



Sauk Valley Area  
chamber of commerce

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**ACCREDITED**



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# Partnering for Success

NOVEMBER 2022



**5:00 - 6:30 P.M.**

**3TWELVE  
(312 LOCUST ST., STERLING)**

**FEATURING HIGHLIGHTS FROM ROCK RIVER HOSPICE & HOME**

After the BAH, head to Champs for drinks & entertainment.  
The barbershop singers will start at 7:00 p.m.



Sauk Valley Area  
chamber of commerce

For more information, call 815-625-2400.



**I Am  
Needed.**



Laura Leal, RN, BSN



**Hospital RNs Starting  
at \$32/HR**

**Clinic RNs Starting  
at \$26.84/HR**

**FIND YOUR PASSION AT  
CGHMC.COM/CAREERS**

## October Meetings

- November 8 Board
- November 8 Sights & Sounds
- November 8 Education
- November 10 Ambassadors
- November 15 Ag
- November 16 PWN
- November 17 HBLC

## Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce Directors & Staff

### Executive Committee

President: Dr. Jon Mandrell  
First Vice President: Pam Fluck  
Second Vice President: Tim Determan  
Treasurer: Sheila Martinez  
Past President: Lance Buser

### **Term Ends January 31, 2023**

Mike Loos, Edward Jones Investments  
Sheila Martinez, U.S. Bank  
Rick Turnroth, Turnroth Sign Company  
Pam Fluck, Self Help Enterprises

### **Term Ends January 31, 2024**

Dave Knie, Knie Appliance & TV  
Tim Determan, Pinney Printing  
Steve Munson, Retired, The Medicine Shoppe  
Lance Buser, Wal-Mart DC #7024  
Ryan Olson, Ward Murray Pace & Johnson  
Violet Nava, Sauk Valley Bank

### **Term Ends January 31, 2025**

Alejandro Rivera, RE/MAX Sauk Valley  
Geoff Wright, CGH Medical Center  
Josh Johnson, Whiteside Area Career Center  
Dr. Jon Mandrell, SVCC  
Rebecca Munoz-Ripley, YWCA

### Staff

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

## A Message from the Director

As we enter the holiday season it is important to promote shopping locally. As you connect with family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors, share these ideas behind the importance of shopping local!

*(information below is from Metro Family Magazine)*

1. **Keep Money Local**—Sales taxes fund our communities and provide vital services such as police and fire protection, street repairs and trash collection.
2. **Local Investment**—Local businesses are less susceptible to national downturns and more likely to work harder to stay open.
3. **Locally-Made Products**—Local business owners often sell local products, which helps preserve the community's distinction and creates more jobs locally.
4. **Support for Nonprofits**—Local businesses support good work in our community. Studies show that nonprofits receive 250% more support from small businesses than large ones.
5. **Discover Interesting Things and People**—One-of-a-kind shops and restaurants are part of what makes our city a great place to live.
6. **Product Knowledge**—Local business owners are well informed about their products and know what they are selling.
7. **Diverse Products**—Local stores carry inventory you might not find at national chain stores.
8. **Cost Effective**—Sometimes prices at local businesses are better because they don't have the overhead that larger stores may have.
9. **Better Experience**—Local shopping can translate to more convenient retail experiences.
10. **Increased Expertise**—Shopping at a local store means you can get an expert opinion about the products that you're purchasing.
11. **Better Service**—Local business owners do what they do because they are passionate about their products and typically take more time to get to know their customers.
12. **Support Future Growth**—shopping locally is the best way to show pride in your city and help protect the businesses that make our city unique.

We welcome Violet Nava, Sauk Valley Bank, to the SVACC Board of Directors! Violet is the AVP Retail Market Manager at Sauk Valley Bank. She is an active member of the Hispanic Business Leaders Committee, and we look forward to adding her energy and ideas to the SVACC Board.



