



Greater Elkhart

**CHAMBER**

# **LEADING BUSINESS**

October/November 2024

*Why Here?*

*Why Now?*



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*The mission of the Chamber is to be the leading resource for making connections that foster collaboration which serves and promotes efforts to strengthen the Greater Elkhart business community.*

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# Here and Now



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Levon Johnson  
President/CEO  
ljohnson@elkhart.org

At our Annual Meeting in March, we shared that our theme for the year is *Right Here, Right Now*.

In the months since, we have used that focus through everything we do.

In each council meeting, at every event, and every educational program, a part of the sought-after outcomes is for attendees to be able to state from their own experiences and perspectives that Greater Elkhart is the place to be right here and right now.

But what if *Right Here, Right Now* was not said or written as an exclamatory statement but posed as an inquisitive question: *Why Here, Why Now?*

Would we focus on the people and the power of positive relationships in our region?

Is it how the connection with like-minded individuals or the diversity in our communities leads to amazing outcomes that give people the feeling of being welcomed and a sense of belonging?

It could be that the investment in outdoor activities and engaging events is what makes *Right Here, Right Now* come alive.

Maybe people would point to how the amenities and events are the glue that brings our region together in

organic ways that lead to coincidental collisions that spark new interactions and lead to exciting new adventures, both professionally and personally.

No matter what corner of Greater Elkhart you drive through, you are seeing new development and redevelopment take shape.

It could be that people would point to all of the ways this type of investment is leading to an increased quality of place and quality of life for everyone, regardless of zip code. *Right Here, Right Now* could be as specific as a particular address or block.

Maybe the core of *Why Here, Why Now?* is the giving nature of our communities.

Our giving nature goes beyond seeing philanthropy as giving money to a cause or organization and is more about a neighbor helping a neighbor or how we support and mentor each other.

Others might say that the collaborative environment of Greater Elkhart creates opportunities for everyone to have a shot at achieving their own individual definition of success.

It is about being open to the realization that working together leads to far greater community outcomes than trying to forge ahead alone.

It might be that *Right Here, Right Now* serves only as the catalyst for the visionaries in our community to build upon.

This would mean that here and now is the foundation for what's next and who wouldn't want to be a part of that?

As our Young Professionals Council is gearing up for their Annual Intrigue, Inspire, Ignite Elkhart County Dinner, we were discussing what the common thread should be for the seven speakers.

Knowing that the majority of the audience will be young professionals who may still be deciding where to settle in and call home, the decision was made to focus the evening on *Why Here, Why Now*.

We asked that very question to members of our councils and you can see some of the answers in the center spread of this edition of *Leading Business*.

With no leading or prompting we simply asked, "Why is now the time to be in Greater Elkhart?"

This allowed the respondents free range to interpret the question and provide an answer from their own view and experiences.

Our hope is that you will also take the time to answer the question and be armed and ready to provide it when someone you run into asks you the same question.

In the meantime, thank you for being part of what makes *Right Here, Right Now* such a great time to be in Greater Elkhart.



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MEMBER FDIC 

# Member Celebrations



Congratulations to **Ancon Construction** on their beautiful new facility at 2121 W Wilden Ave, Goshen! What a great way to kick off the celebrations for their 50th Anniversary!  
[www.anconconstruction.com](http://www.anconconstruction.com)



**Atlas IT** is open in their new location at 410 N Main St, Middlebury. Atlas IT helps your business by providing the talent, knowledge, and systems to keep your technology humming.  
[www.atlasit.org](http://www.atlasit.org)



The Surgical Tech Program renovations at the **Elkhart Area Career Center** are complete! This joint project between EACC and **Ivy Tech Community College** brings valuable training for high school and adult learners. [eacc.elkhart.k12.in.us](http://eacc.elkhart.k12.in.us)



**4 Aces Top & Trim** celebrates the opening of their new business at 1100 Canton St, Elkhart. They provide custom upholstery work for boats and cars.  
[www.facebook.com/people/4-Aces-Top-Trim/61562700464405/](http://www.facebook.com/people/4-Aces-Top-Trim/61562700464405/)



Congratulations to **Lexington House** on the grand opening of their new location at 311 W Hively in Elkhart. Lexington House is a place to rebuild your confidence and resilience for your mental health wellness journey. [www.lexingtonhouse.org](http://www.lexingtonhouse.org)



