

FALL 22

A quarterly publication of the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce

# Chamber Report

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 4



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Aaron Simmons Insurance Agency, Inc.** // Insurance // [www.statefarm.com](http://www.statefarm.com)

**ADP** // Consultants // [www.adp.com](http://www.adp.com)

**Advanced Innergy Health & Wellness** // Holistic Health // [www.advancedinnergy.com](http://www.advancedinnergy.com)

**Ascendant Design & Training, LLC.** // Education // [www.ascendantdesign.net](http://www.ascendantdesign.net)

**At Home** // Home Furnishings // [www.athome.com](http://www.athome.com)

**Edward Jones** // Financial & Investment Services // [www.edwardjones.com/us-en/financial-advisor/michelle-parker](http://www.edwardjones.com/us-en/financial-advisor/michelle-parker)

**Evergreen Coaching & Counseling Solutions** // Health Care // [www.cuevergreen.com](http://www.cuevergreen.com)

**Farmers-Landon Humbles Insurance Agency** // Insurance // [ace.farmersinsurance.com](http://ace.farmersinsurance.com)

**Gateway at River City** // Health Care // [www.gatewayatrivercity.com](http://www.gatewayatrivercity.com)

**GBC Autism Services** // Childcare // [www.gbcautismservices.com](http://www.gbcautismservices.com)

**Home Helpers Home Care** // Health Care // [www.homehelpershomecare.com/east-peoria](http://www.homehelpershomecare.com/east-peoria)

**K-mag Basement Solutions** // Contractors // [www.kmagbasementsolutions.com](http://www.kmagbasementsolutions.com)

**LifeLine Pilots** // Non-Profit // [www.lifelinepilots.org](http://www.lifelinepilots.org)

**LocaliQ** // News // [www.localiq.com](http://www.localiq.com)

**Nextlink Internet** // Sales // [www.nextlinkinternet.com](http://www.nextlinkinternet.com)

**Nothing Bundt Cakes** // Bakery // [www.nothingbundtcakes.com](http://www.nothingbundtcakes.com)

**The Popcorn Shoppe** // Food & Beverage // [www.popcorn-shoppe.com](http://www.popcorn-shoppe.com)

**ProSource of Peoria** // Contractors // [www.prosourcewholesale.com](http://www.prosourcewholesale.com)

**Rootlebox** // Graphic Design // [www.rootlebox.com](http://www.rootlebox.com)

**Smiley Graphix Studio, LLC.** // Marketing & Media // [www.sgraphix.com](http://www.sgraphix.com)

**Smooth Sips** // Food & Beverage // [www.smoothsips.com](http://www.smoothsips.com)

**Synergy Homecare** // Personal Services // [www.synergyhomecare.com/il-peoria-61614](http://www.synergyhomecare.com/il-peoria-61614)

**VIVO** // Office Furniture & Supplies // [www.vivo-us.com](http://www.vivo-us.com)

## EVENTS CALENDAR

PACC Events Calendar: [www.PeoriaChamber.org/Events](http://www.PeoriaChamber.org/Events)

### Business Before Hours

*4th Tuesday of each month // 7:30-9:00am*

**Oct 25** // South Side Mission

### Business After Hours

*2nd Thursday of each month // 4:30-6:30pm*

**Oct 13** // Pere Marquette

**Nov 10** // RSM US LLP

### Annual Events

*Sponsorships Available—Contact us!*

**The Big Table Greater Peoria** // October 20 // Register Now!

**Thanksgiving Luncheon** // Nov 17 // Register Now!

### Initiatives

*Watch for Updates & Events on our Calendar & Social Media*

**Greater Peoria 2030**

**Chambers All-In**

# MEMBER FEATURE

## Investing in Communities and Delivering Exceptional Real Estate

For more than 30 years, Cullinan Properties ("Cullinan") has been making an impact in the communities we serve. Founded in Peoria, IL by Diane Cullinan-Oberhelman, Cullinan has grown into a respected, national real estate firm that owns, operates and develops distinctive projects in multiple asset classes including mixed-use, office, multifamily and healthcare.

Synonymous with mixed-use, Cullinan Properties has excelled by developing Peoria-area projects such as Harbor Pointe and EastPort Plaza, WeaverRidge, Grand Prairie Developments and The Levee District. These award-winning developments are what makes us proud to be a part of the Peoria community while our growth nationally continues with projects that include: Streets of St. Charles in metro-St. Louis, MO., the VA Mental Health Center in Tampa, FL., and Rock Run Crossings in Joliet, IL.

