# **The Chamber Scene**

### **HUNTINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

40 E. Franklin Street • Huntington, Indiana 46750 • (260) 356-5300 • www.huntington-chamber.com • February 2023

# **Happy 175th Birthday City of Huntington!**

The City of Huntington is celebrating its 175th anniversary in 2023. Mayor Richard Strick, city officials and employees began the "demisemiseptcentennial" celebration with a proclamation on Tuesday, January 3, at the Huntington Fire Department's Etna Avenue station.

Huntington's incorporation as a town was made official on February 16, 1848, and its reincorporation as a city took place 25 years later on September 17, 1873. The proclamation read on January 3 recognizes the families and neighbors who work together to make Huntington a great place to call home, as well as the community organizations and local business community that help Huntington flourish and thrive.

A demisemiseptcentennial committee has been working behind the scenes to organize community events that will recognize the anniversary and celebrate all things Huntington. Many of the events for Huntington's 175th are still in the planning stages – watch for more information to come!

The next event up is the first in a series of monthly Scavenger Hunt Adventures sponsored by the Huntington City-Township Public Library and Huntington County Visitor & Convention Bureau. All ages are welcome.

Each month from February to August, a different Huntington-related scavenger hunt will lead participants around the city to explore Huntington in a new way. Answers to scavenger hunt clues will be found both around town and online. It's a great chance to see the brand new city/county website while you're at it! Scavenger Hunt Adventure topics will include themes such as city services, local parks, historic architecture, famous names and more.

Those wanting to take part can find the scavenger hunt clue sheets at the library, 255 W. Park Drive or Huntington County Visitor Bureau office, 407 N. Jefferson Street. Completed sheets can be turned into these venues and will be entered into a monthly prize drawing. All entries also will



be entered into a September grand prize drawing for an "Ultimate Huntington Basket."

A variety of local businesses will be offering special discounts and unique items for sale on a monthly basis. Bear & Beak Bakery will sell "Huntington-isms" cookies in March.

The Huntington County Historical Museum, 315 Court Street, created a new video late last year telling the story of the founding of Huntington and Huntington County. It can be viewed at https://huntingtonhistoricalmuseum.com/a-ten-minute-view-of-huntington-county. Plan a visit to the museum to learn even more about Huntington and its development through the years.

The City is also working with Huntington North High School's Student Council to plan fun and memorable activities for students. These events will be announced soon.

The Huntington County Chamber of Commerce will "Celebrate Huntington" at its annual dinner on Tuesday, March 14. Those in attendance will celebrate business, education, sports, community life and Chamber contributions throughout the evening. More information will follow in Chamber communications.

"Huntington at 175 Years" is the theme for this year's Heritage Days, which will be celebrated June 14 through June 18. A variety of events are being coordinated by a steering committee of the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce. Participants in the annual Heritage Days Parade on Saturday, June 17, are encouraged to carry out the theme on floats, motor vehicles and other entries.

A Quayle Center celebration is planned for the month of August. It has been 30 years since the Quayle Center's inception and speakers are being arranged for this anniversary event.

Constitution Day will be celebrated September 16 and 17. An impersonator of Huntington's namesake, Samuel Huntington, will lead a program centered on Huntington's 175-year celebration.

The Huntington County Chamber of Commerce will "Celebrate Huntington" at its annual dinner on Tuesday, March 14. Those in attendance will celebrate business, education, sports, community life and Chamber contributions throughout the evening.

A New Year's Eve Eve Gala on December 30 will wind up the 175th anniversary festivities. The formal gathering is in the planning stages by the City of Huntington's demisemiseptcentennial committee.

There are more activities still in the works, with more details to be revealed. We are excited to celebrate all things Huntington as a community in commemoration of our city's 175th birthday.

Happy Birthday, Huntington!

# **Board of Directors 2023**

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# Silver Moon 3 Pub grand opening, ribbon cutting is February 11

The organizers behind the restoration of the historic Milligan Block on Huntington's N. Jefferson Street have a lot to celebrate. The Victorian-era building dating back to 1883 has officially reopened as Silver Moon 3 Pub, a café style gathering spot with a menu of seasonal, light fare and cocktails, mocktails or other choice beverages.

The public is invited to a ribbon cutting celebration starting at 5 p.m. February 11 at Silver Moon 3 Pub, located at 32 N. Jefferson Street. The pub offers a full menu of fresh, seasonal shareables, salads, hot sandwiches, soups and desserts, as well as specialty cocktails and mocktails.