**Trim & Tonic** celebrates the grand opening of their Barber Salon located at 1789 E Bristol St, Ste B, Elkhart. Trim & Tonic is the only Barber Salon you will find in this area with options for both him and her, [www.vagaro.com/trimandtonic](http://www.vagaro.com/trimandtonic)

# Intrigue, Inspire, IGNITE Elkhart County

The Greater Elkhart Young Professionals will hold the tenth annual Intrigue, Inspire, IGNITE Elkhart County Dinner on Thursday, October 24, in the Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner Theatre, located at 410 S Main St, Elkhart.

The Intrigue, Inspire, IGNITE Elkhart County Dinner, an event hosted by the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals' Council, is designed to showcase how we can all work together to make Elkhart County an even more fantastic place to live, work and play.

The evening will bring a great mix of speakers that will "ignite a flame" in the next generation of community leaders and world changers. Our esteemed guest speakers will highlight Elkhart's gems and all the exciting attractions and activities that make our city a vibrant destination for young professionals.

This year's speakers include Allen Stewart, Hall of Heroes Superhero Museum; Breanna Allen, Tolson Center for Community Excellence; Kris Weimer, Startup Moxie; Lauren Thomas, South Bend-Elkhart Regional Partnership; Entrepreneur Alex Bicknell; Brittany Short, Connect in Elkhart County; and Carrie Berghoff, Community Foundation of Elkhart County.

The Community Foundation of Elkhart County is the Ignite Sponsor, and Spark Sponsors are everwise credit union, KeyBank, and NIBCO.

The event begins at 5:30 pm with networking. Dinner will be served at 6 pm, and the program will begin at 6:45 pm.

Table sponsorships and individual seats are available. Register at [Elkhart.org](http://Elkhart.org).



**Greater Elkhart YFP** Intrigue, Inspire, Ignite  
**ELKHART COUNTY**

**Thursday, October 24 5:30 pm**  
**Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner Theatre**

**Table Sponsorships \$500 Single Tickets \$50/\$75 Register at [Elkhart.org](http://Elkhart.org)**

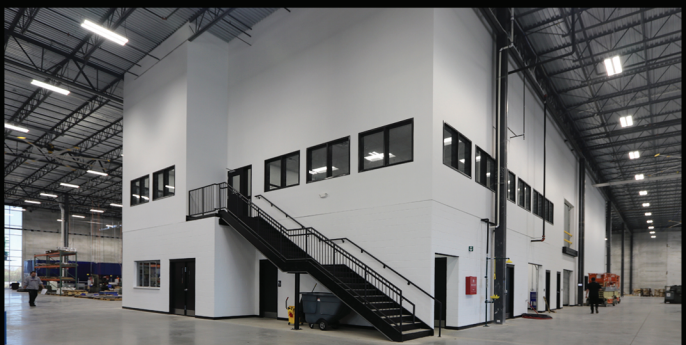
*An event designed to showcase how we can work together to make Elkhart County an even more fantastic place to live, work and play*

**Ignite Sponsor:** COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF ELKHART COUNTY

**Spark Sponsors:** everwise CREDIT UNION, NIBCO AHEAD OF THE FLOW, KeyBank, Greater Elkhart CHAMBER Leading Business...Leading Our Community



**It's all in the details**



**MajorityBuilders.com**

As I sat on the new Jackson Rooftop, contemplating the City displayed around me, I was inspired by the examples of vision becoming reality, evidenced throughout. From the River District, to the Tolson Center, to the new urban residences and businesses, it's filled with new endeavors. I have lived in this city for my entire life, and it has never been as aware as it appears to be right now, that it is a gem at the confluence of rivers. It is more livable, more progressive, more compassionate than ever. This community is launching itself to a whole new level, and this is the time to engage!

Hugh Johnson, J2 Marketing

*Now is the time to be in Elkhart because of all of the changes occurring in and around downtown. These are exciting times for the community; the beautification of the city is amazing. The redevelopment on Jackson, Benham, Woodland Crossing, and Concord Mall are just the beginning.*

Monica Abair, Goodwill Industries of Michiana, Inc.

