

# Welcome New Members

Jack's Bar  
Skateland Canton

# THE CHAMBER COURIER

December 2022

The monthly business publication of the Canton Area

**Your Chamber Ambassadors  
are here for your business.  
Contact them anytime.**

**Scott Anderson**, SR Pressure Washing  
**Emylee Bitner**, Bank of Farmington  
**Samantha Braden**, Rhoades Real Estate  
**Bobby Brown**, Flat Branch Home Loans  
**Joe Christian**, MidAmerica National Bank  
**Stephen Clark**, Town and Country Insurance  
**Kiley Davis-Crouse**, Davis Buick GMC  
**Sherri Delost**, Jim Maloof Realtor  
**Sandy Edsall**, Davis GMC  
**Kim Fischer**, Canton Harvester Inn  
**Jace Fletcher**, Shelter Insurance  
**Jeromie Hale**, Bistro 101  
**Seth Klinedinst**, Crawford's Home Furnishings  
**John Lemon** - Rise Canton  
**Dave Lewis**, Dave Lewis Studio, Ltd.  
**Taryn Mellert**, Spoon River Electric  
**JJ Montgomery** - Mel's Sporting Goods  
**Amanda Reed**, MidAmerica National Bank  
**Chase Shawgo**, Ipava State Bank  
**Codi Swibold**, Hy-Vee Food Stores  
**Dr. AJ Thum**, Associates in Dentistry  
**Nick Wright**, Country Financial



## Volunteering for Your Community

*by: Carla Bobell, Executive Director CACC*

Have you seen it? The newest Chamber event; the Holiday Lightshow. You just don't want to miss it. The lightshow is one of a kind and it is right here in Canton! This is an event we can all be proud of as a community and build it into a tradition for our town.



One of the things that makes this lightshow successful, outside of the technology wizards Tim and Peyton Lindsey creating their masterpieces each weekend, are the volunteers that we depend on every night to help direct traffic and sell tickets. We are inviting businesses, churches and organizations to help volunteer.

We need 8 to 10 people per shift, which are 5 to 7:30 pm and 7:15 to 9:30 or 10:00 pm depending on the night. Come join us in serving at this awesome holiday event.

If you are a nonprofit or a church we plan to give a percentage back to your groups. The more times you volunteer and the more people that volunteer from your organization, the more money you can make. The percentage will be determined after the last show on December 31st. Since it is the first year, we are not sure what to expect with attendance.

To get signed up to volunteer you can either call the Canton Chamber office and talk to me; 309-647-2677 Ext. 2 or get online at <https://www.cantonillinois.org/chamber/chamber-events/holiday-lightshow/> and scroll down to the volunteer button to sign up for time slots and someone from our office will be in touch with your group.

Help us make this a true community event by volunteering to bring joy to others. Have a blessed holiday and New Year!



**BUSINESS**  
*After Hours*  
Hosted by

**ISB**  
Member FDIC ipavastatebank.com

**Billy's Tap**  
Est. 1948

**December 8, 2022**  
**5:00 -7:00 pm**

*A great mix of business and pleasure at the end of the work day.*  
*Bring your co-workers to enjoy refreshments & prizes!*  
*Join us at 172 E Elm St, Canton, IL*

# SHOP LOCAL AND YOU COULD WIN

**SEE PAGE 5 FOR MORE DETAILS!**



## EXECUTIVE BOARD

*President - Jana Emmons, Ipava State Bank*  
*Vice President - Chad Holloway, OSF Healthcare*  
*Treasurer - Chad Murphy, Spoon River College*  
*Secretary - Erin Watson, Watson Center for Wellness*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Business and Community Development