*Kris*

# Investor Update November 2022

## NEW INVESTORS

Tri-County Opportunities Council  
800-323-5434  
405 Emmons Ave, Rock Falls

Mandy Rae's Eyebrow Studio  
815-564-7130  
402 W 20th St, Rock Falls

Whiteside County Healthier Communities Partnership  
815-564-8040  
1313 Riverview Rd, Sterling

Kunes RV  
815-718-6671  
2502 Locust St, Sterling

## INVESTOR RENEWALS

Abiding Word Church  
Alternative Ag Services & Consultants  
Central Heating & Cooling, Inc.  
CliftonLarsonAllen  
Corner Gallery  
Creative Cuisine Catering, Inc.  
Crown Exterminator, Inc.  
Culver's of Rock Falls  
Dairy Queen Brazier  
Destinations Travel Services, Inc.  
Frantz Manufacturing  
Greencastle of Sterling

Heritage Woods of Sterling  
James S. Ferris, DDS, PC  
Kelly's Restaurant, Inc.  
Kreider Services  
Liquor N Wine  
Live Better Chiropractic, PC  
Moore Tires, Inc  
New Millenium Directories  
PFLAG Sauk Valley  
Pinney Printing  
Rock Falls High School  
Rock River Lumber & Grain  
Rotary Airlock

Scholl Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Select Employees Credit Union  
Sterling Chevrolet  
Sterling Federal Bank  
Sterling Rock Falls Family YMCA  
The Wellspring Medical Spa  
United Electric  
University of Illinois Extension  
US Postal Service  
Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson  
Wilco Rental, Inc.  
Woodlawn Arts Academy

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!

### Over \$1000 Invested

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

Altran Magnetics  
Amazing Grace of Sterling  
Bushel Basket Candle Co.  
Green Bee Energy Efficiency  
Happy Tails Humane Society  
Helm Civil  
Hill's Electric Motor Service, Inc.  
Illinois American Water  
James S Ferris, DDS, PC  
Lance's Plumbing  
Lee Ogle Transportation System  
Lil Smoked

LK Design Source  
Loescher HVAC  
Mattox Insurance Agency  
Moore Monument & Granite Co  
Rock River Hospice & Home  
Roy Dern State Farm Insurance  
St. Vincent DePaul Society  
Sawdust N Dreamz  
Select Employees Credit Union  
Sterling Rock Falls Child Care  
Sterling Township  
The Toy Store  
T-Mobile  
United Craftsmen, Ltd.

### 110% Club

1st Gateway Credit Union  
Allstate Insurance Company  
Astec Mobile Screens Inc  
Bardier & Ramirez Real Estate  
Bollman Auto Center  
Candlelight Inn  
Cassens Drainage  
Central Heating & Cooling  
Compeer Financial  
Dennis Electric of Tampico  
Farmer's National Bank

Folsom's Bakery  
Hawkins-Cassens Insurance  
Imprintable Memories  
Jim Prescott's BBQ Shop  
Johnson Oil Company  
Kelly's Restaurant  
Kiwanis Club of Sterling  
Marv Lofgren & Sons Contractors  
Mertes & Mertes  
New Millenium Directories  
Reitzel Roofing Company  
Rock River Lumber & Grain

Rock River Ready Mix  
Rosemeyer Management Group  
Sauk Valley Food Bank  
Scholl Insurance Agency  
Sedona Staffing  
Servicemaster  
Shelly Dambman CPA  
Sherwin Williams Company  
Showplace Antiques & Treasures  
St. Mary's School  
St. Vincent DePaul

Stahr Media  
Sterling Chevrolet  
Sterling Commercial Roofing  
Sterling Napa Auto Parts  
Sterling Optimist Club  
The Cornerstone Agency  
Vintage Cousins Emporium  
Wendler Engineering Services  
Willy's Restaurant  
Winter Construction

## Chamber Ambassadors

Allie Johnston – University of Illinois Extension  
Angie Delhotal— Sauk Valley College Foundation  
Brock Burlack – T-Mobile  
Cassandra Salmon – Sauk Valley Bank  
Chandra Meyer – Re/Max Sauk Valley  
Christina Bystry — House in the Country  
Janell Loos — Heritage Woods  
Jennifer Alvarez — Surf Broadband  
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  
Skip Dettman—LSSI  
Tygen Bausman—Sterling Federal Bank

