# THE ACTIVE VOICE

**Ambassadors Give Back** 

**June Business After Hours** 





**JUNE 2023** 

Photo by Dr9gon Media



Special thanks to May's Business X-Change host RedShoes Inc!

# **Meet our new Director of Marketing and Communications**



**Sheamus Roelle** 

Sheamus is a recent graduate from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Graphic Design. He is the new Direcor of Marketing for the Portage County Business Council and is excited to serve and learn more about the many businesses in Portage County. Feel free to say hello and contact him at:

SheamusR@portagecountybiz.com

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"A talented
workforce is the
foundation for
growth and future
success."

# Civic and Governance System

by Michael Witte, Executive Director, Portage County Business Council

This month my article is about the fourth and final pillar of the Portage County Business Council.

Civic and Governance System sounds imposing but let's break it down to a more manageable size. Governance plays a role in today's economy and society. We start by introducing leadership principals to students through our Teen Leader Development Program as well as adults in our Leadership Portage County. One of the intents of these programs is to create an awareness of the greater community, show opportunities where to engage our community and possibly cultivate future community leaders in government.

Another way we are involved in this Civic and Governance System is developing a relationship with the League of Women Voters as well as the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Student Government. This relationship has been developing over the last year. Historically there were two or three forums for local candidates to express their views and platform. Now all entities work together to develop the questions and put on very well run and very well-organized forum. This past election we actually had two forums, one at Ben Franklin Middle School and one and UWSP.

The Business Council is YOUR Chamber of Commerce in Portage County. As a Chamber we will always be Pro-Business. We support our local businesses and 70% of our Investors our small businesses. We recognize the challenges to be in business today and we have a Director of Investor Engagement, Chloe Kreuser, wo wants to know what you need to be successful and how we connect businesses to help everyone grow. After 19 months here at the Business Council I have worked with various businesses and how to help them engage in the business community with much success. We will continue that mentoring and guidance and connecting of businesses, because that is what we do.

One of the biggest highlights every year the Portage County Business Council, as part of Centergy, hosts Central Wisconsin Days at the Capital in Madison. Every year we pick three topics and then go on capitol hill with position sheets explaining why we view these topics as important to not just our region but, in some cases, issues the whole State is struggling with. It is part of the American Experience to visit our legislators, yet many people never do. This is your chance to engage them with a large contingent from Central Wisconsin.

If there are other civic or government related issues please bring them forward. We want to get involved and work together for a stronger Portage County.

Stay Tuned . . . .



What is Business X-Change?
A presentation which allows business owners and their employees the opportunity to discuss pertinent topics, learn from local industry leaders and, most importantly, learn from each other. Business X-Change meets monthly from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

# **In-Person Business X-Change**

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 7:30 am - 8:30 am

## Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to Register

- This program will be offered in person at PCBC.
- While there is no cost to attend, the value of the information is priceless.
- · Coffee and danish provided.

# **Learn How Driven Entrepreneurs Can Benefit From High-Performing Virtual Family Offices**

**About the Program:** For many successful people, a Virtual Family Office (VFO) is often the most cost-effective and generally easiest way to optimize your financial world. In this Business X-Change of Your Optimal Financial World, Jason will give insights to the world of VFOs. The VFO framework makes the advantages of single-family offices that are typically restricted to the extremely wealthy available to a broad array of individuals and families. In fact, a VFO can provide the entire range of single-family-office services for clients who typically could not afford to build their own single-family-office.



Jason Glisczynski, CPWA®, CFP®, CAS®



Special THANK YOU to Silvertree, LLC for their sponsorship of this program.

#### **Key Points included:**

- 1. Learn the Wealth Management Hierarchy
- 2. Develop the framework for your own personal high performing Virtual Family Office
- 3. Discover how the super-rich stress test their financial situation
- 4. See real life case studies of how a VFO can positively alter your financial trajectory
- 5. Receive a free copy of Jason's best-selling book Planning with Purpose AND a copy of the book Your Optimal Financial World simply for attending.

