



Sauk Valley Area
chamber of commerce

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ACCREDITED



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Partnering for Success

AUGUST 2024

Join the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce
and TBK Bank for

business after HOURS

Thursday,
AUGUST, 15
5:15 - 6:30 p.m.

Join us for door
prizes, snacks, and
networking

TBK BANK
215 3rd Ave., Sterling





**EARN YOUR
TUITION**
AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SIGN UP BY SEPTEMBER 1 • SVCC.EDU/IMPACT

August Meetings

August 6 Exec Board
August 8 Ambassadors
August 13 Education
August 13 Board of Directors
August 15 HBLC
August 20 Ag

Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce Directors & Staff

Executive Committee

President: Pam Fluck
First Vice President: Geoff Wright
Second Vice President: Alejandro Rivera
Treasurer: Tim Determan
Past President: Dr. Jon Mandrell

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

Term Ends January 31, 2026

Pam Fluck, Self Help Enterprises
Sandi Cavazos, US Bank
Kristina Kaecker, Kunes RV

Term Ends January 31, 2027

Tim Determan, Pinney Printing
Lance Buser, Wal-Mart DC #7024
Ryan Olson, Ward Murray Pace & Johnson
Bailey Schneiderbauer, Sauk Valley Bank
Mike Ceruzzi, Moore Tire
Josh Knie, Knie Appliance & TV

Staff

Executive Director—Dallas Knack
Office Manager/Financial Specialist—Janie Fisher
Kris Noble

The views expressed by any member of the Chamber do not represent the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce in any official endorsement or support of any specific elected official or political party. Any products, events, statements, views or opinions offered or expressed by members are not the products, events, statements, views or opinions of the SVACC, nor endorsed by the Chamber or its membership at large.

A Message from the Director

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new director for the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce. It's an honor to continue the great work of our organization and carry out the chamber's mission of enhancing the economic climate and quality of life in the Sauk Valley area.

First, I would like to express my gratitude to each of you for your investment in membership. Your commitment is the backbone of our efforts to support local businesses, advocate for our community's interests, and create a thriving environment for all. It is through your dedication that we are able to implement programs and initiatives that make a real difference including scholarships for local students, ag education efforts, manufacturing education efforts, workforce development, and more.

As we move forward, I am excited to build upon the strong foundation laid by my predecessors and work collaboratively with our members and community. I am committed to ensuring that our chamber remains a valuable resource for you, providing opportunities for networking, education, and advocacy that will help your business succeed.

I look forward to meeting each of you, learning more about your business or organization, and understanding how we can best serve your needs. Please swing by our office, send me an email (director@saukvalleyareachamber.com) or call 815-625-2400 to chat.

Thank you once again for your dedication and support. Here's to a prosperous future for all of us!



Dallas Knack,
Executive Director

Investor Update August 2024

NEW MEMBERS

Brazi Aesthetics
202 E. 5th St., Sterling
815-677-1263

Mary Kay—Julie Gallentine
815-213-1109

INVESTOR RENEWALS

Advocare Independent Distributor
Air Play Espresso & Bakery
AM Disposal
Autism Center of Sauk Valley
Brent's Upholstery & Auto Accessories
Brothers Flooring
Carpetland USA
Christ Lutheran School
Compeer Financial
County Market
Days Inn Rock Falls
Halo Branded Solutions
Hawkins-Cassens Insurance
Hill Fastener

Hollyhock Hill Farms
IL 22mohawks
JJM Printing, Inc.
K's Korner Trading Post
Lance's Plumbing
Loescher Heating & Air Conditioning
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois
McCormick's Nursery & Landscaping
McDonald's
Mertes & Mertes, PC
Moeller, Myers & Associates
Nasos Salon
Raynor Garage Doors
Regional Media
Representative Tony McCombie

Rock River Ready Mix, Inc.
Sauk Valley Community College
Schilling Funeral Home
Select Employees Credit Union
Self Help Enterprises
Sterling Commercial Roofing, Inc.
Sterling Township
The Wellspring Medical Spa
Turnroth Sign Company, Inc.
US Postal Service
WQAD
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!