### Ambassador Spotlight — Allie Johnston, University of Illinois Extension

My Name is Allie Johnston and I am the 4-H Program Coordinator for Whiteside County as a part of the University of Illinois Extension. I've been with Extension for almost 10 years and really enjoy working with the kids, families and our volunteers. 4-H is open to all youth 5-7 for our cloverbud age group and 8-18 for our 4-H members. We have 5 community clubs in Whiteside County and many wonderful volunteers who help keep those clubs running, having fun and making an impact on their communities. We also do short term programming such as SPIN clubs (special interest clubs, that focus on one project area) as well as workshops and clinics for youth to get a taste of 4-H.



Outside of 4-H, I am married to my husband, Mitchel, and have a beautiful daughter, Nell, and mini goldendoodle, Griff. I am involved in a few other organizations including: Sauk Valley Area Chamber Ambassadors, Education Committee and Sights and Sounds Committee. As well as Sterling Kiwanis, the Keystone group, and a mentor for Sterling Public Schools. I enjoy being involved in my community and trying to make an impact where I can.

### Want to join the Ambassadors?

SVACC Ambassadors serve as the public relations arm of the Chamber. They're the face of the chamber and play a crucial role in the work SVACC does. This professional business group works within the membership serving as a liaison between membership and the community. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at different member locations. Individuals interested in becoming an Ambassador need to submit an application for consideration.

**Please call 815-625-2400 or email [knoble@saukvalleyareachamber.com](mailto:knoble@saukvalleyareachamber.com) to apply**

### Don't forget to vote in the upcoming elections!

Stay informed with the links below:

General election information: <https://www.elections.il.gov/>

Ballot information: <https://www.ballotready.org/il>





## Business After Hours | House in the Country

Thank you to House in the Country for hosting a lovely Business After Hours on October 20.

Our next BAH will be November 17 at 3Twelve. Please join us!



## Manufacturing Dinner

Celebrating manufacturing in our region is important to us at the chamber. It was wonderful to see how many of you joined us for the 4th Annual Manufacturing Dinner on October 13.



## SVACC Ag Committee

In October, the SVACC Ag Committee presented a contribution to the Sauk Valley College Foundation to support the SVCC Animal Science Lab.



Pictured left to right: Ed Wolf, Keith Zoeller, Brandt Hutchcraft, Jacob Baker, Alan Bauer, Dr. Jon Mandrell, Dr. Lori Cortez, and Matt Lillpop.



# Ribbon Cuttings



Self Help Enterprises  
2300 W. LeFevre Rd, Sterling  
(815) 626-3115



The Toy Store  
Northland Mall—Sterling  
(815) 622-5996



Bushel Basket Candle Co.  
Northland Mall—Sterling  
(815) 622-5996



PC Tech 2U  
106 N 2nd St , Rock Falls  
(815) 564-2300



Northern Illinois Veterinary Services  
651 Otter Creek Drive, Milledgeville  
(815) 225-7127



REMI'S Fashion & Boutique  
711 N Brinton Ave, Dixon  
(815) 994-4277



Take 5 Oil Change  
4106 E. Lincolnway, Sterling  
(815) 213-7765



In Home Personal Services  
110 E. Lynn Blvd Suite B, Sterling  
(815) 997-2606



Chuck Wagon  
1201 E 4th St, Sterling  
(815) 213-7207

## Workforce Development



The SVACC, Sterling Main Street, and Greater Sterling Development Corporation participated in the Pathways Playground event organized by ROE #47 and SVCC. Through the event, over 1,000 8<sup>th</sup> graders had the opportunity to learn about the many career pathways in the Sauk Valley.

The SVACC is committed to career exploration initiatives as it allows our local students to learn about the various career options and employers in the Sauk Valley.