Grand Prairie Developments in Peoria was a former greenfield site that was transformed with the

opening of The Shoppes at Grand Prairie in 2002. This area has expanded to include nearly 2,000 acres of grocery, office, healthcare, multifamily, hospitality, retail and more. The Levee District in East Peoria was a former brownfield site that was redeveloped into an 86-acre premier mixed-use center with a strong local and national tenant mix.

Along with being a pioneer in mixed-use development, Cullinan also has a reputation for developing Class-A office and commercial facilities like One Tech Plaza and Hamilton Square in Downtown Peoria. Another facet of our success is defined by our team, which is comprised of dedicated, industry-leading professionals that blend visionary thinking, innovative design and experiential real estate to activate communities. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to invest in the neighborhoods where we work.

For more information, please follow us on LinkedIn: @CullinanProperties

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[www.tateandhustonintegrativewellness.com](http://www.tateandhustonintegrativewellness.com)



# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

In the Greater Peoria region, Agriculture is such a vital part of our story. The rich soil and river that flows through this beautiful part of the country are credited as the key elements for our history. Agriculture will undoubtedly remain an integral part of our region's economic future. Some exciting prospects in the field of AgTech will further bolster the value of agriculture in this area's story.

For this reason, we are no stranger to Silos. Silos are, of course, a great way to store bulk agricultural produce. However, there is a different type of Silo that is not so great. The term, "Silo" has often been used when describing work efforts & divisions between people, groups, departments and more. A large part of our work at the Peoria Area Chamber is to help break down those divisions and foster a more collaborative environment in our region. We take great pride in being the convener for businesses and community members to help strengthen our economy and address key issues that will shape our region's future.

One of the best tools we have to break down these "Silos" is our annual **Big Table: Greater Peoria** event. The "Big Table" is somewhat of a metaphor referring to the types of conversations that might happen around a dinner table in your home. Imagine if we could expand that table to include people from all across the region, from all walks of life (with their own set of lenses through which they experience life in this area) and engage in intentional conversations about complex issues in an effort to not only build solutions for the challenges we face, but to also share in the celebration of all that makes this

place so special. We have hosted The Big Table: Greater Peoria since 2019 and it is absolutely magical. This year, we aim to build an even bigger "Table" as the event returns to being in-person on October 20th at the Peoria Civic Center. This event is open to the public and is free to attend. I hope you will take the time to participate at this event.

Working in Silos can sometimes just happen naturally as we all are focused on our own priorities. However, when we are able to put aside our differences, align goals, and work in a truly collaborative fashion: that

is when remarkable progress is made. Collaboration ensures that we do not duplicate efforts and that we maximize our efficiency, utilizing our resources for the greatest impact. The Peoria Area Chamber and all of our regional & community partners seek to end these silos. Now more than ever, we believe that this region can reach its full potential by working together towards our common goals. We are much stronger when we reach beyond the borders of our individual communities, organizations, and social circles to recognize that our present and future are intertwined.

**10.20.22**  
**THE**  
**BIG**  
**TABLE**  
**GREATER PEORIA**  
**#BIGTABLEGP**  
[www.BigTableGP.com](http://www.BigTableGP.com)

I look forward to seeing you all gathered at The Big Table and to building an even more collaborative culture for many years to come. Learn more & register to attend the upcoming event at [www.BigTableGP.com](http://www.BigTableGP.com).

Sincerely,



**Joshua Gunn**  
President & CEO





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# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

## Session Update:

The General Assembly has released the schedule for veto session. Lawmakers will be back in Springfield Tuesday, November 15 -November 17 as well as November 29-December 1. View and download the veto calendar: [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov)

## Illinois Chamber Documents of Interest:

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

- 2022 End of Session Report
- 102nd General Assembly Legislative Ratings

## News:

**CGFA: FY21 Pension Systems Financial Condition:** Recently, the Commission on Government Forecasting & Accountability released its FY21 Financial Condition of the State Retirement Systems.