The Greater Elkhart Region is an exciting place to be right now, and a key factor driving this momentum is our robust fiber optic connectivity. These high-speed fiber corridors have become critical infrastructure, in parallel with our transportation network, that we all benefit from. Greater Elkhart stands at a dynamic crossroads of opportunity, where strong infrastructure (including high-speed fiber optic connectivity, well-maintained roads, and accessible airports) creates a thriving environment for growth and innovation.

Brandon Liggett, ChoiceLight

*Now is the right time to be in Elkhart because with the investment in the River District and housing in the area, we will import less workers from beyond our county increasing the local labor supply as well as improving our local economy through taxes and support of small local businesses.*

Daniel Gartee, Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center of Northern Indiana

Now is a thrilling time to be part of the Greater Elkhart Area, where dedicated local leaders and community members are making a real difference by investing their time and resources to foster growth and innovation. Their commitment not only supports local organizations but also creates abundant business opportunities through collaborative efforts. Additionally, the revitalized downtown area has become a vibrant hub for gathering, whether for family outings, networking events, or productive business meetings.

Julie Vigue, Logistick, Inc.

- People are happy and friendly.
- Living in Elkhart is affordable and worth it.
- Entrepreneurial spirit is alive.
- City vision and momentum.

Gary Paston, Majority Builders

*Elkhart is booming now more than ever! I grew up in Elkhart and now in my 50's I have seen it develop and grow in the last 10 years more than ever before. Elkhart is a close Community of families and friends and we thrive on helping each other in any way possible through our hundreds of churches, generosity of local businesses and through the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce.*

Julie Fair, Sturgis Bank and Trust

- **Quality of Life:** Exceptional work, live, play b
- **Quality of Place:** Just a few hours to major m
- **Financial Incentives:** Business credits and ex
- **Economic Development:** Engaged in multimi
- **Accessibility:** Easy for business logistics.
- **Academic Assets:** Major universities and coll
- **Utility Resources:** Electricity, natural gas, bro
- **Leadership:** Talented and dedicated individu

Matthew Krathwohl, THOR Industries

- Elkhart is a VERY Vibrant community
- Elkhart is very Proactive
- Elkhart has great interaction between businesses
- Residents and businesses get involved in the community

Joan Garber, Mary Kay

# Why He

# Why

## Why is now the time to b

The excitement surrounding the revitalization of downtown and addition of the River District. As the City of Elkhart continues to grow, it looks for ways to improve quality of life for all citizens and businesses.

Kathy Sears, Centier

Now is the  
Elkhart is  
right now

Chrissy M

*The Greater Elkhart Region is growing and thriving. I really feel like a tightknit community full of people who want to work together for connections between businesses and organizations help make the in Greater Elkhart!*

Mackenzie Clark, Indiana Physical Therapy

Greater Elkhart is not just a place to live; it's a community poised for growth and

- **Strong Real Estate Opportunities:** The real estate market is thriving, with ri
  - **Benham Neighborhood Initiative:** This initiative is transforming this vital c
  - **Community Spirit:** Greater Elkhart boasts a welcoming atmosphere, foster
  - **Quality of Life:** With its parks, schools, and community events, Greater Elkh
- Greater Elkhart is ripe with potential. With transformative projects like the Ben time to be part of this flourishing region. Let's grow together!

Kym Baker, Ruoff Mortgage



balance.  
metro cities such as Chicago,  
emptions.  
million-dollar redevelopment  
ages nearby.  
adband, and fiber.  
als who make the above possible.

Now is a great time to be in Greater Elkhart for several reasons. The first being economic growth. Elkhart has seen a resurgence in economic development, particularly in industries like manufacturing and technology. The region is home to a growing number of businesses, offering employment opportunities and attracting talent. The second reason would be affordable living. Compared to larger cities, Greater Elkhart offers affordable housing and a lower cost of living, making it an attractive place for families and professionals looking to stretch their dollar without sacrificing quality of life. There is also a great deal of cultural and recreational expansion. The community has invested in enhancing local amenities. There are revitalized downtown areas, an increase in festivals, and new arts and cultural venues. Parks, rivers, and lakes in the area provide a great backdrop for outdoor activities like boating, hiking, and camping. Finally, there are many educational opportunities. The presence of local colleges and strong educational programs, both in public schools and private institutions, adds value for families. Institutions such as Ivy Tech and others offer educational and professional growth opportunities.

