



March 2018

A Publication of the Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce

www.elginchamber.com

CEO Unplugged All in the Family: The Hoffer Plastics Corporation Family: Bill, Charlotte, Alex & Gretchen

Find out how the leadership and vision of the Hoffer family has successfully sustained and grown Hoffer Plastics Corporation in South Elgin at our next CEO

Unplugged-All in the Family, sponsored by the Grand Victoria Casino. The luncheon will be held **Tuesday, March 20** at the Grand Victoria Casino pavilion, 250 South Grove in the Fox River Room on the second floor, at 11:30 a.m. for registration with buffet luncheon at Noon. Questions and networking to follow.

Members of the Hoffer family who will share their leadership story include Bill Hoffer, president; Charlotte Canning, vice president of brand and culture; Alex Hoffer, vice president of business development; and Gretchen Farb, vice president of value creation.

Hoffer was founded in South Elgin by the late Robert A. Hoffer, a chemist and his wife Helen, in 1953. He acquired a used molding machine to start his first product - a screw that advanced the material in stick deodorants.

A global leader in custom injection molding, Hoffer Plastics leads in customer and employee satisfaction and charitable giving. From its founder to current executive leadership, it has been the goal of Hoffer to provide turn-key solutions and state-of-the-art technology to its customers.

Your business connections start here with the Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce. The CEO Unplugged luncheon provides a first-hand opportunity to learn what made this

family-owned business successful and adapt their executive leadership tips into your own business. The format includes an informal interview with the executive team ranging from risks they have taken to what keeps them up at night in addition to a quick fire-round of questions. Time is also available for you to ask your questions. The goal is to walk away with tidbits of advice from the Hoffer team that you can implement in your business right away.

To register, tickets are \$20 in advance (\$25 at the door) for Chamber members and \$30 in advance for Chamber friends (\$35 at the door). Visit ElginChamber.com for reservations or call [815-341-5600](tel:815-341-5600) for more information.



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Legislative Brew with Rep. Anna Mowler

We Want Your Opinion About Building a Better Workforce

Calling Business Leaders – we want YOUR opinion! Can we talk with you about our initiative to build a better workforce?

The Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce, Elgin Development Group and the Alignment Collaborative for Education are requesting the help of human resource directors and business leaders in shaping our community's educational system and future workforce through work-based learning. Work-based learning is a chance for students to discover things you cannot learn in a classroom through things like internships, apprenticeships and job shadowing.

Benefits to students include learning how things they learn in the classroom apply to the real world, while helping them to explore career options. Benefits to schools include improving student academics, motivation, attendance and graduation rates, while helping improve the school's relationship with the community. Benefits to employers include reducing recruitment and training costs and having a better prepared workforce that understands workplace expectations.

With the recent passage of the U.S. Dept. of Education Every Student Succeeds Act and the Illinois Post-Secondary and Workforce Readiness Act, School District U-46 has decided to adopt a wall to wall academy model for each of its five comprehensive high schools. The result of this transformation will be a more educated and skilled workforce that will advance the economic and social well-being of the community and provide for

greater business success.

A key component of the career academy model is the enhancement of the educational experience through the incorporation of work-based learning opportunities for all students. Some examples of those work-based learning experiences include:

***Apprenticeships:** Paid on-the-job training with classroom instruction.

***Internships:** Paid or unpaid, some with school credit and usually short-term.

***Job Shadowing:** Students observe employees in a selected occupation for a few hours to a full day.

***Industry Tours:** Guided tours of businesses highlighting careers and skill requirements

***Presentations** from leading industry experts

***Teacher Externships:** Exposed counselors and teachers to business careers and how learning is applied on the job.

Businesses will be contacted to participate in 30-minute interviews conducted by business representatives, community leaders and School District U-46 administration. These interviews will discuss a company's willingness to participate in supporting work-based learning opportunities mentioned above.

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Malm, EDG Director at bmalm@elginchamber.com or Nancy Coleman, Executive Director of the Alignment Collaborative for Education at colemanacc@align4edu.org.



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Elgin's Five FABULOUS Facts for March

This is an exciting time to be in Elgin! Our Enhancing Elgin Committee works to provide information about the many positive things about our city that are solidifying our reputation as The City in the Suburbs. Visit our website at ElginChamber.com/Fab5 or follow Enhancing Elgin on Facebook and Twitter (@EnhancingElgin) or search the hashtag #ElginIL to learn more about what makes Elgin the place to live, work, learn, do business, get involved, visit and enjoy.

Thanks Jack!: The community came together to celebrate the life of Jack Shales of Shales McNutt Construction who passed away after a brief illness. A longtime exceptional community leader, Jack was involved in numerous non-profit organizations in the community and impacted the lives of thousands of residents



in the greater Elgin area.