[From FY 2007 through FY 2021, the combined unfunded liabilities of the systems increased by \$87.5 billion based upon the market value of assets. The main factors for this increase in unfunded liabilities were actuarially insufficient employer contributions, changes in actuarial assumptions and demographics and other miscellaneous actuarial factors, along with lower-than-assumed investment returns. If the State continues funding according to Public Act 88-0593, the projected accrued liabilities of the State retirement systems will increase from \$249.0 billion at the end of FY 2022 to \$322.0 billion at the end of FY 2045. At the same time, the projected actuarial value of assets is projected to increase from \$111.3 billion to \$289.8 billion. Consequently, the projected unfunded liabilities are projected to decrease from \$137.7 billion at the end of FY 2022 to \$32.2 billion at the end of FY 2045, and the projected funded ratio is expected to increase from 44.7% in FY 2022 to 90.0% by the end of FY 2045. All of the projected figures in this paragraph come from the various systems' actuaries and are predicated upon the State making the necessary contributions as required by law.] Read the full report: [cgfa.ilga.gov](http://cgfa.ilga.gov). Please refer to Appendices A-F for more detailed projections.

## Minority, Women, & Veteran-Owned Businesses—[www.businessinsider.com](http://www.businessinsider.com):

In 2021, over \$2 billion dollars have reportedly been spent by members of the Illinois Utilities Business Diversity Councils with minority-owned, women-owned, and veteran-owned businesses, with a steadily growth in business in 2022.

## COVID-19 Relief Funds to Illinois Small Local Governments (NEU)

•Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced that more than 1,200 small cities, towns, and villages across Illinois - Non-Entitlement Units (NEUs)-will receive \$371 million as part of the second round of funding through the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) specifically designated for NEUs. NEUs are receiving a total of \$742 million between the first & second funding allocations. The full list of recipients and funding amounts can be found at [www.illinois.gov](http://www.illinois.gov).

•Through ARPA, in accordance with federal rules, COVID-19 relief funding was provided directly to localities with a population above 50,000 while states distributed relief funds to NEUs—which are cities, towns and villages that did not receive direct aid from the federal government. NEUs received funding as part of the first tranche in the fall of 2021 and recipients who claimed funds last year will automatically receive the second half of funding. The funding can be used to cover expenses incurred while responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds can be used to cover revenue losses and the costs of responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency or to its negative economic impacts on households, small businesses, impacted industries, essential workers, and the communities hardest-hit by the crisis. These funds can also be used to invest in building, maintaining, or upgrading water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. During the first round of funding, localities were required to claim their allotments and unclaimed funds were re-distributed to other recipients. During the first round, 99.9 percent of funds were claimed by eligible communities with less than 0.1 percent redistributed. ARPA established the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to provide a critical source of relief for local governments, including smaller governments which had not received direct fiscal assistance from the federal government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic prior to the passage of ARPA. States, including Illinois, are receiving funding from the U.S. Treasury Department to distribute to smaller local governments on a per-capita basis. Larger cities and counties already received funding directly from the federal government. Communities will receive the same amount of funding as the first round. Each local government receiving funds will be required to provide a project expenditure report to the U.S. Treasury by the end of April, then annually thereafter. Each must follow all federal compliance

and reporting responsibilities. DCEO will continue to help local governments navigate the reporting requirements.



□Young Professionals of Greater Peoria Government Affairs committee hosted our Pints & Politics event at The Fieldhouse Bar & Grill in September. Area leaders gathered for a panel discussion with a Q&A.

Speakers were asked about their thoughts on the impact of their decisions made for constituents, the importance of voting (as every vote counts), current initiatives of their respective organizations, important issues facing Central Illinois and how they plan to address them, what each leader felt was their greatest challenges and where to find resources for candidates and their positions on key issues. Our Speakers for the evening were:

- Dr. Rita Ali, **City of Peoria, Mayor**
- Andre Allen, **City of Peoria, Council Member**
- Megan Remmel, **Bradley University, Political Science Professor**
- Joyce Harant, **Peoria Park District, Board Trustee**
- Bill Atkins, **Tazewell County, Board Member**

## Business Resources:

**Small Business Administration—[www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)**

- **Microloans:** Small Business and non-profit childcare centers can apply for SBA microloans for up to \$50,000. The microloans are provided by intermediaries of SBA.
- **Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) Program:** Resources dedicated to assisting transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard & Reserve members, and military spouses interested in starting or growing a small business through business training, counseling, and resource partner referrals.

