



Merrill Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

Member Spotlight



Dawn Swan and her husband Don bought the coffee shop at 809 East 1st Street in 2008. In 2018 they became partners with Park City Credit Union and opened a second coffee shop location at 501 South Pine Ridge Avenue. They kept very busy with two coffee shop locations. In 2020 when the pandemic occurred, they consolidated the two coffee shops. They chose the Pine Ridge location to remain open, as it had the drive thru and because of the pandemic couldn't have the inside open for customers. They truly thought they would open their original location once the pandemic was under control. At that time they were unable to find enough employees to keep the both locations operating, so they decided to have just the one location.

They are open Monday to Friday 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday they are closed. They offer breakfast and lunch all day. Their breakfast items include sandwiches, waffles, oatmeal and yummy egg bowls. Their lunch menu has 11 different panini grilled sandwiches, four types of salads topped with chicken, and two soup options.

They have traditional espresso drinks, both hot and cold, and they have smoothies as well as other drinks without espresso.

[Visit their website](#)

A Word from our Executive Director



Ribbon Cuttings

Ribbon Cutting



Have a reason to celebrate!? Maybe you have recently had a remodel or just made some beautification updates. Have you opened a new location or new business? Let us know, and we can work with you to plan an Official Chamber Ribbon Cutting. If you don't have a physical location, that's okay. We can do it in front of our Chamber sign. Just email Cheryl to get this set up!

[Email Cheryl](#)

Recent News and Events



New 2024 Chamber Members

[ODC, Inc.](#)
[Brandon Vecchio-Northwestern Mutual](#)
[Mac Daddy Graphics](#)
[Harder Travel LLC](#)
[Okangawa Farming & Hunting Safaris](#)

2024 Business After Hours

Come Network with fellow Chamber Members!

[Upcoming Business After Hours](#)

• **Tuesday, April 23rd:** Hosted by and at
Plant Garden Center

- **Thursday, May 16th:** Hosted by The Chiropractic Wellness Center at Sawmill Brewing Company



Please reach out if you are interested in hosting a Business After Hours. Business After Hours begin at 5pm and last about an hour or two. They are a great way to network with area businesses.

Let us know if you have any questions about hosting!



A Year in Review



Check out our NEW 2024 Visitor Guide

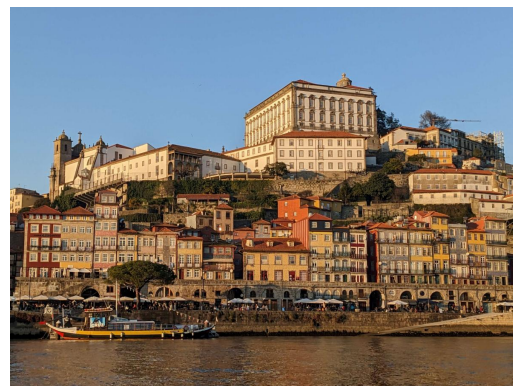
Stop in and pick up some copies! We will be dispersing these all over the state and into neighboring states. Last year we distributed 10,000 copies of our Visitor Guide. This year we ordered 13,000! We're excited to showcase all Merrill has to offer!

[Take a look!](#)

Travel with us to Portugal

Join us and Harder Travel LLC to an unforgettable experience in Portugal! Rated as one of the safest countries to visit in 2024, travelers will stay in Lisbon and Porto exploring the miradouros over the Tagus River, sipping port wine in the Douro Valley, and admiring the beautifully tiled buildings across the country. Registration is now open!

[Click here for more info](#)





[See Where GG Has Been](#)

Gregory Gnome

Meet our new mascot, Gregory Gnome (that's pronounced Reg-o-ree No-mm, the "G's" are silent.) You've heard of Flat Stanley right? Well this is our version. His goal is to bring our members closer together by getting to understand what a day in the life is at their business. The person receiving Gregory Gnome will be asked to take a picture with Gregory Gnome and share the photo as well as a recount of his adventures with all of us. They will then pass Gregory Gnome on to the next business. We hope you enjoy this fun way to get to know each other better!

From Our Members & Partners



**LINCOLN
COUNTY**
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

2024 Summit | Lincoln County EDC

The 2024 Lincoln County Annual Summit aims to bring together area professionals, students, and residents while promoting economic development to explore the status of our economy, available resources, provide updates on the exciting work everyone ...

[Read more](#)

www.lincolncountyedc.org

[Sponsor the Summit](#)

[Volunteer at the Summit](#)



Tony Evers

— Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin —

Support is Available for Many Northern WI Businesses

Gov. Evers Announces Support is Available for Many Northern Wisconsin Businesses Affected By Lack of Winter Snow - Businesses in areas designated by the federal Small Business Administration can apply for Economic Injury Disaster Loans

[Read more](#)

www.merrillchamber.org



[Sponsor Event](#)

[More Info](#)

Food Truck-a-Palooza Event

The City of Merrill is putting together an exciting new event! May 18th, 2024 they will be having a Food Truck-a-Palooza Event at the Merrill Festival Grounds. They believe this will be a yearly event that will bring in people from all over the area to Experience More to Life here in Merrill. There will be multiple food trucks, musical entertainment, a craft and vendor show, along with a Cornhole tournament.

They are looking for sponsors to help get this event off the ground. If you and your business would be willing to donate to this event please reach out to Hallie Savall at Savall.Hallie@gmail.com for more information. They are expecting a great turnout and hope your business will be a part of building this event.

