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Roads to Economic Growth

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Report4
Member Celebrations6
Business Recognition Awards7
Transportation Luncheon8
OSHA 10 Hour General Industry Training8
Front Line Leadership Training Series9
Golf Outing Winners
Board of Directors Nominations Requested 11
Fairbanks Award11
New Members12
Anniversaries
Ambassador of the Month13
News About Our Members13
Calendar of Events14

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.

"Leading Business" is the bi-monthly magazine published by:



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Roads to Economic Growth



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Levon Johnson President/CEO Ijohnson@elkhart.org

Just in case anyone was unaware, I wanted to remind you that it is a Presidential Election year. Just kidding. I promise this is not going to be a political article, so please keep reading.

This is going to be about factors of economic growth and indicators of the strength of our local economy.

The reality is that election years do have an impact on the economy. Businesses and individuals tend to move a little more cautiously with their money and investments. How that plays out for the remainder of this year will be worth watching.

As always, the economy will be reliant on consumer confidence and spending habits.

We continue to hear about economic indicators and influences on the economy at the local, state, and federal level. Examples include inflation, gas prices, housing stock, credit card debt, supply chain, workforce development, daycare scarcity, transportation issues, and so many other things.

Our economy is clearly complex and at times it can make you feel like you are just trying to hold on and you are not driving your own direction.

Our ability to move people, goods, and services has a significant impact on our ability to do business. I know we are continuing to do more engagement and work through the use of technology. Even with digital advances, business still relies heavily upon our local, regional, state, and federal roads, railways, and airways to keep the economy moving.

As Indiana is known as the Crossroads of America, it is important that we continue to advance our transportation infrastructure to keep the rest of the country moving whether they are heading north, south, east, or west.

Much of this work and focus is handled by the Indiana Department of Transportation. It is not easy or inexpensive work but the dedicated men and women of INDOT are focused on making the Indiana roadways amongst the best in the country.

Once again, the Transportation Council of the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the INDOT Luncheon presented by the Indiana Toll Road on August 6 at 11:30 at Elcona Country Club.

This luncheon, in its 28th year, is a celebration of completed projects, updates on current projects, and timelines for future projects.

The roads to our economic growth are not always straight, and can be challenging to navigate at times.

Fortunately, there are professionals who have dedicated their careers to looking at economic history, current trends, and mounds of data to provide insight into economic expectations for the present and future and have been able to do so with accuracy.

Obviously, not all things go according to plan. No one can predict geo-political circumstances or extreme acts of nature. Providing these type of insights can hopefully provide the information needed for businesses to make even better-informed decisions.

Each year the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Council hosts the Economic Update Luncheon presented by Fifth Third. Once again, the attendees will hear from Thomas Jalics, Chief Market Strategist at Fifth Third. Tom provides internal and external communication on the economy and has been highly sought after by numerous news and media outlets as an industry expert and commentator.

In addition, we will be joined by panelists Danny Reynolds, President/Owner of Stephenson's of Elkhart; Lori Snyder, Managing Broker, Elkhart and Goshen Berkshire Hathaway; and Kurt Janowsky, Owner of Navarre Hospitality Group. These local business experts will provide insights into retail trends, the housing market, and hospitality industry from a regional and state perspective.

The Economic Update Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, August 21 at 11:30 in the Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner Theatre. Register online at elkhart.org.

As we continue into the second half of the year, it is important to remember that we are all traveling together on the roads to economic growth.





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Member Celebrations



Renovations are complete at **1st Source Bank**, 2020 E Bristol St, Elkhart! The Banking Center was converted to the side-by-side model which invites clients behind the "teller line," allowing for a more transparent and inclusive experience and relationship. *www.1stsource.com*



Avid Hotel Elkhart celebrates the Grand Opening of their hotel at 327 Northpointe Blvd in Elkhart! Avid Hotels are purpose-built from the ground up, focusing on the essentials that make a difference. *ihg.com/avidhotels/hotels/us/en/elkhart/ekiav/hoteldetail*



Trim & Tonic celebrates the Grand Opening of their Barber Salon located at 1789 E Bristol St, Ste B in 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*



Discover your future office at the **Enterprise Building Indiana**, located at 421 S Second St, Elkhart! Whether you need a private office or a collaborative workspace, they are open and have the perfect blank canvas for you. *theenterprisebuildingindiana.com*



Congratulations to **Wild Bill's Tobacco of Elkhart** on their new location at 2224 Cassopolis St in Elkhart. Wild Bill's Tobacco is your destination for premium tobacco products and accessories. *wildbillstobacco.com*



