

## CHAMBER NEWS

April 2010

UPCOMING  
SPECIAL EVENTSThursday  
April 22ndBUSINESS AFTER  
HOURS

You are cordially  
invited to the  
Litchfield Country  
Club  
for the  
April Business  
After Hours Event  
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Litchfield's  
Farmers Market  
will be open on  
Friday evenings  
beginning in  
June!

Rhea Weaver  
Executive Director

Thank you for being  
a member of the  
Litchfield Chamber  
of Commerce.

If you need  
assistance  
with anything,  
give me a call at:  
(217) 324-2533  
Fax: (217) 324-3559

Litchfield  
Chamber of Commerce  
311 N. Madison St.  
P.O. Box 334  
Litchfield, IL 62056

e-mail:  
chamber@litchfield.com

Website:  
litchfieldchamber.com

*A Letter from the President ...*

I am very pleased to be starting my term as President of the Chamber and am looking forward to working with all members to make it a successful year.

We had a very successful annual dinner. Congratulations go to all the award winners, and thanks to all who worked so hard to make it a success.

I would like to thank Travis Quance for his hard work over the past year and to all retiring board members for their service.

We have launched the "SHOP LITCHFIELD FIRST" campaign. The campaign is intended to increase revenues for Litchfield businesses by raising awareness of the benefits to the community of shopping locally and the vast array of goods and services that can be purchased in Litchfield. The campaign is not specifically about independents or against national chains but about all our businesses in town.

There will be plenty of opportunity to serve the membership by volunteering to work on one of our restructured committees – Fundraising, Business Promotion, Membership, Education, legislative and those which are unchanged . . . Party in the Park, Downtown Alliance and Agribusiness. *We need and would welcome your help.* (See Sign-up Form)

I am sure that by working together we can increase the benefits of membership, grow the membership and strengthen our business community over the coming year.

*Adrian Baker*

## FACT SHEET

- 2% of the 7.5% sales tax collected goes directly to the City of Litchfield, half of it for infrastructure projects and half into the general fund. With each purchase, you are helping pay for improvements within the City.
- Local businesses support the local organizations.
- More business for local merchants means more jobs for local people and more property taxes to support the school district and other organizations.
- Between 13 and 46% of spending with local businesses stays in our community.
- Vibrant business communities attract more business investment and growth, create more jobs, and provide greater choices for residents.



## Welcome New Members

**BARBERMurphy Group**—Commercial and Industrial Real Estate Firm. Contact: Tara Keller at (618) 277-4400 Ext. 14 or TaraK@barbermurphy.com

**Quality Inn & Suites**—Formerly Comfort Inn. Contact: Jim Wreath 324-9260 or gmil139@choicehotels.com

**Office Plus/Creative Business Forms**—Supplier of office supplies, office furniture and printing. Contact: Sandy Girafe or Jason Smith at (618) 345-8666 or sandy@cbf-ink.com or jasons@cbf-ink.com

# ANNUAL DINNER SPONSORS

*Thank you to . . .*

The Best Western Banquet Center for their generous donations of banquet discounts and door prizes!

Loft & Home Florals for creating and donating the fabulous centerpieces that set the tone of elegance for the entire evening!

Litchfield Jewelry for donating the beautiful diamond ring and ring boxes that were sold throughout the evening. Congratulations to the lucky winner...  
Robbin Huffman of ITW Building Components!

Diamond Imprints for donating lovely plaques to all the award winners depicting an aerial photo of Litchfield!

The Journal Printing Company for designing the "Luck of the Chamber" logo and printing the tickets and programs!

George Press Printing for printing the invitations!