Midwest Communications
Cordially Invites You to Attend

BrandsFormation®



FOR BUSINESS™
BrandKamp
May 2nd | 8:30 - Noon
Cedar Creek Grill House
Rothschild, WI
Kamp Kounselor: Chuck Mefford

The Deliverables:

- The 3 M's of Business - Marketing System
- The Message - What to Say & How to Say it with Story
- Telling The Media - Where to Tell your Story & Why
- The Measures - How to Measure & When

For more information contact Midwest Communications

Powered by BrandsFormation®

BrandKamp and BrandsFormation

Midwest Communications is partnering with author, agency, and small business marketing expert Chuck Mefford, whose BrandsFormation system has been used by hundreds of local businesses, transforming them into household names in their local communities.

BrandsFormation is a 4-Step system created to get measurable advertising results for local businesses.

Sign up below to attend our **free** BrandKamp for Business Seminar on Thursday, May 2nd, 2024 from 8:30am to Noon at the Holiday Inn & Suites in Rothschild.

[Register Now](#)



CAREER FAIR

Don't miss your chance to connect with eager employees and be apart of our upcoming Career Fair.

📅 18TH APRIL, 2024

🕒 8:30AM-10:30AM
(SETUP 8AM)

📍 MERRILL HIGH SCHOOL
1201 N SALES ST

[CONTACT US](#)

📞 715-536-4594

📧 kimberly.stutting@mapedu.org

Merrill High School is hosting a career fair and they'd love to have your business participate and set up a booth.

Benefits include:



Falls are an issue in Wisconsin. Data shows us that falls are happening frequently, they are expensive and they have enormous health and community implications. Unfortunately, Wisconsin is ranked #1 for

- Access to a diverse pool of potential talent
- Increased brand visibility to local High School Students
- Networking opportunities with other businesses

If interested please reach out to Kimberly Stutting, Business Education Teacher to get signed up.

[Email Kimberly](#)

fall related deaths. This is why the Aging and Disability Resource Center is looking for partners and/or community volunteers who are willing to help get the Stepping On: Fall Prevention program in Lincoln County. **If you are 60 years of age or older, have an interest and/or experience in facilitating groups of 8-15 people and believe falls can be prevented, we could use your help!** Reach out to the ADRC-CW for more information: 888-486-9545.

[More Info](#)



Grand Opening Celebration to celebrate the **NEW ODC location in Merrill** on April 5th!
 Open to the public.
 Ribbon Cutting & Dedication - **11AM**
 Open House - **11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**
 Questions about the event? Contact Mindy Reiman at 715-818-6451 or mreiman@odcinc.com.



On April 2, 2024, residents of Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) will have the opportunity to vote on a referendum question to address district-wide facility needs that are too large to be covered by the District's annual operating budget, and will make the **best use of the best facilities**.

[Learn More](#)

[Voter Information](#)

AAC Interviews Alderperson Candidates



[YouTube Videos](#)

[City Website](#)



Lincoln County Small Businesses Gain Expanded Access to...

The Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation (LCEDC) is proud to announce a significant expansion of access to the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) HUBZone Program for small businesses throughout Lincoln County. LCEDC sought...

[Read more](#)

www.merrillchamber.org



CALLING ALL HR Professionals or Hiring Managers

Please take a couple minutes to answer this brief survey relating to your employees' childcare needs.

Take the Survey



Centergy Launches "Central to Success" Campaign to...

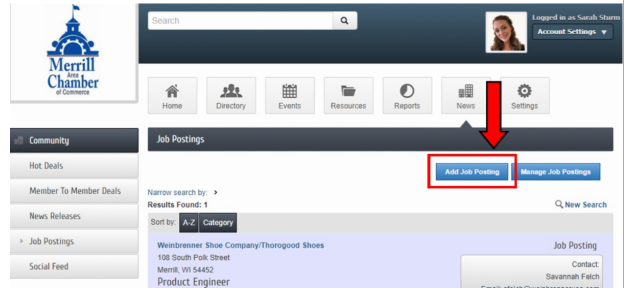
Centergy Launches "Central to Success" Campaign to Boost Regional Prosperity February 2, 2024, Central Wisconsin, WI - In a strategic move to enhance regional vitality, Central Wisconsin proudly unveils the "Central to Success" campaign, a...

[Read more](#)

www.merrillchamber.org

Now Hiring?

We're partnering with The City of Merrill to drive more traffic to our [Job Postings](#) page on our website. Did you know you have access to post your job listings/links to our website? Login to your Member Portal and get started!



Login

View Job Postings

Email Us for
Access

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Holidays



- February 27: Beginner Macrame Craft at Inspiring Creativity
- February 27: MACA Pop Rock Concert
- February 28: Trivia at Sawmill Brewing Company
- February 29: Ribbon Cutting at Sunset Hollow Wines Bistro & Gifts*
- February 29: Resin Art Coasters Craft at Inspiring Creativity and Open Mic at Sawmill Brewing
- March 2: Police Association Fundraiser Concert
- March 3: Bingo at VFW
- March 7: Ribbon Cutting for Huhta Homestead*
- March 9: Craft Shows
- April 2: Election Day
- April 5: ODC Grand Opening Celebration*
- April 23: Business After Hours*
- May 16: Business After Hours*

[Submit an Event](#)

*Denotes Chamber function

Event Details

Chamber Ambassadors:

- Allyson English
- Anna Schmidtke
- Bill Weston
- Carri Kennedy-Harris
- Danielle Wilcenski
- Dawn Dunbar
- Dawn Smith
- Emily Gibson
- Jennifer Porath
- Jessica Gipp

- Konner Beyer
- Korey Bloch
- Kevin Hill
- Len Kats
- Michelle Lahr
- Molly Lyon
- Sasha Everett
- Shelly Storm
- Sue Kunkel
- Tim Dunbar

Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce

Sarah Sturm, Marketing Director

715-536-9474

ssturm@merrillchamber.org