**About our Presenter:** Jason has been serving clients since 2004 as a financial professional. He is the CEO and principal advisor for Silvertree, LLC., a boutique private wealth management firm serving business owners, executives, and high net worth to ultra-high net worth people in the manufacturing industry. He is the international best-selling author of Planning with Purpose and has appeared as a financial expert on local news and national media outlets.



Tuesday June 20, 5 - 7 pm

RSVP by Monday, June 19, 2023

Hosted by: Infinity Wealth Company 2821 Post Road, Stevens Point WI



Please join the team at Infinity Wealth Company for Business After Hours as they showcase their facility. Live music, golf-themed games, door prizes, complimentary food, and complimentary cocktails, beer and water will be served. Event will take place in indoors and outdoors (weather permitting). A 50/50 raffle will also be played. Don't miss the fun!

WHAT IS BUSINESS AFTER HOURS? A social event designed for and hosted by Business Council members to give business professionals an opportunity to network, share ideas and have their facility seen by other members. The member host(s) furnishes refreshments and hors d oeuvres for the evening. A different Business Council member hosts Business After Hours every month. Members are welcome to co-host the event with another Business Council member. Members should call to book the month they are interested in hosting as early as possible. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information contact Karen Myers at the Portage County Business Council.

# **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE**

For questions contact Karen Myers: 715-344-1940

karenm@portagecountybiz.com

#### **UPCOMING BUSINESS AFTER HOURS DATES**

ALL EVENTS ARE THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

July 18 - Haertel Monuments August 15 - Anderson O'Brien September 19 - Prevail Bank



# Tuesday, June 27, 2023 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, Expo 2 1001 Amber Avenue, Stevens Point

\$35/person for Chamber Members \$40/person for Non-Members Reserved table for parties of 8

#### Event Agenda:

8:00 am Registration

8:15 am Welcome

8:30 am Plated Breakfast

8:45 am Keynote Speaker

10:15 am Break

12:00 noon Closing

#### **Don't Miss This Program**

Register by Thursday, June 22

#### REGISTER HERE

Chamber Members from Mosinee Area, MACCI, Heart of Wisconsin and Wausau Area Chambers receive Member Pricing - <u>CALL 715-344-1940</u>

For questions please contact Karen at karenm@portagecountybiz.com.



# 2023 KEYNOTE CONFERENCE

# KEVIN HERMENING Liberty & Leadership

Join the Portage County Business Council as we present a MUST-SEE presentation with an amazing speaker & compelling story!

#### **About the Program:**

Kevin's presentation, "Liberty & Leadership" provides a personal glimpse into a difficult time in our nation's history.

He was the youngest of the Americans held hostage for 444 days at the US Embassy in Iran from 1979 to 1981, after Islamic terrorists captured the entire diplomatic staff. The hostages were captured after the Shah of Iran entered the US for medical care, and were freed on January 20, 1981, Inauguration Day in the US.

He served a total of 13 years in the Marine Corps, and received an Honorable Discharge in 1994. Kevin is the recipient of the US State Department's Award for Valor, and received the Prisoner of War Medal, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the nation's highest peacetime military decoration from the Department of Defense.

Kevin challenges all Americans to remember daily the sacrifices that those who wear the uniform of their country make in service to our nation.

#### **About our Speaker:**

Kevin Hermening is an active community volunteer, small business owner, and Marine veteran. He is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and is owner of Hermening Financial Group, with six offices throughout Wisconsin. He received his undergraduate degree and MBA in Advanced Leadership and Decision Making from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. He served as an elected member of the Mosinee Board of Education and volunteers for numerous other community organizations. He and his wife have two adult daughters.

# Of BUSINESS in BUSINESS

A Portage County Business Council Event

# THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023 11:15AM to 1:00PM

Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, 1001 Amber Avenue, Stevens Point



Special thanks to our Media Sponsor: Midwest Communications Radio Group

# REGISTER HERE

\$31 for PCBC Members \$36 for Prospective PCBC Members Women in Business is open to the public.