Recognizing Outstanding Leaders: Congratulations to ECC for celebrating outstanding community leaders and philanthropists at their 20th anniversary Founders' Day Celebration. Recognized for their accomplishments: the Dunoulin

family, Carolyn Kirk-Likou, Brett and Carl Lundstrom, Eleanor MacKinney, Julie Lichtenberg, Ron Krivosik, Polly Nash, Jack Shales and Shales McNutt Construction and Jack Weiss.



Presence Health Joins Amita: Ascension, the nation's leading non-profit health system, and Presence Health, a leading Catholic health system in Illinois, have signed a definitive agreement for Presence Health to join Ascension and become part of AMITA Health, a joint venture of Ascension's Alexian Brothers Health System and Adventist Midwest Health, part of Adventist Health System.



Marcus Theatre Movie Pass Donation: Marcus Theatres recently donation more than 7,800 free movie passes to School District U-46! These passes are distributed to the District's elementary, middle and high schools to use as incentives and rewards for students. This year was the 19th annual donation by Marcus, which has now given more than 117,000 movie passes to U-46 students!



Fox Valley Arts Hall of Fame: The 2018 class of the Fox Valley Arts Hall of Fame reads like who's who of the arts including a Grammy-Award-winning musician and educators and benefactors who blazed trails in Kane County. Congratulations to the new inductees include Elgimites Sterling (Stu) Ainsworth (Benefactor), William LaBaron, (Visual Arts-Film Producer), and LaVerne Newsome (Performing Arts-Educator).



EAC Social Network Celebrating St. Patty Style!

Our next EAC Social Network is a popular multi-Chamber annual business after hours event with our friends from the Chambers in Hoffman Estates and Northern Kane. On **Wednesday, March 14** we invite you to join us at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Chicago Northwest, 495 Airport Road from **5 to 7 p.m.** This is a fun event celebrating St. Patrick's Day and is exclusive to Chamber members.

Guests will enjoy shamrock-themed drinks and nibbles, raffle prizes as well as the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow...lots and lots of networking. Bring your

business cards so you can be entered into the raffle.

Reserve your space today before the luck o' the Irish runs out by registering for our St. Patrick's Day Multi-Chamber Business After Hours /Social Network at ElginChamber.com or call the Chamber office today at **847-741-5660**. Don't miss this fun event sponsored by the Holiday Inn!

Multi-Chamber Social Network

Wednesday, March 14

Holiday Inn & Suites Chicago Northwest-Elgin
495 Airport Road
5 to 7 pm

Join members from the Elgin Area, Northern Kane County and Hoffman Estates Chambers of Commerce for Networking.

Hors d'oeuvres and Cocktails

Bring your business cards to be entered into the raffle.





CONNECTION

Chamber Action Calendar

Thursday, March 1, 15, 29

7:30 to 9:00 a.m.
EARN I Leads Group
Elgin Area Referral Network

Wednesday, March 7, 21

12:00 to 1:15 p.m.
EARN Too Leads Group
Elgin Area Referral Network

Thursday, March 8, 22

7:30 to 9:00 a.m.
EARN III Leads Group
Elgin Area Referral Network

Tuesday, March 13

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Chamber Member Orientation
Elgin Area Chamber, 31 S. Grove Ave.

Wednesday, March 14

5:00 to 7:00 p.m. -
Multi-Chamber EAC Social Network:
St. Patrick's Day Business After Hours
Holiday Inn & Suites, 495 Airport Road

Tuesday, March 20

11:30 Networking 12:00 Noon Luncheon
CEO Unplugged: All in the Family
The Hoffer Family
Grand Victoria Casino
250 South Grove Avenue

Friday, March 23

8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
Social Media Meetup: Facebook Live!
Elgin Area Chamber, 31 S. Grove Ave.

Tuesday, March 27

8:00 to 9:00 a.m.
Chamber Chat Radio Program
Live on WRMN-AM 1410

Wednesday, March 28

8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Legislative Brew with Rep. Anna Moeller
Elgin Area Chamber, 31 S. Grove Ave.

To make your reservation for an event, please visit www.elginchamber.com

Learn About Your Chamber Benefits at Orientation

Whether you are a new Chamber member or a savvy veteran, our *EAC Member Orientation* is designed for you to learn more about the Chamber, meet our staff and hear about the programs and services included with your Chamber membership. Join us on **Tuesday, March 13** from **11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** at the Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce, 31 S. Grove Avenue. Sponsored by **Napleton's Elgin Kia**, bring your appetite as a light lunch will be served. In this Chamber 101 session, you'll learn about valuable member benefits that are available to you and your colleagues.