Julie McGill, Cultivate Food Rescue

Now is the time to be in greater Elkhart because employment, entertainment, and education are all on the rise.

Ellen Williams, Elkhart Education Foundation

Elkhart is on the move in all the right directions! Increased housing, lower cost of living, terrific quality of place assets like a vibrant downtown enhanced by additions in The River District and exciting additions and events at Wellfield Botanic Gardens make Elkhart a fantastic place to live, work, and play!

Eric Garton, Wellfield Botanic Gardens

# Are? Now? in Greater Elkhart?

I believe that there are many aspects that make Greater Elkhart an attractive location for new graduates, those looking to start or grow a family and professionals looking to relocate.

We have a strong business environment, a supportive Community Foundation and elected officials that are committed to the mission of making this city a premier destination.

Beacon Health and Aquatic Center, Ethos, Tolson Center and the Lerner Theatre are just a few of the offerings that have been provided by our community's commitment to philanthropy and service. There are personal growth opportunities, numerous career paths to embark upon and many not-for-profit organizations that support the needs of our community.

Brandon Arnold, Stifel, Baker's Nook Café

As someone born and raised in Elkhart, I've never been prouder to be part of this community. Between the work being done to promote interaction with all residents, growth and restoration of the downtown area, the support our local business community receives, how engaged our school corporations are, seeing leadership that is intentional with working together and having a focus on doing the right thing – this is the time to be here, and to get involved.

Denyse Pontius, Century Chemical Corporation

It's the time to be a part of Greater Elkhart to embrace the growth. Growing and changing and that makes it a great place to be if you want to be involved.

ast, Crowe LLP

Like the Greater Elkhart Region is for the greater good of the area. The region flourish. It's an exciting time to be

From brass and Alka Seltzer, to world leading recreational vehicle innovations, the entrepreneurial spirit in Elkhart has always been unmatched. But, right at this very moment, the energy and enthusiasm in our great community is palpable. With growth in every direction of our great downtown - truly the heart of the city with a heart - to exciting projects and developments in seemingly every corner of the city, it's clear; if you want to be where the action is, now is the time to be in Elkhart!

Danny Reynolds, Stephenson's of Elkhart

and opportunity. Here's why:

rising property values and high demand for both residential and commercial potential, making it an attractive option for buyers and investors alike. The corridor, enhancing its appeal. This revitalization is expected to increase throughout the community.

collaboration among local businesses and residents. Elkhart offers a balanced lifestyle that attracts families and individuals alike. The Northham Neighborhood Initiative, and a vibrant community, there's no better

Greater Elkhart is buzzing with energy, and the Lerner Theatre is thrilled to be at the heart of it all. With a dynamic lineup of both local and national performers, and a vibrant cultural presence, the Lerner is more than just a historic landmark—it's a community hub for unforgettable live entertainment. Surrounded by a revitalized downtown full of fantastic restaurants, shops, and events, now is the perfect time to experience all that Greater Elkhart and the Lerner Theatre have to offer!

Jenna Brouillette, The Lerner Theatre

# Quarterly Nonprofit Awards



**Bashor Children's Home** has received a Quarterly Nonprofit Award from the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce Business Recognition Council. Faithful to God and in keeping with the United Methodist tradition, the mission of Bashor Children's Home is to provide "Help for Today and Hope for Tomorrow" to troubled children and their families. Bashor is a mission-driven organization passionately supporting children being raised by healthy families in the community, one that is committed to inspiring others through innovative service. Bashor staff, board, and volunteers are called to serve and in so doing improve the lives of children and families. Bashor has a clearly stated purpose: They do all the good they can...By all the means they can...In any way they can...At all the times they can...For as many as they can.



**The Boys and Girls Club of Elkhart County** has received a Quarterly Nonprofit Award from the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce Business Recognition Council. The club exists to elevate the youth of our community and let them know they are capable, worthy, and important. Boys and Girls Clubs offer safe places where young people can learn, grow, and succeed. They focus on academic success, career development/workforce readiness, good character & citizenship, and healthy lifestyles. They operate clubhouses in Elkhart, Goshen, Middlebury, Jimtown and Nappanee and serve more than 7,500 of Elkhart County's youth annually. They have nine programs that include Back to School, Club at Home, Alumni Association, Academic Success, Career Development, Creative Arts, Character and Leadership, Health and Wellness, and Sports & Recreation.