Jason Gumbart, Apex Seed Company

### Government Affairs

Jay Valencia, Canton High School

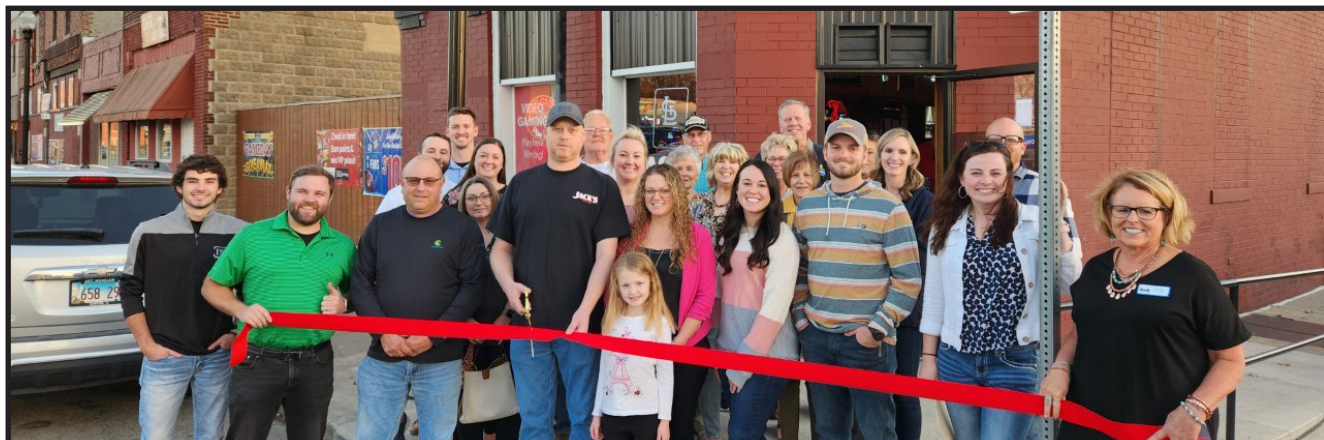
Diane Bell, Di's Boutique  
Maggie Cecil, Edward Jones  
Ashton Dare, MidAmerica National Bank  
Jason Elwell, Peculiar Projects  
Jason Gumbart, Apex Seed Company  
Larrilyn Hall, Wee-Ma-Tuk Hills Country Club  
Renee, Lewis, Jim Maloof Realtor  
Lacey Neal, Rock Valley Physical Therapy  
Whitney Parrish, Barnhart, Tinsman & Associates  
Alesia Shaw, Graham Health System

## EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Jon Johnson, Canton Park District  
Mayor Kent McDowell, City of Canton  
Superintendent Tad Derenzy, CUSD #66  
President Curt Oldfield, Spoon River College

## STAFF

*Executive Director - Carla Bobell*  
*Assistant Director - Kaaren Theobald*  
48 N. Main Street, Canton, IL 61520  
(309) 647-2677  
cantonareachamber@gmail.com



Jack's Bar is located at 144 East Elm in Downtown Canton, IL. The bar was first established in 1986 and as of October 2022, has been purchased by new owners Chris & Colin Hummel and Dustin Taber. The decision to purchase Jack's was driven by how well kept the bar and building are in and the opportunity to twist tops with everyone in the community. Jack's has a free cash drawing on Tuesday nights and karaoke on Wednesday and Saturday nights every week. Upcoming December events: an Ugly Sweater Contest on Friday December 23rd and a New Year's Eve party on December 31st.

Jack's also offers a nice patio beer garden with plenty of seating, bags boards, and a basketball hoop. New owners recently had a band and plan to have bands scheduled when warmer weather returns. If you would prefer staying inside, we have a variety of sports games available on the TV upon your request as well as video gaming machines!

To keep up with upcoming events and daily specials being offered follow Jack's Bar at:  
[www.Facebook.com/JacksBarCanton](https://www.facebook.com/JacksBarCanton)



48 N. Main Street | Canton, IL 61520 | (309) 647-2677

**Last month, we featured new Chamber member Spoon River Junction Winery. This month, they are celebrating their 2nd anniversary!**

To celebrate and thank the community for their support, they will be holding a 2nd Anniversary Holiday Open House on December 10 from 12-6 PM. This informal event is an opportunity to showcase new merchandise, including winter apparel, local honey and coffee, artist-made winetables, and much more. They're also offering free mulled wine and snacks and special discounts on wine purchases.

"We've been overwhelmed with the amount of support from the community over our first two years and will continue to do our part to produce innovative, world-class wines on site right here in Fulton County" says owner Bradley Beam. "We can't wait to show you what we come up with next!"

#### **Wine Spotlight: Cranberry Frost**

Cranberry Frost is a sweet but tart wine made 100% from real cranberries. It has beautiful color, intense cranberry aromas and flavors, and a long lingering finish.

This wine was released in early October just in time for the holidays. Unfortunately, it has already sold out for the year due to sales exceeding all expectations. However, they've held back 6 bottles to give away as part of their 2nd Anniversary, so drop by and register for their drawing!



