

# CHAMBER REPORT

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE PEORIA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

[www.peoriachamber.org](http://www.peoriachamber.org)



OCTOBER  
**2019**

Vol.24 Issue 22



MEMBER FEATURE: PEORIA CHARTER TRAVEL





# WELCOME NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

Employee Size Code (number of full-time equivalent employees in the tri-county area): (A) 1-10 (B) 11-25 (C) 26-75 (D) 76-150 (E) 151-300 (F) 300+

## **160 Driving Academy (A)**

Northwoods Mall  
2200 W. War Memorial Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61613

## **3D With A Twist, Inc. (A)**

Northwoods Mall  
2200 W. War Memorial Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61613

## **Academy of Fretted Instruments (A)**

Northwoods Mall  
2200 W. War Memorial Dr.  
Peoria, Illinois 61613

## **AvisBudget Group, Inc. (B)**

Gen. Wayne A. Downing  
Peoria Airport  
6100 W. E. M. Dirksen Pkwy.  
Peoria, IL 61607

## **Blended Restaurant & Bakery (A)**

4100 W. Willow Knolls Dr.  
Ste. C-12  
Peoria, IL 61615

## **Brighton Collectibles (A)**

Grand Prairie Mall  
5201 W. War Memorial Dr.  
Suite 547  
Peoria, IL 61615

## **Byrider (A)**

1613 W. Pioneer Pkwy.  
Peoria, IL 61615

## **Cumerford-Hurd Funeral Home (A)**

428 West McClure Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61523

## **Detail Peoria (A)**

1020 W. Detweiller Dr., Ste. C  
Peoria, IL 61615

## **Elevate Trampoline Park (B)**

8800 N. Allen Rd.  
Peoria, IL 61615

## **Flat Branch Home Loans (A)**

3408 W. Willow Knolls Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61614

## **Illinois Home Solutions of America, Inc. (A)**

177 Thunderbird Ln.  
East Peoria, IL 61611

## **Jeffrey S. Hamilton Photography (A)**

9 Sable Oaks Ct.  
Bloomington, IL 61704

## **Junior Leage of Peoria (A)**

114 State St., Ste. 2A  
Peoria, IL 61602

## **The McMahon Group (A)**

80 Washington Plz.  
Washington, IL 61571

## **Mentoring Women Millennials, LLC. (A)**

6010 North Smith Rd.  
Edwards, IL 61528

## **MuziqueBaux LLC. (A)**

Northwoods Mall  
2200 W War Memorial Dr.  
Peoria, Illinois 61613

## **Origin Amateur Combat Championship (A)**

Northwoods Mall  
2200 W War Memorial Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61613

## **Peoria Estate Sales by Julie Revallo (A)**

1038 W. Teton Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61614

## **Planet Fitness - Grand Prairie (B)**

Grand Prairie Mall  
5201 W. War Memorial Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61615

## **POINTCORE Construction (C)**

601 SW Water St.  
Peoria, IL 61602

## **Smo-King Pit (A)**

Northwoods Mall  
2200 W. War Memorial Dr.  
Peoria, Illinois 61613

## **Soccer Shots Peoria (A)**

4707 W Lynnhurst Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61615

## **Tomorrow's Treasure (A)**

4929 Hamilton Rd.  
Peoria, IL 61615



**MAKE THE CUT!**

Are you celebrating the opening of a new business? An anniversary? Regardless of the occasion, the Chamber would love to be a part of your celebration.

Contact the Chamber today for your ribbon cutting!



# MEMBER FEATURE

## Peoria Charter Travel | History of Family Business

Peoria Charter was founded in 1941, when Walt Winkler sold his family car and took a loan from his sister's chicken egg farm to purchase his first bus. His goal was to aid in solving the gas crisis for his friends and family needing transportation to their jobs at the Caterpillar factories in Peoria. The company's formula of customer service, quality equipment, and well-trained drivers has allowed this four-generation, family business to grow into one of the largest bus companies in the Midwest. Today, they have 60 pieces of luxury equipment, over 140 employees and locations in Peoria, Normal and Urbana. In 2018, Peoria Charter's buses traveled 3.8 million miles, which is the equivalent to 152 trips around the earth. Each year more than 500,000 passengers board Peoria Charter's buses to travel to places such as Chicago, Washington D.C., New York, Canada, Colorado, Florida and many more destinations across North America.