**DCEO Website—[www.illinois.gov/dceo](http://www.illinois.gov/dceo)**

•Current state and federal grant opportunities as well as Grantee resources.

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# BUSINESS BRIEFS

**Architectural Design Group (ADG)** is the first operating tenant at the Adams & Oak project at 800 SW Adams St., Suite 101, in Peoria's Warehouse District – For the last 22 successful years in business, ADG has produced hundreds of quality architectural design projects in the Peoria community. The ADG team specializes in healthcare, commercial, education, & municipal design, but has also planned national institutional building projects. ADG employs a diverse group of talented design professionals and is proud to be woman-owned by Ms. Deborah J. Baker.

**CEFCU** has been selected as the top credit union in Illinois in 2022, according to a nationwide survey conducted by *Forbes*. This survey was based on multiple factors, including general satisfaction, interest in recommending the credit union to family and friends, trust, terms and conditions, digital services, customer service, financial advice, & branch service.

The **Center for Prevention of Abuse (CFPA)** hosted its 34th annual Duck Race in August where 30,000 rubber ducks raced down a nearly 1,000-foot water slide. All 30,000 ducks sold out the afternoon of Thursday, August 25: the earliest sell-out in CFPA Duck Race history. This year's event raised more than \$200,000 to support CFPA's mission of helping all people live free from violence and abuse. The event hosted hundreds of attendees from across Central Illinois. The crowd enjoyed music, refreshments inflatable fun and face-painting for kids. The owners of the first 15 ducks that cross the finish line won noteworthy prizes. The grand prizewinner of \$10,000 is Kathleen-Degnan Dudley from Peoria, IL. After the race, kids in attendance helped pitched in as the annual "Kid's Cleanup Crew!" and assisted in retrieving and packaging the ducks. "We would like to thank every person who sponsored a duck this year, those who asked their friends and family to do the same, and everyone who came to celebrate with us on Race Day. Most certainly we want to express our gratitude to our generous sponsors who helped make this year's event a major success," said Carol Merna, CEO. All funds raised through the Duck Race go directly to CFPA client services providing safe shelter, therapy, counseling, casework, medical and legal advocacy, safety, and financial planning, and more, to survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual abuse/assault, elder abuse, & abuse of adults living with disabilities. The agency's crisis hotline is available 24/7 at 1-800-559-SAFE (7233).

**City of Peoria** Notifies RISE Grant Recipients - Over \$400K was allocated to local businesses through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The City of Peoria's Economic Development Department launched the RISE (Recovery, Income, Startup, Expansion) program on May 10 to provide financial relief to businesses and start-ups impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Consideration was first given to businesses that applied under the "Recovery" category. The funding came from the American Rescue Plan Act. Thirty-six businesses in all five districts will be awarded RISE grants totaling over \$400,000. Businesses range from hospitality/restaurant to technology. Seventy percent of the qualifying businesses are minority-owned, woman-owned, and/or veteran-owned. A full list of recipients may be found on the Grow Peoria website: [www.growpeoria.com/rise-program](http://www.growpeoria.com/rise-program). "Our small businesses continue to face significant stresses as they recover from the pandemic due to supply chain interruptions, workforce instability, and increased costs to operate. Our intention of the RISE grant is to provide meaningful assistance to business owners", stated Kimberly Richardson, Assistant City Manager. The Economic Development Department received over 300 applications during the submission period. Due to the overwhelming response, City staff will return to the City Council to request additional funding from the ARPA funds to fulfill existing submissions in the "Income," "Startup,"

and "Expansion" categories. Business owners may direct any questions to Uriah Kilgallin in the Economic Development Dept. at [economicdevelopment@peoriagov.org](mailto:economicdevelopment@peoriagov.org) or 309-494-8640.

**City of Peoria Fire Department** has been awarded the more than \$4 Million from the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency SAFER grant to hire 11 new firefighters at Engine 2.

**Edward Jones** has relocated & opened their new location at Adams & Oak, a Baldovin Development Co. project.

This fall, **Eureka College** saw a record number of new students & has enrolled more new students than any other time in its history, the school announced. The 279 first-year and transfer students mark a 53% increase from 2021. Overall, the college's enrollment is up 17 percent since last year, from 476 students to 559.

The **Greater Peoria Sanitary District** was awarded a Gold Peak Performance Award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies for 2021 performance. This is the second year in a row that GPSD has received this recognition.