## SHOP LOCAL BINGO!

**SHOP LOCAL BINGO**

Have service done at local auto or equipment business	Work out or attend a fitness class or yoga class	Make a purchase at a local business	Make appointment with hair dresser or barber	Eat at local restaurant
Purchase item from local florist	Eat at local restaurant	Make or keep appointment with professional service	Go bowling or see a movie in Canton or the Holiday Light Show	Buy a gift certificate from local business or book event
Order take out or delivery from local restaurant	Seek legal services OR financial services	 <b>FREE SPACE</b>	Hire business to do some repairs, improvements or tech work	Attend a church or donate to their mission
Donate or volunteer for a non profit organization	Buy a drink at local bar or liquor store or buy from a winery	Visit the Canton Area Heritage Museum or The Snowman Reindeer Farm	Buy Gift Certificate from local store	Make a purchase at local retail store
Buy gift certificate from local store	Purchase a Christmas gift at a local business	Make a purchase at local retail store	Buy tokens or gift certificate from local car wash	Visit a local bank

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_



### DO YOUR PART! SHOP LOCAL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

You can support our local businesses and organizations by playing Shop Local Bingo this month. Pick up a bingo card or download it digitally from the Chamber website. A list of businesses that have the bingo cards are on the Canton Chamber website at [cantonillinois.org/Chamber](http://cantonillinois.org/Chamber)

**NOVEMBER 26 THRU DECEMBER 31  
THURS - SUN NIGHTS**

**FOR SHOW & TICKET INFO  
SCAN HERE**



Hosted by



**CANTON, ILLINOIS ~ BIG CREEK PARK**

[www.cantonillinois.org/holidaylightshow](http://www.cantonillinois.org/holidaylightshow)

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

2022 seems to have been the year of big projects with the City of Canton. Each one direly needed, each complicated in the preparation, funding, and execution. So much goes on during the process of large projects that the general public never sees nor realizes.

We've succeeded in replacing a long stretch of sidewalks along North Main Street, a well-used area where improvements would benefit many. We continue work to extend the culvert on Lakeland Park Road and replace the bridge at Cass Place, both with details and requirements that must be diligently met. Both of these roadway related projects have been bid and will be under construction in 2023. Two demolitions, one residential on Martin Avenue and one commercial on E. Linn Street, were long overdue but completed after diligent legal work.



Mayor Kent McDowell

Our largest project will be ongoing into 2023, that being improvements at the Water Treatment Plant. The time and careful work it takes to secure grant funding is rather staggering. The City was awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,026,637 from the United States Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration for this vital project. The City was also successful working with Western Illinois Regional Council to receive a \$550,000 Community Development Block Grant from Illinois Department of Commerce and Opportunity to complete sanitary sewer rehabilitation work in an area north of Lincoln School. One last project related to water and sewer that has been completed in 2022 is regarding the first phase in replacing lead service lines. The City received a loan from Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in the amount of \$1,727,567 that was forgiven in its entirety by the State of Illinois. All of these are greatly beneficial to our citizens.

Lake Canton continues to evolve with the Nature Trails project. The trails opened last year, and hiking amenities, signage, a pavilion, and additional boat slips were added this season. Just getting started is Cove Cabin, a small cabin that can be rented for overnight camping. More cabins are expected to be built in 2023.

The Water Billing Department has implemented a new user-friendly way to pay water, garbage, and sewer bills. The new online process allows customers to view their bills, track usages, and communicate directly with the Billing Department. In addition, a City-wide emergency text message system is now available which will alert customers of boil orders, water main breaks, snow alerts, and other emergency conditions when they occur.

While staff focuses on work, they have also been attending a series of monthly City Management classes offered by Spoon River College's Community Outreach department. The 12 classes have tackled topics relative to leadership, grant writing, staff communication, teamwork, cybersecurity, technology, and more, to help our department heads become better leaders. City employees joined with employees of several other municipalities to attend the classes and share experiences.

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Probably the most impactful project of the year is the development of the Business Development District. This district will amass sizeable revenue in a relatively short time that will be used for... more projects, of course! Things like grants to new and established business owners, stabilization of our aging cornerstone downtown buildings, improvements to our public spaces, residential development, improvements to infrastructure – all kinds of things that will help Canton attract more business and entice more people to live and work here. This business development district will be one of the most important tools that Canton has going forward, and will help to build an even stronger foundation for Canton's community and economic development efforts in the future.

With all of this going on, it's an exciting and rewarding time to serve for the City of Canton. It's an honor for me to work daily with such a dedicated City staff, with all of us pulling together toward common goals. Together, we can accomplish great things.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAMBER BOARD PRESIDENT



Jana Emmons  
Ipava State Bank  
Chamber Board President



The year 2022 was a more solid year for the Canton Area Chamber of Commerce. Our stellar events like the Cruise-In and Taste of Canton were well attended and had similar crowd size to the pre-pandemic years. We are very excited about our newest event; the Holiday Lightshow. We hope it will become a tradition for families to attend for years to come.