Peoria Charter connects Peoria, Normal and Champaign to O'Hare Airport and the Chicago Area 14 times every day without Local, State, or Federal funding. With Peoria being the largest city in

Illinois without rail transportation, these connections are vital to our cities ability to grow. The business is a 24 hour operation, with phones answered on site 24/7/365 to assist all travelers. The largest expansion for the daily service to Chicago has come from the Urbana-Champaign area. Since 2013, ridership has risen 450% and is expected to exceed 200,000 ticketed passengers, just from Urbana-Champaign, by the end of 2019.

In the last two years, Peoria Charter has undertaken a major effort of reinvigorating their fleet. The company now has 21 pieces of equipment that are 2016 or newer. "Our dedication to improving our fleet is proof of our commitment to ensure that Central Illinois has the cleanest, safest, and most comfortable ground transportation in the State of Illinois," said Company President and Third Generation Owner, Bill Winkler. Peoria Charter is the contracted ground transportation provider for the University of Illinois, Illinois State University, Bradley University, Eureka College, Illinois Central College and a half dozen other Universities and Colleges in Central Illinois.

Peoria Charter expanded their service beyond ground transportation by launching a Travel Agency known as, Peoria Charter Travel. "We are excited to see how quickly we have gained momentum in the Travel Agency industry. This has allowed us to grow larger each year." In 2018, Peoria Charter purchased To-Go Away Travel in Morton, IL. This marked their third location after Junction City and Normal, IL. Whether planning a honeymoon, work retreat, or a trip around the world, the Travel Agents at Peoria Charter Travel have the tools to manage the airfare, ground transportation, hotels & more!

Along with growth in the Travel Agency, Peoria Charter doubled the Urbana location by purchasing the building next door in 2018. Peoria Charter also released 2 Bradley Braves branded coaches in 2018 that can be seen transporting the BU sports teams from the Hilltop. Bill Winkler says, "We are blessed to have a successful family business and continue to grow. We are grateful to have our headquarters in Peoria, and we are so thankful for the support the Central Illinois community has shown our business."



# HOLIDAY PARTIES

## CORPORATE MEETINGS - EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT


**The newly remodeled Lexus Club**  
**is the hottest place to host an event!**

- Accommodates 30-125 guests
- Built-in Bar, Stage & TV's
- Exquisite Catering
- Private Restrooms


**PEORIA CIVIC CENTER®**  
**Contact us to book your event today - [Sales@peoriaciviccenter.com](mailto:Sales@peoriaciviccenter.com)**



## awards & recognition

**Advanced Healthcare, Inc. (ACH)** presented an Overdose Revival Award to Kathy Tarantino for saving a patient's life! They are celebrating Brittany Krysinski for receiving the ISMTE 2019 Early Career Award, and Shelly Winklepleck, Danielle Allen, and Abby Trapp for receiving an Associate Degree in Nursing. 5-Year Service Awards were presented to Mary Brandon, Cheryl Overlin, and Lynn Skaare, and Lori Ehler was presented with a 10-Year Service Award. ACH presented a Golden Stethoscope Award to Mallory Oatman for saving a patient's life!

**Barrack's Hospitality Group** was honored to have been voted in the category of Caterer as a "Best of the Best" for 2019. Over 20,000 votes were cast from online readers for this award.

**The Central Illinois Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals** has announced the 2019 National Philanthropy Day award recipients. The 2019 National Philanthropy Day award recipients are: Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation - **Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino**, Lewis J. Burger Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser - Kathy Schaeffer, Dennis A. Steele Outstanding Philanthropic Organization - **Midwest Food Bank** - Peoria.

