



SPECIAL POINTS  
OF INTEREST:

- **Ambassadors welcome two new members** (page 3)
- **Openings on BAB Schedule** (page 3)

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# Dixon Area Business News

VOLUME 125, ISSUE 09

SEPTEMBER 2011

## Chamber Focus...

### Add this logo to your company website!

Demonstrate your involvement and support of the Dixon Area Chamber by placing our new Membership Logo on your website. Set it up so when a visitor to your site clicks on the logo, it will link to the Dixon Area Chamber's website where they can obtain more information about the Dixon area and area businesses. Participating members will receive an updated logo each year.



To see a sample of this logo in use, visit the Orthopedic Rehab Specialists website — <http://www.orspt.com/locations.html> — they were our first participating member.

If you would like to receive this logo for use on your website, call our office, 815-284-3361, or send an e-mail to [vickidixoncc@gmail.com](mailto:vickidixoncc@gmail.com).

## Chamber Radio Day...

The Dixon Area Chamber's 2011 Radio Day will take place Wednesday, October 19th, on WIXN AM 1460. This annual Chamber fundraiser gives us the opportunity to create an increased community awareness of Chamber activities and programs.

Your business can benefit, too. We invite you to participate! Regardless of your type of business, Radio Day is a great way to tell the community about what you do and why area residents should buy from you.

Chamber Radio Day features an entire day of extraordinary programming with community agency interviews and Chamber business profiles. Help us inform the community about the Chamber by becoming a Radio Day sponsor. Radio Day is one of our largest fundraisers each year benefiting Chamber programs and services.

The Chamber will be sending complete Radio Day information soon to all of our members. Several sponsorship packages will be available. The best value will be a package that includes a 3 to 5 minute on-air interview on Chamber Radio Day, commercial messages before, during, and after Radio Day, plus a listing in the Radio Day ad in The Telegraph. Call the Chamber office now to reserve your place in this important program, 815-284-3361.

## Job Fest 2011...

Looking for employees?

Job Fest 2011 will be held on Tuesday, November 15, from 2 - 7 p.m. at Sauk Valley Community College. The purpose of Job Fest is to provide an opportunity for employers to recruit new employees and for community members to interview for job opportunities.

It is sponsored by Sauk Valley Media, Sauk Valley Community College, and the Dixon, Rock Falls and Sauk Valley Area Chambers of Commerce. Registration information will be included in next month's Dixon Area Chamber newsletter. For more information or to get a registration form before our October newsletter comes out, contact Katy Olds, Marketing Coordinator, Sauk Valley Media, 815-625-3600, Ext. 681.

## Schedule of Events...

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 6, Noon  
Chamber Board Room

### CHAMBER BOARD MEETING

Thursday, September 8, Noon  
Chamber Board Room

### ComEd SMART GRID PROGRAM

Sponsored by LCIDA and Dixon Area Chamber  
Friday, September 9, 11:00 am  
Timber Creek Banquet Center

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEK IN ILLINOIS

September 12—16, 2011

### BAB

Thursday, September 15, 5:00 - 6:30 pm  
at Fifth Third Bank

### CHAMBER TALK LINE

Monday, October 3, 8:15 am  
WIXN AM 1460

### CHAMBER AMBASSADORS

Thursday, October 6, Noon  
Sterling Federal Bank (Southside Office)

### BAB

Thursday, October 13, 5:00 - 6:30 pm  
at Sterling Federal Bank (Southside Office)

### CHAMBER RADIO DAY

Wednesday, October 19, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
WIXN AM 1460

### JOB FEST 2011

Tuesday, November 15, 2:00 - 7:00 pm  
At Sauk Valley Community College

### Fabulous prizes given away at BAB

Some great prizes were given away at the Chamber's August BAB sponsored by Clifton Gunderson and Dixon Rotary Club.

Tickets to a Cubs/Cardinals game were donated by **WIXN** AM 1460, River Country 101.7, and KOOL 95.7 for the Chamber's August BAB raffle prize. Doug Lee won the tickets.

**WIXN** donated a gift certificate, good for \$500 in radio advertising, to **Dixon Rotary Club** for use as a prize in the business card drawing. Mitch Tucker of Dixon Paint Company was the winner. **Flowers Etc.** and **Comcast Spotlight** also donated items for Dixon Rotary to give as BAB prizes.

