



THE CHAMBER COURIER

May 2023

The monthly business publication of the Canton Area

Your Chamber Ambassadors are here for your business.

Emylee Bitner, Bank of Farmington
Samantha Braden, Rhoades Real Estate
Bobby Brown, Flat Branch Home Loans
Sam Buchanan, Keefer Financial
Joe Christian, MidAmerica National Bank
Stephen Clark, Town and Country Insurance
Brandy Cozad, Jack's Bar
Kiley Davis-Crouse, Davis GMC
Sherri Delost, Jim Maloof Realtor
Madison Embry, Bank of Farmington
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
Elli Rickert, Jack's Bar
Chase Shawgo, Ipava State Bank
Codi Swibold, Hy-Vee Food Stores
Dr. AJ Thum, Associates in Dentistry
Nick Wright, Country Financial



Continuing Education with the Chamber

by: Carla Bobell

If you have a business that you are required to do continuing education to keep your license current or your certificate up to date, you understand how important and valuable continuing education is for your career and your business. When you attend classes it helps you to keep up on the latest technology, trends, and business practices. You get to interact with likeminded individuals that have the same interests, concerns, challenges and dreams.

As a small business, you may not have opportunities (or afford those opportunities) to go to continuing education classes to help you run your business. When was the last time you read an article or attended a seminar or virtual webinar that helped you move your business forward? Some of you are even thinking, when would I have time to do that?

The Canton Chamber office is here to help provide educational presentations right here in our community so you don't have to travel far and spend money on an overnight stay. We have programs like Lunch & Learn, Taking Care of Business Breakfast, informative emails or special presentations on topics that will affect your business. Since the pandemic, the attendance at these programs have been less and we would like to change that! We want to make sure we are offering helpful information that you feel pertains to your business.

We would like to hear from you on what kinds of topics you would like to be informed about or trained up on. Ideas would be: New laws about paid time off beginning Jan of 2024, drug testing and reasonable suspicion training, OSHA updates, changes in the W2 and W3 tax forms, grant programs, updates on BDD funding, social media training, or even have local politicians come for a visit.

Look for a survey that will be coming out soon for your input. Or contact me at the Chamber office 309-647-2677.



BUSINESS
after hours

Giveaways
include a
yeti cooler!

HOSTED THIS MONTH BY:



Location:

Wee-Ma-Tuk Hills
Country Club
15722 E Kenabeck Trail
Cuba, IL 61427

Rogers & Company
Band performing
5:30 to 8:30 pm
Bloody Mary Bar

Thursday, May 18
5:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Food, beverages, fun, giveaways and networking
First 50 to arrive receive a FREE Drink Token!

Q: How do I post a job opening I have at my business so it appears on the Chamber website at cantonillinois.org?

A: All you have to do is send your job notice to cbobell@cantonillinois.org and request for us to post your job opening. It will run for 4 weeks. If you fill the position before that, we ask that you notify our office so we can take it down. If you need it to run longer, just email or call with this request.

This is a benefit that is passed on to our Chamber Members at no cost. We do not post all jobs, just those of our Chamber Members. If you are posting a job opening on your business social media, remember to send it to the Chamber office too so we can help you get the word out. Job Opportunities is the most viewed page on our website.

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

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Government Affairs
Jay Valencia, Canton High School

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Diane Bell, Di's Boutique

Ashton Dare, MidAmerica National Bank
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Jason Elwell, Peculiar Projects
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

Lauren Keets, Student Representative

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
48 N. Main Street, Canton, IL 61520
(309) 647-2677
cantonareachamber@gmail.com
Facebook CACC61520
Assistant Director - Kaaren Theobald

NEW MEMBER NAVIGATOR CO2

Navigator CO2 announced its intention to construct and operate the Heartland Greenway project in 2021. The leadership team saw a growing demand for lower carbon solutions and the potential for Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS) to be a game-changer for the agriculture industry and for communities across the Midwest.

The Heartland Greenway project is a forward-thinking, scalable infrastructure investment that will materially reduce participants' carbon intensity and further the goal of carbon neutrality. We are pioneering a path to sustainable carbon solutions, while maximizing value for all stakeholders in the new carbon economy. The system will provide biofuel producers and other rural industrial processors in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and South Dakota with a long-term and cost-effective means to reduce their carbon footprint. Once fully expanded, the project will have the ability to capture and store 15 million metric tons of CO2 every year. It will be built with highly skilled labor to ensure it is constructed safely and to last.



The Heartland Greenway project covers 291 miles in Illinois, 16 of which are in Fulton County. It is the company's mission to be good neighbors in the communities they serve. As stewards of the land, they look forward to working with landowners and community leaders to ensure a safe project that will provide economic certainty to Canton and the surrounding communities.