Over \$1000 Invested

Central Bank Illinois
CGH Medical Center
Community State Bank
Etnyre & Co.
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
Bushel Basket Candle Co.
Candlelight Inn
Helm Civil
Hill's Electric Motor Service, Inc.
Illinois American Water
Lance's Plumbing
LK Design Source
Loescher HVAC
Lutheran Social Services of IL
Mattox Insurance Agency
McDonald's

Moore Monument & Granite Co
NICIL
PC Tech 2U
RE/MAX Sauk Valley
Rise Broadband
Rock River Hospice & Home
Select Employees Credit Union
Sterling Commercial Roofing
Sterling Rock Falls Child Care
Sterling Township
Surf Internet
The Cornerstone Agency
United Craftsmen, Ltd.

110% Club

1st Gateway Credit Union
Astec Mobile Screens Inc
Bardier & Ramirez Real Estate
Bollman Auto Center
Compeer Financial
Dennis Electric of Tampico
Hawkins-Cassens Insurance

Hill Fastener
Imprintable Memories
James S. Ferris DDS, PC
Kelly's Restaurant
Kiwanis Club of Sterling
Marv Lofgren & Sons
Contractors
McCormick's Nursey

Mertes & Mertes
NAMI Sauk Area
New Millenium Directories
Rock River Lumber & Grain
Rock River Ready Mix
Scholl Insurance Agency
Servicemaster
ServPro of Sterling

Showplace Antiques
St. Vincent DePaul
Sterling Chevrolet
The Factory
Trinity Insurance
Winter Construction

Chamber Ambassadors

Allie Johnston – University of Illinois Extension

Arnulfo Valdivia—Sauk Valley Bank

Brian Hawkins—Brian Hawkins Insurance

Cael Sanders—Sterling Federal Bank

Cassandra Salmon – OnCall Imaging

Chandra Meyer – Re/Max Sauk Valley

Christina Bystry – House in the Country

Esther Salazar –CGH Medical Center

Jennifer Alvarez – Surf Internet

Karen Voss – Morningside of Sterling

Lyndsey Kelly—Sauk Valley Community College

Mary White – Community State Bank

Pam Fluck – Self Help Enterprises

Sami Wiggins – Allure Health Care

Sherry DeWalt – CGH Health Foundation

Lyndsey Kelly—Sauk Valley Community College

Hi, my name is Lyndsey Kelly, and I am a Student Recruitment and Impact Program Coordinator at Sauk Valley Community College. I have been with SVCC for 13 years, in several different roles, and just recently began my new role. I absolutely love working in higher education and believe that SVCC is such an asset to our community.



Aside from living in the Chicagoland area for 10 years, I have resided in Dixon for most of my life. It's so exciting to see the growth happening in the Sauk Valley area. It's wonderful being able to shop and dine locally and I love supporting small businesses. I can't wait to see what the future holds for our community!

Mary White—Community State Bank

In 1975, fresh out of high school, I started in the finance business. I have enjoyed 49 years of servicing the people of the Sauk Valley area and making peoples' dreams come true. Whether it was financing their new home, financing that new car, or taking the stress off by helping with the many financial struggles that life brings. It is very rewarding for me to start assisting my fourth generation with their financial needs. I am also proud to be serving the Hispanic community as I am bilingual.



I joined Community State Bank in 2007 and have been blessed to work for a bank that prides itself in customer service. I have built so many relationships with people of the Sauk Valley by assisting with their financial needs. I have always been proud of the community I live in and service. My father was my role model and led by example. He always said, "if you want to make a difference, get involved!"