Business Recognition Awards



Boling Vision Center, 2746 Old US 20 W, Ste B in Elkhart, has received a Business of the Month Award from the Greater Elkhart Chamber Business Recognition Council. Boling Vision was established in 1960, and in 1986, Dr. Richard C. Boling II joined his father in the family practice. His daughters, Hayley Boling, CEO and Dr. Whitney Boling, joined the team making the practice a third-generation family business. The Center now has ten doctors and over 100 employees compassionately serving the families of Michiana with a state-of-the-art, personalized eye care experience. Their services include Medical/routine/pediatric eye care, LASIK/Refractive Surgery, Cataract Care, Medical Retina, Optical, Dry Eye Treatment, and Ocular Disease Management. Boling Vision Center makes a conscious effort to

give back to their community by being involved in local charities, events, and initiatives. In an effort to take their commitment to serve the community outside the office, Boling Vision Center developed Kindness to Prevent Blindness (K2PB), a community impact program for eye care services for school children. Since beginning more than a decade ago, K2PB has evolved into several outreach efforts, the most recent being the K2PB Mobile Unit. Since the launch in 2018, they have provided local kids with 23,620 free vision screenings, 7,227 mobile unit eye health exams, and 9,914 pairs of free glasses.

Moser Consulting, located at 6220 Castleway West Dr, in Indianapolis, and with consultants throughout Indiana, has received a Business of the Month Award from the Greater Elkhart Chamber Business Recognition Council. Founded by Ty and Paula Moser in 1996, Moser Consulting has been the go-to source for exceptional IT talent with the ability to self-manage. Their consultants become trusted, long-term technology partners by developing cost-effective solutions to achieve business goals. Headquartered in Indianapolis, Moser has five main divisions: Application Services, Business Services, Core Technology Services, Data & Analytics Services, and Government Services. The company has 350 full time employees, and have been included in the Best Places to Work in Indiana for 10 years. They



attract the highest quality professionals and provide each with an average of 50+ hours of company-paid training each year. Moser's culture is driven by eight core socially-minded values including Accountability, Balance, Collaboration, Focus, Integrity, Social Responsibility, Support, and Transparency, making their communities a better place. In addition to all-company charity events, they have group and team opportunities such as the Day of Service on Martin Luther King Day and volunteering with a variety of local organizations throughout the year.





Transportation Luncheon features INDOT presentation

The 28th Annual INDOT Luncheon hosted by the Transportation Council of the Greater Elkhart Chamber will feature special guests from the Indiana Department of Transportation.

The luncheon will be held at Elcona Country Club, 56784 CR 21, Bristol, on Tuesday, August 6, at 11:30 am.

The program will include updates from INDOT and the Transportation Council on local and state projects. This is a great opportunity to learn about upcoming plans for transportation infrastructure in the South Bend/Elkhart area and celebrate what we have achieved in working together, including US 31 between South Bend and Indianapolis.

The presenting sponsor is Indiana Toll Road. Event sponsors are Abonmarche; ChoiceLight Inc.; HRP Construction Inc.; Indiana Michigan Power; Lochmueller Group; Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.; and Surveying And Mapping, LLC.

Register at www.elkhart.org/events.

OSHA 10 Hour General Industry Training

The next 10 Hour General Industry Safety & Health Program will be held on October 2 and 3 at the Matterhorn Conference Center, 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart.

This 10 hour 2-day course is designed to present detailed information on how the provisions of OSHA Act must be implemented in the workplace. The workshop fee includes breakfast and lunch both days and a personal copy of Introduction to OSHA Student Handbook.

Upon completion of the training, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion and a Department of Labor OSHA wallet size completion card.

The 20 Hour General Industry Safety & Health Program will be offered in March 2025. Upon successful completion of the 10 and 20 hour courses, participants will receive their 30 hour certification.

Register at www.elkhart.org/events. Registrations must be made in advance. Class size is limited to 40 attendees.







Front Line Leadership Training Series

The Front Line Leader Workshops are geared for managers, supervisors, and group leaders. The sessions are highly interactive, taking participants through foundational leadership skills while introducing them to higher level continuous improvement tools and leadership best practices.

The series of workshops build upon each other and address performance management, problem solving, leadership communication, change leadership, conflict management, and motivation of employees. Participants will also complete an Everything DiSC Catalyst Workplace Profile assessment to gain understanding on how their workplace style can best interact and positively impact their team and peers.