**Howard & Howard (H&H)** is pleased to announce that 21 of their attorneys were selected to The Best Lawyers in America® 2023 & 14 of their attorneys were selected to Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America 2023. With a history spanning over 150 years, Howard & Howard is a full-service law firm with a national and international practice, providing legal services to businesses and business owners. More than 125 attorneys practice out of offices in Las Vegas, NV; Detroit, MI; Chicago & Peoria, IL; and Los Angeles, CA. The H&H attorneys and the practice area(s) under which they are listed in *The Best Lawyers in America® 2023* are: West Allen: Litigation–Intellectual Prop., Trademark Law; Stephanie Buntin: Trademark Law; Seaton Curran: Patent Law; Thomas Davis: Commercial Litigation, Litigation–Construction; Mark Gardberg: Corporate Law, Real Estate Law; Robert Hernquist: Commercial Litigation, Litigation–Banking & Finance; Matthew Kreutzer: Franchise Law; Gwen Rutar Mullins: Construction Law; Brian Pezillo: Construction Law; Robert Rosenthal: Employment Law–Management, Labor Law–Management; Kevin Backus: Corporate Law; Daniel Bliss: Patent Law, Trademark Law; Andrew (Jake) Grove: Litigation–Intellectual Prop.; Samuel Haidle: Patent Law; Kristopher Hulliberger: Litigation–Intellectual Prop., Litigation–Patent, Patent Law, Trademark Law; Michael Kell: Commercial Litigation; Rodger Kershner: Energy Law; Miles Macik: Commercial Litigation; Pat McCarthy: Commercial Litigation, Litigation–Intellectual Prop.; Gerald McGlynn: Litigation–Intellectual Prop., Litigation–Patent, Patent Law; Saleha Mohamedulla: Trademark Law. The H&H attorneys and the practice area(s) under which they are listed in *The Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America® 2023* are: Christopher Cali: Real Estate Law; Kaila Patrick: Corporate Law; Noah Menold: Commercial Litigation; Aaron Beresh: Corporate Law, Healthcare Law; Matthew Breuer: Mergers & Acquisitions Law, Real Estate Law; Richard Cantor: Patent Law; Brett Garwood: Corporate Law; Joseph Kallie: Intellectual Prop. Law; Jonathan Karmo: Commercial Litigation; Dane Lepola: Commercial Litigation; Paul Mazzola: Patent Law; Alexander McGee: Intellectual Prop. Law; Adrianna Agosta Nichol: Tax Law, Trusts, & Estates; Marcus Smetka: Intellectual Prop. Law, Patent Law.

The **Junior League of Peoria (JLP)** rededicated Ronald Bladen's *Sonar Tide* sculpture to the people of Peoria last month. Nearly 40 years after Sonar Tide was installed outside the **Peoria Civic Center** and **Peoria City Hall**, it still makes an impact. The recent refurbishing caught the attention of artists from surrounding areas and played a role in the Ronald Bladen Estate bringing more of its

# BUSINESS BRIEFS

pieces to Peoria through a partnership with the **Peoria Riverfront Museum**. The \$60,000 Sonar Tide restoration project was financed by JLP and its members, with support from sculpture benefactors Sharon and John Amdall & grants from the **Community Foundation of Central Illinois**.

**Peoria Notre Dame** recently announced Grant McInnis has been named the school's new Chief Operating Officer. McInnis, who has served as PND's Finance Director since 2020, now oversees fiscal management, advancement, enrollment, mission & vision implementation, safety, building and grounds, athletics, communications, and HR. Prior to joining our team, he worked for a Big Four accounting firm for many years. McInnis has a Bachelors in Economics from the University of Missouri & a Masters in Accounting from **Bradley University**. He is also a certified CPA.

The **Pediatric Resource Center (PRC)** will host its annual fundraising event, "Hope for Kids" on Saturday, Nov. 5, at **Jump Simulation**, 1306 N. Berkeley, Peoria. Proceeds from this event help PRC ensure the clinics are staffed with specially trained providers and case coordinators so that children can receive the services that are crucial to their well-being, health & safety. Additionally, funds raised help PRC to provide education to area physicians, nurses and other partners regarding prevention efforts and child abuse/neglect concerns.