This Women in Business event is an opportunity for women in the Central Wisconsin area to network, talk about issues that affect their daily professional lives, learn something new and have fun doing it.

Event will include a delicious lunch, door prizes giveaways, swag bag full of goodies, and a 50/50 raffle. Don't miss the fun!

# Watch for more program details to come.

For questions contact Karen Myers: 715-344-1940 karenm@portagecountybiz.com

# "Do It Today, Not Someday"



We are excited to share that Dr. Shelly Mondeik, President of Mid-State Technical College will be our special guest speaker.



# **Ambassadors Give Back**

We love to see our members and all Portage County businesses thrive and grow!



On May 11th our Ambassadors Club, PCBC staff and Mayor Wiza were excited to visit Mission Coffee House Stevens Point at Downtown Stevens Point for a ribbon cutting and were treated to delicious coffee and bakery items. Stop by and visit them at 1100 Main Street, Suite 110 Stevens Point!



On May 16th our Ambassadors and PCBC staff were honored to take part in the ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of Ki Mobility's new 80,000 square foot expansion. Their intention is for the company to take on larger customer demands with the increased space. Congratulations!



A ribbon cutting and sign unveiling ceremony was held on May 17th to mark the opening of the Point Brewery James & Susee Wiechmann newly expanded Brew House. Members of our Ambassador Club and PCBC staff were there to help celebrate. Cheers to the Stevens Point Brewery on another chapter in its rich history!



The installation of the World's Largest Potato Masher at the Farming for the Future Foundation and Food + Farm Exploration Center, located at 3400 Innovation Way in Plover took place on May 19th and members of our Ambassadors Club and PCBC staff were thrilled to witness this iconic attraction and celebrate the milestone. We also enjoyed the facility tour and mashed potato bar. Congratulations to all involved!



A new recreational boat dock was installed on Bukolt Island as part of a community partnership project between the North Central Conservancy Trust, Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin, City of Stevens Point and the Prime W.A.T.E.R. Anglers and our Ambassadors and PCBC staff helped with the ribbon cutting on May 24 to celebrate the official opening of the dock.



On May 30th members of our Ambassadors Club and PCBC staff attended the groundbreaking ceremony for a multi-million-dollar project at the Tomorrow River School District in Amherst. The project will include building a new STEAM building and to remodel parts of the middle and elementary school. Congratulations!

# Meet our Ambassadors

#### **Pete Theisen**

Vice President Commercial Lending

**Portage County Bank** 

How long have you been an Ambassador?

I have been an Ambassador for seven years starting in 2016.



What do you enjoy the most about being an Ambassador? You will never find a more super volunteer group. These members are so caring, supportive, friendly, hard working and the list could go on and on. There is always a friendly competition to volunteer and work together making events and projects successful. It is truly an honor to be Ambassador and represent Portage County. One special event was the ribbon cutting for the Stevens Point Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. It was nice to celebrate

#### Why did you choose to become an Ambassador?

with them and their new office location.

The Business After Hours are great events to attend and meet the business being honored. They are also a great place to meet other PCBC members, greeting old friends and making new ones. PCBC helps support and promote local businesses making Portage County a great place to work. The ribbon cutting events are special, welcoming new businesses and owners to Portage County.

# What is one interesting fact about you that most people do not know?

My love for the outdoors, sports and recreation is very important. My current position is Portage County Wisconsin Conservation Congress Chairperson. The goal is to help manage and wisely use our natural resources representing Portage County. The WCC is also responsible for the County Deer Advisory Committee that I'm also the chair. The Standing Rock Park has a deer hunting program in fall. I have been a mentor for several years teaching hunter safety and promoting this program.

# Member to Member Deals



Purple Basil is an Italian inspired food truck offering catering services with and without the truck! We offer a variety of delicious, freshly made dishes for your corporate event. We are dedicated to creating a menu that will make your event unforgettable. From appetizers to entrées, whatever your needs may be, we can provide the perfect culinary experience!