I have been an Ambassador for the last 20 years, serving on the Chamber Board for nine of those years. In 2007 I was a founding member of the Hispanic Business Leaders Committee. The Sauk Valley area has had to jump many hurdles over the past two decades and I am proud to be part of an organization that has been such an important part of keeping our community alive.

I am Chair for the Sterling Fire and Police Commission and sit on the Board of the Illinois Fire and Police Commission. I am proud of the outstanding men and women who are serving you at the fire & police departments. With all the adversities in the world right now, I assure you that you are being protected by the best out there. It's great to feel safe.

I am so proud to be on the Board of the YMCA. The Y is such a caring and well run organization that has the community's best interest in mind. Through all the trials of Covid, the staff worked endlessly to make sure they serviced the community. Providing meals for children, after school care, exercise, sports, swim, and still running a camp that children need to cope with the frustrations socializing brought on by Covid.

The Sauk Valley is blessed to have all the organizations we have that support our community, and I'm proud to be a part of it.

Ribbon Cuttings



Allure of Sterling
New memory care unit
 612 St. Mary's St., Sterling
 815-626-9020



NCI Works / One Stop Center
New location
 406 Ave C, Sterling
 815-625-2313

Congratulations to Candlelight Inn—Rock Falls for receiving the Customer Service Award!

Their nominator said: "We chose Candlelight for a family member's funeral luncheon because chicken george was his favorite. It was such a wonderful experience; the service was impeccable, the private room is beautiful, and the food was absolutely DELICIOUS. Friends and family from the suburban area were blown away."

Visit their Rock Falls location, call 815-626-1897 to order Candlelight today.

CSA Sponsored by:



Business After Hours

Thank you to Sauk Valley Community College for hosting July's business after hours with all FIVE area chambers! It was great to see members of SVACC, Rock Falls, Morrison, Dixon, and Oregon come together to network and celebrate our community.

The next BAH will be Thursday, August 15 at 5:15 p.m. at TBK Bank (215 3rd Ave., Sterling).



Government Affairs

Written by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce



U.S. Chamber Wins Preliminary Injunction in Lawsuit Over FTC Noncompete Agreements Ban

The court granted the U.S. Chamber's motion for a preliminary injunction against the FTC's blanket ban on noncompete agreements. This is an important win in [the U.S. Chamber's] fight against government micromanagement of business decisions.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Litigation Center Executive Vice President and Chief Counsel, Daryl Joseffer, issued the following statement after the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas granted the Chamber's motion for preliminary injunction in its challenge to the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) ban on employment noncompete agreements.

"This ruling is a big win in the Chamber's fight against government micromanagement of business decisions. The FTC's blanket ban on noncompetes is an unlawful power grab that defies the agency's constitutional and statutory authority and sets a dangerous precedent where the government knows better than the markets. The U.S. Chamber will continue to hold the FTC accountable in court."

Save the Date!

Upcoming events:

Professional Women's Network event — Thursday, August 28 at Champs Banquet

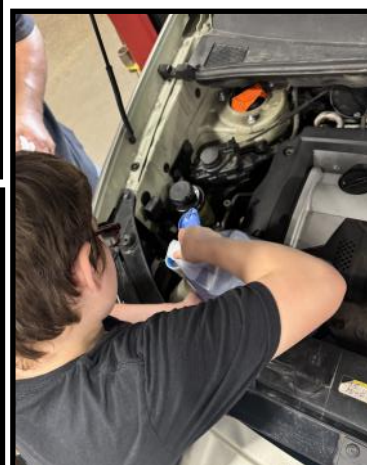
Chamber Week Celebration — Thursday, September 12 *(details coming soon!)*

Manufacturing Dinner — Thursday, October 10 at Sauk Valley Community College

Workforce Development

Whiteside Area Career Center (WACC) hosted Trades Camp July 15-26,2024. The camp, geared toward students 6th grade through 8th grade, provided a rotation for students to experience building trades, welding/manufacturing, auto tech, culinary arts, and agriculture.