**Peoria Historical Society** has received a \$5,000 grant from Illinois Humanities with funds from the State of Illinois American Rescue Plan Act. The funds will be used for general operating expenses, including collection and exhibition needs that meet the society's mission of preserving, sharing & celebrating Peoria history.

The **Peoria Park District (PPD)** announced Melissa Sierra as the new Director of The **Peoria PlayHouse Children's Museum (PPHCM)**. "After a nationwide hiring process, the staff & trustees are excited to welcome Melissa Sierra as the new PlayHouse Director," stated Emily Cahill, PPD Executive Director. "Sierra's impressive professional and educational background, along with her knowledge and passion for the Peoria area makes her an excellent addition to our Peoria Park District family." Melissa Sierra stated, "I look forward to working with the youth and all the wonderful folks in the Peoria community." Sierra succeeds Rebecca Shulman, whose last day with the PlayHouse was July 1, 2022. Shulman served as the PlayHouse's first director for more than seven years.

**PPD** also announced funding for a new exhibit space at the PPHCM. The Gilmore Foundation will donate \$300,000 to the PlayHouse in 2022, along with an additional \$100,000 promised in 2023 as a match for the additional \$200,000 in funds to be raised by the Peoria Park District. The new exhibit area, to be built in 2023-24, will include an expanded Real Tools maker space in a newly created space on what is currently the PlayHouse porch. This maker space will be paired with an interactive exhibit where children can explore trades and various forms of building. This project will also create a new classroom space to be used primarily by partner organizations that offer therapeutic and health-related services for children – a growing need over the past few years.

The **Rotary Club of Peoria** has awarded a grant of \$26,201 to fund the **Neighborhood House's** Outdoor Learning Space. This green space will include benches, picnic tables, reading nooks, and outdoor game tables. It is a secure and private space that will allow youth the opportunity to enjoy being kids in the outdoors. Peoria-based marketing agency, **Simantel**, celebrated 40(ish) years in business helping B2B clients connect with their customers. Third generation independent owners, Tim Leesman and Misty Dykema,

are proud of Simantel's history, steady growth, & they are excited about the agency's future. "...We're committed to delivering value to our clients, creating a great employee experience, and making a positive impact on the local community," said Dykema. What began as a small creative boutique with a handful of employees has grown into a full-service agency with over 100 expert researchers, strategists, analysts, designers, writers, developers, videographers & more. In addition to the office in Peoria, Simantel employs full-time remote workers in 20 states across the country. Jim Simantel founded the company in 1980, but did not incorporate until 1982, making the anniversary date a little fuzzy. To honor this grey space, the company is celebrated "40(ish)" to not only commemorate this anniversary event — but to acknowledge the quirky culture employees and clients have come to expect in working with the firm, along with the idea that marketing is a fun mix of logic, emotion and intuition, further supporting the idea that the firm is a little "ish" by its very nature.

**UnityPoint Health – Methodist Hospital (UPMH)** and **UnityPoint Health – Pekin Hospital (UPHPH)** have received the American Heart Association's Silver Plus Get With The Guidelines® - Stroke quality achievement award for its commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines, ultimately leading to more lives saved and reduced disability. UPHM and UPHPH also received the American Heart Association's Target: Type 2 Diabetes program designation.

**UnityPoint Health – Central Illinois** is proud to announce that it has achieved the highly prestigious international Baby-Friendly designation after a rigorous review process conducted by Baby-Friendly USA. Methodist Hospital is the only hospital within the Peoria area to have earned the Baby-Friendly Designation and are thrilled to continue to provide education and support to families in the Peoria Community. Methodist Hospital joins a growing list of more than 20,000 Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers throughout the world, 598 of which are in the United States. These facilities provide an environment that supports breastfeeding while respecting every woman's right to make the best decision for herself and her family.

**UnityPoint Health – Central Illinois Foundation**, received its biggest donation to the Foundation yet from **CEFCU**, a long-time supporter. The \$500,000 gift will go directly toward the Young Minds Project and help remodel Heddington Oaks into the future home of the Young Minds Institute, Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health Center. Thanks to CEFCU, they are one step closer to making this dream a reality for our Central Illinois community.

**Business Briefs** are an excellent marketing opportunity offered to Chamber Members at no additional cost. To share news in the next issue, information must be submitted via email to [editor@peoriachamber.org](mailto:editor@peoriachamber.org) by December 1st.