For additional information visit the project website at Heartlandgreenway.com or contact Danielle Anderson, local representative at info@heartlandgreenway.com.

COMMUNITY WORK DAY A SUCCESS

A big thank you to volunteers from MidAmerica National Bank and First Christian Church who helped out at Community Work Day. We were able to help the Salvation Army prepare an area on their property for them to create a community garden, Canton Family YMCA by put mulch out in certain areas in the south parking lot, Fulton-Mason Crisis Service by helping clean up their playground. There was also volunteers who helped beautify Jones Park in Downtown Canton.



COMMUNITY WORK DAY

NEW MEMBER RANCHO NUEVO MEXICAN RESTAURANT

Adolfo and Florencia Hernandez, and Ricardo established Rancho Nuevo on December 17, 2015, after having had success with El Camino Real, which was established in August of 2012. They offer a variety of foods and drinks, with a main focus on margaritas and have always been open to possible catering opportunities and can now fully accommodate large parties with their new addition.

Adolfo began working as a cook at Puchis Place in 1995. Adolfo and Florencia began their business venture in Warrensburg, IL (2005), opening Country Town Family Restaurant. After some thought and with the help of a business partner (Ricardo), they wanted to bring their first business into the community. A year later, restaurant El Camino Real opened in downtown Canton. Fast forward a couple of years, the family wanted to bring a different flavor to the North side of town and decided on Rancho Nuevo Mexican Restaurant (old KFC) for their location. However, it would be a different setting for them as they had always worked in traditional American restaurants.

Adolfo and Florencia have four children that grew up in the Canton community. Roberto, Leo, Leticia, and Karina attended Lincoln Elementary School and graduated from Canton High School. Roberto graduated in 2013 and attended SRC, Leo graduated in 2015 and attended WIU, Leticia graduated in 2019 and is attending Illinois State University (May 2023), and finally, Karina graduated in 2021 and is attending UIS. Rancho Nuevo plans to remain open for the years to come because not only was it a dream of Adolfo's to manage and own his own restaurant in the community that provided so much for his family, but to give back in various ways. "We have always felt immense support from the community for years and are happy to finally be giving back to the community that has watched and helped us grow in Canton, IL. Canton will always be our home, and we will continue to help the community in any way we can".

They have big plans for **Cinco de Mayo on May 5th** so be sure to join them at the restaurant. Rancho Nuevo is one of our wonderful family-run business that is happy to accommodate large reservations or cater any events and they are located at 811 N. Main Street in Canton. You can contact them by calling 309-649-5255 and follow them on FB at Rancho Nuevo Mexican Restaurant.



Ribbon Cutting for Rancho Nuevo's new addition at their restaurant. You can book a party, graduation or meeting there.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY SENIORS

The Canton Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a Year End Gathering for the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) students. The gathering took place at the CHS Cafeteria after the Honors Assembly. We asked the senior YLA students that were present to tell a little bit about their job shadowing experiences throughout the school year. They spoke in front of the sophomore and junior YLA students and mentors.

Next year will have 12 seniors, 16 juniors and we currently are in the process of recruiting new sophomore students (freshmen this year) for next year. We want to wish all of the YLA seniors best wishes and encourage them to go out and make a big difference in this world wherever they land.



Pictured from left to right **Front Row:**
Executive Director Carla Bobell, Emma Barrera, Roxann Richardson, Belle Hardy, Maya Phillips
Back Row: Jordan Yocum, Cooper Nelson, Eli Eberle, Austin Dornberger, Cy Carrithers



Looking for the
perfect gift?



CHAMBER CHECKS

Purchase Chamber Checks at
the Canton Chamber Office or
MidAmerica National Bank
Canton location.

**Checks can be purchased
in increments of
\$5, \$10, & \$20.**



shopCanton

spend it here • keep it here



WEE-MA-TUK Hills Country Club

ANNUAL CHAMBER GOLF OUTING

FRIDAY, May 19, 2023

\$10,000 HOLE-IN-ONE CONTEST
Sponsored by:
American Family Insurance
Tyson Smith

LUNCH - 11:00
TEE-OFF - 12:00

4 Person Scramble
Team Fee: \$300
Includes Golf, Cart, and Lunch

Come Join the Fun

Major Sponsors

TimbukTech
YOUR TECHNOLOGY PARTNER
For Business Success

MAURER-STUTZ

CFC™ PROPERTIES

DCS HyVee
DIGITAL COPY SYSTEMS

CANTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Questions: Carla Bobell
(309) 647-2677
cbobell@cantonillinois.org
www.cantonillinois.org

How to Register a Team

To register a four-person team, visit the Chamber website. Scroll down to the Headlines and find Chamber Golf Outing. Click here. There you will find a place to register a team. Or you can email us with the following information:

- Business Name
- Team Name
- Primary Contact Person (with phone and email)
- First and Last Names of Team Players

All teams are \$350, and your reservation is not complete until payment is received. If you're a Chamber Member, you can pay online at www.cantonillinois.org/login. Otherwise, make checks payable to the **Canton Area Chamber of Commerce**. We have a limited number of spots for teams, so sign up now!