**Community Workshop Training Center, Inc.** presented their "CWTC Pathway Awards" at their annual banquet. This year's awards and winners include: Advocacy Award - Representative Ryan Spain, Ralph B. Fairchild Volunteer Award - Kendra Moses, Business Partnership Award - **Howard & Howard**, Employer of the Year - IADES, Robert Craig Friend of CWTC - Marlene Wyss-Wong, Community Partner - **Peoria Art Guild**.

**EPIC** is proud to announce that Ashley Schreck, Director of Marketing, has been named as one of the 2019 25 Women in Leadership. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients.

**The Greater Peoria Mass Transit District (CityLink)** received a \$2.3 million grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), a division of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), as part of the Low or No Emission (Low-No) Bus Program. CityLink plans to use these funds for the purchase of two battery-electric buses and a charging station. Greenprint Partners was awarded

the prestigious US Water Prize in the Private Sector category for its work in advancing the way stormwater is managed for partner **City of Peoria, Illinois**.

**Howard & Howard** has announced the launch of its redesigned and upgraded corporate website. The roll-out of the rebuilt website coincides with the firm's 150th anniversary celebration this year. Howard & Howard is pleased to announce that attorney Michael D. Gifford has been elected president of the Peoria County Bar Association.

**Illinois American Water (IAW)** President Bruce Hauk was awarded the 2019 Inclusion and Diversity Award by the National Black Chamber of Commerce (NBCC) during its annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Rhonda Carter Adams, IAW's Diversity Lead, was recognized by Who's Who Diversity in Color (WWDIC) in the Most Intriguing People category.

**Illinois Central College** alumnus Dr. Jonathan Sauder has been honored on the national stage as President Trump recently named 18 NASA researchers as recipients of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE).

**Illinois Eye Center** is excited to announce their Director of Clinical Operations, Abby Ault, received an award for 2019 Peoria's 25 Women in Leadership. Congratulations Abby!

**OSF HealthCare** has been recognized as one of the MOST WIRED in the country, according to the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME), with the added distinction of achieving Most Wired Certified Level 7 Special Recognition. This marks the eighth consecutive year for this achievement by OSF, a 13-hospital, integrated health system owned and operated by The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis.

**OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois (OSF HCHI)** has once again received the Gold Level ELSO Award for Excellence in Life Support, which recognizes excellence in providing extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) to patients. The Pediatric Diabetes Resource Center (PDRC) at OSF HCHI was awarded the American Diabetes Association Education Recognition Certificate for quality diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES).

**Peoria Fire Department** Chief Ed Olehy just completed the 4-year Executive Fire Officer Degree from the National Fire Academy in Maryland.

**Phoenix Community Development Services** received a grant from Ameren Illinois that will help expand services and provide support for more homeless citizens in the region.

**Savant Capital Management**, has been recognized by Financial Advisor, Financial Times, and InvestmentNews as a leading Registered Investment Advisor (RIA) firm and by Accounting Today as one of the nation's leading CPA firms by assets under management (AUM).

**Stuber Land Design, Inc.** celebrated their 25th anniversary in business with an open house on June 22. Vendors, employees, and some customers were invited.

**University of Illinois, Peoria Center's** medical student, Jeremy Huckleby, is one of 50 students nationwide selected for the Medical Research Scholars Program at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Research from the University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria led by Carl V. Asche, Ph.D., director of Center for Outcomes Research, shows the use of EXPAREL contributes to reduction in opioid use and length of hospital stay for patients undergoing knee replacement surgery.

The **Wheels O' Time Museum** board president, Jim Baldwin, was honored by the **Peoria Historical Society** with the 2019 Henri DeTonti Award for his many years of support and dedication to the Peoria Community.