As a member of the SVACC, I invite you to learn more about how you can get your business or organization more involved in making connections with local students and educators to highlight the work you do.

For more information, please contact Kris Noble at 815-625-2400 or [knoble@saukvalleyareachamber.com](mailto:knoble@saukvalleyareachamber.com).

The SVACC's Hispanic Business Leaders Committee (HBLC) hosted Diana Alfaro, Latinx Business Development Manager with the Office of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE) at the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO), for a tour of several Latinx owned business in Sterling. Committee members, Mary White, Community State Bank; Civia Rivera, YWCA of the Sauk Valley; Violet Nava, Sauk Valley Bank; and Tygen Bausman, Sterling Federal Bank, engaged business owners in conversation about some of the challenges and opportunities of being a Latinx small business owner.

Diana also joined the monthly HBLC meeting to provide information on resources available through OMEE and DCEO. It was a great visit, and we thank Diana for spending the day in Sterling to learn about our small businesses and local Latinx community.

Thank you to Ellie's Gaming, El Vaquero, Aurelio's, and CaroLitza's for joining in the conversation.





The Sauk Valley Community Leadership Program cohort began class at Sauk Valley Community College on October 5, 2022, which included a full-morning workshop with Danny Langloss, retired Dixon Police Chief and current Dixon City Manager. Langloss discussed, among other things, fundamentals of leadership, leading the “whole person,” and the “12 Values and Laws of Leadership Excellence.” Langloss’ engaging, interactive presentation was followed by a fantastic lunch from Fresco on First of Dixon.



We began class on October 19 with an insightful Q & A with Dr. Bill Bird, CGH Vice President and Chief Medical Officer; Dr. Joyce Johnson, family medical specialist at KSB and Clinical Assistant Professor for UIC; and Kim Gaffey, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Gaffey Home Nursing & Hospice.



The SVCLP cohort then had an unparalleled opportunity to learn from the following medical professionals: Dr. Linda Hellmich, licensed Clinical Psychologist in the Outpatient Behavioral Health Unit at KSB Hospital; Dr. Kelly S. Flanagan, Licensed Clinical Psychologist, is the Clinical Director of Florissa in Dixon; Valerie Kern-Lyons, Clinical Mental Health and Academic Counselor, Professor; and Natalie Moeller, Certified Clinical Trauma Professional Coordinator of Academic Advising and Clinical Counseling at Moeller, Myers & Associates, PC.



After a short discussion with Philip Atilano, our host at Dixon’s The Next Picture Show, lunch was provided by Baker Street of Dixon.

## Guest Editorial



### **Sterling Park District Guest Editorial: Westwood Wellness – Coming Soon!**

*Mary Cancini, Westwood Wellness Manager*

Wellness is defined as an active process of increasing awareness and actively making choices towards a healthy and fulfilling life. Most individuals know the importance of exercise, but we often neglect to recognize rest and recovery as important elements of a fitness program. Rest and recovery allow the body time to repair and strengthen itself between workouts and competitions.

At Westwood we want to provide the best tools to improve your overall health and wellness. In early 2023, we will open Westwood Wellness – a 3,500 square foot “addition” to building #1. The addition enhances Westwood’s already comprehensive health and fitness opportunities.

The amenities that will be offered include: hydro massage therapy, compression therapy, infrared saunas, stand-up tanning booths, cryo chamber therapy, red light therapy, salt therapy, spray tan, and an Alter-G (Anti-Gravity) treadmill. These services will cover everything you need to clear your mind and body, accelerate recovery from workouts and injuries, and even slow down the signs of aging. Many of these amenities will be included at no additional charge with your fitness membership, while a nominal fee will be assessed for others. Non-members may use the facility by paying the Westwood Wellness daily drop-in fee.

We invite you to check out our new addition – Westwood Wellness, opening early 2023!