Find out more about how to join a committee or Elgin Area Referral Network (EARN) group,



as well! To reserve your seat and sandwich at

the Orientation, please visit our website at ElginChamber.com or call the Chamber at 847-741-5660. We hope to see you there!

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correspondence to Business Connection, 31 South
Grove, Elgin, Illinois 60120.

Welcome New Members *For more information, visit www.ElginChamber.com*

C'era una volta - Sal Trupiano
558 Randall Rd South Elgin 60177
(224) 856-5245 www.ceraunavolta-se.com
Restaurants

Orangetheory Fitness South Elgin - Tom O'Brien
454 Redington Dr South Elgin 60177
(847)565-6300 www.south-elgin.orangetheoryfitness.com
Health Clubs

Sprint - Saul Acevedo
1030-B Summit Street Elgin 60120
(224) 856-3113 www.www.sprint.com
Technology Sales & Services

J And Abe's Welding & Fab Inc. - Abrahan Lara
918 Grace St Elgin 60120
(847) 340-2115
Manufacturers

Crown Tree Care, Inc. - Diego Bolanos
109 Woodland Park Circle Gilberts 60136
(847) 888-9916 www.crowntreecarcinc.com
Tree Service

adNET Technology Management - Ryan Howarter
637 Frazier Ave, #8 Elgin 60123

(847) 483-5300 www.adnet.us
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Cornerstone Partners Horticultural Services Co. - Jim Turcan
1520 Gilpen Avenue South Elgin 60177
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Health Clubs

22 Creative Group - Tim Lowe
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Video Production

CPW Truck Stuff - Daniel Ellington
7601 West 191st Street Tinley Park 60487
815-469-1300 www.lovelytruck.com
Repair & Service

Wet & Forget - Colleen Lyles
2521 Technology Drive Unit 209 Elgin 60124
(847) 428-3894 www.wetandforget.com
Manufacturers

Member Anniversaries *Thank you to these businesses for renewing their investments*

Celebrating 50+ Years
Elgin Community College
Lamp Incorporated
Nicor Gas
Renz Addiction Counseling Center
Schefflow & Rydell

Celebrating 30 to 49 Years
Brittain's Express Oil & Lube Inc.
Kane County Workforce Development Div

Celebrating 20 to 29 Years
Berkshire Hathaway Starck Real Estate
Brethren Benefit Trust
Fox Valley Ophthalmology
Gordon Flesch Company
Klein's Quality Produce LLC
Lauderdale Electric, Inc.
PanCor Construction & Development
PR Strategies & Communications
The Salvation Army

Celebrating 10 to 19 Years
The Atrium at Oak Crest
Edward Jones - Michael McKay

Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra
Fox River Horizon
Germbusters
Goodwill
Image360
John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc.
Sonderhoff USA, LLC.
Synergy Inc.
Your Front eOffice, Inc.

Celebrating 5 to 9 years
Carpet Wiser Carpet Cleaning
DeJames Builders, Inc.
Fox Valley Buick-GMC
Future Link IT
KCT Credit Union
Klean Image
MAI (Marketing Alternatives, Inc.)
Melitta Professional Coffee Solutions
Midwest Bone and Joint Institute
Primrose School of South Elgin
Strata-Tac, Inc.
The Davey Tree Expert Company
UPS

Celebrating 1 to 4 years
adNET Technology Management
Allied Painting Contractors, LLC
American Community Bank & Trust
American Family Ins - Kevin Malooy
Armanetti Wine & Spirits
Avondale Estates of Elgin
Beckett Solutions
Elgin Dental Associates
Express Employment Professionals
Fox Valley Shooting Range
H&R Block
Small Business Development Center
Jimmy Johns Sandwich Shop
MB Financial Bank
MLS Mailing Inc
Painthall and Laser Tag Explosion
Peak Construction Corporation
Pintail Properties LLC
Restore Plumbing and Drain Inc
Universal Marketing
Vidal Landscaping Inc.
West Pier Laundry
Zilber Property Group

Legislative Brew with State Rep. Anna Moeller

Our next Legislative Brew, sponsored by AT&T, features State Rep. Anna Moeller on Wednesday, **March 28 from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.** at the Chamber office, 31 S. Grove. You will have a chance to catch up over coffee with Rep. Moeller, ask your questions and mix and mingle with other Chamber members all in an informal setting. Seating is limited so reservations are recommended.

Rep. Moeller has spent her career in public service working in local communities to improve the quality of life of residents in Northern Illinois. She has a BA in History and Master of Public Administration (MPA) from Northern Illinois University.