This will be my last year serving as the Chamber President and on the Chamber board and it has been an honor to serve for the last 5 years. As we move forward into 2023, our board plans to send out a survey to our Chamber members to find out what everyone would like the Canton Chamber to offer or add this coming year. We want to know the best ways we can serve our members and help them in every way we can.

Remember to support our local businesses during this holiday season and all year round. Help us keep our buildings full with thriving shops, restaurants, professional services and wonderful amenities. We all can make a difference, so do your part and shop local.

Happy Holidays!

## SPOON RIVER COLLEGE ANNUAL UPDATE

Since 1959, Canton Community College/Spoon River College has always been known for helping students succeed. We take very seriously our responsibility to provide a high quality, affordable education that improves the lives of our students and strengthens our communities. We are always learning how to best serve our students and our communities.

Our mission at Spoon River College is to provide innovative learning opportunities that enhance the quality of life in the communities we serve. I am proud of our faculty and staff who have continued to modernize programs and classroom strategies in order to help our students succeed.



Curt Oldfield ~ President

In 2022, one of the brightest achievements has been that more students are recognizing the value of starting their higher education journey at Spoon River College. Students are making SRC their first choice because of tuition being affordable, classes being delivered in flexible formats, high quality faculty teaching smaller courses, and the college is close to home. We continue to review and develop partnerships with area colleges and universities to make a student's goal of achieving a bachelor's degree even attainable.

2022 also highlighted the desire for short-term hands on programs that help individuals enter the work-place quickly or update skills to achieve a promotion. Programs in career fields such as agriculture, manufacturing, health care, commercial driver training, diesel power systems technology, and computer technology all have pathways that lead to high demand, high wage career options in our region.



Finally, Spoon River College is responsive to the requests of our local businesses, communities, and residents. SRC will continue to increase the number of continuing education programs offered in order to meet the personal and professional needs of our community members.



## A BUSY YEAR FOR GRAHAM HEALTH SYSTEM

Graham Health System (GHS) is proud to be the largest employer in Fulton County and will continually grow to meet the needs of the communities we serve. This year has been exciting for GHS, with renovations at Graham Hospital, expansions to existing Graham Medical Group (GMG) clinics and announcements of medical group expansions into new communities.

It is our desire to keep, and bring in, as many different services as possible to the communities we serve. Keeping state-of-the-art, expert healthcare close to home is vital for our rural communities. For these reasons GHS continues to grow into new regions throughout Central and Western Illinois and expand the services we offer.

During the past year, GHS added 1200 square feet of clinical space and additional parking, to our rapidly growing Graham Medical Group - Lewistown. We also expanded our Graham Hospital Intensive Care Unit by 4 rooms, allowing care for 10 critically ill patients at a time. In addition, GH renovated the entire nursing home (Walnut Street Terrace Nursing Home). Walnut Street Terrace provides a modern, loving “home” to our residents, new common areas for dining and entertainment as well as adding new features like an outdoor terrace with plenty of seating for family visits.

Last year GMG cared for over 100,000 patients in our primary care, specialty and Convenient Care clinics. With the opening of our Galesburg GMG Clinic/Convenient Care, serving Galesburg and all of Knox County, our Macomb GMG Clinic/Convenient Care, serving Macomb, Bushnell and all of McDonough County, and the new expansion of our Convenient Care here in Canton, we anticipate significant increases in volumes in the near future.

Due to this ongoing growth of the Health System, Graham purchased the 7,000 square foot Family Video Store on the corner of East Chestnut and South Fifth Avenue. The building is currently under construction and will be completely remodeled in time for the new 12 hour a day, 7 day a week Convenient Care to open in the spring of 2023.

GHS opened the Graham Medical Group Galesburg clinic in September of this year to better serve Graham Health System’s ever growing patient base. The Graham Medical Group - Macomb clinic is currently under construction and is on track for completion in the spring of 2023. Both new clinics feature a walk-in Convenient Care that is open 7 days per week, 12 hours per day, primary and specialty care provided by Physicians and Advanced Practice Providers as well as offering Laboratory and Imaging Services.

We feel very blessed to have been a part of the many communities we have served over the past 110 plus years and we are excited to bring a different kind of healthcare to new markets and communities. We have witnessed steady growth due in large part to the dedicated Physicians, Advanced Practice Providers, and staff at Graham Health System. We look forward to continued growth throughout the region.



We thank our community for the continued trust in Graham Health System. Our focus has always been to be the Communities Choice for an Exceptional Healthcare Experience.