Many more great business card drawing prizes were provided by the other BAB host, **Clifton Gunderson**...including a Kindle won by Jim Sarver of Sinnissippi Centers.

### Another Great Prize is planned for September

**Fifth Third Bank** is giving two tickets to a Bears game to a lucky business card drawing winner at their BAB on September 15th. (Bring your business cards!)

**"Thank you to all these businesses for their outstanding contributions in support of the Chamber."**

### Business Card Drawing Winners August BAB

Jim Sarver, Sinnissippi Centers  
Mitch Tucker, Dixon Paint Co.  
Lissa Jones, Studio 404  
Mike Hubbell, Lee-Ogle Transportation System  
Seth VanBuren, Medical Products Group  
Jean Gornik, Heritage Square  
Bonnie O'Connell, Heritage Square  
John Anning, IcyColors  
Kathy Cecchetti, WIXN AM 1460  
Ed Lynott, River Country 101.7  
Tom Rich, BorgWarner  
Terry Doty, Doty Studio  
Jeanne Kuhn, Tourism Council  
Ken McMunn, Retired

### August BAB Raffle Winner

Doug Lee, Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Lee

## We welcome...this new Chamber Member:

### **Comfort Inn & Suites - Rochelle**

Amber Miatke, Sales Department

1133 North 7th Street

Rochelle, IL

815-562-5551

[www.hotelrochelle.com](http://www.hotelrochelle.com)

*Hotels & Motels*

## Ambassadors News...

### **Welcome—Two New Chamber Ambassadors**

The Chamber extends a warm welcome to our newest Ambassadors —

**Nancy Nesyto-Freske** of Journey Yoga. Nancy is a certified yoga instructor. Her business just re-located to 103 S. Peoria Avenue in Dixon.

and

**Michelle Knight**, who has previously served as an Ambassador, is returning to the group after a short departure. She has recently accepted a new position in the marketing department at the First National Bank in Amboy.

The Ambassadors function as a public relations and good-will arm of the Chamber. They welcome new Chamber members at ribbon cuttings and open houses, serve as hosts at Chamber programs, and provide assistance at events held by the Chamber as well as other organizations like the Petunia Festival and Dixon Main Street.

### **Openings on BAB Schedule:**

#### **Want to Co-host the November 2011 BAB?**

The Brandywine is hosting the November 2011 BAB. They are willing to accept co-hosts for the BAB. (Co-hosting is a great option for those members who don't have enough room to host at their own business or aren't sure whether they want to do it all on their own.) Contact The Brandywine at 815-284-8484 or the Chamber office at 815-284-3361 if you want to discuss this co-hosting opportunity.

#### **Call now to reserve a month to host a 2012 or 2013 BAB**

Want to show off a new product or celebrate a business milestone? Looking for a way to bring more folks into your business? Sponsoring a Dixon Chamber BAB might be just the ticket. Reservations are accepted up to two years in advance -- first come, first served.

If you're interested in hosting a BAB in 2012, you better make your reservation soon. The only months still available for hosting next year are February, April, September and November. We encourage you to call now for months in 2013 because the schedule tends to fill up fast.

#### **What's involved?**

Each of our BAB hosts is required to comply with the Dixon Area Chamber's BAB Policy. The policy includes the provision that the hosting business must pay a refundable reservation fee of \$150 to reserve a BAB date. (The fee is not returned if host cancels less than 60 days prior to the first day of the month reserved.) Hosts must provide a place for the BAB, refreshments, and prizes for the business card drawing. Other than those costs, there is no fee to sponsor a BAB.

For more information, to obtain a copy of our BAB Policy or to reserve a month to host a Business After Business, call the Chamber office at 815-284-3361.

## Member News...

### — Congratulations to Pam's Hallmark — Celebrating their 30th Anniversary!

Plan to attend the 30th Anniversary Open House at Pam's Hallmark on Saturday, September 24. There's a full-page flier later in this newsletter with more information about this special event.

### Hospice Volunteer Training Begins September 14

There is no time like the present to add life to each day of a hospice patient. That is exactly what hospice volunteers do. They provide companionship and support to the terminally ill and their loved ones. They share stories, write letters, provide a listening ear and more. All because they care.

Hospice of the Rock River Valley (HRRV), a United Way Agency, is challenging individuals to put caring into action. HRRV begins its volunteer training session on September 14 at the hospice office on Route 2 between Dixon and Sterling.