Funds from the SVACC Manufacturing Dinner last fall allowed the chamber to contribute to this wonderful learning opportunity for local students.



STERLING MAIN STREET'S

RALLY *on the*



Rock *CRUISE NIGHTS*

Presented by



AUTO & TRUCK PARTS



at the
**Sterling
Marketplace**

Friday Nights 6-8 PM
June 7 • July 5 • August 2

Live Music. Cool Cars. Food Trucks.

June 7

UNRESOLVED

August 2

Howard and the White Boys



July 5

Todd Striley & the Noize



Additional sponsorship provide by:
Micron Industries • CGH Medical Center
Boss Roofing-Siding Experts
Majeski Motors • TBK Bank
Showplace Antiques & Treasures



WWW.STERLINGMAINSTREET.ORG



SAUK VALLEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP! WOMEN'S NETWORK

LET'S GET MOTIVATED!

Contrary to popular belief, you are not born a positive nor a negative person! This seminar will provide participants with several easy tips that you can implement immediately and begin your journey with a smile on your face and a pocketful of ideas for home and work.

PRESENTED BY MICHELLE FRENCH

As a dietitian, Michelle's career has spanned 40+ years, with success in business and foodservice. Michelle has consulted with a diverse industries covering various topics such as sales, customer service, staff motivation, and employee wellness. She spent most of her career working with large foodservice distribution companies and has owned and operated a nutritional consulting business, and several restaurants and catering businesses, including The Herb Garden (Rockford, IL), Smoked On 3rd Restaurant & Catering (Sterling, IL) and Lil Smoked Bar + Grill (Dixon, IL). As she enters semi-retirement, she hopes to revisit her presentation skills, focusing on providing helpful, enjoyable, and motivating workshops infusing her humor and fun activities into actionable information.



Wednesday,
AUGUST 28
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

11:30 REGISTRATION & LUNCH
12:00 PROGRAM
12:45 Q&A SESSION

CHAMPS BANQUET

 11 E. 3RD ST., STERLING

\$25 MEMBERS | \$30 NON-MEMBERS
LUNCH INCLUDED FROM CREATIVE CUISINE

REGISTER BY 8/21
VISIT SAUKVALLEYAREACHAMBER.COM OR
CALL 815-625-2400



71st Annual Fiesta Day Parade Entry Form

The Hispanic Business Leaders Committee of the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce extends this invitation to participate in the 71st annual Fiesta Day Parade on **Saturday, September 14, 2024**. The parade will start in Rock Falls at 1:00 p.m. and will end in Sterling.

All entries must be lined up by 12:30 p.m.

Parade participants are encouraged to celebrate Hispanic culture in entries. Parade judging is based on incorporation of the Hispanic theme into your entry.

2024 Parade Sponsors

Presented by



Platinum Sponsors:



Gold Sponsors:



Silver Sponsors:



Bronze Sponsors:



*Those listed are sponsors of the parade. Any products, events, statement, views or opinions offered or expressed by the sponsors are not the products, events, statement, views or opinions of the SVACC, nor endorsed by the Chamber or our members.

Register for the parade online at saukvalleyareachamber.com
or send this sheet to:
Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce
211 Locust Street, Sterling, IL 61081
office@saukvalleyareachamber.com
815-625-2400

Please return by **Tuesday, September 3**.
You will be notified via mail of your entry number and line-up information.

Entry Name: _____
Contact Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone #: _____
Email: _____

Type of Entry: please circle

Float Vehicle Music Band Political
Other _____

Number of vehicles, if any, in your entry: _____

Do you have walkers with entry? yes / no

*Walkers will be expected to keep pace with the parade crossing the bridge. Riding across the bridge is recommended.

*For safety reasons, candy can only be passed out by walkers. Please **DO NOT THROW** candy from vehicles or floats.

Please provide a brief description of entry:

