



Sauk Valley Area
chamber of commerce

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ACCREDITED



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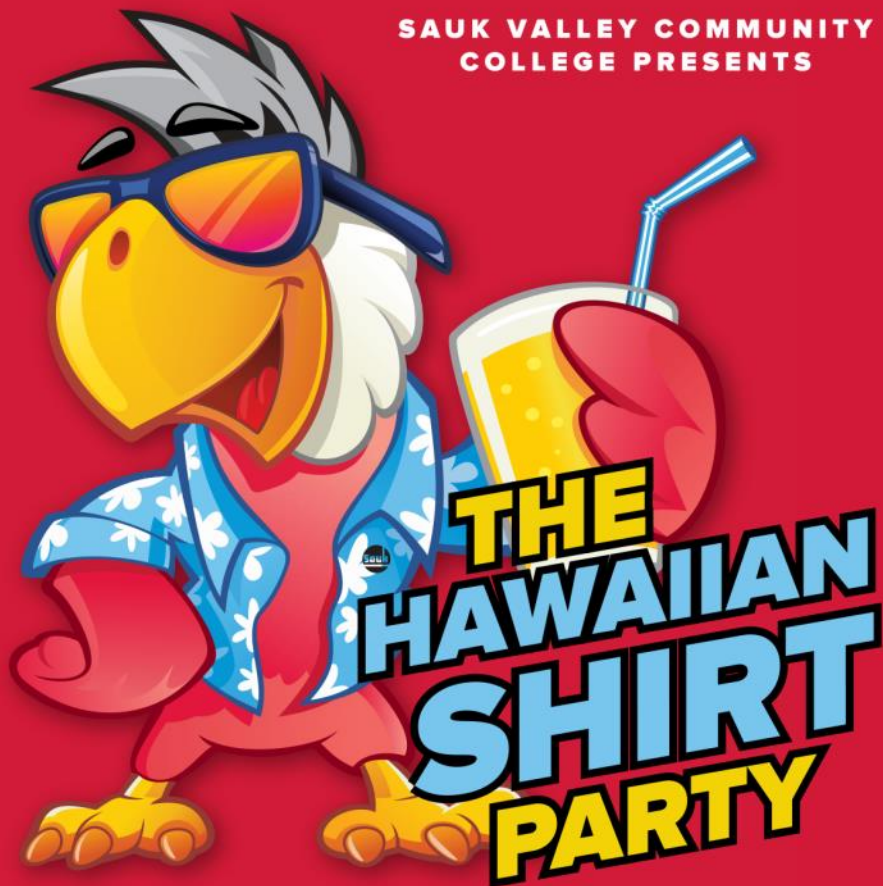


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Partnering for Success

AUGUST 2021

SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY
COLLEGE PRESENTS



AUGUST 19 | 5PM | DILLON MALL PATIO

Hula over for Business After Hours!

APPETIZERS | DRINKS | DOOR PRIZES

IN COLLABORATION WITH: DIXON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & MAIN STREET • ROCK FALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SAUK VALLEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



RAINY DAY? THE FESTIVITIES WILL CONTINUE INSIDE! • CDC GUIDELINES WILL BE FOLLOWED

ENROLL
THIS
SUMMER

RECEIVE
AT
LEAST
\$500!

**svcc.edu/
register**

August Meetings

August 4 Executive Board
August 10 Board
August 12 Ambassadors
August 13 HBLC
August 17 Ag
August 18 PWN

Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce Directors & Staff

Executive Committee

President: Lance Buser
First Vice President: Sheila Martinez
Second Vice President: Jon Mandrell
Treasurer: Pam Fluck
Past President: Mike Loos

Board of Directors

Term Ends January 31, 2022

Jim Cesarek, RE/MAX Sauk Valley
Geoff Wright, CGH Medical Center
Rebecca Munoz-Ripley, YWCA of the Sauk Valley
Josh Johnson, Whiteside Area Career Center
Dr. Jon Mandrell, Sauk Valley Community College

Term Ends January 31, 2023

Mike Loos, Edward Jones Investments
Sheila Martinez, U.S. Bank
Rick Turnroth, Turnroth Sign Company
Pam Fluck, Sauk Valley Bank

Term Ends January 31, 2024

Dave Knie, Knie Appliance & TV
Tim Determan, Pinney Printing
Lance Buser, Wal-Mart DC #7024
Ryan Olson, Ward Murray Pace & Johnson
Amy Williamson, Holiday Inn Express & Suites
Steve Munson, Retired, The Medicine Shoppe

Staff

Executive Director—Kris Noble
Marketing Coordinator— Dallas Knack
Financial Specialist/Office Manager—Bailey Dorner

A Message from the Director

2021 continues to be a year of not knowing what to expect, so we just need to get used to the unexpected. Which for me as a planner and organizer, is challenging at times.

As things continue to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we need to continue to be a community of grace and kindness. Emotions are high, and for some patience is short.

All sectors of our business community are doing the best they can do under the circumstances.

I have talked to many of our members that are long time business folks in the Sauk Valley. They all said the same thing. They have shared that they have never encountered anything like the past 18 months. Shut down, open up, no business, booming business, letting staff go, shortage of staff, trying to hire staff, no need for supplies, shortage of supplies....What is going on and how do you run a business with all these changes?

Resilience, determination, and commitment. That is what I see in our Sauk Valley business community.

Let's continue to be Sauk Valley Strong!

Kris

Member Update August 2021

NEW MEMBERS

The Wellspring Medical Spa
815-973-7916
1411 E 4th St Sterling
wellspringmedicalspa.com

Lundstrom Florist Inc
815-625-0080
1709 E 3rd St Sterling
lundstromflorist.com

Caro Litz's LLC
815-441-3185
2900 E Lincolnway Sterling
carolitzas.com

MEMBER RENEWALS

4-D Farms
Bargain Exterminators
Brothers Flooring
Carpetland USA
Christ Lutheran School
Corner Gallery
Farmer's National Bank
Gaumer Chiropractic, LLC
Grummert's Hardware
Halo Branded Solutions
Hawkins-Cassens Insurance
HB Wilkinson Title Company

Hollyhock Hill Farms
Jamison Media Services
K's Korner Trading Post
Loescher Heating & Air Conditioning
Majeski Motors
Marv Lofgren & Son Contractors
McCormick's Nursery & Landscaping
Mertes & Mertes, PC
Micron Industries Corporation
Moeller, Myers & Associates
Rock River Ready Mix, Inc.
Select Employees Credit Union
Self Help Enterprises

Sterling Moose Family Center
Sterling Township
Subway
Twin Cities Homeless Shelter (PADS)
US Postal Service
Whiteside County Genealogists
WQPT - TV, Quad Cities PBS
YWCA of the Sauk Valley
Zoeller Ag Services, Inc.

We would like to give special recognition to the following groups who provide extra support to the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce. This extra effort and support is truly appreciated. If you have the opportunity to express your sincere appreciation to these members, please do so!

Investing over \$1000 in Dues

CGH Medical Center
Community State Bank
Farmers National Bank - Morrison
Midland States Bank
Sauk Valley Bank
Select Employees Credit Union
Sterling Federal Bank
US Bank
Wahl Clipper Corp.
Wal-Mart DC #7024
Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson

150% Club Members

Allstate Insurance Agency
Altran Magnetics
Amazing Grace of Sterling
Green Bee Energy Efficiency
Happy Tails Humane Society
Helm Civil
Hill's Electric Motor Service, Inc.
Illinois American Water
James S Ferris, DDS, PC
Johnson Oil Company
Lance's Plumbing
LK Design Source
Loescher HVAC
Mattox Insurance Agency
Moore Monument & Granite Co
Select Employees Credit Union
Smoked on 3rd
Sterling Rock Falls Child Care
Sterling Township
The Spa At Central Park
United Craftsmen, Ltd.
Wiggins Communication

110% Club Members

1st Gateway Credit Union
Bollman Auto Center
Cassens Drainage
Central Heating & Cooling
Central Park Yoga
Compeer Financial
Dennis Electric of Tampico, Inc
Farmer's National Bank
Folsom's Bakery
Hawkins-Cassens Insurance, LLC
Imprintable Memories
Kiwanis Club of Sterling
Marv Lofgren & Sons Contractors
Mertes & Mertes
Mike Sprague State Farm
New Millenium Directories
Reitzel Roofing Company
Rock River Lumber & Grain
Rock River Ready Mix
Rosemeyer Management Group
Sauk Valley Food Bank
Scholl Insurance Agency
Servicemaster
Sherwin Williams Company
Showplace Antiques & Treasures
Simply Hair Studios
St. Mary's School
St. Vincent DePaul
Sterling Chevrolet
Sterling Commercial Roofing
Sterling Optimist Club
Steve Munson
The Cornerstone Agency, Inc.
Vintage Cousins Emporium
Wendler Engineering Services, Inc.
Willy's Restaurant

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



SVACC and NCI BEST Inc Partner for Drive Thru Job Fair

BEST, Inc., and the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a **Drive-Thru Job Fair on Wednesday, August 11, 2021** from **11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at the Northland Mall, 2900 East Lincolnway, Sterling, Illinois 61081.

