FEBRUARY ISSUE THE COULTER

The Monthly Business Publication for the Canton Area

SPOON RIVER PARTNERSHIP CANTON AREA CHAMBER

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WEBSITE: buckheartsolar.com





EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CARLA BOBELL



MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CARLA BOBELL

At the Canton Area Chamber of Commerce, we understand the importance of promoting your business or organization to thrive in today's competitive market place. That's why we offer a variety of promotional tools to amplify your reach and enhance your visibility.

Here is a list of a few ways you can be promoted to other businesses or to the community at large:

- **Member Minute**: Elevate your business or organizaiton in our Member Minute email. Suggested promotions could be; specials, events, promotions, accomplishments, new employees, etc. This is a FREE service we provide to only our members. If you do not have the means to create a flyer, we can create one for you! Once it is created, we would send to you for final approval and then you can use it for your social media sites or advertising, as well.
- E Blasts: Our targeted electronic E Blast ensure your promotions, events, or announcements reach all Chamber Members via email and is not combined with any other information. The cost is \$25 for Chamber Members and you can work with our office to pick the exact date you would like to send out your single E Blast message or flyer.
- **Courier Ads**: This is a NEW option that just started in the February issue. You can now advertise in the Chamber Courier monthly newsletter just like the two ads in this issue from Dempster Insurance (see below) size 3.5 x 2 and Buckhear Solar (see on page 2) size 5 x 3. For more information go to page 14 of this issue.
- **Membership Directory**: If you are a Chamber Member you are listed in our online Membership Directory at cantonillinois.org. If you have set up a username and password with us you can add or update your membership directory at any time. Go online and check out to see what your directory looks like today!
- **Chamber Facebook Page**: Becaue you are a member we share your news, updates, and promotions on our active Facebook page, increasing your online visibility and engagement.

By tapping into these promotional avenues, you unlock a world of possibilities for your business growth. Maximize your Chamber membership and use these membership benefits to their fullest by continually sharing information with us or tapping in to advertising/promoting opportunities. We are here for you!



A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT TAD DERENZY

As we navigate through the second half of the school year, I am thrilled to share with you the exciting developments and projects underway within our school district, laying the foundation for the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year.

Currently, our focus is on several construction and renovation initiatives that will shape the future of our educational spaces. The construction of the all-purpose room, band room, and greenhouse is well underway and is anticipated to reach completion by July. Notably, these transformative projects are made possible through the support of an ESSER III grant from the federal government.

Ensuring the safety and security of our students and staff remains a top priority. To achieve this, we are implementing various measures, including the creation of entry vestibules at Ingersoll Middle School and Canton High School. Simultaneously, upgrades to large interior windows at elementary schools, replacement of interior doors at Canton High School, and enhanced door locks across all facilities will contribute to a more secure learning environment. These improvements are part of our ongoing commitment to the safety infrastructure of our schools.

Last summer saw significant enhancements to the intercom systems at Canton High School and Ingersoll Middle School. This summer, we extend this work to each elementary school, ensuring a standardized and effective communication system across all our campuses.

In addition to security measures, we have implemented the Raptor Visitor Management and Raptor Emergency Management systems this academic year. The visitor management system now requires all visitors to check in at the office, presenting an ID for scanning and background checks. Approved visitors receive a personalized ID badge with their photo, enhancing security protocols. The emergency management system empowers our staff to communicate emergencies in real-time through a dedicated app, fostering quicker responses and improved communication.

Our commitment to facility improvement extends beyond security measures. This summer, we will embark on the renovation of all science classrooms at Ingersoll Middle School, complete with new desks, chairs, casework, and whiteboards. Addressing critical infrastructure needs, we will replace main water lines at Ingersoll, addressing significant leaks that have occurred due to the deterioration of the original water lines. Additional enhancements, including the replacement of floor tiles and improvements to cafeteria restrooms, will contribute to a more conducive learning environment.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to create an exceptional and secure learning environment for all our student



CANTON BICENTENNIAL

Join Us in Celebrating Canton's Bicentennial!

Canton is on the brink of a momentous milestone - our Bicentennial Celebration is just around the corner! In June of 2025, our great city will commemorate 200 years of history, progress, and community. Two centuries of growth, resilience, and cultural diversity have shaped Canton into the vibrant and thriving place it is today. To honor this significant occasion, we have planned a series of events and activities from June 20 - 29, 2025 that will not only showcase our rich heritage but also bring our community together in a spirit of unity and celebration.

We believe that celebrating our bicentennial is an opportunity to reinforce our sense of community and pride in our city's history, and we invite you to join us in this endeavor. We welcome local businesses and organizations to become sponsors of the Canton Bicentennial Celebration. In return, we offer valuable promotional opportunities and recognition to showcase your commitment to our city's history.

Sponsorship Levels include:

 P&O - \$1,000 or more (Includes: one Bicentennial banner, five Bicentennial coins, large advertising*) Harvester - \$750 or more (Includes: three Bicentennial coins, medium advertising*) Little Giant - \$500 or more (Includes: two Bicentennial coins and small advertising*) Orendorff - \$350 or more (Includes: one Bicentennial coin, line mention advertising*) Bicentennial - \$200 or more (Includes: line advertising*) Big Toot - \$100 or more Friendship - \$25 or more

Additionally, we welcome businesses and organizations to host their own event during the celebration week. Whether it is a special gathering celebrating our bicentennial or a special sale at your business, let us know what you are planning so we can promote it with our other happenings.