## business moves

**Advanced Healthcare, Inc. (ACH)** welcomes Sarah Pfeiffer, Accountant, Jarrad Jeffrey, Regional Nurse Manager, and Syed Rahman, Regional Nurse Manager, Sandra Pilger, Program Consultant, Heidi Gutierrez, Regional Nurse Manager, Samantha Baker, Marketing and Training Events Coordinator, and Crystal Hipple, Accounting Clerk, to their business family! They are celebrating Kaitlyn McKenzie for receiving an Associate Degree in Nursing. 5-Year Service Awards were presented to Trena Preston, Selena Terry, Amy Howard, and Daler Sayfiddinov. ACH presented a DAISY Award for Extraordinary

## business moves

Nurses to Cecelia Escamilla, and a Golden Stethoscope Award to Kathy Tarantino for saving a patient's life!

**Advanced Medical Transport, Inc (AMT)** Announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Medics First of Springfield, IL. Founded in 2008, Medics First provides emergency and non-emergency ambulance service in Springfield.

**The Bleeding and Clotting Disorders Institute (BCDI)** is excited to announce that Dr. Michael Tarantino has recently been named the CEO and the Chief Medical Director of BCDI. Becky Burns was named the COO and CFO and Chanel Unzicker was named the Chief Nursing Officer. These moves will continue the mission of BCDI to provide integrated, family-oriented care, treatment and education for persons with bleeding, clotting and other blood disorders.

The **City of Peoria** hired Rick Powers as Director of the Public Works Department. Formerly the Deputy Commissioner for the Indiana Department of Transportation, Mr. Powers assumed the Director position on Sept. 3.

**First Mid Bank & Trust** is pleased to welcome Jason Crowder as Senior VP, General Counsel. In this role, Crowder will oversee the legal aspects of all activities conducted by the Company, including regulatory relationships, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate organization. Crowder will office out of Mattoon and Peoria.

Three **F&M Bank** employees have recently been appointed to 2019-2020 Illinois Bankers Association (IBA) committees by IBA President and CEO Linda Koch. Pat Colwell, VP, Client Services, was appointed as a member of the IBA's '19-'20 Technology and Operations Committee. Rhonda Houzenga, VP, Marketing and PR, was appointed as the Chairman of the '19-'20 IBA's Communications and Marketing Committee. Diana Whitson, VP, HR & Executive Administration, was appointed to the IBA's '19-'20 HR Committee.

**Hanson Professional Service's** Peoria Office recently welcomed Chris Kummer, land acquisition specialist. He will work closely with landowners, community members and local governments in acquiring land rights necessary for the development of various client projects.

**Heartland Health Services (HHS)**



## business moves

is excited to announce the opening of a new location within the **Peoria City/County Health Department**. HHS will offer primary care services and medication-assisted therapy at the new location.

**Howard & Howard** is pleased to announce that Grace Mata Gomez has rejoined the firm. Grace returned to her native Central Illinois to practice out of the firm's Peoria, Illinois office.

**Illinois American Water** is investing over \$1.8 million to enhance water service to the City of Farmington. Roger Goodson, senior operations manager for the Western Division, will now also provide leadership in the company's Eastern Division of the state.

The **Illinois Central College** Board of Trustees is pleased to announce Dave Mingus has been approved and seated at the July 2019 board meeting.

**Junior Achievement of Central Illinois (JA)** is pleased to announce the appointments to their Board of Directors for 2019-2020. This includes the renewal of many board members who wish to continue the tremendous impact they've helped push forward in central Illinois, and the election of one new board member, Pam Craig, Illinois Retail Market Executive at **Commerce Bank**.

The **Methodist College** Board of Directors has approved a new Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management degree to begin in the fall 2019 semester. The degree is for individuals interested in a management career in a healthcare organization.

**Northwestern Mutual-Greater Peoria** and the Waite Financial Group would like to announce their newest team members, Associate Lead Advisor, Christopher Robinson and Associate Financial Representative, Tyler McDonald.

**OSF HealthCare** and Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers have entered into a period of exclusive negotiations, anticipating a full merger.

**OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois (OSF HCHI)** named Mike Wells the new president. He has served as vice president since June 2018. OSF HCHI is pleased to welcome David Zaboli, MD, and Soujanya Bogarapu, MD, pediatric cardiologist, to its family.

