK CITY HOLIDAY

December 6-10, 2021

Greenwich Village, Wall Street,  
Christmas Spectacular at Radio  
City Music Hall, Statue of  
Liberty, Ellis Island, 9/11  
Memorial, 9/11 Museum,  
Broadway Show

5 Days, 5 Meals: 3 Breakfasts,  
2 Dinners




## GREECE - LAND OF GODS & HEROES

March 18-26, 2022

Extended stay in one location,  
Ouzo tasting, olive farm visit,  
archaeological sites, Ancient  
Athens, Acropolis & Parthenon,  
Santorini, stunning sunsets &  
much more

9 Days, 7 nights including  
hotels, meals, days trips, coach  
transportation & airfare




## OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY & CLASSIC DANUBE RIVER CRUISE

May 30-June 6, 2022

Budapest, Bratislava, Vienna,  
Wachau Valley, Linz, Passau,  
Munich, Oberammergau Passion  
Play, Linderhof Palace, & Fussen

11 days; 24 meals



Visit [EffinghamCountyChamber.com](http://EffinghamCountyChamber.com) for more information about the Chamber Travel Program!

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



The **Flex-N-Gate** development at 2701 S Banker St. in Effingham has begun renovations and hiring with plans to begin production in July/August 2022.



**Top Shelf Beer Wine & Spirits** broke ground on their 9,000-square foot store located at 1201 Avenue of Mid-America in Effingham, directly next to the Holiday Inn. Top Shelf is working with Utz and Associates Architects P.C.; Swingler Construction; Niemerg Construction; and Washington Savings Bank on the development. Plans are to open in October of 2021.



**Fox Holler Coffee's** newest location at 1200 South Banker St. in Effingham is now open. Hours of operation are: Monday-Friday 6a-6p and Saturday 6a-3p.



**The Equity Farm & Home Store** is expanding, adding a Customer Fulfillment Center at the corner of Temple Avenue and Merchant Street in Effingham. The expansion will allow patrons and employees to load large orders under a roof instead of in the parking lot.



**Homewood Grill** is finalizing renovations and inspections at its 1906 S Banker St. location and will be announcing a grand opening date soon.



**Effingham Food Express**  
- Japanese Restaurant, located at 2400 N 3rd St. in Effingham recently opened and offers a variety of high quality, fresh food: poke bowls, sushi, Japanese ramen, Cajun seafood, and more.

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

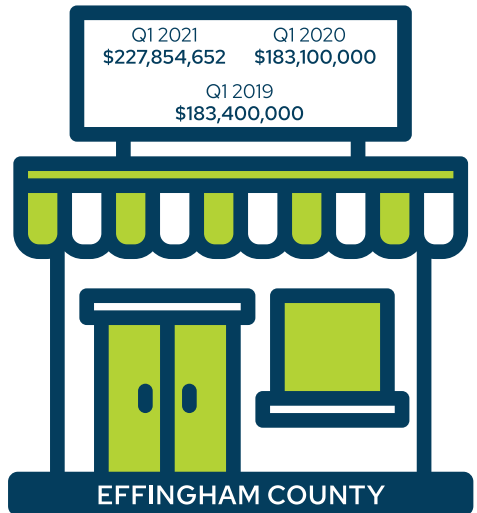
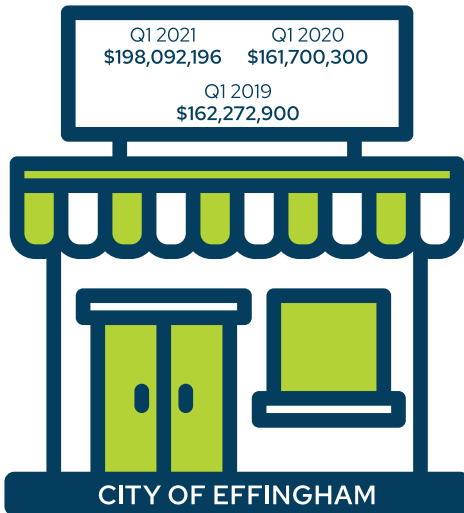
### REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

(revised)