## Celebrating Minority Business Excellence

The Greater Elkhart Chamber's Celebrating Minority Business Excellence dinner honors the hard work, dedication and accomplishments of minority businesses in our community.

The event also provides a platform for entrepreneurs to network with leaders within their industry and celebrate this year's award recipients in communications, nonprofit leadership, restaurant, health, retail, service, and

community impact. The nomination form for these awards is available at <https://www.elkhart.org/celebrating-minority-business-excellence-awards-nominations/>.

A panel discussion will focus on growing and strengthening minority businesses in the South Bend-Elkhart region. Panelists will include Bethany Hartley, South Bend - Elkhart Regional Partnership; Gudelia Paula Sours, Northern Indiana Minority Business Association; Maria Rojas, Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce; and Dr. Redgina Hill, St. Mary's College.

Celebrating Minority Business Excellence will be held in the Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner on Wednesday, November 13. Networking at 5:30 pm and dinner will be served at 6 pm. The program begins at 6:45 pm.

The Community Foundation of Elkhart County is the Presenting Sponsor of the event. Event sponsors are Century Chemical, KeyBank, and NIBCO.

Table sponsorships and individual seats are available. Register at [Elkhart.org](http://Elkhart.org)

## Celebrating Minority Business Excellence

*Join us as we honor the hard work, dedication, and accomplishments of minority businesses in our community*

**Wednesday, November 13 5:30 pm**  
Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner, 410 S Main St, Elkhart

Presenting Sponsor



Event Sponsors





Hosted by



Table Sponsorships: \$500 Single Tickets: \$45/\$55 Register at [Elkhart.org/events](http://Elkhart.org/events)

# Business Recognition Awards



**Abonmarche** has received a Business of the Month Award from the Greater Elkhart Chamber Business Recognition Council. Abonmarche began shaping communities for the better in 1979 in Southwest Michigan, providing clients with surveying, civil engineering, and marina development services. In 1984, they added architecture, planning, and landscape architecture to their services. Abonmarche has 250 employees across 11 offices in Southwest Michigan and Northern Indiana. The company is also a member of the West Michigan Minorities in Architecture/Engineering Consortium, whose mission is to increase the number of qualified minorities and women who are employed in the architectural, engineering and scientific professions. Relationships are a big part of Abonmarche's success. Their percentage of repeat

clients is high because of the relationships and trust they have developed with their clients. Their employees live in the communities they serve, so it is vital that the relationships with clients stay strong and healthy. They also strengthen internal relationships between teammates by focusing on employees' quality of life. The team is involved in community service, including Habitat for Humanity, Adopt-A-Highway, Boys & Girls Club, Junior Achievement, and Holiday Angel Tree programs. Abonmarche loves the variety of the projects they have, and are excited to be a catalyst for great things and building an environment that enhances people's lives.

**Applied Innovation** has received a Business of the Month Award from the Greater Elkhart Chamber Business Recognition Council. Founded in 1987 in Grand Rapids, Applied Innovation has consistently been a leader in the office technologies industry. Under the guidance of the 2nd generation, the company has remained family-owned, and its growth over the past 37 years has been remarkable. Initially a multi-line office technology provider, the company has expanded its footprint and service offerings through strategic acquisitions and community-focused initiatives. In recent years, they have expanded into managed IT services, entered the shredding business, and focused on green initiatives, including recycling cartridges and parts. The company's leadership team understands the importance of creating a positive work environment. With 540 employees across various locations, the company is dedicated to fostering a culture of collaboration and community involvement. Applied Innovation's core values center around community involvement. On their 25th anniversary, the company donated 2,500 hours to various charitable causes. They support organizations like the Boys & Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, Cultivate, Northern Indiana Food Bank, and Center for Hospice. Their charitable contributions and volunteer efforts exemplify their commitment to giving back to the communities they serve.



## Fairbanks Award



**Elite Aesthetics** received a Fairbanks Award from the Business Recognition Council of the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce. The award was presented for their beautiful facility, located at 515 S 2nd St, Elkhart.