Ian Stallings, an investor with family ties to the historic building, said the grand opening celebration will include extended hours and a surprise entertainment guest.

"This is a big celebration — a place where people can chill and hang out with good vibes," Stallings said, adding, "We're going to stay open late and have some fun."

Silver Moon 3 Pub is operated by Ian Hasselbacher who has experience in bar and nightclub management. Joining him is his mother, Charisse Opie, head of the kitchen.

Hasselbacher created an approachable and elevated cocktail and mocktail menu using fresh, delicious ingredients while Opie created a fresh, seasonal café menu with light dishes.

"It's important to note that our drinks menu has options for people who don't want to drink alcohol. We use ingredients that taste great with liquor or without," Hasselbacher said.

Hasselbacher and Opie moved from California and call themselves, "new, proud Hoosiers."

"We have been very humbled by and grateful for the support we received," Hasselbacher said. "We're excited to bring back a beloved space that is filled with many fond memories for people in the region. This is a neat opportunity."

Silver Moon 3 Pub is a place where patrons can have a quick meal and a drink on the go, but it is also a place to come together in a meaningful way. The real goal is for it to be a place to gather and hang out. Stallings said the pub-style café is designed with limited family-style seating and a focus on the bar as a "huge communal"



Shown are Ian Hasselbacher, sitting, the owner and operator of Silver Moon 3 Pub, his mother, Charisse Opie, head of the kitchen, and Ian Stallings, the project's investor and designer. A ribbon cutting will be held on Saturday, February 11 at 5 p.m.

table," to encourage guests to talk to each other and make new memories.

"We want you to hang out for a while — have meetings for lunch, have your afterwork cocktail or coffee, have drinks with friends," Stallings said. "Come meet a friend. Come meet your neighbors and help us host visitors to Huntington, so they can see how wonderful this city is."

Milligan Block was one of a handful of historic Indiana buildings to be awarded a grant from the OCRA (Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs) Historic Renovation Grant Program that is designed to preserve and rehabilitate historic properties to further incentivize downtown economic development across Indiana. The Milligan project received \$100,000 in grant money, a distinction shared with the Kurt Vonnegut Museum and Library in Indianapolis.

#### **ABOUT SILVER MOON 3 PUB:**

Silver Moon 3 Pub is located at 32 N. Jefferson Street in Huntington and open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. Friday-Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. on Sunday (featuring a special Sunday Night Roast on Sunday 5 to 8 p.m.) and closed Mondays and Tuesdays. The menu changes regularly with what is healthy, fresh and in season. For more information, call (260) 355-5422 or visit www.silvermoon3.com.



Shown in the photo is Brock Zehr, right, 2023 Chamber Board Chair, Huntington University, presenting the 2022 outgoing chair plaque to 2022 Chair John Garrott.

# Chamber leadership transitions January 9

The transition of leadership of the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce's board of directors took place Monday, January 9 at the January meeting. The new directors assumed their roles on the board at the luncheon, provided by Sodexo, held at Huntington University.

The 2023 board leadership includes Brock Zehr, Huntington University, assuming the role of chairman of the board. Other board members on the executive committee are Todd Latta, Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, chairman-elect; Bob Caley, Bob Caley Realtor – RE/MAX Results, treasurer, and Doug Selig, Parkview Huntington Hospital, assistant treasurer.

John Garrott, 2022 Chair of the Board, Beacon Credit Union, was honored by receiving his chair plaque from Zehr. The Chamber thanks Garrott for his service and leadership as chair of the board for 2022, and his dedication to the Chamber's activities over the years.

Garrott recognized the outgoing members of the board to include Eric Fawcett, Bippus State Bank and Darlene Stanley, JJ's, for their years of service on the Chamber board.

## Shaw and Snyder join Chamber board in 2023

Danielle Shaw, Bippus State Bank and former Chamber Ambassador, and Shelly Snyder, Bowen Center, have joined the board of directors of the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce for 2023. The board terms are for three years with the option of remaining on the board for an additional three years.

The Chamber welcomes both Shaw and Snyder to the board, and we look forward to working with them over the next several years.





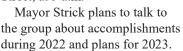






## Mayor to give "State of the City" on February 15

The Chamber of Commerce will host a "State of the City" for 2023 event on Wednesday, February 15 with Mayor Richard Strick. The event will take place at the Huntington Arts & Entrepreneurial Center, 32 E. Franklin Street, at 9 a.m.





This will all be followed by a question-and-answer session. If you would like to attend this event, please reply to skim-

mel@huntington-chamber.com or call the office at (260) 356-5300. There is no cost to attend but the Chamber would like to know how many will attend.