Facilitators Bil Murray and Merritt Dilts have deep practical leadership and continuous improvement knowledge and a variety of industry experience.

The first session "What is Front Line Leadership and how to Strive for Excellence" kicks off on September 24 and the sessions continue through December 10. You can attend the whole series (recommended) or choose those topics most pertinent to your needs.

Workshop Schedule and Topics

- What is Front Line Leadership and how to Strive for Excellence
- Embracing Your Leadership Style and how to flex to improve your effectiveness using Everything DiSC Catalyst Workplace Assessment
- The Communication of Leaders: The importance of leadership communications, successful communication styles, and best practices
- Performance Management: Setting goals, performance appraisals, and corrective action planning and delivery
- Problem Solving for Leaders: Learn the A3: 8 Step Problem Solving Process, Pareto Analysis, 5 Why's and Ishakawa Fishbone Diagram, and other highly effective techniques
- Team Building: How to build and sustain effective teams and overcome the most common forms of team dysfunctions
- Leading Through Change: Understanding change models, i.e. Kubler-Ross Change Framework/Curve, and how to effectively lead your team through change
- High Performance Teams: Definitions, strategies and tools for leading your team to outstanding performance
- Leading Continuous Improvements: Learn LEAN Six Sigma tools and concepts and how and when to apply and lead your team in using these tools for improvement and waste reduction
- Putting it All Together Graduation

The full series of 10 Workshops is \$1,400 (\$1,350 for Greater Elkhart Chamber Members). Individual Courses are \$150 (\$140 with Chamber Member Discount). The workshop price includes the cost for an Everything DiSC Catalyst Workplace Profile Assessment. If you take "Embracing Your Leadership Style" as an individual course, the cost will include an additional \$90 for DiSC Catalyst Assessment.

There are scholarship opportunities for Non-Profit Organizations. For information on scholarships, please email mdilts@elkhart.org.

Sessions will be held at the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce, 418 S Main St, Elkhart.

Register at Elkhart.org/events. Registrations will be accepted until 9/20/24.





Congratulations to our winners at the 67th Annual Golf Outing

presented by





Winning AM Foursome Excel Electronics Evan Estep, Mike Sieradzki, Chip Estep, Matt Dutton

Winning PM Foursome Patrick Industries Jason Groom, Jeremy Avila, Mike Ferro, Jeff Balyeat



Contest Winners

#3 Closest to the Pin – Matt Schrock
#7 Longest Drive (Men) – Brady McKibben
#9 Longest Putt – Cory Metzger
#13 Closest to the Pin – Liz Chrzan

#14 Shortest Drive – Owen Standbridge #16 Longest Drive (Women) – Kandi Stover #18 Longest Putt – Stephen Schaefer

Thank you to all of our Golfers, Sponsors, and Volunteers! Plan to join us for next year's Golf Outing on June 23, 2025

Need More From Your Chamber? Let us help you engage.

Call for a Concierge Appointment With Rebecca or Jes @ 574. 293.1531

Or visit our website at elkhart.org



Chamber requests nominations for 2025 Board of Directors

The Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce will receive applications for its board of directors through September 1, 2024. Community leaders are encouraged to serve and participate in governing the finances and strategic initiatives of the Chamber, which represents roughly 44,000 total employees and over 900 member businesses and organizations.

Board terms are three years in length, and selected individuals from this year's nominations will be seated on January 1, 2025.

Any employee of a member business or organization in good standing may submit a Board Application and resumé.

The application is available online at www.elkhart.org or by calling Amanda at (574) 293-1531.

A nominating committee will review candidates and make selections to fill positions based on business category, occupation or profession, memberships in civic and fraternal organizations, achievements, community contributions, and participation in Chamber projects or events.

Business categories include retail, professional, service, manufacturing, technical, wholesale, not-for-profit, and others.

Applications may be submitted using the form at www.elkhart.org/chamber-information/boardapplication; mailed to PO Box 428, Elkhart, IN 46515; or delivered to 418 S Main St, Elkhart.



RETA (Reason Enough To Act) has received a Fairbanks Award from the Business Recognition Council of the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce. The award was presented for their beautiful new facility, located at 116 W Jackson Blvd, Elkhart.