### ANNUAL WINE TASTE & TOUR

**Friday, October 18 - 11:30 am - 5:30 pm**  
 Hickory Creek Winery and Tabor Hill Winery & Restaurant in Buchanan, MI

**Greater Elkhart CHAMBER**  
*Leading Business...Leading Our Community*

**Women's Council**  
 Register at [elkhart.org](http://elkhart.org)

Presenting Sponsor

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# NEW MEMBERS

## American Structurepoint Inc.

structurepoint.com  
205 W Jefferson Blvd, Ste 404  
South Bend, IN 46601  
(317) 547-5580  
Ashley Fugate  
*Engineers: Consulting*  
Referred by Transportation Council

## APEX Integrated Solutions, Inc

apexintegrated.net  
2421 S Nappanee St, Bldg 2  
Elkhart, IN 46517  
(855) 377-2739  
Jennifer Martell  
*Low Voltage Specialty System Supplier*  
Referred by Martell Electric

## Arbor Industries

117 14th St  
PO Box 313  
Middlebury, IN 46540  
(574) 825-2375  
David Baylis  
*CNC Routing; Fabrication; Industrial Cutting*

## BMPRO LLC

teambmp.com  
821 E Windsor Ave  
Elkhart, IN 46514  
(574) 322-4934  
Scott Hunter  
*Electronics Manufacturing/Distribution*  
Referred by Alexandra Hunter, Centier Bank

## Brass Elk Brewing

brasselkbrewing.com  
333 Nibco Pkwy  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
(574) 326-3938  
Laurel Marnocha  
*Restaurant*

## Coaching with Melanie

melaniebirky.com  
(574) 584-5095  
Melanie Birky  
*Coach: Business/Personal*

## Complex Plastics Inc.

complexplastics.com  
23153 Circle Ln  
Elkhart, IN 46514-4579  
(603) 305-3043  
Jason Zoltan  
*Plastic: Distributor*

## Eminence

116 S Main St  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
(574) 389-7230  
Victoria Miller-Fry  
*Hair Salons*

## 4 Aces Top & Trim

1100 Canton St  
Elkhart, IN 46514  
(574) 293-8711  
Stephanie Shanholt  
*Upholstery: Automotive and Marine*

## Holisticare Homes

holisticarehomes.com  
57711 CR 9  
Elkhart, IN 46517  
(574) 315-7835  
Patti Vellucci  
*Assisted Living Facility*

## Hometown Filter

hometownfilter.com  
28298 Clay St  
Elkhart, IN 46517  
(574) 232-1409  
Billy Doslak  
*Air Filter Supplier*

## iFlock Security Consulting

iflockconsulting.com  
109 Sunset Ct  
Wakarusa, IN 46573  
(833) 442-9677  
Derek Odiorne  
*Cybersecurity Consultants*

## Indiana Electronics & Communications

ChooseIEC.com  
13185 Chippewa Blvd  
Mishawaka, IN 46545  
(574) 254-5500  
John Greaves  
*Telecommunications*  
Referred by Doug Elder, DOJO Creative

## The L Wine Bar

TheLWineBar.com  
530 E Lexington Ave, Ste 200  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
(574) 296-1333  
Laurel Marnocha  
*Wine Bar*

## Legacy Plastics, LLC

1162 Fremont Ct  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
(574) 296-1356  
James Morgan  
*Roto Molding*  
Referred by PontoonStuff

## Michigan Office Environments

moel.com  
177 Portage St  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007  
(269) 343-0630  
Fax: (269) 343-0930  
Madison Tullio  
*Office Equipment & Furniture*

## Norres North America

norres.com  
701 W Chippewa Ave, Ste 200  
South Bend, IN 46614  
(574) 232-9061  
Alysha Johnson  
*Hose Manufacturer*  
Referred by Emma Jordan, Specialized Staffing Solutions, LLC

## Paycor

paycor.com  
4811 Montgomery Rd  
Cincinnati, OH 45212  
(269) 599-8414  
Erica Slocumb  
*Human Resources Information System (HRIS)*  
Referred by Heather Gorlowski, University of Notre Dame

## PontoonStuff

pontoonstuff.com  
1165 Fremont Ct  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
(574) 970-0003  
James Morgan  
*Marine Furniture and Accessories*