## **Taste of Warren to be** held on March 4

This year's Taste of Warren will be held on Saturday, March 4 at the Dogwood Glen Golf Course, Warren. The event will be held from 7 to 9 p.m.

Taste of Warren will highlight local food and drink establishments including East of Chicago Pizza, Esmeralda's 2, Golfo Di Napoli Dairy Caffè, Son-Rise Bakery and Wagon Wheel Café. In addition, there will be wine and slushy tasting from Dash 90 Wines.

According to the organizers, beyond the food and drink, the entertainment is going to be terrific. Rylie Lynn's Acoustic Trio will provide music and Jim Barron will perform a magic show that will make the evening unforgettable. There will also be an incredible raffle happening throughout the evening. The raffle items have been generously donated by area artisans and businesses.

Limited tickets are now available. Grab your friends, buy a ticket. You're not going to want to miss this special event.

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# Economic Outlook rescheduled for February 16

The Economic Outlook that was scheduled for Thursday, January 26 has been rescheduled for Thursday, February 16. The event will be held at the Historic Forks of the Wabash at 8 a.m. The Forks is located at 3011 W. Park Drive.

When O'Donnell spoke in January of 2022, he was concerned about inflation, anti-growth policies, a war on energy production



not associated with wind and solar and a more general undermining of traditional values and liberties. The undermining he spoke of works against education, work ethic, the profit motive and merit. Each of which has for generations been at the heart of America's economic success as a nation and world leader.

As the calendar is turned on a new year, 2023 does not, according to O'Donnell, look a whole lot different from the way 2022 looked when it began. As O'Donnell sees it, inflation may have peaked, but it's not going to go away without more pain. Maybe a lot more. The stagflation we experienced in 2022 will very likely give way to a full blown recession in 2023, as the labor component of inflation is fought by the Fed with higher rates for longer.

O'Donnell says the Fed is doing the heavy lifting here. He believes it never has raised rates so quickly while, at the same time, shrinking its balance sheet. He feels the policy makers of our federal government continue to be as anti-growth and anti-business as ever. They see environmental, social, racial and sexual issues as the battles they wish to fight, not the condition of the American economy. By the end of January, the unfolding economic and investment mess we are facing will likely be clearer. O'Donnell will tell it as he sees it. Come and hear him. It promises to be an interesting morning.

If you are interested in attending RSVP to Jeremy Rufener at jrufener2012@gmail.com or by calling (260) 375-4483.



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## **Wendy Speakman**

Director of Graduate and Professional Programs

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## Old-Fashioned Swing Inn to be held March 18

Back in the 1950's and 60's the YMCA was the host and the place-to-be for the ever-popular Swing Inn. Located in the basement of the original YMCA, teens from Huntington High and Huntington Catholic gathered to dance and chat the night away! According to the yearbooks, Swing Inn fun was rated as the "best ever" by all the smartest "cats" and coolest "chicks."

On Saturday, March 18 the Y is bringing back this ever-popular dance party event complete with The Moon Cats band, one of Indiana's premiere 50's and 60's bands with members from Grant and Huntington counties. Attendees will be treated to hors d'oeuvres and old-fashioned sodas during social hour. While dressed in their best era outfits from the 50's, 60's and 70's, "cats" and "chicks" will cut up the dance floor to the beat of the Moon Cats. This is a ticketed event with proceeds supporting the YMCA Annual Campaign which provides scholarships and financial assistance to allow Y programming to be available for ALL.

Many supporters and sponsors are needed to make the Swing Inn a successful and annual event. We are asking for businesses to consider joining us in helping this first annual event be a big success! Please contact Joy Koch at the Y at joy.koch@huntingtony.org and she can provide you with sponsorship information and about how you can help! This is a preliminary promotional flyer which will be updated as sponsors are secured. Those who attended this event "back in the day" are so excited and the word has gotten out, so we wanted to get this "save the date" information in circulation now!



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# Huntington Trails Beer and Wine tickets on sale

Early bird tickets for the Huntington Trails Beer and Wine Festival on Friday, June 9 are on sale now until March 31 for just \$30 (online only) via https://event.ontaptickets.com/. The annual event is hosted by HARTA (Huntington Area Recreational Trails Association) and takes place at the Hunt-



ington County Fairgrounds in First Merchants Heritage Hall.

Guests have the pleasure of tasting several wines, distilled spirits and beers. The tasting event features the products from many great Indiana wineries, Artisan Distilleries and U.S breweries. Local food trucks will be on hand with plenty of food options available for purchase. Guests may also bid on various items available during the silent auction.