	April		May		June*	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Total Labor Force	19,058	18,519	19,275	19,155	19,506	19,889
Unemployed	757	2,593	628	2,356	763	2,190
Employed	18,301	15,926	18,647	16,799	18,743	17,699
Eff. Co UE Rate	4.0%	14.0%	3.3%	12.3%	3.9%	10.6%
Illinois UE	7.1%	16.9%	6.7%	12.3%	3.9%	14.4%
US UE	5.7%	14.4%	5.5%	13.0%	6.1%	11.2%

\*Preliminary

### RETAIL SALES STATISTICS



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)



EFFINGHAM COUNTY  
**EC-JOBS**  
JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS

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A teaching platform for career exploration, soft-skills development, & employment opportunities



Employers create job listings & gain access to local talent -- candidates will learn about local businesses, watch training videos, & apply for openings online



EC-JOBS will produce a talent pipeline specifically for Effingham County



Community  
Students  
Parents  
Educators



Local Employers  
Professional Advancement  
Career Exploration

---

*Become a Founding Donor*

Join an exclusive group who are championing our objective to prepare Effingham County residents for the work force. Donate \$1,000 or more by October 31, 2021 to be recognized as a Founding Donor.

[www.ECJobs.org](http://www.ECJobs.org)

(217) 342-4147

[jfritch@EffinghamCountyChamber.com](mailto:jfritch@EffinghamCountyChamber.com)



Partnering with the Effingham Area Chamber of Commerce, The RMC Village Square Mall Cinema along with 1 Better Advertising will be offering Chamber members a FREE HD VIDEO PRODUCTION of a 15 or 30-second commercial with the purchase of a 6-month advertising package.



Chamber members will also receive a 10% discount off the rates of any ad package. The RMC Theaters have recently completed some major renovations including a new lobby, expanded concessions with a larger food and drink menu, beer and wine service, and new luxury suite seating in 3 of the 8 theaters. With the upcoming holiday season blockbusters set for release...what better time to get your message in front of a captive audience. Once completed the ads will be featured before every movie on all 8 screens beginning on September 20th. The deadline for a signed agreement is August 20th.

To reserve your on-screen commercial spot contact  
Craig Takalo at 952-239-3080 or at [craig@1better.net](mailto:craig@1better.net)



**SAVE MONEY**  
WITH **LOWER RATES**



**CHAMBER MEMBER BENEFIT**  
**SAVE BIG! Join the fall group buy now!**  
**217-521-9400**

**FIND YOUR NEXT GREAT EMPLOYEE!**



As a Chamber member, you have access to post job openings on our website! This complimentary service can help you find your next great hire. Submit new job openings or update current listings today by logging into the MIC.

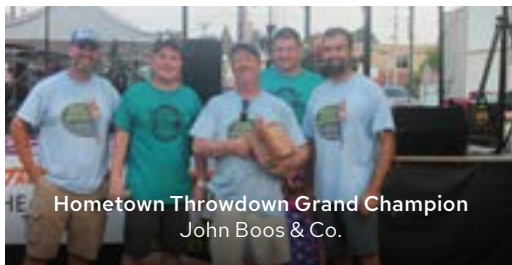
[www.EffinghamCountyChamber.com](http://www.EffinghamCountyChamber.com)



# HAMJAM RECAP

**Congratulations to all 2021 EffingHAM-JAM  
Hometown Throwdown and KCBS Winners!**

Downtown Effingham played host to the 2021 EffingHAM-JAM Hometown Throwdown Corporate & Amateur Challenge and Kansas City Barbecue Society (KCBS) Professional Competition in July. Amateur BBQ enthusiasts from around Illinois and professional BBQ Teams from all over the United States traveled to compete for cash, John Boos & Co. trophies, and bragging rights in this event presented by Koerner Distributor, Inc.



**Hometown Throwdown Grand Champion**  
John Boos & Co.



**Hometown Throwdown Amateur Top Hog**  
Jack Ass BBQ/Wade Slover



**Hometown Throwdown Corporate Top Hog**  
Weis Insurance Agency



**KCBS Grand Champion**  
Janky Leg BBQ from Benton, IL



**KCBS Reserve Grand Champion**  
The BBQ Bus from Elmhurst, IL

**KCBS Chicken**  
Janky Leg BBQ from Benton, IL  
(Perfect score of 180!)

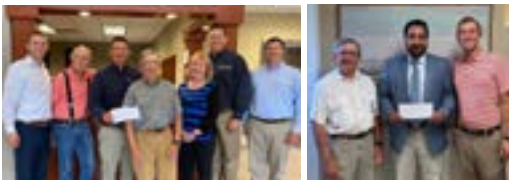
**KCBS Pork Ribs** - Rusty Pig from Decatur, IL  
**KCBS Pulled Pork** - Risky Brisket from Oswego, IL  
**KCBS Brisket** - Que U from Gurnee, IL

The Chamber Staff would like to thank all who were involved in making this event a huge success: our sponsors, committee members, volunteers, vendors, entertainment, Hometown Throwdown competitors & judges, KCBS competitors & judges, and most importantly THE ATTENDEES!