Participating businesses are asked to make 200 copies of fliers for their open job positions and drop them off at the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce at located at 211 Locust Street, Sterling, Illinois 61081 no later than **Friday, August 6, 2021.**

Job seekers will be able to drive up and receive a packet of information on jobs in the area and other resource information from the safety of their own vehicles. Businesses and job seekers are encourage to participate.

For more information, please contact Kris Noble at **815-625-2400.**

Get Some Fresh Air!

DO YOU LIKE FRESH AIR? Same here! Hi, my name is Tim Benedict and I am the Indoor Air Quality Specialist for Blackhawk Hills Regional Council (BHRC) –

Northwest Illinois' economic development organization. We have funding from the CARES Act to offer free ventilation studies for all area businesses, public agencies and non-profits. The assessments I perform are simple and effective at seeing how much fresh air exchange your building has and what can be done to improve it if needed.

Test results are for your-eyes-only and not reported elsewhere. In fact, there is no mandated level of ventilation any establishment has to be at but it's helpful to know which indoor spaces could benefit from greater ventilation. Increasing fresh air inside buildings has benefits well beyond the scope of public health, as it increases the general comfort, productivity and well-being of all.

CAN A VENTILATION TEST HELP GET FUNDING TO UPGRADE A HEATING/COOLING SYSTEM? Funding to upgrade HVAC systems is available to local governments and businesses they allocate funds to through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). If your test shows that the public would benefit from better ventilation in your building, we can help you see if ARPA funding is available. This service is also completely free of charge.

As an advocate for our region's businesses and community services, our non-profit (BHRC) wants to help each of you get through these times of change and emerge even stronger. This is one important step we can take to ensure this. To get more information or schedule a visit, I'd love to hear from you.

Tim Benedict/BHRC Indoor Air Quality Specialist: (815) 440-8300 tim.benedict@blackhawkhills.com



Ribbon Cuttings

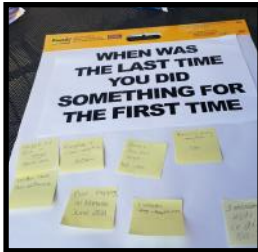


Your CBD Store
 Northland Mall
 2900 E. Lincolnway, 20D
 815-213-7140



First Baptist Church
 1705 6th Ave, Sterling
 815-625-1288

Thank you to those who attended the Professional Women’s Network event on Thursday, July 29. It was a great evening of networking and conversation! PWN meets on the third Wednesday of the month. Email Kris if you’d like to attend the next PWN meeting (knoble@saukvalleyareachamber.com)



The Sauk Valley Keystone Group

Formed in the Spring of 2018 and led by Sterling Main Street and the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce a group of young adults (millennial and Gen Z), from across the Sauk Valley began meeting on a regular basis. The goal for both Main Street and the Chamber was to better engage this demographic in community conversations. To take part in the Keystone Group, members must be born after 1981 and reside within the Sauk Valley area.

Sub-committees to get involved in:

- Dogwood Acres
- Welcome Home Campaign
- Riverfront
- Housing
- Murals



Interested in attending a Keystone meeting?
 Email Kris for more info (knoble@saukvalleyareachamber.com)

Chamber Ambassadors

Allie Johnston – University of Illinois Extension
Amy Tessman – Frary Lumber
Angie Delhotal— Sauk Valley College Foundation
Angie Smith – Hawkins-Cassens Insurance Agency
Becky Eberle – Sterling Federal Bank
Cassandra Salmon – Sauk Valley Bank
Chandra Meyer – Re/Max Sauk Valley
Christina Bystry—House in the Country
Jon Byar – Midland States Bank

Justin Wiggins—Wiggins Computing, LLC
Karen Voss – Morningside of Sterling
Mary White – Community State Bank
Melissa Ryan—Rock River Hospice & Home
Nicole Bollman - CGH Medical Center
Pam Fluck – Sauk Valley Bank
Roy Dern – State Farm
Sheila Martinez – U.S. Bank
Sherry DeWalt – CGH Health Foundation

Ambassador Spotlight—Becky Eberle, Sterling Federal Bank

I was raised in the Sterling/Rock Falls area and have resided in Freeport with my husband and son for the past 4 years. I graduated from Newman Central Catholic High School and attended SVCC. I have been with Sterling Federal Bank for almost 20 years and have experience in various areas of the banking industry. In my years with Sterling Federal, I have donated time and money to numerous Sauk Valley Area organizations. I am looking forward to getting more involved in the community I grew up in, through the SVACC.