**Peoria Historical Society** recently elected Edward Barry Jr. and Karen Gerontes to its Board of Trustees.

## member news

Named as officers for the 2019-2020 year were president Kathy Ma, vice president Zach Oyler, treasurer Clayton Hill, secretary Beth Johnson and immediate past president Leann Johnson.

**Peoria Production Shop's** CEO, Dick Peplow announced his retirement after 46 years. Dan Laturno was appointed his successor.

**Peoria Riverfront Museum** debuted "Vantage Points: Contemporary American Photography from the Whitney Museum of American Art," the first-ever collaboration between the Whitney Museum, the Art Bridges Foundation, and the Peoria Riverfront Museum.

**Princeville State Bank (PSB)** is pleased to announce three new members to their team: Jared Donna is a Credit Analyst/Loan Officer for both consumer and commercial loans; and Joleen Hatton Parsons is the new registered assistant to Brian Card, MBA, Director of Financial Services/Financial Advisor. Veronica Haskell is the institution's newest Director of Marketing/Advertising.

The **Rotary Club** welcomed Mark Roberts of Morton, Illinois, as Rotary International district governor for 2019-20 during a ceremony at Dozer Park in Peoria, Illinois, in June.

The **University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria** welcomed Jennifer Gibbs, a native of Canton, IL, as the Senior Director of Development. The University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria also welcomed eight new faculty members this academic year.

## member news

The **Center for Prevention of Abuse (CFPA)** will host Light 2020: A Multistate Educational Conference on Human Trafficking at Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino in East Peoria, IL. CFPA hosted its 31st Annual Duck Race on Aug. 24, where 30,000 rubber ducks raced down a 750-foot water slide. The event sold out of all 30,000 ducks and raised more than \$211,000.

**CIAN** is hosting their 12th annual Go Secure Cybersecurity Seminar on October 24th at **Mt. Hawley Country Club** in Peoria. This event is FREE to the public! For more details, or to register, visit [GOSECURESEMINAR.COM](http://GOSECURESEMINAR.COM) or call 309-691-3000.

**CityLink** Transit Center began the first phase of a remodel. The project will be completed in three phases.

The parts of the building that will be remodeled are Customer Service (Phase I), Security/public restrooms (Phase II) and the 2nd floor, including the Benefit Access office and Burlington Trailways Customer Service (Phase III).

The **City of Peoria** Community Development Department launched the third annual "100 Blocks in 100 Days" initiative. Over a 100-day period, each Code Enforcement Inspector will walk door-to-door, introducing themselves to the residents. At the conclusion of November, staff will have covered over 100 blocks throughout the city of Peoria.

**Eureka College** and **Illinois Central College** have teamed up to help students gain their baccalaureate degrees. Through a special partnership, ICC students with an associate degree will be able to seamlessly transfer to Eureka College in order to complete their baccalaureate degree in one of 30 academic or professional programs.

**Goodwill of Central Illinois** has received a \$2,000 grant from **Ameren** for GoodGuides, Goodwill's youth mentoring program.

**Howard & Howard** has donated \$12,500 to the Heart of Illinois United Way as part of its 150th anniversary "12 Months of Giving" philanthropic initiative. The gift was announced at the **Heart of Illinois United Way's** annual "Power of the Purse" fundraiser.

**Illinois Central College (ICC)**, in partnership with Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and Deputy Majority Leader Jehan Gordon-Booth, announced the launch of a statewide Workforce Equity Initiative grant. ICC will be the lead college of the \$18.7 million initiative, receiving \$1.85 million and partnering with 14 additional Illinois community colleges.

**Illinois Eye Center** recently opened the doors to EyeCareToday, a same-day eye care clinic based out of the practice's Peoria location. This initiative serves patients ages 5 years and older who have acute or urgent eye conditions or need routine vision examinations.

The **Illinois Valley Yacht & Canoe Club (IVY Club)** hosted their annual IVY Club Invitational Cardboard Boat Race benefiting the **Alzheimer's Association, Central Illinois Chapter**. Handmade cardboard boats were displayed for crowd voting and then raced to raise funds and awareness for Alzheimer's disease and other

dementias.