To see a complete list of Top 5 KCBS category and overall winners, contact Nicole Morrison, Chamber of Commerce Director of Marketing, at (217) 342-4147, or [nmorrison@effinghamcountychamber.com](mailto:nmorrison@effinghamcountychamber.com).

## WELL DONE!

**Dieterich Bank** (\$20,000), **Midland States Bank** (\$20,000), **West & Company** (\$5,000), and **Effingham Prompt Care** (\$1,000) donated to the Lake Sara Beach Park Renovation Project. Their donations will help fund Phase 2, which focuses on the Adult Recreation portion of the project which includes Beach Volleyball & Pickleball Courts, Outdoor Exercise Equipment, and a 1-mile Outdoor Track.



**Crossroads Bank** donated \$1,500 to the Effingham County Relay for Life. Pictured left to right: Travis Fry (Crossroads Bank) Marketing Representative, Ron Mietzner Relay for Life, Michael Defend (Crossroads Bank) President & CEO, Cindy Grunloh (Crossroads Bank) Vice President.



**Lincoln Land Credit Union** assumed ownership of Midwest American Federal Credit Union Mattoon, IL MWAFUCU Branch earlier this month. This acquisition marks 12 locations for LLCU.



**Dieterich Bank** opened their 14th branch location in Edwardsville, Illinois. This location will offer customers full-serving banking in a new and attractive 4,200 square foot facility with drive-up lanes.



**Effingham Regional Growth Alliance** was selected by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity as 1 of 13 new Community Navigators to assist Illinois' communities of color, rural areas, and economically hardest-hit small businesses access state and federal relief funds.

Working with over a hundred local organizations across the state, these Community Navigators provide equity focused, 1-on-1, multilingual support to unlock \$billions in pandemic relief available through the American Rescue Plan Act, and the soon to be launched \$300 million Illinois Back 2 Business recovery program.

If you have news you want to share with the Chamber membership on special awards, recognition, employee promotions, etc., e-mail the information to: Nicole Morrison at [nmorrison@effinghamcountychamber.com](mailto:nmorrison@effinghamcountychamber.com).

## WELL DONE! – WHAT’S CHANGED? – WHO’S NEW!



Congratulations to **Kingery Printing Company** on winning a Best of Category and Best of Division in Magazines Series in the Great Lakes Graphics Association Graphics Excellence Awards competition



Jim Ramert, Vice President of Project Management and Preconstruction for **AKRA Builders, Inc.** celebrates 20 years of outstanding service and leadership.



Jude Porter of **Dan Hecht Chevrolet-Toyota** recently retired after 25 years with the Dan Hecht team. We wish you well in your retirement!

**Southeastern Illinois Community Foundation** has moved their office to 2201 Willenborg, Suite 11. Mailing address & phone number remains the same.

**Southern Illinois Hand Center (SIHC)** of Effingham joined Sarah Bush Lincoln effective August 1.

**Illinois Farm Business, Farm Management** welcomes Maggie Jansen, Business Farm Consultant.



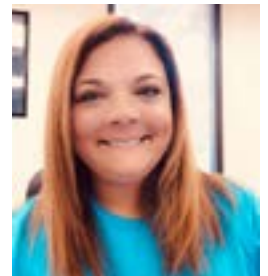
**Southeastern Illinois Community Foundation** welcomes Jen Bergbower, Administrative Assistant; Alex Pleasant, Development Officer, and Kristen Bertrand, Program Officer.

**Wright's Furniture & Flooring** was included in Furniture Today's 2021 Beyond the Top 100 list. This list includes 41 companies representing 101 stores in 25 states and two countries.

**Wal-Mart** welcomes new Store Manager, Mike Kabbes.



**Stevens Industries, Inc.** celebrated two retirements - Tim Wente after 40 years and Mark Kemme, 26 years. Thank you for many great years!