## Senior Helpers

seniorhelpers.com/in/southbend/  
230 W Catalpa, Ste B  
Mishawaka, IN 46545  
(574) 968-1068  
Lindsay Stover  
*Senior Services*

## Valmont Industries

www.valmont.com  
1301 Maple St  
Bristol, IN 46507-1150  
(574) 622-1968  
David Morrissette  
*Traffic/Lighting Poles Manufacturer*

# Ambassadors of the Month

presented by



**Joan Garber  
Mary Kay**

[www.marykay.com/jgarber1](http://www.marykay.com/jgarber1)

*“My personal mission is to Make a Difference. Serving as an Ambassador provides the opportunity to encourage and positively impact individuals and businesses by sharing my Mary Kay services, like employee appreciation gifts. It is an honor to represent the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce.”*



**Sabrina Helland  
1st Source Bank**

[www.1stsource.com](http://www.1stsource.com)

*“It is a privilege to network and make new connections with businesses, community members, and fellow ambassadors. As a business banker, I pride myself on being local and trustworthy to understand your business and provide excellent service with ‘straight talk and sound advice’ backed by a history of 160+ years in business.”*

**Are you interested in becoming an Ambassador?**

**Contact Jes at 574-293-1531 x 124 or visit  
[elkhart.org/chamber-information/councils/ambassadors/](http://elkhart.org/chamber-information/councils/ambassadors/)**

# NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

**Bashor Children’s Home** has announced the promotion of **Mike Deranek** to Chief Operating Officer.

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Elkhart County** has promoted **Susan Mishler** to Chief Operating Officer.

**Colbert Packaging Corp.** is celebrating their 65th anniversary. The company was founded in Chicago in 1959 by Charles Colbert.

**DJ Construction** is celebrating their 70th anniversary in 2024. The company was founded by Don and Joe Schrock in 1954.

**Fasnap** announces new members of their sales team: **Spencer Williams**, Northeast Territory; **Brett Hoover**, West Coast region; and **Wes Middendorf**, Great Plains and Mountain West regions.

**Gibson** has promoted **Nicole Fallowfield** as Chief People Officer, **Patrick Harpenau** as Employee Benefits Practice Growth Officer, and **David Walters** as President.

**Amber Lundgren** has joined **Insight Accounting Group** as Training and Implementation Specialist.

**Interra Credit Union** welcomes **Alan Hibshman** to the Mortgage Department as Analyst, Mortgage Loan Originator.

**Surf Internet** has been recognized by Broadband Communities as one of the Top 100 Fiber Providers for 2024.

**THK Law, LLP** has nine lawyers awarded in the 2025 editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America: **Thomas J. Hall, Michael J. Hays, Greta Roemer Lewis, James M. Lewis, Eric W. Seigel, Malcolm J. Tuesley, Eric W. von Deck, Kahlyn N. Ashcraft, and Elizabeth A. Klesmith.**

**THOR Industries** has promoted **Rick Schutt** to Vice President of Community Partnerships.

*Submit your company’s news and information to [marketing@elkhart.org](mailto:marketing@elkhart.org)*

## OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

### 50+ YEARS

Bull Moose Tube  
Dometic North America  
EFP, LLC  
Franger Gas Company, Inc.  
Hull Lift Truck, Inc.  
Lochmandy Motors Sales, Inc.  
Martin's Super Markets, Inc.  
Mid-City Supply Company, Inc.  
Northland Corporation  
Oral Surgery Michiana  
Robert Weed Corporation  
Surveying And Mapping, LLC  
Tom Naquin Chevrolet Nissan Cadillac

### 30 YEARS

The Salvation Army

### 20 YEARS

Omni Source Corporation

### 15 YEARS

Bittersweet Road Family Dentists  
THOR Industries Inc.

### 10 YEARS

Glass Doctor  
Home Instead  
Horizon Education Alliance  
J2 Marketing  
Senior1Care

### 5 YEARS

Dawntreader Development LLC  
Notre Dame Federal Credit Union  
Tradewinds Elkhart LLC

Tri-Power Recycling  
United Federal Credit Union  
University of Notre Dame

### 1 YEAR

Arcem Entry Systems  
Best Western Inn and Suites  
Elkhart Ophthalmology  
Evergreen Grease Enterprises, LLC  
JaRisa’s Fun Zone  
JBS Prepared Foods  
Kingdom Community Center  
Lexington Event Center LLC  
Navtech, LLC  
Small Miracles Learning Center LLC  
Stable Grounds, Inc.  
Super 8 Motel, Inc.