Whether it be for employee appreciation, work lunch meetings, company picnics or just a group order for lunch, we can customize a menu for any occasion. PCBC members receive 10% off up to \$50 on our services, meal deliveries have a 10 meal minimum. PCBC Members will receive an extra month when you subscribe to the Social Media Master or Branding Boss Session before December 31st.

# SEE FLYER FOR MORE INFORMATION

# SAYETHE DATES



Wednesday, September 6, 2023

Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, Stevens Point



Friday, October 27, 2023

Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, Stevens Point

# WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS ON BOTH EVENTS

# 2023 Leadership Portage County Graduating Class

Mark Burdick, Skyward \*\* B Callaway. Associate Bank Kimberly Carroll, UWSP Sarah Ceballos, Gamber-Johnson LLC \*\* BreAnn Constantineau, YMCA Elspeth Eckendorf, UWSP \*\* Anna Flahaut, First State Bank \*\* Taylor Greenheck, St. Point Area Convention \*\* Mark Grundman Delta Dental of WI \*\* Heather Huebner, Anderson O'Brien Colin Iwanski, Iwanski Habitat Innovation \*\* Amy Leland, RR Donnellley Supply \*\* Erika Page, Skyward Lance Sanchez, Wysocki Family of Companies \*\* McKenna Skye, City of Stevens Point \*\* Der Vang, Paper City Savings Megan Vruwink, En Pointe Marketing Kyle Wierzba, Wipfli LLP Samantha Wondrash, Delta Dental of WI

\*\* Completion of necessary coursework to earn credit in Introduction to Leadership at Mid-State Technical College





### Congratulations to the 2023 Leadership Portage County graduation class!

Graduates not shown- Der Vang from Paper City Savings; Kimbely Carroll from UWSP; Megan Vruwink from En Pointe Marketing. Graduation was held Thursday May 25, at the Great Northern Distillery.

It was an amazing experience to watch the relationships grow within this group of professionals over the last 10 months. The year provided us with opportunities and learning experiences within our community, area businesses, speakers, and Mid-State Technical College. What a great year!

To enroll in the 2023/2024 Class, please click here!





# Welcome New Members - June 2023

#### **KINDENSHOP**

Kindenshop specializes in one-of-a-kind art prints of

iconic locations of Wisconsin that she digitally draws. KINDENSHOP

Email: <u>Kinden.vazquez@gmail.com</u> Etsy: <u>Kindenshop</u>

Website: Kindenshop | FB: Kindenshop

#### **AVENTUS DATA CENTERS**

A world class, tier 3, data center coming to Central Wisconsin; designed to deliver cost effective data solutions to small and large organizations across industries. 800-587-5667

Website: <a href="https://aventusdatacenters.com/">https://aventusdatacenters.com/</a> | FB: <a href="https://aventusdatacenters.com/">Aventus Data Centers</a>



#### DYNAMIC ALLIANCE ROOFING

Family owned and operated with over 32 years of experience in roofing. Stevens Point Area | 715-421-1845

FB: <u>Dynamic Alliance Roofing</u> | Website: <u>dynamicallianceroofing.com</u>

Email: dynalliance2@yahoo.com



#### MISSION COFFEE HOUSE STEVENS POINT

A coffee shop downtown Stevens Point serving fresh bakery, wraps, coffee, and other specialty drinks.

1319 Strongs Ave, Stevens Point | 715-341-3088

Email: missioncoffeesp@gmail.com | FB: Mission Coffee House



#### **DETAILED DESIGNS**

A full-service flower shop that also sells home décor items and gifts. 3296A Church Street, Stevens Point | 715-883-1841

FB: Detailed Designs

Email: <u>detaileddesignsfloral@gmail.com</u> | Website: <u>Detailed Designs</u>



#### **COFFEEHOUSE**

Software development company that researches political candidates for consumers to use to help educate themselves about candidates.