Sponsorship Opportunities

There are three levels of Sponsorship opportunities for the Annual Chamber Golf Outing:

- **Tee Sponsor (\$150)** - Includes logo on signage at the event, listed in the Chamber Courier and on the Chamber website.
- **Cart Sponsor (\$500)** - Includes logo on all carts at the event, business giveaways in carts, listed in the Chamber Courier and on the Chamber website. Includes 2 golfers' team fees, cart, and lunch.
- **Major Sponsor (\$1,000)** - Includes a verbal mention at the event, logo prominent on signage at the event, logo in promotional marketing leading up to the event, listed in Chamber Courier and on the Chamber website. Includes a full golf team's fees, two carts, and lunch.

If you would like to be a sponsor, or if your business would like to donate a prize, please contact us with the information listed to the left.

Canton 32nd Annual CRUISE-IN



4:00-8:00 PM

Friday June 16, 2023

Come to downtown Canton for an evening filled with Street Rods, Antique Automobiles, Classic Cars, Muscle Cars, Motorcycles, and other collectibles on wheels! Music, Food, Games and inflatables for kids, and 50/50 drawing, trophies, t-shirts for sale, and more!



Street Rods * Antique Auto * Classic Cars * Muscle Cars * Motorcycles
All Collectibles on Wheels are welcome! * Free Registration!

Downtown Canton Illinois

Sponsored in Part By:



MESSAGE FROM SPOON RIVER PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of community engagement in economic development. As our organization works to promote economic growth in our community, it is essential that we have input and feedback from community leaders and individuals. We believe that everyone should have a seat at the table during economic development discussions and meetings.

Community engagement is critical to the success of economic development initiatives. When community members are involved in the decision-making process, we can ensure that the needs and concerns of our community are addressed. This leads to more effective and sustainable economic development.

We encourage community members to get involved in economic development by attending meetings, providing feedback, and sharing their ideas. We value the input of everyone in our community and believe that together, we can create a stronger and more prosperous community.

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in our community.

Sincerely,
Cole A. McDaniel
Executive Director





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 **2023 MEMBERS**

A&M Storage Company
 Advanced Rehab & Sports Medicine
 American Family Insurance
 American Legion Post #16
 Apex Seed Company
 Art Hossler Auto Plaza
 Axline Pharmacy
 Ben Hendricks Trucking, Inc.
 Big Brothers Big Sisters
 Buckheart Solar
 Camille's of Canton
 Canton Daily Ledger
 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
 Dempster Insurance Agency
 Di's Boutique
 Froehling, Weber & Schell, LLP
 Fulton County Emergency Medical Assoc.
 Fulton County Housing Authority
 Fulton County Septic
 Fulton Democrat
 Galesburg Broadcasting
 Giant Goose Ranch
 G-M Mechanical
 Harold Jump
 Harriet Williams
 Helping Hands Resale Shoppe
 Hocker, Fitzjarrald & Richardson, PC CPAs
 Holthaus Companies, Inc.
 Hulvey Law
 Humane Society of Fulton County
 Ipava State Bank
 JC Custom Laser Creations, LLC

John Clark
 John McCarthy Attorney at Law
 Johnson & Johnson, P. C.
 Jones Surveying & Engineering Corp
 Kevin Meade
 Kevin & Debbie Stephenson
 Kiwanis Club of Canton
 Legacy Media Group
 Maurer-Stutz, Inc.
 Meade Law Office, P. C.
 MidAmerica National Bank
 Mid Century Fiber
 Midwest Dental
 Monical's Pizza
 MWC Advertising - Zak Edmonds
 Navigator CO2 Heartland Greenway
 North Central Behavioral Health Systems
 Oak-Hines Funeral Homes
 Official Time Out
 OSF Healthcare
 Otto Stephenitch
 Phil Miller
 Progressive Vision Center, LTD
 Pure Green, LLC
 Rancho Nuevo Mexican Restaurant
 Scott Miller
 Sherwin-Williams of Canton
 Spoon River Media, LLC
 State Farm Insurance - Chuck Taylor
 Stinauer Family Dentistry
 TBK Bank
 The Loft of Canton Rehabilitation & Nursing
 Timbuk Tech, Inc.
 Town & Country Insurance Agency
 VR Meat Company
 Walgreen's of Canton
 Walmart of Canton
 West Central Powersports
 Wee-Ma-Tuk Country Club