**Junior Achievement of Central Illinois (JA)** is pleased to announce the new Board of Directors for 2019-2020. This includes the renewal of many board members who wish to continue the tremendous impact they've helped push forward in central Illinois, and the election of one new board member, Pam Craig, Illinois Retail Market Executive at **Commerce Bank**.

**Lippmann's Furniture & Interiors** celebrated 70 years of business on Sept. 28.

**Methodist College** is holding an open house for Midstate College students to assist those who need to complete academic programs or those who had been accepted to start in the fall semester.

**OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois (OSF HCHI)** is now collaborating with Rady Children's Institute for Genomic Medicine (RCIGM) on a research protocol to more effectively diagnose and treat critically ill infants with unexplained illnesses. The 13th annual Small Wonders Miracle Walk benefiting the OSF Children's Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit was held Sept. 21.

The **Peoria Civic Center** hosted Criss Angel and his newest production; Criss Angel RAW - The Mindfreak Unplugged on Sept. 11.

**Peoria County Board (PCB)** appointed Dr. Eden S. Blair to be PCB Member for District 6. Dr. Blair is an Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship at **Bradley University**.

**Peoria Riverfront Museum** celebrated one of humanity's greatest achievements during the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission with a free screening of the critically acclaimed documentary film, "Apollo 11: First Steps."

**Right at Home** in-Home Care hosted the fundraiser "The Longest Day: Paint Day" which benefited the **Alzheimer's Association**.

The **University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria's** assistant professor, Sang-Oh Yoon, Ph.D., was recently awarded a \$1.84 million grant by the National Institutes of Health. The five-year project, entitled "Feedback loop and crosstalk in the mTORC1/2 signaling network," will help identify cancer's resistance mechanism toward mTOR-targeting drugs and identify strategies to overcome this resistance and prevent tumor recurrence.



# PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM

## 2019 YEAR OF INVENTION



### VANTAGE POINTS CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY **WHITNEY** MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM  
SEP 14 - NOV 10

The Peoria presentation has been made possible by

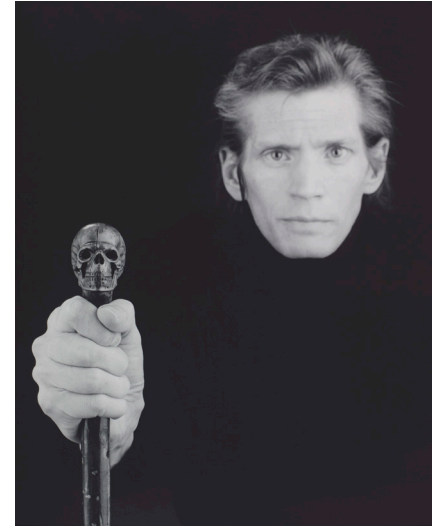
Art Bridges

Oak River  
Foundation



Visionary  
Society

This exhibition was organized by the **Whitney Museum of American Art**, New York



# MOON

SEP 14 - NOV 10

Sponsored by



Corporate  
Visionary Society  
Council



## Da Vinci THE GENIUS

FEATURING THE WORLD EXCLUSIVE  
SECRETS OF MONA LISA

NOV 23 - MAR 22, 2020

Sponsored by

Bielfeldt  
Foundation



Dr. Allan and  
Marlene Campbell

Ruby K. Worner  
Charitable Trust

Oak River  
Foundation



The exhibition has been created by **GRANDE EXHIBITIONS** and Pascal Cotte

GIANT SCREEN THEATER • DOME PLANETARIUM • IHSA INTERACTIVE GALLERY  
222 SW Washington St. Peoria, IL | 309.686.7000 | [RiverfrontMuseum.org](http://RiverfrontMuseum.org)