715-347-2856 | Email: joshbourget@gmail.com

# BENEFITS LBAGELS



JUNE 23 2023

8:00 - 9:30 am @ PCBC Office Sign-up today! Learn how to maximize your investment through posting your events, job openings, getting involved, and more!

HAVE QUESTIONS? CALL 715-344-1940

**FREE event for PCBC Investors** 

# HAPPY MEMBERVERSARY

### To all of our investors who renewed in March

Aaron J Marx

AP Venture Inc.

**Belmont Finance LLC** 

**Central State Electric Corporation** 

**Exceling Your Business, LLC** 

**Firehouse Subs** 

Lakeland Real Estate LLC

L'BRI PURE n' NATURAL, Independent Consultant

**Mary Kay** 

Nature Care Notary Purple Basil

Putt N Play Mini Golf

Real Deals on Home Decor

**Special Olympics Wisconsin** 

**Spectrum Insurance Group** 

State Farm Insurance - Pete Taggatz

**TDS** 

Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association

# Teen Leader Development connect. inspire. evolve.

9.6.2023	<b>Parent Inormation Meeting</b>
9.22.2023	Opening Retreat
10.4.2023	<b>Government &amp; Public Service</b>
11.1.2023	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
12.6.2023	Not For Profit
2.07.2024	Preparing for a Successful Future
3.06.2024	Health, Wellness, Recreation
4.03.2024	Exploring Professions
5.01.2024	Sustainability
5.08.2024	Graduation

Inclement weather MAKE UP DAYS - Feb 28 & May 15

The Teen Leader Development program is intended to inspire and educate tomorrow's leaders. The nine month program is a hands-on educational experience for rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors. This inclusive program has numerous components that make it incredibly exciting for students, preparing them for what lies ahead. Opportunities will give students to learn cutting edge leadership skills that help build a wide range of competencies that foster an environment to succeed in today's dynamic and complex world.













SecurityHealth Plan.

**Stevens Point Campus** 

Any questions, contact Holly @ hollyf@portagecountybiz.com

Applications in office or online at https://portagecountybiz.com/pchs

Scholarships available for under respresented youth.

# is your personal guide to SBA financing...



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Find out more...



The National SEED Project is a peer-led professional development program that creates conversational communities to drive personal, organizational, and societal change toward greater equity and diversity.

Through personal reflection and testimony, listening to others' voices, and learning experientially and collectively, SEED equips us to connect our lives to one another and to society at large by acknowledging systems of oppression, power, and privilege—and challenges us to push for change. SEED values your voice so you can, in turn, better value the voices of your colleagues, students, and community.

At the project's core is a fundamental belief that, if given the opportunity, people will inspire, motivate, and learn with one another.

— Dr. Peggy McIntosh, SEED Founder



Questions: Contact Continuing Education at 715-346-3838 | uwspceweb@uwsp.edu uwsp.edu/conted/Pages/Seeking-Educational-Equity-and-Diversity-Summit.aspx



\$995–Per Person (10% discount for 3 or more registrants at one organization) \$850 UWSP Faculty/Staff and Non-Profit Rate

#### **Our Presenters**







Kate Grovergrys



Dr. Marcus Lewis



Dr. Bethany Redbird



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Real Rewards (Real Rewards) is available for consumer deposits only. Annual Percentage Yield ("APY") is accurate as of 1/1/2023. Real Rewards is a variable rate account. Your APY may change at any time after your account is opened, at the discretion of Nicolet National Bank. Real Rewards is a tiered rate product. If qualifications are met for the qualification cycle, Tier 1: The portion of your balance that is equal to or less than \$15,000 will earn 3.00% APY. Tier 2: The portion of your balance that is over \$15,000 will earn 0.01% APY. The APY for Tier 2 will range from 0.40% to 3.00%, depending on the balance in your account. If qualifications are not met for the qualification cycle, your entire balance will earn 0.01% APY. You must enroll in online banking and e-statements in order to qualify. Transactions required each qualification cycle: At least ten posted and cleared debit card transactions (ATM-processed transactions do not count as qualifying debit card transactions), and at least one posted and cleared direct deposit of payroll or social security. Disclosed APY assumes all interest remains on deposit. Fees and withdrawals of interest will reduce earnings and APY. All Nicolet National Bank checking accounts are subject to credit approval. Additional terms and conditions apply. See Nicoletbank.com for details. Member FDIC.