It's all in the details



Andean Bear Habitat & The Lodge Cafe



NEW MEMBERS

Caliber Consulting LLC

www.caliberconsultingllc.org 27252 CR 30 Elkhart, IN 46517 (260) 403-6664 Dustin Goeglein *Consultants* Referred by Tony Gaipa, Gibson

Damping Technologies Inc.

www.damping.com 55656 Currant Rd Mishawaka, IN 46545 (574) 855-6595 Mark Engdahl Sound and Vibration Systems

ElectroMedia

www.electromediainc.com 1976 E McKinley Ave Mishawaka, IN 46545 (574) 237-0700 Evan Cihak *Telecommunications Contractor*

Embracing Children Consulting Agency

4024 Elkhart Rd, Ste 26 #1016 Goshen, IN 46526 (219) 545-6495 Katyana West *Business Consultants* Referred by Business Diversity Initiative

GreatNews.Life

greatnews.life 951 West St Valparaiso, IN 46385 (219) 707-5023 Jenny Craig-Brown *Digital Marketing* Referred by Gene Crusie, Surf Internet

Hold My Wine Refinishing & Restoration, LLC

www.facebook.com/profile. php?id=61554811079355 14620 Farm House Dr Middlebury, IN 46540 (574) 312-9049 Shannon Oakes *Furniture: Refinishing and Restoration*

Kelley Kronenberg Attorneys at Law

www.kelleykronenberg.com 233 E 84th Dr, Ste 200 Merrillville, IN 46410 (800) 484-4381 Jaime Llorens *Attorneys*

Krieg DeVault, LLP

www.kriegdevault.com 4101 Edison Lakes Pkwy, Ste 100 Mishawaka, IN 46545 (574) 277-1200 Matthew W. Schramm *Attorneys*

Magnify Custom Apparel & Design

www.magnifycustomapparel.com 10571 Edison Rd Osceola, IN 46561 (574) 849-0774 Amy Bateson *Apparel: Embroidery and Screen Printing*

Optimal-EV

www.optimal-ev.com 29449 Old US Hwy 33 Elkhart, IN 46516 (734) 414-7933 Janett Stout *Vehicle Manufacturer: Electric*

S&K Industrial

www.sandkindustrial.com 217 West Blvd Elkhart, IN 46514 (859) 293-0000 Garrett Mantor Industrial Automation and Robotics

Sandy & Rachel's Medical Massage Therapy PC

www.facebook.com/sandyandrachelsmmt 705 Spruce St Dowagiac, MI 49047 (269) 414-8902 Rachel L. Jurgenson *Massage: Certified Therapist*

Shipping Solutions, Inc.

www.ShipSolu.com 2340 15th St Elkhart, IN 46517 (574) 606-2708 Cindy Hansen Packaging Materials

That 1 Painter Michiana

that1painter.com/location/michiana-southbend-in 219 N Dixie Way, Ste 205 Roseland, IN 46637 (574) 622-1143 Justin Stecz Painting Contractors

Thrivent Financial

www.thrivent.com 1657 Commerce Dr Ste 10-B South Bend, IN 46628 (574) 862-2815 Cheryl C. Avery *Financial Services Insurance*

Trim & Tonic

1789 E Bristol St, Ste C Elkhart, IN 46514 (574) 322-9166 Molly Miller *Hair Salons*

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

50+ YEARS Clevenger Insurance Gaska Tape Inc. Manpower, Inc. Morgan Advanced Materials - Thermal Ceramics Tepe Sanitary Supply Inc., div. of Imperial Dade Zeigler Ford of Elkhart

40 YEARS Elkhart Public Library

25 YEARS Elkhart Plating Corp.

15 YEARS Airgas USA, LLC Focal Point Cabinetry

10 YEARS RV Technical Institute

5 YEARS

Bolt Document Management Concord Event Center Crossing National Inc. Crystal Valley Comfort/Peterman Brothers Elkhart Festivals Inc. Our Place on Main Quality Import Service Truma Corporation

1 YEAR

Aspect Builders LLC Atlas IT Baker's Nook Cafe DeliaMar Mega-Shop Envision Automation LLC Essenhaus Inn & Conference Center GA Consulting LLC Girls on the Run Michiana Hall of Heroes Superhero Museum Heart to Heart Hospice Elkhart Indiana's Elite Cleaning LLC Nimbello Pura Vida Chicas, LLC Runnings Scooter's Coffee Select Capital LLC Winona Powder Coating, Inc.

Ambassadors of the Month presented by

J2 Marketing



Monica Abair

Goodwill Industries of Michiana, Inc. www.goodwill-ni.org

"Serving the community fills my heart and soul with joy. Being an Ambassador is a terrific way to be involved in the city and

region while assisting fellow Chamber members reach their goals. This aligns with Goodwill of Michiana's mission of empowering and preparing people for independence through training, personal growth, and work."