We genuinely believe Canton's Bicentennial Celebration will be an extraordinary experience that will

be remembered for generations to come. To discuss how you can contribute or to learn more about our bicentennial celebration, please do not hesitate to contact our committee at 309-647-2677 or by email at cantonilbicentennial2025@gmail.com.

*Bicentennial banners will be hung around the downtown square beginning in January 2025 for the entire year of 2025. In the spirit of past centennials, there will be a limited edition 2025 Bicentennial coin. Advertisements will be in all publications, advertisements, social media, etc., whenever, and wherever possible.



150% CLUB MEMBERS



150% CLUB MEMBERS



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS 2024 SCHEDULE



JANUARY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS Hosted by Canton Learning Collaborative and Bistro 101













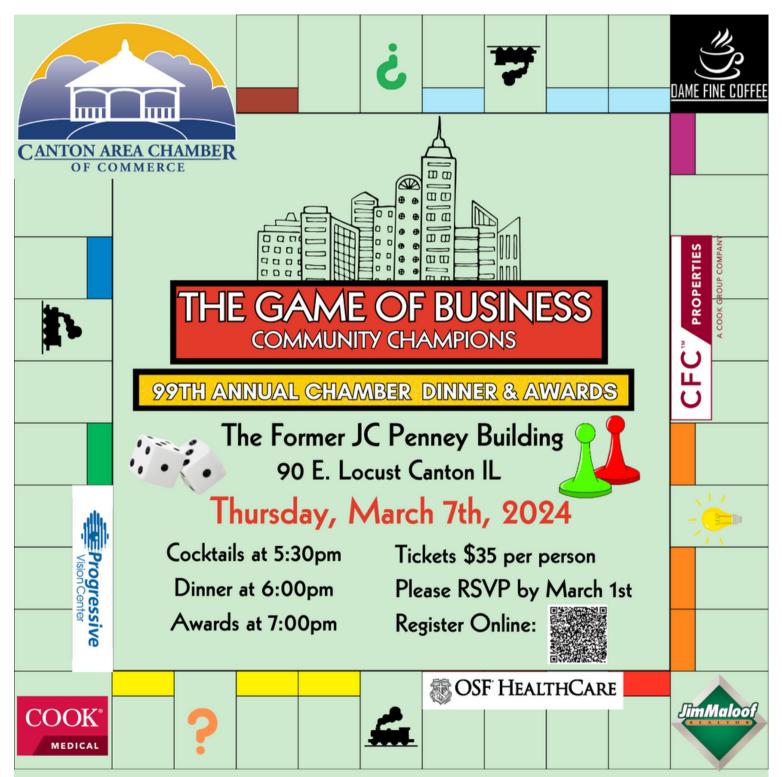
CONGRATULATIONS TO TIMBUK TECH ON 20 YEARS IN BUSINESS

Congratulations to Timbuk Tech on celebrating 20 years in business. We are fortunate to have quality, locally owned businesses like Timbuk Tech in Canton. Thank you for all you do for our community!



2024 ANNUAL CANTON CHAMBER DINNER & AWARDS

Look for your Invitation Soon!



Click Here to Register Online

OUR CHAMBER AMBASSADORS



Samantha Braden - Rhoades Real Estate Bobby Brown - Flat Branch Home Loans Joe Christian - MidAmerica National Bank Stephen Clark - Town and Country Insurance Brandy Cozad - Jack's Bar Kiley Davis-Crouse - Line-X of Canton Sherri Delost - Jim Maloof Realtor Madison Embry - Bank of Farmington Kim Fischer - Canton Harvester Inn Jake Green - Graham Health System Jeromie Hale - Bistro 101 Elli Hummel - Jack's Bar Seth Klinedinst - Crawford's Home Furnishings John Lemon - Rise Canton Dave Lewis - Dave Lewis Studio, Ltd. Taryn Mellert - Spoon River Electric Amanda Reed - MidAmerica National Bank Codi Swibold - Hy-Vee Food Stores Dr. AJ Thum - Associates in Dentistry Bryce Vaughn - CEFCU of Canton Nick Wright - Country Financial

AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT: SAMANTHA BRADEN



Samantha was born and raised in Wisconsin. She has been in the area since 2006 when she married her husband. Samantha was a stay at home mom until she obtained her realtors license. For the past nine years she has worked as an agent at Rhoades Real Estate. She enjoys being involved in the community through being a Chamber Ambassador and on the Big Brother Big Sisters of Fulton County board. She enjoys playing pickleball and watching her kids sporting events.



Advertise in the Chamber Courier

New Advertising option Are you looking for a new, affordable way to market your business or organization? The Canton Chamber is now offering ad space in our new and improved Chamber Courier. See details below. JON RIVER PARTN CANTON AREA CHA

OVER 300 CHAMBER MEMBER EMAILS 48% OPEN

RATE

DELIVERED TO

Chamber Carrier

- Can purchase more than one month
- Ad size 3.5 X 2"
- In color
- Location will vary

\$35 / month

Chamber Chariot

- Can purchase more than one month
- Ad size 5 x 3"
- In color
 - Location will vary

\$60 / month

Chamber Champions

- Only for Chamber Members that pay over \$1000 in Membership dues annually
- Will be listed every month
- Location of ad may vary
- Full page add

\$1000 and above annually

Call the Canton Chamber to get your spot

Canton Chamber Office 48 N. Main Street in Downtown Canton

309-647-2677

Limit of 20 total ads per issue







Friday, June 14





CHAMBER CHAMPIONS



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!