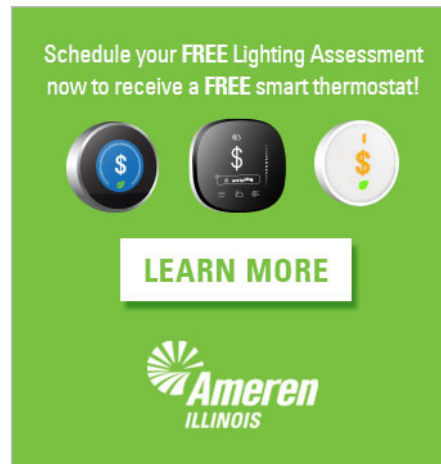
# AMEREN NEWS

## Small Business Owners realize Big Savings!

By John Beintema,  
Market Segment Manager,  
Ameren Illinois

Small business owners across the state have been utilizing the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program to save energy and money. Through this program, we provide a quick and simple way to reduce energy costs for years to come. Qualifying small business customers can receive a free Lighting Assessment of their facility. Ameren Illinois works with all businesses including places of worship, car washes, automobile dealerships, small retail shops, bar and restaurant owners, laundry mats, municipal buildings, schools, nonprofit organizations...just to name a few!

This free Lighting Assessment usually takes 30-40 minutes. A qualified Program Ally will come to your small



business and perform the assessment of your facility. They create a work scope that details upgrade opportunities of products they will install. Benefits businesses receive are lower energy costs, reduced maintenance, and a more comfortable work environment.

Contact us to schedule your Lighting Assessment and receive a FREE Smart Thermostat. Ready to get started?

### Here are 3 simple ways to sign up:

1. Visit [AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/SmallBusiness](http://AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/SmallBusiness) and click on the "Request a Lighting Assessment" button under Ready to Begin.
2. Contact a Small Business representative by email at: [IllinoisBusinessEE@ameren.com](mailto:IllinoisBusinessEE@ameren.com) or by phone at 1.866.800.0747.
3. Find a trusted Program Ally near you when you visit [AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/SmallBusiness](http://AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/SmallBusiness) and search through our approved Program Ally list and map.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Business After Hours

#### The Children's Home

October 10th, 4:30pm–6:30pm  
2130 N. Knoxville Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61603



#### RSM US LLP

November 14th, 4:30pm–6:30pm  
401 Main St., Ste. 1200  
Peoria, IL 61602



### Upcoming Events

Member Seminar:  
*Thryv: Take Control of Your Business & Be More Successful!*

October 8th, 8:30am–10:00am  
Commerce Bank (Roosevelt Room)  
416 Main Street, Peoria, IL 61602

The Big Table: Greater Peoria  
Regional Community Building

October 15th, 8:30am–6:30pm  
Peoria Civic Center  
201 SW Jefferson Ave., Peoria, IL 61602

Member Seminar:  
*Davis & Campbell: Let Us be Blunt: Establishing a Cannabis Business is not for the Fries*

November 5th, 8:30am–10:30am  
Culinan Properties  
420 N. Main Street, East Peoria, IL 61611

44th Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon  
Community Recognition & Awards  
Ceremony

November 21st, 11:15am  
Peoria Civic Center  
201 SW Jefferson Ave., Peoria, IL 61602

### Business Before Hours

#### Phoenix Community Development Services

October 22nd, 7:30am–9:00am  
New Hope Apartments  
301 NE. Jefferson Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61602





# BIAGGI'S

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## Community Leadership School

strives to unite 42 adults around *a single goal:*

*"to motivate and inspire its participants to a higher level of community awareness and involvement."*

### QUICK FACTS:

- CLS meets on **Friday** mornings during **January through April**
- Cost is **\$1,200** for Chamber members and **\$1,500** for nonmembers

### Questions?

Contact Sherneka Cagle at  
[scagle@peoriachamber.org](mailto:scagle@peoriachamber.org)

### THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

is to strengthen the  
**PEORIA AREA**  
by developing  
future leaders  
who are educated on  
*issues and challenges*  
facing our community.