HARTA invites you to sip your favorite wine, distilled beverage or brew and enjoy live music from Joe Donnell. New to the event this year, guests can participate in karaoke provided by Screaming Goat LLC. Mark your calendar – you will not want to miss this tasty summertime event!

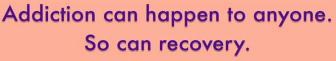
Proceeds from the event will go towards development, maintenance and awareness of trails in Huntington County.

Currently the board is raising funds for wayfinding and kiosk signs throughout the county to promote and guide people on the various types of trails.

Sponsors are needed to help our organization reach its goal of raising \$20,000 for the event. The group is also seeking donations for the silent auction. If interested, please contact Kelly Frank at (260) 355-5103.

Ticket prices: Early Bird - \$30; Advance - \$35; Gate - \$45 and Designated Driver (no sampling) - \$10.

Tickets will be available after April 1 at Bippus Bank and First Federal Savings Bank. Follow the event on Facebook via https://www.facebook.com/harta.gotrails. For complete details visit HARTA's website at harta-gotrails.org.





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**First Merchants Bank** 2845 Guilford Street Huntington, IN 46750

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#### **Amy Szelis**

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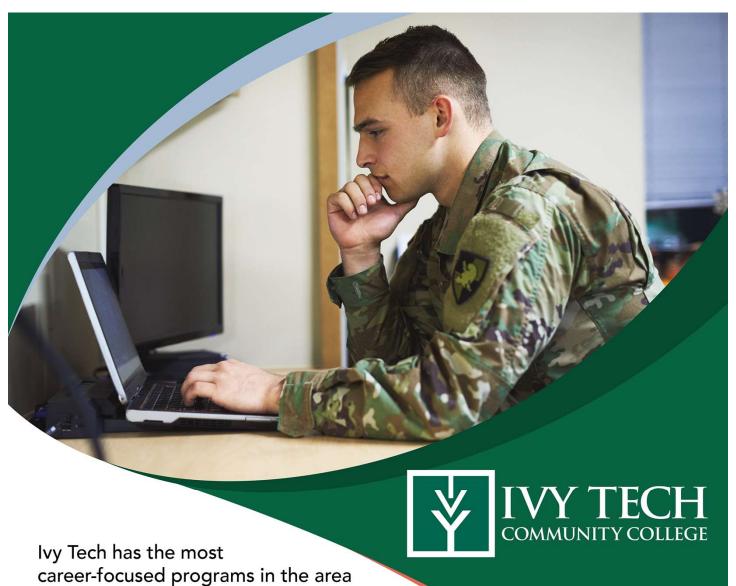
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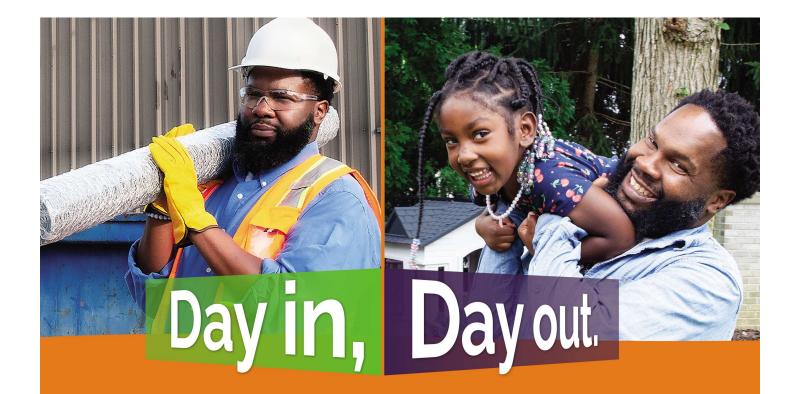


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**OF HUNTINGTON COUNTY** 

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# Mark Your Calendars

### **State of the City**

Wednesday, February 15, 9 a.m. Huntington Arts & Entrepreneurial Center, 32 E. Franklin Street

### **Taste of Warren**

Saturday, March 4, 7 to 9 p.m. Dogwood Glen Golf Course, Warren

### **Old-Fashioned Swing Inn**

Saturday, March 18, 8 to 10 p.m. Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, 1160 W 500 N

### **Huntington Trails, Beer & Wine**

Friday, June 9, 6 to 10 p.m. First Merchants Heritage Hall, Hier's Park

### <u>Heritage Days</u>

Wednesday, June 14 to Sunday, June 18, 2023

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