## YEAR END FROM SPOON RIVER PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

As 2022 is coming to an end, things on the business development side are just getting started! There were many exciting projects completed in 2022: Line-X of Canton, Arby's, Midwest Cedar and VR Meats just to name a few. I am looking forward to share more about these projects, along with so many more in this year's annual report.

The Spoon River Partnership for Economic Development will be finalizing our 2022 Annual Report by early January, and it will be made available publicly at that time. I hope that everyone can take some time to read through the report and see all the amazing things that took place in 2022, as well as all that is planned for 2023.



Executive Director Cole McDaniel

One item that you will see discussed in detail within the report will be the new Business Development District overview, programming, and long-term value of the district to the business owners, community members, and visitors. Starting to understand the dynamics of the BDD #1 in Canton and how it will benefit everyone will be described further. We will also be discussing specific uses and funding opportunities that will exist within the district as early as Spring 2023.



As with every year, we are very excited to put together the 2022 Annual Report and present it in early 2023. Happy Holidays from everyone here at SRPED!

# SHOP LOCAL WITH CHAMBER CHECKS

Available for purchase at *TWO* convenient locations:

**Canton Area Chamber of Commerce Office**

48 North Main Street, Canton

**MidAmerica National Bank**

100 West Elm Street, Canton

Redeemable at  
more than 100 Chamber  
Member businesses!



One way to make sure money stays in the community is through our Chamber Check program. Chamber checks are great for gifts, raffle prizes, employee of the month awards, thank you gifts, birthdays, golf outing prizes, graduations, retirements, anniversaries, special occasions or just because! This program generates considerable local economic impact and reminds consumers to Shop Local!

Denominations available are \$5, \$10, and \$20 and can only be used at participating Chamber businesses. To see the list of businesses go to [www.cantonillinois.org/Chamber](http://www.cantonillinois.org/Chamber) and click on Chamber Checks.



# 150% CLUB

The 150% Club is an optional membership upgrade that provides added exposure for your business. By paying an additional 150% of regular membership dues at the time of your renewal or new membership, your business can join the Canton Area Chamber of Commerce 150% Club.

*Meet our*

## 2022 MEMBERS

A&M Storage Company  
 Advanced Rehab & Sports Medicine  
 American Family Insurance  
 American Legion Post #16  
 APEX Seed Company  
 Art Hossler Auto Plaza  
 Associates in Dentistry  
 Axline Pharmacy  
 Barnhart, Tinsman & Associates, LTD.  
 Ben Hendricks Trucking, Inc.  
 Buckheart Solar  
 Camille's of Canton  
 Canton Church of the Brethren  
 Canton Elks Lodge  
 Canton Family YMCA  
 Canton Harvester Inn  
 CEFCU Canton Member Center  
 Central Illinois Lighting & Signs, Inc.  
 CFC Properties  
 COOK Medical  
 Crawford's Home Furnishings  
 Dana Smith  
 Dempster Insurance Agency  
 First Christian Church  
 Froehling, Weber & Schell, LLP  
 Fulton County Emergency Medical Assoc.  
 Fulton County Housing Authority  
 Fulton County Septic  
 Giant Goose Ranch  
 G-M Mechanical  
 Harold Jump  
 Helping Hands Resale Shoppe  
 Hocker, Fitzjarrald & Richardson, PC CPAs  
 Holthaus Companies  
 Hulvey Law  
 Ipava State Bank

John Clark  
 Johnson & Johnson, P. C.  
 Jones Surveying & Engineering Corp  
 Kevin & Debbie Stephenson  
 Kevin Meade  
 Kiwanis Club of Canton  
 Maurer-Stutz, Inc.  
 Meade Law Office, P. C.  
 MidAmerica National Bank  
 Mid Century Fiber  
 Midwest Dental  
 Monical's Pizza  
 North Central Behavioral Health Systems  
 Oak-Hines Funeral Homes  
 Official Time Out  
 OSF Healthcare  
 Otto Stephenitch  
 Phil Miller  
 Pizza Hut  
 Progressive Vision Center, LTD  
 Pure Green, LLC  
 RK Dixon  
 Rhoades Real Estate & Land Auction  
 RISE Canton  
 Scott Miller  
 Sedgwick Funeral Homes & Crematory  
 Sherwin-Williams of Canton  
 Spoon River Media, LLC  
 State Farm Insurance - Chuck Taylor  
 Stinauer Family Dentistry  
 Timbuk Tech, Inc.  
 Town & Country Insurance Agency  
 Unity Point Clinic of Canton  
 Walgreen's of Canton  
 Walmart of Canton  
 West Central Powersports