Ambassador Spotlight—Karen Voss, Morningside of Sterling

Karen Voss is the Business Office Manager at Morningside of Sterling, an assisted living and memory care community.

Morningside of Sterling is an assisted living community, also offering respite care and short-term stay apartments for older adults. The skilled, friendly and compassionate team members are available 24 hours a day to deliver personalized service for every resident. Residents can enjoy restaurant-style dining, a range of social and educational activities, in house beauty salon, activity room, transportation for errands and appointments, laundry, and housekeeping, and is pet friendly.

The Memory Care Unit supports residents and their families using the Bridge to Rediscovery Alzheimer's and dementia care programming, that provides individualized attention for each resident, including recreational and occupational activities that keep them engaged.

Karen became an ambassador in 1999, wanting to be connected to the community and its leaders. Since becoming involved with the chamber she has served on the Golf, Sights & Sounds, Bowling, Carnival, and 100th Anniversary Committees and served 9 years on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

She is also a member of the Rock Falls Rotary Club, the Dixon Elks Club, and served on the board of Christ Lutheran School. She believes in the mission of helping businesses and organizations in all sectors in the Sauk Valley area grow and prosper.



**Congratulations to
Merle Norman
for receiving the July
Customer Service Award!**

Located at 313 1st Ave, Sterling.
Please call 815-632-3362 for hours
and more information.



CSA Sponsored by:



**Congratulations to
Midwest Tents & Events
for receiving the June
Customer Service Award!**

Visit Midwest Tents & Events at
<http://www.rentmidwesttents.com>



CSA Sponsored by:



Your Voice Has POWER

**eliminating racism
empowering women**

ywca

Sauk Valley



ywsauk.org



Funding provided in whole or in part by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

**We Believe You.
We are Here to Help.**

**We Offer FREE and CONFIDENTIAL
Services for All Genders and Ages**

**24-HOUR HOTLINE:
815.626.7277 & 815.288.1011**

Government Affairs Update

Written by the US Department of Commerce



U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo Announces \$3 Billion Investment in America's Communities

Thursday, July 22, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo announced that the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) will implement a series of programs, collectively called Investing in America's Communities, to equitably invest the \$3 billion it received from President Biden's American Rescue Plan Act to help communities across the country build back better. The EDA investment is the largest economic development initiative from the Department of Commerce in decades.

Later today, Secretary Raimondo will address the White House Briefing Room to further lay out the Biden Administration's vision for how this historic investment will help every community not only rebuild their local economy but also reimagine it for the future.

"President Biden's American Rescue Plan delivered direct relief to the American people and was the first step to energizing the American economy following the devastating impacts of the coronavirus pandemic," said Secretary Raimondo. "Now, its medium-term investments will allow communities around the country not only rebuild but reimagine their economy for the future."

"With an emphasis on equity, EDA's investments made possible by the American Rescue Plan will directly benefit communities that have been denied full access to economic prosperity and who have been disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus pandemic," Secretary Raimondo continued. "We will work with local communities across the country on innovative new approaches to ensure that we can increase American competitiveness by strengthening our workforce, businesses, and communities and build back better in regions across the country."

Investing in America's Communities, was launched today with six Notices of Funding Opportunity:

- Build Back Better Regional Challenge (\$1 billion)
- Good Jobs Challenge (\$500 million)
- Economic Adjustment Assistance Challenge (\$500 million)
- Indigenous Communities Challenge (\$100 million)
- Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Grants (\$750 million)
- Statewide Planning, Research, and Networks Grants (\$90 million)

As part of the six programs, the Department of Commerce and EDA, working with President Biden's Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities, is making a Coal Communities Commitment, which allocates \$300 million in American Rescue Plan funds to coal communities. This investment will ensure that they have the resources to recover from the pandemic and will help create new jobs and opportunities, including through the development or expansion of a new industry sector.



SAVE THE DATE
SVACC Manufacturing Dinner
Thursday, October 7, 2021 | 6pm
The McCormick Event Center *McCormick*
EVENT CENTER



SAUK VALLEY UNITES
WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER WHEN WE SEEK COMMON GROUND AND DISCOURAGE POLARIZATION.
saukvalleyunites.us



Congratulations to the WACC CEO Class of 2022!