A hospice volunteer fills many roles through direct patient care, serving on the baking brigade or assisting with a variety of special events. The training session will focus on direct patient care volunteering. Direct care volunteers are assigned a patient and family, and visit as needed. There is an increasing need for bi-lingual volunteers as well.

To make a difference in someone's life, become a hospice volunteer in your community by calling Judy Jellerichs at (815) 288-3673.

Submitted by: Karen Voss, Marketing Director  
Hospice of the Rock River Valley

Submission requests for "Member News" are accepted in written format only, preferably by e-mail. The Chamber reserves the right to edit submissions due to staff, time and space limitations. Member news is available only on a first-come, first-served rotating basis.

Email your news to [vcdchamber@dsl.essex1.com](mailto:vcdchamber@dsl.essex1.com).

### The Rock River Human Resource Professional Association (RRHRPA)

The Rock River Human Resource Professional Association's 2011 / 2012 program year gets underway later this month. This local organization isn't just for HR professionals of major employers. The RRHRPA chapter also helps small business owners and HR departments of one. All Dixon Chamber members are invited to join this professional association serving Lee, Whiteside, Ogle and surrounding counties and communities.

RRHRPA is dedicated to professional development and networking of human resources professionals. The RRHRPA is an affiliate chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).

Attend your first meeting as a guest at no charge! See the enclosed full-page flier for information about RRHRPA and plan to attend an upcoming Chapter Meeting.

### Nominate an Employer for a Workplace Diversity Award

The Rock River Human Resource Professionals Association wishes to affirm diversity and recognize those Rock River Valley employers demonstrating commitment to building and maintaining diversity in their workplace. A nomination form is included in this newsletter.

Submitted by: Carol Fitzgerald, RRHRPA

### New to Czyzyk Printing

We would like to introduce Christine McFadden, the newest family member of Czyzyk Enterprises Full Service Print. She promises, to you and to all clients, personal attention to detail to earn your continued business. Czyzyk Printing offers a 110% price match on all items, guaranteeing to be the lowest priced with a better quality. To contact Christine call 877-91-PRINT (77468) ext. 5 or call 815-703-3079.

Submitted by: Donald Czyzyk, Czyzyk Printing

DIXON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
**BUSINESS AFTER BUSINESS**

**THURSDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 2011**  
**5:00 - 6:30 PM**



**YOUR HOST:**

**FIFTH THIRD BANK**

**INCLUDING**  
**FIFTH THIRD MORTGAGE**  
**FIFTH THIRD SECURITIES**  
**FIFTH THIRD PROCESSING SOLUTIONS**

**102 S. GALENA AVENUE, DIXON**



**FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS.**  
**MIX BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE.**  
**ENJOY REFRESHMENTS.**  
**BRING YOUR BUSINESS CARDS.**  
**ENTER TO WIN DOOR PRIZES.**

**B A B**

**2011**

**Chamber Officers:**

Matt Hermes  
Chairman of the Board  
Heartland Realty II, LLC

Tim Broos  
1st Vice Chairman  
KSB Hospital

Joann Sheridan  
2nd Vice Chairman  
Sterling Federal Bank

Jenny Koch  
Treasurer  
Wipfli LLP

**Chamber Directors:**

Eric Brantley  
Trein's Jewelry Store  
Ed Bushman  
The Telegraph  
Tad Kerr  
ComEd Energy Services

Barb Majeski  
Manpower Staffing Services  
George Mobarak  
Rock River Ready Mix  
Todd Neisewander  
Raynor

Bonnie O'Connell  
Heritage Square  
Shawn Ortgiesen  
City of Dixon  
Sandy Schuler  
dezine

Rick Schulz  
Wal★Mart  
Darryl Vandervort  
Lee County Industrial  
Development Association

Emily Vivian  
Ehrmann, Gehlbach,  
Badger & Lee  
Will Yount  
Yount Insurance Services

**Ex-officio:**

Joni Ehnen  
Dixon Chamber  
Ambassadors

Josh Albrecht  
Dixon Main Street

Jim Seeberg  
Lee County Board  
Chairman

James Burke  
Mayor, City of Dixon

**Chamber Staff:**

John R. Thompson  
President/CEO

Vicki L. Carlson  
Vice President

Kaye King  
Executive Secretary

Adrienne Keeley  
Secretary

**2011 TOP TEN**

**Our Top Ten Dues Investors - Thanks for your support!**

Dixon Direct  
Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Lee  
First National Bank in Amboy  
Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital  
KSB Medical Group

Midland States Bank  
Raynor Garage Doors  
Spectrum Brands  
Sterling Federal Bank  
US Bank

**\*\*\* 150% CLUB MEMBERS \*\*\***

*This extra support is truly appreciated!*

AZZ Galvanizing of Dixon, Inc.