**The Chamber Communicator E-Newsletter**  
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# Holding Elected Officials Accountable



Peoria City Council Voting  
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Award Nominations Accepted through 10.14.22

## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF GREATER PEORIA

### YPGP EVENTS:

#### Signature Event

Monster Bash: Nightmare on State Street | Oct 28

Purchase Tickets at: [www.peoriachamber.org](http://www.peoriachamber.org)

#### Food Drive

Thanksgiving Luncheon | Nov 17

Donate & Purchase Tickets at: [www.peoriachamber.org/TGL](http://www.peoriachamber.org/TGL)

#### Monthly Socials

Oct 06 | Nov. 03 | Dec 01

Renew 2022-2023 Membership or Join Today:

Annual Membership - \$50

For more info: [www.peoriachamber.org](http://www.peoriachamber.org)



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# AMEREN NEWS

## The 2022 Ameren Illinois Business Symposium!

Discover why thousands of customers have turned to this award-winning event for energy-saving solutions.

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, IL.

The 2022 Ameren Illinois Business Symposium is your one-stop shop for energy efficiency, making it easy for your business or organization to learn about the latest technologies, connect with trusted energy professionals and gain additional financial incentives to move your next project forward. You'll have the opportunity to attend a day of breakout sessions featuring topics on energy efficiency education, energy savings implementation and much more!

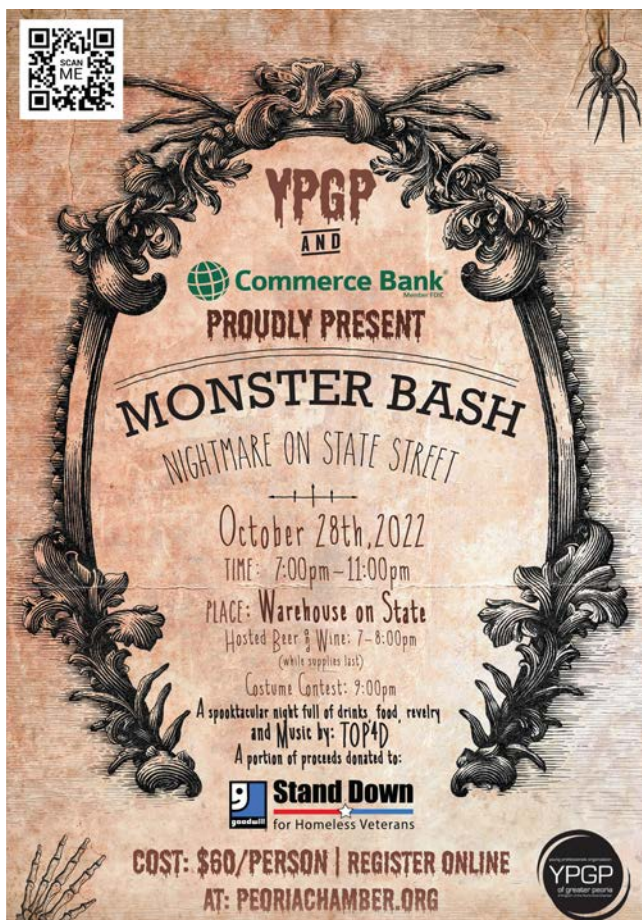
### Benefits of this IN PERSON event include:

- Be the first to learn about our newest Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program offerings and incentives to move your projects forward.
- Attend a day full of breakout sessions featuring energy-related topics and implementation education.
- Interact with Program Staff and Program Allies who can answer your questions.

As an added perk, you'll get a 20% bonus coupon NOW for one project completed in 2022!

### REGISTER NOW FOR THIS FREE EVENT!

To learn more about the IN PERSON Ameren Illinois Business Symposium, visit **[AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/Symposium](https://AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/Symposium)**.



Join us for the Ameren Illinois Business Symposium happening **IN PERSON** at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, IL.

**As an added perk, you'll get a 20% bonus coupon NOW for one project completed in 2022!**

Business Symposium is a **FREE** educational event to connect with trusted energy professionals as your business or organization learns about the latest energy efficiency technologies and gains additional financial incentives to move your energy efficiency projects to completion.