*Written by: Carver Grummert, Newman High School*

The hardest thing to do in CEO is explain CEO to a high school student. That's just what we did at the Bureau Valley High School Career Fair. One of the main reasons I joined CEO was to push myself and get myself out of my comfort zone. Some of the West class students took a trip to Bureau Valley and you guessed it, I was pushed out of my comfort zone. Our goal was to explain the program and convince them to join. It was hard in the beginning I will admit. Luckily, we did have candy, which helped draw them in. But the more I talked, it became easier and easier until I got the perfect pitch down. As time went on, I started to remember some of the things I learned from past speakers, who gave great advice. That day really helped me work on my public speaking and talking to strangers. Helping me get one step closer to the trade show.

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*Written by: Ben Roth, Bureau Valley High School*

If you told me in August that I would make connections with people an ocean away, I would call you crazy. Let's rewind a bit.

My name is Ben Roth and I am part of the 2022-2023 CEO Class. I am a senior at Bureau Valley and involved throughout the school like in Cross Country and Drama. I moved to the area in 2011, living just a couple miles south of Tampico which means I have heard the story of Ronald Reagan several times. That included going to the museum in Tampico when I was younger and knowing people who had connections to the Reagan family. As CEO progressed, we were told that Mayor Graham Jeal from Grantham, England was coming to visit the area because of Ronald Reagan's historical roots. Grantham was the birthplace of Margaret Thatcher who was a political ally and good friend of Reagan during the end of the Cold War. As someone who has lived in Tampico for most of my life, I had to meet this guy. The day finally came to meet the mayor at the Dixon City Hall. He was an adventurous man who had a successful career internationally and so many stories to tell. When he left, he mentioned that there would be a ceremony at Tampico to link Tampico and Grantham as Sister Cities. I knew I had to go. So the next day, I took some time out of my day to watch this historic event as people from my community interacted with this mayor from an entire ocean away. If it wasn't for CEO, I wouldn't have been able to watch this event. Through this event, I was able to put my name out there in my community and meet the people who run the museum.

CEO has been changing my life for the better one piece at a time. I can't wait to see what happens next. Also shout out to Sean Sandrock (CEO Class of 2020) who helped organize Mayor Jeal's journey through the United States and being with him every step of the way.

## Welcome Home Sauk Valley

Welcome Home Sauk Valley is a joint initiative of the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce, Sterling Main Street and Sauk Valley Community College, in partnership with the Sterling Schools Foundation. Its mission is to promote the Sauk Valley area as an amazing place to live, whether you are looking to relocate or simply return to your roots.

**Know someone considering moving to, or back to, the Sauk Valley area?**

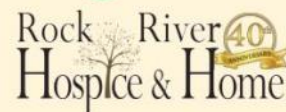
Encourage them to visit [welcomehomesaukvalley.com](https://welcomehomesaukvalley.com).

Rock River Hospice & Home

Festival of Trees  
**Country Store**  
Downtown Sterling



2 E 3rd St.



November 10th-20th

**STORE HOURS:**

November 10th, 11th, and 12th: 10AM-6PM

Sunday, November 13th: 12PM-5PM

November 14th, 15th, 16th, 18th, 19th :10AM-6PM

**\*\* THURSDAY, November 17th\*\***

**10AM-8PM (Browse, Bid, and Buy Event)**

Sunday, November 20th: 12PM-3PM

Sponsored by:





# SAVE THE DATE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2



Scan this code  
for details



Festivities begin at 5 PM for late night shopping,  
tree lighting, horse & carriage rides, fireworks,  
entertainment, kids activities & more!

Sponsored by:



**comed**<sup>SM</sup>  
AN EXELON COMPANY

**Walmart**   
Supply Chain



**Sterling federal  
Bank**



  
**COMCAST**  
 **Helm**

Illinois American Water

Lundstrom Florist • Midland States Bank • PC Tech 2U • SBM  
Showplace Treasures & Antiques • The Caring Center

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MAIN STREET**  
*Inspired. Involved.*

  For more information visit  
[www.sterlingmainstreet.org](http://www.sterlingmainstreet.org)



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