

<u>Volume IV, Issue I</u>

209 East Chestnut, Suite 2, Canton, IL 61520

Member's Newsletter —

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From the President

Happy New Year!! 2020 is off to a great start and we look forward to another great year of fun events and festivities. This year was our 10th Annual Glacial Golf event! Thank you to all of the participants, businesses, volunteers, and sponsors who help to make this event a fun and successful event!

Have you made your New Year's resolution yet? It's not too late to start now if you are still trying to think of one! What better resolution than to get more involved in your community. Canton Main Street is always looking for individuals eager to make a difference and an impact in the community. Volunteering is a great resolution to have for the new year and we look forward to having you!

For more information please feel free to contact us!

Teisha Buskirk, President



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🛏 Jan./Feb. Calendar 🛶

Tuesday, January 28th, Noon, Sedgwick Business Suites - **CMS Board Meeting**

Thursday, February 13th, 5:30pm, The Venue - Canton Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner - "All Bets on Business" *RSVP by Thursday, February 6th.*

Friday, February 28th, 8:00am, Spoon River College - **Business Institute**



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Spotlight of the Month!

It is with great pleasure we announce Fulton County Rehabilitation Center, Inc., FCRC, as the January Spotlight of the Month. FCRC provides a comprehensive rehabilitation program for individuals with developmental disabilities. These services are provided through a day program, Developmental Training Program. This program focuses on the individuals needs and wants, and is to help with enhancing daily living skills and self-sufficiency economically.

FCRC offers a wide variety of educational services to the individuals. Some of the opportunities include: Academic, Community Access, Health and Wellness and Special Interest Opportunities, as well as Life Skills Education. Each of these opportunities offered helps to build each individuals knowledge and skills.

The individuals at FCRC have been great volunteers to a number of organizations and their help is always so greatly appreciated. Some of these volunteer efforts include: Folding letters for the different organizations, filling the Easter Eggs, assisting at the Baptist Food Pantry, and volunteering weekly at Helping Hands Resale Shoppe. This is only a few of the many ways in which the individuals at FCRC have helped in our community.

FCRC does a great job of helping to meet the needs and wants of the individuals. Each week they offer BINGO, go bowling and enjoy different outings with the individuals. Live music done all by volunteers is another activity enjoyed each week. The ones who volunteer their time playing music say "it's the best place to come". Special Olympics is also another great activity that they get to enjoy, such as a basketball game they held on January 18th at Canton High School. They have a BINGO Fundraiser coming up March 20th as well.

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Barb Long, Executive Director, and Shelly Entrekin, Program Director, both shared that "the staff is not here for the money, they are here for the people". "You get a whole new family working at FCRC".

FCRC is located at 500 N. Main St, Canton, IL. For more information check out their website www.fultoncountyrehabilitationcenter. com or call 309-647-6510.





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SPOON RIVER PARTNERSHIP for Economic Development

It is with a heavy heart that I write my last Canton Main Street newsletter article. I have resigned from the Partnership and am excited to announce that I have accepted a position at Mid Century Communications.

I have been involved with Canton Main Street (CMS) since its inception in 2007. I love to refer to CMS as small but mighty! This organization accomplishes so much with just a handful of volunteers, and those volunteers are some of the most amazing people I have ever been around.

The best Canton Main Street (CMS) memories are all from being in the park together at events, decorating, tearing down, cleaning up, painting, etc. I would be remiss if I didn't mention my favorite CMS event, Glacial Golf, as I affectionately refer to as my baby (even though I gripe about it every year)! Our Organization Committee Chair, Eric Duffield, always reminds me about what we have the ability to do with the dollars that are raised during the event. After that reminder, I am welcomed back to reality. Those funds have assisted with Farmer's Market, other events, the Wayfinding Signs, the Banner project, a donation to the theatre and most recently the creation of the Canton Main Street Micro Grant.

With my time at the Partnership was able to be a part of many exciting projects like, COOK, the Snapper Villas, RP Lumber, the Venue, Jimmy Johns, Billy's Tap Expansion, MidAmerica National Bank's new construction and of course my all-time favorite, the Majestic Theatre! There are others of course, but those rank as my top.

All of those are just snapshots of the positive memories. There have certainly been trials and tribulations, but those are experiences that just make you stronger. Having awesome people to work with makes the difficult times that much easier. With that being said thank you to, Mark Rothert, Dana Smith, Amanda Woodruff, Susan Miller, Amanda Atchley, Brendan Bauman, Angela Drach, and Carla Bobell! You all made, and some of you still do, our offices the best work environment. Top 10 Lessons I learned:

- 1. This is a very public position, be ready to answer questions at work and when you are out and about.
- 2. Relationship building is an imperative skill.
- 3. Patience and perseverance in this position are a must.
- 4. You cannot do this work alone.
- 5. Public speaking skills sure do come in handy.
- 6. There will be those that hurt your feelings or tick you off don't take things so personal it's the work.
- 7. It's pretty cool when you walk in a business and the owner knows and calls you by name.
- 8. Great partners become even better friends.
- 9. Goal setting and action planning are vital to organizational success.
- 10. No matter what your win/loss record is you never quit doing the work!

My very last parting thought is this, from the day I started in August of 2007 to today every aspect of this work, every memory, every lesson, every tear and every feeling of joy has been because of the people engaged in these organizations. I would love to list each and every one of you, but I am too afraid I would forget someone, besides, you all know who you are and that is the most important part. As always, "Thanks for all that you do!"

Missy Towery, Executive Director

Spoon River Partnership for Economic Development, the umbrella organization of Canton Main Street.





Organization Committee



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Glacial Golf Winners ⊢