Kreider Services, Inc.

Anne's Garden Center

Lee County Republican Central Committee

Brown Construction

LRB Distributors

Clifton Gunderson LLP

Mechanical, Incorporated

Comcast Cable-Internet-Phone

PLN Mutual Insurance Company

Comfort Inn of Dixon

Preston Schilling Funeral Home

DC Computers

Raynor Garage Doors

Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Lee

Rock River Human Resource Professional Assoc.

Franklin Grove Bank

Rock River Ready Mix, Inc.

Heartland Realty II, LLC

VFW Post #540

Home of Hope Cancer Wellness Centers

Williams & McCarthy

Jacobs Builders LLC

Wipfli LLP

Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital

WIXN AM & River Country 101.7

KSB Medical Group

Kathy Yount

Ken Nelson Auto Group

**Chamber Ambassadors**

2011 Officers:

Joni Ehnen  
President  
H.B. Wilkinson Title Company  
& The Brandywine

Laura Bock  
Vice President  
Sauk Valley Properties

Sarah Smith  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Cloud 9

Julie Brady  
Sterling Federal Bank  
Ed Bushman  
Sauk Valley Media  
Michael Clark  
WSDR, WSSQ, & WZZT  
Tim Crawford  
Crawford Realty  
Angie Dallam  
Clifton Gunderson LLP  
Melissa Glessner  
US Bank  
Sally Hanrahan  
BEST, Inc. / WIA  
Kim Hvarre  
Hospice of the Rock River Valley  
& Hvarre Painting, Inc.  
Pat Jones, Jr.  
Jones Funeral Home

Matt Keegan  
Ward Murray Pace & Johnson  
Michelle Knight  
First National Bank in Amboy  
Diane Langenfeld  
Appraisal Associates of  
Northwest Illinois  
Ed Lynott  
WIXN AM/River Country FM  
Melissa Mehrens  
AAA Home Builders LLC  
Meghan McCullah  
Edward Jones - Chad Weigle  
Nancy Nesyto-Freske  
Journey Yoga  
Jill Pfeiffer  
Dixon Healthcare & Rehab  
Gary Presley  
State Farm Insurance

Ashleigh Reaver  
Sauk Valley Bank  
Linda Ross  
Ken Nelson Auto Group  
Rick Schulz  
Walmart  
Jackie Short  
KSB Hospital  
Coral Tichler  
Community State Bank  
Deb Trancoso  
BorgWarner  
Vicky Turner-Pence  
United Country Burke Realty  
Susan VanSickle  
Fifth Third Bank  
Chris Wolfe  
Manpower

**Dixon Area Chamber of  
Commerce & Industry**

101 W. Second Street  
Suite 301  
Dixon, IL 61021

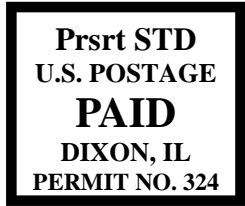
Phone: 815-284-3361

Fax: 815-284-3675

E-mail: [dchamber@essex1.com](mailto:dchamber@essex1.com)

[www.dixonillinoischamber.com](http://www.dixonillinoischamber.com)

... Making a difference in our community.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

*"2011 is our 125th year  
promoting the Dixon Area!"*



**What is a Chamber of Commerce?**

- A Chamber of Commerce is a coalition of area businesses, industries, organizations, and professionals who pool their talents and resources to improve the economic, civic, and cultural climate of their community.
- As a Chamber member, you become a part of an organization with a strong credible voice that speaks out on behalf of business and industry.
- A Chamber membership allows you to shape your community by participating in projects and special task groups which apply business-oriented solutions to community concerns.
- As a Chamber member, you have access to one of the most efficient, effective networking systems available to promote your business and expand your customer base.
- The Dixon Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry works tirelessly to promote our members, and can provide you with resources and referrals to grow your business.
- A Chamber membership can boost your community image and increase your sales. A recent national survey found that consumers are 63% more likely to buy from Chamber members.