# OCTOBER

- 2

**OSHA General Industry 10 Hour Training**  
 October 2 - 3, 8 am - 4:30 pm  
 Matterhorn Conference Center  
 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart
- 15

**Business After Hours - hosted by Dynamic Packaging Solutions**  
 5 - 7 pm  
 406 Kesco Dr, Bristol
- 16

**OSHA Council Breakfast - Forklift Technology to Help Improve Workplace Safety**  
 7:30 am  
 Matterhorn Conference Center, 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart
- 18

**Women's Council Wine Tour**  
 11:30 am - 5:30 pm  
 Hickory Creek Winery and Tabor Hill Winery & Restaurant  
 Buchanan, MI
- 24

**Young Professionals Intrigue, Inspire, Ignite Dinner**  
 5:30 pm  
 Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner  
 410 S Main St, Elkhart

# NOVEMBER

- 1

**New Member Welcome**  
 8:30 am  
 Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce  
 418 S Main St, Elkhart
- 7

**YP Luncheon - Crucial Conversations**  
 11:30 am  
 Elkhart Area Career Center  
 2424 California Rd, Elkhart
- 13

**Celebrating Minority Business Excellence**  
 5:30 pm  
 Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner  
 410 S Main St, Elkhart
- 20

**OSHA Council Breakfast - Building Effective Safety Teams**  
 7:30 am  
 Matterhorn Conference Center, 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart
- 21

**Women's Council Luncheon - Our Chamber Members Favorite Things**  
 11:30 am  
 Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner, 410 S Main St, Elkhart

# DECEMBER

- 6

**Transportation Breakfast - South Shore Improvements**  
 8 am  
 Matterhorn Conference Center  
 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart
- 18

**OSHA Breakfast - Managing the Aftermath of Safety Trauma**  
 7:30 am  
 Matterhorn Conference Center, 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart

Please visit [Elkhart.org/events](http://Elkhart.org/events) for more information.



**GET YOUR FILL**

*Be Aware, Be Brave Bristol:  
Business After Hours: 406 Kesco Drive Style*

*Grab Your Ghoulish Garb & **GET YOUR FILL**  
of Food, Fun, Potions, & Prizes*

*Dynamic Packaging Solutions  
October 15, 2024 5-7 PM*

## Forklift Technology To Help Improve Workplace Safety

**Wednesday, October 16 - 7:30 am**  
 Matterhorn Conference Center 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart

*Annual Sponsors*





An OSHA Council Training Breakfast Register at [www.Elkhart.org](http://www.Elkhart.org) Pre-registration required



**Crucial Conversations**  
 November 7 11:30 am  
 Elkhart Area Career Center

Event Sponsor  


A luncheon hosted by the Young Professionals Council - all ages welcome  
 Register at [elkhart.org](http://elkhart.org)

A Council of  
**Greater Elkhart CHAMBER**  
 Leading Business...Leading Our Community



**South Shore Line Improvements**

**Friday, December 6 - 8 am**  
 Matterhorn Conference Center 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart

*Event Sponsors*










# Give a Tasty Gift Box

## for the Holidays



### Give a Logo Cookie and...

### Coffee and Hot Chocolate cups

*Sweet Oven Bakery.com*

574-304-7148



**Thursday, November 21**  
**11:30 am**

**Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner Theatre**  
**410 S Main St, Elkhart**

*Join us for the fourteenth annual Our Chamber Members Favorite Things Luncheon hosted by the Women's Council. Invite a friend, client or colleague.*

*Enjoy an exciting and fun luncheon and have the chance to WIN a Chamber Member's Favorite Thing! (Gifts valued at \$50 or more). Register at [www.elkhart.org](http://www.elkhart.org).*

### **Promote your company!**

*Favorite Things can get your company exposure!  
Showcase your business by sponsoring a gift from among your products and services and having your "commercial" read at the event.  
If you are interested in participating as a gift sponsor, contact Kathy at [kcardwell@elkhart.org](mailto:kcardwell@elkhart.org).*

#### **Presenting Sponsor**



#### **Event Sponsors**