Mackenzie Clark Indiana Physical Therapy

www.indianapt.com

"I enjoy being an Ambassador for the Greater Elkhart Chamber because of the relationships that I have made in

the community. I appreciate learning about the businesses and organizations within our community that make our area thrive. Being a Ambassador has allowed me to grow both professionally and personally."

Are you interested in becoming an Ambassador? Contact Jes at 574-293-1531 x 124 or visit elkhart.org/chamber-information/ councils/ambassadors/

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Beacon Health & Fitness club locations in Granger and Elkhart are recipients of the 2023 MXM Location of Excellence Award.

Julie McGill has joined Cultivate Food Rescue as Partnership and Donor Engagement focused on expansion into Elkhart County.

The Elkhart County Convention & Visitors Bureau has hired Jessica Risner as Destination Sales Manager.

Fifth Third has been recognized as a 2024 Top Diverse Employer by DiversityComm Magazine.

1st Source Bank has been named the 14th Best Bank in America and the top bank in Indiana by Forbes.

Interra Credit Union announces that **Mike Metcalf** has joined Interra Investments as a Financial Advisor.

Ivy Tech Community College has appointed **Patrick Englert** as the new Chancellor of the South Bend-Elkhart campus.

Network Solutions has achieved Cisco Gold Provider status.

Sara Fetke Sweers, CPA, has joined **Kruggel Lawton** as a Partner in the audit and assurance practice.

Samantha Brady, Assistant Operations Manager at **South Bend International Airport**, has earned her Certified Member (C.M.) certification through the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE).

Surf Internet has appointed **Jeremia Holmes-Ploor** as the new Assistant Director of Special Funding.

Ole Harv from **88.1 WVPE Public Radio** has been inducted into the Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations, Inc. 2024 Hall of Fame.

Submit your company's news and information to marketing@elkhart.org





CHAMBER EVENTS

AUGUST **INDOT Luncheon**



11.30 am Elcona Country Club 56784 CR 21, Bristol



Women's Council Planning Retreat 8 am - 12 pm **Essenhaus Conference Center** 240 US Hwy 20, Middlebury



Business After Hours hosted by Relish Café & Confections 4:30 - 6:30 pm 504 S Main St, Elkhart



Economic Update Luncheon 11.30 am Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner 410 S Main St, Elkhart



YP Luncheon: Entrepreneurship and Start-up Businesses 11:30 am Elkhart Area Career Center 2424 California Rd, Elkhart

SEPTEMBER



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



Breakfast with the Superintendents 8 am Matterhorn Conference Center 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart



Business After Hours hosted by everwise 5 -7 pm 201 CR 6, Elkhart



OSHA Council Breakfast - Workers Compensation 7:30 am Matterhorn Conference Center 2041 Cassopolis St, Elkhart



Women's Council Luncheon - Mental Health in the Workplace 11:30 am

Ivy Tech Community College, 22531 CR 18, Goshen



Front Line Leadership - Session 1

8 am Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce 418 S Main St, Elkhart



Safety Conscious Supervisor Training 8 am - 1 pm Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce 418 S Main St, Elkhart



14

YP Networking and Games 5 - 7 pm Galley Sports Pub 3147 Northview Dr, Elkhart

Please visit Elkhart.org/events for more information.



Business After Hours hosted by Everwise.

September 17, 2024 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Everwise Credit Union 201 County Road 6 West Elkhart, IN 46514



Reducing Workers' Compensation Costs through

Accident Prevention and afety Conscious Supervision Thursday, September 26 8 am - 1 pm Greater Elkhart Chamber, 418 S Main St, Elkhart Register at Elkhart.org



GREATER ELKHART CHAMBER





2024 ECONOMIC UPDATE

August 21 | 11:30 | Crystal Ballroom

The Economic Update Luncheon features economic expert Thomas Jalics, Chief Market Strategist at Fifth Third, who will share valuable information about current events and the future of the economy.

Our panelists will discuss the county housing market, retail trends, and the hospitality industry, as those topics are some of the key indicators of the economic health of our region.



Keynote Speaker:

TOM JALICS, CFA

Chief Market Strategist Fifth Third

Panel Discussion



Danny Reynolds Stephenson's of Elkhart



Lori Snyder Berkshire Hathaway



Kurt Janowsky Navarre Hospitality Group



Register at elkhart.org/events