**New York Blower** welcomes HR Coordinators Missy Ogle & Jessica Overton.



**Crossroads Bank** welcomes Torrey Wolf, Vice-President and Commercial Loan Officer, and Travis Fry, Marketing Representative.

## WELCOME TO THE CHAMBER!

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).



### **LINDSAY'S PREFINISHING**

Aroyn Borries, Owner  
300 Amy Street, Dieterich  
(217) 925-5107  
[www.lindsaysprefinishing.com](http://www.lindsaysprefinishing.com)  
Construction



### **AUMANN AUCTIONS, INC.**

Tyson Reed, Marketing Director  
20114 IL-16, Nokomis  
(217) 563-2523  
[www.aumannauctions.com](http://www.aumannauctions.com)  
Auctioneers

### **PRAIRIE STATE GAMING**

David Zerrusen  
49 W Galena Blvd., Aurora  
(217) 821-1800  
[www.prairiestategaming.com](http://www.prairiestategaming.com)  
Amusement/Entertainment

### **BOHO CHIC CLINIQUE**

Tara & Jason McAllaster, Owners  
204 W Washington Ave, Ste. 103, Effingham  
(217) 347-2646  
[www.bohochicclinique.com](http://www.bohochicclinique.com)  
Medical Spa

### **CANARM INC.**

Ken Stern, Location Manager  
709 E Main Street, Teutopolis  
(217) 342-0209  
[www.canarm.com](http://www.canarm.com)



### **LAKE SIDE EMS**

Steven Gray, Chief Operations Officer  
815 S Maple Street, Effingham  
(217) 347-5367  
[www.lakesideems.com](http://www.lakesideems.com)  
Ambulance

### **TEUTOPO LIS COMMUNITY UNIT #50**

Matt Sturgeon, Superintendent  
801 W Main Street, Teutopolis  
(217) 857-3535  
[www.teutopolisschools.org](http://www.teutopolisschools.org)  
Education/Schools  
*Referred by: Marty Stock*

**Share your love of the  
CHAMBER with a new member**

*Receive a \$25 member credit!*

# LET'S CELEBRATE!

The Effingham County Chamber would like to help introduce your business to the community!

If you are preparing for a grand (re)opening, complete renovation, new location, or are a new member, let us celebrate with you by hosting a Ribbon Cutting.

Contact Membership Director, Becky Brown by email, call the Chamber, or scan the QR code to learn more.

[BBrown@EffinghamCountyChamber.com](mailto:BBrown@EffinghamCountyChamber.com) • (217) 342-4147



# AUGUST

31

webinar: 9a-10a  
• **Create Raving Fans with Michael Angelo Caruso**

# SEPTEMBER

2

event: 5p-7p  
• **Business After Hours**  
@ Crossroads Bank

3

event: 12p-1p  
• **First Friday Luncheon**  
@ Keller Convention Center

6

• **Chamber Office Closed**  
Labor Day

16

webinar: 9a-10a  
• **HYPE: Topic TBD**

23

event: 5p-7p  
• **Business After Hours**  
@ McDevitt, Osteen, Chojnicki & Deters LLC

24

virtual: 5:30p-6:30p  
• **Fall Draw - Reverse Raffle**  
@ Facebook LIVE

30

event: 5:30p-8p  
• **Top Community Leaders Under 40 and Up & Coming Leaders Awards dinner**  
@ Keller Convention Center

1

event: 12p-1p  
• **First Friday Luncheon**  
@ Keller Convention Center

# OCTOBER

7

event: 8:30a-2p  
• **Manufacturing Day**  
@ Effingham Event Center

13

event: 7a-9a  
• **Coffee & Connections**  
@ Carriage House Event Center

14

event: 9a-3p  
• **Chamber Radio Days - Fall**  
@ 97.9XFM/Premier Broadcasting

event: 5p-7p  
• **Business After Hours**  
@ Wortman Printing Company

21

webinar: 9a-10a  
• **HYPE: Topic TBD**



scan to view entire calendar

**Dates & locations are subject to change/cancellation.**

**Please check the Chamber website calendar for the most accurate info.**



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***It's time to nominate your 2021  
Top Under 40 and Up & Coming Leaders!***

Deadline to nominate is Tuesday, August 24.  
To register or nominate, visit the Top Leaders Event at  
EffinghamCountyChamber.com See page 4 for details

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