\*Application available at [www.PeoriaChamber.org](http://www.PeoriaChamber.org)\*  
Deadline to Apply: Nov. 25

## YPGP NEWS

Upcoming Young Professionals of Greater Peoria Events



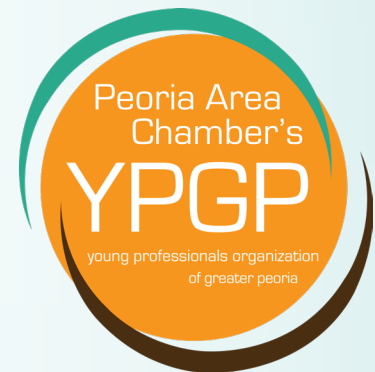
**Oct. 09-Nov. 13**

### L.E.A.P. Academy

*Wednesdays - Various Locations*

Join us for a 6-week Leadership Program to develop leadership skills and empower young professionals to become active in the community

Check out our website for more information or to register for this event or contact Audrey Kamm at [akamm@peoriachamber.org](mailto:akamm@peoriachamber.org)



**Nov. 01**

### Monster Bash: Nightmare on State Street

*Warehouse on State*

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, drinks, performance by JammSammich, Costume Contest & More!

Purchase tickets @ [peoriachamber.org](http://peoriachamber.org)



**Nov. 19**

### YPGP Bradley Night

*Peoria Civic Center: Carver Arena*

Cost: \$15 - Purchase Tickets at: [fevo.me/ypnight19](http://fevo.me/ypnight19)

# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

The passing and proposal of many new bills will directly and indirectly affect our members and their customers.

- United States' negotiation discussions with North Korea could resume soon.
- New state laws aim to protect law enforcement, roadside workers.
- Congressman Rodney Davis proposes new legislation that would prohibit public financing of congressional campaigns.
- New law will bar Illinois employers from asking job applicants for pay history.
- Gov. JB Pritzker has tasked state agencies to prepare plans for budget cuts.
- Chief hostage negotiator, Robert O'Brien, has been appointed as the United States' National Security Advisor.
- The legalization of marijuana beginning in 2020 is a major subject of interest in how it will affect employers & employer policy.
- The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is requesting public input on coal-ash disposal regulations.
- According to a news release from Illinois environmental groups, the Edwards power plant would close by the end of 2022 if a settlement is approved by a judge, the Department of Justice, and the U.S. EPA.
- Illinois Central College will take the lead in the Workforce Equity Initiative and receive \$1.85 million of the \$18.7M grant, with 14 other partnering community colleges also receiving portions, according to a release from the college.
- Small Business Index Hits Record High Amid Mixed Economic Signals.
- A spokesperson for Erika Harold has announced that Harold will not pursue candidacy for Illinois' 15th Congressional District.
- The board for the Peoria International Airport voted to accept a \$1.4 million grant from the Federal Aviation Administration.
- The possibility of the Graduated Income Tax law passing in Illinois has many concerned.



**Portable Storage Units  
RENTALS & SALES**

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## INTRODUCING

# DON SHAFER YOUR PNC SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT



### COMMITTED TO HELPING YOU ACHIEVE YOUR COMPANY'S STRATEGIC GOALS

We focus on listening to you and anticipating your needs. Don Shafer will share insights, market intelligence and financial best practices that can keep you on the leading edge of your industry.

Don will put PNC's resources to work to help you increase your company's value. He can help you leverage the latest technologies and access new ideas to help you meet your financial objectives, both short term and long term.

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### TENURE/EXPERIENCE

Don has worked in the financial services field since 1977.

### EDUCATION

Don holds a Bachelor's degree in Science and Economics from Illinois State University.

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

He is a graduate of the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce Community Leadership School and Political Action School. In 2018, Don was awarded the Tom Connor Community Service Award by the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce.

### CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSES

A 1976 Economics graduate of Illinois State University, Don received his AIF® certification in 2018.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

For over 40 years, Don has served on the board of several community organizations and volunteered for various charitable entities in the greater Peoria area. Don also served in the Illinois State University Alumni Association for 20 years, holding the President position for 3 years.

### READY TO HELP

For more information on increasing your company's value, contact me at **309-655-5290** or **donald.shafer@pnc.com** or visit **pnc.com/ideas**.

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