Energy Efficiency  
PROGRAM



# RIBBON-CUTTINGS

## 160 Driving Academy



## Adult & Teen Challenge



## Arrowhead Country Club



## At Home



## BCDI



## Busey Bank Bridge



## Community Foundation of Central Illinois



## Gateway at River City





## OSF Transitional Care



## Panchero's Mexican Grill



## Peoria Spine & Sport



## The Popcorn Shoppe



## Rootlebox



## Selfie Space



## Sikich



## VelocityLabs



Want to host a ribbon-cutting for your business?  
Request one at [peoriachamber.org](https://www.peoriachamber.org) under the Member Center menu





# Rollover

## Your IRA for Good

Looking for a  
**meaningful** way to  
give this year?

70½  
OR OLDER

YOU CAN  
DIRECT UP TO  
**\$100,000**

By taking a distribution from your IRA this year, you will likely pay more in taxes and may even reach a higher tax bracket. Rolling over part of your IRA's "required minimum distribution" or "RMD" to a not-for-profit like ours can help reduce your tax bill while supporting any area of the OSF Ministry that is meaningful to you.

If you are 70 1/2 or older, the Federal government permits you to roll over up to \$100,000 from your IRA to a qualified not-for-profit like OSF, without increasing your taxable income or paying any additional tax. These tax-free Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) gifts could be \$1,000, \$10,000 or any amount up to \$100,000 this year.



Avoid taxes  
on transfers of  
up to  
\$100,000 from  
your IRA to  
support OSF



May satisfy  
some or all  
of your  
required  
minimum  
distribution  
for the year



Reduce your  
taxable  
income,  
even if you  
do not  
itemize  
deductions



Make a gift  
that is not  
subject to the  
deduction  
limits on  
charitable  
gifts



Use your  
rollover to  
make  
payments  
on an  
existing  
pledge to us

## Double the Benefits!

A Qualified Charitable Distribution gift from your IRA can benefit both you and our mission! Contact your IRA administrator to get started with your gift. While you will not receive an income tax deduction, you will not pay taxes on any distribution made to us. Please also inform us of your plans so that we use your gift for the cause the means the most to you.

**We are here to help! Call or visit our website to learn more about how an IRA rollover gift can help you and further the Sisters' Mission.**

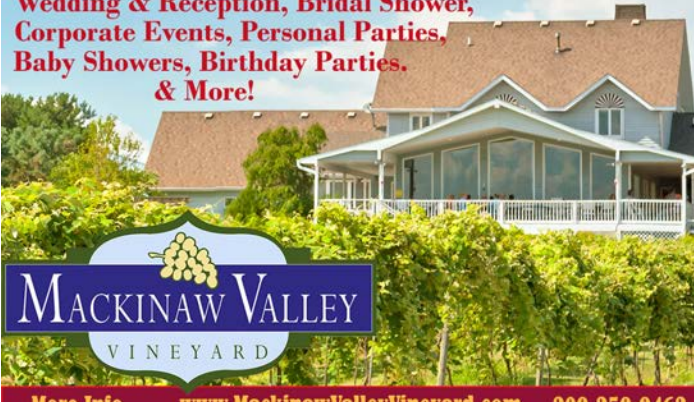
### Shelly Peters

Planned Giving Officer,  
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w: (309) 566-5653 c: (309) 369-8118  
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[osflegacyofhope.org](http://osflegacyofhope.org)



**OSF HEALTHCARE**  
Foundation

**Fall & Winter Fun at the Vineyard  
Murder Mystery Dinners**  
 Young Dead Frankenstein-Oct 28 & 29  
 We're off to Kill the Wizard!-Nov 18 & 19  
 I'll be Homicidal for Christmas-Dec 9, 10 & 11  
 Information - \$50 Per Person Plus Tax,  
 Reservation Required, Call for Tickets  
 2023 shows start on February 11, 2023  
**Luminary Walk through the Vineyard 12/17**  
**Other Events:**  
 Painting, Craft Classes, Trivia & More!  
**Host your:**  
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 Corporate Events, Personal Parties,  
 Baby Showers, Birthday Parties.  
 & More!



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VINEYARD

More Info [www.MackinawValleyVineyard.com](http://www.MackinawValleyVineyard.com) 309-359-9463

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**Contact us!** Please notify the Chamber at 309.495.5900 or [editor@peoriachamber.org](mailto:editor@peoriachamber.org) of name and address changes or additions.



Barbara Hoffman  
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ON EASEL LOCAL ARTIST

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