Since taking office, Anna has worked to find common ground with legislators on both sides of the aisle.



Elgin Area Chamber



She has served on various committees in the state legislature including Transportation; Vehicles & Safety, Public Safety; Police & Fire Commit, State Government Administration, and Economic Development committees.

She is an experienced public administration professional working in economic development, community planning, budgeting and non-profit management. She was named to the inaugural class of the Edgar Fellowship program created by former Illinois Governor Jim Edgar and was admitted into the Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society for Public Administration and Public Policy in 1999.

To reserve your cup of coffee at our Legislative Brew with State Rep. Anna Moeller, please register online on our website at ElginChamber.com or call 847-741-5660.

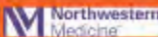


On a cold winter Saturday with lots of children buzzing around, Mayor David Kaptain, Councilman Corey Dixon, Chamber Ambassador Joe Follrath and Chamber staff celebrated with the owners and staff at the new BumbleBee Play Cafe indoor playground.

Orangetheory owner Tom O'Brien and staff celebrated the opening of their third franchise with a ribbon cutting at their new studio in South Elgin with Chamber Ambassadors Jim Galvin and Dee Reinhardt and staff.



PREMIER MEMBERS:



ENHANCED MEMBERS:

Andresen Active
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Daxam, Inc.

Edward Jones Investments
Michael McKay

Premier Veterinary Group

Willow Lake Estates

Windy City Bulls

EAC, SBDC Present How to Engage with Facebook LIVE!

Our popular Social Media Meetup series continues with four FREE sessions coordinated with our business partner, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) of Harper College. We're meeting monthly in hands-on, interactive sessions that will help you engage your customers in social media.

Facebook LIVE! How to Livestream to Engage with Your Customers & Increase Business is the first of the series on **Friday, March 23** from **8:30 to 9:30 a.m.**

Facebook, the #1 social media platform on the planet, has now made it even easier to authentically connect with your customers. Facebook LIVE is all about interacting with your audience in REAL TIME. It breaks down the barriers and creates a connection that transcends traditional marketing limitations.

Just think: what would you remember more? Reading an interesting article or watching a video that lets you become a part of the action!

In this cannot miss session, Vanessa Cabrera, SBDC's Email Marketing Strategist will introduce you to the world of Facebook LIVE and the different ways your business can benefit from using this exciting new platform.

In this LIVE training you'll learn:

- *How to go live on Facebook
- *What to do BEFORE you go Live
- *What to do DURING your livestreams to make them as

engaging and as effective as possible

*What to do AFTER your livestreams. Follow up is EVERYTHING! She'll show you how to do it well!

*The different types of broadcasts you can do.

*How to repurpose your livestreams

*The differences/benefits of going live via your Personal Profile vs. your Business Page. This is important!

*Plus, you'll get LIVE Q&A

time to ask YOUR specific questions. Be sure to come with all your burning FB Live Q's!

Managed by Tom Cassell, the local SBDC center has office hours in the Elgin Area Chamber office! SBDC provides free business consulting assistance to small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs to help them realize the dream of business ownership and help existing businesses remain competitive in a complex, ever-changing global marketplace.

To register for *Facebook Live!* co-presented by SBDC and the EAC, please visit our website at ElginChamber.com or call **847-741-5660**. Mark your calendar and make your reservation for the other sessions - all held from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. to get you back to the office: **April 17** *Email Marketing MasterClass*, **May 23** *Put the Power of Email & Social Media to Work for Your Business*; **June 12** *How to Leverage the Power of LinkedIn to Grow Your Business*.



Networking at its best at the Multi-Chamber Women's Progressive Luncheon in February. "This was well worth my investment of two hours to meet so many contacts" said an EAC member. Look for another luncheon coming late spring.

EAC partnered with SEED to welcome Randall Road's newest Italian Restaurant, C'era Una Volta at a ribbon cutting and Social Network last month. South Elgin Village officials and EAC members and Ambassadors wined and dined in this rustic eatery.





Elgin Area Chamber

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We encourage you to pass this issue along to your colleagues. You will always find the newsletter on our website www.elginchamber.com in the section "In the News." Every issue is available in a pdf format that is easy to read online or print out.

www.elginchamber.com

www.elgindevelopment.com

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A laugh-out-loud show in a small, intimate setting

Dixie's Tupperware Party



FRIDAY, MARCH 9 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

8 PM • DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM
IN THE GRAND BALLROOM

ADULT CONTENT AGES 21+ ONLY



Welcome to Denise Schramm, our new Member Relations Assistant. She joins EAC from the banking industry and is looking forward to meeting and assisting our Chamber members!



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