# APPLY NOW

# Leadership Portage County

.24 & 25. 2023	Opening Retreat
9.28.2023	Agriculture
10.19.2023	Govt, Public Service, Justice
11.16.2023	Economic Dev, Entrepreneurship &
	Placemaking
12.14.2023	Not For Profit
1.11.2024	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
2.15.2024	Health & Wellness
3.14.2024	Education
4.11.2024	Sustainability
5.23.2024	Closing Retreat
5.30.2024	Graduation

Inclement weather MAKE UP DAYS - Feb 29 & May 2

The world of work is changing fast, and so are the skills and competencies leaders need to succeed. Leadership Portage County(LPC) Inclusive 10 month progam is designed to broaden one's understanding of Portage County while developing key skills and competencies such as agility, collaboration, creativity, emotional intelligence and vision. The program is intended for all ages and titles and provides opportunities for network development, education and community engagement.







Contact Holly @ hollyf@portagecountybiz.com
Applications in office or online at
https://portagecountybiz.com/pchs

# **LEADERSHIP PORTAGE COUNTY: CLOSING RETREAT**

Review by Holly Fox, Portage County Business Council

The class of 2022-2023 for Leadership Portage County held their closing retreat at the WI Lions Camp in Rosholt, WI on Thursday, May 18th. The final day of Leadership did not disappoint. We started out with a nice breakfast together while visiting one another. Then, our final day of Leadership really began. Angela Yenter, WI Lions Camp Director, started us out with a tour of the WI Lions Camp and what the WI Lions Camp offers to the communities it serves. We learned about the eyeglasses donation program and process, WI Lions camp history, fundraising, and all of the specific camps the WI Lions Camp hosts throughout a year.

Our group then reconvened back at our base in the WI Lions Camp offices to give our Community Project group presentations. Each group participant spoke about their role in the community project and details about how they made it happen.

The first group of Leadership participants spoke on their Community Project of putting together a Wine Walk fundraising event for the Marshfield Clinic Breast Cancer Fund at Feltz Family Farm's corn maze this past fall. The event raised almost \$5,000 for the Marshfield Clinic Breast Cancer Fund!

The second group created a business proposal to create a pollinator garden on the Portage County Business Council (PCBC) building's land. The purpose of the pollinator garden is to promote biodiversity and ecological sustainability in Portage County while creating awareness in the community. PCBC first needed a business plan created as the first step in the project. The hope is that future Leadership classes may want to carry the project forward with the next steps of fundraising, planning/design, garden installation, and maintenance and education.

After our group presentations, we had a final session with Ben Nusz and Craig Bernstein from MSTC where we learned about conflict resolution within leadership. It was a good final session where we dove into how different leadership styles can affect how conflicts are resolved.

Next, came the fun! We walked out to the woods where Paula Lauer, Healthcare Supervisor, led us

in some fun teambuilding activities that our group found much success in! Minus the mosquitos attacking us all, we had a great time and had wonderful weather as well. After some lunch back at the lodge, we then went back in the woods (this time prepared with bug spray), for some low ropes course action. At first, we all thought it was going to be very easy. We quickly found out that a low ropes course isn't as easy as it sounds and ended up having a lot of teambuilding fun!

To wrap up the day, Angela showed us how to play a fun field game that was new to most of us. We had a fun time getting to be competitive while getting to spend some last-minute quality time with one another. As a group, we had all become good friends and got to know one another through the past ten months of the program. The connections we have developed over this time have been priceless.







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SCHEDULE MEETING

Member FDIC



# **Contact US!**

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