*And, thank you to all who attended . . . IT WAS A FABULOUS EVENING!*

## Litchfield Chamber of Commerce 2010-2011 Board of Directors

Name	Phone
Adrian Baker, <i>President</i> abaker@diamondimprints.com	246-2043
Steve Dougherty, <i>Vice President</i> steved@consolidated.net	325-2050
Ben Schwab, <i>Treasurer</i> bschwab@pritchardosborne.com	324-6611
Travis Quance, <i>Past President</i> tsqiniraq@yahoo.com	324-5983
Shirley Barnes shirley.a.barnes@mwarep.org	324-5660
Susan Brackenhoff susan.griffin@llcc.edu	324-6297
Randy Brown randy.f.brown@ampf.com	324-3203
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Bill Flowers bflowers@newwavecom.com	287-7992
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Cindi Keeton cindilouhoo5@yahoo.com	324-4328
Kevin Niemann kniemann@fnbill.com	324-2105
David Ronen david.ronen@adelectricalsupply.com	324-2823
Mark Stieren mark@markstieren.com	324-4120
Diane Summers dianesummers@live.com	324-4355
Stephanie Wonderlin swonderlin@hvmemail.com	630-849-8590
Rhea Weaver, <i>Executive Director</i> chamber@litchfield.com	324-2533

**NEWSLETTER  
SPONSORS:**

**ITW**

**Building Components Group, Inc.**



**Litchfield National Bank**  
MEMBER FDIC

## Sign Me Up!

### Litchfield Chamber of Commerce . . . *IN ACTION*

*Serving on a committee is an excellent way to get involved in your Chamber and your community!*

#### **BUSINESS PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE:**

**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES:** Works to promote local businesses by creating promotional opportunities such as Networking Events, Grand Openings/Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies, Business Expo and the Holiday Parade. Assists new members in becoming active members of the organization and represents the Chamber at community events. Organize Shop Litchfield First campaign.

#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:**

**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES:** Contact new members and invite them to attend events, introduce them to the benefits of the chamber. Identify improvements to existing membership programs and suggestions for new programs, recruit new members and promote member-to-member business, regular communication with membership via newsletter and website. Update member contact details. Review our current web strategy, identify opportunities for improvement, and develop plans and budgets. Investigate Social media, (Facebook, My Space, Linked In, etc.) and their suitability for use by the Chamber. Make recommendations to the Board.

#### **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:**

**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES:** Find ways to raise additional revenue for the Chamber and at the same time provide benefits to the membership. Review existing events and find ways to make them fresh and exciting. Promote and plan the Annual Golf Outing for the purpose of promoting businesses and raising funds through sponsorships, auctions and giveaways and maximizing the number of golfers playing. Promote and plan the Annual Dinner & Awards Banquet. Awards are given to Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year, Rising Star of the Year, and a Chamber Special Recognition award. Secure sponsors, venue, caterer, invitations, decorations, awards, etc. and ensuring the execution of the entire event while focusing on revenues for the Chamber.

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**

**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES:** Organize "Lunch n'Learn" educational series, identify training opportunities for members and organize events. Evaluate current education and business and industry committee activities. Identify and organize activities that support the local schools such as Panther cards, Choices program, career fair etc.

#### **DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE:**

**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES:** Represent the interests of the downtown merchants, organize promotional opportunities for downtown merchants. Bring traffic into the downtown area. Organize and manage the Farmer' Market.

#### **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE:**

**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES:** With direction from the Board of Directors, the committee reviews and makes recommendations on City, County, State and National issues which affect the business community. Acts as an information resource for Chamber members regarding legislative issues. Presents candidate and issue related forums. Attend city council, planning commission & EDC meetings as appropriate.

#### **AGRIBUSINESS:**

**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES:** Work in conjunction with the Hillsboro chamber to further the interests of the agribusiness community. Raise funds for the scholarship programs.

#### **PARTY IN THE PARK SUB COMMITTEE:**

**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES:** Plan the annual Party in the Park event. Secure sponsors, business and food vendors, attractions and volunteers. Ensuring the execution of the entire event and focusing on revenues for the Chamber. Develop ideas for future events and attractions.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Litchfield Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 334, Litchfield, IL 62056  
Email: [chamber@litchfieldil.com](mailto:chamber@litchfieldil.com)