We are excited for these students to get started this fall.

East Class:

Bridget McCrory, Dixon HS
Danielle Grygiel, Dixon HS
Nour Alsramah, Dixon HS
Hayden Steinmeyer, Dixon HS
Alexander Georgiev, Dixon HS
Kaden Mulligan, Dixon HS
Marlee Oros, Dixon HS
Logan Moeller, Dixon HS
Kelsey Woolard, Dixon HS
Chloe Coil, Dixon HS
Mason Randick, Dixon HS
Sarah-Elizabeth Haenitsch, Faith Christian School
Morgan McBride, Polo HS

West Class:

Izaak Toms-Smith, Milledgeville High School
Lilianna Smith, Milledgeville High School
Zachary Pauley, Milledgeville High School
Kacen Johnson, Milledgeville High School
Molly Riffle, Morrison High School
Katherine Henson, Morrison High School
Rhett Oetting, Newman Central Catholic High School
Marcus Williams, Newman Central Catholic High School
Kenneth Boesen, Newman Central Catholic High School
Grant Koerner, Newman Central Catholic High School
Carter Gremba, Newman Central Catholic High School
Claire Crisham, Newman Central Catholic High School
Kory Mullen, Newman Central Catholic High School
Ally Clevenger, Newman Central Catholic High School
Matthew Downs, Newman Central Catholic High School
Matthew Megli, Rock Falls High School
Braeden Ruiz, Sterling High School
Lucas Clark, Sterling High School
Luke Valentino, Sterling High School
Kierra Magana, Sterling High School
Carlos Garcia, Sterling High School
Alexandria Headrick, Sterling High School
Alexsia Funderberg, Sterling High School



CREATING ENTREPRENEURIAL
OPPORTUNITIES

Please help us welcome the 2021-2022 Sauk Valley Community Leadership Program cohort.



Jordan Babbitt—Colonial Life
Jenna Brown—Sauk Valley Community College
Kevin Cech—BorgWarner
Chelsea Devers—Halo Branded Solutions
Rebecca Flynn—Sauk Valley Community College
Elizabeth Foster—CGH Medical Center
James Manus—VeriFacts, LLC
Janice Martinez—YWCA of Sauk Valley
Soraya Munoz—Walmart Distribution Center
Violeta Nava—Sauk Valley Bank
Stephanie Saathoff—Edward Jones
Nicole Schafer—Sauk Valley Community College
Tyler Stacey—Sauk Valley Bank
Amanda Wike—United Way of Lee County
Marcia Ybarra—United Way Whiteside County



STERLING MAIN STREET

Inspired.



Involved.

2021 Schedule of Events

APR 24  **EARTH DAY**
Bash
and spring opening of the Sterling Marketplace 

 **STERLING MAIN STREET** **MAY 02**
Car Show

MOVIES @ GRANDON **TBA**

MAY 27
JUN 24
JUL 22
AUG 26  **Pop-Up MARKET**
DOWNTOWN STERLING

AUG 06  *Hot Dog Day*

 **Harvest MOON Festival** **SEP 25**

 *Sip into Fall* **SEP 23**
Downtown Sterling Wine Walk

DEC 03 *Sights & Sounds* 

OCT 09  **HOPS**
on the Rock
A Craft Beer Festival

*All Events Subject to Change due to any ongoing COVID-19 restrictions

www.sterlingmainstreet.org

| 815.626.8610

| info@sterlingmainstreet.org





FUN FAIR

Join us for FREE Family Fun!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

11 AM - 2 PM

STERLING MARKETPLACE

(AVENUE A & W. 2ND STREET, BEHIND THE FACTORY PUB-N-GRUB)

2 INFLATABLE OBSTACLE COURSES BY
BOUNCIN' ALL AROUND PARTY RENTALS

Activities by local businesses & organizations:

- Curt Repass Country Financial
- LSSI
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Whiteside County
- Sauk Valley Food Bank
- Sauk Valley Bank
- Sterling Public Library
- Sterling-Rock Falls Family YMCA
- YWCA of the Sauk Valley
- Tri-County Opportunities Council

ADDITIONAL GAMES & ACTIVITIES BY THE BLIND STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

MUSIC BY 3D SOUND

For the full list of hot dog cooking sites, visit
<https://www.sterlingmainstreet.org/events/hot-dog-day/>

